

an anthology of the themes which have graced gaucho literature. Since it covers the author's apprenticeship as a farm hand upon arrival in the country around the turn of the century and his work in positions of ever-increasing responsibility until, as the owner of his own *estancia*, he became a breeder of polo ponies, the book also serves to portray a transition period in Argentine rural society.

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*Fray Mamerto Esquiú. Bosquejo biográfico.* By FRANCISCO CASTELLANOS ESQUIÚ. Buenos Aires, 1955. Editorial Heróica. Appendix. Pp. 276. Paper.

In view of Argentina's return, in mid-1956, to the Constitution of 1853, this biography is particularly timely. Mamerto Esquiú (1826-1883), a Franciscan friar from Catamarca who reluctantly accepted the bishopric of Córdoba after refusing the archbishopric of Buenos Aires, is most famous in Argentine history as the orator of the 1853 Constitution. The author, a grandnephew of the *prócer*, focuses his study upon the invaluable role Fray Esquiú played in persuading conservative Argentine Catholics to accept the liberal provisions of that constitution and in ameliorating subsequent strains in Church-State relations. The volume bears the imprimatur of the Provicario General of the Archbishopric of Buenos Aires.

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*La lucha antimperialista. Etapa fundamental del proceso democrático en América Latina.* By ARTURO FRONDISI. Buenos Aires, 1955. Ediciones Debate. Pp. 96.

Originally published as the introduction to *Petróleo y política* (Buenos Aires, 1954, second edition, 1956) by the same author, this pamphlet calls upon the democrats of all Latin America to reject the thesis that they have to join sides in the struggle be-

tween the United States and the Soviet Union and urges them to form their own international policy. But their first duty is to solve the problems of their own peoples who lack bread, freedom, and education "because of the same centers of power who demand their sacrifice in new struggles foreign to their interests and sentiments." The importance of this manner of thinking is pointed up by the fact that Frondizi is today the single most important political figure in Argentina, leader of the intransigent section of the Unión Cívica Radical, with an enormous following, a magnetic speaker with messianic propensities.

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*Mis memorias. Infancia-Adolescencia.* By LUCIO V. MANSILLA. Prologue by JUAN CARLOS GHIANO. Buenos Aires, 1955. Librería Hachette. Colección "El Pasado Argentino." 25 Argentine pesos. Pp. 258. Paper.

During his lifetime Lucio V. Mansilla (1831-1913) was either a keen spectator or an active participant on many notable occasions of the period in which he lived. This volume relates his youthful experiences during the last years of the dictatorship of his maternal uncle, Juan Manuel de Rosas, and as an exile from Argentina in the immediate post-Caseros period. The Preliminary Study by Juan Carlos Ghiano provides an excellent biographical sketch of Mansilla's career, which serves to place his *Memorias* in proper perspective.

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*Mitre y la República.* By NARCISO MARQUEZ. Buenos Aires, 1956. Instituto Amigo del Libro Argentino. Pp. 151. Paper.

*Mitre y la República* is a monograph on the public life of Bartolomé Mitre of Argentina. Published since Perón, it lauds Mitre as few Argentine books have done in the decade since 1946. It consists of three essays. The first de-