

tries to resolve their difficulties have not been successful. Import restrictions and efforts at diversification and industrialization have been barely adequate to maintain the unhappy *status quo*. The problem as seen by the panel of experts rests with the structure of international trade. The Latin American countries, as well as many other developing countries in Asia and Africa, produce agricultural products, fibers, minerals, and other raw materials for the market in the developed (i.e. industrialized) countries. Because of the nature of the market, prices of primary products have fluctuated violently, while the prices of manufactured goods have remained relatively stable. A further discouraging note is that not only do the industrialized nations control the prices of raw materials and agricultural products by tariffs, quotas, and other trade restrictions, but by subsidizing competing agricultural products in their own countries they have contributed to a further depression of the world market in these items.

The solution as hopefully presented by the Latin American economic experts is the reorganization of international trade to take into account the special needs of the developing countries. Suggested are regional plans for economic integration and development of traditional export products, while industrial capacity is gradually built up. The experts propose that a new, permanent United Nations committee be formed to coordinate world trade and to assist such regional development by cooperating with the existing regional organizations and agencies already in operation.

While these proposals are important as representing a new departure in solving the economic problems of Latin America, their adoption depends in large part upon world good will. The real value of this report rests in the frank and detailed analysis it presents of the current economic situation in Latin America.

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Growth and Integration in Central America. By CARLOS M. CASTILLO. New York, 1966. Frederick A. Praeger, Publishers. Praeger Special Studies in International Economics and Development. Notes. Bibliography. Pp. x, 188. \$15.00.

The methodology and stilted style of this book appear to stem from the fact that it is actually a doctoral dissertation. This statement is not meant to detract from the solid scholarship evidenced throughout the study, which was certainly worth publishing, but it is too bad that the dynamic growth of the Central American Com-

mon Market is dulled by the grey historicity of the author's approach. Also the author or the publisher should have supplied an index.

The author has divided his subject into three stages: 1) colonial integration and its collapse; 2) individual countries and their economic development; and 3) economic integration in contrast to political integration. This is a most satisfactory approach particularly to anyone unacquainted with Central America, for it gives a panoramic view of the continuing efforts toward some sort of integration which may make the area economically viable. Castillo has thoroughly analyzed the documents and literature involved in the integrating processes of the Central American countries. He has rendered a valuable service to students of that area by providing a foundation for the understanding of current developments in the area.

This reviewer had difficulty in coming to any concrete grasp of the "meat" of Castillo's book, perhaps because it does not offer any conclusions or recommendations. The final frustration is the absence of any treatment of current programs, e.g. the feasibility of a common currency for the CACM. It is to be hoped that, having ably laid the groundwork in this study, Castillo will further examine and interpret Central American development.

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JOHN M. DYER

Birth Rates in Latin America: New Estimates of Historical Trends and Fluctuations. By O. ANDREW COLLVER. Berkeley, 1965. University of California. Institute of International Studies. Tables. Figures. Notes. Appendix. Bibliography. Pp. 187. Paper. \$2.50.

Andrew Collver has produced a most useful and challenging book. It is useful as a source of data and as a study of a complex social problem. It is challenging in its methodology and in some of its conclusions.

To the general Latin Americanist it provides an excellent source of demographic data (not just data on birth rates, as the title implies). These data have been adjusted for each of the twenty Latin American countries in such a manner that they appear to be the most accurate available for the late nineteenth and the twentieth century concerning the demography of Latin America. Certainly they should be cited and employed in preference to the data from the *Demographic Yearbook* or the official census figures from each country. There is also a country-by-country evaluation of the official statistics available.