

lover who possesses the art of good writing. Just read the chapter about the Potosí *chola*, who in the pages of Molins becomes something better than an angel. And Bolivia gave Molins its highest decoration, the "Condor de los Andes."

CHARLES W. ARNADE  
University of South Florida

*Defensa de la Revolución de Abril.* By ERNESTO AYALA MERCADO. La Paz, 1961. Empresa Editora Universo. Pp. 247. Paper.

This is a collection of speeches of the author who is a member of the left wing of the Bolivian MNR. Most of these speeches were made in the Bolivian legislature in the late 1950's. It is an interesting if not valuable book because it defines clearly the thinking of the majority section of the MNR, now over a decade in power. It shows the innate anti-Americanism and the constant courting of Marxism as well as the Machiavellian flexibility of the MNR. The book has historical value.

CHARLES W. ARNADE  
University of South Florida

*P. I. R. y desarrollo nacional. Soluciones para los problemas nacionales.* By COMITÉ DEPARTAMENTAL DEL P. I. R. DE COCHABAMBA. La Paz, 1961. Talleres Gráficos Gutenberg. Documents. Pp. 268. Paper.

*Hacia el gobierno obrero-campesino.* By GUILLERMO LORA. La Paz [1962], Ediciones Masas. Pp. 68. Paper.

These are useful books for the Latin Americanist interested in modern Bolivia and in Latin American political parties. They are basic in any research of the Bolivian scene. Each book deals with a different communist party of Bolivia—Bolivia has three of them (PIR, POR, Partido Comunista). The PIR means Partido de la Izquierda Revolucionaria, which was founded in 1940 and came to an end in 1952. It was a powerful party of leftist persuasion without openly admitting that it

was communistic. Later the most radical wing of the PIR converted itself into the Bolivian Communist Party. The PIR constituted the most potent chapter of Bolivian politics during the forties.

In 1956 some veterans (more moderate) of the dead party revived it and are desperately trying to make it go and assume a powerful opposition force to the long governing MNR without truly communizing Bolivia. The new leaders are highly pro-Castro. So far it has been most unsuccessful. This book has all the basic data—from the PIR point of view—of the party's history, platform, its death and re-creation. It is made up of valuable documents and comments.

Lora, the author of the second book, is the leader of the Bolivian Partido Obrero Revolucionario (POR) which is the Trotskyite party. Bolivia and Ceylon are the only countries in the world where the Trotskyites are still quite active. The Bolivian Lora is a dogmatic theoretician but also an engaging character.

This is a fascinating booklet. Lora develops, sometimes clearly, other times most confusingly, the Trotskyite theory (or is it his own?) of revolution in Bolivia and his analysis of the MNR and its one decade of rule.

CHARLES W. ARNADE  
University of South Florida

*El aislamiento de Chile.* By OSCAR ESPINOSA MORAGA. Santiago, Chile, 1961. Editorial Nascimento. Illustration. Charts. Index. Pp. 175. Paper.

Intimately acquainted with Chile's Foreign Ministry Archives, which he played an important role in organizing, Oscar Espinosa Moraga has in the past published carefully documented, if rather chauvinistic, studies on Argentine-Chilean relations subsequent to the War of the Pacific. The present work lacks documentation, being largely interpretive in nature.

A principal thesis advanced by Espinosa is that from the attainment of

independence, Peru, Bolivia, and Argentina each pursued a policy aimed at diminishing Chilean power. Frequently, the three anti-Chilean powers cooperated in this policy. As a consequence, Chile became an isolated nation. The main culprit was Argentina, obsessed by a desire to extend its rule from the Atlantic to the Pacific. Owing to faulty statesmanship and lack of vision, Chile needlessly lost thousands of square miles of national territory to Argentina, represented by informed, astute and scheming diplomats. Regret is expressed that Brazil did not realize the advantages to be obtained from a defensive treaty with Chile in the early twentieth century when the Andean boundary dispute threatened to explode into war. The diplomatic history which Espinosa has written of balance-of-power politics in South America, 1810-1906, constitutes the most fascinating and valuable part of the book, notwithstanding its strongly nationalistic bias which may be particularly unfortunate at this time when Latin American cooperation has become imperative.

The development of greatest significance in contemporary South America, according to Espinosa, is the expansion of Brazil to the West. Thanks to railway and road connections through Bolivia, Peru, and Chile, Brazil will soon be, economically speaking, a trans-continental power. Peru and Bolivia will probably benefit more from increasing contact with Brazil than will Chile. Especially Peruvians, it is contended, have more economic forethought than Chileans, and have developed a better transportation system than their southern neighbors. As Peru's and Bolivia's economic situations improve, they may think of gaining revenge on Chile for its War of the Pacific triumph. What, then, should Chile's policy be? To increase vastly its military strength, answers Espinosa. Here is an incredible suggestion for a country that may already be losing the battle to meet its internal social crisis.

FREDERICK B. PIKE

University of Notre Dame

## THE PLATA REGION

*El Santo de la Espada.* By RICARDO ROJAS. Buenos Aires, 1961. Editorial Kraft. Illustrations. Pp. 426.

That this book has been reissued in another printing is testimony that the interpretation by the great Argentine man of letters fills a need in Latin American history—a need to interpret and explain the personality of José de San Martín, whose actions in liberating a goodly portion of South America from Spain and his retirement to Europe present many enigmas to the historian. It is a literary biography of an idealist presented in three parts: Initiation, Achievement, and Renunciation or, as San Martín himself said, "My youth was sacrificed to the service of the Spaniards; my middle age to that of my fatherland; I have the right to dispose of my old age."

The author did an excellent job of interpreting a great man. San Martín emerges clear and certain in the major role of the drama of the liberation of South America. His work in Argentina, Chile, and Peru is detailed; the height of popularity and achievement is reached; the climactic Interview at Guayaquil takes place; and then San Martín removes himself from the scene of his triumphs to self-exile in Europe.

Many Latin Americanists have lamented the lack of footnotes, bibliography, maps, index, and other accoutrements of scholarly volumes. It has not supplanted, nor was it intended to supplant, the works of Bartolomé Mitre and others, but it has filled a need for interpretation that will remain a part of Sanmartiniana. It is a book to be read with delight and profit by the layman and the professional historian. Since it was translated several years ago into English, it will probably be little known in the United States except by the professional, but it already occupies a prominent place in libraries in South America.

ROBERT W. DELANEY

Ft. Lewis A & M College