

NEWSLETTER

Vol. 17, No. 1

October, 1990

KALAMAZOO CONFERENCE (MAY, 1990)

The following papers were presented on May 13, 1990 at the Academy's session at the International Congress on Medieval Studies. Theresa Vann, its organizer, reports that the session was well-received and the discussion useful. She regrets the relegation of the AARHMS session to Sunday morning when many who wanted to attend were prevented from doing so by the exigencies of airline scheduling.

Theresa Earenfight (Fordham University), "The Urban Oligarchy of Barcelona during the Lieutenancy of Maria of Castile"

Because of his ambitions in Naples and problems with Crown territories in the Mediterranean, Alfonso V of Aragon (1416-1458) was absent frequently and for prolonged periods of time from his peninsular realms. Thus, Alfonso appointed his wife, Maria of Castile, to serve as lieutenant of Catalonia from 1421-36 and 1438-45. Traditionally, the lieutenant was subordinate to the governor, but during the 15th century the governorship fell vacant and the lieutenancy gained considerable power, especially in the regional and municipal representative assemblies.

Published evidence from the Cortes of Aragon and Archives of the city of Barcelona and the Crown of Aragon indicates that Maria was the first woman to convoke the *Cortes de Aragón* (1423) and she routinely convened the *Diputació del General* of Catalonia. After the capture of Alfonso in 1435, Maria ruled Catalonia virtually alone. This was the first time a king's lieutenant was granted such sweeping authority for an extended period.

This critical period in the history of Catalonia was marked by social unrest, political strife and economic decline. Maria's efforts to rule Catalonia were particularly hampered by the actions of the *Biga* faction, the landed magnates and urban oligarchs of Barcelona who attempted to assert themselves as the legitimate representatives of Catalonia against both the royal prerogative and a rival faction, the *Busca*, itself composed of merchants, lesser nobles, knights and townspeople. The strength of the oligarchy forced Maria to abandon the long-standing royal alliance with the merchants. An examination of the political dynamics at this significant moment in Catalan history can provide invaluable insight into the problems encountered during the absence of direct rule by the king, in addition to illuminating the mechanics of urban government in Barcelona and the office of lieutenant.

Theresa Vann (Fordham University): "The Town Council of Toledo During the Minority of Alfonso VIII"

During Alfonso VIII's minority (1158-1169), the Leonese occupied the city of Toledo and diverted its revenues towards the Leonese crown. Also, sometime during Alfonso's minority, the town council of Toledo was reorganized. After the minority, new officials gained prominence, and former officials bore new titles. This juxtaposition of events suggests that politics played a major role in the foral development of the city, but few historians have studied this relationship in any detail.

Recently some have suggested that the *fuero* of the city, initially believed to have been granted in 1118, was either compiled or granted in 1166. This suggestion, which has not gained widespread acceptance, is based on textual examination of a thirteenth-century copy of a lost original, which places the combination of the *fueros* of the Mozarabs, Castilians and Franks of Toledo within the events of the royal minority. While the city's uncertain political allegiance during this period affected its foral development and enhanced the stature of Mozarab officials within the municipality, better evidence for this stance is found in the attestations made by municipal officials to royal documents before and after the minority. This paper determines the sequence of events in Toledo during the minority and the nature of the reorganization, which brought the Mozarab officials to new prominence, to demonstrate the connection between the events and the *fuero*.

### NEW YORK MEETING

The annual convention of the American Historical Association will be held in New York (Hilton and Sheraton Center Hotels) between December 27 and 30, 1990. The Academy's annual meeting will occupy its traditional slot on the afternoon of December 28. Three activities are planned: the academic session, the annual business meeting, and a reception that the Academy is co-sponsoring along with the Haskins Society and the Medieval Academy of America. Discount airfares are available from American Airlines (1-800-433-1790, star file # S.04D0BD); hotel reservations at the Hilton, Sheraton or Grand Hyatt may be made through: AHA Housing Bureau, Two Columbus Circle, New York, NY 10019 (Fax: 212-245-5943). The following academic session is planned:

*The Municipal Code of Cuenca: 1190-1990*  
*The 800th Anniversary of a Landmark Charter*  
*in Spanish Urban History: A Commemoration*

Chair: Heath Dillard

James F. Powers, "The Significance of the *Forum Conche* in Iberian and European Municipal Law"

James W. Brodman, "*Exceptis militibus et sanctis*: Restrictions upon Ecclesiastical Ownership of Land in the Foral Legislation of Medieval Castile and Valencia"

Theresa M. Vann, "The Influence of the *Fuero* of Cuenca on Cuenca"

Commentator: Joseph F. O'Callaghan

### REVIEW

Alberto Ferreiro, *The Visigoths in Gaul and Spain, A.D. 418-711: A Bibliography*. E.J. Brill, Leiden (1988.) lxii + 822 pp. \$105

This is a massive compilation of more than 9,000 bibliographical entries. Ferreiro has defined the scope of his task very widely, going beyond the strict definition of the theoretical ethnic unity imposed by the term "Visigoths". Thus, he includes a section on the Sueves for which there are subsections on Martin of Braga and Orosius. He also offers 200 entries for

Sidonius Appollinaris whose association with the Visigoths was largely that of victim or complainer. A section entitled "Other Peoples" gives information about Jews, Vandals, Basques, and others who came into contact with the Visigoths.

