

The American Academy of Research Historians of Medieval Spain

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N E W S L E T T E R

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REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-TREASURER, 1987

The Academy, as of December 21, 1987, enjoyed the support of 54 paid-up members for 1987, reflecting a gain of new members but also the failure of 32 members who had paid for 1986 to pay their subscription for 1987. The recent increase in dues, coupled with the absence of election expenses in 1987, resulted in an operating surplus of \$209.40. Income for 1987 totaled \$343.37 with expenditures being \$133.97. On December 21, 1987, the balance in the Academy's checking account was \$1,650.06.

--James W. Brodman, Secretary-Treasurer

WASHINGTON MEETING

"Charity and Piety in Medieval Society" was the subject of a panel jointly sponsored by the Academy and the American Historical Association in Washington, D.C. on December 28, 1987. President James F. Powers chaired the session; commentary was provided by Robert I. Burns, S.J. Summaries of the two papers follow.

Jill R. Webster, St. Michael's College, University of Toronto, "Manifestations of Popular Piety in Medieval Aragon."

Medieval piety extended to areas such as almsgiving, apparitions, miracles, and the care of the sick and even to art and architecture. In the thirteenth and early fourteenth centuries, the Mendicant Orders were the prime inspiration for works of charity and the erection of splendid buildings, adorned as they were by paintings, carvings and other works of art. Similarly, they aroused pious sentiment among the populace and this was frequently expressed in ways which could be regarded as quasi-heretical.

The miraculous events in Montpellier -- the appearance of a bright light which came to rest over the crucifix in the Chapel of the Holy Cross of the Carmelite house -- required a bishop's court to verify the witnesses' accounts, given some seventy years later. The fact that they were only brought to light at the end of the fourteenth century suggests that those who witnessed the "miracle" were frightened of the Inquisition, which had been especially active in Languedoc in the 1320s, when the miracle had

occurred. Other unexplained phenomena occur in Narbonne and Lérida, examples only of the prevalence of a form of popular piety which saw the hand of the Lord or that of the Devil in the appearance of unusual events. Indeed the latter caused the Trinitarians some consternation when he appeared to them on a stormy night and succeeded in removing the roofs from their church and cloisters, seen as a possible retribution for their sins.

Illumination of Bibles, retables, paintings, the dedication of chapels -- all these showed the way in which medieval man expressed his popular devotion. Hospitals cared for the sick; hospices sheltered the homeless and indigent; and those with contagious diseases were isolated outside the cities. Language and literature, through the exempla and sermon structure of many works reflected the way in which medieval piety permeated every aspect of life. All of these expressions of devotion to the Christian faith are important for the understanding of the Middle Ages and especially the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries.

James W. Brodman, University of Central Arkansas, "The Origins of Hospitallerism in Medieval Catalunya"

This paper addresses the evolution of hospitallerism and organized works of charity in Catalunya between the eleventh and fourteenth centuries. This activity begins with the foundation of a number of hospitals of episcopal and capitular patronage in the eleventh and early twelfth century. Located next to the cathedral, these afforded care, food and shelter to the needy. Specialized hospitals that provided assistance to lepers and other sufferers of skin disease, the old and infirm, foundlings and captives appeared in the later twelfth and in the thirteen centuries as the work of individual clerics and laymen and an assortment of religious orders and confraternities. At the end of the thirteenth century, new charitable foundations took on a more municipal character as town governments assumed control of some privately endowed hospitals and as parishioners established neighborhood alms funds to care for the local needy. The pattern of charitable development thus noted in Catalunya is similar to that detected by others north of the Pyrenees, but nonetheless, because of the essentially local character of this caritative patronage, also demonstrates a distinctively Catalan dimension.

KALAMAZOO, 1988

Four panels of interest to Academy members are scheduled for the Twentieth-Third International Congress of Medieval Studies, May 5-8, 1988, at Western Michigan University. The first, sponsored by the Academy and organized by Donald Kagay, is entitled: "Foral and Customary Legal Traditions of the Medieval Iberian States." Papers include:

1. Nina Melechen, Fordham University, "Counting Sheep and Counting Ships: Incorporating the Fueros of the Province of Santander in the 'Index of Medieval Castilian Fueros' "

2. Theresa M. Vann, Fordham University, "Life on the Edge: Legal Unity on the Frontier, The Upper Tagus River Valley, 1085-1252"

3. Donald Kagay, Texas Medieval Association, "Dating Considerations of the Usatges of Barcelona"

Professor Joseph O'Callaghan of Fordham University will comment.

