


**MEDIEVAL LITERATURE**

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**GENERAL**

F. López Estrada’s excellent *Introducción a la literatura medieval española* has appeared in a second ed., M, Gredos, 262 pp. There are several studies of themes traced throughout the Middle Ages. A. Navarro González’s *El mar en la literatura medieval castellana*, La Laguna, 500 pp., is a solid piece of work with much of interest about the medieval mentality. M. R. Lida de Malkiel (†) admires and criticizes G. Cary’s *The medieval Alexander* (1956) in a rev. art. in *RPh*, xv, 3, and makes good the book’s shortcomings with details about the Alexander legend in Spain, *RPh*, xv, 4. J. H. R. Polt in a similar way supplements B. Glasser’s study of 1956 in his art. ‘Moral phraseology in early Spanish literature’, *RPh*, xv, 3. An interesting attempt to apply Huizinga’s European generaliza-
tions to later medieval Spain is A. Prieto's art. on attitudes to death in the work of J. Ruiz, López de Ayala, J. Manrique and the Celestina, Revista de Literaturas Modernas (Mendoza, Argentina), ii, 1960. E. Aranda's Teatro medieval en un pueblo murciano (i.e., Churra), Murcia, 1961, 285 pp., is mainly about the Epiphany theme in nativity plays, and includes a text of the Auto de los reyes magos.

Semitic themes: Y. Baer, A history of the Jews in Christian Spain, i, Philadelphia, 1961, vii + 463 pp., has not been seen (rev. Sp, xxxvii, 3); vol. i deals with the 8th to 14th c. Two important general works are N. Daniel, Islam and the West. The making of an image, Edinburgh, 1960, ix + 443 pp., and R. W. Southern, Western views of Islam in the Middle Ages, Oxford, 126 pp. J. Vernet's Los musulmanes españoles, B, 1961, 136 pp., is a short but scholarly summary; in a section on the Castro-Sánchez-Albornoz dispute, Vernet comes down on S.-A.'s side. The ecclesiastical activities in Eastern Spain, ca. 1136–57, of Robert of Chester (or of Ketton), who learned Arabic in Barcelona and translated the Koran into Latin, and counselled kings and popes, are studied by A. J. Martín Duque in His, xxii, 88. Note finally that Al-An has published indices for 1933–55, xii + 288 pp.

On archives: BDGAB, x, 64, describes in summary but useful fashion a great number of provincial archives. The MSS. of the monastery of La Vid are indexed by F. Zamora Lucas in RABM, lxix, 1961, i. A. Ubieto Arteta has publ. two cartularies, for Albelda (Rioja), Valencia, 1960, 203 pp. (66 docs dated 921 to 1094–1108), and for Siresa (Aragón), Valencia, 1960, 51 pp. (11 docs dated 814–39 to 978). He also edits the Crónica de Alfonso III, Valencia, 1961, 78 pp., with its rotense and ovetense versions on facing pages, and studies them fully in His, xxii, 85, concluding that the ovetense was written 910–13 and the rotense 914–24, neither in consequence being 'by' Alfonso III.

GOTHIC PERIOD AND EARLY RECONQUEST

On settlement, A. Athayde, 'População do Noroeste peninsular no período suévico-bizantino', BCu, xxiv, 1961, 3–4. Comments on E. A. Thompson's art. on the conversion of the Goths (YWML, xxii, 185) and further bibl. are provided by J. N. Hillgarth, AST, xxxiv, 1961. A. Castro in a brief and pungent art., 'Los visigodos