

To the very small and slowly growing group of Paraguayanists in the United States, Charles Kolinski first gained admittance with an article on the death of Francisco Solano López. This article probably was inspired by his major effort, a doctoral dissertation on the Paraguayan War, now published by the University of Florida Press.

This volume is especially welcome because it is the first comprehensive history of the war in English. Multivolume histories in Spanish, Portuguese, and German lack a desirable balance: invariably they neglect Paraguay and place too much emphasis on one of the other combatants. Here, indeed, is a major virtue of Kolinski's work. His is a balanced narrative, generally well proportioned among the many facets that demand attention. Kolinski sets the stage, summarizes causes, then provides sketches of López, Dom Pedro, Mitre, Flores, and Urquiza. He returns frequently to the Marshal and the Emperor as the narrative progresses. A very good chapter describes the armed forces of the combatants, with special attention to organization, training, leadership, and materiel.

Although Kolinski is at his best in these first chapters, the allotment of space appears to be uneven. The major battles deserve more attention. This weakness is at least partially remedied by constant reminders of what was going on in Brazil and Argentina, behind the lines in Paraguay, and in the rear areas of the allied armies. In an epilogue the author succinctly summarizes effects of the war on the combatants and properly ascribes to the conflict an important role in the eventual overthrow of Pedro II.

A major weakness of this dissertation is the author's dependence entirely upon published materials. Archival sources are available. The maps are generally inadequate, and one is attributed to "Charles A. Wilburn"! An otherwise attractive volume is marred by careless proofreading. Occasionally the author labors to produce dramatic effects; the story itself is so tragic that no literary devices are needed.

Kolinski is to be congratulated, however, on his mastery of an extremely complicated subject. He has produced a fast-moving and fascinating narrative that must be accorded a prominent place in the historiography of the war.

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*Contribución a la historia de la satira política en el Uruguay, 1897-1904.* By ALFONSO CERDA CATALÁN. Montevideo, 1965. Universidad de la República Oriental del Uruguay, Facultad de Humanidades y Ciencias. Instituto de Investigaciones Históricas. En-

sayos, Estudios y Monografías, No. 10. Illustrations. Bibliography. Pp. 78. Paper.

*Una perspectiva europea del Uruguay. Los informes diplomáticos y consulares italianos, 1862-1914.* By JUAN ANTONIO ODDONE. Montevideo, 1965. Universidad de la República Oriental del Uruguay, Facultad de Humanidades y Ciencias. Instituto de Investigaciones Históricas. Ensayos, Estudios y Monografías, No. 8. Appendix. Index. Pp. 105. Paper.

These monographs are complementary in their separate approaches to important aspects of Uruguayan history. Cerda Catalán has inventoried and categorized Uruguayan periodical literature that dealt satirically with politics through articles and illustrations. The study's terminal dates derive from the conclusions of two different military uprisings headed by a *blanco* revolutionary, Aparacio Saravia. In the first, peace came after the assassination of the hapless President Juan Idiarte Borda, and in the second, President José Batlle y Ordóñez quelled an uprising and went on to lead the republic into an era of reform and stability. Unfortunately, there is no extensive synthesis, and the work is essentially a compilation of magazine titles accompanied by appropriate annotations. However, the study provides a useful bibliographic reference for students of political and journalistic history.

Professor Oddone's lengthy essay evaluates historical resource material for Uruguayan history to be found in Italian diplomatic dispatches. Thousands of Italians migrated to Uruguay between 1862 and 1914; many settled permanently, while others stopped only briefly before moving on to Argentina or returning home. Italian diplomats took an active interest in the Italian community's welfare and were always watchful for opportunities to promote commercial and political interests. The author surveys diplomatic reports, many of which include incisive commentaries on domestic events. Some relevant dispatches have been appended to illustrate the kind of material available through a diplomatic perspective.

Oddone concludes that historians have overlooked Italy's extensive interest in the Platine region. Italian migrants most certainly played a significant role at a crucial stage in Uruguay's development by contributing their labor, skills, and financial resources, but no historian has adequately studied their total contribution. This work's chief value is in suggesting many topics for future study in depth that

may profitably utilize resources available in the Italian diplomatic archives.

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*The Unwritten Alliance. Rio Branco and Brazilian-American Relations.* By E. BRADFORD BURNS. New York, 1966. Columbia University Press. Notes. Bibliographical Essay. Bibliography. Index. Pp. 305. \$6.95.

José Maria da Silva Paranhos, Baron Rio Branco, was, in the opinion of his contemporaries, the greatest of all Brazilian ministers of foreign relations. Son of the Viscount of Rio Branco, who served as diplomat and prime minister under Pedro II, the Baron assumed control of the Foreign Office in December 1902 after fifteen years abroad as a consul. For the next ten years, until his death in 1912, he was the Foreign Office. Indefatigable, authoritarian, preëminently qualified by experience and long years of reading and research, he ruled Itamaraty by his powerful personality. Avoiding politics, he raised foreign policy above partisan polemics to the point where it reflected the desires of the entire nation. His diplomatic victories, especially in fixing Brazilian boundaries, made him a national hero.

A man of his calibre and personality provides a stimulating and profitable subject for serious research. Much, indeed, has been written about him, as Professor Burns' excellent bibliographical essay attests. But as he rightly insists, much of it is eulogistic and undiscriminating. The rich body of source material now available in the archives of Brazil and elsewhere has been largely neglected even by scholars. Opportunity reinforces the need for serious monographs on the various aspects of the diplomacy of Rio Branco and his times.

Professor Burns has addressed himself to one of these aspects, namely, the rapprochement between Brazil and the United States. As background for his central theme he devotes an initial chapter to a survey of the first twenty-five years of the Republic, a second chapter to a review of Rio Branco's life, and a third to commerce as a backdrop for his diplomacy. All three are of necessity cursory in treatment. Thereafter he focuses on the initiation, the execution, and the implications of the new policy whereby Brazil shifted its diplomatic axis from London to Washington.

Professor Burns has searched archives and published documents with the zeal of the Baron himself, and he has reviewed meticulously the secondary material, both good and bad. His narrative is thoroughly substantiated, and his conclusions are drawn from extensive read-