

BOOK NOTICES

Initialed notices were written by John P. Dyson, Shepard L. Forman, Laurence Lewis, David M. Pletcher, Robert E. Quirk, Daniel Scroggins, James R. Scobie, Jeffrey Adelman, Irwin Gellman, Janet Holasek, and Thomas G. Powell, all of Indiana University.

GENERAL

El Cesarismo en América Latina. By ARIEL PERALTA P. Santiago, 1966. Editorial Orbe. Notes. Bibliography. Pp. 162. Paper. \$2.50.

Ariel Peralta Pizarro's search for Latin American "reality" is not very convincing. He avoids nearly all economic and social realities—present-day colonialism and imperialism, the Cold War, U.S. economic and political penetration—and instead romanticizes the early nineteenth-century dictators, Rosas, Francia, the two López, and Diego Portales (a creole dictator) as true expressions of the Latin American ethnics and the mestizo spirit. He has the fond illusion that dictatorships are efficient and honest, democracies inefficient and corrupt. He even believes that Portales was an honest poor man and ignores the fact that the Chilean was suppressing the mestizo upsurge. He adds a contradictory note that dictatorships, since they are supported by the majority of the people, are "democratic." Out of all the vast world of Simón Bolívar's philosophy, he pounces on those few passages that seem to corroborate his theory. In short, except for a few nationalistic frills and his emphasis upon authentic mestizo rule, his book is not even as modern as Spanish Falangism, in which his thinking is mostly rooted.

Part of the author's dilemma is found in the necessity of utilizing the word "Cesarismo," and he even has to praise the Roman emperors in order to fortify his own ideal world of the

"necessary gendarme," more than a century ago. If those strange monsters of early Latin American independence represent the true genius of Latin America, it is scarcely a civilization worthy of survival.

CARLETON BEALS
Killingworth, Connecticut

The Conflict Society. Reaction and Revolution in Latin America. Rev. ed. By KALMAN H. SILVERT. New York, 1966. American Universities Field Staff. Index. Pp. xiv, 289. \$7.50.

Stimulating observations and surprising new topics expand and enrich this revision, five years after the original publication of Kalman H. Silver's work. Chapters 1 and 2 are much the same as before in treating issues of underdevelopment and political change. So also are Chapters 3 and 5, dealing with Guatemalan village and national political life. "Political Leadership and Institutional Weaknesses in Argentina" is new, but not Chapter 14, which reproduces a lengthy speech by General González, illustrative of the thinking in Argentine military circles.

Descriptions of university life in Chapter 7 are new, relying heavily on others' research. In descending order, space is allotted to universities in Argentina, Chile, and Panama, with minimum reference to those in Brazil, Mexico, and Colombia. Chapters 8, 11, 12, and 13 are but slightly altered, except in their sequence, and comprise sketches on intellectual and social phenomena in Uruguay, Argentina, Chile, and Argentina (again) respectively.

Appearing in the earlier edition, but omitted here are: a) two chapters on the history and social structure of Chile; b) a recital of the author's frustrations as a visiting professor; and c) a bibliography. Chapter 15, "Hemispheric Relations in the Light of Castro," is substantially modified. A new Chapter