

Américas

OCTOBER . . . 1955

LAUNCHING ODECA

Central American
nations get together

CHILE ON THE AIR

Rodolfo Halffter,
**TWO-WORLD
COMPOSER**

SABA

Life inside a Caribbean
volcanic crater

LITTLE BLACK POCK

A short story

25
cents

*Blind man listens to Library of
Congress "talking book" (see
"Stacks of Knowledge," page 14)*



EMBASSY ROW



"The Americas still have a long way to go in the economic field," says Dr. Miguel Angel de la Campa, new Cuban Ambassador to the United States, "despite the great progress we have made through our technical cooperation programs." But in juridical matters he thinks the American nations "could serve as an example to the rest of the world." A career diplomat with a law degree from the University of Havana, Dr. De la Campa has a distinguished record of service in Europe, Japan, Brazil, and Mexico, and at home has been Undersecretary and Secretary of State. He has represented his country at many international conferences (he was president of the Second Meeting of Consultation of American Foreign Ministers, held in Havana in 1940) and at several Assemblies of the old League of Nations. In 1952 he headed the Cuban delegation to the eighth UN General Assembly. As president of the Sociedad Colombista Panamericana—a cultural group with headquarters in Havana that has sponsored studies for geographical congresses, scientific expeditions in Cuba and the Caribbean, lectures, art exhibits, book publishing, and so on—the Ambassador has long been active in promoting understanding among the peoples of the Hemisphere. Besides volumes on Cuban and Caribbean politics, an interpretation of the discovery of America, and numerous newspaper articles, he has written a book of short stories (*Novelas de Espuma*) and a novel (*Cenizas Gloriosas*). Having realized that "when you ride a horse, the animal is the one who gets the exercise; when you play tennis, the ball has all the fun; and in golf it's the club that really does the work," the Ambassador relaxes by "walking for an hour or two on a sunny morning, while the town is still asleep." This, he says, "keeps me healthy and at the same time affords me an opportunity to renew contact with my good friends of U.S. history who are to be found in plazas and parks."

Below: The Ambassador's daughter Miguelina has acted as his hostess since her mother's death two years ago. Her husband, Dr. Octavio Averhoff (left), is Minister Counselor at the Washington Embassy. Dr. De la Campa's son Alberto is Cuban Ambassador to Italy. His other two children live in Cuba—María Teresa, a noted painter, and Miguel Angel, who takes care of the family's affairs.



Above: Adela María de la Campa, fourteen-year-old daughter of the Ambassador's son Alberto, tries out the Embassy piano before an admiring audience composed of her grandfather and her Averhoff cousins: Livia, thirteen; Octavio, nine; and Celia, five. A student at a convent school in Albany, New York, Adela spent her summer vacation in Washington. Her two brothers are with their parents in Rome.



The private chapel of the Embassy is dedicated to Our Lady of Charity of El Cobre, patroness of Cuba. El Cobre, a village named for its copper mines, is the site of a shrine housing a carved wooden image of the Virgin to which thousands of Cubans make pilgrimages on September 8.