

citations to support its statements. In effect, the reader is compelled to take the panel's word.

An authoritative and unbiased analysis of U. S. involvement in the Dominican crisis is needed, but this book is not the answer.

EDGAR CHARLES DUIN
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Luis Muñoz Marín. A Concise Biography. By THOMAS MATHEWS. New York, 1967. American R. D. M. Corporation. Illustrations. Bibliography. Pp. 61. Paper. \$1.00.

The story of Luis Muñoz Marín's metamorphosis from the bohemian son of a famous father to the first elected governor of Puerto Rico depicts a selfless and charismatic man, one of the truly great political leaders of the twentieth century. While no author could possibly do justice to such a story in little more than fifty pages, Mathews, the director of the Institute of Caribbean Studies at the University of Puerto Rico, has produced a very creditable little biographical sketch.

In a simple, straightforward style he presents the highlights of Muñoz' career. These include founding the Popular Democratic Party (1938); the revolution which he wrought in island affairs with the help of Rexford Guy Tugwell, the last appointed continental governor; his successful espousal of commonwealth status in 1952; his return to the Senate in 1964 after refusing a fifth term as governor; and his failure, despite his great popularity, to remove the question of status from Puerto Rican politics. Mathews concludes his account with a short bibliography of published works.

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Vida anecdótica del General Eloy Alfaro. Nacimiento, juventud, campañas y cronología de los combates, obras realizadas y muerte sacrificada del notable estadista. By JULIO TRONCOSO. Quito, 1966. Editorial Santo Domingo. Illustrations. Notes. Bibliography. Pp. 351. Paper.

As the title suggests, this addition to the large body of writing about Eloy Alfaro purports to present the reader with a more intimate "inside" biography of the great Liberal president. Julio C. Troncoso, perhaps better known as "Julio Pico," is a journalist with a rare flair for the titillating, the dramatic, and the tragic—see, for example, his account of the gruesome murder of Alfaro near the end of the book. The resulting account is flamboyant and readable, and it adds many small details to the lore of Alfaro.

Although the preface and the foreword by the venerable Isaac J. Barrera lead us to expect an impartial account of Alfaro's life and work, much of the book itself is adulatory in tone and polemical in the extreme. Some of the most pleasant passages have little to do with the Liberal caudillo. Chapters 13 and 14, for example, are skillful evocations of old Quito, its legends and colonial past, its churches and famous schools of painting. The construction of the Guayaquil-Quito railroad and the arrival of the first locomotive in the capital are also charmingly recounted in Chapter 19.

This then is a work which adds little of real substance to our store of knowledge, and which makes few attempts at impartiality, in spite of good intentions. But some of it makes entertaining reading. There is an interesting appendix of appropriate documents and a very brief bibliography.

MURDO J. MACLEOD
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José Joaquín de Mora. Secretario del Mariscal Andrés de Santa Cruz. By JOSÉ DE MESA and TERESA GISBERT. La Paz, 1965. Academia Nacional de Ciencias de Bolivia. Illustration. Notes. Pp. 99. Paper. \$1.50.

The stated purpose of this slender volume is to shed light on the life and work of José Joaquín de Mora in Bolivia in the period shortly after independence. It does not, however, neglect his career in other nations.

Mora, a Spanish liberal, was a ver-