

matic missions, and is a member of the Inter-American Juridical Committee. He has written extensively on aspects of the inter-American system.

The principal divisions of the work are: Parts One and Two, Origins and Development of Pan Americanism; Part Three, Achievements of Pan Americanism; Part Four, New Problems, under which heading are considered Human Rights and Representative Democracy, and Operation Pan America; and Part Five, which contains the Haya de la Torre asylum case, and the Pan American meetings of 1960, which should have been included in Part Two. The author throws his work out of balance by indulging a special interest in the right of asylum.

The work is comprehensive in the sense that it contains mention of virtually all the steps marking the development of the formal structure of the inter-American system. However, these steps are traced without reference to contemporary international problems and important political, social, and economic considerations. The study is drafted, as it were, in a vacuum; and to say that the final result is unrealistic is an understatement. Insofar as the various inter-American treaties and agreements are analyzed—and in some instances these analyses are quite detailed—the author's criticisms are usually confined to highly specialized technical details. Never are these agreements subjected to examination reflecting the realities of inter-American relationships, nor is there any mention of the integration of the OAS into the United Nations.

The principal, and almost sole, value of this book is to be found therefore, in a rather complete collection, and technical description, of most of the pacts and agreements which are components of the inter-American system. It adds nothing to our understanding of the strengths and weaknesses of this regional arrangement as a functioning instrument for the coordination of relations of the American republics.

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International Communism and Latin America. Perspectives and Prospects. By DOROTHY DILLON. Gainesville, 1962. University of Florida Press. Latin American Monographs. No. 19. Notes. Bibliography. Pp. 49. Paper.

In three chapters (44 pages), Dr. Dillon discusses three important aspects of communism in Latin America. The first describes the Soviet Union's gradual appreciation of Latin America's possibilities as an area for communication. The second illustrates enlarging communist interest to include not only the Soviet Bloc but also the Red Chinese. In the third and concluding chapter, communism is brought up to date with its future possibilities of success weighed.

In the main, the monograph deals with large and general problems. Only in the second chapter is there specific information on communist activity. These are in the form of statistics: increasing radio and television time devoted by communist bloc countries to Latin America; numbers of Latin Americans attending communist world conferences; numbers of communist bi-cultural centers in Latin America; increased aid and trade, etc.

In the final chapter, the author's conclusions warn that communists will succeed if Latin American and American leaders do not deliver the goods to the needy masses of the area. Cuba is cited as the "prototype of what International Communism would like to see elsewhere in Latin America."

Both these conclusions seem of doubtful validity. Let's take Cuba first. It is hardly logical that the Soviet Union is either willing or able to assist every communist country that bankrupts its economy and proves local communism incapable of maintaining production. Furthermore, it is inconceivable that International Communism welcomes the risk of nuclear war to shore up Cuba or any other American state that may go communist. Cuba through its failure has been the best deterrent to communism in the Americas.

The other conclusion: that commu-

nism is the alternative to the established order overlooks the fact and strength of the military. Add the church and the ultimate power of the United States; then, it does not seem likely that communism could take over, even if men like Frondizi and Quadros cannot effect the reforms and production needed. The interests of this trilogy of power are antithetical to communism. And there is no reason why Latin America could not continue under semi-militarism as a countervailing power to the threat of communism.

In the main, the monograph restates general problems with helpful statistics, showing the growing Sino-Soviet interest and activity in Latin America.

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COLONIAL PERIOD

Lecciones de California. By ALFONSO TEJA ZABRE. México, 1962. Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México. Publicaciones del Instituto de Historia. No. 63. Indices. Pp. 163. Paper.

The author's intention is to present episodes of dramatic and human interest to illustrate certain aspects of California history. Selecting topics of regional history which would be largely unknown to Mexican nationals, Teja Zabre has borrowed liberally, though somewhat indiscriminately, from both standard and questionable works in an effort to demonstrate to his reading public that non-Mexican authors have a distinctly different point of view concerning the Hispanic periods of California history—an evaluation not burdened by apology or religious motives. As a result, the "foreign historians can judge such features as the missionaries and their work with serenity and even coolness, and at times with reservations that it is well to understand and analyze to obtain a more complete picture of events and of men."

Most prominently treated episodes concern the role of José de Gálvez, the

Rezanof-Concepción Argüello courtship, and the difficulties of Mexican Governor Mariano Chico. The laudable ambition of attempting to clarify for his fellow countrymen the record of pre-American California is to be commended; but it is startling to learn how little is known south of the border concerning the bibliography of English language sources for regional history. Little new or noteworthy material is presented, and the author frequently engages in the very questionable practice of bodily lifting footnote type references from Bancroft's *History of California* without acknowledgment of his debt to that author. Dozens of typographical mistakes, factual errors, and an inaccurate index further rob the work of any authority that it might possess to teach lessons about California.

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Falso-facsimil del Acta del Cabildo Extraordinario del 20 de Julio de 1810. Edited and Introduction by FERNANDO RESTREPO URIBE. Bogotá, 1961. Editorial Kelly and Lito-Lucros. Pp. [20], 12. Velvet and Paper.

The original of the *Acta* which marked Bogotá's first open breach with Spanish rule was destroyed by fire in 1900. Fortunately it had been copied and printed in Bogotá, in 1848, 1872, and 1894. From these three published versions and from other samples of the handwriting of the *cabildo escribano*, Eugenio Martín Melendro, and of the signers, Dr. Fernando Restrepo Uribe, Executive Secretary of the Instituto Colombiano de Cultura Hispánica, has reconstructed what he carefully states to be a false-facsimile of the now-lost original.

As perfect as any such effort can be, this facsimile is on a well-imitated version of the pea-soup green *papel sellado* of the times, the purported inky text is faded brown, there are blots and rubrics of the scrivener and the