

BOOK NOTICES

Initialed notices were written by Frank T. Bachmura, Richard Kagan, David M. Pletcher, Robert E. Quirk, and Michael Webster, all of Indiana University.

Latin American History: Select Problems. Identity, Integration, and Nationhood. Edited by FREDRICK B. PIKE. New York, 1969. Harcourt, Brace & World. Illustrations. Maps. Notes. Bibliography. Pp. xxi, 482. Paper. \$5.95.

The burgeoning student population puts an intolerable load on almost any institution's short supply of library books. For this reason, publishing books of readings for college and university history classes has become a large and lucrative business. It is easier to persuade affluent students to purchase paperbacks than to get financially strapped librarians to add multiple copies of the required readings. The Latin American history field has also been affected by the publication explosion, and a number of readings and problem books have already hit the market. Some are better than others, and the publishers' commendable custom of sending examination copies broadcast throughout the country permits each Latin American historian to make up his own mind.

For what it is worth, my own opinion is that this book of "select problems" is better than most. Fredrick Pike has managed to assemble an admirable stable of associates. Sections are edited by such outstanding historians as Charles Gibson, J. H. Parry, John L. Phelan, Thomas E. Skidmore, and John Womack. Each contributor provides an introductory essay to the documents, as well as a conclusion and a bibliographic essay. The collaboration has produced a very good book.

Still, I cannot help but wonder how this (or any other readings book) is to be used in Latin American history classes. Such books have proved most successful in the U. S. history and in Western Civilization fields, whose large lecture classes are broken up into

smaller discussion groups usually led by graduate assistants. The "problems" approach lends itself admirably to discussion and argumentation. Are any Latin American history classes so divided into smaller sections? If not, can a satisfactory discussion take place in a class with 30, 50, or 100 students? And if you do not discuss the documents, why not ask the students to read complete books, such as Lewis Hanke's *Spanish Struggle for Justice*, which are available in relatively inexpensive paperback editions. This view represents only one historian's idiosyncracies, however, and has nothing to do with the quality of this book which is uniformly high.

R. E. Q.

Pasado y presente de Hispanoamérica. Cinco ensayos sobre su realidad. By DARÍO GUEVARA. Quito, 1968. Privately printed. Bibliography. Pp. 194. Paper. \$15.00 (Ecuad.).

This is an anthology of essays and speeches by a versatile and prolific Ecuadorian intellectual, Darío Guevara (1905-). Although written and delivered a number of years ago, they have but recently been published through no fault of the author. In an afterword Guevara bitterly explains that since 1951 Minister after Minister of Public Education vainly promised to publish this collection.

In this case I cannot but sympathize with those pedagogues, as these five pieces possess little literary and less historiographical merit. The first three deify Bolívar and San Martín not only as liberators but the precursors of panamericanism. The fourth explains the origins of Latin American problems and offers solutions, all in twenty-eight pages; and the fifth, written in 1939, informs us that Jews are human

beings and could make valuable contributions as immigrants to America.

It should be pointed out that these examples of bombastic prose were dashed off during a period when Good Neighborism was emotionally as well as politically in vogue. But that is no excuse for befuddling the reader by calling the *Liberator* and the *Protector* "las dos grandes creaciones de la influencia bioantogeográfica de Latinoamérica" (p. 75). Nor can one defend oversimplifying Bolívar's political philosophy to "the liberation of peoples, the creation of republics essentially democratic, the foundation of large nations, and the integral unification of the great world of Columbus" (p. 117). Guevara has repeatedly demonstrated intellectual worth as folklorist and biographer. It is unfortunate that he has chosen to impair his reputation by peddling best-forgotten panegyrics of yesteryear.

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Toward an Integrated Theory of Development: Economic and Noneconomic Variables in Rural Development. By WILLIAM F. WHYTE and LAWRENCE K. WILLIAMS. Ithaca, 1968. Cornell University. New York State School of Industrial and Labor Relations. Notes. Appendix. Pp. 89. Paper. \$1.50.

Despite the prestigious reputation of its senior author (who has held the Career Research Award, National Institute of Mental Health, for two consecutive five-year periods) this is a slight work. It is a pamphlet rather than a book, and not a very weighty pamphlet at that, printed in large type. There is some ground for suspicion of padding.

Ironically, and despite its title, the work itself is not well integrated. Its table of contents constitutes a miscellany rather than an organized whole. Moreover, it announces no basis, theoretical or otherwise, for its own internal organization. A possible integrative formulation is buried within the work

rather than employed to organize its contents.

The work's principal contribution lies in the emphasis which it gives to the integration of psychological science into the field of development. However, its bibliography, even in this section, is next to nonexistent. It makes no mention of McClelland's pathbreaking work in this field, even though it does use (without credit) his concept of the "need for achievement."

It is to be hoped that Gresham's Law is not applicable to the study of the psychological aspects of economic development.

F. T. B.

Problemas del subdesarrollo económico latinoamericano. By ALBERTO BALTRA CORTÉS. Buenos Aires, 1966. Editorial Universitaria de Buenos Aires. Notes. Pp. 94. Paper.

This small volume of fewer than a hundred pages, written simply and with great clarity, is essentially for the lay reader who desires an introduction to the facts and problems concerning economic developments in Latin America. It should be of considerable value for general education, but it adds little to our knowledge in the fields discussed. It relies heavily on data presented in the CEPAL publication, *El desarrollo económico de América Latina en la postguerra*.

Professor Baltra Cortés of the University of Chile, who is also a senator and a figure of some political importance, follows a concrete factual approach describing the underdevelopment of Latin America in terms of comparative income, food consumption, housing, health, and educational statistics. The first six of twelve chapters offer a comprehensive description of the relative underdevelopment in Latin America. Succeeding chapters discuss foreign commerce, the institutional obstacles to economic development, agricultural reform, foreign investment, the Alliance for Progress, and the common markets.

Perhaps the chief significance of this