

sence of ideological attachments and discussions.

*Bolivia. El prometeo de los Andes.* By RAUL RUIZ GONZÁLEZ. Buenos Aires, 1961. Editorial Platina. Colección Problemas de América. Vol. II. Charts. Notes. Pp. 269. Paper.

This is one of the better books—even printing and format are of better than usual quality—to come recently from Bolivia. It is written by a leftist, seemingly a communist, and therefore it reflects strong biases and a violent anti-Americanism. Yet the book is a well-organized and well-researched survey of the life and problems of Bolivia from pre-Columbian and colonial origins to the present day. There is a heavy emphasis on economics, and the author has used some novel statistics. Naturally his prejudices are deplorable, and the United States is made the scapegoat for everything. Ignoring the biases, the book is most useful.

*Bibliografía preliminar de Luis Subieta Sagarnaga.* By GUILLERMO OVANDO-SANZ and MARIO CHACÓN TORRES. Introduction by ABELARDO VILLALPANDO R. Potosí, 1961. Instituto de Investigaciones Históricas. Universidad Autónoma Tomás Frías. Serie II: Bibliografía. Cuaderno No. 2. Illustrations. Notes. Bibliography. Pp. 28. Paper.

This little monograph is a jewel in Bolivian historiography. It represents a most worthy pioneer venture. The authors have taken one historian—mediocre, to be sure—who has patiently done research on specialized topics. Luis Subieta Sagarnaga has concentrated on local history and has stayed away from imitating the sweeping interpretive studies by pseudo-historians so abundant in Bolivia. A history of Bolivia is still lacking, but in order to have a history specialized monographs and articles are needed. The authors believe that the elderly Subieta Sagarnaga, who still lives, points the way.

On this rests his merit rather than on the quality of his writings. All three authors (Villalpando's introduction is the heart of the monograph) deserve applause for dramatizing, by using a most deserving local historian as their subject, the need for historical research and writing.

*Doctrinas de la Cancillería Venezolana. Digesto.* Vol. V. By FRANCISCO J. PARRA. New York, 1961. Las Americas Publishing Co. Index. Pp. xi, 306.

The fifth volume in the digest of Venezuelan international law covers the period 1925-1935. It follows the same format as the other volumes.

Numerous controversies arose during this decade, but few were of major importance to Venezuela. This is the period when Venezuela experienced the rise of the petroleum industry, increased foreign trade, and strong support from abroad, while the country was run as a private fief by the ruling dictator. Thus it follows that Venezuela would urge hemispheric cooperation and arbitration. This she did often, and especially on five different occasions for the settlement of delicate problems of boundaries, and when only two of these affected her. While foreigners were welcomed, caution was exerted in the slow extension of their rights. At first there was "no denial of justice" to them; then the equality of rights of nationals and foreigners was upheld. Foreigners were reminded not to participate in political activities in Venezuela, and nationals were warned not to participate in political activities of other countries.

One international problem, that of the illegality of the acts of the German ship, *Falke*, was reason enough to strengthen the presidential power in Venezuela in 1931.

The final volumes of this digest will complete a fine contribution to Venezuelan history.

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