

Memoir of D.º d'Escalante Fontaneda respecting Florida. Written in Spain, about the year 1575. Translation and notes by BUCKINGHAM SMITH, Washington, 1854. Edited by DAVID O. TRUE. (Coral Gables: Glade House, 1945. Pp. 77. Map. \$2.00.)

This brief brochure represents an "appreciation and amended translation" of an early Florida source-record. The original Spanish narrative takes up only twelve pages of the present text and the English version slightly more; yet it is well packed with facts and more than two centuries were to pass after its first publication before the appearance of an equally comprehensive account for the entire peninsula. The present edition is due to the efforts of a committee of six, representing the University of Miami and headed by David O. True. These persons and others are named in the Foreword. A "select" bibliography mentions the Spanish historians Barcia and Muñoz; Buckingham Smith, B. F. French, and George R. Fairbanks among the elder American group; and Lowery, Swanton, and Miss Connor among later scholars. Hakluyt and Ternaux-Compans represent the compilations of navigators.

The purpose of the committee was partly to dress in attractive form a worth-while local product and partly to correct obvious errors in the earlier translation of Buckingham Smith. This last task was largely given over to Miss Ángela del Castillo. Much has been learned of early Florida history and its sources since the earlier historians published their books. In thirteen pages of editorial comment Mr. True and his committee use this information to make a critical survey of Fontaneda's *Memoir* and follow it with twenty-three pages of notes, about half of which are taken from Buckingham Smith and the rest of which are contributed by Swanton and the editors. In format, scholarship, and comment the little book is a worthy local contribution.

ISAAC J. COX.

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Ambiente filosófico de la Nueva España. By DAVID MAYAGOITIA. [Colección de Estudios Filosóficos.] (México: Editorial Jus, 1945. Pp. 246. Paper.)

The purpose of this sketchy survey of the early progress of philosophy in the University of Mexico and the Jesuit colleges is, according to the author, not a history of philosophy but an attempt to reconstruct the philosophic atmosphere of that period as a basis for an understanding of the philosophy of Mexico then and now. The philosophic conceptions of the medieval university and of the Spanish thinkers who bridged the gap between Aristotelianism and modern thought and the rise of the University of Mexico to an intellectual center through the rapid as-