

although attempted, was not overcome—obvious, in the case of the Spanish and French of the two Latin groups, but also much evidence that even the “English” of the native Virgin Islanders is, in effect, a different language from American English in its connotations; lack of clear definition of some of the categories of subjects—e.g. no clear distinction between religion, obeh and institutions; the multi-goals of the study, resulting in no clear-cut reaching of any of them.

But these deficiencies do not destroy the worth of the study. He appears to have forcefully called attention to the place of culture in the treatment of psychiatric patients; he has made a contribution to the understanding of Virgin Island society; his inter-disciplinary attempts are admirable; his work contains many suggestions for more exhaustive studies; he gives, in effect, a clear warning to all U.S. “continentals”: *beware of cultural differences when practicing your profession outside!*

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Introducción a la prehistoria general.

By JUAN COMAS. México, 1962. Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México. Publicaciones del Instituto de Historia. Núm. 74. Illustrations. Charts. Bibliography. Indices. Pp. 249. Paper.

This book is intended for use as a text in the various institutions in Mexico which teach courses in prehistory on the university level. As such, it is an excellent volume. The author devotes some space to showing that evolution is not contrary to Catholic doctrine—a necessary precaution in countries predominantly Catholic.

The book deals with human prehistory all over the world. Twenty-five pages are devoted to the Americas, which seems meagre except that the condensation is so expert and the coverage so thorough. While mentioning certain controversial matters, the au-

thor manages to put them in proper perspective in a masterful way. Beginning with the history of prehistory and its methods and techniques, the author carries the student through highly condensed studies of geology, climatology and of the successive hominids culminating in modern man.

Unfortunately the bibliography lists one ridiculous volume, one generally discredited volume, and two works which are definitely out-dated. Other than this the bibliography is well chosen and will be an excellent guide for further study on the part of the student.

Any book on human prehistory is bound to be a bit outdated before it appears in print, so rapidly is the science of anthropology moving today. Such deficiencies must be remedied with supplementary reading. Such new discoveries as *Zinjanthropus boyseii* are too recent for mention in the volume under review.

We predict that this volume will be used in many Latin American universities. It is by far the best thing of its kind available in Spanish and better than most similar texts in English.

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BACKGROUND

A History of the Jews in Christian Spain. Vol. 1: *From the Age of Reconquest to the Fourteenth Century.* By YITZHAK BAER. Translated by LOUIS SCHOFFMAN. Philadelphia, 1961. The Jewish Publication Society of America. Notes. Index. Pp. 463. \$5.00.

Twenty-three years ago Yitzhak (Fritz) Baer published a collection of documents dealing with Jewish life in Spain, the result of years of painstaking research in the Spanish archives. In 1945 his narrative based on this work appeared in Hebrew; a revised edition was published in 1959. The present volume is a translation of this