

A. CURTIS WILGUS: 1897-1981

This Journal does not publish obituaries, in part because of limitations of space, but also because the careers of major scholars of Latin America who have recently died are fully recounted elsewhere. It seems appropriate, however, to bring to the attention of our readership that Dr. A. Curtis Wilgus—the founder of the *Journal of Interamerican Studies* together with its first editor, Dr. Robert McNicoll—died in his Miami home of a heart attack at the age of 83 on January 23, 1981. The relationship of Dr. Wilgus with the Journal from its inception in January 1959 until 1969 is briefly but, I think, adequately recounted in the introduction to the *Cumulative Index: Journal of Interamerican Studies and World Affairs, 1959-1978* (Sage Publications, 1979). The changes in the editorial policy of the Journal since 1972—when a new publisher, Sage, and a new editorial board at the University of Miami assumed responsibility—are also apparent from the *Index*.

Dr. Wilgus was one of those fortunate individuals who remained fully and effectively active as scholar, bibliographer, and academic entrepreneur until his sudden and unexpected death. The volume of his contributions, particularly in the field of bibliography, as supervising editor of a substantial series of historical dictionaries of the nations of Latin America, and in the reissuing of fundamental books long out of print, actually accelerated after his retirement from the University of Florida. In this work he was fortunate not only in the enjoyment of exceptional health but also in the active professional collaboration of his wife Karna, who will complete the editorial work on his final book, *Latin America: A Guide to Illustrations*, and see it through publication.

—John P. Harrison
Editor