

*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

brief account of Portuguese naval engagements fought between the years 1640, when the monarchy was restored in Portugal, and 1654, when the Dutch were driven out of North Brazil. Rear-Admiral Sousa has added nothing new to our knowledge of the subject he has chosen, but he has, in fluent language, summarized a long and complicated story. This summary of a crucial period, for students who are not too familiar with its naval side, will prove very useful.

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*Martim Soares Moreno, fundador do Seará, iniciador do Maranhão e do Pará, herói da restauração do Brasil contra franceses e holandeses.* By AFRÂNIO PEIXOTO. (Lisboa: Agência Geral das Colónias, Divisão de Publicações e Biblioteca, 1940. Pp. 55. 5 escudos.)

Martim Soares Moreno founded Seará in 1611 and discovered Maranhão and Pará for the Portuguese. He drove the French from Maranhão in 1615, resisted the Dutch in Seará in 1624, fought them in Recife and Pernambuco in 1633. History loses trace of him in 1648. To this valiant warrior to whom the North of Brazil owes so much Afrânio Peixoto pays grateful tribute on the occasion of the Portuguese double centenary of 1940. In a few pages that show what the Portuguese language can be in the hands of a master, he makes of Moreno a symbolic figure, who devoted his life to Brazil and who created a unity and a nationality out of Indians, Negroes, native-born Brazilians, and Portuguese as they joined to drive the invader from Brazil.

ALEXANDER MARCHANT.

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*La libertad del comercio en la Nueva España en la segunda década del Siglo XIX.* [Publication of the Archivo Histórico de Hacienda.] (Mexico, D.F.: Secretaría de Hacienda y Crédito Público, Dirección de Estudios Financieros, 1943. Pp. 203.)

In connection with the organization of the Archivo Histórico de Hacienda in Mexico an important program of documentary publication has been undertaken. The volume under review is the first of a series which is to consist of three additional volumes in 1943 and one per month in 1944. Particularly impressed with the value of making the documents known, the Ministry has employed the more inexpensive method of offset printing in the publication.