

IN MEMORIAM

Mario Colín Sánchez died in Mexico City on March 25, 1983. He was born in Atlacomulco (State of Mexico) in 1922. As a young man he was very active in politics and three times was elected a Deputy to the National Congress. Thereafter, he dedicated his abilities to the promotion of culture in his native state where he became Director of the Instituto Literario, today the Universidad del Estado de México. He founded the Patrimonio Cultural y Artístico del Estado which, in time, came to absorb his best energies. The Patrimonio promoted the conservation and restoration of monuments and the publication of books on the history and culture of the State of Mexico. His work in this field took on an enormous importance. The "Biblioteca Enciclopédica del Estado de México" which he directed and, in great measure, wrote until October 1981 numbered 110 books on archaeological, historical, artistic, bibliographical, geographical and linguistic aspects of the culture of his native state. In the administration of the state of Mexico, he discharged the post of Secretaría de Educación Pública up until five months ago.

L.G.C.

Javier O. Aragón, the distinguished Mexican lawyer who in recent years completed some notable studies on the history of his country, died in Lisbon (Portugal) on March 28, 1983. His interest was concentrated on the writings of Fray Toribio de Motolinía, the author of the earliest accounts which we have both of pre-Hispanic Mexico as well as of its first colonial years. Quite possibly Lic. Aragón was the most knowledgeable Motolinía specialist of our day. In 1979, he published in a magnificent critical edition the version of the manuscript called "de la Ciudad de México" of the best known work of the famous Franciscan: *Relación de los ritos antiguos, idolatrias y sacrificios de los indios de la Nueva España y de la Maravillosa conversión que Dios en ellos ha obrado* (México, 1979; XLI-CXXI). This is the work which is generally known as *Historia de los indios de la Nueva España*.

Aragón studied very carefully and for the first time described the manuscript "de la Ciudad de México" and then edited it with great care and exactitude, noting the variants which are found in the manuscript copies of the Escorial and in the Hispanic Society of America (New York).

When he died, Aragón had almost completed the edition of the Epistolario of Motolinía on which he had been working for some years. It was to be the definitive edition, and we hope this work will not be lost. In the symposium organized in July 1981 by the Instituto de Investigaciones Históricas, Aragón presented extensive and interesting observations concerning a study by Dr. Edmundo O'Gorman on Motolinía. The Aragón remarks will be published in the Actas of the symposium which are now in press.

L.G.C.