

The Order of the Rainbow for Girls

By FE ABARQUEZ SUACO

The Order of the Rainbow for Girls was established in 1922 in McAlester Oklahoma, USA by Rev. W. Mark Sexson. The membership of Rainbow comes from Masonic and Eastern Star homes and their friends. A girl may become a Rainbow as she reaches the age of twelve. She will take part in meetings twice a month and have a number of social affairs and events during the year. She will be in a group well-chaperoned. The entertainment in which they engage is clean and wholesome. She will have an opportunity to learn to talk extemporaneously. She will be in meetings presided over by girls of her own age and while the meeting will be under the direction of an adult, the adult will be in the background. The girl will have a feeling of freedom. She will not only overcome her timidity and be able to talk to this group of girls but she can become one of their leaders. They will work and plan to make a program and raise money for various charities for beneficial purposes. They will learn how to stand on their own and be able to direct their work so it will be interesting. Most assemblies offer merit bars for services rendered. The Supreme Assembly of the Order of the Rainbow for Girls gives to a girl the *Master of the Grand Cross of Color* Award for outstanding services rendered to the Order.

Everything in the Order of the Rainbow for Girls works towards a constructive and colorful life that appeals to the girls. It leaves an ever-

lasting impression of peace, tranquility and spirituality on each and every member. There will be a spiritual awakening and realization of the fact that as a Rainbow girl, with *Love and Service* as her watchword, life will be organized and developed under the inspiration of beauty and color.

In view of the high standard of character building of the members of the Order of the Rainbow for Girls, a group of Masons and Eastern Stars under the leadership of the late Walter H. Schoening (who became Supreme Deputy of the Order in the Far East) organized the Order of the Rainbow for Girls in the Philippines.

The first Assembly, Manila Assembly No. 1, was organized and sponsored by Mayon Chapter No. 1, OES on July 16, 1949. Mrs. Beth Barnes was Mother Advisor and Virginia Willimont was Worthy Advisor. Manila Assembly consisted of American girls whose parents were stationed here in the Philippines for a limited period. Most of the girls returned to the United States, thus closing up Manila Assembly. But prior to this sad ending, they initiated a group of Filipino girls into the Order. These Filipino girls became charter members of Perla Assembly No. 2 (now No. 1) sponsored by Lodge Perla del Oriente No. 1034, S. C. and adopted by Farmington Assembly No. 35, New Mexico, U.S.A.

Perla Assembly was formally constituted on April 5, 1950 by the late

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Walter H. Schoening with the help of Rainbow girls from Manila Assembly at the Scottish Rite Temple, Taft Avenue, Manila. Mrs. Beth Barnes was Mother Advisor and Lizzie Rader was Worthy Advisor. Perla Assembly grew and prospered as the years rolled by leading to the growth of the Order of the Rainbow for girls in the Philippines.

Clark Assembly No. 2 was constituted by the late Walter H. Schoening on August 11, 1956 with the aid of the members of Perla Assembly in Clark Field Air Base, Angeles, Pampanga. Mrs. LaVerne Mabel Whitlock was Mother Advisor and Charlsie Stewart was Worthy Advisor. Their sponsoring body is Leonard Wood Lodge No. 105.

Cavite Assembly No. 3 was constituted in 1961 in Cavite City by Mrs. Agnes Schoening (who became Supreme Deputy of the Order in the Far East after the death of her husband, the late Walter H. Schoening) assisted by members of Perla Assembly.

Mrs. Agnes Schoening then left for the United States. The Supreme

Assembly appointed Mrs. Alice Bellis Supreme Deputy of the Order of the Rainbow for Girls in the Philippines and Okinawa.

There are now three Assemblies of the Order of the Rainbow for Girls in the Philippines to help our young girls between the ages of 12 and 18 prepare themselves for womanhood and become better leaders and better citizens of our country. As members of the Order, they will be able to encounter the problems of life with ease, tact, understanding and agility.

We hope that our Brother Masons and Sister Eastern Stars will help in the growth and welfare of the Order of the Rainbow for Girls in the Philippines.

The Advisory Board of Perla Assembly No. 1 is presently composed of Raymond Wilmarth, chairman; Bayani Y. Salcedo, Luis F. Lancero, Jr., Romeo T. Pasco, Benito Manenze, Laurence H. Gardner, Guillermo Madridejos, Virginia Domingo, (Mother Advisor of the Assembly); Maria Luisa Vicente, Carmen Karganilla, Fe Suaco and Flora Ostrea. △



SUPREME COUNCIL HOLDS . . . (From page 26)

The various honors were awarded as follows: To be Sovereign Grand Inspectors General (Active): Ill. Bros. Jose Locsin Araneta, Remigio Montilla Abello, Cirilo Dictado Constantino, and Damaso Cruz Tria;

To be Inspectors General Honorary, 33°: Bros. Bernabe Africa, Edward Albert Bellis, Ruperto Sarrosa Demonteverde, Teofilo Marte, Leon Cabig Santiago, Isabelo Tupas and Raymond Everett Wilmarth;

To be knights Commander of the Court of Honor: Bros. Manuel Mon-

tiila Abello, Jose Bautista Abejo, Cornelio Malabanan Aguirre, Timoteo Biloya Almonte, Gregorio Raguocos Bailen, Domingo Cabali, Felix Manawis Caburian, William Howard Clark, Jr., Temistocles Elviña, Liberato Estal Littaña, Juanito Treyes Magbanua, Francisco Mateo, Pedro Domingo Melendez, Seldon W. O'Brien, Gil, Francisco Octaviano, Juan Villanueva Orenca, Alfredo Lamzon Ortiz, Castor Silvestre, Sotero Anselmo Torralba, and Stanton Youngberg. △