

ly, and it is in no small measure owing to this fact that this book is as meaty and as good as it is.

The author divides the body of his text into five chapters, or, more correctly, sections. The first, dealing with the "Dutch and urban life," is the longest, comprising 115 pages or some 40 per cent of his exposition proper. It confines itself essentially to tracing the evolution—architectural, demographic, and social—of the capital of Pernambuco under the Dutch, which is beautifully done, but which points up the fact, perhaps unfortunate, of the author's overwhelming emphasis upon this single, albeit important, captaincy. The second chapter (thirty-five pages) takes up the "Dutch and rural life"; the third (fifty-four pages), the "Attitude of the Dutch towards the Negro and slavery"; the fourth (twenty-seven pages), the "Attitude of the Dutch towards the Indians and education"; and the last (thirty-five pages), the "Attitude of the Dutch towards the Portuguese and Jews, and the Catholic and Jewish religions."

Each of these chapters is full of interesting, well-selected information, masterfully synthesized, from which the author has distilled many meaningful generalizations. A composite picture of society in Dutch Brazil results which is a distinct contribution to our knowledge of the period and the area. This is social history at its best, and this reviewer strongly recommends that all serious students of colonial history read this volume. Gilberto Freyre has written a delightful and enthusiastic preface to it. It has a useful index, and several interesting illustrations.

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*Relatório sobre as capitanias conquistadas no Brasil pelos holandeses (1639): Suas condições econômicas e sociais: Adriaen van der Dussen.* Translated and edited by JOSÉ ANTONIO GONSALVES DE MELLO, NETO. [Instituto do Açúcar e do Alcool, Série História, III.] (Rio de Janeiro: Ind. Graf. J. Lucena S. A., 1947. Pp. 168. Paper.)

The body of this work (pp. 25-148) is a Portuguese translation of the famous report by Adriaen van der Dussen to the Dutch West India Company in 1639 on the economic and social conditions in the six captaincies of northern Brazil then under the Dutch. José Antonio Gonsalves de Mello, Neto, author of *Tempo dos flamengos* (Rio de Janeiro, 1947), is one of the few Brazilians linguistically qualified and sufficiently conversant with the subject to translate this important document and to comment critically upon it. Given the copy from which he had to work (i.e., the transcription preserved in the José Hygino

Duarte Collection of the Instituto Arqueológico Histórico e Geográfico Pernambucano, Recife, and the abridged edition in S. P. L'Honoré Naber, ed., *Caspar Barlaeus. Nederlandsch Brazilië onder het Bewind van Johan Maurits Grave van Nassau 1637-1644* ('s-Gravenhage, 1923), pp. 149-199), he has done a very creditable job. However, a comparison of his translation of the José Hygino transcript and my photocopy of the document (obtained from the Koninklijk Huisarchief, 's-Gravenhage—probably the original from which the José Hygino transcript was made, and hence not to be confused with the contemporary and slightly variant copy in the Algemeen Rijksarchief, Oude West-Indische Compagnie, 46, used by Naber) reveals that the José Hygino transcript contains numerous errors, chiefly in proper names, and even omissions. There is space here to note only the more glaring mistakes, which should be corrected as follows. On page 34, number 14, read “d’Haen l’Empereur en Comp<sup>e</sup>” instead of “Daen Leupleur & Cia”; pages 34-35, read “Novo” for “Arobo”; page 42, number 44, read “Blijenburch” for “Rhijenburch”; page 43, number 48: “Manuel Gomes de Lixboa, 20 tarefas” has been omitted entirely—its inclusion gives the correct total of “72 tarefas”; page 44, number 50: “Manoel de Figueredo heeft niet” has been left out; page 49, number 70, read “Borgers” for “Gorges”; page 53, number 84, read “Partido do engenho” for “Partido da fazenda”; page 57, number 98, read “Viega” for “Vieira”; page 58, number 105, replace the ellipsis with the word “tien”; pages 59-60, number 110, read “Tollen” for “Teles”; page 64, line 6, insert “dorre” after “muitas”; page 65, number 122, insert “Johan” before “Wijnants,” and read “Blijenburch” for “Byenburch”; page 67, number 130, read “Kessel” for “Bessel,” and “Senechael” for “Somechael”; and on page 69, number 137, read “Koets” for “Broets.” This illustrates how the work of an able and conscientious translator can be inadvertently marred by the use of an imperfect text.

This volume, in addition to the above translated document, contains four appendices, the second of which (pp. 149-163) deserves particular notice. It is a translation of the minutes (March 3 and 5, 1663) of the West India Company directors, listing: (1) the Portuguese debtors of the Company in Brazil, and the respective amounts owed; (2) the sugar mills sold by the company to Portuguese and Jews in Brazil; and (3) the buildings owned by the company in Brazil. This book is attractive in format and well printed. Despite its imperfections, it is a welcome addition to the printed source materials for the study of colonial Brazil.

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