

historians, political scientists, and sociologists, all apparently motivated by the urge to penetrate the roots and consequences of its incursions into politics. Sensitive to the need for refurbishing its image, the Argentine army itself through a newly created bureau (Dirección de Estudios Históricos) has launched a series of scholarly publications designed to illuminate its contributions to the nation's past. The present volume is the first of this series. Its author and director of the bureau, Colonel (Ret.) Augusto G. Rodríguez is a member of the Academia Nacional de Historia and is well known for his studies of Sarmiento as a military man.

Colonel Rodríguez has exploited the military sources at his disposal to produce a compact volume that provides, as its title indicates, a sketch of the army in the period from the rise of Mitre to the collapse of Yrigoyen. This is not a history of the army's political role, and relatively little space is accorded to the involvement of the military in political ventures. Rather the main concern is with the successive transformations in command structure, internal organization, recruitment and training, ordnance, regulations, and order of battle.

Colonel Rodríguez quotes from contemporary letters and reports to make what might have been an arid account highly readable. The book is expository rather than analytical and has no particular axe to grind. It does present in convenient form, however, a wealth of information for understanding the stages through which the heterogeneous elements of the national army after Pavón evolved into the professionally led conscript force of the present century. One learns, for example, that from Mitre to Roca Argentine presidents exercised centralized control over the army, maintaining direct contact with major unit commanders despite the existence of a commander-in-chief. It was Roca who sought to restore the military chain of command and it was largely he who promoted the measures that professionalized the Argentine army.

For anyone interested in the internal history of that institution, this book will be a handy reference work, especially since its brief bibliography lists relevant archives and libraries.

University of Massachusetts

ROBERT A. POTASH

*Partido y poder en la Argentina moderna, 1930-1946.* By ALBERTO CIRIA. Buenos Aires, 1964. Jorge Álvarez. Bibliography. Pp. 337.

A study prepared in 1962-63 under the direction of José Luis Romero at the University of Buenos Aires provides the basis for this

fascinating and often acute analysis of the thirties and early forties in Argentina. For anyone who wishes to delve into the political intrigues and maneuvers of those years and at the same time study the assumptions and judgments of a sensitive and intelligent Marxist writing his own nation's contemporary history this book is required reading.

The first half, four chapters in all, plays heavily on the nationalist themes of treachery, sell-out, and intrigue in reviewing domestic politics and international relations of four presidencies, those of Uriburu, Justo, Ortiz-Castillo, and Perón. The last half of the book comes to grips with basic questions of power politics in its study of political parties, the Church, the armed forces, economic interests, and the labor movement. Ciria indicates that the "parliamentary crisis" of contemporary Argentina existed long before 1946; and that well before Perón the congresses—and as a result the political parties—had ceased to be centers of political power. More effective was the Catholic Church which, although unable to wield political power openly, maintained excellent relations with all governments from Yrigoyen's through Perón's. The increasing political power of the military also became evident during these years, not only in the leading figures and in the reappearance of the same officers in each military crisis but also in important new roles in bureaucracy and industry. Economic interests, national as well as foreign, continued to strengthen their influence and control over government, while labor achieved influence, if not control, during 1943-46. Unfortunately it is with these last two groups that the author is on weakest ground in his sources and analysis. As a result the reader may suffer disillusionment with what otherwise is a challenging and provocative work.

Indiana University

JAMES R. SCOBIE

*Buenos Aires, vida cotidiana y alienación.* By JUAN JOSÉ SEBRELLI. Buenos Aires, 1965. Ediciones Siglo Veinte. Pp. 189. Paper.

*Psicología de la viveza criolla.* By JULIO MAFUD. Buenos Aires, 1965. Américalee. Bibliography. Pp. 375. Paper.

*Los que mandan.* By JOSÉ LUIS DE IMAZ. Buenos Aires, 1964. Editorial Universitaria de Buenos Aires. Tables. Pp. 250. Paper.

*Argentina, sociedad de masas.* By TORCUATO S. DI TELLA, GINO GERMANI, JORGE GRACIARENA ET AL. Buenos Aires, 1965. Editorial Universitaria de Buenos Aires. Tables. Figures. Pp. 284. Paper.

Argentine scholars during the past fifteen years have increasingly