

*La paz de América: Guatemala y Belice.* By ADRIAN CRAVIOTO. [Publicaciones del Grupo América de México.] (Mexico, D. F.: Editorial Cultura, 1943. Pp. 56.)

This pamphlet reproduces a paper read before the Mexican Branch of the Unión Racionalista de París. The introductory part discusses the importance of history and outlines the elements which the author considers necessary for the maintenance of the peace of America. Among the problems to be solved are a seaport for Bolivia, the independence of Canada, Puerto Rico and the Guianas, and the union of Central America. The main section is devoted to the question between Great Britain and Guatemala regarding British Honduras. This is a brief historical survey which defends the thesis of Guatemala. It is based almost entirely on the Guatemalan official publications.

ROSCOE R. HILL.

Washington, D. C.

*Antigüedades curicanas.* By JUAN MÚJICA DE LA FUENTE. (Curicó: Imprenta La Prensa, 1943. Pp. 310. 60 pesos.)

Having asserted that there has been much neglect of local Chilean history, Dr. Mújica de la Fuente proceeds to trace the outstanding facts regarding his native heath. The volume deals primarily with the colonial period. There are chapters on the discovery, conquest, religious life, land tenure and utilization, family life, military organization, ecclesiastical organization, social order and administration of justice, and religious orders. The final chapter gives details regarding the leading families of Curicó of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. There are a bibliography, several illustrations, and two sketch maps. The scholarly study is a worthy contribution to Chilean historiography.

ROSCOE R. HILL.

Washington, D. C.

*El espíritu castellano en América. Estudio histórico, social, institucional y jurídico.* By FRANCISCO DOMÍNGUEZ COMPANY. (La Habana: Publicaciones de la Cátedra de Historia de las Instituciones Locales de Cuba, 1943. Pp. 56.)

In this brief but systematic study the author presents the importance of Castile in relation to the other kingdoms of Spain, its power of absorption, its dominating spirit, and its reflection in America. He studies the character of this Castilian spirit: Religion and morality, central authority, universal empire, democracy and local auton-

omy, and the Castilian municipal system. Then he goes on to treat the civilizing work of Castile in America, showing how it is to be distinguished from that of other colonizing powers in the sense that it was not limited by mere economic motives but that "vertió en sus nuevas provincias de Ultramar el contenido de su vida espiritual y les dió por molde sus propias instituciones." In like manner he points out the humanitarian principles which characterize the *Laws of the Indies*. He also examines the character of colonial institutions transferred from Castile and notes the peculiarities which circumstances forced upon them. Most attention is devoted to the municipal system in the New World in which there was "un efectivo rejuvenecimiento de las viejas formas castellanas, que le dan vida y una fuerza que ya no tenían en Castilla."

JAVIER MALAGÓN BARCELÓ.

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*El correo en Santo Domingo: Historia documentada.* By OSCAR E. RAVELO A. (Ciudad Trujillo: Imprenta La Opinión, 1944. Pp. 239.)

This documentary sketch of the postal service in Santo Domingo is an official publication and has been prepared in connection with the celebration of the centenary of the Republic. It traces the story from the pre-Columbian epoch through the period of the Spanish annexation (1861-1864). The provisions of the *Laws of the Indies*, regulations, notes regarding important persons connected with the postal service, routes, lists of employees, rates, expenses of service and other items are discussed. In addition to many citations of documents in the body of the work the appendix contains the text of eighteen important documents. Two of these are of the sixteenth century, five are of the last years of the eighteenth century, one is of the first republic and the remaining eleven are of the period of Spanish annexation. Many of the documents are from the Archivo General de la Nación. There is a bibliography and a number of illustrations which add to the value of the volume.

ROSCOE R. HILL.

Washington, D. C.

*La imprenta y el periodismo en el sur en el siglo XIX.* By MIGUEL F. ORTEGA. (Mexico: Editorial Pluma y Lápiz de México, 1943. Pp. 59.)

This excellently printed little book is worthy in content of the quality of its design and its paper; the fifty-eight pages deserve an