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## Presidents message

Dear Intersteno Friends.

The holidays are just around the corner, the time of year to look back and look ahead. For a review I refer to the previous *e-news*, which contained many articles and photos about the congress in Cagliari. In the past period, the Board has been looking hard for a suitable location for the next congress. I hope to announce in the next *e-news* where the conference will be held. It is known that the Council/IPRS mid-term meeting will be in Bordeaux from 7 to 9 October 2020. More information about this city can be found in this *e-news*.

What else can you read in this *e-news*? You will find a report from Anita Dobos about the competition in Olomouc. Helena Zaviačičová also looks back on the ZAV-100 competition. An article about the history and development of shorthand in Argentina, the graduation ceremony and an article about two stenographers in the Argentine Senate who exhibit their paintings. Furthermore, a report from the XXVII Argentine congress of shorthand and stenotyping and a report from the XX National meeting of parliamentary and judicial stenographers of Brasil.

Another article comes from the type teacher in the House of representatives of the Netherlands, where he teaches employees of the reporting service to type blindly with ten fingers. In this *e-news* also an article about the celebration of the 170th anniversary of the service of which I am head of department, the Report and Editorial Service in the Dutch parliament.

It remains to me to wish you all happy holidays with your loved ones and to wish you a good, healthy 2020. I hope to meet many of you in Bordeaux.

The following *e-news* will appear in April. The deadline for submitting articles and activities for the Event Calendar for the April *e-news* is the 15th of March (to be sent to [m.rijkse@tweedekamer.nl](mailto:m.rijkse@tweedekamer.nl)).

With friendly regards!

*Rian Schwarz van Poppel*  
*Intersteno president*



## ZAV-100- competition

*By Helena Zaviačičová*

Described in Berlin 2017 and discussed with the management of Intersteno in Istanbul 2018 during the meeting of the Central Council of the Czech national group in the Czech Republic, it was proposed to organize the "ZAV-Minuten" internet competition, which has been internationally and especially for many years held online. In Cagliari 2019, the Central Council agreed to organize the competition in collaboration with the regional group Intersteno Czech Republic and the internet school ZAV under the name "ZAV-100".

Why ZAV-100? The Interinfo Czech Republic is celebrating its 20th anniversary this year and the author of the ZAV education and training method, Intersteno Honorary President Jaroslav Zaviačič, is celebrating his 80th birthday ( $20 + 80 = 100$ ).

In this competition, each participant completes a 25-minute transcription of 25 minutes in the language of their choice. 100 characters are subtracted for each uncorrected error. The errors can be corrected in Word in the same way (using the single characters in the backspace, Ctrl + whole words in the backspace).

In the beginning the participant has a continuous execution of "0 beats per minute". After every minute the running performance is increased by half the improvement. It cannot happen that a random performance also becomes the end result. The participant does not experience any stress after a bad minute; on the contrary, he tries to concentrate on the next minute. Thanks to this psychological background, the ZAV-Minute model is particularly suitable for very young participants.

Synchronization proved to be the most difficult: all participants around the world should start within a few minutes, otherwise you would not be able to enjoy the great appeal of this competition - online sending of the results list.

The Central European winter season had arrived on 13 November 2019 at 2:00 pm: nearly 400 participants in many languages started from Bangladesh via Turkey, Russia, various European countries to the US and Argentina. In the live broadcast on Facebook 15, everyone has now been able to deliver the best performance in every age category. The synchronization was made possible by "Countdown", the later winner Jonáš Vala, who ensured an attractive transfer from the Turkish friend and since 2017 member of Intersteno Board, Emrah Kuyumcu.

The final results are available at [100.zav.cz](http://100.zav.cz).

The many positive reactions after the internet competition "ZAV-100" have also increased the interest to find out more about the ZAV concept. The detailed report "History of ZAV" has taken a long time. It will be offered for one of the following e-news. Perhaps the expectations are met and with some proposals the Czech national group can contribute to the importance of Intersteno as the best basis for text input and for giving tips to other national groups, as well as educators and trainers for theoretical and practical work.



## Competition in Olomouc

*By Anita Dobos*

We received a kind invitation from Helena Zaviačičová and Jaroslav Zaviačič to Olomouc. Early November there was the traditional international youth typewriting competition.

69 participants came from 3 countries: Czech Republic, Hungary and Slovakia.

There were 3 x 10 minutes of typing (mother tongue), per mistake 10, 50 and 100 points were deducted.

In addition to the competition, the participants took part in several events and we got to know this beautiful city. We had a very rich program, just to name a few: city tour in Olomouc, visiting beautiful churches and interesting museums. Every program was unforgettable and we had a lot of fun!

And what about results? They were really great!

The best one in the combined competition was Jonáš Vala (Rožnov pod Radhoštěm), second one was David Tomaník (Nový Jičín), third Johana Valová (Rožnov pod Radhoštěm).

We had also team competition. Here the Czech team from Rožnov pod Radhoštěm achieved really good results, that was the best team! The Hungarian team (with Péter Furkó, Gergely Molnár, Kevin Patkósi) was also very happy because they achieved second place! The third place was won by the team from Nový Jičín!

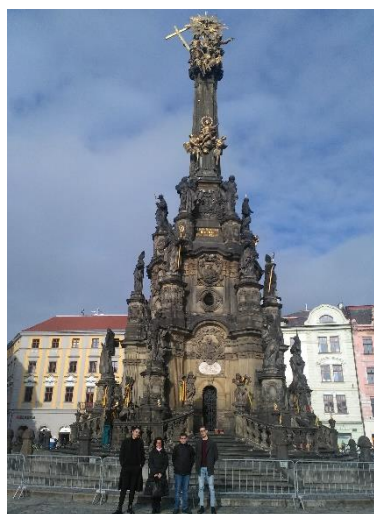
We are very grateful to Helena, Jaroslav and all their colleagues! Thank you very much to all of you! You made these days in beautiful Olomouc truly memorable for us! Many thanks for the huge work, perfect organizing, wonderful hospitality and unforgettable kindness!

