in the struggle against the Black Legend. The myth and/or reality of Spanish cruelty and barbarity in the New World has long been the concern of professional historians; now the problem has become the province of the beginning history student. Father Bannon's well-chosen selections range chronologically from the sixteenth to the twentieth century and represent the mixed viewpoints of Spanish, Hispanic American, and American writers. Brief excerpts from the Brevisima relación show Bartolomé de las Casas at his best (or worst). Selections from the work of the Venezuelan Rufino Blanco-Fombona and the Spaniard Francisco Morales Padrón demonstrate the compiler's discrimination in choosing representative, modern interpretations. But like so many problems of this type, an artificial dichotomy has been created that might tend to lead the novice interpreter down a false trail. The conquistadores were men of "contrary tendencies," a mixture of man and devil. As with most of us, there seemed to be a bit of the diabolic even in the best of them.

JOHN TE PASKE
Ohio State University


With bold and bold strokes the author sketches what he calls "the spiritual conquest of America," but limits himself to the old Spanish Southwest. A reader might expect much more from a passing glance at the subtitle. The story, however, he tells well, though he can hardly be said to have added anything new, either in fact or interpretation. He begins with Columbus and then highlights the conquest, armed and spiritual, of Mexico (Cortés and Zumárraga). The next figures are the familiar ones—De Vaca, Fray Marcos, Coronado, and the missionaries, Franciscans in New Mexico and Jesuits in Sonora and Arizona. The final chapter recalls the archbishops of Santa Fe, from Lamy to Byrne.

JOHN FRANCIS BANNON, S.J.
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The cliché that "you can't tell a book by its cover," or even its title, is evident from this work. San Diego could hardly be considered a central theme of a study based on the Spanish exploratory and colonization impetus along the Pacific coast north from Mexico.

The format of 8½" × 11" for publication of this study, one clearly based on documentary sources, is noteworthy. Several dozen contemporary and modern maps enhance the value of the work. In addition, the book reproduces portions of dozens of documents, artifacts, drawings and photographs, some of which are in color. Translations of key documents in both text and appendix add zest and authority.

In the early chapters the work depends heavily on the unpublished doctoral dissertation of General Maurice G. Holmes on Spanish nautical explorations along the coast of the Californias. Many of the stories, such as those of Cortés, Rodriguez Cabrillo, Victoria, Serra, Rivera and Anza are well known. Author Pourade comes from the field of journalism and might be excused for absence of footnotes, and even for incomplete knowledge of sources of documents and studies on such explorers as Rodriguez Cermeno; but it is difficult to overlook mechanical, grammatical, and other errors in such a well-published work.

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