

the United States believed that James Buchanan was a tool of the English and that the British were conspiring to seize Central America but quite another thing to state, and especially to prove, that it was true. Anglo-American diplomatic relations, as presented in this book, are garbled and distorted. The discussion of Central American political developments, moreover, is superficial and unconvincing—for example, the explanation of Walker's break with the unionist liberals. Finally, the bibliography should have included the books by Mary W. Williams, Ira D. Travis, and Edward S. Wallace.

In short, Mr. Carr's work deserves accolades for its artistic qualities, not for its pretensions to historical scholarship.

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Historia de Puerto Rico. Siglo XIX, 1885-1898. Vol. III. Part 2. By LIDIO CRUZ MONCLOVA. San Juan, Puerto Rico, 1962. Editorial Universitaria. Universidad de Puerto Rico. Illustrations. Notes. Index. Pp. 457. Paper.

This book deals with a crucial period in the history of Puerto Rico: 1892 to 1897. The island liberals had founded in 1887 the Autonomist Party which demanded for Puerto Rico the greatest possible decentralization within the national unity. Nevertheless, Spain vacillated in regard to the solution of the political status of the Antilles; therefore, the matter was still open in 1892. The conservatives, or the "hundred-fifty-percent" Spaniards, played on Spain's fears, declaring over and over that autonomy would bring independence to the islands, thus getting the metropolitan support. It was easy for them therefore, to elect the majority of the deputies sent by Cuba and Puerto Rico to the Spanish parliament as well as the local municipal and insular offices.

The autonomists, on the other hand, spent their energies debating not only over the convenience of allying with political parties in Spain which could bring them out of their political impotence, but also over the specific Spanish party to which they could make the alliance. Foremost in this process stood Luis Muñoz Rivera, who since the Autonomist Assembly of 1887 was working up his reputation as the leader of the liberals. He tried to convince old and young autonomists of the futility of waiting for the advent of the Spanish republic to be able to attain political power, and to make clear the convenience of an alliance with one of the ruling parties which alternated in the use of the political power. Muñoz Rivera attained his goal in 1897, although other circumstances such as the Cuban revolt and the diplomatic pressure of the United States precipitated the decision made by the

Spanish liberal, Práxedes Mateo Sagasta to oblige himself to sponsor autonomy for Cuba and Puerto Rico when he was in power. The period ends nevertheless with an uneven division of the autonomists; for, a minority refused to abide by the alliance made.

The leader of this minority was Dr. José Celso Barbosa, who declared that the Autonomist ideal had been betrayed due to the fact that one of the provisions of the alliance required a change in the name of the party: from Autonomist to Liberal. Be that as it may, the fact is that the report of the Alliance Commission was submitted to a general assembly of the Party, and the majority was willing to acquiesce in Sagasta's request. The division—on the eve of the invasion of the island by the United States—set up the political climate in the post-invasion years.

The book is an excellent source of primary documents—most of them transcribed in full. The political thought of Muñoz Rivera can be traced in the articles he published in his newspaper, "La Democracia," quoted by the author verbatim. Nevertheless, the personal interpretation of the facts is practically absent. Although the author gives references which could clear up controversial issues, he leaves their interpretation and comparison to the reader.

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Europe in the Caribbean. By SIR HAROLD MITCHELL, Bt. Stanford, 1963. Stanford University Press. Illustrations. Maps. Notes. Bibliography. Index. Pp. xv, 177. \$4.00.

The sub-title "The policies of Great Britain, France and the Netherlands towards their West Indian Territories in the Twentieth Century," is a capsule summary of the contents of this volume. There is first a brief survey of colonial holdings and struggles between the European powers in the Caribbean before 1815. Next there are separate chapters on British, French, and Dutch Caribbean policy from 1815 to 1939. The body of the work is what has happened since 1939, specifically the transformation of the colonies from their earlier colonial status to self-government. European nations and specific Caribbean areas are treated separately. British Guiana and British Honduras are included. Finally there is a brief summary chapter.

The historical background gives in clear form the policy of the European countries concerned in the Caribbean with special emphasis on political forms and controls and the changing economic and social picture which came with the ending of slavery and the decline of the sugar economy in the nineteenth century. One problem always in-