

Ebel, since Argentine leaders did not have any special sympathy for the Nazi regime. Indeed, the Argentine Foreign Ministry, particularly when headed by Saavedra Lamas, was imbued with a legalistic, pro-League of Nations sentiment that was by definition anti-Nazi. As for the broader question of Nazi aims in South America, Ebel concludes reasonably that there is little justification for the view that Berlin had special expansionist designs on South America or that efforts to strengthen ties with the region were peculiarly Nazi. Hitler and his top-level advisers did not follow developments there closely; German cultural policy toward South America was not unique compared with policy toward other areas; and key steps taken to reinforce Germany's diplomatic position in South America, such as the elevation of legations to embassies, had been planned during the Stresemann era.

Ebel's approach is traditional, his research in German archives was apparently exhaustive, and his book goes a considerable way toward filling a noticeable historiographical gap. But because of his overwhelming reliance on German archival materials, and despite judicious use of the available printed works, the book is unilateral. The diplomatic archives of Great Britain and the United States, Germany's key competitors for influence in Argentina, would have cast revealing light on the subject, particularly in view of the perhaps unavoidable absence of Argentine records. What Ebel has done is provide us with a picture of Argentine-German relations filtered through a German lens. This is nonetheless a valid undertaking, and in imposing some coherence on a vast array of German records, Ebel has rendered a noteworthy service to students of Argentine and international history.

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Domingo Faustino Sarmiento. By FRANCES G. CROWLEY. Edited by JOHN P. DYSON. New York, 1972. Twayne Publishers. Twayne World Authors Series, 156: Argentina. Bibliography. Index. Pp. 188. Cloth.

The appearance of a major work on Sarmiento in Spanish is an annual occurrence; not so in our own idiom. The short roster of English language works includes a biography by Allison Bunkley (1952), several sketches including one by that same author in his *Anthology* (1948) —and two significant translations: Mary Mann's *Life in the Argentine Republic* (i.e., *Facundo*, 1868) and Michael Rockland's *Travels in the*

United States in 1847 (1970). Given this paucity, new entries in the field are always welcome.

This slender volume in Twayne's World Authors Series purports to be a critical, analytical study of Sarmiento's works which introduces the renowned Argentine to modern readers "from the vantage point of a new perspective. . . . Sarmiento should appear to be quite contemporary, since he is vitally interested in all current problems" (p. 4). Although the author achieves some success in demonstrating Sarmiento's favorable attitudes toward women and Blacks as well as his "enlightened" views on urbanization and the conditions of workers, it is, in the opinion of this reviewer, historical distortion to even suggest that his importance be determined by the happenstance of having dealt with problems that would remanifest themselves a century later. Crowley's *Sarmiento* is a sampling rather than an analytic study. Still, it is a praiseworthy improvement on the Bunkley *Anthology* because it presents a wide selection of Sarmiento's lesser known works coupled with critiques by Argentine writers heretofore never published in English.

To imbue Sarmiento with modernity, Crowley finds it necessary to downplay *Facundo*—recognized as his outstanding literary achievement—while at the same time emphasizing his *Travels*, letters and assorted newspaper articles. While these are reviewed in a very lively manner, this approach raises the larger question of whether *Sarmiento* belongs in Twayne's Rulers and Statesmen Series with Bernardo O'Higgins or in the present series with Jorge Luis Borges. Crowley's own emphasis—she admits the Sarmiento letters may not have literary value—and the Library of Congress classification point in the former direction.

Domingo Faustino Sarmiento, therefore, falls between biography and anthology. The result is a somewhat uneven and disorganized work confusing for both the specialist and the general reader. Historians may find the biographical materials repetitious or chronologically unsound. Also irksome are injudicious title translations and the absence of journal references in the bibliography. Still, this sympathetic treatment of the enigmatic Argentine author-statesman will further boost Rockland's effort toward establishing Sarmiento as a major figure in United States as well as Latin American cultural history.

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