

Latin American Archivology, 1951-1953

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THE ARCHIVES OF Latin America continue to make important contributions to intellectual life through their service and publications. They are still hampered by inadequate quarters, poorly trained personnel and insufficient funds, with which to effectively carry out their functions. However, it is to be noted that there is growing interest and progress in the proper preservation of records, and greater appreciation of their importance for the cultural life of the American nations. Concrete evidence of the attention given to the archives is the construction of new buildings in Guatemala, Ecuador, Mexico, and the Dominican Republic. Construction is also receiving much consideration in Argentina, Venezuela, Costa Rica, and Honduras, where the directors are insisting on its necessity.

Although, in general, funds for publications are limited or lacking, a number of the archives have been able to make worthy contributions in this field. As will be noted from the bibliographies below, outstanding contributions were made by the national archives of Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Venezuela, Colombia, Costa Rica, Chile, and Ecuador, as well as by numerous local archives in Argentina and Brazil. The directors of the other archives repeatedly recommend the assigning of funds for this phase of their work.

In all the archives the work of arrangement, classification and cataloguing are carried on to the extent permitted by the available personnel. This serves to make more of the records available to scholars. In some archives there are regular accessions, but in many the lack of space prevents the acceptance of additional documents.

During the period under review, there were several changes in the directorships of national archives. These changes are noted below.

I. NATIONAL ARCHIVES

1. ARGENTINA. ARCHIVO GENERAL DE LA NACIÓN. Buenos Aires.

Director: Captain Jacinto R. Yaben.

By a decree of the Executive Power of July 2, 1952, Captain of Frigate, Jacinto R. Yaben, a member of the National Academy of History, was named director of the Archive to replace Dr. Héctor Quesada, who had served with distinction since 1931. Captain Yaben is actively carrying on the program of the Archive. In taking up his task he adopted as his motto a presidential declaration that it is the intention to protect "the development of a historic culture which shall give to the Argentine people an exact consciousness of the mission that it should fulfill through the patronage of historical studies and investigations, the considered publication of the national truth and the knowledge of the historic realizations of 'Justicialism.'"

The first step of the new administration was to arrange to have the Archive open for ten hours each day, thus permitting investigators to make greater progress in their studies. Recommendation was made to resume the program of publications which has been suspended for considerable time due to the lack of funds.

The director's report for 1952 shows that much emphasis was placed on the program of card indexing and cataloguing the records in the several divisions of the Archive. In the Colonial Division some twenty-two *legajos* of documents in the groups of Sumarias militares, Portugueses-Campo de Bloqueo, and Antecedentes coloniales de la Guerra con Brasil, were arranged and cards were made for them. A subject catalogue was prepared for the collections of Reales Cédulas, Reales Ordenes y Comunicaciones, and Resoluciones Reales. Cards for the Reales Cédulas were made ready for publication. A subject index of the documents in the published volumes of *Antecedentes—Actas y Documentos del Consulado de Buenos Aires* was undertaken and additional documents of this collection were transcribed for publication. Also a program of transcribing some 200,000 cards of the general index of this division on sheets to be bound in volumes was begun. During the year 9210 cards from ABA to BAR were copied on 1169 pages.

In the National Division arrangement and card indexing was done on Civil and military petitions, and the correspondence and papers of Juan Manuel de Rosas and Pedro de Angelis. Finally, much was done to arrange and catalogue records in the Section of Donated Documents, including correspondence and papers of Rosas, Urquiza, Guido, Biedma, Carranza, Vernet, Lavalle, Pillado and Victoriano

de la Plaza, all of whom played leading roles in Argentine history.

In concluding his report to the Minister of Justice, Captain Yaben called attention to the proposal of the government to secure the passage of a law permitting the centralization in the Archivo Nacional of all documents of public character, so that the public may know about this national patrimony, and then he pointed out that this law cannot be effective unless an adequate, modern and properly planned building is provided to house the Archive.

Each year history classes from the universities and other educational institutions, under the guidance of their professors, visit the Archive to learn about and appreciate the rich documentary patrimony. During 1952 Juan Pivel Devoto, Dr. Mateo J. Magarinos and Ariosto Fernández of Uruguay carried on studies relating to their country and Joseph Criscenti and James Scobie, of the United States, made investigations in the papers of General Urquiza, 1852-1860.

2. BOLIVIA. ARCHIVAL NACIONAL. Sucre.

Director: Gunnar Mendoza

The building of the Archive suffered from the earthquake of 1948 and considerable moving of the records has had to be effected. The pressing problem is new and fitting housing for the valuable records.

The director has completed an excellent catalogue of the section of Minas, consisting of important documents dealing with mining problems of Upper Peru. That on the colonial period of the Audiencia de Charcas is also finished and the work of cataloguing for the national period has been carried forward to the late 1830's. Organization of the collection of newspapers and their indexing is being pursued actively.

Charles W. Arnade, an American, who has kindly supplied information for this note, spent a year (1952-1953) in Sucre, on a Doherty grant, making a study of the creation of the Republic of Bolivia. He reports that many valuable records are deposited in the Archive, awaiting careful analysis and study in connection with the writing of Bolivian history. Other foreigners who worked in the Archive include Daisy Rípodas Ardanaz, from Argentina, studying about General Mitre in Bolivia; and Boleslao Lewen, also from Argentina, investigating Indian revolts of the eighteenth century. Also Dr. Lewis Hanke of the United States and Father Vargas Ugarte of Peru made short visits to the Archive in 1953.

3. BRAZIL. ARCHIVO NACIONAL. Rio de Janeiro.

Director: Dr. Eugenio Vilhena de Moraes.

No late report from the director, relating to the activities and progress of the Archive, has been received. A brief article, "A Vida do Arquivo Nacional durante 115 anos," with numerous illustrations, appeared in the rotogravure section of *Correio da Manhã*, Rio de Janeiro, August 7, 1953.

4. CHILE. ARCHIVO NACIONAL. Santiago.

Director: Dr. Ricardo Donoso.

