

Caribbean Nite was a great success

Once again the annual "Big Bambu" Caribbean and Latin American night was a tremendous success. This cultural event was appropriately located in the SUB Ballroom on the UNB campus. The large crowd was surrounded by decorations of posters, streamers, etc. It was a mixed crowd of people from many different lands and cultures including a large turnout of Canadian friends who went to learn more about their foreign friends.

Included amongst the crowd were those designated as special guests. The General Venezuelan Consul, Mr. Luis Bellorin, his wife, Miriam, and their three sons, Luis, Wilfredo, and Paul flew in from Montreal the day before especially to go to the Big Bambu night. Also included as special guests were the President of UNB and his wife, Dr. and Mrs. Anderson, the Dean of Students and his wife Mr. and Mrs. Thompson.

The Caribbean Circle was honored to have them as guests and grateful that they could attend their cultural night.

The evening began with a welcoming speech from the President of the Caribbean Circle, Ulberto Mejias from Caracas, Venezuela. Next, Noel Dexter, originally from Trinidad gave an

informative talk on the Caribbean and Latin American areas. Mr. Dexter is presently a Spanish professor at UNB. Then Rory Fraser from Guyana recited a poem about his country. Rory was acting MC for the night and is currently a student at UNB.

The first of two documentary films was then presented. It was a vivid pictorial presentation about Venezuela. This film clearly showed the beauty of Venezuela, from the lively city of Caracas to the breathtaking splendor of Angel Falls.

Music was supplied by the Circle and was truly the most enjoyable part of the evening. First, the Bellorin Brothers played some Joropos, the most typical Venezuelan music. The songs Mallendo Cafe and Maricela, two songs which they played were composed of three instruments. Luis played the piano, Wilfredo strummed the Cuatro (a Venezuelan four strings instrument) and Paul rattled the Maracas. The three brothers played very well together, showing their natural flair for music.

A Latin American group then assembled to play some traditional Spanish songs. These musicians were Gerardo Araujo (cuatro) Ivan Zamora (mandolina),



A group of Venezuelan students played Latin American music

Jesus Molina (guitar), Pedro Geredrz (guitar) and Paul Bellorin (maracas), all from Venezuela. At first the group played some instrumental music and followed it up with three popular folksongs. The first song was

sung by Euribiades Aleman, from Venezuela. He sang "A Cuerpo Cobarde". Next Celia Aravjo (Venezuela) sang "Motivas". The last song from the Latin American group, sung by Manuel Rivera from El Salvador, was the very well known "Guantanamera". The group performed excellently. Finally Marcos Biagi from Colombia performed a solo called "Navidad Negra", a Cumbia song, which he played on the guitar.

Jamaica was represented among the festivities when a documentary film portraying Jamaican culture was shown. Although this film was somewhat older than the Venezuelan film, it

was as informative to the audience.

The Lancaster Kiwanis Steel Band made an appearance later into the night. They played superb dancing music for the audience, the majority of who participated in the dancing. Included in their variety of popular music was the Limbo. This is a popular dance in the Caribbean. It gave the agile a chance to try and bend as low under the stick as possible.

Those who attended the Big Bambu night had a chance to sample the rich flavors of Caribbean and Latin American foods. A generous buffet was prepared. From the Caribbean, the foods were Roti, a flat flour pancake, Paulaul, and chicken cooked with beans and rice, and curry. Sandra Alle did a splendid job in preparing these Caribbean foods. From Venezuela was: Esalada de Pollo, a salad made with chicken, eggs,

carrots and potatoes; and

Pabellon, a black beans dish with beans, onions, pork hock, tomatoes, and green peppers. This food was expertly cooked by Jorge Mora, Rosa Vargas, Euribiades Aleman, and Ramon Avendano, all from Venezuela.

After the buffet, the Kiwanis Steel Band played more dancing music for the entertainment of the dancers and the listeners. The Big Bambu night finished around 1 a.m.

The costs of the night included the band, the SUB ballroom, food, advertising, and decorations for a total cost of about \$1,700. The night was very well planned and organized by the Caribbean Circle members. They are grateful to the Overseas Student Advisor Mrs. Keswick and her staff, and to all those who in some way or another helped out to make the night possible.

