

El catecismo político cristiano. By RICARDO DONOSO. (Santiago de Chile: Imprenta Universitaria, 1943. Pp. 121.)

During the Spanish-American revolutionary period considerable use was made of political catechisms to spread the new doctrines regarding government. In this small volume Ricardo Donoso, the director of the Archivo Nacional de Chile, has given some general considerations on this type of propaganda literature and made a particular study of one of the most noteworthy examples. A careful investigation respecting *El catecismo político cristiano* has revealed adulteration of the text in previous printings and error as to the authorship. From internal and external evidence Sr. Donoso concludes that Dr. Jaime de Zudáñez, "a fervent republican," born in Bolivia, was the author, who used the pseudonym José Amor de la Patria.

In addition to the historico-critical essay the volume contains the true text of the *Catecismo político cristiano* as well as the texts of two other pamphlets entitled *Catecismo o despertador patriótico, cristiano y político* and *Catecismo público para la instrucción de los neofitos*. The last is presented in facsimile and a number of title pages are also reproduced. A brief bibliography is included. The volume is a valuable contribution to an interesting phase of the political activity in Spanish America during the early part of the nineteenth century.

ROSCOE R. HILL.

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El eco de los Andes. (Mendoza: Instituto de Investigaciones Históricas, Universidad Nacional de Cuyo, Argentina, 1943. Unpaginated. Pp. 252.)

The Instituto de Investigaciones Históricas of the National University of Cuyo, at Mendoza, Argentina, has published as its first contribution a facsimile edition of one of the earliest provincial newspapers. The *Eco de los Andes* first appeared on September 23, 1824, and sixty-one numbers and one supplement were issued, generally at weekly intervals. A collection comprising all but six numbers is in the possession of Senator Antonio Santamarina. The condition of the paper and the character of the typography did not permit very clear reproduction but nevertheless the reader is able to appreciate the nature and contents of the publication.

The interesting introduction, well documented from the records of the Archivo Administrativo e Histórico de Mendoza, is by the

director of the Institute, Sr. Juan Draghi Lucero. This sketches the history of the newspaper, discusses its general content, and indicates its cultural significance. An examination of the numbers reveals that the principal topics considered included politics, religion, and current events, particularly the progress of the revolution against Spain. The only supplement issued, February 2, 1825, contains the text of the capitulation of Ayacucho. Complaints of subscribers regarding the policy of *El Eco* combined with financial difficulties caused the suspension of publication with the number for December 25, 1825. There is a foreword by Professor Julio César Raffo de la Reta. The Institute is to be congratulated upon this valuable addition to Argentine historiography.

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Antología de periodistas cubanos. By RAFAEL SOTO PAZ. (Habana: Empresa Editora de Publicaciones, 1943. Pp. 256. \$1.20.)

Cuba's first newspaper appeared in 1764 to survive only a few months. After the establishment of the *Gaceta de la Havana* in 1782, however, the island has never been without a periodical, and since the appearance of the *Papel periódico de la Havana* in 1790 there have been publications of literary merit carrying contributions from the ablest writers. *El Diario de la Marina*, founded in 1832, is still a flourishing enterprise. Some have lasted only a few years, or even months, but many of the best writings have appeared in these short-lived publications. A complete anthology of Cuban journalists would be a valuable but cumbersome work; consequently Señor Soto Paz has selected thirty-five writers whom he considers representative of epochs, styles, idealogies, and sections, giving a biographical sketch of each writer followed by a sample of his writings. For making his choice he has laid down the following rather strict rules:

Todo aquel que fundó más de una publicación, figuró como redactor de varios organos de prensa, dió a su obra literaria un *cachet* periodístico, es decir, el que insistió durante el curso de su vida en otorgarle a esta rama de actividad sus conocimientos, su vertiente expositiva.

En lo que ha sido severo el autor es en lo que podría llamarse concepto de periodista *enteramente cubana*, o sea, los que además de nacer en esta tierra, en nuestro ambiente desarrollaron su función periodística.

Within the limits adopted, the selections are excellent, but the field is made too narrow to allow a complete representation of Cuban journalism. Wide gaps are left by the exclusion of writers who are