

UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA
CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA

CORCORAN DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY
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3 December 1956

Prof. Jaime Vicens Vives
Editor, INDICE HISTÓRICO ESPAÑOL
Seminario de Historia Moderna
Universidad de Barcelona
Barcelona, Spain

Dear Professor Vicens Vives:

Your letter of 18 October 1956 has finally reached me. I deeply appreciate your generous and flattering invitation to serve as a collaborator for the United States on the distinguished staff of INDICE HISTÓRICO ESPAÑOL. I must, however, regretfully inform you that I find myself unable to accept this post for at least two major reasons.

First, and most important, I am already heavily involved in several large-scale research projects which make extensive demands upon my time and energies. These are inevitably linked to certain academic and administrative duties connected with my position at the University of Virginia. For me to assume any further obligations of a bibliographical or other nature at this time appears impossible.

Secondly, there is the difficulty that this university is not an ideal center from which to effect adequate coverage of the diverse and widely scattered bibliographical items suitable for inclusion in INDICE HISTÓRICO ESPAÑOL. In my opinion, your collaborator should be located at one of the major university or library centers, such as Harvard, Washington, New York or California. I would suggest as an ideal center the Hispanic Foundation of the Library of Congress, Washington, D. C. This is the chief bibliographical office for all Iberian and Ibero-American publications in this country; and it already supports the annual Handbook of Latin American Studies. Its director, Dr. Howard Cline, would, I am sure, be sympathetic to the undoubted need for a United States collaborator of IHE, and either from his able staff or from his wide connections could surely suggest a solution of this problem.

For these reasons, and with genuine sorrow that I cannot accept your kind invitation, I must therefore decline the offer. All best wishes to you personally, and to the great scholarly work you are directing.

Sincerely yours,

C. J. Bishko

Charles Julian Bishko