

develop because whites usually outnumbered non-whites and therefore were able to reserve nearly all non-servile occupations to people from their own ranks.

Harris remarks that certain differences between the slave systems of North and South America, while real, may not have been as accentuated as often has been implied. This approach could have been carried a bit further. For example, he re-asserts the old saw that what seems to be racial discrimination in Brazil, upon examination, turns out to be merely class discrimination, although he admits racial background to be among the criteria determining class. Many studies make it clear that neither racial prejudice nor discrimination is unknown in Brazil. The Brazilian social system has permitted men of color—although the less color the better—to participate in the general society much more fully than their American counterparts. This does not mean, however, that what is regarded as class discrimination may not at bottom be a mask for a racial prejudice which cannot be neatly explained by rational considerations.

The format of this volume is worthy of comment, for the publisher has applied some of the techniques which make modern textbooks and juveniles generally more attractive than most books addressed to the ordinary adult audience. There is a section at the back of the book containing illustrations and polychromatic tables, graphs, and maps. The value of the five photographs might be questioned, but the other innovations are generally useful and a step in the right direction. One reservation should be noted. To check a citation it is necessary to look in three different places: the page being read, the notes, and—because the notes omit the title—the bibliography.

State University of New York,  
Manhattan Urban Center

LAWRENCE NEVINS

*Estudio social de América Latina, 1962 and 1963-1964.* Prepared by the DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AFFAIRS of the PAN AMERICAN UNION. Washington, 1964. Pan American Union. Tables. Notes. Pp. xxii, 384; xi, 265. Paper. \$3.00.

At a time when social scientists are building models for purposes of research, teaching, and prediction, it is important to note the publication of two valuable social studies on Latin America. Covering the years 1962 through 1964, both works go well beyond the area of "social" in the strictest sense of the word. The reason is that in preparing these volumes, the Pan American Union set out to describe the social aspects or "dimensions" (the term preferred by the au-

thors) which are generally omitted from the interpretive developmental models currently in use, because they are hard to express in quantities.

Socioeconomic in approach and more often descriptive than analytical, these *Estudios sociales* consist in large measure of tables containing a wide range of data. Their catholicity of information is evident from these examples: housing for the homeless, education, social security, community development, financing of socioeconomic development in Latin America by both domestic and external sources, public health, and allocation of economic resources. Consequently these volumes will be most useful as references, not only for the Latin American specialist but for the general public as well.

The *Estudios sociales* go beyond a mere presentation of statistics for given years. Their efforts to show basic trends and patterns make them more meaningful and thus more useful. In addition to contemporary data on Latin America, they contain information on factors which, besides influencing the socioeconomic development of Hispanic America, can be measured and thus periodically restudied to evaluate their directions and variations. It is these directions and variations that help establish trends and patterns, because they allow for change. The sections dealing with demography illustrate this point, since they discuss not only the current population explosion in Latin America, but also the principal tendencies of the internal migrations which are modifying the structure of the Latin American labor force and the nature and means of production. This is best revealed in Brazil where the migrations from the Northeast to the South and East have resulted in a dangerous imbalance.

Perhaps the greatest single *raison d'être* for the *Estudios sociales*, apart from their values as reference works, is the guidance which they give to socioeconomic planners. The authors point out that because of its recent demographic explosion, Latin America has an inordinately high percentage of young people who must be reared and educated. The burden is aggravated in that the increasing numbers of persons aged sixty-five and older must be provided with pensions and medical care. In the section on social structure the authors summarize changes in the size and composition of Latin America's economically active population. Then they define a new dimension, the form or pattern in which the socioeconomic organization of a society is related to its production potential. The *Estudios sociales* remind planners that in a free and democratic society any effort to impose a rigid program of desired objectives will clash with the spontaneous changes occurring in Latin America. These changes—

social, political, or economic—must be channeled and guided into constructive paths for achievement of maximum development in Hispanic America.

Although not imaginatively written, the 1962 and 1963-1964 Social Studies of Latin America constitute a worthy contribution. These books are especially significant because of present emphasis on planning and development, to which Latin American governments have committed themselves by establishing and maintaining programs of social and economic amelioration. The effectiveness of these works in Latin America has been greatly enhanced by their appearance in Spanish. It is hoped that the Organization of American States will continue to publish this timely series, and that an English translation will be issued.

Berkeley, California

DONALD E. RADY

*Teatro latinoamericano en el siglo XX.* By CARLOS SOLÓRZANO. México, 1964. Editorial Pormaca. Bibliography. Pp. ix, 200. Paper. \$2.50.

Professor Solórzano, a forty-five-year-old *guatemalteco*, most of whose work has been done in Mexico, is not only a practicing dramatist but a writer on the Latin American theater, with a two-volume anthology of its plays and two critical volumes of almost the same name. The earlier one was published in Buenos Aires in 1961. Now comes the present book which augments but does not replace the earlier study, since it classifies the dramatists in a different way.

The five chapters consider the theater of customs, the first decade of the twentieth century, plays of universal tendencies, plays of national themes, and the postwar theater. A nine-page introduction prepares the scene with a brief glance at the history and geography of the hemisphere and its early drama. The rest of the volume considers every nation separately within each chapter. The principal dramatists are discussed in detail with analyses of their major works and interesting sidelights on their personalities, since the author is personally acquainted with a number of them. Central America receives more extensive treatment than in previous volumes, and Mexico's theater is covered in detail.

The author finds the theater rich and varied, developing rapidly though handicapped by national rivalries. One phase of his study is an observation of the various ways in which the theater has departed from Old World norms, despite the interest of the intellectuals in the