During each of the years under survey, the various ministries transmitted to the Archive their records down to 1947, except that Foreign Affairs, Economy and Commerce, and Justice and Health were inclined to be remiss in complying with the law. According to the latest reports the documents received from the military and other tribunals included: IV Juzgado Militar de Valdivia, 1910-1946; V Juzgado Militar de Magallanes, 1929-1945; Juzgado de Linares; Juzgado de Aviación, 1934-1946; Juzgados Navales de Valparaíso, Talcahuana, Magallanes and Escuadra, 1928-1946 (9 boxes); as well as documents from the Auditoría de Marina. Protocols and registers from Notaries in various parts of the Republic, amounting to over 700 volumes, were accessioned in 1951-1952. Also in the latter year 116 volumes from the Chilean consulate in New York were deposited by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Other accessions comprised various documents of and relating to Bernardo O'Higgins, which were purchased, and the donation of sundry letters of Miguel A. Urrutia, Agustín Montiel Rodríguez, Federico Errázuriz, Juan de la Cruz Monrroy, and Isidro Errázuriz, as well as the will of the last named individual. These documents were bound in two volumes. Another volume was prepared of correspondence of Domingo Santa María, Domingo F. Sarmiento, Andrés Bello, Valentín Letelier, Eusebio Lillo, J. M. Balmaceda, Diego Barros Arana and Alvaro Covarrubias.

Work of arranging and cataloguing the new accessions was carried on actively. The cataloguing of the section of Contaduría Mayor covered some 800 volumes, that of the Juzgado Militar de Antofagasta, 1123 *expedientes*, and that of the Juzgado Militar de Valdivia down to 1945.

Service to the public involved much investigation and the issuance of many certified copies in connection with specific laws providing for the reliquidation of pensions. An examination of the statistics in the annual reports of the director reveals the great activity of the Archive in effecting the tasks assigned to it.

Progress was made with the program of publications. The following appeared in 1951-1953:

Catálogo—Fondo Varios. (Santiago: Dirección General de Prisiones, Imp., 1952. Pp. 378.)

This is a listing, alphabetically by names of writers, of the documents in 886 volumes, which comprise the miscellaneous papers section of the Archive. The entries give a brief indication of the nature of the document, dates where known, the volume number and location in the volume. The catalogue serves to reveal the richness of this collection and will greatly facilitate the use of the records by investigators of Chilean history.

The Commission, under the presidency of Dr. Donoso, charged with editing the documents relating to Bernardo O'Higgins, has added three volumes to the series.

Archivo de don Bernardo O'Higgins, Tomos X-XII. Edited by Ricardo Donoso, Jaime Eyzaguirre, Guillermo Feliú Cruz, Eugenio Pereira Salas and Luis Valencia Avaria. [Archivo Nacional.] (Santiago: Imprenta Universitaria, 1951-1953. Pp. lxii, 433; xi, 343; xvi, 336.)

VOL. X. reviewed in THE HISPANIC AMERICAN HISTORICAL REVIEW XXXIII (1953) 122-123, and Vol. XII, *ibid.*, XXXIV (1954), pp. 227-228.

5. COLOMBIA. ARCHIVO NACIONAL. Bogotá.

Director: Dr. Enrique Ortega Ricaurte.

Work of arrangement and indexing are carried on currently. Although space is limited, considerable accessions of notarial records are made from time to time.

The latest report of Dr. Ortega points out the necessities and problems of the Archive. While the Archive has some able employees, it is realized that the lack of more properly trained personnel is a serious handicap. In addition, the funds available for the general maintenance of the Archive are decidedly inadequate and those for publications are so limited that little can be accomplished. The valuable *Revista del Archivo* has been suspended since 1947 and its reappearance would serve greatly the interests of historical scholarship. Two published volumes are listed in this report and three other documentary works are ready for the press. These are a volume on Luis Brión, a documentary history of Chocó, and a book of *Heráldica Nacional*. Dr. Ortega also emphasizes the need for more published indexes of the records of the Archive. Under his direction in recent

years materials have been prepared for eighteen such volumes. Five are already in print.

The most recent publications of the Archive include:

San Bonifacio de Ibagué del Valle de las Lanzas. Documentos para su historia. Edited by Enrique Ortega Ricaurte, with the collaboration of Carlota Bustos Losada. [Publicaciones del Archivo Nacional de Colombia, Vol. XXI.] (Bogotá: Editorial Minerva, Ltda., 1952. Pp. xvi, 299.)

A collection of documents from the Archive relating to the history of Ibagué. They are arranged under convenient and suggestive headings in order to illustrate more fully the life and development of the city during the Spanish colonial period. The prologue consists of a report by Dr. Enrique Otero D'Costa, of the Academy of History, on the date of the founding of Ibagué, which is fixed as October 14, 1550. There are alphabetical indexes of names of persons and places.

Heráldica Colombiana. By Enrique Ortega Ricaurte. [Publicaciones del Archivo Nacional de Colombia, Vol. XXII.] Bogotá: Editorial Minerva, Ltda., 1952. Pp. xv, 322, 10. Illus.)

Noted in THE HISPANIC AMERICAN HISTORICAL REVIEW, XXXIV (1954), —.

6. COSTA RICA. ARCHIVOS NACIONALES. San José.
Director: José Luis Coto Conde.

The unsatisfactory condition of the building housing the records continues to be a serious problem, which occupies much attention of the director. No accessions have been made since 1949 because of lack of space. The reports of the director have made numerous suggestions for the solution of the problem, but no final action has been taken by the Government. Meanwhile, there is continued use of the records by persons interested in historical study as well as in connection with matters involving the judicial and legislative records. Work on arrangement, classification, cataloguing, and card indexing is carried on. During 1952 10,572 cards were made for the Historical section and 72,537 for the Administrative and Legislative section.

In June of 1953, the Director, José Coto Conde, prepared a draft of a new law to govern the Archive and to replace the Law of 1881. This project was submitted to the Legislative Assembly by the Minister of Government. Among the provisions of the draft are the following: The name of the archive shall be the "Archivo General de la

Nación." Functions shall include accession and classification of records; service to the public; investigations and publications relating to Costa Rican history; conservation of donated historical documents; maintenance of a register of wills; and any other functions conferred by executive decree. The Archive shall form and be custodian of a collection of Costa-Rican publications. Documents may not be removed from the Archive. There shall be three sections, namely, Juridicial, Administrative-Legislative, and Historical. There shall be a director and chief clerk to direct the affairs of the Archive and a set of regulations shall govern its activities. This law is now being considered.

