

Ríos, Corrientes, and Misiones. Finally Urquiza is accused of betraying his leader and helping Brazil redress Ituzaingó at Caseros, giving the Brazilian Empire long-sought territorial and political advantages at the expense of Argentina.

The reader who recognizes this as a deeply partisan book will find it interesting reading, carefully and selectively documented to prove a case. An eighty page appendix presents an additional collection of documents useful to any study of this period.

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BRAZIL

Formação histórica do Acre. 3 vols. By LEANDRO TOCANTINS. Rio de Janeiro, 1961. Conquista. Temas Brasileiros Series. No. 5. Illustrations. Pp. 804. Paper. 1800 cruzeiros.

In 1962 Acre became the twenty-second Brazilian state. Sixty years ago Acre was not even a part of Brazil. The road to statehood was short but tortuous. This admirable history of Dr. Tocantins tells the story of how and why Acre became Brazilian. It is a dramatic history which chronicles the last of the *bandeirantes*, those adventurous rubber gatherers who carried Brazilian territorial claims into the hinterlands of the Amazon. As the author stated, "Without rubber, Acre would not be Brazilian."

Did "manifest destiny" à *brasileira* play a role in the absorption of Acre into Brazil? Professor Tocantins wrote, "Acre did not belong to us and we conquered it unconsciously as a part of the fate of our historical destiny and of the physical and social geography of Bolivia." Fate? Historical destiny? The phraseology must sound familiar to American historians. There seem to be in the history of Acre arresting similarities with the history of Texas. History was not repeating itself, but the parallels provide hours of contemplation for students of comparative history.

Professor Tocantins devotes most of his study to the eventful years 1899-1903, when, under the careful handling of Assis Brasil, Eduardo Lisboa, and Rio-Branco, Acre changed hands from Bolivia to Brazil. The skill of those three Brazilian diplomats was extraordinary and remains a highlight in Brazilian diplomatic history. Because of investments of American businessmen in the Bolivian Syndicate, the State Department fixed its attention on the events in the South American heartland. Rio-Branco turned a potential Brazilian-United States discord into a victory for improved relations between the two nations, the beginning of his policy of approximation with the United States.

Professor Tocantins has written very clearly and dominated the innumerable details which fill the three volumes. The Brazilian point of view is well presented but not to the detriment of Bolivian, Peruvian, or American positions, which are treated with a refreshing impartiality. The author consulted a wide variety of Brazilian and foreign printed sources and archives. In short, this study exemplifies in Brazilian historiography the best qualities of careful writing based on thorough research.

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Santos-Dumont. A Study in Obsession. By PETER WYKEHAM. London, 1962. Putnam and Company, Ltd. Illustrations. Appendix. Bibliography. Index. Pp. 278.

While most Latin Americans and almost any Brazilian will emphatically declare that Alberto Santos-Dumont rather than the Wright Brothers was first to fly, R.A.F. officer Wykeham's book is the first description of this aeronautical pioneer's work to appear in an English-language book since the 1904 translation of a brief autobiography. The book fails to fill entirely this great gap, but fortunately Brazilian volumes contain factual information that nicely complement its main themes.