Alternate delay and rapidity of publication have made 1976 particularly rich in conference offerings. Two vols deriving from the 1971 Quebec Congress are at last available, the 200-odd papers being arranged rather traditionally, *Actes...*(Laval) I covering ‘internal’ topics and II ‘external’ and all-the-rest. From so large a number it would be invidious to select a mere handful for comment; the quality is very uneven, the discussion not always intelligible, the organization has sometimes juxtaposed arts stemming from wildly different methodologies (nowhere more evident than in the vaunted two sections on *Romania nova*), and the six plenary sessions—magisterial in their own way—give no cogent leadership. In all, despite some high spots, one’s impression is negative (reinforced by a $75 price-tag!). Of the even grander record of Naples 1974—one of the projected five vols has now been released, *Atti...*(Napoli), II—I hope to say more next year. *Diachronic Studies* is a more manageable coll. of 16 papers from the 1972 Illinois conference; only two are fully comparative in scope: F. B. Agard, ‘A new look at linguistic split in Romance’, pp. 11–21, and D. E. Gulstad, ‘Syntactico-semantic reconstruction in Romance’, pp. 63–83, claiming that this neglected area could be made to yield spectacular results. M. Luján and F. G. Hensey ed. *Current Studies in Romance Linguistics*, Washington DC, Georgetown U.P., a coll. of more technical—mainly TG—arts on individual languages.

Romance historiography receives a welcome fillip from *In Memoriam Friedrich Diez: Akten des Kolloquiums zur Wissenschaftsgeschichte der Romanistik, Trier, 2–4 Oct. 1975*, eds H.-J. Niederehe and H. Haarmann, Amsterdam, Benjamins. The untimely deaths of Migliorini and Ullmann have attracted...
many tributes, among which stand out the measured assessment of their achievements contributed by Y. Malkiel: ‘Necrology: Bruno Migliorini (1896–1975)’, *RPh*, 29:398–408 and ‘Stephen Ullmann (1914–1976)’, *RPh*, 30:481–6. W. Mańczak marks ‘Le cinquantième anniversaire des “normes” de Bartoli’, *GL*, 16:1–8, with the publ. of some comparative statistical material which, on interpretation, lends credence to the two best-known principles [the periphery normally represents older speech; likewise the larger area].

The indefatigable popularizer Mario Pei now tells *The Story of Latin and the Romance Languages*, N.York, Harper and Row, 356 pp., with additional material by P. A. Gaeng. One may perhaps question the need for another *Introduction to Romance Linguistics*, Carbondale, S. Illinois U.P., 1975, but D. L. Canfield and J. C. Davis have certainly produced a lively and attractively-presented text; although much stronger on phonology (with non-hackneyed examples!) than on syntax, it does give enough connected prose in each major language for the budding Romanist to gain a valid impression of the divergence.

2. Phonology


Looking at a set of change-types (lenition, velar-softening,