

NATIONAL PARKS AND HISTORICAL PERONISM (“PERONISMO HISTÓRICO”)

The Nation Through the Nature

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The purpose of this article is to analyze how during the “Peronismo Histórico”- Historical Peronism-, advanced the construction of the New Argentina through the idea of National Parks, with the aim to achieve a national identity that makes the feeling of belonging possible for the integration of the majority of the inhabitants. It was observed the policies that the “Peronismo Histórico” -Historical Peronism- (1946-1955) articulated around the National Parks trying to transform them in to instruments in the processes of conformation of a new national identity. The National Parks are important reservations of nature and places of sublime beauty and were supposed to symbolize the Nation as a whole. These spaces were generators of empathy, discovery and the real possibility of access that up to that moment wide social sectors had not reached. Hereby was propitiated the cognizance of the national geography (“conocer la Patria es un deber” / “to know the mother land is a responsibility”) as well as they were proposing the tourism and the leisure time, as counter-figures of the work. And in turn, there was demonstrated that close to the scattering was appearing an identity and national recognition (Pastoriza 2008a: 4). It is the State under Peron who entrust himself the task of facilitating the access to the cognizance of the New Argentina (making possible to travel across it, to see his marvels) that before was limited for the wealthiest classes only. However it is relevant to emphasize that this recognition and approximation to the National Parks is not an innovation of the so called Peronism but innovate in the way to know them and the significance about the idea of Nation.

KEY WORDS: Peronism, national parks, workers, leisure, tourism.