

publication of the work realized in Mexico and America by the Franciscans. The address of the organization is: Apartado Postal No. 2545.

#### NEW HISTORICAL SOCIETIES

Recently the Sociedad Mexicana de Historia and the Grupo de Estudios Afrocaribeanos have been founded in Mexico City with headquarters in the National Museum of Archaeology.

#### SOCIEDAD "AMIGOS DE LA BIBLIOTECA DE LIMA"

The Sociedad "Amigos de la Biblioteca de Lima" (Calle 25, No. 62, San Pedro de los Pinos, Mexico, D.F.) has had over one hundred scholars from all over America accept membership. The first remission of books will be made as soon as the Library has an appropriate and modern library in which to house the contributions.

RAFAEL HELIODORO VALLE.

#### SEXTO CONGRESO MEXICANO DE HISTORIA

After the Sixth Mexican Congress of History\* Dr. Rafael Heliodoro Valle prepared for the press a statement of its deliberations which should give Mexican historians cause for rejoicing. The deliberations of this Congress were in such marked contrast to some previous ones that subjects which formerly incited factionalism, such as Bartolomé de las Casas, could be serenely discussed. The scientific spirit prevailed not only between the Indianists and Hispanists but in the urgent insistence upon the organization and redemption of the archival riches of the country which, as has been so sadly shown in Peru, every day run the risk of being lost. The final advice given by this Congress, which attracted a greater number of investigators of quality than any previous one, was that it is vital that historical research should be undertaken "with the seriousness required by historical methodology."

Statements heard on the floor of the Congress illustrate the objectivity with which historical questions and methods were discussed. Wigberto Jiménez Moreno reminded the delegates that it is not prob-

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Méndez Plancarte, Rafael Heliodoro Valle, Rafael García Granados, Demetrio S. García, Federico Gómez de Orozco, Ignacio Rubio Mañé, Francisco Gamoneda, Eduardo de Ontañón, Pablo Herrera Carillo, José Alvarez Becerril, Alfonso Junco, Atanasio G. Sarabia, Salo Hale, Manuel Toussaint, Justino Fernández, Alberto María Carreño, Mariano Alcocer, Jesús Guisa y Acevedo, Genaro Fernández McGregor, Nemesio García Naranjo, Agustín Gómez y Gutiérrez, Alberto Escalona Ramos, Luis Chávez Orozco, Vicente Lombardo Toledano, Emilio S. Servi, and Francisco Trejo.

\* September 13, 1943.

able that any political party has always been right throughout its history and that it is possible that sometimes the liberals and sometimes the conservatives have been right. In the same spirit Luis Chávez Orozco urged that in this crisis Mexico should not be more fundamentally divided on the pretext that anarchy prevails in the teaching of the history of the country. Alfonso Toro reminded the assembled historians that they should not use "epithets to classify historical personages without supporting documents."

Some of the conclusions and recommendations of the Congress also give a good insight into historical activities in Mexico at the present time. It recommended that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs make available to investigators all documents not still active and that all papers over thirty years old be considered inactive; that efforts be made to induce the ecclesiastical authorities to resolve the difficulties which investigators encounter in the use of the archives of the church; that Indian and Hispanic elements each be given proper weight in the story of the development of Mexico; that the governments of the states aid in the collection of data on dialects which are about to disappear; that the "Tlaxcaltecas" were not traitors for their rôle in the Conquest because no Mexican nationality then existed. A vote of felicitation was offered the Secretaría de Hacienda for the excellent historical works published under its patronage as well as for the work of the distinguished archivist, Agustín Hernández.

There were 170 papers presented. Ingeniero Guillermo Rebollar put 3,500 pesos at the disposal of the Congress for two prizes for the best works dealing with the problem of whether or not Santa-Anna was betrayed in the War with Texas and in the War of 1847.

### VÍCTOR ANDRÉS BELAÚNDE

Dr. Víctor Andrés Belaúnde, who is known to historians in the United States on account of his work on the political ideas of Bolívar and his distinguished career as an editor and diplomat, was recently given the degree of Doctor of Laws by the Catholic University of America. In the conferring of the degree the following citation was read:

The Catholic University of America always observes with admiration and pleasure the achievements of Catholic leaders of thought and action not only at home but in other lands as well. She has long rejoiced, therefore, at the accomplishments of that distinguished statesman, teacher, and writer, the Honorable Victor Andrés Belaúnde, Dean of the Faculty of Law of the Catholic University of Peru, who more than any other is responsible for the strong Catholic intellectual revival in his country. As a token of her recognition of outstanding merit she is proud on this happy occasion to bestow upon him the degree of Doctor of Laws, *honoris causa*.