

## Death of Procópio

Procópio Ferreira, born João Álvaro de Jesus Quental Ferreira, called by some the father of the contemporary Brazilian theatre, died on June 18, 1979. His career in the theatre extended over more than sixty years during which he performed in over 400 plays, as well as in films and on television. One of his best known roles was that of the philosophical beggar in Joracy's Camargo's *Deus lhe Pague* in 1932, an early work with social implications, in which he played over 3600 times. His many roles range from that of Harpagon in Molière's *The Miser*, through that of Aesop in Guilherme de Figueiredo's *A Raposa e as Uvas* and *Esta Noite Choveu Prata!* in which he played all three roles, to a part in *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*. For some forty years Procópio also had his own dramatic company in which some of today's stars, including his daughter, Bibi Ferreira, received training. He received frequent recognition and various prizes, including the Ordem do Mérito of the Sociedade Brasileira de Autores Teatrais and the Insígnia de Oficial da Ordem de Rio Branco of the Brazilian Government.

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