Two sessions are sponsored by the Society for Spanish and Portuguese Studies, each organized by Larry Simon and Donna M. Rogers and entitled "Women in the Medieval Crown of Aragon". Presentations will be made by Academy members Clifford Backman, Mark D. Meyerson and Larry J. Simon.

"Silos in 1088" is the title of a program sponsored by the International Center of Medieval Art under the direction of Constancio del Alamo and Elizabeth del Alamo. This will include an exhibit of photographs of the Silos church, cloister and manuscripts, a concert of liturgical music from medieval Spain performed by the Schola Antiqua Exiliensis (directed by Ismael Fernández de la Cuesta), and three sessions. These are entitled: "The Historical Moment," "Manuscripts and Music," and "The Church and Cloister." Papers will be read by Academy members Bernard F. Reilly and Elizabeth del Alamo.

OTHER CONFERENCES

Two panels have been tentatively scheduled for the Academy's winter meeting in Cincinnati at the convention of the American Historical Association. Presentations are planned by James Todesca, Theresa Vann, Clifford Backman, Thomas Burman, Christopher Davis, and Larry Simon.

Espacios y tiempos en el monacato is the theme of a conference to be held December 5-10, 1988 at the Church of San Isidoro of León. Papers up to 15 pages are welcomed; titles should be sent to Dr. Horacio de Santiago Otero, Departamento de Historia Medieval, calle de Duque de Medinaceli 6, 28014 Madrid. The registration fee is 3,000 pesetas.

The Second Pennsylvania Symposium on Medieval and Renaissance Studies will be held on October 28-29, 1988 at the University of Pittsburgh. Abstracts for papers (300-500 words) should be sent by May 15, 1988 to Dr. Barbara N. Sargent-Baur, Medieval and Renaissance Studies Program, 1328 C.L., University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA 15260.

The Southeastern Medieval Association will meet in Richmond, Vir-

ginia between September 29 and October 1, 1988. Abstracts for proposed papers should be sent to James Duckworth, Department of English, University of Richmond, Richmond, VA 23173.

FELLOWSHIPS

The next application deadline for the Spain Research Fellowships is January 1, 1989. Application materials are now available from the Council for International Exchange of Scholars, Eleven Dupont Circle, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036-1257 (telephone: 202-939-5403).

The Andrew W. Mellon Fellowship Program at the Vatican Film Library (Saint Louis University) offers research support for periods between two and eight weeks. Information may be obtained from: Andrew W. Mellon Fellowship Program, Pius XII Memorial Library, Saint Louis University, 3655 West Pine Boulevard, Saint Louis, MO 63108.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Mary-Anne Vetterling's computer bibliography of studies on the Libro de buen amor is now available for distribution in electronic form. It currently includes ca. 1300 items. The bibliography, which is in standard ASCII format and easily convertible to other formats, may be obtained either via modem or via electronic mail. To receive it via electronic mail, write to John Dagenais at: DAGO2313@NUACC.BITNET. For a modem transfer, call John Dagenais at 312-491-8282 (491-7408 for message) during the day to arrange a time for the transfer. The bibliography is also available for those who mail to Dagenais (at the Department of Hispanic Studies, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL 60208) a formatted 5 1/4", a 3 1/2" 720 KB, or a Mac diskette along with a stamped self-addressed envelope. New submissions or verifications for the bibliography are welcomed.

John Dagenais and William D. McHugh are beginning a project which seeks to collect all documentary evidence (inventories, wills, donations, etc.) for the presence of specific books in medieval Castile and to identify their authors and titles. The final product will be a reference tool arranged by place and date and accompanied by author, title, subject and other indexes. They ask the membership for any such references pertaining to Castile before 1550; these will be gratefully acknowledged. Address Professor Dagenais at the address above.

NOTES FROM THE MEMBERSHIP

Thomas N. Bisson has been appointed as Professor of History at Harvard University.

John Dagenais has published "Juan Rodríguez del Padrón's Translation of the Latin Bursarii: New Light on the Meaning of 'Tra(c)tado'!" Journal of Hispanic Philology 10 (1986): 117-39; and "A Further Source for the Literary Ideas in Juan Ruiz's Prologue," ibid. 11 (1986): 23-52. He is completing a book-length manuscript: The Larger Gloss: Reading, Writing and Ethics in the Libro de buen amor. His electronic mail address is: DAGO2313@NUACC.BITNET; he requests other members to provide their electronic mail address.

