

Guzmán Blanco, the anti-clerical legislation of the dictator stands with little change. In Venezuela today, there is a pseudo-union of Church and State under the Law of the Patronage, for the anti-clericals regard this as the best means of maintaining surveillance over a Church rendered innocuous.

Dr. Watters has made a distinct contribution to the historical bibliography of Hispanic America. Her handling of a difficult question is critical and unbiased. She appreciates the virtues and the weaknesses of clericals and anti-clericals alike. A case in point is her estimate of Archbishop Méndez, whose true worth was depreciated by nationalistic historians. The care and thoroughness with which the study was prepared is evidenced by a remarkably complete bibliography.

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Modern Hispanic America. Edited by A. CURTIS WILGUS with a Foreword by LLOYD HECK MARVIN. Volume I in *Studies in Hispanic American Affairs*. (Washington, D. C., The George Washington University Press, 1933. Pp. ix, 628.)

It is eminently fitting that the national capitol should have a "Center of Inter-American Studies" and the sponsors of this enterprise at The George Washington University are to be commended for their effort in this direction. This volume, the initial in a series, makes available the bulk of the material presented by a group of specialists in the Hispanic American field before a "Seminar Conference on Hispanic American Affairs" held during the summer-session period at The George Washington University in 1932.

Twenty-three lectures are contained in the volume, setting forth the views of sixteen different lecturers on the current scene in Hispanic America. The first four papers are introductory in character. Following a brief survey by Professor Wilgus, in the opening lecture, of various manifestations of interest in things Hispanic American in this country, three able lectures by Professor Mary Wilhelmine Williams provide an historical background in a survey of the colonial period. The remaining papers range the entire modern field, from an analysis of political life, through discussions of the economic picture, religious, literary, diplomatic, and social affairs, to a terminal summary view of modern civilization to the southward.

In view of the conditions under which the lectures were given, a considerable quantity of the contents of the various papers is, of necessity, not new material, but an interesting exposition of known and, in some cases elementary, fact. For this very reason it should appeal to a wide audience of general readers who would fight shy of the more orderly textbook offerings with their more formidable bibliographical apparatus. Nevertheless, much that breaks new ground in fact, or novel and stimulating point of view appears in these pages, which should justify their acquisition by the more advanced student. Dr. E. Gil Borges, Dr. William R. Manning, W. F. Montavon, and Miss Heloise Brainerd, approaching the problem from outside the strictly academic setting, contribute studies respectively, of continental solidarity, of the attitude of the United States toward the insurgent Spanish colonies, of religious life in modern Hispanic America, and of modern education in the same area. Dr. James A. Robertson, the editor of the REVIEW, draws on his wide knowledge and acquaintance with men and literature within the field for a discerning essay on intellectual coöperation between the Americas.

It is perhaps invidious to single out certain lectures for comment, but since they are so numerous the reviewer has little choice in the matter, as a mere listing would be unsatisfactory. In what might be termed the academic group of lectures, the two delivered by Professor C. K. Jones on modern Hispanic American Literary development gathers together the main movements in an admirable synthesis. Professor C. F. Jones compresses the salient features of Caribbean and South American economic problems into two clear, if highly selective, lectures. Professor J. Fred Rippy makes a plea for further research in European relationships with Hispanic America, using the European archives, in one lecture, and illustrates his point in another which draws on British materials to show the interrelation of British bondholders' interest, as revealed in the reports of the Council of the Foreign Bondholders, and the Roosevelt corollary of the Monroe Doctrine. The lectures of Professor Tansill, on the European background of the Monroe Doctrine, of Professor Nichols, on Guano diplomacy, and of Professor Clevon, on modern political life, are cast in article form with citations, footnotes, and liberal quotation, and probably represent revision from the original less formal lecture presentation. The generalizations of Professor Sears are too general and too casual to warrant inclusion in this volume in the opinion of the reviewer.

It is to be regretted that all the papers included were not compelled to conform to some one editorial standard in that, as printed, they vary from the corrected stenographic reports of lectures, subsequently reviewed by the lecturer, to the carefully composed articles noted above. While the closely knit lecture form lends itself to classroom interest and can be perused with greater ease from the general reader point of view, it decreases the permanent value of the offering and leaves an impression of journalistic ephemeralism in the serious reader. However, as first fruits of a pioneering attempt the volume is distinctly worth while, and subsequent publications can be improved by a requirement that the written lectures be submitted in some standard form to the director of the seminar before they are delivered. There are some minor slips in editing and proofreading. The volume has an index.

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The Disaster of Darien: the Story of the Scots Settlement and the Causes of its Failure, 1699-1701. By FRANCIS RUSSELL HART, F. R. G. S. (Boston and New York: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1929. Pp. xi, 433. \$5.00.)

The Company of Scotland trading to Africa and the Indies. By GEORGE PRATT INSH, M.A., D.Litt., F. E. I. S. (London and New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1932. Pp. 343. \$4.00.)

The Company of Scotland Trading to Africa and the Indies, or the Darien Company as it later came to be designated, is not a topic new to investigators: the venture in its several phases has been recounted in many forms. Yet the author of each of these books gives justifiable motives for further exploration of the subject: Mr. Hart, that he has drawn upon unused Spanish sources, largely but not wholly found in the Archives of the Indies at Seville, for a better understanding of Spanish opposition to the Caledonia settlement; Dr. Insh, that now for the first time it is possible to weave into a definitive study the accumulation of a large amount of fresh and significant source material which has been made available within the last decade. Among the important sections of such material Dr. Insh mentions Mr. Hart's volume, his own studies, and the unbound miscellaneous papers of the company.