

the old western boundary of the Louisiana Purchase to the shore of the Pacific lying between 32°-30' north and 49° north latitude.

In the past we have been accustomed to think of this territorial expansion as a more or less direct result of the expansion of American population westward across the continent. But Professor Graebner maintains, in this book, that this was not so, or, even if it was partly so, that this phenomenon was less important as a cause of the annexation of our "Empire on the Pacific" than the desire of certain commercial interests and individual statesmen to acquire harbors along the Pacific coast. Says he:

Historians have tended to exaggerate the natural urge of the American people to expand in the forties. For that reason they have attributed an unrealistic importance to the impact of pioneers, public sentiment, and war on American continental expansion. None of these had any direct bearing on the determination of United States boundaries along the Pacific. . . . What mattered far more in the definition of American purpose were the travelers who toured the Pacific coasts and recorded the location and significance of waterways. These men, not pioneers, formulated the objectives of American officials from Adams to Polk (p. 226).

Professor Graebner has presented some evidence to support his contention; but the evidence is not sufficient, either in quantity or in force, to be convincing. Yet he has called attention to a fact which it would be difficult to refute: the fact that the commercial interests were also involved in this chapter of American expansion, quite independently of the population movement. Thus if the main point must be said to be "not proved," yet our overall interpretation of this phase of American imperialism should henceforth be more properly balanced because of Professor Graebner's work.

Apart from its thesis, the book presents an imposing body of information on the acquisition of the Pacific coastal area of the United States, relatively little of which, however, is new. For those concerned chiefly with Latin American history the book's greatest contribution will be in its discussion of the steps by which California and the Southwest were separated from Mexico and added to the United States, and, most particularly, in its discussion of the Trist mission.

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ARGENTINA

Historia de la colonización agrícola en Argentina. By ROBERTO SCHOPFLOCHER. Buenos Aires, 1955. Editorial Raigal. Colección Campo Argentino. Bibliography. Pp. 96.

A succinct and informative summary of colonization projects in Argentina, this essay is preponderantly devoted to the nineteenth century and capsulizes competently Rivadavia's emphyteusis program, Avellaneda's "Scientific Colonization," and other projects less well-known. The author is an official of the Jewish Colonization Association (J. F.)

Mitre: Vocación y destino. By RENEE PEREIRA OLAZABAL. Buenos Aires, 1955. G. Kraft. Colección Cupula. Pp. 326.

A republication of this volume, first printed in 1945. (J. F.)

Rosas visto por sus contemporáneos. By JOSÉ LUIS BUSANICHE. Buenos Aires, 1955. Kraft.

An anthology of writings about Rosas by a multitude of contemporaries including his daughter Manuela. The pieces are arranged to cover many of the phases of his life from 1820 to his death in 1877. An interesting mosaic. (J. F.)

Urquiza y la conspiración unitaria en el interior: 1852-1854. By MANUEL