

the Argentine Republic. The short professional career of Marcelino Ugarte, which covered only twenty years, is divided into three periods: (1) 1852-1859, practicing lawyer, law school professor, and writer of numerous articles on legal subjects; (2) 1860-1869, political activity, ending in disillusionment with politics and retirement from the political arena; (3) 1870-1872, member of the Supreme Court of Argentina. He died in 1872 at the age of fifty years.

Access to the Marcelino Ugarte archives facilitated the writing of this first biography of the subject. It contains therefore many facts hitherto little known or completely unknown. The author presents his subject with commendable restraint and spurns fanciful flights not supported by his evidence.

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*Miguel Cané y su tiempo (1851-1905).*

By RICARDO SAENZ HAYES. Buenos Aires, 1955. Kraft. Facsimiles. Illustration. Index. Pp. 561.

In this biography of Cané, literateur, diplomat and legislator, is mirrored the world of an aristocratic Argentine of the nineteenth century. Cané is most famous as the author of *Juvenilia*, but of special interest to the historian are the hitherto unpublished letters to him from Mitre, Sarmiento, Roca and others. Although this biography is written in a subjective tone, in historical present, with perhaps too much sensitivity to Cané's emotional fluctuations, it is well-documented with materials from several private and public archives. (J. F.)

*Mis memorias: Infancia-Adolescencia.*

By LUCIO V. MANSILLA. Buenos Aires, 1955. Librería Hachette.

This autobiography, reprinted from the Paris edition of 1904, describes the life of a well-to-do Porteño family, not centrally involved in politics, during the Rosas years. A biographical essay by Juan Carlos Ghiano prefaces the work. (J. F.)

*El pensamiento social y económico de Esteban Echeverría.* By ORESTE POPESCU. Buenos Aires, 1954. Editorial Americana. Bibliography. Pp. 259.

*Roque Saenz Peña.* By FELIPE BARREDA LAOS. Buenos Aires, 1954. Pp. 421.

The first biography of a great Argentine who was perhaps the most talented aristocrat of his generation. Deputy, ambassador, representative at international meetings, including the First Pan American Conference and the Second Hague assembly, Saenz Peña died in office in 1914, president of Argentina. In that position he courageously initiated electoral reform—the Saenz Peña law of 1912—against the will of most of his class.

Barreda Laos' account is extensive and factually accurate. He points out, for example, that Saenz Peña did not accent his paternal name, as have all others who have subsequently used it. The story is warmly, even eulogistically told, in the style of an old but by no means discarded school of Latin American prose. In part as a consequence of the vibrant phrases, in part as a result of the author's somewhat subjective emphases, the biography may seem to the colder northern reader not to delineate Saenz Peña with the clarity and strength he deserves.

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*Urquiza: Última etapa.* By MANUEL E. MACCHI. Santa Fe, Argentina, 1954. Castellví. Pp. 160.

A sympathetic account of the last decade of Urquiza's life; the work labors the not very new thesis that Urquiza's ideal of national unity led to his assassination. Has an appendix of documents, most of them from the Argentine national archives. (J. F.)

CHILE

*La organización política de Chile.* 2nd ed. By ALBERTO EDWARDS VIVES. Santiago de Chile, 1955. Editorial del Pacífico. Pp. 137.