

FIRST IBERO-AMERICAN OCEANOGRAPHIC CONFERENCE

Madrid-Malaga, April, 1935.

The First Ibero-American Oceanographic Conference held its sessions from 23rd to 28th April 1935; from 23rd to 26th April the meetings of the Conference took place at Madrid, on 27th and 28th April, at Malaga. The following countries were represented :

Brazil.	Nicaragua.
Chile.	Panama.
Colombia.	Peru.
Cuba.	Portugal.
Dominica.	Salvador.
Ecuador.	Spain.
France.	United States of America.
Great Britain.	Uruguay.
Guatemala.	Venezuela.
Mexico.	

The following International organisations were also represented :

- International Association of Physical Oceanography.
- International Hydrographic Bureau.
- International Meteorological Committee.
- International Permanent Council for the Exploration of the Sea.
- Ibero-American Oceanographic Council.

Rear-Admiral J. D. NARES, President of the Directing Committee of the International Hydrographic Bureau, represented the Bureau at this First Ibero-American Oceanographic Conference at its sitting of 27th April, at Malaga, which had been specially reserved for the communications presented to the assembly by the International Hydrographic Bureau and for examination of the various documents and publications submitted by the Bureau. Rear-Admiral NARES' opening address is reproduced below :

"Your Excellencies, Admiral Muñoz Delgado, Mr. President and Gentlemen, it gives me great pleasure to be present as the representative of the International Hydrographic Bureau at the first meeting of the Ibero-American Oceanographic Conference, and, I hope, at the official opening of the magnificent new building to-morrow.

"Although the work of the Bureau which I represent is essentially connected with Hydrography, our object being to make Navigation safer and easier in all the waters of the world, certain sections of Oceanography are

essential to Hydrography ; for instance it is necessary for us to know the density of the water before accurate echo soundings can be placed on the charts, and again ocean currents are influenced to a great extent by the density of the water ; conversely certain sections of Hydrography are essential to Oceanography. It will therefore be seen how closely our two sciences are connected.

"You may well ask, 'What constitutes Hydrography?' and this question *was* raised when the International Hydrographic Bureau was first established and has again been raised at subsequent conferences, as on its correct description depends to a certain extent the scope of work to be dealt with by our Bureau. I therefore call your attention to an article in the May, 1934, number of *The Hydrographic Review*, published by our Bureau, which gives the opinion of the present Directing Committee on this subject, two copies of which I have much pleasure in presenting to this meeting, one printed in French and one in English. This number of the Review also contains a description of the new Spanish Surveying Vessel *Tofiño*, that smart-looking vessel now anchored in this port, named appropriately after the first Spanish Hydrographer, Don Vicente TOFIÑO DE SAN MIGUEL, which I am glad we shall have the pleasure of visiting to-morrow.

"I will now endeavour, as shortly as possible, to give you an account of our Bureau (1) and its work, and will leave with you specimen copies of those of our publications which more directly affect Oceanography.

"Although the work of the Bureau is primarily to assist Navigation, the science of Oceanography is so closely allied to that of Hydrography that it naturally enters largely into its work, and it is considered that it might be of interest to direct special attention to the following subjects dealt with which are common to both :

- (1) Centralisation of Oceanic Soundings.
 - (2) Record of Oceanic Soundings.
 - (3) Preparation of new edition of Bathymetric Chart of the Oceans.
 - (4) Production of Special Publication No. 20. List of E. D., P. D. & P. A. Dangers.
 - (5) Production of Special Publication No. 26. Tides : List of Harmonic Constants.
 - (6) Study in connection with the Extension of the World-net of Tidal Observations.
 - (7) Production of Special Publications Nos. 28 & 28a. Vocabulary concerning Tides.
 - (8) Production of Special Publication No. 23. Limits of Oceans and Seas.
 - (9) Study of Methods of Sounding :
 - (a) By Echo,
 - (b) By Protected and Unprotected Thermometers.
 - (10) Definition of the terms "Hydrography" and "Oceanography".
- All of the above subjects were then briefly described.

(1) *Not reproduced.*

- (II) Other work on which the Bureau is at present, or has recently been, engaged which is of interest to all those who use the sea, is the preparation and publication of a *Catalogue of Original Charts of the World* (Special Publication No. 25); the preparation of a new edition of Special Publication No. 22: *Abridged Manual of Symbols and Abbreviations used on charts*; a *Vocabulary concerning Fog Signals* (Special Publication No. 29); a *Terminology of Submarine Relief* (Special Publication No. 22c) and a *General Repertory of Original Nautical Documents* (Special Publication No. 27).

EXHIBITS

BY THE INTERNATIONAL HYDROGRAPHIC BUREAU, MONACO,
AT THE IBERO-AMERICAN CONFERENCE, 1935.

