

of the past. There is little evidence in this array of books of any awareness of or interest in the more rationalistic philosophies growing out of the experimentalist approach to knowledge which were exciting contemporary Europe and were even then penetrating into the Spanish-American colonies. The comparatively restricted number of disciplines represented in Dr. Tordesilla's personal library is also disappointing for it does not appear that the learned professor was widely read in history, art, and literature. His collection of books would suggest that the remote colony of Chile was not within the orbit of the diffusion of the *belles lettres* or of the general humanities of Spain or its viceroalties in the New World, an impression which is not sustained by a study of a few extant book-lists of an earlier period. But all additions to our available knowledge of the spread of Spanish and European literary culture in colonial Hispanic America are useful for an ultimate synthesis of the subject.

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*Primeros años de dominación española en la Luisiana.* By VICENTE RODRÍGUEZ CASADO. (Madrid: Instituto Gonzalo Fernández de Oviedo, 1942. Pp. 497.)

The facts in the case of Juan Antonio Ulloa's administration in Spanish Louisiana and the rebellion which resulted in his ouster are well known. There is, however, some disagreement on interpretation. In 1932 James Winston wrote: "Until all records of the so-called 'trial' now reposing among the archives of Spain are made available it will not be possible to pass a final verdict upon the responsibility or culpability of the various participants involved." It is just that mass of unpublished evidence that Señor Vicente Rodríguez Casado gives us in his excellent volume entitled *Primeros años de dominación española en la Luisiana*.

He introduces his text, which occupies 350 of the 497 pages, with a brief discussion of Louisiana up to the time of the appointment of Ulloa as governor of the province. In the second chapter he sketches the life and character of Ulloa. In this he follows the work of Dr. Whitaker with a few minor additions. In a series of chapters which follow he gives a detailed analysis of Ulloa's administrative problems. Specifically he discusses the fiscal and economic problems, the costs of governing Louisiana, the Acadian settlers, etc.

Señor Rodríguez Casado entertains the thesis that the protracted French laxity in governing an increasingly turbulent and motley population was the major basis for the rebellion which overthrew

Ulloa. Therefore he places considerable emphasis upon the weakness of the French governors and the pernicious influence of the Conseil Suprême. This influential body constituted the bulwark of the enemies of Spain. Led by La Frenière, it was a powerful instrument against the Spanish régime. Dilatory actions of Spain and the weakness and ineptitude of Ulloa added to French effrontery. This, augmented by economic and commercial crises all but brought ruin to Louisiana.

La Frenière and his family took the leadership against Spanish authority while the residence of the ambitious Procurador General Foucault became the clearing house of all dissenters. The details of the plots, uprising, and expulsion of the governor are sketched in minute detail.

In the final analysis of the rebellion, Señor Rodríguez states that the source of the trouble is deeper than the personal incompatibility of Ulloa and the colonists. Nor is it found in the patriotism of the Frenchmen or the arbitrary conduct of the governor. Rather the real roots were in "the great difference of criteria which existed between Spain and the rebellious subjects." The distinguished persons of Louisiana were found to be influenced by the contemporaneous English and French philosophy. "Liberty," observes the author, "conceived without God and delimited only by the rights of other men is scarcely compatible with our long preserved concept of authority."

The diverse problems which formed the basis of the rebellion became increasingly difficult under the leadership of La Frenière and the Conseil, or as Rodríguez heads it "The Republic of Louisiana." Failing to gain the support of France or England, the colony became politically and financially bankrupt. The return of Spanish authority under General Alejandro O'Reilly with plenty of men to back up his authority in contrast to Ulloa's pitifully weak force was witnessed with but few regrets.

Señor Rodríguez is the only scholar who has attempted to portray the reaction of the European capitals to the Louisiana insurrection. The cause of the colonists was near success as the Spanish court debated returning the province to France. The proximity and activity of the British in Florida, however, was the deciding factor. Officially, France assumed an attitude of complete disinterestedness because of her desire to maintain the Family Compact. Conversations in Britain netted little except that Pittman later expressed regret that the governor of Florida had not been furnished with

enough men to have secured the independence of Louisiana. As a bulwark for Mexico, Louisiana was too important to Spain to let it go.

