

## BOOK NOTICES

Initialed notices were written by John P. Dyson, Shepard L. Forman, Laurence Lewis, David M. Pletcher, Robert E. Quirk, Daniel Scroggins, James R. Scobie, Jeffrey Adelman, Irwin Gellman, Janet Holasek, and Thomas G. Powell, all of Indiana University.

### GENERAL

*El Cesarismo en América Latina.* By ARIEL PERALTA P. Santiago, 1966. Editorial Orbe. Notes. Bibliography. Pp. 162. Paper. \$2.50.

Ariel Peralta Pizarro's search for Latin American "reality" is not very convincing. He avoids nearly all economic and social realities—present-day colonialism and imperialism, the Cold War, U.S. economic and political penetration—and instead romanticizes the early nineteenth-century dictators, Rosas, Francia, the two López, and Diego Portales (a creole dictator) as true expressions of the Latin American ethnics and the mestizo spirit. He has the fond illusion that dictatorships are efficient and honest, democracies inefficient and corrupt. He even believes that Portales was an honest poor man and ignores the fact that the Chilean was suppressing the mestizo upsurge. He adds a contradictory note that dictatorships, since they are supported by the majority of the people, are "democratic." Out of all the vast world of Simón Bolívar's philosophy, he pounces on those few passages that seem to corroborate his theory. In short, except for a few nationalistic frills and his emphasis upon authentic mestizo rule, his book is not even as modern as Spanish Falangism, in which his thinking is mostly rooted.

Part of the author's dilemma is found in the necessity of utilizing the word "Cesarismo," and he even has to praise the Roman emperors in order to fortify his own ideal world of the

"necessary gendarme," more than a century ago. If those strange monsters of early Latin American independence represent the true genius of Latin America, it is scarcely a civilization worthy of survival.

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*The Conflict Society. Reaction and Revolution in Latin America.* Rev. ed. By KALMAN H. SILVERT. New York, 1966. American Universities Field Staff. Index. Pp. xiv, 289. \$7.50.

Stimulating observations and surprising new topics expand and enrich this revision, five years after the original publication of Kalman H. Silver's work. Chapters 1 and 2 are much the same as before in treating issues of underdevelopment and political change. So also are Chapters 3 and 5, dealing with Guatemalan village and national political life. "Political Leadership and Institutional Weaknesses in Argentina" is new, but not Chapter 14, which reproduces a lengthy speech by General González, illustrative of the thinking in Argentine military circles.

Descriptions of university life in Chapter 7 are new, relying heavily on others' research. In descending order, space is allotted to universities in Argentina, Chile, and Panama, with minimum reference to those in Brazil, Mexico, and Colombia. Chapters 8, 11, 12, and 13 are but slightly altered, except in their sequence, and comprise sketches on intellectual and social phenomena in Uruguay, Argentina, Chile, and Argentina (again) respectively.

Appearing in the earlier edition, but omitted here are: a) two chapters on the history and social structure of Chile; b) a recital of the author's frustrations as a visiting professor; and c) a bibliography. Chapter 15, "Hemispheric Relations in the Light of Castro," is substantially modified. A new Chapter

9, "American Academic Ethics and Social Research Abroad," is powerfully written, with controlled passion, concerning the consequences to future research arising out of the "Project Camelot" affair. (To this could now be added the as yet unassessed implications of C.I.A. financial support for press, student, labor, and educational organizations.)

Happily the new edition reduces the amount of jargon. The preoccupation of the author with building typologies continues. For all the reordering of the chapters, the omissions of old and the insertion of new ones, it cannot be said that the book is up-to-date. A rewritten paragraph on the Brazilian military's role in presidential politics ends at the time of Quadros, thus eliminating Goulart, Branco, and Costa e Silva. In a section on Argentina, there is considerable about Frondizi, but not about Illia or Onganía. Statistics on Uruguay are no more recent than 1956. And for this effervescent and dynamic continent, to be four or ten years behind the times is to be tardy indeed.

The author's evaluations are less didactic, more balanced, and hence at once of greater use and force than was the case in the first edition. A mellowing is notable in the omissions of earlier critical commentaries on the institutions and the people of Latin America. Organizationally, the volume is quite uneven: Argentina gets by far the most attention; several original chapters retained intact are but brief sketches of local *mores*; other chapters are lengthy discussions in depth of hemisphere-wide problems. However, both kinds contain valuable data and trenchant insights. Arthur P. Whitaker contributes a highly laudatory preface.

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*La rebelión de los machetes en América Latina.* By DUKARDO HINESTROSA. México, 1965. B. Costa-Amic, Editor. Bibliography. Pp. 203. Paper.

Dukardo Hinestrosa is a young Colombian journalist with a heart, and his

heart rather than his intellect dominates this set of *viñetas* about Latin America. Divided into two parts—"Panorama actual de los pueblos Latinamericanos" and "Proceso histórico de los movimientos populares en América Latina"—the book contains outlines of the general problems characteristic of the area in the first and then illustrates the contemporary scene in each country (including Puerto Rico and the Guianas) in the second. In the latter the author has used examples from the past to illuminate his argument and, as it is largely concerned with politics and economics, it might be more just to talk of "movimientos *impopulares*."

The heroes of this book are not the machetes, the rural and urban masses, but the men who would give inspiration to the rebellion. The ghosts of Jorge Gaitán and Emiliano Zapata filter through the pages leading the masses toward a better life, which the author, an obvious humanitarian socialist, suggests can be achieved by a breakdown of the traditional society. He vigorously attacks the oligarchs, the businessmen, the military leaders, and the Church. He does not spare the United States government or its citizens who invest in Latin America, and he also attacks those who seek to bring about social change through total control by the State. In Hinestrosa's Latin America private initiative will not be stifled, and the State will cooperate with and aid individuals in their projects.

The reader should be warned that this book is not to be read for its historical accuracies. The chapters dealing with individual countries are stimulating and challenging. But the author has a cause to plead, and he is not concerned with the correctness of his interpretation. He perhaps goes too far, e.g., when he implies that foreign companies in concert with the Dominican oligarchy planned the overthrow of Juan Bosch. In order to substantiate his position he apparently feels that economic imperialism had to be present; yet he would have been just as effective if he had used the