Charles B. Faulhaber has published Libros y bibliotecas en la España medieval: Una bibliografía de fuentes impresas. Research Bibliographies and Checklists, 47. London: Grant & Cutler, 1987; and "Hispanismo e informática," Incipit 6 (1986 [1987]): 157-84. He requests that he be sent (at the Department of Spanish, University of California, Berkeley, CA 94720) additions and corrections for the Bibliography of Old Spanish Texts, 4th ed. He reports that he is currently porting, with a grant from IBM, the data base to a new data base management system (Advanced Revelation) that runs on MS-DOS computers. He presented a paper ("La recepción del Libro de buen amor") at the International Congress of the Hispanic Association of Medieval Literature in Segovia on October 5, 1987.

J.N. Hillgarth has published "Modes of Evangelization of Western Europe in the seventh century," Irland und die Christenheit, Bibelstudien und Mission (Stuttgart, 1987), 311-31; and "Le rayonnement de Lulle dans le royaume de Majorque," Cahiers de Fanjeaux 22 (1987): 58-68. He is Cannought Senior Fellow at the University of Toronto for 1987-88 and has organized with Professor Jacques Fontaine of Paris IV-Sorbonne a conference entitled "The Seventh Century: Change and Continuity" to take place at the Warburg Institute, University of London, on July 8-9, 1988.

Thomas M. Izbicki has published "Leonardo Olschki, a Comprehensive Bibliography," La Bibliofilia 83 (1986-87): 297-308.

Archibald R. Lewis is Vice-President of the North American Society of Oceanic History.

Helen Nader has published "Hapsburg Ceremony in Spain: The Reality of the Myth," Historical Reflections/Réflexions Historiques 15:1 (1988). Her The Rise of Municipal Government in Early Modern Castile, 2 vols., Johns Hopkins University Press, and an edition and translation of Christopher Columbus' Book of Privileges are forthcoming. The latter is being financed with a

grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities Text and Translation Program. She has been promoted to full professor at Indiana University and serves as chair of the AHA Columbus Quincentennial Committee.

Linda J. Quintanilla is a first year student in the History Department at Catholic University of America.

Bernard F. Reilly's The Kingdom of León-Castilla under Alfonso VII (1126-1157) is being published by Princeton University Press. Professor Reilly assumed the presidency of the American Catholic Historical Association at its sixty-eighth meeting in Washington, D.C. on December 28, 1987.

Roger E. Reynolds has published "South Italian Liturgica and Canonistica in Catalonia (New York, Hispanic Society of America Ms. HC 380/819)," Mediaeval Studies 49 (1987): 480-95; and has been elected as a Corresponding Member of the Zentraldirektion of the Monumenta Germaniae Historica (Munich).

J.T. Snow is preparing with Julian Weiss a study of Hispano-Medieval Studies in the United States between 1970-86 while working on a monograph on Alfonso X's poetic personality. He will contribute a chapter on the Troubadours in Spain to a forthcoming manual on the Troubadours. He has been elected as a Corresponding Member of the Hispanic Society of America and as International Treasurer of the International Courtly Literature Society. He has organized a session on Iberian Laughter for the forthcoming Kalamazoo meeting.

Alan M. Stahl is visiting professor during the spring of 1988 at Università degli Studi in Venice where he is teaching a special course on medieval European numismatics.

William C. Stalls has published "Aragonese exarici in the twelfth century: their status and conditions of landholding," Sharq Al-Andalus 4 (1987). He read "Studies in Medieval Spanish History in the United States: The Past Twenty Years," at the Rocky Mountain Medieval-Renaissance Association.

John Tolan is beginning work on his dissertation at the University of Chicago on the works of Petrus Alfonsi and their manuscript tradition.

Theresa Vann's dissertation, "Castilian Royal Administration of the Upper Tagus Valley, 1085-1252", has been approved by the Fordham University Graduate School of Arts and Sciences.

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Membership Survey

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CONTRIBUTIONS FOR OCTOBER, 1988 NEWSLETTER

Recent Publications:

Research in Progress:

Grants, Awards, Honors:

New Appointments, Promotions:

Announcements of Sessions, Meetings, Lectures, etc.

Comments and Suggestions:

Please mail this survey to:
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