- (1) Proof sheet of Bathymetric Chart of North Atlantic, with accompanying Pamphlet.
- (2) May 1934 number of *The Hydrographic Review*, with definition of words "Hydrography" and "Hydrographer".
- (3) Jan.-Feb. 1935 number of *International Hydrographic Bulletin*.
- (4) Circular Letters 8-H of 1934 and 2-H of 1935. Publication of Soundings.
- (5) Specimen copy of Special Publication No. 20. E. D., P. D., and P. A. Dangers.
- (6) » » » » No. 22c. Terminology of Submarine Relief.
- (7) » » » » No. 23. Limits of Oceans and Seas.
- (8) » » » » No. 25. Catalogue of Original Charts.
- (9) » » » » on Tides with specimen lists of Harmonic Constants.
- (10) » » » » No. 27. General Repertory of Original Nautical Documents.
- (11) » » » » Nos. 28 & 28a. Vocabulary concerning Tides.
- (12) » » » » No. 29. Vocabulary of Fog Signals.
- (13) General Repertory of Tidal Authorities.
- (14) Ice Terminology.
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A complete report of proceedings of the First Ibero-American Oceanographic Conference, with a summary of the papers read, is contained in the *Revista del Consejo Oceanográfico Ibero-americano*, Madrid, May 1935.

Among the various recommendations and resolutions of the Conference, the following, which are connected from certain points of view with the questions studied by the International Hydrographic Bureau, may be specially noted :

"The Ibero-American Oceanographic Conference adopts the name of the 'Corriente del Perú' (Peruvian Current) to designate the cold current of the West Coast of South America occasionally also called the 'Humboldt Current', and decides to communicate this recommendation to the International Association of Physical Oceanography."

"The Section of Oceanography and Hydrography recommends that the various governments cause to be forwarded to the *Association Permanente de Navigation*, Brussels, results of investigations on the action of waves on marine works, reports to be made concerning waves of exceptional size."

"The Assembly also recommends that a systematic scientific study be undertaken of the Gulf Stream in the Atlantic Ocean and of the Peruvian Current in the Pacific Ocean with the co-operation of the various nations concerned, the investigations to cover a period of not less than one year; the details of the oceanographic programme will be studied by the Ibero-American Oceanographic Council."

Among the papers read, mention being limited to those directly connected with Hydrography, the following may be noted :

La corriente del Perú.

The Status of the Oceanographic Exploration of that part of the Pacific between Latitude 10° N. and 41° S. and East of Longitude 120° W. Oceanographic Material collected by the *Velero III*, November 1934 to February 1935.

Relaciones entre la Oceanografía y la navegación aérea.

Necesidad de organizar activamente el estudio de la atmósfera marina, para el desarrollo de la Meteorología, y como base indispensable de la previsión del tiempo.

The Oceanographic Activities of the Hydrographic Office, U.S.A.

List of Oceanic Depths, 1933. North Pacific Ocean.

Dynamic Oceanographic Data for the Central Eastern Pacific Ocean.

Surface Temperature and Salinity Data for the Eastern Pacific Ocean.

The Navy-Princeton Gravity Expedition to the West Indies in 1932.

El estado actual de las investigaciones gravimétricas en submarino.

La Oceanografía en España.

El estado actual del problema de las ondas de marea interna.

Ramón LULL y la marea.

Résumé des recherches danoises océanographiques dans l'Atlantique et le Pacifique.

La obra del *Meteor*.

Un factor nuevo de gravitación, que regula la corriente del Golfo y los cambios de clima invernal en Europa.

La Oceanografía y la Sismología.

Acción del oleaje sobre las obras en el mar. (Action des vagues sur les ouvrages en mer).

Report on the work of the International Hydrographic Bureau.

La Oceanografía en sus relaciones con la Sismología.

El nuevo buque planero español *Tofiño* y sus primeros trabajos.

Generalización a todo flúido de dos fórmulas para gases perfectos, fundamentales en Meteorología. Posibles aplicaciones a la hidrografía.

La Asociación Internacional de Oceanografía Física.

El Consejo Permanente Internacional para la Exploración del Mar.

Proyecto de una primera Campaña Oceanográfica Ibero-Americana.

The later sittings of the Conference were held in the new building of the Centro Internacional de Estudios Marinos de Málaga, which has recently been constructed with the aid of the Spanish Government.

At the time of the Conference, the Spanish Battleship *Jaime I* and two Submarines, also the Spanish Surveying Vessel *Tofiño* were at anchor in the harbour of Malaga, and the delegates were greatly interested in an examination made of the very up-to-date installations of this latter vessel. A description of her appears in *The Hydrographic Review*, Vol. XI, No. 1, May, 1934, page 12. The photograph of her reproduced as frontispiece to this volume was presented to the International Hydrographic Bureau at the conclusion of the Conference.

