

master and servant was as wide as it is now. Organized welfare work for the humbler classes was more pitifully inadequate than it is at present, and there was little of the spirit that finds expression in such directions. Labor was prohibited by drastic laws from combining for its own betterment. Patriarchal reminiscences of the former slave economy survived here and there, but they were mere vanishing traces. Initiative and the technique of progress have come from the United States, though in no small part through the hands of Porto Ricans.

In 1898, America's war fever begot visions similar to those of two decades later. We thought we were saving a world for democracy and blessing the oppressed with self-determination. Our public men, and our army and navy officers—not yet hard boiled by overseas' experience—imagined that by some magic like that the preceding generation had attributed to the fourteenth and fifteenth amendments, we could suddenly make over Spain's former subjects into our own image. We promised more than we could fulfil. They may thank us for some aspects of our failure. Whatever they may think of our political system, they are uncomfortable under the preponderant monetary power of our economic system. Dr. Diffie and his associate, stimulated by this dissatisfaction, measure the difference between these early promises of ours and what we have achieved, and call it a broken pledge. Literally, they are right. But Captain and Mrs. Van Deusen, with their happier conclusions, have likewise caught a true message from Porto Rico.

VICTOR S. CLARK.

Library of Congress.

The Northern Republics of South America. Ecuador, Colombia, and Venezuela. By KENNETH G. GRUBB. (London: World Dominion Press, 1931. Pp. 151. Maps. \$2.00.)

Paraguay. Its Cultural Heritage, Social Conditions, and Educational Problems. By ARTHUR ELWOOD ELLIOTT. (New York: Teachers College, 1931. Pp. xiv, 210. \$2.50.)

Both of these volumes concern Protestant missionary and church activities in South America, and both are written with rather definite a priori conceptions. The first volume by Mr. Grubb, who is the author of other books published by the World Dominion Movement, is

the kind of literature which most Hispanic Americans do not like and which, in consequence, makes for ill-feeling toward the United States and its religious imperialism.

The work of organized Protestant missions began about a generation ago in both Ecuador and Venezuela, while in Colombia the work is still in its infancy. Ecuador, according to Mr. Grubb, has now been quite completely covered by evangelistic missions, as has Venezuela, although in the latter state there are about ten times as many communicants as in the former. But this percentage represents only about 2,310 individuals out of a total population in Venezuela of some 3,000,000 people. In fact some may be startled to learn that out of nearly 13,000,000 inhabitants in the three states there are only about 4,000 communicants all told. While such facts offer concrete proof of the apparent uselessness of attempting to establish foreign missions in certain parts of South America, the editor of the *World Dominion Survey* believes that there is cause for rejoicing even in this number, and he states that plans are being made to begin "a much more aggressive evangelistic work" in these countries.

Mr. Grubb's volume is divided into three parts each dealing with one of the states. In each section are found some general and frequently aimless remarks about the history, and the social and economic affairs; and religious conditions are considered in the light of possible evangelizing of the people. An appendix of thirteen parts containing tabulated statistics deals with evangelistic occupation and missions, and with the work of Bible societies. Five valuable maps and a poor index complete the work. For the general student of Hispanic American affairs, this volume will have little appeal despite the fact that it contains much valuable miscellaneous information of a social nature.

The second book is more scholarly and less proselyting in character, owing largely to the fact that it is a dissertation. As stated in the introduction this work surveys

Paraguay's outlook as to health, economic conditions, social organization and educational accomplishments, and upon the basis of facts found [it aims] to determine as accurately as possible what the objectives of a mission school in Paraguay should be, measuring these with the best objectives of present-day public education in the United States.

In a word this thesis is a brief study in missionary education in Paraguay based upon the questionable premise "that missionary effort

seeks to supplement public effort in the countries where it is undertaken."

Pursuing this a priori concept, the author reviews the history of Paraguay briefly, and examines the health of its people, their economic and social life, and their public and private education. Although the treatment in several chapters (particularly X, XI, XII) is theoretical in nature a very good picture is presented of contemporary Paraguayan life. There are no maps and no index, but a useful working bibliography and forty-six statistical tables add considerable value to the study.

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Jamaica of To-day. By A. HYATT VERRILL. (New York: Dodd, Mead and Co., 1931. Pp. xii, 232. \$2.50.)

West Indies of To-day. By A. HYATT VERRILL. (New York: Dodd, Mead and Co., 1931. Pp. viii, 298. \$2.50.)

Just forty years ago Frederick A. Ober, a then well-known writer on the West Indies, published *In the Wake of Columbus*. In 1923, Mr. A. Hyatt Verrill, known today by his numerous books on the West Indies, published in the same spirit *In the Wake of the Buccaneers*. Mr. Verrill has just published *West Indies of To-day* and *Jamaica of To-day*, which take the place of his earlier work *The Book of the West Indies*, which appeared in 1917.

For years Mr. Verrill has been bringing to the notice of his fellow-countrymen in a suitable manner the beauties and other attractions of the West Indies as a winter resort, which he is well able to do owing to his almost lifelong residence in the neighbourhood of the Caribbean, from the jungle to the sea coast; and when he is not doing scientific work he uses his pen to the advantage of the general reader. With Mr. Verrill in America and Sir Algernon Aspinall in England singing their praises, the Isles of the Antilles should with each succeeding year receive more visitors of the English-speaking races, and perchance more settlers.

In his earlier work, Mr. Verrill included Bermuda in the West Indies: now he has omitted it. This accords with the views of the Bermudians, who, except when it pleases them to join in West Indian