It was a great honor to us to take part in this competition! We enjoyed being in Olomouc so much. It was a very successful event and was also a very good opportunity for training before the next Intersteno congress and world championship (even if it will be just in year 2021).

Congratulations to all competitors! See you next time! We will continue... 😊



*Before the competition*



*City Tour*





*Town Hall*



*After the prize-giving ceremony*



*The Hungarian team was very happy With some Czech colleagues*



## History and development of shorthand in Argentina (Part I)

*By Jorge Bravo, Azat Ambartsoumian and Diana Campi*

### 1 Introduction

The purpose of this work is to know the origins and development of shorthand in Argentina from the research that from 'Palabras Dibujadas' ('Drawn Words')<sup>1</sup> we have done to present in the "Jornadas de Taquigrafía" organized by the Argentine Association of Parliamentary Stenographers, held in October of this year in the province of Corrientes (Argentina).

For that, we have carried out a deep investigation and referred to the bibliographic treasure of the Palant Collection (Special Collections Department of the Library of the National Congress of Argentina), which contains 471 shorthand books and magazines in 17 different languages.



Our idea is to know the beginnings of shorthand in Argentina, who were the first stenographers, how was the development of the stenographer profession, who were their main references, what were the systems that were used and what adaptations were made in the country; also, what were the beginnings of stenotype in Argentina, what have been the shorthand associations that there were and there are in Argentina today, what have been the main shorthand journals and what is the experience that we have been having in 2014 in the radio of the Library of the National Congress with the 'Palabras Dibujadas' ('Words Drawn') program, dedicated to disseminating shorthand in Argentina and in the world and the heritage of the Palant collection.<sup>2</sup>

As you can imagine, there are several points to develop and it would be impossible to do so in a single article. Therefore, in this issue of the magazine E-news we publish the first part of our research. In

<sup>1</sup> 'Palabras Dibujadas' ('Words Drawn') is a program that is broadcast once a week on the radio of the Library of Congress of Argentina ([www.bcnradio.com.ar](http://www.bcnradio.com.ar)) since 2014. The objective is to publicize the bibliographic heritage of the Palant Collection (constituted by shorthand books and magazines) as well as the history, past and present of the shorthand profession throughout the world and the activities carried out in different countries.

<sup>2</sup> The 'Palant Collection' (Special Collections Department of the Library of Argentine Congress) is the most important collection in the country of books and magazines, which belonged to the Miguel Palant stenographer - a Senate stenographer who was also a leading medical doctor -. The Palant Collection has an outstanding role in the learning, development and dissemination of shorthand.

successive issues we will continue to develop the different stages of the shorthand evolution in the country.

Of course, the whole team of 'Palabras Dibujadas' ('Words Drawn') and the whole team of the Palant Collection of the Library of the Argentine Congress thank INTERSTENO - once again - for giving us the possibility to publish our work.

## 2 The beginnings with the Marti system

We will begin this vast and interesting journey with special attention to the quarterly magazine *Escritura Veloz*<sup>3</sup>, publication of the Association of Stenographic Studies of the Palant Institute. In several issues of this magazine, the development of shorthand in Argentina is disseminated and, likewise, the main authors who spread the art of fast writing are mentioned.

In addition, we have referred to the publication of the Senate of the Argentine Nation on the 75th anniversary of the creation of the office of stenographers. This is the *Reseña Histórica del Cuerpo de Taquígrafos 1878-1953* (1954), which says: 'The first antecedent in our country is that referred to by Rafael Hernández<sup>4</sup>, who attributes to Bernardo de Victorica<sup>5</sup> the honor of being the first parliamentary stenographer of our country, who has taken the most transcendental political speeches in our history'.

This book also says that Victorica was the only stenographer at the beginning of the House of Representatives; and that in the Constituent Congress from 1824 to 1836 he wrote the imperishable speeches in the debates on the federal and unitary forms of government.

Previously, there were no shorthand records. In 1810, in the minutes of the 'Cabildo de Mayo' and in the first National Congresses there were hardly any excerpts or partial transcripts of the debates. As stated in the aforementioned *Reseña Histórica del Cuerpo de Taquígrafos 1878-1953* (1954), at the Tucumán Congress of 1816 -where the independence of Argentina was declared- there were only minutes of the secret meetings, drafted synthetically".

Bernardino Rivadavia, the first president of Argentina in 1826 had a lot to do with the historical development of shorthand in our country. His portrait appears on the cover of the



<sup>3</sup> The magazine *Escritura Veloz* can be consulted in the Palant Collection of the Library of Congress of Argentina. (Location B. Palant H 3)

<sup>4</sup> Rafael Hernández, and his brother José, have a prominent place in the history of shorthand in Argentina. The significance of José Hernández's top work, the *Martín Fierro* (a literary work written in verse), has generally made it unknown that as of June 1859 José Hernández was a stenographer in the Senate of the Confederation and in the provincial Convention that met in Nogoyá (province of Entre Ríos) and that in 1860 he was stenographer in the Convention reforming the Constitution (the 'only stenographer' of the Convention, according to José C. Court in 'The historic mission of José Hernández'). He was also Deputy and provincial Senator in the province of Buenos Aires. He used to say: 'I owe my constitutional knowledge to my job as a stenographer'.

For his part, in 1891 Rafael Hernández published in Buenos Aires the book *American Shorthand Book*. Simple method to learn to write as quickly as you speak without the need for a teacher. He campaigned intensely in defense of his system and strongly disqualified the benefits of the *Phonography* system (a Pitmanian system) promoted by Argentine President Domingo F. Sarmiento. The system developed by Rafael Hernández was the Martí system of the Madrid School, based on the book by Flórez de Pando.

