

of the books under review. Certainly its editor could greatly have enlarged and improved his annotations of these items had he then at his disposal the findings of Mr. Hart and Dr. Insh.

LEO F. STOCK.

Carnegie Institution of Washington.

*The Two Americas: An Interpretation.* By STEPHEN DUGGAN. (New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1934. Pp. xx, 277. Index. \$1.75.)

An imposing list of "outstanding authorities in the field of Latin American relations" given in the Preface to this interpretation of the two Americas should favorably introduce this little book to the American reading public; and while this list may disarm the critic, the reviewer must, however, make certain comments which a careful reading of the book suggest.

The author's personal observations on a familiar subject would be worth while and readable. This book is. It is, however, more the performance of the pleasing platformist than the reasoned presentation of a documented book. In this sense, and in this sense alone, it is disappointing. The ambitious title of the book in comparison with the treatment within its covers compels me to make this criticism. The author may have had a similar thought back of his apologetic line "To the making of books there is no end." Therein he himself seems to question the need of a book of this character, as all writers must and do on the eve of putting to print their personal reminiscences and observations.

Dr. Duggan's purpose is, however, laudable, and his performance will be most welcome to a large sector of the reading public. He has written his book, somewhat hastily, perhaps, for a subject that suggests more serious treatment, with the idea or desire of service in creating sympathetic understanding between the peoples of the Americas. In that sense the book is not at all disappointing. Many similar books have been written to that end, and many more will be. Few, however, have and will have the sincerity of purpose and the success of performance to be expected in a book by one of the training and travel experience of Dr. Duggan.

There are only seven chapters in the book. In these chapters the author deals with the backgrounds and resultant civilizations of the two Americas; with their social institutions and economic transformation; with problems in our Hispanic-American relations; and with

Pan Americanism and anti-Americanism. The chapters on social institutions, especially on the school, and on inter-American relations are easily the best. The author is here more sure of his observations which are accordingly more enlightening and convincing. For the general reader, unfamiliar with contributing forces to the life and culture of either America, or of both, the chapter on backgrounds is too cursory; too impressionistic and incomplete the chapter on economic transformation. The author's pages, however, on "Latin America, the United States, and the League of Nations" may well be called a journalistic classic.

Obviously, any book with the sub-title "An Interpretation" will contain much that is controversial. The author's opinions are rarely obtrusively offending but they are sometimes misleading, especially when the opinion in another setting seems to contradict a previous statement. If the author is seemingly contradictory here, or even superficial, it is due to the treatment that this type of book requires. His observations in regard to the Church, to government by revolution, and to the student movement are in the main those of most cultured travelers in Hispanic America. Owing, doubtless, also to scope and not to desire the book lacks balance in treatment of subject matter, although the author's sympathies and understanding are evidently with the temperate climate countries of South America. Furthermore, his treatment of a favored Hispanic America leaves the reader at times with an impression of the forces and leaders in Anglo-Saxon American life that are not historically fair. His seeming sympathy with current social philosophy may be responsible for some of these opinions in regard to the United States. Some of these all too brief opinions—only a phrase long sometimes—have no place in a book that would give a true picture of the real United States to the Hispanic Americans of today. Their expression can only thwart the purpose this book would serve.

GLEN LEVIN SWIGGETT.

Washington, D. C.