

errors, the book is one well worth reading by those concerned with this little-explored aspect of Latin American history.

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*Ideas y confesiones de Portales.* By RAUL SILVA CASTRO. Santiago de Chile, 1954.

The idea of an anthology of the thoughts that Portales left dispersed in letters and other papers is not a new one. Hernán Díaz Arrieta (Alone) made such an anthology in a volume which today is a gem in very few libraries, *Portales íntimo*, after the publication of the first part of the *Epistolario* by Ernesto de la Cruz. In this limited edition Alone wanted to highlight the principal facets of the thoughts of Portales on women, love, commercial interests and, finally, public affairs, to which last specialty were dedicated some very revealing fragments which can be gleaned in the correspondence. This anthology was duly praised at the time for making possible the reading of the best of the treasures of the first volume of the *Epistolario* without the necessity of long investigation.

Ernesto de la Cruz died, however, without compiling the others to follow, which did not see the light until 1937, the year of the celebration of the first centenary of the assassination of Portales. Guillermo Feliú Cruz is responsible for the completion of this task. About 500 pieces of correspondence are published in three volumes of the *Epistolario*, commented upon in some cases in notes that identify persons mentioned by the author with nicknames or first names, or with some historical comments that seemed necessary to the author of the anthology in order that the modern reader of the letter might know under what circumstances it was written.

In *Ideas y confesiones de Portales* the author has seen fit to change this method. He examines not only pieces of correspondence but also ministerial records, chancery notes produced either under the direct inspiration of Portales or by himself, and newspaper articles. Portales was fond of writing for the press; he founded newspapers and encouraged members of his circle to establish others; he created *El Araucano* in 1830 and contributed directly to *El Mercurio* in anonymous articles and indirectly through the writings of Ladislao Ochoa. The mass of Portalian literary production has increased, then, in the last few years, and can be divided into topics in order to better present the cardinal beliefs that guided Portales in transforming the national life, the self-imposed goal of his two ministerial periods, five years apart.

Raúl Silva Castro, organizer of the new anthology, makes these

divisions: the political problems of Chile, American politics, the man himself, official and administrative documents, newspaper articles and a last section of various topics and short notes. In the anthology there is a total of 85 Portalian fragments and a slightly smaller number of notes of the anthologist, in which, usually, he tries to bring out the doctrine when it is not explicit enough or when it is manifested in archaic and confusing speech forms. Portales is revealed as an excellent writer, sometimes lightly ironic, sometimes the political thinker, but always lighter, more ingratiating and agreeable than other political thinkers because he did not try to harass anyone with his advice or admonitions. *Ideas y confesiones de Portales* is a useful book for the historical and political literature of Chile in that it tries, in a few pages, to familiarize the reader with the treatment of the most important national problems.

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PUBLICATIONS OF CASA DE RUI BARBOSA

- Ruy*. By MICHEL SIMON. With a message by PAUL CLAUDEL. Rio de Janeiro, 1949. Illustrations. Bibliography. Pp. 240.
- Rui Barbosa et la France*. By GEORGES RAEDERS. Rio de Janeiro, 1949. Illustrations. Pp. 34.
- Rui Barbosa e a Marinha*. By MURILA RIBEIRO LOPES. Rio de Janeiro, 1953. Illustrations. Pp. 393.
- Rui Barbosa: Antologia*. Edited by LUIS VIANA FILHO. Rio de Janeiro, 1953. Pp. vi, 225.
- Anglo American Political Influences on Rui Barbosa*. By HOMERO PIRES. Translated by SYLVIA MOEDRADO CLINTON. Rio de Janeiro, 1949. Illustrations. Pp. 63.
- História da vida de Rui Barbosa*. 2nd ed. By AMERICO PALHA. Rio de Janeiro, 1954. Illustrations. Pp. 96.
- Momentos estelares de Rui Barbosa*. By OSVALDO ORICO. Rio de Janeiro, 1954. Illustrations. Pp. 89.
- Conferencias IV*. By ERNESTO LEME, FLORESTA DE MIRANDA, JOSE FERNANDO CARNEIRO, LEMOS BRITO, PEREIRA REBEL. Rio de Janeiro, 1954. Pp. 121.

Shortly after the death of Rui Barbosa in 1923 the Brazilian Government converted his house on Rua São Clemente in Rio de Janeiro into a national museum. The primary intention was to create a shrine which would perpetuate the memory and achievements of probably the most widely known Brazilian of his day. The project has been eminently successful. School children and tourists, scholars and international dignitaries visit the Casa to do homage to the Barbosa legend.