

## BOOK NOTICES

*Invincible Jaén.* By LUIS ANTONIO EGUIGUREN. (Lima: Imprenta Torres Aguirre, 1943. Pp. 830.)

Dr. Luis Antonio Eguiguren has written this excellent book presenting documentary proof of the rights of Peru to the old region of Jaén, which undoubtedly is a very good addition to other works regarding the same matter.

I am not going to enter into tedious comment about the detailed documents the book contains. However, I do say that he who is interested in the documentary aspect of the border dispute between Ecuador and Peru may find here not only the rights of Peru to the disputed soil but many interesting descriptions of the region and its ancient history, and also much on the liberation of the South American countries. The reader may find, too, many opinions of Bolívar, San Martín, La Mar, and other liberators which give a good idea of their outstanding statesmanship.

It seems to me that the most interesting aspect of Eguiguren's book—aside from his documentary support—is that it has been written without acrimony or petty nationalism. Looking to continental unity, the author judges that any sacrifice made for any one of our countries is worthwhile, and this is emphatically asserted when he says

even after the bloody struggle and the Byzantine arguments have ended happily for the culture of both sister countries and for the peace of America, I consider it my duty to show by means of unpretentious data, which I consider useful, the territorial rights of my country.

But Eguiguren is not only an historian but a politician as well, and that is why he not only analyzes the boundary dispute between Peru and Ecuador from the point of view of Peruvian rights but also considers it in relation to the political affairs of both countries. And he says that the dictators have had a lot to do with maintaining the quarrel unsolved in order to take political advantage of the situation.

However, Eguiguren does not deal with this alone. Revealing his excellent statesmanship, in the final chapter of his book he considers "What happened and what is to be done." Referring to Jaén itself, he considers that this province has to be more developed in

order to complement the legal and sentimental triumph of Peru. And then he asserts that all the suffering of the people of this land is merely a part of what the whole country suffers in general due to the absence of a real democracy and a sound public administration.

On the other hand, and in regard to the international situation and the present war, Eguiguren claims that in the same manner that the war is being fought on the far battle fronts in defense of the democratic principles, it is also necessary to fight for them in the Western Hemisphere or, in other words, to clean out our own backyard.

Consequently, Eguiguren's book is not only a documentary proof of Peru's rights in her dispute with Ecuador, or a source of information about Peruvian history, but also an accurate defense of the principles for which the civilized men of our day are fighting.

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*A política exterior do Brasil (1930-1942)*. By JAYME DE BARROS. 2a. Edição correta e aumentada. (Rio de Janeiro: Zelio Valverde, Caixa Postal 2956, 1943. Pp. 308. Paper.)

This is the second edition of a pretty disappointing book on diplomacy under President Vargas. Most of it seems to have been written from memory by a journalist who has the knack of the well-rounded though empty phrase. His sources are nearly all printed and official, and consequently very little of his narrative tells anything new or off the record. Only occasionally does he cite a document from the Itamarati Archive or give a personal observation. He gives vent in his introduction to sweeping generalizations that leave the historian aghast. The *Paulistas*, for example, were responsible for "toda a grandeza do Brasil"; Brazilian diplomacy began with Alexandre de Gusmão; a great gulf separates America from Europe: Long live America! Rio Branco appears as the paragon of diplomats, incapable of doing anything not dictated by facts; yet the baron's stubbornness in the handling of the dispute with Britain is not explained. Glibly the author tells us that Snr. Vargas has given new life to Brazilian diplomacy. The old school, which produced such men as Joaquim Nabuco and Oliveira Lima, has given way to the new; henceforth ministers and ambassadors will in the main look after Brazil's export business. Snr. Barros makes a fetish out of the messianic mission of the New World, and believes that Brazil, by cutting itself off from Europe, will be able to make an original contribution to civilization. Obviously, Snr. Barros shares