

this challenge? In 1816 he had Torres, along with hundreds of other Colombian republicans, executed.

A demand for equality has always been revolutionary, a threat to established wealth and power. Ferdinand VII was, as his mother said, a "tiger" but no fool. Absolute monarchs could never tolerate demands for equality, especially after 1776. Ferdinand did what he had to do, and made Torres a martyr to the cause of equality.

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NATIONAL PERIOD

Historia de la revolución para la independencia mexicana en San Antonio Huatusco. 1826. By JOSÉ FRANCISCO CAMPOMANES. Prologue by LEONARDO PASQUEL. México, 1959. Editorial Citlalpetl. Colección Suma Veracruzana. Serie Historiografía. Pp. 60. Paper.

On the night of October 18, 1826, a young parish priest, José Francisco Campomanes, read to the town officials of Huatusco an account he had compiled of the activities in their community during the struggle for independence. Although one hundred copies of this report were subsequently published, none is available today. On the eighty-fifth anniversary of the independence proclamation, however, a second edition was published with a brief introduction by Filberto Muñoz. It is this 1895 edition that is now being reissued by Editorial Citlalpetl.

Leonardo Pasquel has provided a brief, but interesting, account of the life of Campomanes and a short history of the work itself as prologue to this edition.

The history by Campomanes is nothing more than a series of short numbered paragraphs dealing with political and military events in and around Huatusco between 1812 and 1821. While names like Nicolás Bravo and Guadalupe Victoria appear in the text, it is doubtful that any information of great value could emerge from this work alone.

This is a worthwhile publication, but it is probably well that only six hundred copies were printed. Annotation of the text and a map of the area around Huatusco would have been helpful additions.

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Colección de documentos inéditos o muy raros relativos a la Reforma en México. Vol. II. Edición conmemorativa de la Constitución de 1857. Edited by ANTONIO POMPA Y POMPA. México, 1958. Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia. Indices. Pp. 175. Paper.

This, the second volume of the important series of documents on the Mexican Reforma, was primarily the work of two teams of researchers working in the archives of the Defense and Foreign Affairs departments of the Mexican government. Aably directed by Antonio Pompa y Pompa, this work published by the Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia in commemoration of the centenary of the Constitution of 1857 contains documents covering events occurring during the years 1858 and 1859, a period of Conservative ascendancy.

A welcome addition to the second volume is a chronological table of documents for both volumes one and two. This, in addition to the excellent indexing, makes the task of the historian immensely easier.

Selective as all collections should be, this volume displays a change in emphasis from the military operations of volume one to a developing interest in foreign and diplomatic affairs. It is hoped that another volume covering the year 1860 and the Liberal triumph will not be long delayed in its appearance.

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Historia de la Cámara de Diputados de la XXVI Legislatura Federal. Vol. I: La Revolución tiene la palabra. Actas del "Diario de los Debates" de la Cámara de Diputados, del 2 de

Septiembre al 11 de Octubre de 1912. Edited by DIEGO ARENAS GUZMÁN. México, 1961. Instituto Nacional de Estudios Históricos de la Revolución Mexicana. Pp. 491.

This is the first of a projected four-volume series, edited and annotated by Diego Arenas Guzmán, devoted to reproducing the debates of the Mexican Chamber of Deputies from September, 1912, to the fall of President Madero.

This first volume contains the debates concerning the seating of representatives to the Chamber of Deputies whose elections were contested. Thus, the questions involved are, on the surface, political and legal ones, but they reflect the struggle of interests and the basic problems faced by the Revolution.

With two exceptions, for the sake of continuity, the material follows the chronology of the original debates. A comparison with the published *Diario de los Debates* indicates a careful, accurate job of editing with a minimum of comment by Arenas Guzmán. However, the reader might wish in some places that the speaker's political affiliation were stated for this is not always immediately evident from the debates. Also, the addition of an index would increase the book's usefulness for quick reference. These are minor criticisms, however, as are the presence of a few typographical mistakes and misplaced pages in Chapter XI.

While the primary value of the book is its accessibility as a source for these important debates, it is by no means dull reading; on the contrary, the debates impart the flavor of the revolutionary period, the emotionalism, and the confusion of ideas, and they show the developing political, economic, and social struggles.

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Camino a Tlaxcalantongo. By RAMÓN BETETA. México, 1961. Fondo de Cultura Económica. Illustrations. Pp. 126. Paper.

Ramón Beteta, in *Camino a Tlaxcal-*

antongo, may have produced a work that will be remembered. The narrative begins on a noisy May morning in 1920 at a railroad yard in Mexico City as Don Venustiano Carranza, the deposed president, prepared for his hasty departure from the capital. The forces of General Álvaro Obregón were moving rapidly down the paths that led into the valley. The scene was one of confusion and complete disorganization wherein everybody wanted to command and nobody wished to obey. The author was then a young university student fully dedicated to the *primer jefe*. He was among thousands who nervously awaited the signal to start the engines that were to pull the troop trains. Their destination was Veracruz, where the garrison gave "assurances" of devotion and loyalty. But in Mexico such pronouncements were meaningless. The trains were not able to travel beyond the sierras of Puebla. As the opposition forces closed in, and the inevitable turncoats evidenced their infidelity, the trains were abandoned. Accompanied by remnants of his party, Carranza fled to a mountain village where on a stormy night he was killed by bullets from assassins' guns.

The scene of the cold-blooded murder was a hut located at Tlaxcalantongo where he slept with complete assurance of being protected. The methods employed were commonplace to Mexican politics—first, pronouncements of friendship; second, deception; and then, murder. His fate was clear and logical, as was that of his predecessors as well as successors. He had participated fully in this human disorder and knew well the rules and consequences. The new patriot of the moment under whose command the shameful episode occurred was General Rodolfo Herrero, one of many who had vowed unending loyalty to his commander. Herrero would later be rewarded by the new caudillo of Mexico, Álvaro Obregón. The setting was a little different, but the story was the same.

The author accomplished several things and in each case he did them well. He did not argue a political point