

it is extremely unfortunate that the author has made no citations. It is quite frequently possible to deduce from checking the bibliography what source Roeder is using, but on some of the points which most arouse interest it is difficult to judge. For example, what is the basis for the point that Juárez' stay in New Orleans was crucial to his later thinking? Some omissions might be noted in the bibliography, for example, McBride and Phipps. The omission is reflected in the study, where too little effort is made to delve into the problem of the result of land distribution after clerical estates were broken up.

Roeder criticizes the members of the constitutional convention of 1856-1857 for not taking into consideration the economic needs of the masses. Certainly the criticism is valid, but in reading the records of the sessions it soon becomes apparent that the delegates felt that until the matter of church-state relations was settled the solution of other major problems would have no validity.

As has been indicated there is relatively scant attention paid to the Juárez government after 1861. During the intervention Mexico's hopes were carried by Juárez and therefore his activities during this period are important. Taking the reader to France to witness the defeat of Napoleon and citing the views of Marx on the intervention are interesting but of doubtful value for the matter at hand. One regrets that the space was not devoted instead to the changes in education during Juárez' last years in office.

In addition this reviewer feels that Roeder does not really grasp the internal situation in Mexico after 1861. He used a tremendous amount of material in writing these two volumes, including the Juárez collection in Mexico, but it is regrettable that he did not consult the valuable collection at the University of Texas. Such sources as the González Ortega and Manuel Doblado papers would have enabled him to see, to a large extent, internal Mexico as it was. The attacks of Manuel Doblado, Guillermo Prieto, González Ortega, and others against Juárez nowhere receive the stress that their importance deserves.

Yet in spite of all criticism the fact remains that Roeder does have a grasp of many of the real issues at stake during the Juárez period. These two volumes are a definite step toward the understanding of Mexico and should be a great aid to those working in the field.

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The United States and the Caribbean. By DEXTER PERKINS. [The American Foreign Policy Library.] (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1947. Pp. xii, 253. \$3.00.)

This is not an historical work so much as a study of political and economic relations between the United States and the West Indian and

Central American republics, today and in the future. A large part of the book is very properly devoted to a description of conditions within the Caribbean countries. Political instability and poverty have created most of the diplomatic problems of the area, and efforts to improve these conditions have been the chief objective of our own policy there, both in the days of the "intervention policy" and at the present time.

Professor Perkins' discussion of the unhappy events between 1900 and 1920 is eminently sane and well balanced. The story is briefly told, and there are some minor errors in dates and facts, but the reader is left with a good picture of the major mistakes that were so harmful to our relations with all of Latin America, and also of the benefits that the Caribbean countries themselves derived from our interventions. The author points out that the intervention policy was never supported by American public opinion, and that it was abandoned when there was no longer any apparent danger of European interference. A new policy began to take shape immediately after the first world war, but it was not clearly defined until Franklin Roosevelt became president.

The chapters dealing with the Good Neighbor Policy are especially interesting for their penetrating analysis of some of the basic ideas on which the policy rests. On the political side, for example, the author raises questions about the principle of non-intervention. What would we do if a communist or fascist administration appeared in a small nearby country? Can we pledge ourselves never to use force in other countries? And does our promise not to intervene preclude "moral intervention" like the pressure exerted on Argentina in 1944-5? He does not attempt to give a definite answer, but his general conclusion appears to be that interference in another country's affairs is always bad. He definitely deprecates the use of non-recognition as a political weapon. In many cases the best course will be to act in concert with the other American republics when dangerous situations arise, for consultation is an essential part of the spirit of the Good Neighbor Policy.

In the chapter on the economic side of the Good Neighbor Policy the good and bad aspects of foreign investment are discussed, and the author explores the possibilities of obtaining the new capital which the Caribbean states desperately need. Since the policies that some of these states have adopted in recent years will inevitably discourage private investors, Professor Perkins seems to think that further loans from the United States government, or loans from the World Bank may offer a partial solution.

Political and economic factors, however, are "only a part of the story." In the Good Neighbor Policy, "we are committed to a genuine effort at international understanding," and this involves a new psycho-

logical approach. North Americans are too prone to make unfavorable comparisons of conditions in other countries with those in the United States without considering the handicaps with which people like those of the Caribbean states are contending. "American politicians constantly offend the pride of the Latin American by contemptuous and irresponsible allusion." On the other hand, politicians in the Caribbean countries are too often not above appealing to prejudice and mistrust for their own partisan advantage, and an intense sensitiveness about national independence makes propaganda of this sort the more effective. Professor Perkins clearly feels that the elimination of such obstacles to coöperation will be a slow and difficult matter, but he is cautiously optimistic on this point, as he is on other questions connected with the future of the Caribbean states.

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The Cultural Approach: Another Way in International Relations. By RUTH EMILY McMURRY and MUNA LEE. (Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 1947. Pp. xi, 280. \$3.50.)

In such a field as international cultural relations, where idealistic talk and fine theories—with an occasional bit of pure humbug—have been the rule, it is refreshing to find such a book as this which deals with a highly significant aspect of international affairs in an objective, documented, and relatively detached manner. Those who are looking for chatty anecdotes about the "thrilling" life abroad of a cultural-relations attaché or high-pressure enthusiasm in favor of the cultural brotherhood of mankind will not care much for this study. The serious historian of international relations will find it a valuable compendium of facts.

Aside from a brief introductory chapter in which "cultural relations" are accurately defined and an equally brief summary chapter, this volume is entirely given over to a chronological description of the cultural-relations programs of France, Great Britain, Germany, the United States, the Soviet Union, Japan, and four Latin-American republics. In each case the direct source material is nearly always official publications of the countries in question, generally the records of parliamentary proceedings and budgetary debates. Although the authors may occasionally have made too abundant use of official statements where triteness is more evident than new facts, the documentation is careful and full of pertinent material generally well integrated in the study.

While the authors have specifically excluded from consideration detailed study of war-time "information" programs or "ideological prop-