The *Revista* of the Archive has appeared with regularity. *Revista de los Archivos Nacionales de Costa Rica*.

7. CUBA. ARCHIVO NACIONAL. Habana.

Director: Captain Joaquín Llaverías y Martínez.

The outstanding event in the recent life of the National Archive of Cuba was the issuance by the government of the Law-decree, No. 62 of May 9, 1952, making it an autonomous institution not subject to any ministry and free from political interference. This decree resulted from the interest and activities of Dr. Emeterio S. Santovenia, president of the Permanent Directive Council on Archives, and the President of the Republic, Major General Fulgencio Batista y Zaldívar.

The basic reasons for the decree included: The establishment of the Permanent Directive Council on Archives in 1942; the notable development of the Archive in recent years, making it outstanding among the archives of the Western Hemisphere; the fact that Cuba is the seat of the Committee on Archives of the Commission on History of the Pan-American Institute of Geography and History; and the character of the work of the Directive Council which justified granting it more ample authority in connection with the National Archive.

The first article of the decree makes the Archive completely autonomous and sets forth the functions of the Directive Council with reference to the archives of Cuba. These include: The direction of the organization and functioning of the National Archive; the strict enforcement of Law No. 6 of 1942 and its regulations; the fulfillment of the regulations for the National Archive; the preparation of a general catalogue of all archives of the Republic; presentation of reports to the government on matters of an international character related to archives; fostering the interchange of employees of the

archives in the New World; the maintenance of close relations with other archives directly or through the Committee on Archives; and the naming, promotion and dismissal of employees of the National Archive.

Article two provides that the custody, conservation and enlargement of the building of the National Archive shall be in charge of the Directive Council. Article three states that the budget for the National Archive shall not be less than that for the fiscal year 1951-1952 and that the funds shall be disbursed by the Directive Council, subject to audit by the Tribunal of Accounts. Article five states that the protocols of notaries shall be deposited in the National Archive after fifty years and sets forth the rules for their certification. The four remaining articles contain supplemental details. This decree places the National Archive in a unique position and it is believed that it will guarantee most effective operation and progress.

Work of cataloguing is carried on with regularity. Special attention has been given to the Administración General Terrestre; licenses for establishments; political records; Audiencia de Santo Domingo; and Royal decrees and orders. A general catalogue is being organized which will serve to simplify searches. Also a new section entitled, "Fotografías," has been established and the work of cataloguing the photographs of persons and groups has been undertaken, some 900 having been completed. Finally it is noted that there is an ever-increasing number of persons who make use of the records of the Archive.

The activity in the field of publication is revealed in the following bibliographical notes.

Nuevos papeles sobre la toma de la Habana por los Ingleses en 1762.

[Publicaciones del Archivo Nacional de Cuba, XXXIII.] (Habana: Talleres del Archivo Nacional de Cuba, 1951. Pp. xiv, 281.)

Reviewed in THE HISPANIC AMERICAN HISTORICAL REVIEW, XXXIII (1954).

Catálogo de los Mapas, Planos, Croquis y Arboles Genealógicos existentes en el Archivo Nacional de Cuba. Tomo II, C-CH. [Publicaciones del Archivo Nacional de Cuba, XXXIV.] (Habana: Talleres del Archivo Nacional de Cuba, 1952. Pp. xxiv, 427.)

For a review of this first volume see THE HISPANIC AMERICAN HISTORICAL REVIEW, XXXII (1952), 613-614.

Índice de extranjeros en el ejército libertador de Cuba. By Jorge Quintana, with an introduction by Joaquín Llaverías. [Publica-

ciones del Archivo Nacional de Cuba, XXXV.] (Habana: Talleres del Archivo Nacional de Cuba, 1953. Pp. vii, 388. Illus.)

Reviewed in THE HISPANIC AMERICAN HISTORICAL REVIEW, XXXIII (1953), p. 557.

Boletín del Archivo Nacional. Tomo L, Jan.-Dec., 1951. (Habana: Talleres del Archivo Nacional de Cuba, 1952. Pp. 419. Illus.)

8. DOMINICAN REPUBLIC. ARCHIVO GENERAL DE LA NACIÓN. Ciudad Trujillo. Director: Lic. Ramón Lugo Lovatón.

Work of cataloguing is carried on actively. Special attention is being given to the sections of Justice and Public Instruction and of War and Marine, both of which are extensive, as well as to the Archivo Real de Higüey y del Seybo, containing documents of the early seventeenth century. An index is being formed of the registers of the Estado Civil de Ciudad Trujillo deposited in the Archive down to 1875. Reorganization of the periodical collection and the library of the Archive has been effected.

The outstanding event of 1952 was the beginning of the construction of a new building to house the Archive. This Palace of the General Archives of the Nation is to be three stories high, with twenty large stack areas, a conference room, a study hall for investigators, offices, etc. Installation of equipment for lamination photography, printing and fumigation is to be provided for. It is hoped that the new edifice will be dedicated in 1954.

Numerous Dominican historians frequent the Archive. Among them may be mentioned César A. Herrera, Dr. Vetilio Alfáu Duran, Rafael Damirón, Dr. Heriberto Pieter, Pedro L. Verges Vidal, Ernesto Vega Pagán and others.

The program of publication included the regular appearance of the *Boletín* and an occasional volume.

Historia de los Aventureros-Filibusteros y Bucaneros de América.

By Alexandre-Olivier Oexmelin. Translated from a French edition of *La Sirene* by C. Armando Rodríguez. Introduction and biographical note of the translator by Ramón Lugo Lovatón. [Archivo General de la Nación, Vol. XI.] (Ciudad Trujillo: Editora Montalvo, 1953. Pp. 162.)

Noticed in THE HISPANIC AMERICAN HISTORICAL REVIEW, XXXIII (1953), p. 570.