He also created a musical shorthand system, which was awarded at the Chicago Exhibition in 1891; and a telegraphic transmission system.

<sup>5</sup> To know Victorica's biographical information we recommend reading the book *Reseña Histórica del Cuerpo de Taquígrafos 1878-1953*, which is in the Palant Collection of the Library of Congress of Argentina. (Location B. Palant H 3)



magazine *Escritura Veloz* N ° 4, of 1949, and he is called 'promoter of shorthand'. This article highlights the importance of his contribution to build the foundations of shorthand in Argentina. And it says that Rivadavia, on his trip to London in 1824<sup>6</sup>, hired two Spanish stenographers: José Nadal and Ramón Escobar<sup>7</sup>.

Once they were in Argentina they served as stenographers in the Legislature of the Province of Buenos Aires and in the Constituent Congress of 1826.

They were two stenographers who used the Martí System (created by Francisco de Paula Martí in Spain) with some modifications introduced by Escobar.

On the other hand, the Spanish authors Concepción Porcel Lacuadra de Bordallo and Pascual Beltrán say: 'On March 22, 1833, the first shorthand chair was established in Buenos Aires, under the direction of Ramón Escobar, which used the Martí system' (Pascual Beltrán and Concepción Porcel, 1943). Those classes took place at the Federal Republican College of Buenos Aires. The publication *Reseña Histórica del Cuerpo de Taquígrafos 1878-1953* (1954) confirms and attests that this was the first official seat of shorthand created in Argentina.

In the Palant Shorthand Collection (at the Special Collections Department of the Library of the National Nation Congress), there is the book *Taquigrafía Castellana* (1918), which contains the typed transcript of the original manuscript by Ramón Escobar that was made by the stenographer Emilio Inzaurraga (who was director of stenographers of the Senate). There, Ramón Escobar is defined as 'the author of the important reforms introduced in the Spanish Martí System'. In addition, the *Reseña Histórica del Cuerpo de Taquígrafo 1878-1953* says that Ramón Escobar 'delineated a radical reform of the Martí System'.

Escobar's manuscript is divided into three parts, as the prologue say; the first section refers to writing in general and distinguishes common characters from 'abbreviations'; and then develops the origin and object of shorthand.

The second part details the shorthand characters, their links and general precautions about writing, spelling and ways of deciphering. In the third section, it goes on to simplify shorthand writing in accordance with the speed of the word, by means of a syllabary of combinations.

Before continuing with the development of shorthand in our country, it is necessary to refer to the 'Martinians' origins of Escobar and Nadal ('Martinian', derived from Martí, the name of the author who created the shorthand system in Spain), because subsequently, the shorthand systems that acquire greater diffusion in Argentina will be those of English origin, mainly 'Pitmanians'.

We return, then, to Francisco de Paula Martí Mora<sup>8</sup>, the creator of the Spanish shorthand. He was born in Játiva, province of Valencia (Spain), on April 22 of 1761. We can say that for a long time there

<sup>6</sup> Information taken from the magazine *Escritura Veloz* No. 4, from January-February and March 1949, official publication of the 'Association of Shorthand Studies'. (Palant Collection of the Argentine Congress Library, Location B. Palant H 3)

<sup>7</sup> Ramón Escobar was sergeant of the Infantry Regiment in the War of Independence in Spain. He was a stenographer at the Cortes de Cadiz in 1812. He was a polyglot and wrote shorthand in Spanish, French and Italian. For information on this author, we have consulted the book *Ligeras nociones de la Historia de la Taquigrafía*, by the Spanish author Concepción Porcel Lacuadra de Bordallo. This book is in the Palant Collection of the library of the Argentine Congress (Location B. Palant B 27).

In our country Escobar was a stenographer in Buenos Aires from 1831 to 1852. He was the author of the book *Taquigrafía Castellana*, which can be consulted in the Palant Collection of the Library of Argentine Congress (Location B. Palant 61)

<sup>8</sup> To more fully study the biography of Francisco de Paula Martí, we recommend the following publications, which are in the Palant Collection of the library of the Argentine Congress: *Francisco de Paula Martí*, by Avenir Rosell (Montevideo - 1953 / Location B. Palant B29); *El inventor de la taquigrafía española y de la pluma estilográfica Francisco de Paula Martí Mora*, by Pascual and Beltrán, Ventura (Madrid - 1945 / Location B. Palant 13/2°; *Ligeras nociones de historia de la taquigrafía*, by Porcel Lacuadra de Bordallo, Concepción (Madrid - 1954 / Location B. Palant B 27/5 °; *Reseña histórica del arte taquigráfico*, by Cornejo Carbajal, Juan (Madrid - 1889 / Location B Palant 20); *Comprimido biográfico de Francisco de Paula Martí Mora*, by Roca, Luis (Valencia - 1953 / Location

were doubts about that date. The difficulty consisted in the fact that the mother's last name was unknown, and in the parish books of Játiva there were several records corresponding to people baptized in that year with the name of Francisco Martí.

This information was obtained from the investigation by Luis Ricardo Cortés and Enrique Aparicio, which was published in the book *Peritos Taquígrafos*, published in 1917. In that book the authors mention the research done by Tomás Luceño, a stenographer of the Spanish Courts, who refers to the memory of Enrique Príncipe, assistant of the Writing of the Senate Journal of Sessions and son of the head of that office, Miguel Agustín, friend of Francisco de Paula Martí.

As a result of that investigation, Martí's second last name was found: Mora. In 1910 Cortés traveled to Játiva, in Spain (where Francisco de Paula Martí y Mora was born) and obtained the documentation that corroborated the correct date of birth. Several authors inquired about the concrete date of Martí's birth. Among them, Cornejo Carvajal, who in 1899 had published *Reseña Histórica del Arte Taquígrafo*<sup>9</sup>, a book that mentions that he had seen a record that mentioned Francisco Martí was born in 1761 but could not say that it was the Martí stenographer 'father of Spanish shorthand'.

