

the book will soon be out of date—indeed it is already. For myself, I think that the book should have had a chapter dealing with literature, art, or culture in general. For example, there is not a word about Ricardo Palma, García Calderón, Ciro Alegría, and many others. The style is monotonous—the whole book is dull. But I repeat, the book fulfills a useful purpose. Perfection is impossible in this kind of book but it could have been better—some other books in this series are.

University of South Florida

CHARLES W. ARNADE

*30 años de historia argentina.* By JUAN JOSÉ REAL. Buenos Aires, 1962. Ediciones Actualidad Prólogo. Notes. Index. Pp. 254. Paper.

It is rare to find an Argentine political figure engaged in extensive self-criticism but such is the case in this thought-provoking volume devoted to Argentine politics since 1930. Its author, now a printer by trade, was for many years a militant in the Argentine Communist Party and a member of its central committee. Expelled in 1953 for advocating unity with the Peronists, he withdrew from all political activity and devoted himself to studying the national scene and re-examining his basic position. The result is this volume directed to the younger generation and particularly to Argentine workers with whose interests the author identifies himself.

The book itself is a combination historical analysis and political tract, with occasional autobiographical references. In reviewing (rather than reconstructing) the events of the past thirty years, Real sees basic continuities at work and a repetitive pattern in the overthrows of Yrigoyen, Perón, and Frondizi. Each of these men, regardless of differences, was the leader of a movement with popular and nationalist roots; each in turn was opposed by a league of rightist and leftist groups and in each case the movement fell, yielding power to what the author calls the antinational oligarchy.

Real regards the popular nationalist movement as a permanent force in Argentine politics regardless of the external forms it has taken, yrigoyenismo, peronismo, frondicismo. Heterogeneous in social composition and vague in specific program, this movement has nevertheless represented the true interests of the workers, he argues, because those interests lie in the growth of a balanced national economy based on the development of power resources and heavy industry as well as agriculture. That the Argentine workers failed to appreciate this and through their passivity contributed to the ultimate collapse of Yri-

yen, Perón, and Frondizi is part of the perplexing reality of these years.

Real's approach involves him in a detailed analysis of Argentine Communist Party positions taken at critical junctures over the past thirty years. It is here, perhaps, that the book has its greatest value, for the author quotes effectively from Party documents and does not hesitate to criticize the views he himself once held. Readers will find considerable interest in his discussion of the role of the military, the Catholic Church, foreign capital, and agrarian reform. His position on each of these issues is a measure of the ideological distance he has traveled since leaving the Party. While Real's purpose in writing this book is in part polemical, its tone is mild and its appeal is to reason. As a reinterpretation of a troubled period of Argentine history, it deserves careful reading.

University of Massachusetts

ROBERT POTASH

*O Cardeal Leme, 1882-1942.* By IRMÃ MARIA REGINA DO SANTO ROSÁRIO. Rio de Janeiro, 1962. Livraria José Olympio Editôra. Coleção Documentos Brasileiros. No. 113. Illustrations. Index. Pp. xii, 478. Paper.

*A vida de Nilo Peçanha.* By BRÍGIDO TINOCO. Rio de Janeiro, 1962. Livraria José Olympio Editôra. Coleção Documentos Brasileiros. No. 114. Illustrations. Bibliography. Pp. x, 291. Paper.

Gilberto Freyre has characterized Nilo Peçanha as a member of the political center in Brazil during the early decades of the republic. Nilo and others in the center, treading a path between supporters of positivism and idealistic adherents to pure republican principles, sought to solve the problems of their day in a practical non-doctrinaire manner. Such an interpretation offers the most comfortable explanation of the political career of Nilo Peçanha, though it is not the interpretation offered by Brígido Tinoco.

Nilo Peçanha (1867-1924), born of mulatto parents in the state of Rio de Janeiro, came of age politically during the revolt against the empire when he was elected to the National Constituent Assembly. The succeeding decade found him straddling basic issues of national politics, his position depending on his relationship to the president. Nilo's career advanced rapidly with the election of Campos Salles in 1898. Nilo gave vigorous support to the second paulista president and became his confidant. He also served as the political deputy of the president in the state of Rio de Janeiro and gained control of the