The majority of the entries concern church history and patristics, reflecting the emphasis of what has been published. The largest single section is that devoted to Isidore of Seville which dwarfs those concerning Social History or Law. Both the number and diverse origins of the entries is impressive. Ferreiro has used newspapers, small local archival publications, excursionist journals, Eastern European publications, and other difficult or obscure sources. Ferreiro benefited not only from the large national and university libraries but from private collections, notably the materials assembled by Professor Jacques Fontaine, the leading student of Isidore and his era.

This book is useful for the specialist in Visigothic studies, but it is also important for those of us who only occasionally look at the early history of Spain and who need some orientation about the literature in basic topics. The arrangement is logical and an index of subjects and authors is provided. Professor Ferreiro is to be congratulated on an impressive accomplishment.

Paul Freedman  
Vanderbilt University

#### ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Professor James Powers of the Nominating Committee reports the following candidates for the offices of President and Secretary/Treasurer for 1991-92: President, Paul Freedman (Vanderbilt University) and Jill R. Webster (University of Toronto); Secretary/Treasurer, A.J. Cardenas (University of New Mexico), Dwayne Carpenter (Columbia University) and Donald Kagay (Texas Medieval Association). The Nominating Committee regrets its inability to consider several worthy candidates who are not members of the Academy. A ballot is included at the end of the *Newsletter*; members are asked to return it to Professor Powers by December 10, 1990. Results will be announced at the New York meeting.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Comitatus: A Journal of Medieval and Renaissance Studies* is now accepting submissions for volume 22 (1991). The journal, featuring articles written by graduate students or by those within the first three years of having received the Ph.D., welcomes specialized essays, translations, critical reviews of recent publications and annotated bibliographies. Manuscripts should not exceed 25-30 pages in length and should follow the *Chicago Manual of Style*. A cover letter containing a one paragraph abstract and information on authorial affiliation and degree status should accompany the manuscript. A guideline for contributors is available on request. The deadline for submission is January 31, 1991. All correspondence should be addressed to: *Comitatus*, University of California at Los Angeles, Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, 212 Royce Hall, Los Angeles, CA 90024-1485; telephone: 213-206-3113.

The Twelfth Medieval Forum is scheduled for the campus of Plymouth State College, April 19-20, 1991. Proposals for papers may be submitted prior to December 14 to: Professor Manuel Marquez-Sterling, Medieval Studies Council, Plymouth State College, Plymouth NH 03264.

The Mid-America Medieval Association's 15th Anniversary Meeting will occur in Kansas City on February 23, 1991. Proposals for papers and abstracts should be sent by December 15 to: Dr. James Falls, Department of History, 203 Cockefair Hall, University of Missouri, Kansas City, MO 64112.

The Society for Spanish and Portuguese Historical Studies will convene its 1991 meeting in Millersville, Pennsylvania (April 12-14). Suggestions for entire panels or individual papers (with 100-word synopsis) should be sent by November 15 to: Professor William Monter, Department of History, Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois 60208.

The SSPHS will award a prize this year for the best first article on an Iberian topic that appeared in print between January 1987 and December 1989. One copy of the article should be sent to each of the following: Mary E. Perry, University of California, 405 Hilgard, 212 Royce Hall, Los Angeles CA 90024-1485; Heath Dillard, 1601 Third Avenue, Apt. 18-F, New York NY 10128; and Adrian Shubert, University of York, 4700 Keele Street, North York, Ontario, Canada, M3J 1P3.

The Medieval Association of the Pacific will host its 25th Anniversary Conference at UC Davis, March 1-3, 1991. Abstracts for proposed papers may be submitted until November 1 to Kevin P. Roddy, Medieval Studies, University of California, Davis, California 95616.

#### NOTES FROM THE MEMBERSHIP

**James R. Blaettler, S.J.** has published "The Foot: A Monastic Metaphor at Silos," in *El Romanico en Silos. IX Centenario de la consagración de la iglesia y claustro. 1088-1988*, Studia Silensia Series Maior, 1 (Abadía de Silos, 1990): 451-64.

**Thomas N. Bisson** has been awarded the 1989 Charles Homer Haskins Medal by the Medieval Academy of America for his *Fiscal Accounts of Catalonia Under the Early Count-Kings, 1151-1213*, 2 vols. (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1984).

