

do Sul shortly before and during the period 1836-1845. It will interest historians because it brings to life not only the episodes of the civil war but also the chief contenders on both sides, among them Generals Bento Gonçalves, Bento Manuel, and the Baron of Caxias. As a sociologist Contreiras Rodrigues has created an extensive background in terms of human and physical geography, *gaúcho* customs, folklore, and language. As a poet he has brought to the lineal events, the depth-giving elements of plot, character, theme, and symbol. The sub-title will suggest one of the central defects of narrative technique: a horse that is human and equine at the same time is not the ideal narrator of a novel in the realistic vein.

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*Memórias. Borges de Medeiros e seu tempo.* Vol. I. By JOÃO NEVES DA FONTOURA. Rio de Janeiro, Porto Alegre, São Paulo, 1958. Editora Globo. Pp. x, 401. Paper.

João Neves de Fontoura, diplomat, writer and parliamentarian, was closely involved in Brazilian politics for over a half century. In his later years he represented Brazil at Vichy and at Lisbon, and he was foreign minister in 1946. He headed special diplomatic missions at Havana and at Panama, and was chief of mission at the Bogotá Conference in 1948.

In the earlier part of his career, however, he was almost completely identified with the Republican party in Rio Grande do Sul. In the volume at hand, the author reviews the tumultuous days of the Borges Madeiros regime. Austere, talented and iron-willed, Madeiros had taken over the leadership of the state in 1903 after the death of Júlio de Castilhos, who had dominated the gaúcho province from the early days of the Brazilian Republic. With Pinheiro Machado more or less permanently installed as the state's chief representative in the national government, it was Borges Madeiros' job to boss home affairs,

and to bring along into political life such promising young men as João Neves, Flores da Cunha, Maurício Cardoso, and Getúlio Vargas.

The style of the book is leisurely and attractive; there is an interesting description of life in a German Jesuit colegio near Porto Alegre, of the preparations for the visit of Afonso Penna before taking over the Presidency of Brazil, and of the preparation of a defiant anti-government manifesto of the university students in 1907, a manifesto signed by the author, by Getúlio Vargas, Eurico Gaspar Dutra and by Pedro Aurelio de Gois Monteiro, to mention but a few. As the narrative carries on into the twenties, there are accounts of the activities of men like Assis Brasil, Eduardo Gómes, Luiz Carlos Prestes, and João Alberto. We learn something of the beginnings of the Liberal Alliance, and the volume ends with retirement of Borges Madeiros into private life at the very time that Vargas and João Neves move out of state into national affairs.

These *Memórias* should be of great interest to those working in Brazilian political and social history, 1890-1930; unfortunately, there is no table of contents nor index.

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*A vida de Joaquim Nabuco.* By CAROLINA NABUCO. Rio de Janeiro, 1958. Livraria José Olympio. Coleção Documentos Brasileiros, 92. Illustrations. Name index. Pp. 478. Paper.

This is the fourth edition of Carolina Nabuco's famous biography of her father, known to the world as an abolitionist and an able diplomat. The text does not reveal any changes. There are, however, 21 photographs of episodes of Nabuco's life which give us a clear impression of the distinguished, Brazilian, photographs which are sometimes in striking contrast because of their simplicity with the ornate style of the text. What is needed now is an objective assessment of Nabuco's achievements; as time goes on, the