

lution, is evaluated, as well as the role of the National Revolutionary Movement (MNR) in executing it. An appendix suggests a plan for development of agricultural resources and amendments to existing agrarian laws.

The interpretation and classification of historical developments and events reflect the author's philosophical preferences. Of greatest interest perhaps is the second part of the treatise. While the successes and failures of contemporary Bolivian agrarian legislation are listed, the failures are attributed primarily to MNR political expediency while in power. This would tend to absolve the theoretical framework in which it developed, and to which the author contributed, from charges of major deficiencies. The author suggests that the agrarian problem in Bolivia originated with the Spanish Conquest, and that it was modified by the feudalistic practices of the Colonial and National periods.

Of special interest to historians and political scientists may be the author's evaluation of views on the nation's rural problems held by nine political parties and social groups. These are illustrated with extensive quotations from political platforms and party leaders' speeches. The value of the work lies in the fact that as academician and public servant the author has been instrumental in developing contemporary agrarian reform legislation in Bolivia. Given his philosophical bias and the dearth of data on Bolivian agrarian reform, this volume helps to fill an existing gap.

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LEONARD CARDENAS

Diego Barros Arana. By RICARDO DONOSO. México, 1967. Instituto Panamericano de Geografía e Historia. Comisión de Historia. Historiadores de América. Illustration. Notes. Bibliography. Pp. xvi, 414. Paper.

This volume is another in the *Historians of America Series* published by the Comisión de Historia of the Instituto Panamericano de Geografía e Historia. It is a reprint originally written in 1931 under commission of the University Council of the University of Chile. The work has been extensively expanded and revised using documents from the papers of Diego Barros Arana, some of which were previously unavailable.

Ricardo Donoso characterizes Barros Arana and his two colleagues, Miguel Luis Amunátegui and Benjamín Vicuña Mackenna, as nineteenth-century American historians who viewed the colonial regime as a period of darkness and vassalage caused by vicious institutions,

the enslaving influence of the Church, evil habits, and the indolence of the government and people. The independence movement emerges as almost a renaissance in the history of Western culture, as a spiritual regeneration, and as a reaction against three centuries of servitude and oppression. Except for Barros Arana's major work, *Historia General de Chile*, which is discussed in one chapter, Donoso does little more than mention his individual writings. Donoso uses an overall chronological outline to describe various aspects of Barros Arana's career. Chapters are devoted to his activities as a political and historical author, as educator, university dean, and rector, and as a diplomat and expert in the boundary dispute with Argentina. In each area Donoso has nothing but the highest praise for his subject, although he does not always agree with him as a historian. This book explains why the Sociedad Chilena de Historia y Geografía chose Donoso in 1946 with Raúl Silva Castro to write a defense of Barros Arana against the attacks of Francisco Antonio Encina.

An appendix of documents is included, some of them not previously published. All of these documents concern the boundary question with Argentina, but add no new or significant information. Donoso also quotes very extensively from documents in the text and in footnotes, sometimes unnecessarily. He includes a bibliography of all writings by Barros Arana listed by year of publication and also a bibliography of works on Barros Arana, which is out of date and almost exclusively Chilean.

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The Chilean Verso: A Study in Musical Archaism. By MARÍA ESTER GREBE. Translated by BETTE JO HILEMAN. Los Angeles, 1967. University of California. Latin American Center. Latin American Studies. Tables. Figures. Notes. Pp. 133. Paper. \$3.50.

In her survey María E. Grebe touches on a fundamental aspect of Hispanic American folksong traditions, the survival of medieval modality as a basic element of its melodic design and structure. Though she confines her research mainly to those structural elements peculiar to the Chilean *verso*, many of her conclusions involve concepts valuable to other forms as well. The strength of her analytical method allows the reader to go far beyond the generalizations found in most of the available studies on this aspect of folk music in Latin America.

Grebe's work represents a step beyond that undertaken by Isabel Pope in her book on *El Villancico Polifónico*, published in 1944. Here