tome. The energetic students of the Department of Economics of the University of La Paz a few short years ago decided to organize a seminar about the national economy (so controversial) and the causes of Bolivia's economic predicament. Every political party was invited to attend and to select its most able and qualified spokesman. The papers read at the seminar are here given. Nine outstanding participants presented well-prepared and well-researched essays in an atmosphere of complete freedom and respect. They ranged from the communists (Trotskyites) to ex-President Enrique Hertzog, and also included a presentation by the MNR spokesman and by the dynamic conservative Demetrio Canelas, editor of the sacked Los Tiempos. Unfortunately no paper was given by the Stalinists or the Falange.

Although basically economic in nature, there is much, very much, data of a historical nature in the various essays. For example, Hertzog provides interesting data about his term of office (1947-1949); Joaquin Espada, old hand of many crucial posts in the old guard of pre-1952, has a loaded chapter of economic history of the last decades. This is a valuable publication.


The University of Potosí Press has recently won in Bolivia a first prize by a most impartial board of judges for being the university press in Bolivia doing the most, best, and greatest variety of publications.

This book, somewhat unorganized, indeed is a lucid and sober presentation of the need of the economic integration of Latin America. A sketch of the history of such attempts is given. Mr. Luis Ossio Sanjinés cites Bolivian problems as a case study. He believes that 'economic integration' is the best weapon against the voracidad del imperialismo. He also writes that 'Panamericanism is a success for the United States and relative failure and [an instrument] of submission for the Latin American countries.' But in general the author has healthy and balanced views affected only by stereotyped ideas about the United States.


The MNR, in power since 1952 in Bolivia, is a loose party made up of many groups. Originating in the late thirties, it stood for a social revolution. Walter Guevara Arze was one of the original founders of the party. The program of the party was inspired in the mechanism of Bolivian history: Bolivia must achieve a dynamic middle class and overthrow manorialism in the countryside and foreign exploitation of the subsoil and of urban commerce. Since 1959 Guevara Arze has criticized his own party for a tendency toward a leftist dogmatism. By 1960 he walked out of the party and formed the Authentic MNR (PMNRA).

This book represents Mr. Guevara Arze's views. It is most interesting to the historian because he interprets modern Bolivian events as a result of historical forces. His analysis of Bolivian history is very stimulating and shows flashes of deep historical awareness. He, Guevara Arze, attacks the dogmatism of capitalism and socialism. He scorns those Bolivians who can recite in their dreams Marx, Stalin, Lenin but who fail to know anything about Bolivian history. Packed with thought, this is not only a libro de combate político but it is a booklet of historical interpretation.