

miento is considered the first of this solid front of "neurasthenic" writers, but Sarmiento is not made a believable villain.

Kusch in some cases parallels R. M. Morse (cf. *Journal of the History of Ideas*, XV, pp. 71-93), but is dogmatic where Morse is exploratory. Unlike Morse, he explains the caudillo as native vitality overcoming native sloth. The caudillo is the only power that can, even temporarily, conciliate American *demonismo vegetal* and the city influences opposing it. He stands alone, a tree that withers and falls without touching the city or the earthward-turning Indian.

The conclusions offered are negative and cynical, but the implicit message of the book seems to be that the time has come to discover the cultural bases for a new and stronger nationalism.

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*Subsídios para a história da civilização paulista.* By AURELIANO LEITE. São Paulo, 1954. Edição Saraiva. Edição monumental comemorativa do IV Centenário da cidade de São Paulo. Illustrations. Bibliography. Index. Pp. 599. Paper.

This book is the third edition of a work which appeared first in 1944 as *A história de São Paulo em breve resumo cronológico (de 1500 a 1930)* and again in 1946 as *História da civilização paulista*. The present edition, printed on elegant paper and lavishly illustrated, is offered as a tribute to São Paulo city on its fourth centenary. The first section is a year-by-year record of events for the whole *paulista* region (1500 to 1950). In addition to the kinds of information usual for such a repository, the present one contains a wide range of social, intellectual, and cultural data which will benefit historians in those increasingly popular fields and do much to enliven its pages for the browser. Further oases in the desert of facts are provided by the compiler's refusal to mask his own convictions when treating such subjects as the growth of the labor movement, the revolts of 1924 and 1932, the Vargas regime, and Adhemar de Barros. The comprehensive index will greatly assist both the researcher and the casual peruser.

The second part of the volume is a bibliography of some 10,000 items (augmented by 4,000 since 1946) "sobre pessoas, lugares, coisas e acontecimentos paulistas." Although a treasure-trove for the regional historian, this compilation suffers important defects. The listing is alphabetical by author, with no break-down by era or subject matter—a serious drawback in a 155-page, double-columned bibliography. There are a great number of omissions, which include such central items as Nicoláo França Leite's *Conferencia sobre o progresso material da provincia de S. Paulo* (Rio de Janeiro, 1874), A. d'Atri's

*L'Etat de São Paulo et le renouvellement économique de l'Europe* (Paris, 1926), and Mello Nóbrega's *História de um rio (o Tietê)* (São Paulo, 1948). Magazine and newspaper articles are identified only by the year and not by the particular issue in which they appeared. Despite these qualifications, however, and despite a frequently evinced lack of meticulousness, this publication will serve as an indispensable handbook for scholars in many realms of Brazilian as well as of *paulista* history.

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*The Western Hemisphere Idea: Its Rise and Decline.* By ARTHUR P. WHITAKER. Ithaca, N. Y., 1954. Cornell University Press. Bibliography. Index. Pp. x, 194. \$3.00.

This, like the other writings of Professor Whitaker, is a brilliant and highly provocative book. The eight essays which comprise it are drawn from a series of lectures that he gave in London in 1953. As the author warns us in the preface, they "make no pretense whatever to giving an account either of Latin American policies toward the United States or the latter's policies toward Latin America." Their purpose is to examine the main aspects of the Western Hemisphere idea as it emerged in the eighteenth century, to follow its fluctuations during the nineteenth century, and to trace its rise and decline in our own times.

The core of the Western Hemisphere idea has been the proposition that the peoples of the American continents are united in a special relationship to one another that sets them apart from the rest of the world; above all, one that sets them apart from Europe. Professor Whitaker, an old expert in his field, deals briefly but authoritatively on the origin of this thought which grew out of the European conception of the "New World," and discusses its diverse historical expressions, including the Monroe Doctrine, the economic corollary to that doctrine proposed by Drago in 1902, and the evolving Pan American movement since 1889. The boom years of the idea were, of course, the 1930's. It was only at that time that Latin America showed a genuine warmth toward Pan Americanism. In the 1940's, however, the decline began. Professor Whitaker points out as main factors in this decline the revolt against the "myth" of "continental unity" and the politico-geographical writings of hard-boiled realists with their devastating attacks on "hemispheric isolationism." Whatever remains of the Pan American movement is now, says the author, "dissociated from the first American regionalism" and "is integrated into a con-