

economic currents. On the other hand, a "history of the labor movement in Latin America could be written with no more than passing reference to Communism" (p. 118). Alba contends that, whereas Communism did win supporters among intellectuals and certain middle sectors who in turn exercised some sway over organized labor, it never attained any major status among the workers themselves.

Throughout his study the author details the incongruities and difficulties which plague organized labor in Latin America. He sees unionism suffering from excessive governmental control, internal bureaucratization, and unfortunate manipulative characteristics. Furthermore, workers find themselves in the contradictory position of needing to change the social structure in order to strengthen their situation, yet holding to the status quo for fear of being pushed from their relatively privileged standing in society.

The reviewer found only a few items with which to take issue. Occasionally, especially in the country studies, the author leaves his reader wondering why some matters are as they are. Thus, why is it that both of Colombia's principal confederations belong to ORIT, but cannot find a common ground for merger? (The impasse could have been explained by personality and doctrinal differences which separate them.) Or, has "rigid discipline" (p. 253) been the Communists' only organizational advantage in gaining them a preeminent position in Chile's single important confederation? (Among other factors, a word on the Labor Code's general prohibition of salaried union officers and the manner in which this has accrued to the Communists' favor, might have given more perspective to the problem.) It seemed to the reviewer that the unique nature of the Chilean Socialist Party was ignored in Chapter 5. Moreover, was there really a Chilean women's union called "Unión es Fuerza of Negreiros" (p. 248)?

Still, the balance of the book is overwhelmingly on the positive side; Víctor Alba's presentation of rich new data and insightful interpretations regarding a fascinating slice of group politics in Latin America can only expand his already large circle of admirers.

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Strategische Elemente der Revolution Steigender Erwartungen in Lateinamerika. By ISMAEL SILVA-FUENZALIDA. Dortmund, 1968. Universität Münster. Kontaktprogram zur Sozialwissenschaftlichen Forschung in Lateinamerika. Arbeitsunterlage zur Lateinamerikaforschung. Notes. Pp. 129. Paper.

Die Rostow'sche Stufenlehre und die Sozio-ökonomischen Wachstumsphasen in Lateinamerika. By JAN D. BECKMANN. Dortmund 1968. Universität Münster. Kontaktprogram zur Sozialwissenschaftlichen Forschung in Lateinamerika. Arbeitsunterlage zur Lateinamerikaforschung. Tables. Figures. Notes. Bibliography. Pp. 174. Paper.

These two monographs belong to a series on Latin America published by the Institute for Social Research of the University of Münster, Germany. In the first monograph Silva-Fuenzalida, a Latin American sociologist, distinguishes between expectations based on a technical, rational appraisal of what is possible on the one hand and expectations kindled by mere exposure, by promises of a "caudillo" or the hoped-for kindness of a "master" on the other. He maintains that rationality and functionalism are not sufficiently widespread, especially in matters connected with organization and policies. As a result, the increase in income which the Latin America masses are coming to expect is unattainable—a situation which is leading to explosive tensions. This reviewer is not quite as pessimistic. Silva's analysis is relevant, and his judgment is likely to be correct in a number of cases, but his conclusions seem too sweeping. In particular, he fails to distinguish between countries. After all, there is a vast difference between, say, Venezuela and Guatemala. Moreover, Silva's conclusions are based on too little hard information. Indeed, some of his data on economic and social performance are technically deficient (e.g., declines in percentages are mistaken for absolute changes) and dated, failing to take the 1960s into account.

The second monograph, written by a German sociologist, was intended to examine the applicability of Rostow's stages to Latin America. However, we find that a third of the paper is taken up with a summary and discussion of the stages couched in general terms. Another third is devoted to a sweeping survey of developments in Latin America since colonial times that does not help to answer the central question. Part of the remainder is taken up with a largely irrelevant discussion of recent developments in some special areas, such as education and demography, whose statistical treatment also leaves much to be desired. In the little space that remains, Beckmann attempts to examine conditions in Latin America, to establish the utility of Rostow's stage approach, and to determine at what stage of development the region finds itself. He ends up with the same objections to Rostow's approach as a number of other writers, in particular Simon Kuznets and A. K. Cairncross, including the observation that the character-

istics of one stage often overlap into others. Beckmann might have made a useful contribution, had he concentrated intensively on a limited number of countries. Instead he has relied on a few data to make sweeping generalizations covering all of Latin America, continents where industrialization, technical sophistication, capital formation, and social structure vary widely from country to country (Argentina vs. Bolivia), and even within countries (southern vs. northeastern Brazil).

Pan American Union

ROLF HAYN

Hemispheres North and South. Economic Disparity Among Nations.

By DAVID HOROWITZ. Baltimore, 1966. Johns Hopkins Press. Notes. Index. Pp. vii, 118. Paper. \$1.95.

This small and relatively nontechnical volume is centered on a plea for a massive increase in capital transfers—1.5% of their gross national product from the wealthy Northern Hemispheric countries to those of the South in order to reverse the widening economic disparity between the two regions. For the area specialist who has not had training in economics, David Horowitz provides a useful, general, and clear statement of some of the more serious economic problems confronting Latin America today: insufficient external capital resources, declining primary product prices, and a demographic crisis. The professional economist, however, will find little that is new, and some points that are debatable.

Following an introduction which eloquently describes the growing disparity among nations and treats the problems of productivity, population, and trade, the author briefly analyzes the factors of agricultural productivity, capital, and labor force in the process of economic growth. In his discussion of population and the labor force, Horowitz suggests, but does not confront, a problem often inadequately grasped by native Latin American social scientists. This problem is not the density of population or the labor force concentration (i.e., the land area/population ratio), but the relation between rates of population growth and economic activity. For example, Brazil may be a relatively unpopulated country (the density ratio), but it is in serious trouble if the population grows as rapidly as economic activity. Of course Brazil has not experienced this form of stagnation because its rates of economic growth have been high, but these have been declining since the early 1960s because possibilities of import substitution have been exhausted, and the incremental capital output ratio has been rising. Nevertheless, a high rate of population increase