

very first item of the *Catalogue* Ayer, the founder of the collection, is rightly censured with a [!] for saying "Phillippine."

It seems strange that while Dr. Beyer's "The Philippines before Magellan," an article for popular consumption which appeared in *Asia* magazine, is listed, no separate mention is made of his more scholarly monographs on Philippine prehistory in the *Philippine Encyclopedia*, which the Newberry has. Moreover, the compiler seems to have overlooked the fact that Pastells' edition of Colín's *Labor evangélica* is a documentary collection in its own right, and contains many *complete* pieces which deserve individual listing. Thus, Colín-Pastells has the original Latin text of the bull of erection of the Manila cathedral, which the *Catalogue* mentions only in its Spanish version (no. 1815).

Two items are, I think, misplaced. Fray Juan de Paz's *Consultas y resoluciones* (no. 514) belongs in the 17th rather than in the 18th century; and Ignacio's translation of the Povedano ms. of 1578 (no. 1747) should have been listed with Hester's edition of that of 1572 (no. 426).

To mention titles which the Collection does not have and suggest that it should have them is quite uncalled for. As it stands it is, without qualification or cavil, a magnificent collection; and thanks to the present *Catalogue* and its companion volumes its resources now lie open to the world of scholarship.

Ateneo de Manila

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ENCICLOPEDIA BARSA. 15 vols. Edited by MANUEL HINOJOSA FLORES. Buenos Aires-Chicago-México, 1957. Encyclopaedia Britannica, Inc. Pp. I, 434 plus index; II, 416; III, 412; IV, 416; V, 411; VI, 412; VII, 711; VIII, 416; IX, 412; X, 412; XI, 408; XII, 412; XIII, 408; XIV, 416; XV, 224 plus 72 p. index and 96 p. index of atlas.

This reference work was published by the Encyclopaedia Britannica for the use of Everyman and his family in the Spanish and Portuguese-speaking world. Accordingly, simplicity, clarity, and conciseness were the ends aimed for and frequently achieved in the articles. A great number of illustrations and maps, many in color, embellish and add to the utility of this work. An especially useful feature is an encyclopedic index, composing the first volume of the set, which offers a brief definition or summary of each topic or entry, followed by references to a series of articles related to that topic. A

unique feature are the historical tables appended to the essay on "History," with particular emphasis on the principal events of Hispanic and Hispanic American history. The director of the *Enciclopedia Barsa* assures in a preface that all the articles have been written especially for this work or adapted to serve the Spanish-speaking public. The list of consultants and advisers includes many well-known Latin American and some North American names.

Given the objectives and self-imposed limitations of this work, it is difficult to quarrel seriously with the mode of its execution and the finished product. As concerns the articles dealing with the Hispanic and Hispanic American world, the objective of providing the consultant with basic information is generally achieved. At the same time it must be said that the effort to achieve simplicity and conciseness often leads to oversimplification or superficiality. The fault of superficiality is especially marked in the treatment of the modern history of the Hispanic and Hispanic-American states. Here a desire to avoid treading on political toes undoubtedly played a part. What should be said of an article that summarizes political developments in the Dominican Republic under the dictatorship of Trujillo with the bland and brief statement that "since 1930 the government, under the direction of Generalissimo Rafael L. Trujillo Molina has transformed the country, imparting to it a notable impulse of material and cultural progress"? The net result of this gingerly or cautious approach is to conceal many of the unpleasant realities of modern Latin America.

The quality of the articles on Hispanic American historical topics and personages ranges from poor to excellent. Typical of the former category is the article on Columbus, which contains a whole series of doubtful or erroneous statements, including a curious slip to the effect that Columbus founded the town of Isabela on his Second Voyage not in Hispaniola but in Cuba. (By way of comparison, and to see how a topic can be treated on an elementary level without loss of accuracy, the editors of the *Enciclopedia Barsa* might look into the splendid essay on Columbus in the *World Book Encyclopedia*, designed for children.) Omissions in the historical articles are frequently glaring. One might expect, for example, some reference to the New Laws of the Indies in an article on "Encomienda." The complete absence of bibliographies or suggestions for further reading adds to the inadequacy of the treatment.

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