

that "Significantly enough, not a single Communist was elected" (p. 435). Since in the spring of 1931 there were only one thousand Communists and virtually no "fellow-travelers" in Spain, it is quite natural that no Communists were elected.

To sum up, the book is a careful exposition of geography, and of political and diplomatic history. It contains relatively little cultural history, and very little interpretation of Spain's complex spiritual and intellectual heritage.

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*Contemporary Cultures and Societies of Latin America. A Reader in the Social Anthropology of Middle and South America and the Caribbean.* Edited by DWIGHT B. HEATH and RICHARD N. ADAMS. New York, 1965. Random House, Inc. Illustrations. Bibliography. Index. Pp. 586. \$8.95.

*Agrarian Reform in Latin America.* Edited by T. LYNN SMITH. New York, 1965. Alfred A. Knopf, Inc. A Borzoi Book on Latin America. Bibliography. Pp. 206. Paper. \$2.50

Like most collections of articles or excerpts these two compilations are mixed bags. *Contemporary Cultures and Societies of Latin America* will fill many gaps on university reading lists. This is a generous collection of twenty-eight articles grouped into four general categories: "The Delineation of Cultural Entities in Latin America," "Land, Agriculture and Economics," "Social Organization," and "Views of the World." The volume concludes with a selected bibliography, arranged by country, supplementing the references made at the end of each article. Heath and Adams are to be complimented not only for the range and quality of the articles presented, but also for their introductory contributions at the beginning of each section. One reads them with the wish that these had been longer, since they provide an illuminating focus for the material that follows which should prove of interest, particularly for non-anthropologists. The appearance here of articles such as those by Oscar Nuñez del Prado, Mario Vázquez, William Mangin, Gino Germani, and Thales de Azevedo will bring to students' attention valuable analyses which were published in obscure places or which were originally published in Spanish or Portuguese. Two pieces (by Anthony Leeds and Daniel Goldrich) were prepared especially for this volume and have not appeared elsewhere.

T. Lynn Smith's book is a rather curious collection of nineteen articles by fifteen different authors or committees, ranging in time of original publication from 1847 to 1964 and representing Brazil (7), Bolivia (3), Colombia (2), Mexico (2), Chile, Cuba, and Venezuela (1 each), and two general articles. Despite the pretensions of the title Peru, Ecuador, Argentina, Puerto Rico, and the Central American countries are not represented.

The principal uniting feature is that with the exception of the editor all the contributors are Latin Americans. Through them we are given a selective view of what some Latins, past and present, thought about agrarian problems. The opinions and materials set forth, however, are neither new nor unique at the present time and this is especially true of the editor's lengthy Introduction. Here Smith champions the "family farm" and reviews problems of taxation, expropriation, confiscation, levels of living, minifundia, and social stratification. The book may prove useful in providing occasional readings for seminar work, and Smith's translations of some of the older Brazilian materials may be of use to novice historians. The long but spotty bibliography also reflects the omissions noted above.

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*Quatro séculos de latifúndio.* By ALBERTO PASSOS GUIMARÃES. São Paulo, 1964. Editôra Fulgor. Pp. 197. Paper.

For Latin America's largest nation Alberto Passos Guimarães has written a study of a much discussed but frequently misunderstood institution, the latifúndia. In Brazil before Cabral private ownership of the soil did not exist, for Indian property was communal. Martim Afonso de Sousa transplanted the Portuguese system of landholding in 1532, when he began to grant land by *sesmaria* to his followers. Thereafter, the traditional *sesmaria* was used to distribute the land, first along the coast for sugar, then in the interior for cattle raising, and finally in the south for coffee. Small- and medium-sized farms did not appear until the nineteenth century, and they resulted primarily from attempts to encourage European immigration.

According to the author, those small- and medium-sized farms constitute one threat to the latifundistas, but the major blows to the system have come from emancipation, overproduction, World War I, and the Depression. However, agriculture in Brazil is still in a predominately feudal or "pre-capitalist" stage. The author concludes: "In spite of rude shocks suffered throughout its four centuries of