The *Boletín del Archivo General de la Nación* appeared regularly.

9. ECUADOR. ARCHIVO NACIONAL DE HISTORIA. Quito.
Director: Alfredo Chaves.

Director Chaves, since assuming the position in 1951, has labored consistently for better quarters for the Archive. His desire will be achieved with the dedication of a new building early in 1954, which will afford adequate and satisfactory conditions for the conservation and administration of the valuable records of the nation. When the Archive moves into its new home it will have space for very important accessions. Included in these will be the records of the Tribunal de Cuentas, 1830-1920, and the notarial protocols up to the end of the nineteenth century.

Work of classification and cataloguing is being carried on. Recently, particular attention has been given to the private papers of General Eloy Alfaro, who was president during two periods. Investigators from the United States, Mexico, Colombia, Spain and other countries are frequent visitors to the Archive and conduct research on phases of Ecuadoran history.

In 1953, Luis Merchán Mora, the secretary of the Archive, received a grant under the program of the U. S. Department of State, which permitted him to spend four months in the United States of America. He worked in the National Archives, visited the state archives of Illinois, Maryland, and Virginia, and pursued a special course in archivology at the American University. He made an excellent record in his observations and returned home well equipped to aid in the reorganization and administration of the Archive, when it is installed in the new building. Through Mr. Merchán Mora, American archivists will make a real contribution to Ecuadoran archivology.

There has been one issue of the *Boletín* and it is planned to continue this useful publication regularly. A volume of the *Boletín del Archivo Nacional de Historia* appeared in 1951.

10. GUATEMALA. ARCHIVO GENERAL DEL GOBIERNO. Guatemala.
Director: Prof. J. Joaquín Pardo.

Work continues on the new building designed to house the valuable collections of the Archive. Professor Pardo continues actively his work of arranging and cataloguing the papers, but no details are available as to the actual progress and the records involved.

11. HAITI. ARCHIVES NATIONALES. Port-au-Prince.
Director: Laureore St.-Juste.

According to the director the National Archive of Haiti still is bur-

dened with the three problems so common to Latin-American archives, namely: inadequate housing, lack of properly trained archivists, and an insufficient budget. However in connection with the celebration of the sesquicentennial of Haitian independence a plan for developing the Archive, involving the expenditure of some \$200,000 has been proposed and it is expected that this will serve to solve many of the problems. The Government has been awakened to the needs of the Archive, particularly with respect to the protection of the valuable records. The president in a message of July 1, 1952, pointed out the importance of the Archives Nationales as the protector and conservator of the records important for Haitian history, which at present are subjected to many risks. M. Laurore has confidence that the program will be carried out and that he will be permitted properly to develop the various sections of the Archive.

Several groups of interesting papers have been accessioned recently. These include: The correspondence of Stéphane Preston, Minister of Haiti, in 1870-1871, in Washington, explaining the efforts of Haiti to prevent the annexation of the Dominican Republic to the United States; and a register of the president of Haiti, giving details of the aid in money, arms and ammunition furnished in 1870 to the Dominican insurgents struggling for independence. Also there were letters relating to Toussaint Louverture; one of Antonio Maceo, soliciting aid for Cuban independence; a document relating to the family of Bolívar in Haiti; and one of the American Minister Bassett to President Saget, announcing the adoption of the fifteenth amendment to the Constitution.

An article by Jacques Leger entitled, "Vieux Papiers—Intéret Actuel," appeared in *Le Nouvelliste* of August 26, 1953. It deals with the Archive and the plan for its development and gives an account of some of the interesting papers deposited in it.

12. HONDURAS. ARCHIVO NACIONAL. Tegucigalpa.
Director: Fernando G. Carías.

For many years the Archive has been housed in cramped and inadequate quarters in the old library building. In 1952 an adjoining house was purchased by the Government and somewhat more ample and satisfactory space in it was allotted to the Archive. After the installation of the necessary equipment, the records and printed materials were moved and provisionally arranged. More space for readers was provided, which is used mostly by persons consulting files of newspapers. It has been found that the enlarged quarters have increased the problems in connection with the supervision of

the readers, so that more personnel is needed. The director points out in his reports that the move is merely a temporary expedient and that what is necessary for the Archive is a new building adapted to its use. He devotes much attention to this subject and has made numerous suggestions to the Government in the hope of securing a solution to this pressing problem, so important for the adequate protection of the valuable records.

The new quarters have permitted of better arrangement of the holdings of the Archive. It has also facilitated some work of classification. The reviews, newspapers and other printed matter have been examined and many are found in bad state of repair, making necessary much work of selection and separation.

The historical documents in general are unarranged and uncatalogued, although in 1951-1952 some work of arrangement was carried on by specially assigned personnel. However, much remains to be done before the documents can be made readily available to students. Here, as elsewhere in the Archive, the need for more personnel is imperative. About the only use made of these records was in the investigations by the Commission on Territorial Studies in 1951-1952.

In the fiscal year 1952-1953, there were accessioned 182 volumes of *Libros de registro civil*, bringing the total of this collection to 4109 volumes. Also, in 1951-1952, there were received 161 volumes of *Títulos de Tierras*, which are deposited from time to time. Much work is involved in certifying documents from this collection. A sum was provided in the budget for 1952-1953 for the publication of the *Anales del Archivo Nacional*, but it was not used, so the item was omitted for the following year. The new budget has an amount designated for the installation of microfilm equipment for the Library and the Archive.

The Society of Geography and History of Honduras publishes regularly, with many documents from the Archive, its *Revista del Archivo y Biblioteca Nacionales*.

13. MEXICO. ARCHIVO GENERAL DE LA NACIÓN. Mexico.
Director: Dr. José Romano Muñoz.

In 1952, Dr. Julio Jiménez Rueda, who had rendered distinguished service as director since 1943, retired. To replace him in this important position, Dr. José Romano Muñoz was appointed. No further information on the recent activities of the Archive has been received.

The Archive collaborated with the Inter-American Indigenist Institute in publishing the following volume:

Indice del ramo de indios del Archivo General de la Nación. By Luis Chávez Orozco. [Special publications of the Instituto Indigenista Interamericano, in collaboration with the Archivo General de la Nación.] (Mexico: Instituto Indigenista Interamericano, 1951. Pp. 394.)