On the other hand, in 1943 Concepción Porcel Lacuadra de Bordallo published the second edition of the book *El inventor de la taquigrafía española y de la pluma estilográfica Francisco de Paula Martí Mora; su vida y su obra*, written by Ventura Pascual and Beltrán. In that book, the research mentioned above is highlighted, and especially the discovery of Martí's baptism certificate and the exact date of his birth.

Returning to the Martí System we can say that it was published for the first time on March 21, 1800. It was the book *Stenografía o arte de escribir abreviado*, siguiendo la palabra de un orador o la conversación viva de dos o más personas. It was a translation and arrangement in Spanish of the English System of Samuel Taylor, professor of shorthand at Oxford, a system that Teodoro Bertín had previously adapted to French.

On the cover of the publication Martí says that the system could be learned in a few days. The second edition was published in the same year (1800) and with the same title. Pascual Beltrán and Concepción Porcel (1943) say that the book has a preliminary speech of three pages and then a chapter detailing the variations of the system created by Martí and Taylor, then continuing with the development of the system.

After the research we have done, we can say that for a long time it was thought that both editions were the same, because the publication date, the cover and the sheets with the stenograms were the same. However, comparative studies of both editions<sup>10</sup> have shown that, in reality, these are two books that were published in the same year: 1800.

At this point, it is important to say something more about the adaptation of Taylor's shorthand system from English to Spanish, by Francisco de Paula Martí in 1800. We can remember, for example, that the Uruguayan stenographer Avenir Rosell - diffuser of the Martí System in Uruguay - says that 'it is not



B. Palant B 208); and *Francisco de Paula Martí*, by Eztala, Federico Martín (Madrid - 1927 / Location B. Palant B 93)

<sup>9</sup> Palant Collection of the library of the Argentine Congress (Location B. Palant 20)

<sup>10</sup> The National Library of Spain has both editions thanks to the shorthand file donated by Cornejo Carvajal in 1931

necessary to think too much to understand that this adaptation to a foreign language would be flawed' (Rosell, 1953). And he adds: 'After a brief experimentation and after deepening technical studies, Martí was convinced that shorthand should be formed under the principles and grammar of each language, so he did not want to publish another shorthand book until Spain had its own shorthand and adjusted to the demands of the mechanism of our language' (Rosell, 1953).

Following the text of Rosell we can see that Martí had to study three or four years before creating the first Shorthand System for the Spanish language. In July 1802 Martí presented a Spanish shorthand system to the Economic Society of Madrid. The system was approved and that Society submitted the petition to the Government with the proposal of the creation of a Shorthand School, which was then established by King Carlos IV on November 21, 1802. That system created by Francisco de Paula Martí was published in 1803 under the title *Taquigrafía Castellana – Notas Martinianas*. In that year the Shorthand School was also created. The requirement for students before starting the course was to pass an exam in Spanish grammar, Latin, and writing.

To end with some biographical information of Martí, we can say that in his youth he was a notable and renowned metal engraver. In addition, he was the creator of the fountain pen and was also a playwright. Some of his works were represented in the theaters of Madrid, such as *On May 2*, *The Four Garlands* or *The Hypocritical Pancist*.

Then, other editions were made. In 1804 a supplement was published and other reissues were made in 1813, 1821 and 1824 with some modifications.<sup>11</sup>

Before we mentioned Emilio Inzaurraga<sup>12</sup>, who was the first director of stenographers in the Argentine Senate. Inzaurraga was born in Uruguay on October 10, 1835. At the age of 22 he arrived in Buenos Aires, and later President Mitre appointed him stenographer of the parliament of Buenos Aires. As his son Alejandro says in the book *Emilio Inzaurraga* (1949), "Emilio Inzaurraga was a stenographer during the period of the 'national organization' and participated in important sessions of that time".

It is important to underline that, in addition to working as a stenographer, Inzaurraga also formed disciples and that while he used the Martí system with Escobar's modifications, then he added some modifications to that system and created what he himself called 'the National System'. But the publication of those modifications introduced by Inzaurraga had some problems. His son, Alejandro Inzaurraga, says that there were problems with the printing press, which is why his father, who was already 95 years old, had to rewrite the shorthand signs but had visual and pulse problems. Finally, he died at 97 years old on March 18, 1933.

As we said before, Emilio Inzaurraga dedicated himself to preparing new stenographers. One of them was Ángel Menchaca<sup>13</sup>, who was born in Paraguay in 1855. Since childhood he lived in Uruguay and then he settled in Argentina. Inzaurraga considered that Menchaca had excellent conditions to learn shorthand. Therefore, he teaches him the Martí System with the modifications of Escobar and those that he himself had introduced into the system. Menchaca begins working as a stenographer in the Argentine Senate and at the age of 30 he is appointed Director of Stenographers of the Honorable Senate of the Nation, a position that Inzaurraga had previously held. His shorthand qualities were well

<sup>11</sup> For more information about the modifications made by Martí to his system, we recommend reading the book *El inventor de la taquigrafía española y de la pluma estilográfica Francisco de Paula Martí Mora* (Madrid, 1945), by Pascual y Beltrán, Ventura. (Location B. Palant 13/2°)

<sup>12</sup> To know the biography of Emilio Inzaurraga, we recommend the book *Emilio Inzaurraga 1835-1933*, by Alejandro Inzaurraga (Buenos Aires, 1949). (Location B. Palant B 6)

<sup>13</sup> To know biographical data of Ángel Menchaca we have read the magazine "Escritura Veloz", official publication of the Association of Shorthand Studies, No. 8, April 1950. (Palant Collection of the Library of Congress of Argentina - Location B. Palant H 3 ). Regarding the music shorthand system, we have consulted the article written by Diana Fernández Calvo in the magazine "Cruz del Sur", year II, No. 3. "Propuestas de Simplificación de la notación musical de dos taquígrafos del Senado de la Nación Argentina".

recognized. That is why Argentine President Domingo Faustino Sarmiento appointed him to be his personal stenographer and to accompany him on his travels throughout the country.