**Anthony J. Cárdenas** joyfully announces his appointment as Professor of Modern and Classical Languages at the University of New Mexico. He has published: "Alfonso's Scriptorium and Chancery: Role of the Prologue in Bonding the *Translatio Studii* to the *Translatio Potestatis*," and "In Search of a King: Alfonsine Bibliography," in *Emperor of Culture: Alfonso X the Learned*, ed. Robert I. Burns, S.J. (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 1990): 90-108, 198-208; "The *Libro de las animalias con caçan* and *Cantiga* 352 'Como Santa Maria del Viso guaríu uu açor dun cavaleiro': Life and Art," *Anuario Medieval* 1 (1989): 62-79; "'De una marauilla que acaescio...': The Miracle in the Alfonsine Royal Scriptorium-- the Case of the CSM and the EE," *Bulletin of the Cantigueiros de Santa Maria* 2 (1989): 13-30.

**Jerry R. Craddock** has published "The Legislative Works of Alfonso X," in Robert I. Burns, S.J., ed., *Emperor of Culture: Alfonso X the Learned of Castile and His Thirteenth-Century Renaissance* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 1990): 182-97; and with Kathryn Bares, *Text and Concordance of the "Libro de los fueros de Castiella" MS> 431. Biblioteca Nacional, Madrid* (Madison: HSMS, 1989).

**Jerrilynn D. Dodds** has been appointed Associate Professor in the School of Architecture at the City College of New York. She is collaborating with Vivian Mann in the preparation of an exhibit, "Convivenica," that will open at the Jewish Museum in 1992.

**Daniel Eisenberg** has written articles on medieval Spain, Granada, Sephardic Judaism and the reigns of John II and Henry IV for the *Encyclopedia of Homosexuality* (New York: Garland Publishing, 1990). His *Homosexuality in Spanish History* is in preparation. He requests members with information on homosexuality, particularly lesbianism, in medieval Spain to share it with him.

**Alberto Ferreiro** has been promoted to Associate Professor at Seattle Pacific University. He is currently working on a study of Jerome's commentary on Priscillianism in his letter to Ctesiphon.

**Lorna Jury Gladstone** has been appointed by President Bush as Special Assistant to the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Higher Education Programs in the U.S. Department of Education.

**R. M. Helmholtz** has published "Report on Spain," in *The Records of the Medieval Ecclesiastical Courts*, Part One, ed. Charles Donahue, Jr. (Berlin, 1989): 179-88.

**J.N. Hillgarth** was elected Scribe of the Fellows of the Medieval Academy of America at its April, 1990 meeting. He is also serving as chairman of the AHA Committee for the "Premio del Rey" prize.

**Norman Holub** is seeking participants for the Mediterranean XIV Conference in Istanbul (July, 1991) and for Mediterranean XV at Palma de Mallorca (summer, 1992). He can be reached at Dowling College, Oakdale NY 11769.

**Thomas M. Izbicki** has published "Pyres of Vanities: Mendicant Preaching on the Vanity of Women and its Lay Audience," *De ore Domini: Preacher and Word in the Middle Ages*, ed. T.L. Amos et al. (Kalamazoo, 1989): 211-34; "Ecclesiological Texts of Jean Gerson and Pierre d'Ailly in Vatican Manuscript Collections Other than the Codices Vaticanani latini," *Manuscripta* 33(1989): 205-9; and "Nicholas of Cusa: On Presidential Authority in a General Council," *Church History* 59(1990): 19-43.

**Archibald Lewis**, a distinguished member of the Academy who died in February, 1990, was honored posthumously at the Kalamazoo Conference in May, where three sessions entitled "Medieval Frontiers and Beyond" were dedicated to him.

**Robert A. MacDonald** has reported the publication of his: *Text and Concordance of Espéculo. Alfonso X. el Sabio. MS. 10.123. Biblioteca Nacional de Madrid* (Madison: Hispanic Seminary of Medieval Studies, 1989); and *Espéculo. Texto jurídico atribuido al Rey de Castilla Don Alfonso X. el Sabio. Edición, introducción y aparato crítico* (Madison: Hispanic Seminary of Medieval Studies, 1990). He continues to prepare an edition of the other juridical works attributed to Alfonso X.

**Michael McVaugh** has published with Luis Garcia Ballester "The Medical Faculty at Early Fourteenth-Century Lérida," *History of Universities* 8(1989): 1-25; and with Luis Garcia Ballester and Agustín Rubio Vela *Medical Licensing and Learning in Fourteenth-Century Valencia; Transactions of the American Philosophical Society*, 79, part 6 (Philadelphia, 1989).

