

of names and, in the center of the volume, a section of fifty-eight illustrations relating to Alberdi's life.

JAMES R. SCOBIE
Indiana University

La crisis institucional argentina. By CARLOS ORTIZ. Buenos Aires, 1962. Carman, Raul y Federico. Pp. 90. Paper.

Some of the problems that concern Carlos Ortiz in the book reviewed here are not new to Argentina. They simply have become more acute since the fall of Perón. They are specifically the absence of civic zeal and a sense of civic responsibility, the poor popular image of the politician and the party man, the participation of only eight per cent of the electorate in the organization and activities of political parties, the lack of communication between the people and their elected officials, and the acquisition of political power by union leaders. These "evils" and their consequences—political, economic, social, and institutional instability—Ortiz attributes to the secret ballot. Before the Sáenz Peña law, he would have us believe, these problems did not exist. To restore the alleged political and institutional stability of the past, Ortiz would abolish the obligation to vote, compel citizens who wish to vote to affiliate themselves annually with a political party which will receive their civic tax for that year, and have political parties maintain a list of their partisans so that they can consult them on party objectives, invite them to party functions, and help them acquire housing, medical attention, and so forth. In addition, he would bar union officials from holding public office and assure a majority in Congress to the party receiving a majority in an election. The implementation of his recommendations, Ortiz feels, will forestall the establishment of a dictatorship of the proletariat in Argentina.

JOSEPH T. CRISCENTI
Boston College

BRAZIL

Social Change in Brazil. By THALES DE AZEVEDO. Gainesville, 1963. The University of Florida Press. Latin American Monographs, No. 22. Notes. Pp. 81. Paper.

This thin volume, the twenty-second in a series sponsored by the University of Florida's recently reorganized School of Inter-American Studies, is a veritable gem for the student of Brazil's social institutions. Written by Dr. Thales de Azevedo, internationally known professor of anthropology at the University of Bahía, it was prepared from his notes and class discussions in a graduate seminar offered at the University of Wisconsin in 1960.

Though it cannot be compared in scope with the deeper and more documented works of others of Brazil's swiftly expanding school of anthropologists and sociologists, including the master Gilberto Freyre, Dr. Azevedo's study, nevertheless, fills an extremely acute vacuum in his field—it provides both the casual reader and the professional scholar with a concise synthesis of the principal features and impact of three basic Brazilian institutions: the family, race and class structure, and religion. Each of these topics is analyzed in a clear and convincing style, which aids materially in developing perception on the part of the reader of those essential characteristics which tend to make Brazil so different from her Spanish-speaking neighbors. The chapter on the family, for example, not only emphasizes the basic importance of this institution in Brazilian cultural development but also points out its relationship both to class structure and to religious practices. Likewise, the chapter devoted to race and class defines the peculiarly Brazilian success in formulating social relations relatively without conflict. Finally, the author's discussion of religion represents a most understandable argument for the oft-suggested thesis that "God is Brazilian." Of particular significance in each of these chapters is Dr. Azevedo's objectivity in evaluating the

effect of modern trends upon his country's traditions and mores.

For its brevity, its concentration on primary social institutions, and for its persuasive style, this compact monograph clearly merits the attention of all Brazilianists, including both old-hands and novices.

CHARLES J. KOLINSKI
Florida Atlantic University

Reforma agraria cuestión de conciencia.

By ANTONIO DE CASTRO MAYER, ET AL. Buenos Aires, 1963. Editó Club de Lectores. Distribuye Fontis. Notes. Pp. 277. Paper.

This book will one day be important to historians who would deal with the development of thought concerning agrarian reform or to those who would analyze the conflicting intellectual currents of Brazil's attempting to emerge as a major world power. It tells us nothing of the past, however, except for a brief characterization of the *fazendeiro* as a sort of pioneer culture-hero, carving his home out of the jungle and making Brazil a fit place for women and children. Most of the rest of the book is straightforward pamphleteering which juxtaposes "the Faith" and "private property" against "Socialism," "Communism," and "the predominant State." Pontifical documents and Thomas Aquinas are virtually the only sources cited; the few tables and statistical summaries that, in the original, offered some specific data concerning the contemporary situation with respect to landholding in the nation have been omitted from this translation.

Although historians and social scientists may be frustrated by this static, almost medieval, disquisition on a social problem which is of unquestioned significance but which is never really addressed in realistic terms, they must recognize the importance of any book that has sold more than 30,000 copies in four editions and has stimulated considerable controversy in Brazil. It tells nothing about agrarian reform, actual or projected, in legal, economic, political, or social terms; it *does* tell a great

deal about the religious and nationalistic views of a portion of the population who fear they will soon be eclipsed.

DWIGHT HEATH

Brown University

Heitor Villa-Lobos, Brazilian Composer. By VASCO MARIZ. Gainesville, 1963. The University of Florida Press. Latin American Monographs, 24. Notes. Bibliography. Pp. viii, 62. Paper.

According to Gilbert Chase (the musicologist who has written on Spanish music and the music of the Americas), this monograph is the first complete study of the life and work of Heitor Villa-Lobos to appear in English. However, when one considers the enigmatic career of this composer-musician-conductor-educator whose works are said to number over 1,500 and whose public career lasted approximately 50 years and took him to several continents, one wonders how complete this 62 page treatise actually is.

Dr. Vasco Mariz, the author, having been a personal friend of Villa-Lobos, is in a favored position, and certain phases of Villa-Lobos' life, such as his associations with other notable musicians while in Paris and the character study of Villa-Lobos in Chapter IV, depend on Mariz's direct testimony. These and other details related firsthand by the author raise this monograph to the rank of an original source document in Latin American musicology.

The first three chapters are a biographical sketch succinctly covering the well-established facts of Villa-Lobos' life. Chapter IV is a character study based in part upon author Mariz's personal experience. The remaining chapters treat the works of the composer. There is a short bibliography listing five of the principal biographical works about Villa-Lobos which are in the Portuguese language. Incidentally, this monograph is a condensed version of a previously published work in Portuguese.

This monograph is valuable because most, if not all, of the truly pertinent