Ángel Menchaca was an outstanding stenographer not only in Argentina. He represented Argentina at the II International Shorthand Congress held in Paris in 1889, where he had an active participation, as can be read in the Proceedings of said Congress that has the Palant Collection in the Library of the Argentine Congress.

Taking advantage of his trip to participate in the II International Shorthand Congress held in Paris, he presented his Musical Shorthand system at the Sorbonne in Paris. In this regard, Menchaca said: 'I intend to combine two methods of writing: one for speech and one for music, which represent the sounds in their most varied combinations in a simple, easy and unambiguous way' (Menchaca, 1903; in Fernández Calvo, 2012).



(Mr. Ángel Menchaca – Congrès International de Sténographie tenu a Paris en 1889)

His Musical Shorthand system was even published in London and in Paris. Then, he visited the United States, Belgium and Italy, where he was celebrated.

On the other hand, Menchaca stood out not only in shorthand but also in other areas. The shorthand magazine *Escritura Veloz* (No. 8, April 1950) published by the Association of Stenographic Studies of Miguel Palant, says that Menchaca was also a journalist and that he founded political newspapers, such as *Parliament*, *The Country* and *Official Gazette*. He was also literary critic and was the creator of a system of cattle brands. After his retirement as Director of Stenographers of the Senate, Menchaca was a professor of philosophy and letters. Finally, he died on May 8, 1924, at 69 years of age.

We have already mentioned Escobar, Inzaurraga and Menchaca, but the influence of the Martí system, created by the Spanish Francisco de Paula Martí, did not end with them. In fact, we can also mention another stenographer: for example, Guillermo Cabello. Although he was born in Malaga (Spain) in 1878, he arrived very young in Argentina. Cabello learned the Martí shorthand system, but then he introduced modifications to that system and finally he created his own system: the 'Cabello system'. Unlike Escobar, Inzaurraga and Menchaca, who were stenographers in Buenos Aires, Cabello was a stenographer in the province of Santa Fe. In 1894 he was appointed professor of shorthand at the Men's School No. 1 of that province, where he began to disseminate shorthand in that province.

As Asunción de Difiori says in the magazine *Escritura Veloz* N° 9 (1950), in the first months of the 20th century, Cabello was a 'stenographer in both Houses of the Legislature of Santa Fe'. In 1906, when the

School of Commerce was created, he was appointed full professor. And in 1907 he was promoted to Chief of Stenographers of the Chamber of Deputies of the province of Santa Fe, a position he held for 12 years. He was also a stenographer of the Provincial Constitutional Convention. Moreover, we want to highlight that Cabello also disseminated shorthand. For example, in 1935 he published the book *Shorthand*, on the cover of which appeared the motto 'Study-Constancy'.

The Cabello System, 'based on the old Marti system, can be considered definitive; the innovations introduced are rational and logical, diaphanous and for the Spanish language' (Asunción A. de Difiori, magazine *Escritura Veloz* N° 9, August 1950).

Like other prominent Argentine stenographers, he was interested in the dissemination of shorthand and its application not only in the parliamentary field. For that, in 1934 he sent a note to the National Minister of Public Instruction with the proposal of 'creation of shorthand courses in the national schools of the Republic so that later in the universities, young people can easily write what teachers says'. Like other illustrious Argentine stenographers, he was interested in the dissemination of shorthand and its application not only in the parliamentary sphere. In 1934, for example, he sent a note to the National Minister of Public Instruction with the proposal that 'in the national schools of the Republic, shorthand courses be created, so that young people who pursue careers in universities can register easily what is said by the teachers'. And he added: 'It is everyone's duty to try to make study enjoyable, so that more and more young people are interested in it'.

Finally, we must mention the stenographer Tomás Jefferson Allen as another of the promoter of the Marti system in Argentina at the beginning of the 20th century.

Stenographer and publicist, he was a stenographer at the Deliberative Council of the City of Buenos Aires until he retired in 1913. He used and propagated the Martí system as a professor at the Carlos Pellegrini School of Commerce. His commitment to the Marti system was so great that he even founded the Martial Shorthand Circle. And he was also director of the magazine *Martí*, which appeared until 1919, the year of his death.

Likewise, he was the author of numerous works, among them *Taquigrafía Sistema Martí*, in whose preface he says: '... that in 1891 that system had been almost completely extinguished in Argentina, but it returned to resurface thanks to the enthusiastic and tireless diffusion of Ramón Escobar, José Nadal, José Hernández, Rafael Hernández, Emilio Inzaurreaga, Guillermo Cabello and other teachers...' (Magazine *Escritura Veloz* N° 12, May 1951).

He also published other books, whether specific to the parliamentary sphere - such as *Borradores sobre Taquigrafía Parlamentaria*, in 1917, in which the rules of the system are exposed; for the commercial field -like 'Drafts on commercial shorthand', in 1909, and 'Shorthand calligraphy notebook', also in 1909-; or for the diffusion - as *Scarce Diffusion of the Shorthand*, of 1908.

To end with this first part of the history of shorthand in Argentina and the influence of the Martí system, we say that today it is used by the stenographer Patricia López, of the Deliberative Council of the city of Escobar, in Buenos Aires. It is important to say that Patricia López is teaching courses to train new stenographers and that she is making a novel experience: 'digital shorthand' with the use of tablets - instead of paper - to write shorthand.

