

he has written neither the peevish apology of the native son nor the condescending description of the foreigner. The work is essentially accurate and fair.

Unfortunately, the work has the defects of its virtues. The topical approach makes it difficult to grasp the real chronological process of intellectual change in Spain. Hence, the reader soon suffers from a compartmentalization of thought that the author fails to relieve. Finally, by relying on monographs, as he must in a work of this scope, Sarrailh is sometimes led astray by others. For example, Ferrer del Río's *Historia del reinado de Carlos III*, too prone to accept the *ilustrados* at their own evaluation, leads Sarrailh into a distorted and incomplete view of the intellectual situation at the University of Salamanca.

In short, Sarrailh has presented an admirable panorama of enlightened Spain. The shortcomings of the work are those inevitable in a field where much careful investigation remains to be done.

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Estudios sobre literatura hispanoamericana y española. By LUIS MONGUIÓ. Mexico City, 1958. Librería Studium. Colección Studium, 20. Notes. Pp. 181. Paper.

This book is a collection of thirteen disparate studies first published in sundry journals between 1944 and 1957. They vary in length from a short note on a version of the Fontefrida ballad occurring in gaucho poetry to a long article on the concept of poetry in Spanish America. Most of these essays deal with the nineteenth and twentieth centuries (Aspects of the Contemporary Spanish American Novel; Death and Poetry: Spain 1936-1939; Manuel Díaz Rodríguez; Ricardo Jaimes Freyre); a notable exception is the very interesting, highly documented piece on "El negro en algunos poetas españoles y americanos anteriores a 1800." The author is a careful, scrupulous scholar

and a critic of no mean ability. He can synthesize easily and gracefully, as in "Una década de prosa hispanoamericana," where he discusses the significant novel of introspection now being written in Spanish America, or analyze with clear and convincing detail, as in "Sobre un milagro en Meléndez, Palma y Barrios." "Crematística de los novelistas españoles del siglo xix" is an unusual essay that explores and explains the financial returns authors of that period received for their literary efforts.

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Floresta literaria de la América indígena. Antología de la literatura de los pueblos indígenas de América. Por JOSÉ ALCINA FRANCO. Madrid, 1957. Aguilar. Pp. 428.

Repertorio que recoge los trozos más representativos de la literatura oral y escrita de los primitivos pueblos americanos, tanto en verso como en prosa. Unos son actuales; otros de la época prehispánica, conservados y transmitidos durante la dominación española. La Antología se divide en cinco apartados correspondientes a indios norteamericanos, aztecas, mayas, quechuas y agrupando en la quinta a otros grupos menos representativos de Sudamérica. Va precedida de una introducción general sobre literaturas indígenas, llevando además cada parte un estudio particular de la literatura que trata. Cada texto lleva al final la indicación de su procedencia. Abundante bibliografía. Índices de lugares, de nombres y general.

ENCARNACIÓN RODRÍGUEZ VICENTE

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Historia breve de la literatura brasileña.

By JOSÉ OSORIO DE OLIVEIRA. Madrid, 1958. Ediciones Cultura Hispánica. Pp. 142. Paper. 55 pesetas.

First published in 1939 (Lisbon, two editions), then in revised and enlarged form in 1946 (São Paulo)—not to mention a pirated Brazilian edition

in between—this brief history, as the author frequently takes pains to emphasize, is meant not as a didactic manual but as an interpretive essay on the development of a literature. The gradual evolution of a Brazilian spirit distinct from its Lusitanian parent constitutes the theme. Primarily of interest to those already acquainted with the literature, the study is a challenging and suggestive one; the author not only denies many assumptions dear to out-and-out nationalists but also offers fresh points of view on numerous questions. The translation, based on the 1946 text and done by Pilar Vázquez Cuesta, seems reasonably faithful; on a few points, however, reference to the original clears up apparent difficulties. It is unfortunate that the author did not bring his book up to date for this new version; at least we have available again an intelligent essay by a wide-ranging Lusitanian critic well versed in both Portuguese and Brazilian tradition.

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Os kariri, o crepúsculo de um povo sem história. By ALFONSO TRUJILLO FERRARI. São Paulo, 1957. Illustrations. Pp. 109.

The work consists of two parts: the first, based upon thorough library research, tells the sequence of contacts that took place between the tribal groups of Kariri stock and European colonists, and the dynamics of the consequent process of cultural change which went on throughout four centuries; the second, based on a short field trip to study remnants of this ethnic group living at Porto de Colegio, focuses on the present situation of the Kariri, characterized by the author as "a group in twilight."

During the pre-Columbian period the Kariri tribal groups occupied large areas of the Brazilian Northeast, principally in the São Francisco valley. The present work constitutes a systematic attempt at an interpretation and

synthesis of the history of the contacts between the Kariri tribes and Europeans.

The book describes some aspects of the material culture, social structure and belief system of the remnant group at Porto do Colegio, where the author carried out field work. The present configuration of the Kariri culture is considered by the author as a "caboclo" or "matuto" subculture, and the process which brought about this subculture formation is called "Brazilianization." The members of the remnant group participate in almost all Brazilian institutions, in spite of the fact that many old institutions persist in symbolic form.

The book is accompanied by a bibliography, index, and summary in English, French, German, Italian, and Japanese.

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Late Ancient and Medieval Population.

By J. C. RUSSELL. Philadelphia, 1958. Transactions of the American Philosophical Society. New Series, Vol. 48, Part 3. Tables. Index. Pp. 152. Paper. \$4.00.

Amplio cuadro de la evolución del Viejo Mundo en el que los temas referentes a España figuran en forma fácil de localizar en cada uno de los capítulos descriptivos de la obra.

No existe claro está documentación estadística adecuada para establecer la cantidad global de la población en cada uno de los períodos en que divide Russell el proceso. No obstante, después de sopesarlas en una primera parte del libro de orden metodológico, propone vías indirectas como son por ejemplo el índice de la relación de la población urbana y de la rural para el período romano, el *trend* de la población contribuyente, los censos más modernos, etc. Conforme a este proceder, el autor obtiene cifras forzosamente aproximadas con las que cabe fijar sin embargo cierto ritmo de la evolución. De estos datos se desprende