

dates of some are not given; the sources from which they are taken are not referred to. For instance, the questionable Lafond letter on the Guayaquil interview, the original of which has never been located, is printed here without comment. Students of history will find the work unsatisfactory as a record of political action, but no one can read it without a feeling of respect for a man whose rectitude, disinterested patriotism, and iron self-discipline vie with his military talents for the admiration of posterity.

CHARLES C. GRIFFIN.

Vassar College.

*Breve historia del Perú.* By MAX. H. MIÑANO G. [Biblioteca enciclopédica popular, 31.] (México: Secretaría de Educación Pública, 1944. Pp. xiv, 94. Paper. \$.25 m/n.)

*Breve historia del Perú* by Max. H. Miñano G. is an attempt to present a sketch of Peruvian history for the average reader. It contains more words than its ninety-four pages would suggest, for the print is small and the lines close together. Packed into this somewhat restricted space is a description of the geography and natural resources, a recital of the glories of the Inca empire, an account of the Spanish conquest and of the age of the viceroys, an outline of the struggle for independence, and a resumé of the vicissitudes of the republic. The story of these epochs in Peru's development is not limited to politics, but embraces economics and culture as well.

This is definitely not a book for anyone seeking detailed knowledge of Peru's past. Important incidents are mentioned, but due to the limitations of space, are not elaborated on. For example, the quarrels among the Spanish conquerors are disposed of in less than a page; and again, both Lord Cochrane and San Martín are listed as liberators of Peru, but their bitter personal enmity is not mentioned. Considering the nature of the book, neither this lack of elaboration nor the similar lack of much attempt at interpretation should be considered as faults. *Breve historia de Perú* was designed to afford basic information to people previously uninformed on Peru. It accomplishes its purpose in large part.

WILLIAM PRATT DALE, II.

Howard College.

*Breve Historia de Venezuela.* By JUAN OROPESA. (Biblioteca enciclopédica popular, 42.) (Mexico: Secretaría de Educación Pública, 1945. Pp. 110. Paper. \$.25 m/n.)

This readable little book is remarkably successful in summarizing in a few pages the main developments of Venezuelan history prior to the