

able statistics, has included a useful bibliography, and prepared some excellent maps. The pretentiousness of the format and general presentation should not be allowed to draw attention away from the excellence of the manuscript.

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The Story of the Americas: The Discovery, Settlement, and Development of the New World. By LELAND DEWITT BALDWIN. (New York: Simon and Schuster, 1943. Pp. x, 720. \$3.50.)

By its publishers the volume under review is termed history which "will recall the characteristics of the great American historians of the nineteenth century." Its author, Dr. Baldwin, is a native-born American, a graduate of an outstanding university, a professor of history, a curator of historical documents, and a metropolitan editor. The American reader finishes the book with a sense of sadness. The question repeatedly arises concerning what its intended purpose is or what was the object to be gained by writing such a treatise. If the author were a foreigner imbued with anti-American ideas, then perhaps one could understand much of the phraseology.

In 700 pages, the author undertakes to relate the history of the Western Hemisphere from prehistoric times to the present. Obviously only highlights are touched. Of the space, 465 pages are devoted to the colonial period—Latin America 337, the United States 69, Canada 59; the American revolution occupies 37 pages and those of Latin America 34; the American national period is treated in 95 pages, and that of Latin America in 43 pages; and finally 26 pages are devoted to inter-American relations. To say the least, this is an interesting distribution of the emphasis in the discussion.

The chapter headings are apparently designed to be spectacular and sensational. For example, there are "Storm Rides the Andes," "Death Stalks the Pampas," "Caribbean Cockpit," "Prelude to Dixie," and "Roll On, Saxon Tide!" Some are subject to definite criticism. "Corsarios Luteranos" as applied to the colonial conflicts of the European powers is incorrect and misleading; "Reign of Cod and God" to relate New England development certainly borders on the sacrilegious; and "The Colossus of the North," referring to the United States of America, is the adoption of a derogatory appellation used by certain neighbors to the South of the Rio Grande. Perhaps also from other quarters objection would be made to "The Colossus of the South" to describe Brazil and "Imperialism—the South American

Way" to characterize national development, particularly of Argentina.

An examination of the index reveals further the character of the treatment and indicates how the emphasis is placed. Bolívar is referred to on fifteen pages, while Washington's name only appears on ten. San Martín is mentioned twice. Spain, Peru, Brazil, Mexico, and England each has more entries than the United States of America. Buenos Aires appears on 25 pages, while New York is on only 5. Moreover, the index discloses that American history in this volume is written with no mention of Valley Forge, the Articles of Confederation, the Bill of Rights, Gettysburg, or the Emancipation Proclamation. The only reference to the Declaration of Independence is that it was "read and admired" by leaders of the Hispanic American movement for independence. The index does not contain the names of John Hancock, John Adams, Clay, Webster, Lincoln, Grant, Bryan, Coolidge, Morse, or Edison!

Perhaps the author's method can be illustrated by quotations relating to a few phases of American history. In dealing with an aspect of economic development the author opines:

It is one of the tragedies of the United States that the tilling instinct of the farmer was so deeply implanted that it drove him to plow the Great Plains. It is an area that would much better have been reserved to the Indian, the buffalo, and the cow boy.

His summary of the history of the United States of America reads as follows:

Until our very recent coming of age, the United States represented an historical amalgam, a rather amusing combination of plodding entrepreneur, Holy Roller evangelist, stick-up man, and international fat boy. The rôle may have indicated a split personality; or perhaps, even more, a psychological immaturity.

The following paragraph perhaps manifests the author's method more clearly:

The North American bases his life upon facts, however poorly interpreted, while the South American bases his life upon emotion and impression. The cities of the former may be ugly but they at least have pure water, sanitation, schools, and comfortable workmen's homes; the Hispanic city must first be beautiful, or rather it must be embellished with an opera house and a university; central heating and plumbing can wait their time. The United States, with its widespread educational system, may have cultural roots that are wide rather than deep; the South has cultural roots that are far deeper but limited to the upper strata.

The comparisons here made are both inaccurate and misrepresentative of actual facts.

The author is inclined to feature anti-American writers. He often takes an attitude or expresses opinions which appear to be fictional assumptions rather than historical statements. There is no bibliography, although mention is made of thirteen American historians, and four Latin Americans. In view of the foregoing, it can hardly be concluded that Dr. Baldwin's volume is a well-balanced and scientific historical survey of "the discovery, settlement and development of the New World."

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Archivo epistolar del Gral. Domingo Caycedo. Tomo I, 1804-1830. [Biblioteca de Historia Nacional, Vol. LXVII.] (Bogotá: Editorial A. B. C., 1943. Pp. xxiii, 308.)

Academia Colombiana de Historia. *Conferencias pronunciadas por sus autores en la Sala de la Academia en el año 1943.* (Bogotá: Editorial de la Libería Voluntad, 1943. Pp. 351.)

These two volumes are the latest additions to the already long and outstanding list of publications of the Colombian Academy of History. The *Archivo epistolar del Gral. Domingo Caycedo* comprises 310 letters addressed to Caycedo during the years 1804-1830, and is issued in commemoration of the one hundredth anniversary of his death. Caycedo was a leading citizen of Bogotá, was active in the movement for independence and played an important rôle in Colombian history in the difficult years following 1830. The excellent summary of the life of Caycedo given in the introduction is by Dr. Guillermo Hernández de Alba, who also made the selection of the letters to be included. Dr. Enrique Ortega Ricuarte directed the transcription and publication. The third member of the commission in charge of the preparation of the volume was Sr. Ignacio Rivas Putnam, who possesses many of the original Caycedo documents which he placed at the disposition of the Academy. The letters deal with many topics relating particularly to events in connection with the achievement of independence and the activities of Caycedo as governor of the province of Neiva, chargé d'affaires of Central America and Senator of the Republic.

The volume entitled *Conferencias* consists of papers read before the academy in special sessions held by the Junta de Festejos Patrios in 1943. The fifteen studies treat various subjects of which about half are biographical in character. Most interesting are the five following discourses: "Elogio de los historiadores Henao y Arrubla"