

DAUGHTER AND GRAND CHILDREN OF THE FOUNDERS VISIT IAU

Report

Submitted by: Zelima Arce

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Mrs. Helen Harris Artau, daughter of the founder Dr. J. Will Harris, three grandchildren of Mr. Clarence Harris, and a friend of the family, a young lad Leon McLeish, visited IAU Friday, July 18th. Mr. Clarence Harris was the brother of Dr. J. Will Harris and he is also considered as one of the founders of this institution. Mr. Clarence Harris's wife (still living) is Mary Viera, a Puerto Rican.

Julito Montalvo and I met Helen and the youngsters at the Costello Guest House as they were coming out of the car after having gone to visit a few places and taken pictures of the spots where the grandparents had lived. They were all very excited and Helen was having a grand time telling them old-time stories which she, of course, has a right to know real well.

Julito had to excuse himself because he had to attend an alumni meeting in Aguadilla in the evening. I stayed with them for a short while in Costello, then we drove around the town, visited at home with my family who had known Dr. J. Will Harris and his wife Ethice and their children Helen, Donald, Margaret and Cleland, and finally came to the Oasis Hotel for dinner. The manager of the restaurant happened to be the son of Dr. Harris's first mailman and of the woman who took care of Dr. Harris's children. These people are still living in San Germán and I understand Helen paid them a visit the next day.

Julito had made arrangements with Miss Rebecca Torres for an interview with the family on Saturday. I am sure that you would like to know what transpired the morning of the interview and if you wish I can ask Mrs. Torres tomorrow morning to write a report for you. Please advise.

I could not finish this report without giving you my own personal impression of this visit which I personally enjoyed very much. As I observed these youngsters --their manners, sense of respect and obedience, alertness, conversation and many other good traits--I could trace a definite heritage from the Founders and for a moment I pondered... This is also what the Founders would have wanted the University to be like!