Reviewed in *THE HISPANIC AMERICAN HISTORICAL REVIEW*, XXXII (1952), 612-613.

14. NICARAGUA.

The problem of the establishment of a national archive has not been solved, although there is interest in the matter and some consideration is being given to it by the government.

15. PANAMA. ARCHIVO NACIONAL. Panama.

Director: Ramiro Vázquez.

By a presidential decree of 1953, Juan Antonio Susto, who had diligently carried on the functions of the Archive since 1931, was replaced by Ramiro Vázquez. No further information about the Archive has been received.

16. PARAGUAY. ARCHIVO NACIONAL. Asunción.

Director: José Doroteo Bareiro.

No report has arrived respecting the activities and progress of the Archive.

17. PERU. ARCHIVO NACIONAL. Lima.

Director: Dr. Oscar Malca Olguín.

Dr. Eduardo Coz Sarria, who efficiently directed the Archive from the time of his appointment in 1944, died in July 1952. To fill the position, Dr. Oscar Malca Olguín was named and is actively directing the functions of the institution.

Chronological classification of the civil suits of the Real Audiencia is in process and this added to many other groups already classified makes available much valuable material. However added personnel, which has been promised by the Government, is necessary before numerous other groups of the older records can be arranged and classified. At present they are in bundles bearing a general identification. Among the collections needing attention, the director has mentioned the following: The criminal records of the Real Audiencia, beginning in 1546; the papers of the Superior Gobierno; the records of the Santo Oficio de la Inquisición, 1569-1820; the papers of Censos from 1600; the Cuentas de Conventos, 1590-1840; and the records of Minería, 1592-1840, of Correos, 1600, of the Consulado, 1613-1829, and

of Real Hacienda, 1590-1820. After classification, it is planned to begin the work of card indexing.

The director is also urging the assembling in the Archive of all records dealing with the movement for independence. He has also recommended that all records of the government shall be conserved in the Archive and that donations of papers and documents by private persons shall be encouraged. However, the ministries are slow in complying with the law for the transfer of records and the Archive does not insist too much as it does not have adequate personnel to care for additional records. The publication of the *Revista* of the Archive has been suspended since 1947. Numerous Peruvian professors and students, as well as foreign investigators, visit the Archive to consult the historical records. Full use, however, cannot be made of them, because of the lack of proper catalogues.

Dr. Malca Olgúin has made a series of recommendations to permit the Archive to render greater service to the nation. These include: The establishment of a section dealing with the technique of reading documents; the creation of a library for the Archive; the formation of a gallery containing all the constitutions of Peru and of another of all personages who played roles in the movement for independence; the installation of a photostatic laboratory for the reproduction of documents; the preparation of printed indexes of the notarial protocols and the judicial *expedientes*; the deposit in the Archive of the negatives of films produced in Peru; and the immediate transfer to the Archive of the historical documents scattered in the ministries.

Because of the many records important for historical studies in the Notarial and Judicial sections of the Archive, further indexing and cataloguing is essential to make them accessible to scholars. Although the personnel is insufficient, some work is being done upon this task.

18. SALVADOR. ARCHIVO GENERAL DE LA NACIÓN. San Salvador.
Director: Baudilio Torres.

Although a decree for the establishment of a National Archive was issued sometime ago, no building was provided and no funds were made available for operations. However, Dr. Torres has been informed by the Ministry of Treasury, that in the forthcoming budget provision will be made for a staff and operating expenses, so that the work of organization may be undertaken.

19. URUGUAY. ARCHIVO GENERAL DE LA NACIÓN. Montevideo.

Dr. Juan Carlos Gómez Haedo, who began his distinguished service as director of the Archive in 1947, died in 1952.

20. VENEZUELA. ARCHIVO GENERAL DE LA NACIÓN. Caracas.
Director: Dr. Héctor García Chuecos.

During the period under review, the work of the Archive has been effected most satisfactorily in the fields of arrangement and cataloguing of documents, regular publication of the *Boletín* and service to the public. The arrangement, binding, and indexing goes forward in many of the sections, resulting in the formation of many volumes and the listing of thousands of documents. The results of these labors are reflected in the calendars which appear in the *Boletín*.

A special task assigned to the Archive is the arrangement and cataloguing of the documents of the Archive of Miraflores, which contains correspondence of the presidents of the Republic and the secretaries general for a period of some years. The printed materials of this collection have been separated and suitably bound and shelved.

In October 1952, Dr. García Chuecos attended the First Ibero-American Congress of Archives, Libraries and Copyright, in Spain, and participated actively in the sessions. After the Congress he made investigations in the Archivo General de Indias, in order to secure copies of documents relating to Venezuela. He also spent some time in the Archivo Histórico Nacional and the Real Academia de Historia, in Madrid. He was also called upon to give instructions to a special representative of the Ministry of Justice, who arrived in Seville in December 1952, to undertake a program of photostating documents relating to the history of Venezuela in the Archivo General de Indias. It is proposed to publish these documents.

In the annual report to the Ministry of Justice, Dr. García Chuecos places great emphasis on the need for a new building to house the vast mass of valuable Venezuelan public records.

As a homage to the founders of the Nation, there appeared on the anniversary of the Battle of Ayacucho (December 9, 1952) a volume under the title

Causas de Infidencia, Vol. II. Edited by Héctor García Chuecos. [Archivo General de la Nación.] (Caracas Imprenta Nacional, 1952. Pp. x, 287.)

This second volume of inedited documents relating to the revolution for independence consists of selected expedientes dealing with treason trials during the early years of the movement. In planning the work, the editor followed in the footsteps of Laureano Vallenilla Lanz, who prepared volume one in 1917. The expedientes were chosen to record the process of the movement in the various parts of Venezuela and relate specifically to Mérida, Puerto Cabello, Maracaibo,

Valencia, Caracas and Cumaná. The names of many of the heroes from these regions are included. Now however, Dr. Garcíá Chuecos believes that a chronological presentation of the expedientes from a given volume, all of which refer to one region, would have been preferable.

