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Chaunu: Les Philippines et le Pacifique des Iberiques

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specialized functions. Finally, the author touches on the possible explanations of the origin, aging and death of the living organisms.

INSIDE THE LIVING CELL is a work intended for the reader who has little or no background in science. Technicalities are omitted wherever the informative value of the book does not suffer. A descriptive treatment in a language which is intelligible, interesting and informative to the non-scientist is used throughout the book. However, to the more scientifically-minded reader, the appendices will serve the dual purpose of providing a tabulation of the more common bio-chemicals and their structures (Appendix I) and a list of selected references and suggested reading matter compiled on a chapter by chapter basis (Appendix II).

ANA MARIA JAVELLANA

P.I. ECONOMICS IN SPANISH TIMES

LES PHILIPPINES ET LE PACIFIQUE DES IBERIQUES (XVI^e, XVII^e, XVIII^e SIECLES). Introduction méthodologique et indices d'activité. By Pierre Chaunu. Paris, S.E.V.P.E.N., 1960. 301 pp.

It is no exaggeration to say that this is one of the most important little books on Philippine history to have appeared in many a year. Those familiar with Pierre Chaunu's recent monumental twelve volumes on SEVILLE ET L'ATLANTIQUE (1504-1650), which minutely examined trade and navigation between Spain and her Indies will find in his latest work the same methodological approach which combines a firm grasp of the documentary sources with a well-constructed statistical framework. The result is a much clearer picture of the economic history of the Philippines during the Spanish period. The work modestly pretends to be only an introduction to a thorough study of the problems and one can only hope that the author himself decides to complete the task he has so masterfully mapped out.

LES PHILIPPINES ET LE PACIFIQUE DES IBERIQUES, based solely on the *contaduría* accounts, is conveniently divided into three parts; explanation of method, data and limited conclusions. The data is composed of activity indices of cargo, *almojarifazgo*, sale of offices, *situado*, salaries, cost of evangelization, etc., in sixteen series of several tables each. Complete entries to and departures from Manila are also tabulated, which pinpoint exactly Manila's position in East Asiatic trade. The tables show an initial expansion going from about 1580 to 1620, in which latter year there is a record level of 616,699 pesos,

which will only be surpassed in 1776-1789 (660,758.5 pesos); then comes a dip whose trough is between the years 1666 to 1670; a recovery until about 1720; another dip from 1720 to 1740 and then a slight rise from 1740 to 1790.

Price-traffic correlation is striking, but what the author concludes to be central and clearly demonstrated is the remarkable overall correlation between Pacific and Atlantic traffic, prices and economic activity. The Atlantic and Pacific were linked together in an almost transcendent way. In pointing this out Chaunu has made a unique contribution to the study of the Spanish colonial empire.

NICHOLAS P. CUSHNER

BIOLOGY FOR THE TROPICS

BIOLOGY FOR TROPICAL SCHOOLS. By R. H. Stone and A. B. Cozens. London: Longmans, Green & Co., Ltd., 1958. 518 pp.

It is the author's intention to produce a textbook on biology for use in any part of the tropics. This book fulfills this aim and can well serve the needs of tropical schools.

The book is divided into two parts. Part I, consisting of 13 chapters, is primarily devoted to the morphology and life history of representative forms of plants and animals. Part II, comprising 14 chapters, deals chiefly with physiology and with matters on adaptation, ecology and heredity. Morphology is treated ahead of physiology because the knowledge of structure is essential to an intelligent understanding of function.

The subject matter is sufficiently detailed to give the beginner the basic concepts of biology, a thorough understanding of which is essential for a well-rounded course in this branch of science.

There may well be some disagreement as to the selection of plants and animals for study in Part I. Still all will agree that the plants and animals selected are generally well known and that their structure and life history have been sufficiently described. Since the plants and animals described are commonly known, the authors did not find it necessary to give their Latin names unless the organism had no other name except that which was in Latin, e.g., *paramecium*.

This book aims to serve not only as a textbook but also as a laboratory manual. Practical work on morphology follows each des-