

emphasizes the difference between archaeology and salvage. The historian need no longer think of underwater archaeology as mere adventure, while divers are warned that raising objects from the sea, without plans and photographs for scientific publication, is no longer excusable. New techniques, some devised as this book went to press, are rapidly making underwater archaeology as accurate as that done on land.

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Plant Hunters in the Andes. By T. HARPER GOODSPEED. Berkeley and Los Angeles, 1961. The University of California Press. Illustrations. Index. Pp. 378.

Chavante. An Expedition to the Tribes of Mato Grosso. By ROLF BLOMBERG. Translated by REGINALD SPINK. New York, 1961. Taplinger Publishing Company. Illustrations. Index. Pp. 119. \$7.50.

Travel books can often provide hours of enjoyable reading, and in addition be an excellent source of knowledge of an area. Some of the most incisive reports of Latin America have been found in them, and most Latin Americanists have their personal favorites. To this reviewer Flandrau's *Viva México* and Schmid's *Beggars on Golden Stools* stand as classics; storehouses of cultural information and yet highly readable.

Two recent additions to the fund of travel literature concerning Latin America are Rolf Blomberg's *Chavante* and a new and expanded edition of T. Harper Goodspeed's *Plant Hunters in the Andes*.

The first book, *Chavante*, proves to be the least satisfactory. The author, a Swedish explorer and naturalist long resident in Ecuador, writes of his adventures in Brazil while making a commercial film in various parts of the back-country. The title of the book is a misnomer, since readers who are anxious to read of the isolated and little known Chavante tribe will have

to wait until page 98, three quarters of the book, before the author discusses them. Even then the fourteen-page treatment is little more than a series of casual observations. The major portion of the book is given over to descriptions of Rio de Janeiro, Marajó Island near Belem, and a chapter concerning filming of scenes of the intrepid coastal fishermen near Fortaleza. It would appear that Mr. Blomberg has written the book to titillate the imagination of the armchair adventurer. Its value as a piece of social literature is nominal. Some fine color photos of various tribes of the Mato Grosso are a contribution. Even in the cover illustrations, however, the publishers appear to have been carried away with sensationalism. In bold letters the word Chavante is emblazoned across the dust jacket. Below is the portrait of an Indian in multicolored headdress, full paint, and finery. On page 65 one learns that the illustration is of a Carajá Indian. The Chavantes wear virtually nothing, and perhaps do not lend themselves as readily to colorful cover illustrations.

Plant Hunters in the Andes was first published in 1941 following two expeditions undertaken for the University of California Botanical Garden. Expanded to include four more expeditions, the book carries us up to 1958. These expeditions covered the whole of Andean South America, with periodic visits to neighboring regions. Though largely written by Goodspeed, the book includes lengthy reports extracted from the journals of his assistants. At times this leads to a certain amount of confusion on the part of the reader, since it sometimes is difficult to determine which expedition he is referring to, and who are the members.

The one dominant theme of the book is the search for different species of the genus *Nicotiana*, of which *Tabacum*, the common tobacco plant, is most famous. Involving over 25 years of effort, lengthy and difficult journeys into the selva, páramos, and such exotic places as the Chilean island of Más Afuera, Goodspeed and his assistants gathered the largest collection of Nicotiana

tiana in the world, thus enabling the author to draw conclusions as to the origin of the various species. Employing considerable wit as well as sagacity, the book concerns not only the botany of the areas visited, but offers some interesting observations of the people encountered. Perhaps these occasional digressions from the botanical theme are not enough to sustain the interest of the general reader. As a testimonial to self-sacrificing scholarship, however, this book has few equals. Twenty-five years of effort to expand the knowledge concerning one genus of plants indicates true dedication. The book should prove to be an inspiration to any scientist—physical, natural, or social.

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Longhorns Bring Culture. By AUGUST H. SCHATZ. Boston, 1961. Christopher Publishing House. Illustrations. Appendix. Index. Pp. 240. \$4.75.

A book of this kind should be reviewed under different criteria from one written by a professional historian. Mr. Schatz is not a historian, nor even a polished writer, and from the title onward, his book is grammatically awkward, his vocabulary inadequate, and his organization poor. He is an amateur with a love of the past, especially the years of his boyhood, the 1880's and 1890's, in Fall River County in southwestern South Dakota. And as a labor of love he has gathered biographies, anecdotes, and business histories of the county and has done his best to compile a chronicle of its early times. Such a work has real value for the trained historian, for here is source material which would be lost were it not for the local antiquarian laboring mightily to preserve some knowledge of the way things once were.

Of particular interest to authorities on the Spanish borderlands are the chapters on the Anglo-American Cattle Company and the Keystone Land and Cattle Company. These great outfits, as well as several lesser ones, imported thousands of undesirable Texas

longhorns into southwestern Dakota, where they planned to sell them not to eastern markets, which did not want them, but to the government which would use them to fulfill beef allotments to the Sioux Indians on the Pine Ridge Reservation. So many large herds of Texas cattle were trailed north for this purpose that the market was soon saturated. It would appear that this is a little-known chapter in the story of the demise of those longhorned "critters," that helped Texas pockets jingle with new cash in the period following the Civil War.

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The Cattle Kings. By LEWIS ATHERTON. Bloomington, Indiana, 1961. Indiana University Press. Notes. Index. Pp. 306. \$6.95.

The Western buff will want this book to round out his collection. The student of the West will want it as a source book, and to the occasional speaker on the subject it will be like *Joe Miller's Jest*s to the office-bound gag writer.

In his highly objective concentration "on the role of the Western cattleman in American culture," Mr. Atherton has sifted a multitude of source materials and commentators to trace a cultural study of the West in its various facets: Why was a cattleman a cattleman? What part did women play? Was the cowboy really like he is portrayed on TV? What was this code of the West? And sundry other questions.

After a thorough plumbing of the subject, in most cases the conclusion comes out "Sometimes yes, sometimes no." But conclusions are hardly the important part of the book or the subject at hand. It matters little to today's historian, student, or TV viewer—and it mattered equally little to yesterday's cattleman, cowboy, or outlaw—that "the hack writers undoubtedly stimulated violence by prating the code of the West." Violence existed; the cattleman was