

like Zareo and Ponciano Arriaga were well aware that they were legislating for the future when they worked on the Constitution of 1857. The economic change, apparently, was to be brought about by the introduction of liberal laws rather than vice-versa.

The documents appended to help the reader understand these viewpoints consist of dissenting votes on various unrelated matters by Isidoro Olvera, Ponciano Arriaga, and Castillo Velasco, and part of a debate between [Marcelino ?] Castañeda and [José María ?] Mata on religious toleration.

About all one can say for this little book is that it is interesting. It can hardly be taken seriously until sufficient evidence is produced to back up not only the author's premature working hypothesis but also his paradox as well.

C. A. HUTCHINSON

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Valentín Gómez Farías. Ideario reformista. Recopilación, prólogo y notas de RICARDO DELGADO ROMÁN. Guadalajara, 1958. Publicaciones del Gobierno del Estado. Pp. 184. Paper.

The objective of this short collection of speeches made by Valentín Gómez Farías and of laws passed during his administration touching upon such matters as ecclesiastical reforms, education, the formation of militias, promoting colonization, and reforming the administration of justice is, according to the author, to bring together in a short volume the most important writings that reveal Farías to have been an outstanding leader in the Mexican social revolution. The author is also anxious to avoid the strongly biased attitudes, pro or con, of those who discuss Farías.

In these objectives Ricardo Delgado Román has largely succeeded. His little volume is a useful compendium for anyone interested in the early 19th century reform movement in Mexico. Due credit should be given to Governor Agustín Yáñez and to the State of Jalisco for sponsoring the series of

volumes on liberal thought in Mexico of which this is one.

C. A. HUTCHINSON

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The Family and Population Control. A Puerto Rican Experiment in Social Change. By REUBEN HILL, J. MAY-ONE STYCOS, KURT W. BLACK. Chapel Hill, 1959, University of North Carolina Press. Figures. Tables. Appendices. Bibliography. Index. Pp. xxvi, 481. Cloth. \$8.00.

Attracting attention because of its high birth rate, Puerto Rico has been the object of a number of investigations of its family life. This book records another such study, a particularly ambitious one, involving dozens of researchers and an intensive examination of lower-class Puerto Ricans. The authors' conclusions are many, but may be summed up with the statement that family limitation is an extremely complex matter related to many facets of culture. The study won the Helen L. De Roy Award as the best piece of social research done in 1956.

CARL M. ROSENQUIST

University of Texas

Historia del año de 1887. By LIDIO CRUZ MONCLOVA. Puerto Rico, 1958. Editorial Universitaria. Index. Pp. 385. Paper.

The history of 1887, an infamous year for the Spanish administration of Puerto Rico, was written with the blood and suffering of leading island citizens. Professor Lidio Cruz Monclova, the Puerto Rican historian of the XIX Century, offers in this third of a four volume series a solid documentary study of the antecedent vacillations of the island liberals which came to crystallize, under the dynamic leadership of Román Baldorioty de Castro, in the political position of local autonomy; the reaction, precipitated by the local philo-Spaniards, of the despotic military minded resident administrators led by General Palacio; and finally the feeble attempts by the Central Govern-

ment in Madrid to gloss over the ugly incident.

In 1935 Antonio S. Pedreira, assisted partly by Sr. Lidio Cruz Monclova, presented a polished monograph entitled *El año terrible del '87*. The progress realized by the present generation of the island historians is vividly demonstrated by this current study. The students of don Lidio, to keep up with the established tradition, will only be able to improve on their mentor's work by locating the lost prison diary of Baldorioty de Castro last seen in the Library of Congress.

THOMAS MATHEWS

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Panorama de la cultura puertorriqueña.

By MARIA TERESA BABIN. Prologue by ANDRES IDUARTE. San Juan de Puerto Rico, 1958. Instituto de Cultura Puertorriqueña. Illustrations. Bibliography. Index. Pp. 488.

This is a very good, all-over survey of the people, values, culture, arts and beliefs of Puerto Rico. All proveniences are drawn upon—Latin American, North American, Indian, African, and Castilian—to show the cultural complex, and to point out past and future direction of allegiance. The sections on intellectual activity are especially fruitful, as analysis, and as a record as well. The self-consciousness of Puerto Rican writers, poets, playwrights is made quite clear as part of the literary "nationalism" which marks their expression. In one sense, the book is a paean in prose to the intellectual and spiritual glory of Puerto Rico. It surely is one of the credits to the good record already earned by the Instituto de Cultura Puertorriqueña.

Although the University of Puerto Rico is treated with respect and appreciation for its cultural accomplishments, the author is aware that in Puerto Rico, as elsewhere, poets, artists, novelists and playwrights come from the outside: the people or the informal *ambiente* of the culture. Both of these sources confer an intellectual vigor upon

the tiny island whose writers have given it a voice in the Caribbean and Latin American world.

HARRY BERNSTEIN

Brooklyn College

Presencia jíbara desde Manuel Alonso hasta don Florito. By ERNESTO JUAN FONFRÍAS. San Juan Bautista de Puerto Rico, 1957. Editorial Club de la Prensa. Prologue by ALBERTO MARIA CARREÑO. Pp. 140. Paper.

Esta obra del senador Fonfrías, conocido político y periodista de Puerto Rico, es, sobre todo, una recopilación de datos sobre el jíbaro o campesino borinqueño como tema literario. Quien desee tener una idea de lo que el género costumbrista ha producido en la hermosa isla antillana, y de cuáles han sido las vicisitudes del simpático jíbaro—de arcaico y expresivo lenguaje—en las letras puertorriqueñas puede, entre otros, acudir a este librito.

Hará bien, sin embargo, en prescindir de la lectura de las páginas 121 a 140. No contienen más que una serie de ditirambos dirigidos al autor. Sea cual sea su importancia, no le añaden nada, ni tienen que ver, con la obra propiamente dicha.

MIGUEL ENGUÍDANOS

University of Texas

The Puerto Rican Businessman. A Study in Cultural Change. By THOMAS C. COCHRAN. Philadelphia, 1959. University of Pennsylvania Press. Tables. Appendices. Index. Pp. 198. Cloth. \$5.00.

Professor Cochran interviewed about one hundred business executives, some of them several times, in an attempt to learn how business and the business man in Puerto Rico have made the transition from Spanish colonial practice to the procedures of the contemporary world. He has not been interested, except for inevitable comparisons, in the activities of continental United States business operating in the island.

Particularly the author dwells on the cultural differences which have shaped