

January 28, 1958

TO THE NEWS BULLETIN

New Board of Directors Meeting
American G. I. Forum of New Mexico
Sunday, January 26, 1958

The New Mexico G. I. Forum held its Board of Directors meeting in Tularosa, New Mexico on Sunday, January 26th. More than twenty of the twenty-eight Board members were present for the meeting, as well as a large delegation from the following Forums: Santa Fe Forum, Albuquerque Forum Number 1, Jr. Albuquerque Forum Number 2, Albuquerque Auxiliary, Roswell Forum, Roswell Jr. Forum Number 2, Alamogordo Forum and Auxiliary, Alamogordo Jr. Forum and Grant County Forum Number 1. One hundred twenty persons were present for this occasion.

Albert Sandoval, from Tularosa, acted as host chairman, and opened the meeting with the introduction of local officials who were present for this event. Mayor Walter Ray gave the welcoming address, expressing gratitude and appreciation to the Forum for having selected the city of Tularosa for this event. Vicente Jasso, Chairman of the Board, gave the response. Louis Tellez, State Chairman, proceeded then with the regular order of business. Reports presented by the respective Forums gave material evidence of the great activity of all the Forums and the work being done in those communities.

Charlie Barela, Chairman of the Roswell Jr. G. I. Forum Number 2 was appointed by chairman Tellez to fill the vacancy left by the departure of Richard Franco as third vice chairman of the New Mexico Forum and as State Chairman of the Junior Forums. Charlie is an aggressive youngster who, by his natural ability, has captured the admiration of the Forum members. He is doing a wonderful job in leading his group in the community of Roswell.

Alfonso Sanchez, State Legal Advisor, gave a report on the action of the State Fair Employment Practices Commission, pursuant to the hearing held in Santa Fe on January 26th. On behalf of National Chairman Ximenez, Jasso presented a report of Mr. Ximenez's trip to Washington in attendance of the conference held by the President's Committee on Government Contracts.

Installation of officers was held for the newly organized Grant County Forum Number 1. This Forum was organized on January 24th by James Tellez, District Chairman of Alamogordo, and Felix Vega, Alamogordo Forum member. The meeting had been pre-arranged by the Deming G. I. Forum under the leadership of Richard Uzueta. Approximately forty members were present for the meeting. This group promises to be an active Forum according to the indications of the members present at the meeting. The Tularosa Forum was also organized during the meeting at the Board meeting on January 26th, thanks to the inspiring efforts of Albert Sandoval. In addition to the adopted resolutions as per clipping attached, Albuquerque Forum Number 1 introduced the following resolution which was adopted by the Board meeting:

WHEREAS; Albuquerque Forum Number 1 appeared before the County Commissioners to call their attention to the increasing traffic of narcotics within the County, and

WHEREAS; the Albuquerque Forum Number 1 requested that an additional narcotic physical agent be employed in Bernalillo County to curtail this situation,

THEREFORE; be it resolved that the Board of Directors meeting in session today in Tularosa endorse the efforts of the Albuquerque Forum Number 1 in calling this matter to the attention of the Bernalillo County Commissioners.

The Grant County Forum Number 1 Also introduced the resolution and adopted by the Board Meeting as follows:

WHEREAS; the importation of Foreign non-ferrous metals to this country is a serious menace to the industry, non-ferrous industry of this country and whereas, the continuous importation of these metals from foreign countries has seriously curtailed the production in Grant County, and

WHEREAS; the situation has resulted in the unemployment of hundreds of workers in the Grant County area and

WHEREAS; the production of non-ferrous metals is the basic industry in providing a living for the families of this area, and

WHEREAS; the continuous importation of these metals will worsen the present situation,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED; by this Board Meeting that the American G. I. Forum goes on record as opposing the importation of non-ferrous metals to this country, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED; that the American G. I. Forum of New Mexico will take this matter to our respective congressmen in Washington and urge them to do everything possible to relieve the plight in this area by imposing a tariff on Foreign entries of non-ferrous metals.

A group of ladies from the city of Tularosa served a delicious turkey dinner to those attending the meeting. Arrangements for the meeting were made by Albert Sandoval, Ernest Duran, Isau Castillo and Ismael Lopez.

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January 27, 1958

Anti-Braceros Stand Is Taken By Forum Board

Journal Special

TULAROSA—Unanimous opposition to the importation of Mexican braceros for farm labor was expressed here Sunday during a New Mexico GI Forum board meeting.

"The GI Forum is opposed to the continued importation of braceros and will press for a termination date on this program," a group statement said. "The bracero program was an emergency measure. It contributes to depression of wages among U. S. farm workers and there is no shortage of workers."

Their action came after the Albuquerque chapter reported the Employment Security Commission had announced braceros would probably be needed in Albuquerque.

In other business, the group heard a report by National Treasurer Vicente Jasso on a Washington conference held by the President's committee on government contracts.

National Chairman Vicente T. Jimenez received assurances from the committee that the railroad industry would be brought under their jurisdiction on the matter of contracts between the government and railroad management, he reported.

The Forum's legal advisor, Alfonso Sanchez, reported on action in the group's complaint before the Fair Employment Practices Commission on a discriminatory phrase in the Brotherhood of Firemen and Engineers constitution. The board said the Commission's order had satisfied their complaint.

Two new Forum members were elected during the session, Silver Gray and Dending.

About 50 board members were present.