

Puerto Rican business; on the non-communication between levels of culture in Puerto Rico; and on the impact of entrepreneurship. In the latter instance he shows "how physical environment, technological change, inherited culture, and North American influences have . . . altered the attitudes of Puerto Rican entrepreneurs." The book is thoughtful throughout, based on careful research and on a year spent in the Commonwealth. It has value well beyond the range of history, for it reveals a wealth of economic and sociological information about one of the more intriguing experiments in the life of the United States.

JOE B. FRANTZ

The University of Texas

NICARAGUA

Las constituciones de Nicaragua (Exposición, crítica y textos). By EMILIO ALVAREZ LEJARZA. Madrid, 1958. Ediciones Cultura Hispánica. Prologue by M. FRAGA IRIBARNE. Pp. xiii, 998. Paper.

This work is part of the Collection *Las Constituciones Hispanoamericanas* and has considerable merit, in spite of some obvious bias on the part of Sr. Alvarez, a Nicaraguan Senator. The first 226 pages are devoted to a brief but good résumé of the historical and constitutional background of Nicaragua, which takes the reader from early Indian governments through the constitutional reforms of 1955.

Of far greater value is the material between pages 227 and 998. Here one finds the texts of constitutions, fundamental laws, and international conventions. Some of those included are: the Constitution of Bayona of July 7, 1808—dictated by Napoleon I and approved by Joseph Bonaparte, the Constitution of 1812—proclaimed by the Cortes de Cádiz, the incorporation of Central America into the Mexican Empire, the Federal Constitution of Central America, the Knox Note, the Bryan-Chamorro Treaty, and the numerous Nicaraguan Constitutions. By compiling these forty-three documents, Sr. Alvarez has

aided greatly anyone interested in Nicaragua, since many of them are not readily accessible.

CHARLES E. FRAZIER, JR.

Agricultural & Mechanical
College of Texas

PERU

Menéndez Pelayo y Riva-Agüero, A propósito de su epistolario. By CESAR PACHECO VELEZ. Lima, 1958. Publicaciones del Instituto Riva-Agüero. Illustration. Pp. 59. Paper.

Criterios de política y administración del Ministerio de Relaciones Interiores de Venezuela. Digesto. By FRANCISCO J. PARRA. Prologue by JULIO DIEZ. New York, 1958. Las Américas. Index. Pp. 128.

This slim little volume is worth its weight in gold to the historian. It is a digest of the archives of the *Ministerio de Relaciones Interiores de Venezuela* for the years 1830 to 1846, and indicates the problems which faced the new republic in 1830. It begins with *Aduanas* (the main concern of which was how to direct the navy to control smuggling), *Agricultura*, *Anotaciones de Hipotecas*, *Archivos* (the author laments the loss of records and the confused state of the remaining ones), *Autoridad Civil y Militar*, *Bagajes*, *Biblioteca Nacional* (books in suppressed convents and other depositories were declared the property of the nation so they could be placed in the National Library), *Caminos*, *Capital de la República*, *Cárceles y Presidios* (since no Venezuelan could be tried outside his own district, criminals would go unpunished if jails were not established in each canton), and continues on through 115 sections to end with *Viáticos y Dietas para Congresantes*.

JANE LUCAS DE GRUMMOND

Louisiana State University