

Dr. Gorriti spoke up for the equality of the cabildos and peoples as a basis for national organization.

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*Rosas entre anécdotas: En la estancia—en el gobierno—en el destierro.*

By LUIS L. FRANCO. [Biblioteca de escritores argentinos, Volumen 33.] (Buenos Aires: Editorial Claridad, 1946. Pp. 255. Paper.)

The controversy over Rosas' place in the history of Argentina has been carried on ever since the dictator exiled most of the Argentine intelligentsia during his regime in Buenos Aires (approximately twenty-five years, ending in 1852). Until the late 1920's, most of Rosas' biographers had been detractors, headed by the implacable Domingo Sarmiento. Of late, a group of apologists have taken the stand that while Rosas had many faults, he played a patriotic part in holding Argentina together in a crucial period in her history and saved the nation from the threat of foreign domination and internal chaos. These writers have added much documentary material ignored by the previous authors. With a pronounced return to caudillism recently, the apologists have had their say and the works of the detractors have become less fashionable.

With the advent of Franco's new volume, the latter have again come into prominence. There is little in the way of new material in this work. This is not surprising in view of the numerous volumes which have appeared on the subject of the Rosas dictatorship in the past century; but the lack of any new pertinent documentary material is to be regretted. The author devotes twenty-nine pages to his thesis that Sarmiento was correct in saying that Rosas was a madman. The remaining two-hundred-odd pages are brief topical digests from the works of twenty-six authors who shared Sarmiento's viewpoint. As the title indicates, the work is divided into three sections, roughly translatable as: *Rosas the rancher—Rosas in the government—Rosas in exile.*

In spite of the fact that little new has been added to the Rosas story, the book should interest any student of the Rosas epoch, for it is a capable, if one-sided digest, and its theme is not what one would expect in Argentina under the regime of Perón.

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