

will be used as a point of departure by future investigators.

JOSEPH T. CRISCENTI

Boston College

*Viajes por el interior de la América meridional.* By JULIAN MELLET. Santiago, 1959. Editorial del Pacífico. Pp. 289. Paper.

Julian Mellet came to Uruguay in 1808 as a passenger on a French vessel carrying arms to the Spanish colonials. When his ship failed to run the British blockade of the Río de la Plata, Mellet found himself virtually marooned in South America for more than a decade. Primarily a trader, he wandered through the Argentine for about five years. His travels took him into the northwestern provinces and Paraguay and finally over the Andes to Chile (1814). After early commercial success at Coquimbo was blighted by royalist activity, Mellet went to Peru, but a brush with the Inquisition suggested the wisdom of pushing on to Ecuador and Colombia where he continued to trade for the next three years (1816-1819). Unfavorable conditions in Colombia at last drove the young Frenchman into the West Indies. He visited Jamaica and Cuba and finally returned to France in 1820.

With a minimum of autobiographical detail, Mellet contents himself with a bald description of the economic life of the countries through which he traveled. Much of the material is valuable since this is one of less than a dozen extant travel accounts for the period of turmoil just preceding the victories which brought independence to South America.

The translation seems very good because it retains the flavor of the original French and suggests also the probability that Mellet, though literate, was not literary. The book as a whole could have been improved by the addition of an index and a map.

TOM B. JONES

University of Minnesota

AFTER 1830

GENERAL

*Buena y mala vecindad.* By ISIDRO FABELA. Mexico City, 1958. Editorial América Nueva. Colección Autores Contemporáneos, X. Prologue by VINCENTE SÁENZ. Pp. 330. Paper.

Isidro Fabela's recent celebration of his fiftieth anniversary as a writer was the occasion for a series of articles praising his contributions as chancellor, diplomat, juriconsultant, and writer. Equally appropriate is the present compilation of some of Fabela's own lectures, studies and articles of the past three decades.

The scattered writings have been organized, where possible, by region and chronologically. The following topics are included: the emergence of the United States from isolation; Mexico and the United States; Central America and the United States in the mid-nineteenth century; the United States and the Great Antilles; and points of view on Hispanoamericanism, Panamericanism and Monroeism. Fabela reveals himself as an anti-imperialist and as a determined partisan of Hispanoamericanism, nonintervention and the Drago Doctrine. There is fulsome praise of Franklin Roosevelt and the policy of the good neighbor which, however, is more than counter-balanced by strong condemnation of United States' military aid pacts, the Conference of Caracas and the "immolation of Guatemala."

While many of the articles suffer from their contemporaneous journalistic and even polemical character, others represent more studied efforts. The end result is an indictment of recent United States' policy in the hemisphere by an intelligent Latin American on political, economic, and juridical grounds.

STANLEY ROBERT ROSS

The University of Nebraska