

# Filipino Americans Organize

by Juanita Villaruz

The two-day first annual convention of the Filipino-American Political Association was attended by delegates from San Diego north to San Francisco. Saturday, March 29, the guest speaker was Paul Schrade of the United Auto Workers who pledged his support in this effort to organize Filipinos into a powerful political machinery or organization and to form alliances of power with other minority groups in the struggle for human dignity and justice.

Joe San Felipe chaired the general session and resolutions on Health, Education and Welfare, Community Development and Immigration were adopted by the assembly. Also the International Hotel crises in San Francisco, as well as the San Jose College students' efforts to make Ethnic Studies as an accredited unit were also resolved for endorsement.

Attending the Saturday activities were Consul General Savalones of San Francisco and Consul General Faustino of Los Angeles. Speaker at the evening program was Cayetano Santiago, who emphasized the Filipino's struggle in their fight for principles—for freedom.

Last speaker of the last day of the convention was Cesar Chavez, Director of UFWOC, who spoke of the struggles of the Filipinos for the last 30 years, the hardships, injustices, exploitation and the denial of their rights as human beings.

At the close of Chavez's speech, the delegates passed a resolution in very strong words urging the Philippine Legislature to boycott California grapes. This resolution was presented to the FAPA by Larry Itlong, Convention chairman, assistant director of UFWOC, and the newly elected president of the California state FAPA.

Other newly elected officers include Ubaldo Flores,



Paul Schrade speaks at FAPA Convention.

Photo by G. Chocklate

Vice President; Esther Banes, Secretary, and Val Fabias, Treasurer.

Viva la Causa  
Y  
El Progreso

*Courtesy of  
a  
Mexican-  
American  
Attorney*

Fresno California

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