**Lynn H. Nelson** has completed "Conflict and Community in Early Aragon: Reflections on Aragonese Names," and *The Chronicle of San Juan de la Peña: The Official 14th-century History of the Crown of Aragon*, Translation and notes. His "Neighbors and Neighborhoods in 12th-century Huesca" is in progress.

**Bernard F. Reilly** has recently published: *El reino de León y Castilla bajo el Rey Alfonso VI. 1065-1109* (Toledo: C.S.I.C., 1989). He is currently completing the 11th and 12th century volume in Basil Blackwell's series on the History of Spain.

**Milagros Rivera** has recently published *Textos y Espacios de Mujeres. Europa, siglos IV-XV* (Barcelona: Icaria, 1990). She is currently in charge of a project entitled, DUODA: A Data Base for the History of Women in Catalonia in the Medieval and Modern Periods sponsored by CUH-DIF (Centre Universitari d'Història de les Dones i Investigacions Feministes).

**Connie Scarborough** is Associate Director of the NEH Summer Institute "Alfonso el Sabio, Contributions to Medieval Language, Literature, and Culture" that was held at the University of Kentucky, June 11-July 20, 1990.

**Joseph T. Snow** has received promotion to Professor of Spanish/Portuguese Language and Literature at the University of Georgia. Recent publications include: "La iconografía de tres *Celestinas* tempranas (Burgos 1499; Sevilla 1518; Valencia 1514): unas observaciones," *Dicenda Cuadernos de Filología Hispánica*, no. 6 (1987[1990]): 255-277; and "Alfonso X, Troubadour. The Fact and the Fiction, in *Emperor of Culture*, ed. R. I. Burns, S.J. (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 1990): 124-140. He is currently working on a research bibliography (volume 2) for the poetry of Alfonso X. He has been elected to Phi Beta Delta and received travel grant at attend the III Jornadas de Literatura Medieval Española meeting in Buenos Aires (August, 1990).

**Elizabeth Valdez del Alamo** has been appointed Assistant Professor in the Department of Fine Arts at Montclair State College. She has published "Visiones y Profecía: El Arbol de Jesé en el claustro de Silos," *El Romanico en Silos. IX Centenario de la consagración de la iglesia y claustro. 1088-1988*, Studia Silensia Series Maior, 1 (Abadía de Silos, 1990): 173-202.

**Thomas J. Walsh**, who joins the Academy as a new member, is chairman of the Spanish Department of Georgetown University. His research concerns relations between Latin and vernacular in early medieval Spain, and the evolution of consonants in Late Latin/Early Hispano-Romance. Recent publications include "Spanish Historical Linguistics: Advances in the 1980s," *Hispania* 73 (1990): 177-200.

**Jill R. Webster** has published "The Carmelites in Lunel and Montpellier," *Carmelus* (1989): 145-65; "The Early Catalan Mendicants in Sardinia," *Biblioteca francescana sarda* (1988): 5-18; and "El desconocido convento de Puigcerdà - su fundación y desarrollo," *Archivo Ibero-Americano* (1989): 167-94. She is working on two monographs: one traces the history of the Franciscan House at Puigcerdà from 1320 to 1600; the other, entitled *The Hermit Friars*, discusses the dichotomy between the contemplative life and the scholarly life within the Carmelite community of the Crown of Aragon from the late 13th to the late 15th centuries. Other work centers on the contributions made by the friars to painting and architecture within the Crown of Aragon. Professor Webster is serving on the American Historical Association's Committee on the "Premio del Rey" prize.

*The American Academy of Research Historians of Medieval Spain*  
**Membership Survey**

Name:

Dues are enclosed for 1990 (\$4.00): \_\_\_\_\_

Check if new address: \_\_\_\_\_

**CONTRIBUTIONS FOR APRIL, 1991 *NEWSLETTER***

Recent Publications (use reverse side if necessary):

Research in Progress:

Appointments, Promotions, Grants, Awards, Honors, etc.:

Comments:

Suggestions for new members:

Please return by March 15, 1991 to:

James W. Brodman (AARHMS)  
Department of History  
University of Central Arkansas  
Conway, Arkansas 72032

**B A L L O T**

The American Academy of Research Historians of Medieval Spain  
Election of Officers, 1991-92

President

\_\_\_\_\_ Paul Freedman (Vanderbilt University)

\_\_\_\_\_ Jill R. Webster (University of Toronto)

Secretary/Treasurer

\_\_\_\_\_ A.J. Cardenas (University of New Mexico)

\_\_\_\_\_ Dwayne Carpenter (Columbia University)

\_\_\_\_\_ Donald Kagay (Texas Medieval Association)

Please return by **December 10, 1990** to:

Professor James F. Powers (AARHMS)  
Department of History  
College of the Holy Cross  
Worcester, MA 01610