

There is a chapter devoted to the planning apparatus which has evolved in Castro Cuba and particularly to its role in determining distribution. This is followed by a chapter on individual output standards and how they are calculated, then a discussion of the variety of wage scales which exist and how they are set. The fifth chapter then deals with the question of "Socialist emulation," including a discussion of the part the trade unions play in this process. The book closes by assessing the application of "the Socialist distribution formula" in terms of production, productivity, and quality of output.

Even one who has followed the evolution of the Fidelista regime fairly closely is likely to find much new and interesting information here. Some, like the reviewer, might wish that the author had gone into more detail on a number of the points which are raised and discussed. The volume is very well documented, however, and anyone who has access to Cuban sources will be able to locate additional details, using the references in Mesa-Lago's book.

This volume provides insights into a number of questions of great importance in understanding the evolution of Castro's Cuba. It discusses at some length the issue of the use of material versus "moral" incentives. Also it suggests reasons why the Cuban economy declined so catastrophically during the early 1960s and since then has been unable to come anywhere near the targets set for the sugar industry. It has interesting information on the extent and nature of "voluntary" labor, which plays such an important role in the economy of the Fidelista regime.

The author is not friendly to the Castro regime, as the reader will not need to be reminded. The implications of his discussion for the future of the Castro regime will not please its supporters, nor will many of them be happy with Mesa-Lago's picture of what Fidel has done to the Cuban working class.

The strength and importance of the book lie not in the author's point of view, however, but in the facts and figures which he marshals. It should take a place alongside the much more inclusive pro-Castro study edited by Dudley Sears in 1964, as one of the most useful and important sources of information concerning what has actually been taking place in Cuba since 1959.

Rutgers University

ROBERT J. ALEXANDER

*Che Guevara Speaks. Selected Speeches and Writings.* Edited by GEORGE LAVAN. New York, 1967. Merit Publishers. Pp. 159. \$4.50.

This collection is one of the many recent books devoted to Ernesto

“Che” Guevara. Such publications were practically nonexistent before the death of the Cuban-Argentine guerrilla fighter in Bolivia, but the rising interest in the New Left and guerrilla tactics the world over has given them greatly increased currency.

Most of the pieces in Lavan’s anthology are speeches, articles, interviews, and letters spanning the years from 1959 to Guevara’s message “from somewhere in the world” to the Organization of Solidarity of the Peoples of Africa, Asia, and Latin America, made public in Havana on April 16, 1967. A number of the speeches were given to various meetings of Cuban workers and peasants during the first years of the Revolution. The Cuban Revolution was faced with concrete problems, and in these speeches Che sought to tell the people how these problems could be dealt with, while at the same time enunciating the basic principles of the Revolution. He was exceedingly frank about the mistakes of the Revolution, especially in the areas of economics and industrialization. Other speeches and articles in the book are concerned with the history of the Cuban Revolution, guerrilla warfare, socialism, the role of the artist, imperialism, relations between underdeveloped and industrialized nations, and the war in Vietnam. Included are speeches which Che delivered outside of Cuba at various international conferences.

As in his book *Guerrilla Warfare*, Che gives us very little about his personal thoughts. Yet throughout the speeches and essays the warmth of the man comes through. He was intensely involved in what was going on throughout the world, especially in Latin America, and he used his talents and energies to channel what was happening toward his desired end—revolution of the oppressed. He was passionately convinced of the inevitability and justice of guerrilla warfare as the agency of revolutionary change along the course charted by Mao Tse-tung, Ho Chi Minh, and Fidel Castro. To carry his belief into effect, he left high positions in Cuba for the task—probably hopeless at the time—of leading a revolution among the wretched peasantry of Bolivia. Finally he died, young and almost alone.

Yet the legend of Che Guevara has created a mystical rallying point for the radical left, and especially the young. The students who demonstrated and seized control of the Sorbonne in May and June 1968 were not the children of Marx but of Mao and Marcuse—and especially of Che Guevara. Nor has his death dimmed confidence in his ideas, as I had the opportunity to discover in discussions with students in France during the summer of 1968. Growing numbers of young people who are discontented with the status quo are looking

for a new hero, and Che Guevara is now the leading contender. This little book is a useful guide towards an understanding of why this has occurred.

Lincoln University

PHILIP S. FONER

*The Cuban Policy of the United States: A Brief History.* By LESTER D. LANGLEY. New York, 1968. John Wiley and Sons. America and the World Series. Maps. Notes. Bibliography. Index. Pp. x, 203. Cloth. \$6.96. Paper. \$2.95.

Thanks to Fidel Castro, and more recently to Che Guevara, new books on Cuba would fill to overflowing the proverbial five-foot shelf. Most of them are journalesque, and some of them deserve little more permanence than yesterday's newspaper. That is decidedly not the case with Lester D. Langley's slender volume.

Obviously no exhaustive or encyclopedic account of a complex subject covering a century and a half in time can be given in two hundred pages or less, and Langley would doubtless be the first to admit that he did not intend to do so. He refers to his study modestly as a "historical summary." But the volume rests on thoroughgoing research, and it is readable, objective, sophisticated in tone, and balanced in organization. All in all, it makes a real contribution to the nontransitory literature on troubled Cuba.

The author's account of Cuban developments before the nineteenth century is designedly sketchy; after all, the United States was in no position to develop much of a Cuban policy before the 1780s. As Jefferson and Madison turn their interest to the Pearl of the Antilles, Langley's coverage becomes more complete, even if still summary. His treatment is chronological, and virtually a whole chapter—fortunately more than most studies devote—is given to the period of the Ten Years' War. A good balance is maintained between nineteenth and twentieth centuries, and the author resists the temptation to overemphasize the events of 1898. The last substantive chapter, "Batista and Castro," is necessarily less well-documented than earlier portions, but of course it is yet too early to write definitively about the last third of a century, especially when the two people who dominate the stage are as controversial as the ones who give their names to this chapter's title.

The study is generally free of error. A few trivial mistakes in accenting and italicizing occur; the details of Machado's *continuismo* in 1927-1928 are not quite correct; and references in two places to "Camp Colombia" should read "Camp Columbia." But it would