

This work belongs in a reference room, not in a history classroom, where high school and community college instructors too often are prone to teach history as facts, not as a social science.

M.S.

Génesis de la universidad española contemporánea. By ANTONIO ÁLVAREZ DE MORALES. Madrid, 1972. Instituto de Estudios Administrativos. Appendices. Bibliography. Pp. 765. Paper.

Ideally, any history of a single university (or set of universities) examines the administrative as well as the intellectual development of the institution, blended together with an analysis of the numbers, backgrounds, and post-graduate careers of the students who were in attendance. Such studies, particularly in the Hispanic world, are unfortunately few, and in this regard the present volume is no exception. Essentially, it is nothing more than an administrative history of Spain's universities during the first half of the nineteenth century which traces, in laborious detail, the educational planks of the various political parties and factions vying for power during this turbulent era of Spain's past. The story is one of the growing centralization of education and illustrates the degree to which the universities became appendages of the central government in Madrid. In addition, the author demonstrates that this evolution was largely the product of liberal rather than more conservative political elements since it was the former who especially believed that education, at all levels, should serve the best interests of the state and thus be used to foster the social, economic, and scientific modernization of Spain. To prove his point, Mr. Álvarez de Morales marshals an enormous amount of documentation, including over 200 pages of appendices outlining a series of educational projects and plans for university reform. Readers of the *HAHR* will thus find the volume informative and its contents may also be able to serve as a useful comparison for similar developments in the New World.

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The Iconography of Middle American Sculpture. By IGNACIO BERNAL *et al.* Foreword by DUDLEY T. EASBY, JR. New York, 1973. The Metropolitan Museum of Art. Tables. Illustrations. Graphs. Figures. Pp. vii, 167. Paper.

Woman in Pre-Columbian America. By FERDINAND ANTON. New York, 1973. Abner Schram. Map. Tables. Illustrations. Bibliography. Pp. 200. Cloth. \$20.00.

The nine papers in Bernal's small but important volume deal with the problem of Mesoamerican iconography with varying degrees of success. Thompson's, Nicholson's, and Furst's contributions are by far the most exciting. Thompson argues that the classic Maya rulers had divine authority. His ethnohistoric citations, combined with the abundant illustrations of classic period "rulers" with the appurtenances of Itzam Na, are quite convincing. Nicholson identifies the elements of the Aztec iconographic system and supplies a useful list of insignia for the major deities. Furst argues for the sacred character of ceramic figurines that come from the shaft tombs of West Mexico, by showing an extraordinary series of parallels with shamanistic practices in western Mexico and the American Southwest.

Bernal's description of the rarely discussed art from Dainzu, where there are