

NOTA DEL EDITOR

As the 19th year of this journal now becomes history, we are — as of this writing — just four short years away from 1999. That means the half-century mark for the literary work whose dogged hold on the imagination of a multitude of readers inspired the founding of this journal in 1977. In 1991 an international symposium on *Celestina* was held in the United States and the complete proceedings of that gathering were, appropriately, titled: *Fernando de Rojas and 'Celestina': Approaching the Fifth Centenary*.¹

It is not too early to be thinking about ways to celebrate this important anniversary. In addition to conferences, symposia and other gatherings of veteran and new scholars of "la celestinesca," other desiderata may be mentioned. A first-time edition — an international collaboration — of the mid-sixteenth century *Celestina comentada* is likely to appear prior to this particular *quintocentenario*. A new critical edition is expected shortly from a team of scholars working in Rome. A project to digitalize the early *Celestinas* is being readied. A major gathering in Salamanca is sure to materialize. It is the right time to re-film the work, and to stage one of the many operas that *Celestina* has inspired — perhaps the largely unstaged Felipe Pedrell version of 1903. It is, I think, inevitable that there be new stagings; perhaps, even a long-dreamed of full length version (for the historical record). I would, personally, hope that the *ediles* in Madrid might be convinced to name a street for Fernando de Rojas, to stand against others already in existence: Quevedo, Lope de Vega, Cervantes....

¹ Edited by Ivy Corfis and myself, it contains an introduction and the text of the twenty two especially-commissioned papers heard there. Published in Madison, Wisconsin in 1993 by the Hispanic Seminary of Medieval Studies. Cloth, xx + 439pp.

In the interim, we here at *Celestinesca* will be doing what we can to promote, advertise and encourage as many as who admire and feel drawn to this great work to plan for and collaborate in the events of 1999. It is my own goal to produce the next "version" of my *Celestina* world bibliography. This project began in 1974 as a collaboration of three people, myself and two graduate students. The first "version" appeared in *Hispania* (USA) in 1976 and covered a quarter century (1949-1974) and was intended to complete work originally completed by Adrienne S. Mandel. *Celestinesca*, at least in part, was founded to have a way to continue updating the *Hispania* bibliography. After many supplements were printed, and with the generous use of the computer facilities at The Hispanic Seminary — and three consecutive summers of my own keystroking and formatting guidance from John Nitti and Ruth Richards — a second version became a reality in 1985. This work was expanded to 55 years of world interest in *Celestina* (1930-1985) and was made more user-friendly with several indexes.

Unfortunately, the Hispanic Seminary printed only a few hundred copies and the bibliography quickly became *agotado*. With this issue of *Celestinesca*, I have published eighteen supplements to the 1985 bibliography with over 700 new entries. The next version of the bibliography, if I have my way, will be a reference volume that covers a full century, 1899 (the Vigo: Krapf edition with its introduction by M. Menéndez Pelayo) to 1999. All along this path — that now exceeds twenty years — this work has been made possible (and rewarding) because of the excellent collaboration of friends, colleagues and *celestinistas* everywhere, Madrid to Manhattan, Tokyo to Toronto. I encourage the sending of *Celestina*-relevant materials to me in future as well, as a work of this nature depends on the service we all do for each other.

¡Quedaos adios!

Jos. Snow