

Santos-Dumont is studied as a personality as well as an aviator. The author acknowledges advice from several authorities on his subject's mental make-up, a condition aptly capsulized in the sub-title of the book. Santos-Dumont's suicide, which actually stopped fighting briefly in the 1932 uprising against Vargas, was caused by his emotional distress over the warfare uses of "his invention," as well as by an increasingly severe medical state, diagnosed by the author and his medical authorities as sclerosis. The book is original in its analyses along these significant lines.

This book is also important in its attempt to fit Santos-Dumont into his just niche as an aeronautical pioneer. It attempts to strike a balance between the exalted image, with unfavorable shadows ignored, put forth in Brazil, and the unfortunate lack of recognition in this country for a man who indisputably did more than the Wrights to inspire by example the development of aviation. Santos-Dumont achieved considerable success with controlled lighter-than-air designs before his first true aeroplane flight, in France, late in 1906.

A helpful appendix lists and describes the aerial vehicles designed by Alberto Santos-Dumont. For photographic and contemporary journalistic coverage of Santos-Dumont's achievements, the Brazilian works on the aviator are better. These are referred to occasionally in sporadic footnotes that enlighten very slightly. Overall, however, this book is valuable indeed in meeting a great need for a study of an eccentric Brazilian who remains one of the great heroes of his country.

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*Brazil.* By ELIZABETH BISHOP and THE EDITORS OF LIFE. New York, 1962. Time Incorporated. Life World Library. Maps. Illustrations. Appendix. Index. Pp. 160.

The present work on Brazil is another volume in a current series published by *Life*. The purpose of the

series is to acquaint the reader and viewer with the nature of and the principal developments of various countries. There is no effort to be scholarly, but the editors have been careful to select competent writers and assistants. The ability of Miss Bishop to express herself clearly and succinctly and her knowledge of contemporary Brazil contributes much toward making this volume a successful one.

The selection of the pictures is likewise good, and within the purpose of the book they are most effective. Many pictures tell vivid and significant stories in themselves; no written explanation is necessary.

It is surprising how much varied information is included in this brief story of Brazil and its people. There is one area, however, which is somewhat neglected. Political leaders of the past should have at least been listed in the Appendix; it would have been better to have referred in the text to such men as Rio-Branco, Barbosa, Joaquim Nabuco, and others. They may have contributed more to Brazil than the Benjamin Constants or the Deodoro da Fonseca.

There is an Appendix that contains important dates in Brazilian history, a suggested reading list, and important figures in art, architecture, music, and literature.

Within the overall objectives of the series, *Life* has produced an interesting story about Brazil, especially contemporary Brazil.

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#### OTHER BOOKS RECEIVED

*Rise of the Spanish American Republics As Told in the Lives of Their Liberators.* By WILLIAM SPENCE ROBERTSON. New York, 1961. Collier Books. Bibliography. Index. Pp. 348. Paper. \$.95. It is good to have this classic of Latin American History in a most presentable paperback.

*Geopolítica del hambre. Ensayo sobre los problemas alimentarios y demográficos del mundo.* By JOSUÉ DE CAS-