Derecho Colonial Venezolano. Índice general de las reales cédulas que se contienen en los fondos documentales del Archivo General de la Nación. Edited by Héctor Garcíá Chuecos. [Archivo General de la Nación.] Caracas: Imprenta Nacional, 1952. Pp. xiii, 202.)

Noted in THE HISPANIC AMERICAN HISTORICAL REVIEW, XXXII (1952), 585. The *Boletín del Archivo General de la Nación* appeared regularly.

II. OTHER ARCHIVES

1. ARGENTINA. ARCHIVO HISTÓRICO DE LA PROVINCIA DE BUENOS AIRES. Ciudad Eva Perón.

Honorary Director: Dr. Ricardo Levene.

In homage to the Liberator General José San Martín there was held in La Plata, September 25-28, 1950, the First Congress of the History of the Towns of the Province of Buenos Aires. This Congress was under the presidency of Dr. Ricardo Levene and delegates were present from all the cities and towns of the Province. The Archivo Histórico de la Provincia, one of Argentina's outstanding institutions, was charged with the publication of the complete report on the Congress. This report in three monumental volumes is

Primer congreso de historia de los pueblos de la provincia de Buenos Aires. [Publicaciones del Archivo Histórico de la Provincia.] (3 vols., La Plata: Dirección de Impresiones Oficiales, 1951-1952. Pp. lxxiv, 404; xxx, 405; xxvi, 333.)

Reviewed in THE HISPANIC AMERICAN HISTORICAL REVIEW, XXXII (1952), 565-566.

2. ARGENTINA. MUSEO HISTÓRICO NACIONAL. Buenos Aires.

Director: José Luis Trenti Rocamora.

Catálogo de documentos del Museo Histórico Nacional. Vol. I, *Años 1605-1869*, Vol. II, *Años 1870-1879*, Vol. III, *Años 1880-1899 y S/F.* Edited by José Luis Trenti Rocamora. [Ministerio de Educación, Dirección General de Cultura.] (Buenos Aires: Talleres Gráficos E. G. L. H., 1952. Pp. 551, 578, 428.)

Reviewed in THE HISPANIC AMERICAN HISTORICAL REVIEW, XXXIII (1953), 425-426.

Selección de documentos del Museo Histórico Nacional. Tomo I, Guerras de la independencia. Edited by José Luis Trenti Rocamora. [Ministerio de Educación de la Nación, Dirección de Cultura.] (Buenos Aires: Talleres Gráficos E. G. L. H., 1952. Pp. 310.)

Reviewed in *THE HISPANIC AMERICAN HISTORICAL REVIEW*, XXXIII (1953), 293-294.

3. ARGENTINA. ARCHIVO MUNICIPAL DE CÓRDOBA. Córdoba.

Actas Capitulares, libro noveno y libro décimo. (Córdoba: Talleres Gráficos de la Editorial Assandri, 1952-1953. Pp. xv, 754, xii 784.)

Vol. 9 contains the Actas from 1643 to 1650 and Vol. 10 from 1650 to 1661. These volumes continue the eight volumes covering the years 1573 to 1643, which were published by the Municipality during the years 1880-1884. The text follows the the order in the original records of the sessions, with marginal indication of the folios. The editing of these volumes was under the direction of Carlos A. Luque Colombres, who prepared the prefatory note and subject index for each volume.

4. BRAZIL. MINISTERIO DAS RELAÇÕES EXTERIORES. Rio de Janeiro.

Arquivo de Barão de Rio-Branco. Edited by Aluizio Napoleão. [Ministerio das Relações Exteriores, Divisão Cultural.] (Rio de Janeiro: Departamento de Imprensa Nacional, 1951. Pp. 153.)

This is a guide to the personal papers of the Baron de Rio Branco, which are deposited in the Ministry of Foreign Relations of Brazil. The description is arranged under the following classifications: I, Correspondence; II, Foreign Affairs; III, Limits; IV, Historical Studies; and V, Miscellany, under each of which there are several suggestive sub-headings. The location of the records is indicated and there are historical notes to section III. The preface describes the work of organizing the papers and gives an explanation of the system of card indexing. The introduction relates briefly the work of Rio Branco, describes the nature of the documentation and explains in detail the plan of classification.

Arquivo Histórico do Itamaraty. Parte I, Correspondencia. Introduction by Heitor Lyra. [Ministerio da Relações Exteriores, Divisão Cultural.] (Rio de Janeiro: Departamento de Imprensa Nacional, 1952. Pp. 343.)

This volume is an index of the Brazilian Foreign Office from inde-

pendence down to 1930. In the section of Correspondence of the Archive, there are the following groups, numbered consecutively from 01 to 20: Brazilian diplomatic missions; Brazilian consulates; Registers of diplomatic missions and consulates; Commercial attachés; Consular inspectors; Special missions; International congresses and conferences; International organizations; Foreign governments; Foreign diplomats and consular representations; Legislative power; Tribunal of Accounts; Judicial authorities; Presidency and vice-presidency; Brazilian ministries and agencies; Local governors and authorities; Various at home; Various abroad; Registers of various; and Special correspondence. Under these headings the entries are either by posts, representations or governmental agencies. Each entry gives the type of document and dates, with the fixed location of the bundle or volume. The introduction explains the over-all plan of classification of all records, with details respecting the groups of correspondence.

5. BRAZIL. BIBLIOTECA NACIONAL. Rio de Janeiro.

The Division of Rare Books and Publications is actively executing its program of publication of historical documents under the direction of José Honório Rodrigues. The latest volumes to appear are the following:

Documentos Históricos. Volumes XCI-XCVIII [Ministerio da Educação e Saude, Biblioteca Nacional, Divisão de Obras Raras e Publicaciones.] (Rio de Janeiro: Gráfica Tupy, 1951-1952. Pp. iii, 293; iv, 296; iv, 296; 299; v, 294; iv, 295; 300; iii, 296.)

