

American constitution writing and it is highly appropriate that this ambitious effort and international approach should have been undertaken and gratifying that it was so successfully achieved.

Nineteen countries (Central America is treated as one) are treated in twenty-six papers by twenty-eight authors. The focal point is the middle of the nineteenth century and most of the papers deal with the constitutional development in the respective countries in the half century preceding that or with an examination of the particular state's constitutionalism or constitutional law at mid-century.

Of the nineteen countries treated, eight (Argentina, Brazil, Central America, Colombia, Costa Rica, Chile, Mexico, and Uruguay) are Latin American; the others, with the exception of the United States, are all European. Papers are in all instances given in Spanish and in case they were originally written in another language that form is published too.

Value of the papers naturally varies from instance to instance but, taken as a whole, the collection is an eminent addition to the literature on Latin American constitutional history, law, and theory.

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Diego Rivera. By SAMUEL RAMOS. Mexico City, 1958. Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México. Colección de Arte, 4. Illustrations. Pp. 200. Cloth.

This book seems an odd choice for the important University of Mexico series, Colección de Arte. It is neither art history nor biography; Professor Ramos, as a philosopher, writes an appreciation of Rivera as a public figure and a man more than as a painter, dealing with abstract ideas and generalizations, not details of the painter's life or style. The danger of such abstract thinking is that it may lose contact with reality or be careless with facts. For instance, he compares Rivera with

several artists including Grünewald, Michelangelo, Rembrandt, Tintoretto and Chardin, saying they all are the product of a people's rebellion for fundamental rights (p. 26). This reviewer cannot agree. The poor quality of the photographs is to be regretted. The book is an interesting essay by an important philosopher, but for a history of Rivera and his works or an analysis of his style one must turn to other books.

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Francisco Zarco ante la intervención francesa y el imperio (1863-1864). Compilación y prólogo de OSCAR CASTAÑEDA BATRES. Mexico City, 1958. Secretaría de Relaciones Exteriores. Appendices. Pp. 216. Paper.

Francisco Zarco, liberal editor, was the leading spokesman for the Reforma and the chief defender of Mexican integrity during the French Intervention. Deserving a place as one of the great heroes of Mexico's resistance to invasion, he nevertheless has been generally unknown to modern historians.

Castañeda Batres here compiles a number of Zarco's great editorials written while Zarco accompanied Juárez as the Mexican government fled before the advancing French. The editorials, from *La Independencia Mexicana* (San Luis Potosí, 1863) and *La Acción* (Saltillo, 1864), attack and refute the French from the standpoint of morality and ethics, religion, and legality. Zarco proves the absurdity of the French position, citing difficulties of finance, international diplomacy, and military supply. He repeatedly rallies all Mexicans to defend their nation.

The editorials here compiled have not been easily accessible to the public. There exist two incomplete collections of *La Independencia Mexicana* and none of *La Acción*, the editorials of the latter being preserved only in a pamphlet printed in Colima in 1864.

Castañeda Batres, in an excellent prologue, analyzes Zarco's great contri-