

various solutions may be available. Some readers will agree in part with the conclusions reached, while others may dismiss them as conjecture. The true value of the work lies in the thought provoked by Professor Toynbee's reasoning and presentation, so that in disagreeing another solution may take form. The author has surely accomplished this purpose.

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BACKGROUND

Plantas cultivadas y animales domésticos en América Equinoccial. Tomo I. Frutas. By VÍCTOR MANUEL PATIÑO. Cali, 1963. Imprenta Departamental. Maps. Illustrations. Index. Pp. 547.

The appearance of this first of a projected five-volume study of the economic plants and animals of tropical America by Victor Manuel Patiño is something of a landmark in Latin American agricultural history. Patiño, a Colombian agronomist and former Guggenheim Fellow, has spent the past fifteen years gathering material for this ambitious project, and the result seems almost certain to be the definitive work in this broad and neglected field for many years to come. In this introductory volume on "fruits" alone, Patiño's bibliography runs to an exhaustive seventy pages and he considers 113 different species, mostly "tree-crops." For each species the author attempts to establish the geographic range at the time of the conquest, the time and manner of its spread to other parts of the American tropics during the European period, and something of its economic significance to the people and economies of the different areas where it is grown. Principal emphasis is on the colonial period, where the documentation is richest. Patiño's discussions of the coconut (38 pages), cacao (66 pages), and the pejibaye palm (77 pages) are particularly detailed and each will stand as an authoritative statement. The lack of good maps and illustrations, especially of the unfamiliar minor fruits, may be lamented, but

the documentation and interpretation is of the highest quality. This is a first-order contribution to the cultural history of the Americas, and one looks forward with high anticipation, to the four remaining volumes, some of which are already in manuscript.

As an appendix there is included an interesting eleven-page document from the Archivo Central del Cauca, Popayán, concerning the payment of the *diezmos* in cacao in the cacao-growing district of Timaná in the upper Magdalena valley. The date is 1805.

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Antigüedad del hombre en México y Centroamérica. Catálogo razonado de localidades y bibliografía selecta, 1867-1961. By LUIS AVELEYRA ARROYO DE ANDA. México, 1962. Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México. Cuadernos del Instituto de Historia. Serie Antropológica. No. 14. Maps. Appendix. Bibliography. Indices. Pp. 72. Paper.

This monograph, as its title implies, contains a listing of archaeological sites in Mexico and Central America which have remains relating to the earliest American Indians and their cultures. There is a short discussion of the system of classification of cultures used by the author, a description of types of sites included, and an explanation of the format of the paper. A selected bibliography pertaining to the sites listed is included. There also is a short appendix dealing with the recent finds at Valsequillo, Puebla.

Only sites assigned to the Paleoindian or Mesoindian phases are included. In the Paleoindian category are included localities of late Pleistocene age attributed to nomadic hunters of animals now extinct. The Mesoindian phase designates cultures of advanced collectors and semi-sedentary, incipient agriculturists whose remains constitute a transition between Paleoindian hunters and the beginnings of the high pre-Hispanic civilizations.

Seventy-five sites are catalogued; 70 are in Mexico, 5 in Central America.