

## **WHO WAS Dr. ADOLFO BEZERRA DE MENEZES**

Dr. Carlos Travassos had undertaken the task of translating Allan Kardec's works, reaching a good result with the Portuguese version of "The Spirits' Book." As soon as the translation was published he gave a copy of the book to the deputy Bezerra de Menezes - with a special dedication. The fact was described by the future "Doctor of the Poor" as follows: "He gave me the book in the city, and I lived in Tijuca, about an hour away from streetcar. I was carrying the book with me and since I did not have anything else to read during the trip I said, well, why not! I will certainly not go to hell for reading this... And after all, it will be embarrassing to have to declare myself ignorant regarding this philosophy, when I have been dedicating myself to the study of all philosophical schools.

With this thought, I opened the book and I immediately became fascinated by it - in the same way that happened to me when I read the Bible. I kept on reading, but I couldn't find anything that was new for my Spirit. However, all that was new for me!... I had already read or heard everything that was in the "The Spirits' Book." I was quite amazed with that wonderful fact and I said to myself: it seems that I was a spiritist without knowing it, or as people usually say, I was born a spiritist."