

concentrated in cities and towns; that the existing facilities for treating psychiatric patients are extremely inadequate.

In February, 1968, the Center of Haitian Studies was officially constituted, with headquarters at the Research Institute for the Study of Man. But the value of this Center is unclear so long as the Duvalier dictatorship prevails.

Howard University

RAYFORD W. LOGAN

El petróleo y la problemática estructural venezolana. By FRANCISCO MIERES. Caracas, 1969. Universidad Central de Venezuela. Instituto de Investigaciones. Tables. Pp. 403. Paper.

“. . . The oil industry is fully representative of contemporary capitalism. As such it exhibits perfectly the fundamental characteristics of the system. . . .” This statement by Francisco Mieres is the key to his book. Almost half of the volume is devoted to a recapitulation of analyses of industrial-finance-monopoly capitalism by English language economists (Adolf Berle, Harvey O’Connor, Paul Baran, Louis Fischer, J. A. Hobson, John Strachey) already available (but not, alas, familiar) to students of economics and economic history in the United States. If Hobson was correct (and Lenin certainly thought he was), monopoly capitalism is imperialism, the latest (not the last!) phase of capitalism. Mieres recognizes that imperial capitalism is the enemy of underdeveloped nations like Venezuela. He is under no obligation to emphasize that imperial capitalism is also the enemy of nationalism in developed nations. It is clear that imperial capitalism is really international—a fascinating sort of private-power internationalism, antinational by its nature. Hence the contemporary situation in which nationalism is fought by great capitalist nations and is supported by great Marxist states—otherwise a very puzzling anomaly.

In the second half of his book Mieres examines the relationship between oil and Venezuela—how oil production, oil pricing, oil shipping, oil taxing, oil employment, and oil concessions relate to the whole economy of Venezuela, to the income of the government of Venezuela, to the nature of government in Venezuela, and to the international relations of Venezuela. As Mieres (a good Latin nationalist) says, “. . . the economists of the underdeveloped countries have a special responsibility to study the problems confronting them from the standpoint of their own interests.”

An abundance of statistical tables accompanies the treatment of these topics in the text of the book. Historical as well as statistical evidence indicates that small nations with rich resources are no match

for big corporations with billions of dollars. The solution Mieres suggests is a much larger role for a national oil company (the Mexican approach without expropriation) in the management of Venezuela's oil resources. As the Mexican example also shows, however, that solution requires a government strong enough not to be subverted from within and a diversionary crisis for international capitalism—conditions not existing just yet for Venezuela.

Ball State University

MERRILL RIPPY

Lima, Peru. A Study of Housing in an Arid Coastal Region. By ROBERT D. TROY. Lubbock, Texas, 1969. Texas Technological University Press. International Center for Arid and Semi-Arid Land Studies. Illustrations. Map. Bibliography. Pp. 55. Paper. \$3.00.

In this brief report architect Robert Troy seeks to analyze the architectural methods adopted in Lima to meet the city's severe housing shortage. Using Lima as a representative city in an arid location, Troy catalogs eight housing developments giving details on style, construction materials, and financing. Five of these developments are examples of middle income housing, and two are of lower middle income housing. It is in these areas, Troy maintains, that the Peruvian government has been most successful in satisfying Lima's housing needs. As for Lima's most serious problem, housing the lower income class of internal migrants who ring the city in *barriadas* or *pueblos libres*, Troy discusses only the development of Caja de Agua. It is in housing this rapidly growing sector that the Peruvian government faces its greatest challenge.

This report, written for the International Center for Arid and Semi-Arid Land Studies at Texas Technological College, is too superficial to be of much value to the specialist. However, it is somewhat redeemed by the inclusion of over fifty photographs showing the variety of architectural styles and materials used in Lima's housing projects. It would have been of greater value had the author used footnotes or expanded his bibliography beyond seven items. Readers who are unable to secure this report will find it reprinted (less photographs and a few introductory paragraphs) in the August 1, 1969, issue of "Peruvian Times," pp. 7-10.

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