

locations, and basic data on political parties and international relations of Panama will welcome this book. It contains approximately 800 entries listed alphabetically.

However, the authors' promise to provide factual information on events is largely unfulfilled, unless these are construed to be entirely electoral. Economic events and institutions, in particular, are neglected.

A dictionary is not generally considered the place for interpretation, yet one cannot but notice that the perspective on international occurrences is North American rather than Panamanian. Highly favorable entries under the two Roosevelts and the Monroe Doctrine reveal the authors' bias.

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CHARLES STANSIFER

Caracas colonial. By GRAZIANO GASPARINI. Buenos Aires, 1969. Centro Editor de America Latina. La urbanización en América latina. Tables. Maps. Illustrations. Figures. Graphs. Pp. 122. Paper.

Graziano Gasparini, justly renowned for his excellent studies of Venezuelan architecture, has given us a delightful essay on the growth and development of Caracas during the colonial period. Beginning in the earliest years of the settlement of Venezuela, Gasparini clearly places the development of Caracas within the context of Venezuela's territorial expansion. Wisely, he chooses to avoid the entanglement of founding dates and the unfortunate mania for proving first foundations.

Although divided into six chapters, the book falls into two major blocks. One covers the early colonial period through the sixteenth century and the other goes from the eighteenth century through independence. In his descriptions Gasparini utilizes a judicious selection of the secondary literature and manages to touch on all the important attributes of *caraqueño* urbanism. Nevertheless, in spite of the catholicity of his approach, Gasparini is at his best discussing physical growth and patterns of urbanism. There are a number of fascinating and useful plates showing maps and vistas of Caracas.

In sum, this is a fine introduction for any student interested in the urban development of Caracas.

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Fruits of Propaganda in the Tyler Administration. By FREDERICK MERK with the collaboration of LOIS BANNISTER MERK. Foreword by JOHN TYLER. Cambridge, Massachusetts, 1971. Harvard University Press. Illustrations. Tables. Index. Pp. x, 259. Cloth. \$9.00.

The first two essays of this volume and most of the 122-page documents section support the dust jacket's claim that the book "explores . . . the use of the President's secret fund . . . to gain domestic support for his [foreign] policy." They focus primarily on the Maine boundary question. The third essay (previously published as an article) deals with Robert J. Walker's widely published letter of 1844, in which he sought to convince Northerners to support the annexation of Texas on the ground that it would lead ultimately to the end of slavery in the