BOOK NOTICES

Except for a rather short chapter on colonization and immigration, the author reinforces stereotypes of nineteenth-century Latin American politics.

Nor has Gianello done a thorough update of his bibliography. Additional items are simply tacked on to the initial bibliography. The author's primary sources consist of printed archival materials, rather than reflecting the use of manuscripts. He has included seven documents in the appendix, one more than in the first edition. However, the reasons for printing the documents are unclear.

It is too bad that Leoncio Gianello, a well-published Argentine historian, did not choose to write a history of Santa Fe which would take into consideration new historical methodologies and archival research, and use the generally excellent articles published in various Argentine historical journals during the last thirty years.

Shippensburg State College

VEPA B. REBER


Alberto Demicheli's first quarter-century of scholarly production was concerned with public and constitutional law, particularly of Uruguay, so that it was by a natural progression that he has devoted his second quarter-century to the constitutional history of the Río de la Plata, culminating (so far) his career with this cogent study, the fruit of so many years of thought and research. Two main themes are interlinked here. The first is the development of federalist thought and practice in the Río de la Plata, in which Demicheli shows that Artigas was the most important initiator. His influence is traced through the vicissitudes of Argentine political history from 1813 to 1860, long after his own disappearance from the scene. The second is the foundation of the separate state of Uruguay which was finally brought about as a result of a compromise between the competing countries Argentina and Brazil. Thus federalism sprang from Uruguay, but could not be established there because of external circumstances.

This book's importance lies in its treatment of the constitutional question as one embracing the whole of the former viceroyalty. The emphasis is not on the Buenos Aires-Montevideo rivalry and the slighting of Artigas, or on the collusion between Buenos Aires and Río de Janeiro, but on the nature, origins, and far-reaching repercussions of the federalism envisaged by Artigas. It is unfortunate that the student of Argentine constitutional history might be put off by this useful book's title.

Cambridge University

JOHN STREET


Moritz Thomsen has written a delightful and deceptive memoir, the significance of which carries far beyond considerations of entrepreneurial hardships in the tropics. Leaving behind him an early zeal to bring western progress to Ecuador, which he chronicled in his first book, Living Poor, the fifty-four-year-old ex-Peace Corps volunteer returns to the tropics to establish a farm along the Esmeraldas River. The difficulties of this endeavor quickly assume a secondary priority as the farm becomes less a business and more a lens through which the author assesses the Latin culture.

Thomsen quickly dismisses the trappings of modern enterprise as ineffectual. "Science and technology in the tropics are whores" (p. 111). Confronted with rampant thievery and