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Sommario/riassunto	The Central University during the Second Republic was one of the most attractive intellectual spaces of the so-called Silver Age of Spanish culture, and constituted in itself a true nucleus of scientific and academic excellence at the height of the artistic and literary splendour of those years. , contributing to the list of leading intellectuals the names of many of his professors. That University Silver Age that had been brewing in the 1920s with the progressive access to the chairs of a new, more prepared generation that owed much of its training to stays in some of the main European research centres and to the activity of the institutes and laboratories of the Board for the Expansion of Studies, it had its peak during the Second Republic due to a matter of intellectual maturity and institutional support. The faculty of the Faculty of Philosophy and Letters was something extraordinary. In its classrooms you could hear the metaphysics classes of José Ortega y Gasset, the philology classes of Ramón Ménendez Pidal, the art history

classes of Elías Tormo, the medieval history classes of Claudio Sánchez-Albornoz, the socialist leader's logic classes Julián Besteiro, the history of the language of Américo Castro, the philosophy of the young José Gaos or the ethics of his dean Manuel García Morente, along with those who also taught the minister Domingo Barnés, the Arabist Miguel Asín Palacios, to the Paleographer Agustín Millares Carlo, the pedagogue Luis de Zulueta, or the paleontologist Hugo Obermaier, among others. All of them were figures of extraordinary importance in their respective disciplines, but they also had a great influence on the Spanish cultural life of the time, many of their books had thousands of readers, and some also played very relevant roles in Spanish political life. The Law School also had a brilliant roster of prominent personalities from justice, the legal profession, law and political life. At that time, figures such as the illustrious international jurists Rafael Altamira and José Yanguas Messía, the ministers Fernando de los Ríos and Agustín Viñuales Pardo, the famous criminal lawyer and father of the republican constitution Luis Jiménez de Asúa, the legal historian Galo Sánchez, the well-known lawyers Felipe Sánchez Román and Joaquín Garrigues and Díaz-Cañabate, the economist Antonio Flores de Lemus, or the secretary of the Board for the Expansion of Studies José Castillejo, to name just a few. The Faculty of Medicine also had a good number of scientists of recognized international prestige, many of them disciples of the famous Spanish histological school of Ramón y Cajal. The histologist Jorge Francisco Tello, the therapist Teófilo Hernando, the endocrine and famous humanist Gregorio Marañón, the ophthalmologist Manuel Márquez, the pathologists Gustavo Pittaluga, Carlos Jiménez Díaz and León Cardenal, the gynaecologist Manuel Varela Radio, or the physiologist Juan Negrín, who was Socialist deputy and became the last Prime Minister of the Republic. At the Faculty of Pharmacy, figures such as the chemists Antonio Madinaveitia and José Giral Pereira, or the botanist José Cuatrecasas, stood out. While in the Faculty of Sciences the classes were in charge of scientists of the stature of the mathematician Julio Rey Pastor, the physicist Blas Cabrera, the zoographer Cándido Bolívar, the geophysicist Arturo Duperier, the geologist Eduardo Hernández Pacheco or the chemist Miguel Catalán. Curiously, feminine names are scarce in all the faculties, who surely would have entered the chairs soon if Spanish democracy had not been cut off in such a short time, since in the lower rungs of the ladder the careers of María de Maeztu, Dorothea were beginning to emerge.