This is, succinctly, the influence of 'Martinian' shorthand on the historical shorthand development in Argentina. In the next issue of the E-news we will develop the 'Pitmanian' influence and other related issues.



## Diplomas to students of Parliamentary shorthand and implementación of the “Diplomature in digital shorthand

*By Jorge Bravo, Azat Ambartsoumian and Diana Campi*

On November 25, the ceremony for the delivery of diplomas to students -level I and level II- of the Parliamentary Shorthand course (Martí system) taught by professors Patricia López and Claudio Benavidez took place in the Deliberative Council of Escobar, province of Buenos Aires.



*The act was chaired by the president of the Deliberative Council, Pablo Ramos.*

They were present: the teachers; councilors; the president and vice-president of the "union of Professional Stenographers and Stenotypists of Argentina" (UTEPA), Liliana López and Adriana Fernández; Jorge Bravo representing the radio program "Palabras Dibujadas", teachers and students with their families.



In the act, which was chaired by the president of the Deliberative Council, Pablo Ramos, an agreement was also signed for the implementation of the “Diploma in Digital Shorthand” -which was declared of interest by the Deliberative Council-, whose curricular content , pedagogical proposal, form of dictation, profile of the student and the graduate, seek to create an academic offer to train stenographers to perform in the legislative branch, in the judiciary, journalism, universities, companies, public or private institutions, etc.

## Marina Fons and Clarisa Balbi, Stenographers of the Argentina Senate, exhibit their paintings in Argentina and Miami (USA)

*By Jorge Bravo*

From November 18 to 29, the 8th exhibition "Artists of the Senate" took place in the Senate of the Argentine Nation, with the participation of the stenographers Marina Fons and Clarisa Balbi.

Picture of Marina Fons  
(Senat Stenographer)  
Picture of Clarisa Balbi  
(Senat Stenographer)



In addition, from December 4 to 8, the stenographer Marina Fons, along with other renowned artists, has exhibited some of her paintings at the Art Spectrum in Miami.



## Finalization of Stenography courses

*By Jorge Bravo*

In these days they have completed several shorthand courses that have taught stenographers from different places in Argentina in order to prepare new stenographers. For example, those dictated in Paraná (province of Entre Ríos), by Julio Ormaechea; in the province of Catamarca, by Agueda Lezcano; in the province of Santa Cruz, by Gladys Margot Antilef and María Inés López; in the province of Tierra del Fuego, by Perla Gallo and Cristina Cejas; in the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires, by Claudio Araujo; in Escobar (province of Buenos Aires), by Patricia López and Claudio Benavides; in Rosario (province of Santa Fe, by Delfor Castro; and in Posadas (province of Misiones by Zoraida Chaparro.

In the province of Santa Cruz, diplomas were awarded in an act that was attended by professors and the vice governor and president of the Legislature, Pablo González, as we can see in the attached photo.



The president of the Santa Cruz legislature (Pablo González), the Stenographer of the Santa Cruz Legislature (Gladys Antilef) and the pupils of the stenography course.

## Type lesson in the House of Representatives of the Netherlands!

*by Bernhard Boot*

In 2017 I received an invitation to give typing lessons to five ladies of the DVR. I was certainly somewhat surprised, with the thought - they can certainly type well there - but of course you do not decline such an invitation. Indeed, it turned out that the women's blind finger system still improved. Fortunately there are "normal" computers because the undersigned is convinced that this is ergonomically much healthier than a laptop. Think here of being able to adjust the equipment much better. In June of this year I received an invitation to make five gentlemen blind finger system wiser. The gentlemen were very interested and started working hard.

The aim is to guide the participants in 5 lessons to learn a good blind finger system with the emphasis on typing as flawlessly as possible. The guidance seems very important to me. Being able to comment directly on posture, quiet and regular typing and an error analysis after typing a few exercises can be partially absorbed by a type-reading program, but real checking especially on posture is not possible. Playing along with a student to indicate regularity is also very important.

The first lesson is given before the holiday so that the gentlemen master the basic row and a few letters outside the basic row after the holiday (two months later) at a reasonable pace. Apart from the j and f, the letters of the left and right hand are not learned immediately after each other. This is to prevent confusion errors. Advice to the students is a lot of repetition so that a reasonable basic speed is developed. Learning to type letters faster, to the undersigned, is much faster than when "text" is typed. The student starts reading too quickly instead of playing games and his brain is then busy with several letters at the same time, which means that things are learned less well and quickly.

In the second lesson attention is paid to the new letters to be learned, and for the third lesson two thirds of the alphabet must have been practiced. A great deal of attention is also paid to putting the fingers back immediately and completely after pressing a key outside the basic keys. This is, in my opinion, after calm and regular typing, the most important condition to keep typing blind. The qmtt type program is discussed. In the practice part, the learned letters can be practiced and the last learned letter is added every subsequent lesson. When the student enters the results on a list, both teacher and student can see which letters are less well learned.

In the third lesson the last letters of the alphabet are practiced and punctuation marks, capital letters and numbers are treated.

The fourth lesson is for completing the whole and starting practicing text. The teacher focuses on the type of mistakes that are made.

- 1 Are there still errors such as with r and t or b and v?  
The result of often not completely putting the finger back on the basic test.
- 2 Is a letter next to the correct one typed several times?  
The result of typing just a little too fast.
- 3 Are letters flipped?

The result of reading too far away with the text to be typed. These errors are discussed with the student.



*Berhard Boot and the five gentlemen who successfully completed the blind finger system.*

The fifth lesson pays extra attention to showing that quiet and regular typing produces a much better result (more speed and fewer errors) than nervous wanting to type too quickly.

### **My motto: typing should be a relaxation and not an effort!**

In the qmtt, practice program, the student should not improve. It often appears that the student makes few mistakes. In the skill program the student may improve and then it appears that the student often has just as many mistakes, but with a good number of corrections. So many more errors were typed. When this is recognized, tests are taken to close the course.