Although written in clear Spanish, this volume is intended, I believe, for the scholar and not so much for the general reader, for it is bogged down in minutiae. Señor Rodríguez gives no formal bibliography nor has he consulted the voluminous French archival documentation. It appears that he has relied upon Villiers du Terrage for the French side of the story. He fails to cite most of the many books on Louisiana written in English. Equally, he ignores American professional publications with the exception of *THE HISPANIC AMERICAN HISTORICAL REVIEW*.

He has based his work upon manuscript materials, some known and others unknown. He draws chiefly upon Legajo 3883 of Sección de Estado in the Archivo Histórico Nacional in Madrid where the author resides, and he analyzes the parts used (Appendix I). By far the most important contribution of Rodríguez' book to the scholar is the additional testimony contained in the Archivo Histórico Nacional, Sección Consejos de Indias, Legajo 20854, heretofore unused and difficult of access to American scholars. Rodríguez in Appendix II analyzes the most important documents contained in these *autos criminales* and reproduces several lengthy excerpts from this source, chiefly consisting of declarations of witnesses and confessions of men involved in the trial. Manuscripts Nos. 19246 and 19248 in the Biblioteca Nacional which he lists in Appendix IV are equally unknown. In addition, Rodríguez has used a few well-known legajos of documents in the Archivo General de Indias in Seville, particularly Audiencia de Santo Domingo, 2542 and 2543 both of which have long been known and used by American scholars. Although Rodríguez has used other sources he has substituted these appendices for a bibliography. Some of his other sources are cited in footnotes.

Vicente Rodríguez Casado's book won the 1941 prize granted by the Instituto Gonzalo Fernández de Oviedo of the Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas and was published by that Institute. As a prize study, the book lacks the sense of the dramatic and the account, overburdened with detail and similar in many respects to an *ex parte* judicial case, is much less colorful than others. The author seems to feel that at all times he must construct a case for Ulloa and against the colonists.

The book contains a table of contents, list of 54 illustrations, most of which are not directly relevant to his text or period of time, as well as 10 engravings. His indices of names and geographical places are useful.

The reviewer cannot overlook the work of the Instituto Gonzalo Fernández de Oviedo whose ambitious list of publications at the end of the volume indicates that despite the plight of war and suffering some of the scholars of Spain are able to carry on. As one would expect, the volume by Rodríguez is a defense of Ulloa and of Spanish absolutism. If these facts are kept in mind, such books as this one are indispensable.

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*A Professor at Large.* By STEPHEN DUGGAN. (New York: The Macmillan Company, 1943. Pp. xviii, 468. \$3.50.)

The first World War saw the United States change from a debtor nation into a creditor nation. This fact, as well as the failure of a great many people properly to appreciate its implications, has been of tremendous importance in contributing to international developments between the two world wars. During the present war the United States has undergone a change which promises to become at least equally important: from a country with a favorable balance of cultural imports, so to speak, to a nation which is expected to supply cultural just as well as material aid and stimulus to the rest of the world. As a matter of fact, in large and still growing parts of the world of today America has come to be regarded as the principal source of intellectual and ideological as well as economic guidance for an immensely difficult period of internal reconstruction and the shaping of a world worthy of human beings.

At this time, therefore, it is not only appropriate but indeed necessary to attempt to take stock not only of what the United States has contributed to the cultural enrichment of other countries but also what it can and should reasonably expect to do in the approaching post-war era which will be characterized by the necessities of salvaging the remainders of old-world civilization, helping the peoples of Europe and Asia to equip themselves for active participation in the better world of tomorrow, consolidating and developing true western hemisphere coöperation, and assisting the "underprivileged" colonial regions in attaining a higher degree of social, economic, and political autonomy.

It is somewhat discouraging to note that, while treatises on the material aspects of post-war organization are approaching the proportions of a deluge, its educational problems have received little serious attention. It is from this viewpoint that Dr. Duggan's book assumes special significance.