

volume about a country with such a tempestuous recent history as Mexico's and seek to bring it up to date by altering a paragraph here and there, and adding a new chapter at the end, is an empty task. We feel that we are trying to see the Mexico of President Obregón over the shoulder of Dictator Diaz.

Now, after ten years of devastating strife, when Mexicans for the first time since 1915 are getting a chance to manage their own country and their own lives, we find that a book which was admirable sixteen years ago has quite the wrong slant in dealing with politics, education, law, and economics, however well the sections on early Mexico are handled. Here and there, too, important corrections have been overlooked. "A large union station at Vera Cruz" is promised "soon" by the author, whereas the enormous terminal at that port already wears quite a venerable look. Nobody any longer goes to Xochimilco by way of the Vega Canal. There is not the slightest account of the educational advance that has taken place under the present administration; no reference to the new land laws which have changed the social order of the country so profoundly. And the author

actually believes that the Rurales of Diaz are still keeping Mexico in order. They are dead (mostly) and gone.

A handsome book about Mexico of yesterday, whose author is capable of writing an entertaining work upon the vivid existing Mexico.

MARION STORM.

## BOOKS ON ARCHITECTURE

*Editor of THE FORUM:*

In answer to inquiries about recent books on American architecture and the American point of view toward buildings, I beg to refer your readers to the following works, which were useful to me in the preparation of my article, "Do Our Buildings Interpret Us?" in the November number:

*Aesthetic Basis of Greek Art*, by Rhy Carpenter (Longmans Green, \$1.50); *Beyond Architecture*, by A. Kingsley Porter (Marshall Jones, Boston, \$2.25); *Walled Towns*, by Ralph Adams Cram (Marshall Jones); *The Meaning of Architecture*, by Irving K Pond (Marshall Jones, \$2.25).

H. VAN BUREN MAGONIGLE.