Not taught in the training is spoken text. It could become an important part of the current typing courses. Many students will want to enter lectures directly via the keyboard.

- A boss of a typing room once called me. She only hired new staff who had a good command of the blind finger system. But ... she couldn't do it herself! After a lot of whispering about her typing by the staff, she called me. "Mr Boot, can I still learn the ten-finger system after 20 years of typing differently?" My answer: "Only if you really want it!" "I really want it," she said, explaining the situation to me. Two months later she typed great and she stopped the training. When thanking me, she said: "I have been stupid for twenty years"! I have been coming back from work for years with head, back and neck pain, but since about three weeks I have been coming home fresh and cheerful. No more head, back and neck pain! She controlled calm and regular typing completely.



## XXVII Argentina Congress of shorthand and stenotyping

*by Víctor González, President AATP*

From October 11th to October 13th 2019, the XXVII Argentine Congress of Shorthand and Stenotyping was held in Corrientes, province of the northeastern part of Argentina.

The origins of taquigraphy in Argentina date back to the 19th century. In 1913 the first four stenographers arrived in Corrientes and in 1914 the body of stenographers with four members was formed for the first time in the province. This year we have celebrated the 105th anniversary of its creation.

We started our activities with the VIII Argentine Taquigraphy and Stenotyping Championship and the VI Argentine Championship of Interpretation and Correction of Texts.

The president of the AATP delivered the opening remarks on the importance of innovation in the profession. This issue was highlighted through the use of technology to be at the forefront. He has also mentioned the agreements made by the AATP and the universities of our country.

Regarding the importance that the profession has gained this year, Ms. Linda Mundet, rector of the Superior Institute of Arts E. Mallea, presented the “Higher Technical Qualification in Taquigraphy and Stenotype”, with a thorough explanation of the objectives, career content and courses’ modality. Moreover, the stenographer Patricia López from the Escobar Council Meeting, referred to the topic of “Digital Taquigraphy”, an innovative shorthand methodology which she implements during her shorthand work in sessions. She has demonstrated in real time the advantages of using a graphic tablet in an environment that integrates all the necessary elements: session audio, digitized shorthand and subsequent transliteration (translation) of the symbols. With the use of all these tools, this ancient technique is well adapted to the current times and the time resulting in the preparation of the shorthand version is minimized.

Then, Professor Nadia Portillo gave a lecture on “Discursive coaching: editing and perfecting the shorthand version”, explaining to the participants how to achieve a better result of our final work through narrative, spelling and syntactic criteria.

The topic of “Subtitling, an almost perfect ally”, was addressed by María Dolores Gómez Aguirre, a professor and translator at UTN (National Technological University), who introduced us to this important specialization within the profession, highlighting its qualities and applications within the current market.

Through “Drawn Words”, Jorge Bravo and Azat Ambartsoumian from the National Congress, were able to undertake a journey through the history of the shorthand world to this same day, sharing very important facts of the profession.

The following day, the translator María Dolores Gómez Aguirre delivered the workshop entitled “Useful tools for the work of the stenographer”, through which we updated ourselves with the most innovative voice recognition applications that can help us in the effectiveness of our work.

Our next seminar “What happens in the shorthand world”, the professionals participating in INTERSTENO and NCRA 2019, stenographers Leandro Iezzi and Víctor González were able to share the experiences of having participated in such important congresses.

Undoubtedly, once again from the AATP we highlight the importance of training courses, the acquisition of new knowledge, sharing experiences and exchange with colleagues around the world occupies a vital position in order to achieve excellence in the development of our profession.







## XX National meeting of Parliamentary and Judicial stenographers (Brasil)

*by Víctor González, President AATP*

The congress was organized by UNATAQ, within the framework of the XXIII National Conference of State Legislators of Brazil. The guideline continued to be humanization, that is, the human imprint both in the legislation and in the day-to-day work of those who collaborate in Parliament, such as the stenographers we register and attest to the formation and enactment of laws.

In the case of the UNALE conference, different topics were discussed. How to materialize humanization in matters that become very technical and / or abstract, for example, in tax legislation and in judicial proceedings. These and other areas were approached from the perspective of humanization, so that they would become useful tools for people.

In that sense, the presentations of different legislators, officials, representatives of control agencies and specialists were very interesting.

From AATP we were able to participate through colleagues Raúl Salas, Carlos Sorbelli and Alfredo Vitale in this important congress.

With respect to the UNATAQ conference, an integrated system of legislative information was presented based on the work of the stenographers. It was a clear example of how we can strengthen our work helped by ICTs.

The presented system is used in both chambers of the National Congress of Brasil. The explanation was given by two stenographers from the Chamber of Deputies. The resources used were consistent with the theme: use of eloquent videos and graphics that made clear the concept of integration.

This adaptation of our work to new technologies and vice versa had as protagonist the professionals of both areas: stenographers and systems specialists. Its design and progress in the implementation implied accessions, criticisms and resistance to change, but the training and better information about what was being done ended in the acceptance and the implementation of it.

By a sustainability policy of the Congress, the use of paper is reduced. This impacts the stenographers, who now take notes on tablets. They allow you to download notes and other things for transliteration during the journey of the stenographer from the chamber to the office.

This system allows you to attach the document of the plenary or the commission in an average of 40 minutes.

We all share the idea of being on the same track, heading for the shorthand of the 21st century in a more humanized design as well as more technological.





## Report and Editorial Office of the House of Representatives of the States General in the Netherlands celebrates 170 year anniversary; "The word is on ..."

by Paula Wansleebe

On 23 September 2019, the Report and Editorial Office (DVR) celebrated its 170th anniversary with a very varied afternoon program. All employees of the DVR were present at the anniversary. Former employees of the DVR and colleagues from other services of the House of Representatives were also invited to the symposium.

