
This volume of sixteen studies written in homage to Silvio Zavala reflects the serious scholarship of the youngest generation of historians in Mexico. The subjects range from pre-conquest times to the twentieth century and from the United States to Colombia, but their principal emphasis is in the colonial period of Mexico, to various aspects of which about half of the papers are devoted. Among these a series of notes by Sergio Morales on colonial daily life and a study of educational institutions in Puebla by Ernesto de la Torre may be selected for special mention. Several papers deal interpretatively with colonization as a whole; several with particular cities or buildings (Havana, Acapulco, Chalma); several with individual writers (Juan Bautista Chapa, Manuel Orozco y Berra, Upton Sinclair); and the remainder with immigration under Díaz, Central American relations, Maya and Chibcha society, and British nineteenth-century writings on Latin America.

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The figures included, besides Bolívar, Bello, and Simón Rodríguez, are José María Vargas, Fermín Toro, and Cecilio Acosta. Appreciative essays by the author are followed by representative statements on education by each figure treated. (L. H.)


Prepared under the supervision of George Wythe, director of Commerce Department’s American Republics Division, this informative work is broader in scope than many people might gather from the title. Chapter headings are as follows: an over-all view; government and business; the investment climate and prospects; agriculture, animal husbandry, forestry; the mineral industries; manufacturing industries; transportation, communications, and utilities; public finance and financial resources; and international trade and payments. In addition to valuable lists and tables the appendixes include textual sections on principal economic regions; business law; labor law and organization; taxation; principal industrial groups, and transportation. This volume (as succeeding numbers of this series promise to be for other countries) is a primary tool for anyone concerned with the geography, commerce, industry, and politics of present day Colombia. (J. P. H.)


"This is the first of a series of country handbooks [prepared under the supervision of George Wythe] designed to bring together in a convenient form the basic background information necessary to enable the prospective investor to approach his specific problems expeditiously and realistically." Although as a group they may not offer a fertile pool of investment capital, scholars will find this authoritative handbook of great use as a guide to the