

try, reviewing some characteristics of the nation's history, physical geography, and population as well as a more detailed review of resources, economic development, and transportation. In addition, nearly every country is then subdivided into internal subregions for further description. Mexico, for example, has eleven such subregions. For most countries, a final section summarizes a country's geography in terms of future prospects. Often quite pertinent, these summaries are almost the only examples of the author's own ideas and evaluations that come through to the reader. After reading *Latin America* one wonders whether the author has ever been there.

This is, nevertheless, a strong competitor for use in traditional regional courses on Latin America at the college level. The author states clearly in his preface that he drew upon Preston James' standard text (which is still superior to Robinson's in my estimation) and Robert Platt's earlier text, now quite out of date. No teacher, however, should have to defend adopting this text. Its major drawbacks are its gazetteer-like nature and rather dry style. A touch of immediacy, some lively prose, and a bit of the author himself would all be welcome additions to a subsequent edition.

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Between Maule and Amazon. By ARNOLD J. TOYNBEE. London, 1967. Oxford University Press. Illustrations. Maps. Index. Pp. vii, 148. \$5.00.

The author of this small volume is a well-known writer devoted to world history whose interest in Latin America seems to have developed rather late. Born in 1889, he had reached the age of sixty-four before he ever traveled in any part of this region. He visited Mexico in 1953, Guatemala in 1958, Puerto Rico in 1962, Venezuela in 1963, and Brazil, Uruguay, Argentina, and Chile during the last quarter of 1966, several years after achieving fame by publishing his ten-volume *Study of His-*

tory. This *magnum opus* revealed a grasp of Latin American history somewhat less than satisfactory to specialists in this field.

Anything published by Arnold Toynbee is likely to be both thoughtful and interesting. The volume now under inspection deals mainly with the countries through which he toured rapidly during the latter part of 1966, although he devotes several pages to Mexico and Guatemala and a few to Venezuela and Puerto Rico and concludes with some generalizations regarding Indian America and Latin America's current efforts at integration. He places Latin America in a global setting with somewhat more emphasis on geography and prequest Indian civilizations than on contemporary affairs, although the latter are accorded more attention in the cases of Brazil, Uruguay, Argentina, Chile, and Puerto Rico. Most of the facts he presents are likely to be familiar to specialists in this field, but his generalizations and speculations should appeal to all speculative minds. He stresses river basins, deserts, oases, jungles, cities, religions, colonial and contemporary architecture (especially that of Brazil's new capital in the interior), the population explosion, city slums, and the restless masses. His mood, like that of many others of our day, is rather pessimistic. This handsome little book deserves a place in all of our libraries, even though Toynbee has produced a philosophic travelogue rather than an outline of the recent history of the Latin American nations and their foreign relations.

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The Gringo in Latin America. By RICHARD WEST. London, 1967. Jonathan Cape. Illustrations. Maps. Pp. 262, 32s. 6d.

This small volume is divided into eighteen chapters, plus a short introduction and an equally short conclusion. Some of the chapter headings will give an indication of style and emphasis: "Mexico: Communists, Tourists, and