

anathema in official circles in Spain. It is for this, as well, that he has not found sympathy in some exile circles, in particular those of the far left. The position he takes is explained in his statement that his stress on the errors and shortcomings of the Left is due to his long association and therefore familiarity with it, while the men of the Right he hardly knew. He feels, also, that the western world needs to know what actually happened in the Left. If this attitude disturbs some on ideological grounds, it must be remembered that the Spanish Civil War was one of those momentous events of our time which involved men's consciences and their moral judgments, for better and for worse. And both liberal and leftist can take comfort from Madariaga's strictures on Alfonso XIII and General Primo de Rivera, as well as for his unwavering opposition to Franco and his regime. In any case, to be well informed about Spain in our century this book must be read—or have been read.

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COLONIAL PERIOD

Uma comunidade rural do Brasil antigo. (Aspectos da vida patriarcal no sertão da Bahia nos séculos XVIII e XIX.) By LYCURGO SANTOS FILHO. São Paulo, 1956. Companhia Editôra Nacional. Illustrations. Pp. xxiii, 447.

This volume should prove highly useful as a reference for all those interested in social and economic affairs in Bahia and the neighboring states during the period 1750 to 1890. The setting of the study, not a community in the strict sense of the term, is the *fazenda* of the Brejo do Campo Seco, a great rural estate located in what once was called the município of Bom Jesus dos Meiras, and today is designated as Brumado, in the southeastern part of the state of Bahia. The personalities who figure mainly in the accounts are Miguel Lourenço de Almeida, native of Lisbon, "familiar" of the Inquisition, and founder of the *fazenda*; his son Antonio Pinheiro Pinto who succeeded to headship of the clan; Inocencio Pinheiro Canguçu, the third in the line of heads of this great extended family; and Exupério Pinheiro Canguçu, son of Inocencio and the last of the masters of the *fazenda* to figure in the account. The data were drawn for the most part from the records and accounts kept by the four men named, and especially from the "Livro do Gado" and the "Livro de Razão" in which the masters made detailed entries. These volumes, covering a period of 200 years, are still preserved in family

archives. Accounts of travellers, such as von Spix and von Martius, also were used for supplementary purposes.

In Part I six chapters are used to trace the histories of the personages involved and to describe the settings in which each lived. Part II, "Aspects of Patriarchal Life," also of six chapters, includes rather careful descriptions of the sources, along with extracts arranged to assist in sketching the topics of slavery, military affairs in the *sertão*, conflict between families, taxes and tribute, religious life, and medicine and medicinal practices. Part III, under the general caption of "Rural Life," deals with cattle, horses and mules, cotton growing, sugar cane and the manufacture of *rapadura*, and subsistence crops. The final subdivision, Part IV, devoted to "Commercial and Industrial Life" is concerned with trade, money, iron-working, tobacco and salt, cloths, dress, and other products.

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Historia de la Argentina. Consolidación de la labor pobladora (1600-1700). By VICENTE D. SIERRA. Buenos Aires, 1957. Unión de Editores Latinos. Illustrations. Maps. Bibliography. Index. Pp. 689. \$450.—m/n.

A second of the projected nine volumes has appeared in this ambitious plan to provide layman and specialist alike with a current re-evaluation of Argentine history and historiography. (The first, *Introducción. conquista y población. 1492-1600*, reviewed HAHR, XXXVII: 2, 238-9.) The format and execution, as in the first volume, are both elegant and scholarly. The authority and skill with which Vicente D. Sierra and his collaborators move in the seventeenth century only reinforce the promise of brilliance which greeted the initial volume. Detail for the specialist is very present, but a major purpose of the series—to provide the average Argentine citizen with a readable and comprehensive national history—is admirably carried out in the organization and style of the work, if not in the cost. Capable editing has further reinforced the soundness of the volume. Bibliographical guides and an index of names, essential to such a project, are soundly conceived and sufficiently complete.

The concept of the volume follows the chronological pattern which its author judges is the basic structure of history. The century is divided into the three reigns of Phillip III, Phillip IV and Charles II. Within this broad scheme a mosaic treatment of the various colonial fragments of the Río de la Plata area is cleverly executed. Never is the reader permitted to forget the larger scheme of the Spanish