

## MLA Seminar

For the first time at a Modern Language Association convention, a seminar was dedicated to Spanish American theatre. Organized by Sandra M. Cypess, the session included two noted dramatists among the participants, Emilio Carballido of Mexico and Matías Montes Huidobro, formerly of Cuba and now on the faculty of the University of Hawaii. Margaret Sayers Peden (University of Missouri), Leon Lyday (Pennsylvania State University), and William I. Oliver (University of California, Berkeley) completed the panel.

Carballido, director of the Escuela de Teatro in Mexico before his recent move to Veracruz, analyzed "Los cambios en el teatro actual mexicano." Prof. Montes Huidobro discussed "1959-1961: El dramaturgo cubano en estado de tránsito." Prof. Peden presented a review of some writers not ordinarily considered dramatists but who have produced some interesting plays—figures such as Fernández de Lizardi, Vicente Huidobro, Alfonsina Storni. Prof. Lyday offered an overview of bibliographic sources available for use by researchers in the field of Spanish American drama. Prof. Oliver outlined some of the cultural and economic problems which function as obstacles that inhibit the development of Spanish American theatre.

It was acknowledged that although there are problems to overcome, Spanish American theatre has entered upon an exciting period of activity that calls for serious and careful study. Because of the large attendance and the interest expressed at the session, Dr. Cypess will continue the seminar at the next meeting of the MLA, to be held in New York City, December, 1976. All those interested are cordially invited to submit papers and to attend the session.