

## INTRODUCTION OF CARLOS SANMARTÍN B. AS CHARLES FRANKLIN CRAIG LECTURER FOR 1972

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Annually, a committee of this Society has the pleasant privilege of honoring an outstanding scientist by selecting him to present the Charles Franklin Craig lecture. The members of the committee this year are Dr. Gustav Dammin, chairman, Dr. José Olivier González and myself. Dr. Dammin asked that I present the Lecturer. This is an exceedingly delightful assignment because of the admiration that I have personally and professionally for the speaker.

As the Society is meeting in Miami, so near to our neighboring Latin American countries, it seemed appropriate to select one of the prominent scientists from these countries to give the Craig lecture.

The list of impressive candidates was long. The most difficult task of the Committee was to select only one of these highly qualified men. The speaker agreed upon is an excellent representative of the group of superior biomedical scientists in Latin America.

Dr. Carlos Sanmartín was born in Bogotá, Colombia in 1922. His father and grandfather were highly successful physicians in that city. His father did postgraduate studies at Johns Hopkins University with Howard Kelly, one of the famous "Big Four" of that renowned medical school.

Carlos' first indications of a scientific career was when at the age of 3 his father showed him a *Balantidium coli* parasite under the microscope, a fact which he remembers well.

Carlos first became interested in virology while a medical student, when he heard of the Carlos Finlay Institute in Bogotá. This Institute was established by the Rockefeller Foundation and the Colombian government to investigate jungle yellow fever and to make the vaccine.

One day he visited the Institute. The research being done interested him very much. Another attraction was the presence of a darkroom and Carlos was interested in photography. He asked permission to observe the work and volunteered to help if he could. To his astonishment he was welcomed warmly, was given a key to the In-

stitute and told that he could use the darkroom at nights and on the weekends. This put him in the environment of active research on yellow fever. All at once he found a scientific home and a way of utilizing his medical education.

Two of the people who encouraged and supported him, and for whom he has great respect and admiration are Dr. Johannes Bauer and Dr. Hugh Smith. These men greatly influenced Carlos first to enter the field of virology and secondly to remain in the field for a career.

Our speaker graduated from the Faculty of Medicine, Universidad Nacional, Bogotá in 1948. In 1950, he received a Diploma in Tropical Medicine and Hygiene at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. Further studies were done while on a fellowship of the Rockefeller Foundation at their Laboratories in New York and Trinidad.

Dr. Sanmartín worked for one year as a practicing physician with an oil company so that he could travel around the country and learn the tropics. Fortunately for medical students and for scientific knowledge, the remainder of his career has been in academic medicine and research.

Staff appointments in Bogotá have been at the Carlos Finlay Institute, the Women's Psychiatric Hospital, and at the Faculty of Medicine, Javeriana University. He has served as Chief, Department of Preventive Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, University of Valle, Cali. At present he is the Chief, Virus Section, Faculty of Medicine, University of Valle, Cali, Colombia. He is a member of the Committee of Experts on Virus Diseases, World Health Organization.

His publications indicate interests and productivity in several fields, embracing clinical medicine, parasitology, rickettsiology, and virology. In spite of his early training, at the age of 3, in the field of parasitology, most of his work has been in virology. These investigations have included rabies and various arboviruses. Among the latter were yellow fever, Eastern Equine and Venezuelan Equine viruses. His studies on the epizootics of Venezuelan Equine Encephalitis in

Colombia have been important contributions to the knowledge and understanding of this disease.

Another significant finding was the discovery of the Pichindé virus, a new member of the Tacaribe group, in Colombia which was described by Trapido and Sanmartín.

On behalf of the Committee, it is with great pleasure that I present to you an eminent scientist and a member of our Society, Dr. Carlos Sanmartín B. The title of his presentation is "Epidemiological Experiences in Over-Developed Sub-Countries."