

expressed"; and that as there is no ivory tower today the scholar must equip himself for, and comfort himself in, the real and highly polarized political world. Stanley Stein in his criticism of Kalman Silvert suggests that Latin American scholars would not now deny collaboration to a United States scholar engaged in a socially relevant, technically taxing, research design comparable to Gunnar Myrdal's *An American Dilemma*. Extrapolating from Adams and Orlando Fals Borda ("scientists of any nationality formed [not trained may I point out] in this school of thought—the North American 'aseptic' models of non-committed, aloof science—would be superfluous in a society where they are expected to participate actively in achieving a new social order") it would be unrealistic to expect such cooperation. In any event, the decision would be based more on political than scholarly considerations.

This volume has provided me with one completely new experience. It is the first time that I have ever re-read footnotes—several times—for the sheer pleasure of it. They follow Richard Morse's perceptive, freshly written essay, "The Care and Grooming of Latin American Historians or: Stop the Computers, I Want to Get Off," and would for me be worth the undiscounted purchase price. His definition of a historian as "someone who believes that the past still lives and must be conjured with," perhaps places him more completely in the mainstream of contemporary Latin American concern in the *social sciences* than any of his United States colleagues who contributed to this, for me, stimulating collection of opinions.

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COLONIAL AND INDEPENDENCE PERIODS

Gold, Glory, and the Gospel. The Adventurous Lives and Times of the Renaissance Explorers. By LOUIS B. WRIGHT. New York, 1970. Atheneum. Index. Pp. xvi, 362. Cloth. \$10.00.

The subtitle of Mr. Wright's book provides a clue to its character. This is an adventure story, or a collection of adventure stories; a straightforward narrative of the principal episodes of European discovery and conquest overseas in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. The treatment is conventional, and so are the conclusions which the author reaches about the discoverers' motives: acquisitiveness, religious zeal, and the hope of fame. The best chapters are those which deal, not with the early discoveries, but with the efforts of the northern Protestants to break into the Iberian monopoly. Few scholars know more about Elizabethan England than Mr. Wright. He is less certain

about Spain and Portugal. From the vast literature on the subject, he has had (perforce) to rely on a relatively small selection of books, all or nearly all in English translation, and some of them are now a little old-fashioned. Arthur Helps and Salvador de Madariaga, for example, are cited as authorities on Cortés, Oliveira Martins on Prince Henry of Portugal, Prestage on the Portuguese explorers in general. The recent and admirable works of Magalhães Godinho are not mentioned. John Hemming's excellent account of the conquest of Peru presumably appeared too late to be consulted, as did Lawrence Wroth's book on Verrazzano, whose important voyage is not mentioned at all. Where original sources are cited, the editions used are not always the best; the 1896 Hakluyt Society edition of Azurara's *Chronicle of Guinea*, for example, has been superseded by M. Bourdon's much better version of 1960; the Gheerbrand edition of Garcilaso's *Commentaries*, by that of Harold Livermore. Inevitably, in a brief general book on a big and complex subject, there are some outright mistakes. Columbus did not become a "grandee of Spain" (p. 78); he sailed on his fourth voyage in 1502, not 1505 (p. 80), and died in 1506 (p. 81). Pigafetta did not publish his account of the Magellan voyage (p. 138). An encomienda was not an "apportionment of land" (p. 168). There are some odd phrases relating to nautical matters, as where Dias (p. 58) is made to "run close-hauled before the wind." But these are relatively minor matters, in a book clearly not intended for specialists. In capturing the general spirit of his topic, Mr. Wright has a sure touch. The book is smoothly written and handsomely produced. It is an elegant introduction to an exciting story.

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The Chronicles of Michoacán. Translated and edited by EUGENE R. CRAINE and REGINALD C. REINDORP. Norman, Oklahoma, 1970. University of Oklahoma Press. Illustrations. Suggested Readings. Index. Pp. xxiii, 259. Cloth. \$7.95.

The *Relación de Michoacán* is our most important single source for the pre-conquest Tarascans. It was compiled about 1540, probably by the Franciscan missionary Fray Martín de Jesús de la Coruña, from information provided by Indian informants. The surviving text, which lacks the first part, begins with an account of Tarascan government in the period just prior to the Spaniards' arrival and proceeds systematically to deal with religion, warfare, marriage, and other political and social topics. The text then becomes one of narrative history, and we have the Spaniards' arrival and events of the conquest. "Part II" then