

Instituto de Estudios Americanistas of the Facultad de Filosofía y Humanidades has had access to both printed and manuscript documentary sources of public and private nature and has based both books almost entirely on these. Both are illustrated with facsimile reproductions of interesting manuscripts and that about José Felipe is enlivened with sketches made by the author himself of academic regalia used in Córdoba in the colonial period.

In view of the increasing interest in the social and intellectual history of this critical period in Hispanic-American history, it would seem that these books make a definite contribution—the sort of a contribution that is local history at its best. The Instituto de Estudios Americanistas is to be commended on its series of publications of which these two volumes form interesting examples.

University of Miami.

IONE STUESSY WRIGHT.

*The Life of Stephen F. Austin, Founder of Texas, 1793-1836, A Chapter in the Westward Movement of the Anglo-American People.* By EUGENE C. BARKER. (Second edition; Austin: The Texas State Historical Association, 1949. Pp. xix, 477. \$10.00. Illustrations, maps, bibliography, index.)

This edition of one of the fundamental studies in the history of Texas is identical as to text with the first edition (Nashville and Dallas, 1925) which was reviewed in the May, 1931, issue of this journal (XI, 217-220). The Texas State Historical Association has announced its intention to keep this volume permanently in print.

C. C. G.

*Baltimore and Early Panamericanism. A Study in the Background of the Monroe Doctrine.* By LAURA BORNHOLDT. [Smith College Studies in History.] (Northampton, Massachusetts: 1949. Pp. vii, 152. Paper.)

Diplomatic history is often somewhat shallow in its excessive preoccupation with the official documents and with the mechanics of statesmanship in a restricted sense. There is distinct value, therefore, in such a study as Professor Bornholdt's, which links foreign policy with social and economic history, and also with the history of ideas. Here are brought together in microcosm many of the elements that influenced our Latin-American policy, the interest in Latin-American trade and in privateering, the influence of Baltimore journalism, the intrigues of Latin-American factions, the appeal to general principles and the early enunciation of the doctrine of the two spheres, the gradual disillusionment with the struggle of the Latin Americans for independence. Very important, also, is the fact brought out in the narrative that "the break

in interest in Spanish America after 1823 came at least partly because the pressure groups which were so vociferous in its behalf in 1817-18 were non-existent" in the later period. Professor Bornholdt has much that is interesting to say about these groups, and her book will help to put their activities in a new perspective, and give a new flavor to the interpretation of the period.

At the same time, it raises a very large and vital question. Do special interests or general ideas play the determinant role in American foreign policy? While readily recognizing that in the study of any episode or broader development one should look for the "nigger in the wood-pile," this reviewer is more and more impressed with the importance of ideological considerations in the evolution of American diplomacy. General conceptions have a powerful influence on the mind of a democracy; and they are by no means always a reflex of economic interest. Indeed, Professor Bornholdt's book in a sense illustrates the point, since the pressure groups had actually subsided when Monroe announced the famous doctrine in 1823.

In raising this point the reviewer does not wish to imply that there is any economic determinism in *Baltimore and Early Panamericanism*. The book is well balanced and judicious and gives depth to an interesting subject.

The University of Rochester.

DEXTER PERKINS.

*Colección de documentos político-económicos*. Edited by JOSÉ R. COLÍN. Vol. I, 1840-1850, *Documentos de la época, Justo Sierra, José María Gutiérrez Estrada y Mariano Otero*; Vol. III, *Hacia donde vamos?* By JOSÉ COLÍN. (Mexico City: Editorial Rostra, 1948. Pp. 212; 207. Paper.)

Volume I under review contains a reprint of Gutiérrez Estrada's call in 1840 for a monarchy in Mexico. He was disgusted with his country's lack of progress and, as a conservative, felt that the solution lay in a monarchy. In the same volume Mariano Otero's appeal to the liberals in Mexico in 1842 is republished. His answer for Mexico sounds rather like a combination of Smith and Say, garnished with republican institutions and directed by the moderate liberals. It is convenient to have both these hard-to-obtain items in easily accessible form. The volume also contains a reprint of two chapters from Justo Sierra describing the period 1840-1850.

Volume III is a collection of speeches delivered at different conferences in Mexico by José Colín. Obviously, Sr. Colín, as a liberal, is upset by conditions in present day Mexico.

University of Missouri.

WALTER V. SCHOLES.