These eight volumes contain Consultas do Conselho Ultramarino of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. Included are the consultas of Bahia, 1732-1756; Bahia e Capitanias do Norte, 1756-1807; Rio de Janeiro, 1674-1803; Rio de Janeiro-Bahia, 1707-1725; and Pernambuco e Outras Capitanias, 1712-1716. The prefatory notes are by Dr. Rodrigues and each volume has a list of the documents included and an index of names.

Manuscritos da coleção de Angelis: Vol. I, *Jesuítas e bandeirantes no Guairá (1549-1640)*; Vol. II, *Jesuítas e bandeirantes no Itatim (1596-1760)*. [Biblioteca Nacional, Divisão de Obras Raras e Publicaciones.] (Rio de Janeiro: 1951-1952. Pp. 506, 367.)

These documents dealing with Jesuit history in Brazil form one of the most important collections of the National Library. They were arranged for publication, with an historical introduction, notes and

glossary, by Jaime Cortesão and a prefatory note by José Honório Rodrigues.

6. BRAZIL. ARQUIVO PÚBLICO DO ESTADO DA BAHIA.

Director: Alfredo Vieira Pimentel.

Resenha de Manuscritos e documentos outros da Secção Histórica do Arquivo Público do Estado da Bahia. (Bahia: Imprensa Oficial da Bahia, 1950. Pp. 110.)

A listing of 1968 volumes in the Archive, 1591-1889, of which 589 are of the colonial period and 1379 of the Empire. The entries give brief titles, dates, number and size of folios, and an indication whether originals or record copies. The colonial records include royal orders; letters to the crown from provincial officials; military and civil appointments; concessions; collections of laws and orders; passports; and documents relating to insurrections, revolutions, independence, Indians and slaves. The documents of the period of the Empire comprise correspondence of the Imperial Court and its ministers with the presidency of Bahia, correspondence of the presidency with other authorities of the province, including especially those of Public Instruction, Police, Provincial Treasury, Public Health, and religious authorities. There are also documents regarding navigation and records of appointments and other activities of the presidency.

7. BRAZIL. ARQUIVO PÚBLICO ESTADUAL. Recife.

The State Archive of Pernambuco at Recife contains many important historical documents. The latest volume with a selection of documents both from the Archive and the Public Library is

Documentos do Arquivo, Vol. IV e V (one vol.). [Secretaria do Interior e Justiça, Arquivo Público Estadual.] (Recife: Oficinas Gráficas da Imprensa Oficial, 1950 [1951]. Pp. lxxxi, 648.)

The documents contained in this volume were selected and prepared for publication, with the extensive introductory study, by Barbosa Lima Sobrinho. They deal with the region of São Francisco. The following groups comprise the content: *Cartas e Ordens Regias de Olinda, 1696-1801*; *Registo de Portarias, 1769-1821*; *Ofícios do Governo, 1769-1823*; *Patentes Militares e Or. da Camara de Olinda, 1773-1817*; *Correspondencia da Corte, 1784-1808*; *Patentes Provinciais, 1788-1801*; *Registo de Patentes do Governo de Pernambuco, 1801-1805*; *Registos de Provisões Regias 1803-1827*; *Supremos Tribunais Extintos, 1802-1828*; *Camaras Municipais, 1814-1823*; and *Ouvidores das Comarcas, 1819-1826*.

8. BRAZIL. ARQUIVO MUNICIPAL. São Paulo.

Director: Francisco Pati.

Revista do Arquivo Municipal. Anos XVIII-XIX, Vols. 141-153. (São Paulo: Prefeitura do Município, 1951-1952.)

The several issues contain many valuable articles dealing with the history of São Paulo. There is a documentary section which includes installments of Ordens Regias, 1749-1751, nos. 55-69; and Papéis Avulsos, 1824-1825, documentos 276-344. Currently the laws and decrees of the municipality are printed.

9. BRAZIL. ARQUIVO MUNICIPAL DO SALVADOR. Salvador, Bahia.

Director: Percy Esteves Cardoso.

Documentos históricos do Arquivo Municipal, Vol. II, *Cartas Senado, 1673-1684*; Vol. III, *Cartas do Senado, 1684-1692*. (Salvador: Oficina Tipografica Manú, 1952-1953. Pp. xvi, 151; xiv, 139.)

The documents comprise correspondence of the Senate for the years indicated. The introduction to Vol. II is by the former director, Luis Menezes Monteiro da Costa and of Vol. III by the present director. The preface to each volume is by Dr. Osvaldo Veloso Gordilho, the prefect of the city. There are indexes of persons, places and subjects in each volume.

10. UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES. Washington.

Director: Dr. Wayne C. Grover.

The following publications are of interest in the field of Latin American archivology.

"The archives of the United States Diplomatic and Consular Posts in Latin America." By John P. Harrison. In *THE HISPANIC AMERICAN HISTORICAL REVIEW*, XXXIII (1953), 168-183.

A brief description of records in the National Archives. Also reprinted by the National Archives.

List of Documents relating to Special Agents of the Department of State, 1789-1906. Compiled by Natalia Summers. [Special Lists, No. 7.] (Washington: The National Archives, 1951. Pp. xi, 229. Mimeographed.)

The listing is by the agents who represented the United States. The general purpose of the mission is set forth and there is an indication of the letters and reports, with dates and numbers, for each of the volumes in which they are bound. There is an index giving the names of the agents. It is noted that there were 262 missions to the countries of Latin America during the years covered by the documents.

List of Foreign Service Post Records in the National Archives. Compiled by Mark G. Eckhoff and Alexander P. Mauro. [Special Lists, No. 9.] (Washington: The National Archives, 1952. Pp. v, 42.)

Gives the names of the posts, with over-all dates and the number of cubic feet of records in each case. There are also a geographical list of the consular posts and agencies and excerpts from the regulations governing the maintenance of foreign service post records.

List of National Archives Microfilm Publications, 1953. [National Archives Publication, No. 54-55.] (Washington: The National Archives, 1953. Pp. vi, 98.)

This brings up-to-date the list of microfilm copies available in the program of the Archives. The price of each volume and of each completed series is indicated. Many additional records relating to Latin America have been microfilmed since the issuance of the 1950 *List*.

