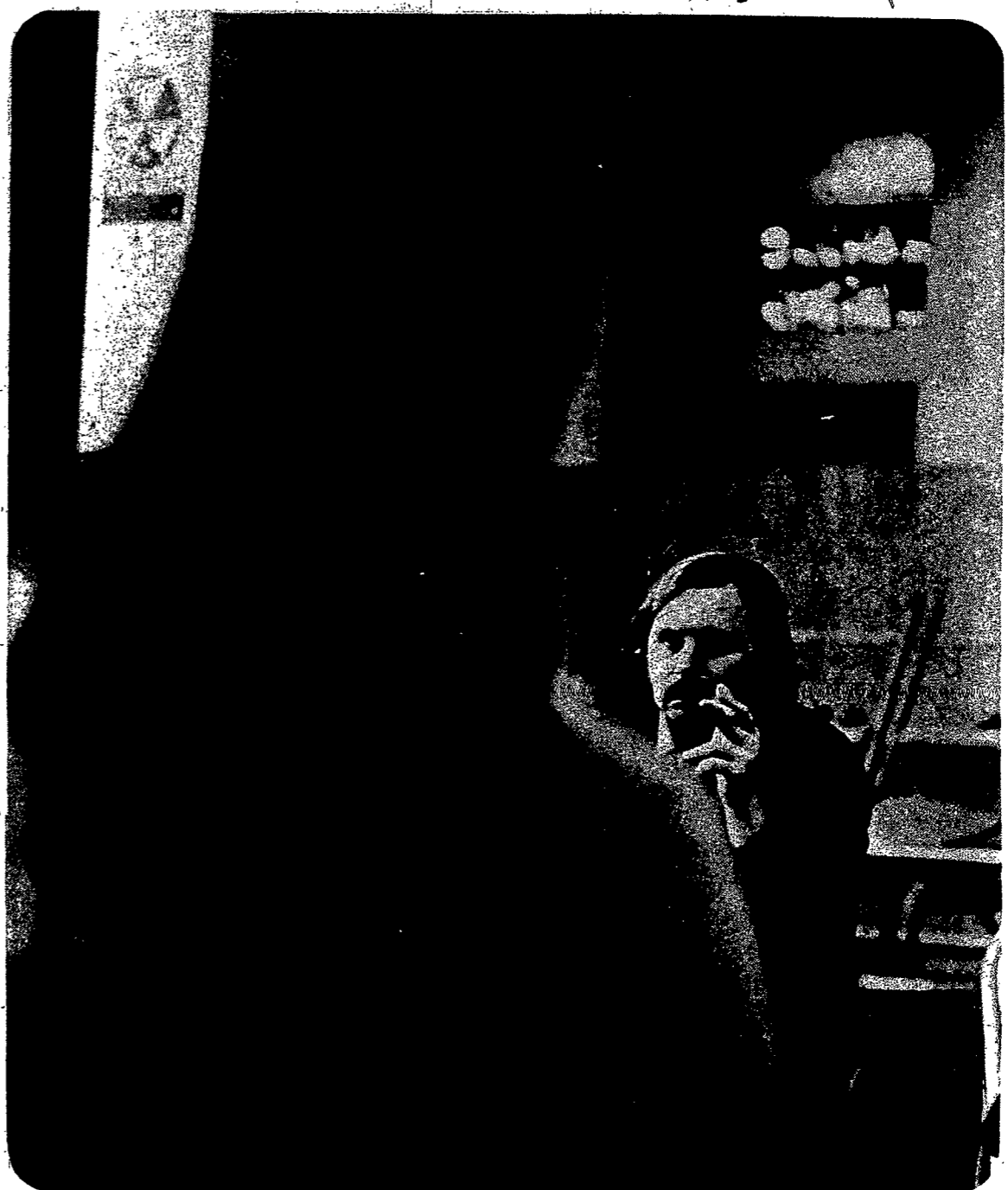


Mr. Santiago makes a point using the black board.



Father Laurence Tracy, above, listens carefully, as do Sisters Mary Jo Fink and Shirley Pilot, below, both teachers who came for an evening of learning.

Jose Torres, field representative for the State Department of Human Rights, who addressed the workshop May 4, also stressed that there is a lot of misguided information in the census.

The reality of the situation is, he explained, that over 20,000 Spanish-speaking people live in the Genesee Region; 16,000 or 17,000 of them are Puerto Ricans; all are migrants; some are migrant workers.

"The number of Puerto Ricans living in the Rochester area has increased rapidly in the past five years," Torres continued, "and many of them are coming from New York City, Chicago, New Jersey and Philadelphia.

Explaining what the Spanish-speaking people do here, Torres said that the seasonal worker, one who comes here for the harvest and goes back to Puerto Rico for the harvest season there, is by no means the majority.

"The majority are residents of Rochester and working in all different phases of industry and government," he said.

Those who attended the workshop the night anthropologist Rafael Santiago spoke on Puerto Rican region and culture saw what a different world these people are coming from and why such informational programs are necessary for mutual understanding and harmony with our Spanish-speaking neighbors.

