

## HISTORICAL ACTIVITIES IN COLOMBIA

The case of Colombia may be taken as an example of what is happening to publishing projects in the field of history in most parts of Latin America. There relatively few historical works are seeing the light of day. The high cost of paper and other circumstances growing out of the world crisis have operated to bring about this situation. The Archivo Histórico Nacional continues the publication of its review and has recently enriched its list of publications with the first volume of a new edition of *Genealogías del Nuevo Reyno de Granada* by D. Juan Florez de Ocaríz, a fundamental work for the colonial history of Colombia. The reprinting has been carried on under the skilled editorial eye of Dr. Ortega Ricaurte.

In order to take adequate care of some of the historical sites of Colombia such as the battlefield of Boyacá, the Quinta de Bolívar, the Quinta de San Pedro de Alejandrino, etc., Dr. Eduardo Santos has donated the sum of seventeen thousand pesos Colombian to be administered by the Colombian Academy of History. This sum represents the amount of his income as ex-president of Colombia during last year. It is likely that the sum will be augmented by Dr. Santos in the coming months.

## DANIEL SAMPER ORTEGA

Hispanists throughout the Americas will regret the death of Dr. Daniel Samper Ortega on November 2, 1943. He was a past president of the Academia Colombiana de Historia and the editor of the Selección Samper Ortega de Literatura Colombiana, a set of one hundred Colombian classics. The greatest monument to this distinguished Colombian, however, is the beautiful and progressive Biblioteca Nacional in Bogotá. It was during his incumbency as director, 1930 to 1938, that the library was reorganized and housed in its up-to-date building. More recently he had been directing the Gimnasio Moderno in Bogotá.

The Colombian Academy of History also announces the death of one of its founders, Don Antonio Mejía, and the following "académicos": Monseñor José Manuel Marroquín, and Don Tomás Rueda Vargas.

## GUILLERMO VALENCIA

Word has reached the United States of the death of Guillermo Valencia, the venerable poet of Popayán, Colombia, who fitted in so well with the colorful past of his city and whose personality so much

pervaded its present. This is a great loss not only to Popayán, to Colombia, but to all South America.

#### EDUARDO COLOMBRES MÁRMOL

Dr. Eduardo Colombres Mármol, Argentine diplomat so prominent in recent years on account of his interests in the epoch of the wars of independence, died in Buenos Aires, September 20, 1943.

#### WILLIAM BERRIEN

Dr. William Berrien has accepted a professorship of Latin-American literature in Harvard University and is therefore leaving his position as Assistant Director of the Division of the Humanities of the Rockefeller Foundation.

#### VISITORS FROM LATIN AMERICA

At the beginning of last winter Dr. Enrique Rodríguez Fabregat came to Washington from Montevideo to work on the life and times of Artigas and to develop certain interests which he has in Abraham Lincoln. He is the author of *Batlle y Ordóñez, el reformador*, and *La epopeya del Río de las Amazonas*, a work which won the first prize in the Concurso Continental held in Quito to celebrate the fourth centennial of the discovery of the Amazon.

José Honório Rodrigues, the young Brazilian so much interested in the history of the Dutch invasions of his country, was recently in Washington.

#### ESTUDIOS HISTÓRICOS

Dr. Luis Medina Ascensio has begun the publication, in Guadalajara, Mexico, of a semi-annual historical magazine which he calls *Estudios históricos*. It appears in January and July, and apparently is to deal solely with the history of Mexico.

#### CULTURAL NEWS BULLETIN OF MEXICO

Last year the Mexican Commission for Intellectual Coöperation began the publication of the *Cultural News Bulletin of Mexico*. The *Bulletin* appears in both Spanish and English and concentrates upon news items relating to activities in the anthropological, historical, and literary fields. The editors solicit exchange.