Materials in the National Archives relating to the Mexican States of Sonora, Sinaloa and Baja California. By John P. Harrison. [The National Archives, Reference Information Papers, No. 42.] (Washington: The National Archives, 1952. Pp. 15.)

Noted in THE HISPANIC AMERICAN HISTORICAL REVIEW, XXXIII (1953), 135.

“Opportunities for Inter-American Studies in the National Archives.” By John P. Harrison. In *The Carribean: Peoples, Problems and Prospects*. Edited by A. Curtis Wilgus. (Gainesville: University of Florida, 1952. Pp. 162-174.)

Records of the Office of Inter-American Affairs. Compiled by H. Stephen Helton. [Preliminary Inventories, No. 41.] (Washington: The National Archives, 1952. Pp. v, 138.)

Noted in THE HISPANIC AMERICAN HISTORICAL REVIEW, XXXIII (1953), p. 135.

III. OTHER PUBLICATIONS

1. “Latin American Archivology, 1950-1951.” By Roscoe R. Hill. THE HISPANIC AMERICAN HISTORICAL REVIEW, XXXII (1952), 458-482.
2. *Missões Brasileiras nos Arquivos Europeos.* By Virgilio Correa Filho. [Instituto Panamericano de Geografía e Historia, Comisión de Historia, No. 32, Misiones IV.] (Mexico City: Gráfica Panamericana, 1952. Pp. 59.)

Noted in *THE HISPANIC AMERICAN HISTORICAL REVIEW*, XXXII (Nov. 1952), 614.

3. *Misiones Colombianas en los Archivos Europeos*. By Enrique Ortega Ricaurte. [Instituto Panamericano de Geografía e Historia, Comisión de Historia, No. 33, Misiones V.] (Mexico City: Gráfica Panamericana, 1951. Pp. 151.)
4. *Misiones Chilenas en los Archivos Europeos*. By Alejandro Soto Cárdenas. [Instituto Panamericano de Geografía e Historia, Comisión de Historia, No. 47, Misiones VI.] (Mexico: Gráfica Panamericana, 1953. Pp. 295.)

Reviewed in *THE HISPANIC AMERICAN HISTORICAL REVIEW*, XXXIV (1954), p. 235.

5. *A Pesquisa Histórica no Brasil. Sua evolução e problemas atuais*. By José Honório Rodrigues. (Rio de Janeiro: Departamento de Imprensa Nacional, 1952. Pp. 286.)

This volume on historical studies in Brazil is included since it contains much information on the efforts of Brazilian scholars and societies to locate documentary sources not only in Europe but also in Brazil. It discusses fully the value of archivalia and the need for its adequate protection. Also a program for the conservation of records scattered through the Republic is outlined. Moreover it contains suggestions for an effective program for carrying forward work with respect to Brazilian history in European archives. In fact it affords much more information than is incorporated in the volume on Brazil noted above.

6. *Archivalia Mexicana*. By Manuel Carrera Stampa. [Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Instituto de Historia.] (Mexico City: Editorial Jus, S. A., 1952. Pp. xvii, 276.)

A brief introductory survey and guide to records in the many archives of Mexico, revealing its rich patrimony of archivalia. Part I contains general considerations. The great number of the archives, the importance of the archivalia, the many losses suffered and the types of archivalia are among the subjects discussed. Part II comprises a fairly full account of the thirty-one archives of the various agencies in the City of Mexico. The classes of records, with dates and an indication of their importance is set forth. Part III is a more summary listing of many of the state, municipal, and other local archives scattered through the republic. The appendices include: Regulations of the General Archive of the Nation (1946); Regulations of the General Notarial Archive of the Federal District

(1947); and the Regulations of the Public State Archive of Campeche (1941). This is a type of volume which should be prepared for the other Latin-American countries.

7. *Calendar of the Manuel E. Gondra Manuscript Collection; University of Texas Library*. By Carlos E. Castañeda and Jack Autrey Dabbs. (Mexico: Editorial Jus, 1952. Pp. 467.)

Reviewed in THE HISPANIC AMERICAN HISTORICAL REVIEW, XXXIII (1953), 296-297.

8. *Catálogo da coleção Visconde do Rio Branco*. 2 volumes. (Rio de Janeiro: Ministerio das Relações Exteriores, Instituto Rio Branco, 1951. Pp. lxxxiv, 508, 509.)

Reviewed in THE HISPANIC AMERICAN HISTORICAL REVIEW, XXXII (1952), 279-280.

9. *Guía de los archivos de Madrid*. Preface by Francisco Sentés y Obrador, Director General of Archives and Libraries. [Ministerio de Educación Nacional, Servicio de Publicaciones.] (Madrid: Nuevas Gráficas, S. A., 1952. Pp. x, 592.)

A brief descriptive guide to the many archives of Madrid. The description of each archive gives a general statement, a history of the archive, and the organization and classification of the documents. Many of the archives, such as the Archivo Histórico Nacional, the Palacio Nacional, the Foreign Office, the ecclesiastical archives, the Academy of History and others contain materials relating to Spanish America.

10. "Índice abreviado dos documentos de Século XVII do Arquivo Histórico Colonial de Lisboa." By Luiza da Fonseca, *Anais do Primeiro Congresso de História da Bahia*. [Instituto Geográfico e Histórico da Bahia.] (Cidade do Salvador, Bahia: Tipografia Beneditina, Ltda., 1950.) II, 7-353.

11. "Investigaciones históricas realizadas en Madrid y Sevilla." By Héctor García Chuecos, *Boletín del Archivo General de la Nación* (Caracas), XL (1953), 215-224.

Gives a general survey of the Archivo General de Indias, with an indication of the number of legajos in the various sections relating to Venezuela and lists of documents which were copied or microfilmed, dealing especially with the founding of the University of Caracas, the conspiracy of Juan Francisco de León against the Guipuzcoo company, the independence of Venezuela and other subjects.

12. "Notes on the Civil Archives of the City of Oaxaca," By Woodrow Borah, *THE HISPANIC AMERICAN HISTORICAL REVIEW*, XXXI (1951), 723-739.

Describes briefly the various archives of the city, indicating the general character of the records, the number of volumes or legajos, and the covering dates. There is also an introductory historical statement.