

# SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTIONS IN LATIN AMERICA

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## NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF HYGIENE (INSTITUTO NACIONAL DE HIGIENE)\*

Guayaquil, Ecuador

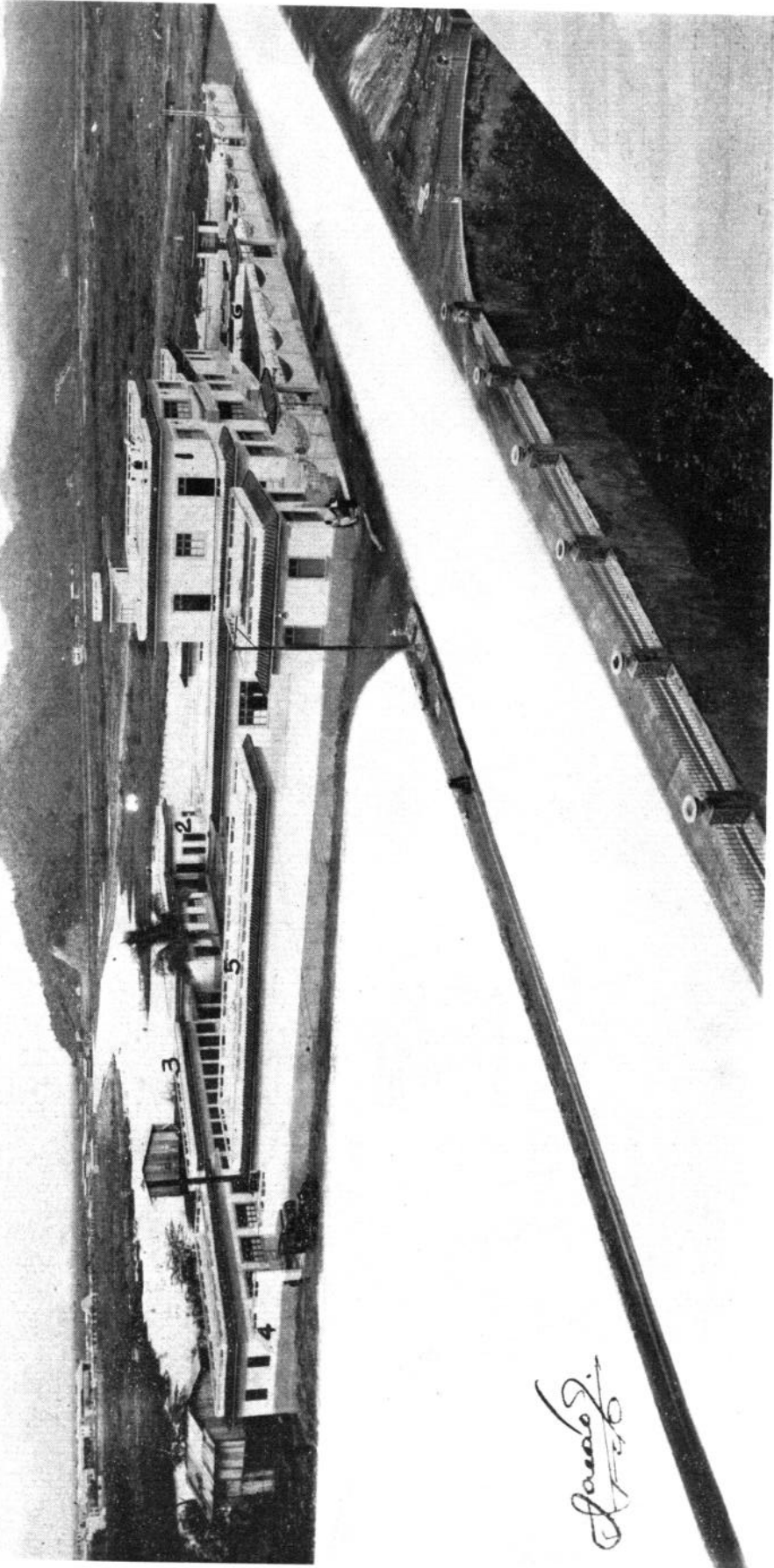
The National Institute of Hygiene of Ecuador has been established by the National Department of Health in response to a long-felt need. In this country, situated in the tropical region of South America, with its variety in climate, its abrupt changes in altitude, and its wide range of agricultural production and the diversity in customs and living conditions resulting from these variations, the medical problems of the region come to have a distinctive nature of their own, and to call for special study.

The new Institute, just completed and soon to be opened, will be organized and equipped to provide facilities for research on the various national problems, including malaria, hookworm, yaws, and tuberculosis. It will have Sections of Bacteriology, Chemistry, Bromatology, and Entomology, and laboratories for the manufacture of serums, vaccines, and B.C.G. (tuberculosis vaccine). There will be a special division for the study of plague. The museum will have collections of both rare and common species of American animals and insects.

It is felt that the city of Guayaquil, which was the scene of two great victories of international hygiene (the eradication of yellow fever, last case, May, 1918, and of plague, last case, April 14, 1939) is an especially appropriate location for this center of scientific research.

Several of the personnel of the Institute are receiving special training in scientific institutions of the United States, before taking up their new duties.

\* One of a series of papers describing the principal scientific institutions in Latin America.



*Arce*

National Institute of Hygiene of Ecuador: (1) Main building; (2) Smallpox vaccine laboratory; (3) Laboratory animal house; (4) Rat autopsy room; (5) Disinfecting shed; (6) Breeding pools for larvacidal fish.



National Institute of Hygiene of Ecuador: Front view of main building.



National Institute of Hygiene of Ecuador: Plague Research Laboratory.