

dent. On December 17, 1962 President Kennedy commented on two years in the presidency with representatives of the three large broadcasting chains in an interview which was sent to United States embassies as a motion picture. William Lawrence of ABC asked the President how his experience during the two years had matched his expectations at the beginning. President Kennedy replied: "Well, I think in the first place the problems are more difficult than I had imagined they were. Secondly, there is a limitation on the ability of the United States to solve these problems." He repeated these thoughts for emphasis and elaborated on the theme with examples and then added, "If you take the wrong course, and on occasion I have, the President bears the burden of the responsibility quite rightly. The advisors may move on to new advice."

Washington, D. C.

ROBERT WOODWARD

Latin American Mission. An Adventure in Hemisphere Diplomacy.

By DELESSEPS S. MORRISON. Edited and with an introduction by GEROLD FRANK. New York, 1965. Simon and Schuster. Index. Pp. 288. \$5.95.

Delesseps Morrison's posthumous account of his tenure as United States Ambassador to the OAS does not pretend to be scholarly. However, the impressions of this political activist are indeed a primary source. Ambassador Morrison explains the intricacies of the Alliance for Progress as well as his role in attaining economic and diplomatic sanctions against Castro's Cuba. The lack of a cohesive Latin American policy during the Kennedy years is apparent and also the state of confusion existing in the Bureau of Inter-American Affairs. The ambassador is critical of Kennedy's White House staff of untrained romantics whose ideas about Latin America frequently took precedence over those of experienced Department of State advisors.

He expresses grave concern for the future of United States policy in Latin America vis a vis the ineffective OAS, which is controlled by the United States but operates under a facade of juridical equality. Examples of United States coercion of hemispheric neighbors are related, and of particular interest is the role which Washington played in the expulsion of the Trujillos from the Dominican Republic.

Morrison recommends a flexible Latin American policy, strongly supporting the *Alianza*, encouraging European nations and Japan to assist, and accepting differences of opinion within the hemisphere. In his opinion also the Department of State should upgrade its personnel and help to strengthen the Secretariat of the OAS. He warns

against over-reliance upon the democratic left, which often incorrectly believes that it can outdo the Communists in achieving social change, and cites Juan Bosch as a primary example of this failure to keep pace with reality.

At all times Ambassador Morrison delighted in exposing political and diplomatic corruption and in so doing shed considerable light upon contemporary hemispheric problems.

University of Notre Dame

SHELDON B. LISS

The Caribbean: Its Health Problems. Edited by A. CURTIS WILGUS. Gainesville, 1965. University of Florida Press. The Caribbean Conference Series. Bibliography. Index. Pp. 273. \$7.50.

Students of Latin America, particularly those from the United States, have shown surprisingly little interest in the historical development and contemporary significance of health and sanitation problems in that region. Yet the widespread introduction of modern medicines and improved public health technology is chiefly responsible for the spiraling population increases that constantly challenge the best efforts of planners and developers. Indeed future historians may well conclude that the most significant innovation in twentieth-century Latin America was the sharp drop in the death rate so dramatically produced by modern medicine. In spite of commendable progress in health and sanitation there is still much to be done, however, as is made abundantly clear in *The Caribbean: Its Health Problems*.

This volume—the proceedings of the Fourteenth Annual Caribbean Conference—contains twenty-one chapters on such various topics as “Physical and Cultural Environment,” “Food and Nutrition,” “Sanitation,” “Diseases,” “Health Administration,” and “Agencies Engaged in Health Activities.” As would be expected, the chapters vary considerably in quality, but in the opinion of the reviewer chapters 1, 5, 6, 9, 11, 15, 16, 18, 19, and 21 are particularly authoritative and informative. Chapter 21, on “Bibliography and Reference Sources,” although far from complete, amply demonstrates that the historian interested in the modern medical history of the Caribbean will not lack for sources. The absence of any satisfactory chapter by a medical historian is the most notable omission in an otherwise broadly conceived volume. Another weakness is that the Introduction makes no effort to correlate or unify the diverse themes in the book but stands apart as a disconnected segment. But in spite of such minor weaknesses and the inevitable “shotgun” approach of