

Anglo-American mold which has characterized the other contributions to date. It will inevitably have a strong influence on the direction of research in political geography. Paul Claval states that "at the present time political geography is fashionable" (p. 8). With contributions of this nature, it should have no problem staying a la mode for quite some time. Key Words: *political geography, geographical scale, nation state, power*. **Julian Minghi**, University of South Carolina.

Geographia y Medio Ambiente. MANUEL VALENZUELA-RUBÍO, ED. Madrid: Monografías de la Dirección General del Medio Ambiente, Ministerio de Obras Publicas y Urbanismo, 1984. 313 pp., maps, diags. 1500 pesetas paper (ISBN 84-7433-287-7).

This Spanish publication, entitled *Geography and the Environment*, deserves notice as the first monograph of an environmental series to be published by the Ministry of Public Works and Urbanism (MOPU). It includes 10 papers by various Spanish geographers that deal with methodological, philosophical, and practical or thematic aspects of the environment.

B. Barceló (Palma) kicks off with an introduction, beginning with the goals of the IGU Commission "Man and Environment," leading to the issues of trade-offs between the preservation and exploitation of natural resources. J. L. Urteaga (Barcelona) reviews the history of environmental concern in Spain, centered around the 1882 articles by Lucas Mallada on the poverty of Spanish soils, and the subsequent vacillation between reforestation plans and benign ecological neglect. M. F. Pita (Seville) outlines the new preoccupation since 1972, influenced in good part by the World Meteorological Organization, with respect to human impacts on micro-climatology. F. López (Murcia) notes the inclusion of environmental concerns in the 1975 Constitution, diagrams environmental interactions with geomorphic processes, and presents a method of geomorphological mapping to deal with soil erosion hazards. J. M. Rubio (Seville) deals with biotic systems, especially vegetation change. J. F. Mateu (Valencia) develops a sophisticated model of the hydrological cycle and the range of human impacts upon it, including runoff rates, sediment yield, and water quality. J. F. Martín (La Laguna) relates rapid population growth to environmental impact, with a demographic example from the Canary Islands. A. López (Cordoba) deals with agroecosystems, population pressure, agricultural expansion, soil erosion, and desertification in Spain, and means to reduce such hazards. F. Manero (Valladolid) describes the impact of industrialization and the need for better environmental planning. Finally, M. Valenzuela (Madrid) outlines the scope of recent urban planning in relation to social well-being.

Although this articulation parallels that of the interdisciplinary French journal *Options Méditerranées* (since 1971), it is noteworthy that the bibliographies of these mainly younger Spanish geographers are overwhelmingly based on North American publications. The papers are primarily designed to be expository, to serve as guidelines for government policy, so that Spanish case studies, still lamentably few, are underemphasized. But it is gratifying to see such a comprehensive professional statement presented to—and published by—a key government agency. Unlike the Association of American Geographers' *Perspectives on Environment* (1973), designed for broad educational purposes, this bold volume also seeks directly to influence national policy. One may hope that it is more successful in this regard, and that Spanish geographers will continue to impart ecological concern to their students and attempt to implement them in government. **Karl W. Butzer**, University of Texas, Austin.

Nāgara and Commandery: Origins of the Southeast Asian Urban Traditions. PAUL WHEATLEY. Chicago: Department of Geography, University of Chicago, 1983. xv and 472 pp., maps, diags. index and biblio. \$16.00 paper (ISBN 0-89065-113-2).

Nāgara and Commandery is Wheatley's third volume in a series dealing with the origins of city and state in East Asia. In the case of Southeast Asia the difficulty of the task has been compounded for three major reasons. First, five cultural traditions have played a role in the region's urban beginnings and each must be looked at separately and in combination; second, Southeast Asia has a woefully inadequate archeological record, and third, this study looks at both urban generation and imposition while the earlier volumes dealt only with generation.

Wheatley's work has been written for serious urbanists, especially those with strongly comparative interests. The volume contains a wealth of background material available to historians

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