

Alfonso Caso, Justino Fernández, Charles E. Dibble, Arthur J. O. Anderson, J. Ignacio Dávila Garibi, Pedro Carrasco, and numerous others. Each makes a substantial contribution. Without exception, the articles are informative, with new data or new interpretations. The subject matter, though varied, relates particularly to Aztec language, literature, and philosophy, and to Aztec society approximately as of conquest times. Several articles are examinations of aspects of the Sahagún writings. For what we normally consider the "historical" period the sole item is a study of Pedro Carrasco with data on the colonial Indian caciques of the town of Tulancingo.

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La historia del mondo nuovo. Facsimile of Venice 1572 edition. By GIROLAMO BENZONI. Introduction by FERDINAND ANDERS. Graz, 1962. Akademische Druck-u. Verlagsanstalt. Frühe Reisen und Seefahrten in Originalberichten. Vol. 2. Illustrations. Pp. 365, xli. \$7.00.

This is a very handy edition of the book of a sixteenth-century Italian traveler who visited Cumaná, the Gulf of Paria, Puerto Rico, Hispaniola, Cartagena, Santa Marta, Yucatán, Honduras, Nicaragua, Guatemala, Perú, Guayaquil, and Quito, among other named places. The book is reproduced in facsimile from the edition of 1572 with a very useful introduction in German by Anders. The introduction gives the bibliography of other editions of the work, an outline of the contents by folio number, and a short biography of Benzoni.

Benzoni's text is a combination of personal observation—his travels were mainly in the Caribbean, Tierra Firme, Yucatán, Central America, and Greater Peru—and the use of available works by other authors. Illustrations are contemporary woodcuts of little documentary or artistic value in contrast with the text, which is an important, if little used, source and an eyewitness

account of large areas of sixteenth-century Spanish America.

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Historia sucinta de Michoacán. Vol I: *Michhuacán, el estado tarasco*. Vol. II: *Provincia mayor o intendencia*. By JOSÉ BRAVO UGARTE. México, 1962, 1963. Editorial Jus, S.A. Figuras y Episodios de la Historia de México. No. 110. Colección México Heroico No. 15. Pp. 183, 266. Paper.

Three volumes comprise this succinct history of Michoacán: Volume I on the pre-Conquest Tarascan state; Volume II on the colonial province and Intendancy; and Volume III, not yet published, on the national period. Volume I and II are both enhanced by select bibliographies at the end of each chapter, onomastic indexes, pertinent maps, and illustrations. Volume I also includes a list of Tarascan lords and rulers and Tarascan-Spanish, Spanish-Tarascan vocabularies; Volume II contains an essay on the Confederation of Chimalhuacán and other useful appendices.

After necessary background on the geography, inhabitants, and languages of the Tarascan state, the author reviews the historical sources. While these are numerous, nearly all have gaps; but the richest source, and the author relies heavily on it, is the "Relación de Mechhuacán" of 1540-41. The development of the Tarascan state is broken into three periods: 1201-1400, 1401-1450, and 1450-1530. It was only during the last period that the domain was unified under one command and extended over other linguistic groups, eventually coming into contact with the Mexican empire. The Tarascans fought well against the Mexicans, even defeating them at times during the reigns of Axayácatl and Montezuma II. Although culturally inferior to many Meso-American civilizations, such as the Maya and Mexican, the Tarascans were politically on a par with the Mexican empire.

Religion was the fundamental Taras-