

This study includes material gleaned from the Archivo Nacional de Chile as well as from private papers belonging to the Prat family. Historians will be particularly interested by some of the letters describing Argentina during the diplomatic crisis of the late 1870s. The various photographs also enhance the quality of this work.

Fuenzalida's scholarship is strongest when describing Prat's early life. The section on the War of the Pacific is unimaginative, glossing over the rather important differences which divided Prat and Admiral Williams. Still, this study is superior to anything published recently. Scholars could more profitably, however, consult the unabridged version which surpasses the earlier works of Rosales and Vicuña Mackenna.

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WILLIAM SATER

The Age of Porfirio Díaz: Selected Readings. Edited by CARLOS B. GIL. Albuquerque, 1977. University of New Mexico Press. Table. Notes. Bibliography. Index. Pp. x, 191. Paper. \$4.95.

In this anthology, Professor Gil has selected twenty-seven excerpts from contemporary travelers' accounts and histories, journal articles, philosophical treatises, and monographs which describe attitudes and conditions during the Díaz regime in Mexico. There is also a brief introduction by Gil and a bibliographical essay by Anthony Bryan. The underlying theme of the book is that the Díaz era set the stage for Mexico's modern economic and political development. Unfortunately, the book suffers from the uneven quality of its selections. The last and longest section, "Society," provides an excellent description of social and economic life. But the first four sections are weak. Some of the excerpts are too brief to convey the points intended. The editor has chosen to use ten percent of the text to deal with the *rurales*, while short-changing other more important subjects, such as the decline of the peso, the export economy, and foreign policy. Inordinate space is devoted to descriptions of army and police uniforms. Professor Bryan's concluding piece is outdated. In summary, this book is of little help to specialists, although it may be of value in an undergraduate survey.

Rutgers University

MARK WASSERMAN

Lázaro Cárdenas: Su pensamiento económico, social y político. By JESÚS SILVA HERZOG. México, 1975. Editorial Nuestro Tiempo. Pp. 137. Paper.

The central point of the political, social, and economic thought of Lázaro Cárdenas, apparently the cornerstone of his public life from the beginning of his diary in 1913 to the last entries of 1970, is summed up as follows: "The fundamental force which blocks the development of Latin America is North American imperialism" (quoted from the book's outside back cover). Cárdenas' concern for agricultural and industrial workers everywhere is illustrated here and in his policies. Jesús Silva Herzog, prominent Mexican political economist and member of the team of advisors to the Cárdenas presidency (1934-1940), is eminently qualified to discuss the social philosophy of this brilliant statesman who led Mexico to the culmination of her twentieth-century social revolution, serving as inspiration to

peoples of other less-developed countries. This 137-page book is in two parts: the first, excerpts from Cárdenas' four-volume *Obras*; the second is an interpretative commentary on his presidency. Unfortunately, the author presents only a sketchy survey of thought from Cárdenas' notes and of certain essential movements of nationalization, better discussed by other Mexican, U.S., and British scholars of the Cárdenas era.

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JOE C. ASHBY

El Apra y el ejército, 1940–1950. By VÍCTOR VILLANUEVA. Lima, 1977. Editorial Horizonte. Diagram. Appendixes. Pp. 174. Paper.

In this volume, a sequel to *El Apra en busca del poder, 1930–1940* (reviewed in the *HAHR* in May 1977), Villanueva continues his study of the relationship between Apra, particularly Haya de la Torre, and the Peruvian military. Beginning with the 1939 election, Villanueva explains why Haya wanted a military coup to stop Manuel Prado and how he continued his search for the “right” general throughout the Prado presidency and that of José Luis Bustamante y Rivero.

Simultaneously, Haya tried to induce the United States to intervene and oust Prado—charging he was pro-Axis—and even worked closely with the FBI in tracking down German and Japanese agents (unfortunately, Villanueva had completed this before he and I interviewed ex-Aprista Julio Cárdenas, the legendary “El Negus,” who personally captured Japan’s leading agent, “The Red Dragon,” and discovered three German airfields in the jungle).

Villanueva then analyzes the 1945 election, Haya’s unsuccessful efforts to win support from both junior and senior officers 1945–1948, and the events leading to and the aftermath of Manuel Odría’s coup in 1948. Since Villanueva was a leading participant in these events, this book is really a primary source for the period and as such constitutes a valuable contribution to the literature on Peruvian politics, APRA, and the military.

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THOMAS M. DAVIES, JR.

Base Soberanía y otros recuerdos antárticos chilenos, 1947–1949. By OSCAR PINOCHET DE LA BARRA. Buenos Aires, 1977. Editorial Francisco de Aguirre. Illustrations. Maps. Index. Pp. xiii, 153. Paper.

This book chronicles Chile’s first three Antarctic expeditions between 1947 and 1949. The author participated in all three of these expeditions as the representative of the Ministry of Foreign Relations and later was under secretary of that ministry. Pinochet’s expertise in policy questions consequently lends particular significance to his personal account of the formative period of Chilean Antarctic policy.

Chile’s step in the late 1940s to reaffirm earlier claims to a sector of Antarctica by establishing bases there was audacious, albeit subsequent to Argentina’s similar decision. President Gabriel González Videla’s 1948 trip to the Chilean Antarctic bases was the first of a head of state to that continent, and occurred in spite of British protests that Chilean bases encroached on its claim. It is well to recall that the first 200-mile maritime claim was also made in 1947 by President González