After a word of welcome from Rian Schwarz-van Poppel as head of the DVR, the afternoon was officially opened by the President of the Second Chamber, Mrs. Khadija Arib.



*Head of the DVR Rian Schwarz with on her left the President of the Second Chamber, Khadija Arib and Clerk of the Second Chamber Simone Roos, on her right the President of First Chamber Jan Anthonie Bruijn and the Clerk of the First Chamber Remco Nehmelman.*

At the first part of the symposium there was a diverse group of people who gave their view of 170 years of DVR at the table. Among them, Clerks of the Second and First Chamber, a few Second Chamber members and a former Member of Parliament.

Then Siemon Reker, professor by special appointment of Groninger Language at the University of Groningen, gave a presentation of 70 years of political language use, about which he wrote a book: "Having said that ...".

An international representation was also present at the symposium. John Vice, head of the House of Lords Reporting Service, has given colleagues in the House of Representatives a glimpse into the working methods of the British parliament. He illustrated this with image and sound excerpts: How is applause, singing and non-verbal expressions dealt with.



John Vice

Eero Voutilainen from the University of Helsinki discussed his research into parliamentary reporting in various European countries. Eero addressed his Research questions: What kind of linguistic and editorial principles are followed in parliamentary reporting offices around the world? How does Dutch reporting compare with other reporting offices? The research consisted of 84 questions based on academic and professional literature, professional practice and a pilot survey (2018). The help of Intersteno and ECPRD was indispensable.



Eero Voutilainen

Lawyers Tom Barkhuysen and Niels Jak explained on the basis of a practical example about the use of the Acts in their law practice. The afternoon ended with the parliamentary historians Peter Bootsma and Carla Hoetink. They discussed various examples from their book "Over Lijken. Unacceptable use of language in the Lower House".

There was a "theatrical interlude" between the various parts of the program in which a few stenographers from the DVR discussed the history of the DVR using the texts from the Official Acts.

Afterwards there was a drink for all invited guests. The day was festively concluded with a buffet-style dinner, which took place in a unique place, namely the Members' Restaurant, which is only available to members of the House of Representatives in daily practice.

The DVR looks back on a successful symposium!

## Miscellanea

*By Victor Gonzalez*

### 1. Museum Night 2019

October 18th night was magic in the Parliament. Their large oak gates were opened at eight o'clock PM, allowing more than 3,500 people to admire the old building with furniture made of imported wood and parquet floors, and imposing crystal and bronze chandeliers illuminate the legislator seats made of genuine leather.

People from all departments were available and contributed by explaining their everyday activities to visitors.

Indeed, for example, library employees had the opportunity to show off the magnificent facilities with their 200-year-old book collections. At the same time, workers from the legislative area explained their supporting tasks for the enactment of laws while stenographers made a demonstration of their abilities.

It was a valuable experience for everyone who participated.







It was an enriching work that year after year arouses more enthusiasm among all of us who participate in this beautiful activity.

## 2 New Parliament building at Córdoba city

Until November 2019, we conducted our activities in the old House, which suffered several remodelations, being the most recent in 1918. Nowadays, the entire legislative activity takes place in a new building made of concrete and steel whose design priorities allow energy savings.

It has 8,900 square meters and 3,100 square meters of covered garages.



### 3 Creation of the training institute of the Legislative Power of the Province of Córdoba

After years of negotiations, the Legislature and the Legislative Employees Union created the Training Institute with the purpose of improving and specializing the entire legislative staff task, including higher authorities, management personnel and officials. The Institute will organize seminars, workshops, courses, research and agreements with public and private universities. Regarding the stenographic task, there will be activities to contribute to a wider diffusion of this art as well as the exchange of knowledge and experiences with colleagues from different countries of the world.



### 4 Legislature of the Province of Santa Cruz

The Director of the Stenographer Office of the Legislature of Santa Cruz Province, Ms. Gladys M. Antilef, taught the course "Shorthand and Parliament Drafting", at the Library of the Honorable Chamber of Deputies. It had 45 students and 17 passed the final exam.

The course was declared legislative interest under Resolution 064/19 by the Honorable Chamber of Deputies.



## Bordeaux

Bordeaux is a port city on the Garonne in the Gironde department in Southwestern France.

The municipality (commune) of Bordeaux proper has a population of 252,040 (2016). Together with its suburbs and satellite towns, Bordeaux is the centre of the Bordeaux Métropole. With 1,195,335 in the metropolitan area, it is the sixth-largest in France, after Paris, Marseille, Lyon, Toulouse, and Lille. It is the capital of the Nouvelle-Aquitaine region, as well as the prefecture of the Gironde department. Its inhabitants are called "Bordelais" (for men) or "Bordelaises" (women). The term "Bordelais" may also refer to the city and its surrounding region.

Being at the center of a major wine-growing and wine-producing region, Bordeaux remains a prominent powerhouse and exercises significant influence on the world wine industry although no wine production is conducted within the city limits. It is home to the world's main wine fair, Vinexpo, and the wine economy in the metro area takes in 14.5 billion euros each year. Bordeaux wine has been produced in the region since the 8th century. The historic part of the city is on the UNESCO World Heritage List as "an outstanding urban and architectural ensemble" of the 18th century. After Paris, Bordeaux has the highest number of preserved historical buildings of any city in France.

Further information see: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bordeaux>





## Event calendar

### NK Typen 2020

The NK Typing, which is jointly organized by Interinfo, Instruct and the CBT, will be held on Saturday, April 18, 2020. The stadium of Heracles in Almelo has once again been chosen, which is now called "Erve Asito". From January 2020 you can register for participation on the website of the NK Typing ([nk-typen.nl](http://nk-typen.nl))

