

of a durable dictatorship and the politico-economic background from which erupted the Mexican Revolution.

Beginning with a brief account of Reyes' family and his early years, Niemeyer then traces the life of Bernardo Reyes to 1885. The next chapters deal with the establishment of *porfirismo* in northeastern Mexico from 1885 to 1889 and the development of Nuevo León's state administration from 1889 to 1900. Chapters V and VI concern Mexican national politics, military affairs, and social problems. Then comes a detailed chapter which chronicles the *Reyista* movement of 1909, Reyes' exile, his return, and the advent of the Revolution. A final chapter sets forth the events of the last days which culminated in Reyes' death under a hail of bullets before Mexico City's presidential palace.

In a brief epilogue Niemeyer pictures Reyes as both a product of and a contributor to the *porfirista* regime, and in a summary evaluation of the man he concludes: "The efficacy and thoroughness with which he acted as Díaz's agent, his administrative successes in Nuevo León, the honesty and personal integrity which characterized each of his public and private acts, his devotion to the army, his desire to make of the Mexican army an effective force, and his humanitarian qualities demonstrated by his interest in the workers and their welfare, distinguish him in comparison with other Porfirian functionaries" (p. 243). Some Mexican scholars may not agree with these conclusions. If such be the case, this biography may stimulate them to publish their documented research.

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Mexican Marxist. Vicente Lombardo Toledano. By ROBERT PAUL MILLON. Chapel Hill, 1966. University of North Carolina Press. Appendices. Bibliography. Index. Pp. 222. \$6.00.

Despite its title this short book is not a biography of Vicente Lombardo Toledano. Instead it is mostly a gloss of his principal writings over a period of nearly forty years, and only the first chapter supplies any formal presentation of his life. The remainder of the book deals mainly with Lombardo's pronouncements and publications on a variety of matters, as indicated by the following selected chapter headings: "New Orientation, Marxist Philosophy"; "Imperialism and the Mexican Economy"; "The Social and Political Structure of Mexico"; "A People's Democracy and Socialism: The New Humanism"; "International Affairs." Two chapters on Lombardo's role

in organized labor and party politics rely more upon other persons' friendly or unfriendly descriptions than upon his own writings. In no part of the study does Vicente Lombardo Toledano emerge as a real person whose attitudes and actions reflect the environment in which he found himself or the personal experiences he encountered during his life.

This is not a very satisfying book. All too obviously it originated as a doctoral dissertation, with some of the strengths and most of the weaknesses of the genre. On one hand, Millon has carefully collected writings by and materials about Lombardo Toledano, supplemented by comments of Lombardo himself. On the other, he has made the fundamental error of presenting Lombardo and his work as though he were a social and political philosopher with systematic and consistent views based upon isolation from the world environment. In reality, Lombardo usually took far more active roles as a politician and labor leader reacting to the extraordinarily rapidly changing conditions which Mexico has faced from the 1920s to the present. This pragmatic influence shows in practically everything that Lombardo has written.

Considering that Millon is a historian, the almost absolute absence of historical background against which to measure the content of Lombardo's writings is difficult to comprehend. It is especially unfortunate because of the organization which the author has adopted for most of the chapters. He has chosen to present a synthesis of Lombardo's ideas in the present indicative, lumping them together under the various chapter headings and ignoring the fact that they emerged over a very long period of time and under stress of circumstances which have changed enormously with the years. This is no service to Lombardo, because some of his pronouncements, made early in the Revolutionary period but presented as though they represent his contemporary thought, make the maestro sound more confused than profound. Similarly Millon has utilized all of Lombardo's writings, polemical, scholarly, analytical, and even poetical—not to mention Partido Popular election documents—in an attempt to describe his value system. The apparent lack of discrimination leaves the reader confused as to where Lombardo's politics leave off and his principles begin.

In general, although this book offers the reader some idea of Vicente Lombardo Toledano's attitudes on a series of points, it does little to explain why he thinks the way he does, or how the real world around him has affected his thought. It does not even explain how a

man can follow the Soviet party line for thirty years and still consider himself an independent Marxist, not a Communist.

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México y el arbitraje internacional. El Fondo Píadoso de las Californias. La Isla de la Pasión. El Chamizal. By ANTONIO GÓMEZ ROBLEDÓ. México, 1965. Editorial Porrúa. Map. Appendices. Pp. xii, 407. Paper.

Ambassador Antonio Gómez Robledo deals with three international arbitration cases which are seldom mentioned in history texts in the United States but rarely omitted from Mexican historical works. This is by no means a definitive diplomatic history, an interpretive foreign policy study, or a profound legal treatise, but it demonstrates sound knowledge in all three areas.

Gómez Robledo first examines the Pious Fund case in which the Catholic Church of California endeavored to extract from the government of Mexico funds which were originally vested in the Church of New Spain. Despite the fact that after two arbitrations the ultimate award favored the United States, the author presents a strong case for Mexico.

In dealing with the recently settled Chamizal conflict, he takes the United States to task for failure to abide by the arbitral decision of 1911. Forcefully stating the position of an aggrieved Mexican, he terms this the most passionate case in the diplomatic history of Mexico. His treatment of the Chamizal conflict is the most perceptive of the three, although incomplete as the period since 1911 is neglected. A more thorough study of United States—Mexican diplomacy in this era would have revealed numerous complexities which the author chose to omit. Nevertheless, his examination of both the Pious Fund and Chamizal cases indicates a definite lack of foresight on the part of those who negotiated the Treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo.

Gómez Robledo's account of both the Chamizal question and the Island of Passion controversy (commonly called the Clipperton Island case) illustrates that a primary objective of Mexican diplomacy has been the conservation of her national territory. As a tribute to the art of diplomacy the book often mitigates the author's nationalistic bias. Above all the need for international law to be uniform and generally accepted is paramount in his mind.

After cutting apart almost every flimsy page, the reader found a useful although abbreviated selection of documents. Additional maps