

briefly through the anxious years of planning to the voyage itself, and to the eventual return of a single vessel to Seville, completing the circumnavigation.

Achieving a smooth and continuous narrative from the mixed and often inconsistent sources has required a large measure of creative skill. The device used is a series of connecting explanatory notes and commentaries, set off in smaller type. The sources are carefully identified in the commentaries, but some of them might have been more closely related to the appended bibliography and their present location indicated. Unlike the rest of the book, the bibliography will be of value only to the student. Since bibliographies of Magellan are few, a fuller one than this would have been useful.

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Cortés. The Life of the Conqueror by His Secretary. By FRANCISCO LÓPEZ DE GÓMARA. Edited and translated by LESLEY BYRD SIMPSON. Berkeley, 1966. University of California Press. Illustrations. Glossary. Bibliography. Index. Pp. 425. Paper. \$2.45.

Simpson's translation of Gómara, published in 1964, is now available in an attractive, unabridged paperback edition. (Originally reviewed in August 1965)

T. G. P.

Padrones olvidados de Montevideo del siglo XVIII (I y II). By JUAN ALEJANDRO APOLANT. Montevideo, 1966. Imprenta Letras. Separata del "Boletín Histórico" del Estado Mayor del Ejército, No. 104-105 y No. 106-107. Indices. Pp. 142. Paper.

Throughout the colonial period, in both urban and rural areas, the Spanish government periodically ordered censuses, or "house counts," as a basis for tax, tribute, labor, or military assessments. The best of these contain

detailed demographic, economic, and social data, the analysis of which permits an evaluation of the components of Latin American society and their interrelationships. In connection with his study of the family in Uruguay, Apolant has carefully transcribed two of these censuses, taken in Montevideo in 1750 and 1772-73, adding indices to enable the researcher to locate rapidly individual households in either or both censuses. Analysis of the second document, more detailed than the first, yields valuable material regarding social structure, economic activities, military affiliations, geographic and racial origins, and other characteristics of the residents of early Montevideo. Such information, particularly when supplemented by similar data from other regions, could illuminate the nature and development of the city in Latin America. Additional publications of this kind would be welcome.

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Tiradentes. By LEÓN TENENBAUM. Buenos Aires, 1965. Editorial Universitaria de Buenos Aires. Bibliography. Pp. 126. Paper.

It is appropriate that a paperback on *Tiradentes* should be written by an orthodontist. León Tenenbaum (the name is spelled correctly) is a graduate of the University of Buenos Aires, College of Dentistry. In 1961 he edited for publication in Buenos Aires a collection of scientific works on the practice of orthodontics. In 1963 he received an award from the Argentine-Brazilian Cultural Institute for a paper which eventually was expanded to this book. There is little here that cannot be found in a good textbook, but Tenenbaum has given us a readable account of Joaquim José da Silva Xavier, who is remembered in history as *Tiradentes* and is revered in Brazil as a revolutionary hero whose aims were eventually fulfilled. Tenenbaum also recounts the role of priests in Brazilian revolutionary efforts as in the Mexican movement for independence. An interesting book, it

lacks documentation, but does have a very good bibliography.

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Aportaciones de México al mundo. Lo que México ha dado al mundo en vegetales, minerales, animales, inventos, sistemas, doctrinas, y aportaciones a la cultura universal. 2 vols. By HERIBERTO GARCÍA RIVAS. México, 1964. Editorial Diana. Pp. 208, 228. Paper.

The substance of this work is a multitude of data and historical information revealing what Mexico purportedly has invented, developed, or adapted as a part of its culture and contributed to world culture in general. The two volumes contain twenty-seven chapters whose subject headings range from minerals, animals, and the *maguey* to literature, art, and philosophy. Each chapter is subdivided into topics related (in the compiler's mind) to the subject heading of the chapter. Altogether, there are some 345 individual topics which cover the time period of pre-Columbian days to the present.

The work is laudible as a first effort. It contains a vast array of information, startling perhaps to the neophyte, but probably already familiar to the serious student and scholar. The overall quality of the work suffers because it attempts to discuss too many items in too limited a space. Also one may question the author's placing of emphasis. For example, an entire chapter is devoted to the *maguey* plant, while the history, effect, and contributions of positivism in Mexico are compressed into two paragraphs. The chapter on astronomy in Mexico is twice as long as that on literature. Only single paragraphs are devoted to such giants as Orozco, Rivera, Siqueiros, and O'Gorman. There is no bibliography, although reference is made from time to time to such writers as Caso, Díaz del Castillo, Cortés, and several of the codices. Such weak points are to be expected in an initial undertaking of such proportions, but a work of this

kind is vitally needed, to clear up misconceptions about a nation and people of rising importance to the modern world.

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Decorative Design in Mexican Homes. By VERNA COOK SHIPWAY and WARREN SHIPWAY. New York, 1966. Architectural Book Publishing Company. Illustrations. Glossary. Pp. xix, 249. \$12.95.

Discussing the contemporaneity of his country's past, Edmundo O'Gorman once observed that "history walks the streets of Mexico." And this beautiful book makes clear that history inhabits Mexican houses as well. Mexico's architects and interior decorators draw with rare skill from the rich heritage of ancient Indian cultures and of colonial New Spain, using old treasures or ancient themes in a thoroughly modern setting. Somehow it does not appear incongruous, for example, to find a replica of a great stone head from La Venta set against a wall of steel-reinforced concrete. These are certainly not typical houses; they are the residences of Mexico's well-to-do. Nonetheless, they can teach us much about a country which has managed to preserve and combine the best of its many cultural influences.

R. E. Q.

The Catholic Church in Mexico. Historical Essays for the General Reader. Volume I: 1519-1910. By PAUL V. MURRAY. México, 1965. Editorial E. P. M. Illustrations. Notes. Bibliography. Index. Pp. 398. Cloth. \$8.00. Paper. \$7.00.

Paul V. Murray, a prominent American Catholic in Mexico, served for many years as president of Mexico City College. At the same time, he maintained a lively interest in Mexican history, particularly the Reforma period of church-state conflict. This book, the first of two volumes on the history of the Church in Mexico, is the result of these years of study, writing, and lec-