

*El Paraná y los primeros cronistas.* By AGUSTÍN ZAPATA GOLLÁN. [Publicaciones del Departamento de Estudios Etnográficos y Coloniales, No. 2.] (Santa Fe, R.A.: Ministerio de Gobierno e Instrucción Pública, 1942. Pp. 40.)

The distinguished director of the Departamento de Estudios Etnográficos y Coloniales of Santa Fe, Argentina, has thus far written the first two publications of that institute. This is publication number two, the other one being *Caminos de América*. It was first published in the review of the University of the Littoral. It contains forty pages of text, a table of contents, and a bibliography of eighteen works, selections from which works make up the body of the text. In addition there are some photographic reproductions of the flora and barrancas of the Paraná.

Paraná was the name the Indians gave to the entire river from its mouth in the Atlantic, but since the time of Sebastian Cabot it has also been called Río de la Plata. But the name Paraná has stuck to that portion of the river from the delta and the name La Plata only to its mouth.

Descriptions of the Paraná are taken from Pigafetta, Diego García, Luis Ramírez, who came with Cabot, and from others. The first concrete notices of the Paraná are derived from the men of Cabot. The most numerous direct notices are taken from Luis Ramírez and deal with the *tormentas*, the width of the river, the fish, islands, winds, flora and fauna, and fertility of the soil. Many other comments and reports relating to the same topics come from Pedro López de Souza (1-30) and Alonso de Santa Cruz. The final series of selections is taken from Oviedo y Valdés' *Historia*. Extensive use is also made of Ulrich Schmidel's *Viaje al Río de la Plata* (translation) published in Buenos Aires in 1903 and Medina's *Viajes de Diego García de Moquer*.

Zapata's work is not necessarily confined to extracts from the first chroniclers of the Paraná. It is a good and convenient summary of their works, very factual, and unfortunately not of great interest to the average reader.

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*O período da restauração nos mares da metrópole, no Brasil e em Angola.* By A. BOTELHO DE SOUSA. (Lisboa: Divisão de Publicações e Biblioteca, Agência Geral das Colónias, 1940. Pp. 64. 5 escudos.)

Still another historical work of the nationalist school, prepared in honor of the Portuguese centennial celebrations of 1940, is this