

This makes no pretense of being a work of original research. De Mendonça leans heavily on previous Brazilian historians; notably Manoel Oliveira Lima, Capistrano de Abreu, and Pandiá Calogeras. Nevertheless, there is some originality of interpretation. The style is popular and entertaining. A few slips occur, such as the reference to William Pitt the Younger as "Lord Pitt" (p. 64) and the implication, though without a specific statement, that he was directing British policy somewhat after 1806, the year of his death.

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*Rio-Branco (O Barão do Rio-Branco), 1845-1912.* By ALVARO LINS. [Coleção documentos brasileiros, 50 and 50-A.] (São Paulo: Livraria José Olympio Editora, 1945. 2 vols. Pp. xiv, 801. Illustrations. Paper.)

Alvaro Lins, Brazilian critic, editor, and journalist, turns historian to give to the Brazilian people the life story of one of their greatest statesmen, a story which commemorates the hundredth anniversary of the birth of José Maria da Silva Paranhos Júnior, Barão do Rio-Branco. The two-volume work is a semi-official publication, for the author wrote the biography at the invitation of the Ministry of Foreign Relations. He requested, however, that his project should not have any official character and that he should have complete freedom in work and in interpretation.

The first volume of the biography treats of the life of the famous baron up to 1902 when he accepted the post of foreign minister in the administration of Rodrigues Alves; the second volume tells the story of the climactic period of the baron's career until his death in 1912.

The young Paranhos spent his formative years under the influence of his illustrious father, the Visconde do Rio-Branco; thus from childhood "Juca Paranhos saw at close hand the great people of the Empire, the celebrities of the times, the glories of the period, generals, admirals, ministers, and heads of cabinets." After his formal schooling in Rio de Janeiro and São Paulo, he spent much of his time in the study of history and in following a career of journalism.

With ample academic training, with his experience as a journalist, and with the knowledge acquired as a deputy and as a secretary to a diplomatic mission, Juca Paranhos was ready for a brilliant future. Yet when the time came, he almost failed to obtain his first important appointment. His Bohemian tastes and his affair with the actress, Marie Stevens, whom he later married, were factors which influenced the emperor, Dom Pedro II, to refuse the proposed appointment. In 1876,

however, Princess Isabel, in the absence of her father, appointed Juca Paranhos as Brazilian consular representative at Liverpool, England. He held the position for almost two decades, and apparently attracted little attention either in England or at home. He spent much of his time in Paris, where his family resided; he had "poucos amigos" in Liverpool.

The author partially defends this seeming inattentiveness to duty by describing what the young Paranhos could accomplish in hours of concentrated work and by pointing out the constant preparation which the consul made in the study of Brazilian history. It is true that once the break came he rose rapidly and soon became Brazil's most distinguished diplomat. He must have learned much during his off-and-on stay in Liverpool.

While Senhor Lins has written extensively on the life of the baron, he apparently did not use all of the information he obtained. He admits that he has the "intention of taking up the subject again and continuing certain studies for another edition." The author succumbs to the temptation of dealing at some length with the several boundary controversies which Rio-Branco had to settle, and the description of these disputes tends to retard the reading of the book. In some sections the language is "choppy"; it is the style of the journalist rather than that of the historian. The reviewer, for one, would like to know more about the family, for Senhor Lins tells very little about the several members. These defects, however, do not detract from the total value of the biography.

The author has contributed much to the story of the baron's life, to the interpretation of his worth as a public official, and to the history of Brazilian diplomacy in the early years of the republic. While Senhor Lins is sympathetic toward the baron, he is quite objective in the treatment of the famous diplomat. The author should be especially commended for the extensive use of both primary and secondary material. In addition to the printed material in Portuguese, he used works published in both French and English.

No one will read these two volumes without obtaining a well-balanced impression of the character and ability of the second Rio-Branco and of the part he played in Brazilian public life. This is the principal contribution which Senhor Lins has made.

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