

BOOK NOTICES

Initialed notices were written by Nancy N. Barker, Harley L. Browning, Mauricio Charpenel, David M. Dean, Jeremiah F. Epstein, Miguel E. González-Gerth, Wendell C. Gordon, Richard Graham, Carl F. Hereford, and Raymond H. McKay, all of the University of Texas, Austin.

Balankanche, Throne of the Tiger Priest. By E. WYLLYS ANDREWS, IV. New Orleans, 1970. Tulane University and Middle American Research Institute Publications, 32. Illustrations. Map. Tables. Appendices. References. Pp. xi, 182. Cloth.

The Grotto of Balankanche, about 4 km. west of Chichén Itzá in Yucatan, has been explored and excavated by various groups, scientific and otherwise, since 1932. In 1959 a sealed section of the cave was discovered. Within its passageways were the remains of six separate clusters of offerings almost perfectly preserved. Prior to the excavations, mapping, and removal of the artifacts, the local Maya priests (h-menes) performed a day-long series of ceremonies within the cave to appease the gods and safeguard the excavators. In this remarkable volume, E. Wyllys Andrews, IV, describes the grotto and its pre-Columbian religious offerings (71 pp.), Alfredo Barrera Vásquez describes the h-menes ceremony, called the Reverent Message to the Lords (6 pp.), and Ramón Arzápalo provides a transcription of the Maya text with parallel passages translated into Spanish (84 pp.). The back cover contains a 7-inch, 33-1/3-speed record of parts of the ceremony.

The Balankanche artifacts, mainly Tlaloc incense burners, are strikingly similar to those from Tula, Hidalgo. They are well described, and some are beautifully illustrated in color. Two charcoal samples were dated at A.D. 860 ± 200, and Andrews uses them to support his argument for the unpopular 12.9 Maya-Christian calendar correlation. The drama of the ceremony is delineated by Alfredo Barrera Vásquez with a fine touch. Unfortunately there is no analysis of it in the light of modern ethnohistorical Maya scholarship.

J.F.E.

Bolivia: Gate of the Sun. By MARGARET JOAN ANSTEE. New York, 1970. Paul S. Eriksson. Maps. Illustrations. Glossary. Index. Pp. xvii, 281. Cloth. \$7.95.

Lack of an appealing, well-written and up-to-date survey of the main historical, political, economic, and sociological currents in Bolivia's slow evolution toward a unified national identity has for some time represented a defect in available source accounts of Latin America. This void is now competently and provocatively filled by Miss Anstee's thorough portrait. Based upon her recent six-year duty tour as a UN Development Program official, her assessment of Bolivia's continuing struggle to overcome the effects of divisive geographic contrasts and stubborn heritages of the past merits highest praise for its succinct, often humorous and continuingly informative content.

In tracing her course through Bolivia's varied complexities, the author successfully synthesizes the early beliefs of Alcides Argüedas with those of later-

day scholars such as Harold Osborne and Charles Arnade. The obviously knowledgeable resulting product is enhanced by a smooth style recalling the works of earlier feminine Latin Americanists Erna Fergusson, Betty de Sherbinin and Mary Wilhelmine Williams. All facets of Bolivia's evolution are carefully explored in a fast-moving, well-illustrated account which happily includes a generous mixture of personal anecdotes, both hair-raising and incredible, which will warm the hearts of all veterans of Latin American field research. Miss Anstee's work may indeed be evaluated as a first rate primary source to supplement formal academic studies of the Andean Indian republics.

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CHARLES J. KOLINSKI

Inflation and Growth in Latin America. Edited by WERNER BAER and ISAAC KERSTENETZKY. Foreword by GUSTAV RANIS. Introduction by RICHARD RUGGLES. Second edition. New Haven, 1970. Yale University Press. A Publication of the Economic Growth Center, Yale University. Graphs. Tables. Appendix. Index. Pp. xix, 542. Cloth. \$9.50.

This is a compilation of the papers and discussions of a 1963 conference on inflation in Latin America, which was sponsored by five U.S. and Latin American foundations. It was attended by 80 internationally famous economists who focused more high-powered expertise on that issue than probably has been directed to any single problem in world history. The fact that this is the book's second edition attests to the high regard which readers have placed on that conference.

The agenda systematically approached the aspects of inflation which presumably are most relevant for Latin America, and the participants did their homework well. Yet, as so commonly happens with such efforts, the results were much less than one might expect from such distinguished participants.

Previously known positions were reiterated, many speakers merely made explicit what easily could be inferred from their previous positions, and certain earlier statistical studies were expanded without breaking new ground. Nevertheless, this is probably the world's most important single work on inflation in Latin America. First, it brings the multitudinous aspects of the problem within one book. Second, certain participants, particularly W. Arthur Lewis, did provide some very important new analyses. Third, nuggets of penetrating insights are scattered throughout—one has to read the entire book to sift them out, but they're there! Fourth, most readers will leave the book with a much clearer understanding of the issues involved and of the relation between inflation and economic growth in Latin America than when they started.

Space precludes listing more than a few of the insights yielded by the conference. Some of the more interesting are the following. First, there is no simple relation between inflation and economic growth. Inflation actually can accelerate growth where: (a) inefficient investment is the limiting growth factor and it is more nearly a function of insufficient plant capacity than of profit expectations, or (b) insufficient saving is the limiting growth factor and inflation will redistribute income to high savers. Second, one must distinguish between considerations which trigger inflation, and considerations which cause it to spiral once started—the latter are much more critical than the former. Third, there are many different types of forces leading to inflation. They must be correctly