

Brief Biographical Sketch

Name - Angel M. Mergal

Dr. Mergal is an American citizen by birth, having been born on August 9, 1909 in Cayey, Puerto Rico, of Catholic, Spanish parentage. However, in 1926 he was converted to Protestant beliefs and became a member of the Baptist Church of Cayey in 1927.

His elementary and secondary education were completed with his graduation from the Cayey High School in 1928. This same year he entered the Evangelical Seminary of Puerto Rico to begin his theological studies. As this Seminary was located in Rio Piedras, the University town, Mr. Mergal was able to study part-time at the University. Thus he finished his studies for a B.A. in Education in 1940, and those for a B.D. in 1941.

During these years of undergraduate study, Mr. Mergal was a student-pastor of various Baptist churches, and in 1931-1933 he was pastor of the Baptist Church of Barranquitas, P.R. and a teacher in the Baptist Academy - a high school maintained in this town by the American Baptist Home Mission Society. From 1934 to 1941 Mr. Mergal was principal of this school.

In 1941 Mr. Mergal received his M.A. degree from the University of Puerto Rico; in 1943, his Ph.D. from Columbia University. In 1943, he also received his S.T.M. degree from Union Theological Seminary. From 1950-1951, he completed his studies for the Th.D. degree at Union, and he is now completing the requirements for this degree by writing a book on Unamuno. He has also done graduate study in Clinical Psychology at Columbia University.

While he was studying for his Ph.D., Mr. Mergal was an instructor in Spanish at the College of the City of New York. He has been an instructor of Education in the University of Puerto Rico. From 1941 - 1955 he was a professor in the Evangelical Seminary of Puerto Rico where he taught Theology, Greek, New Testament Literature, and Homiletics. He has also worked as a clinical psychologist for the Department of Health of Puerto Rico. At the present time he is working as a professional writer for the Department of Education Press, Hato Rey, Puerto Rico, and he is the Director of Spanish for the Secondary Schools of our public school system.