

noted before in *HAHR*, but they are worth the attention of Latin Americanists interested in current and recent international relations. Each volume covers the whole world and naturally devotes only a small part to explicitly Latin American affairs (in this case 154 pages), but there are a number of general categories, such as foreign economic policy and foreign aid programs, in which one might expect a rewarding search. Also the documents include many items probably not to be found in *Foreign Relations* or the series of presidential papers. In this volume, for example, are briefings and other communications issued by the State Department in the wake of the missile crisis; memoranda from various inter-American agencies; and fragments from bilateral negotiations of that year. An interesting device used by the compilers is that of placing at the head of many documents an arresting quotation from the document.

D.M.P.

Views of Ancient Monuments in Central America, Chiapas and Yucatan. By FREDERICK CATHERWOOD. Massachusetts, 1965. Barre Publishing Company. Illustrations. Map. Pp. 24. \$275.00.

This collection of prints consists of reproductions of many of the drawings made in Mexico and Central America by Catherwood during his famous explorations with John L. Stephens. The colored plates are beautifully done, and each is of a size (16½ x 20½ inches) suitable for framing. Catherwood's original introduction is included, as is a description of the monument on each plate. It is far too expensive for ordinary historians, though it would make a splendid Christmas gift for the rare Latin Americanist who has everything. The *HAHR* editors received the review copy on loan, and it was only with great reluctance that they returned it to the publishers.

R.E.Q.

The Spaniards in Their History. By RAMÓN MENÉNDEZ PIDAL. Translated

and with an introduction by WALTER STARKIE. New York, 1966. W. W. Norton and Company, Inc. Maps. Notes. Bibliography. Pp. 147. Paper. \$1.45.

The present edition is a reprint of that of 1950: five chapters on the relationship between the Spanish character and Spanish history. An intelligent introduction by Walter Starkie compares Menéndez Pidal's "mood of detached inquiry" with the style and mood of other essays since the *Idearium español* of Ganivet (1898) and the *Psicología del pueblo español* of Rafael Altamira (1902). Starkie places special emphasis on those of Ortega y Gasset.

Unlike Américo Castro, for whom the history of Spain does not begin until the advent of Castilian hegemony, Menéndez Pidal and the ethnologist P. Bosch Gimpera (whom he quotes on p. 97) perceive a feeling of solidarity among the varied peoples of the Iberian Peninsula at least as far back as the Roman period (e.g., pp. 78-9). As "a born disciple of Seneca" (Ganivet had previously suggested the heritage), the typical Spaniard is said to have lived always in "Material and Moral Austerity," which is the title of the first chapter. The distinguished philologist and historian believes that their austerity may explain "both the collective abnegation displayed by the Spanish people in various circumstances, and during whole epochs of their history, as well as their notorious indifference to the mismanagement of the vital affairs of their country" (p. 20). Chapters II and III, "Idealism" and "Individualism," discuss, with appropriate examples, the impact of these thoroughly moth-eaten traits on the course of events up to the time of Philip III.

It is in the final two chapters—"Centralization and Regionalism" and "The Two Spains"—that Don Ramón displays best his capacity for cultural synthesis and analysis, as well as his sharp insights into some of Spain's most influential personalities. In Chapter V ("The Two Spains") he traces the continuing struggle from the Mid-