

expected to provide the civilizing example, and Indians were to be imitative wards. With the Spanish "bad example," however, a change occurred, and segregation came to be justified as a means of protecting Indians from Spaniards. Other things being equal, segregation was consistent with much of the Spanish pattern of settlement as well as with the ecclesiastical organization and the political-legal structure of the colony. But neither the monarch nor any other administrative power in the imperial government was capable of reconciling segregation with another of the Spaniards' goals, Indian Hispanization. Moreover, other things were not equal. Indian isolation broke down under pressures from Spaniards, Negroes, and mestizos. Intrusion upon Indian society increased as Indian population declined. Hacienda and peonage brought social redistributions and changed the forms of Indian labor, subsistence, and land tenure. In extreme cases, Indian towns disappeared or were converted into mestizo towns.

The general outlines of the process are familiar, and certain features of it are known in some detail. But Mörner's treatment goes beyond earlier studies in its geographical coverage and in its perception of the problem as a whole. No other student of royal policy or Spanish-Indian relations has so systematically examined so many archives, including every major depository from Mexico to Chile and Argentina. For the first time we have sufficient data to make objective comparisons between one region and another. Indian segregation persisted for longer periods on the frontiers. The late colonial period, which witnessed a revival of the "good example" doctrine, was a time—paradoxically if we suppose that the Bourbon government was a centralizing one—of much local adaptation. Differences between the capital and marginal zones gradually disappeared. The segregation laws, having become dead letters, were readily abolished with independence.

This is a pan-colonial study based on full documentation, and it seems unlikely that the pattern it describes will be appreciably modified. Mörner's should be the basic treatment for a long time. The need and opportunity that remain are for more detailed local studies, quantitative comparisons, and, beyond that, a full-scale investigation of the problem of mestization.

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*Minería y comercio interprovincial en Hispanoamérica (siglos XVI, XVII y XVIII)*. By DEMETRIO RAMOS. Valladolid, Spain, 1970. Universidad de Valladolid. Departamento de Historia Moderna, Estudios y Documentos, 31. Index. Pp. 334. Cloth.

In the second volume of his *Spain under the Habsburgs*, John Lynch attacked the hypothesis that Spanish America experienced a severe economic depression during the seventeenth century. He argued that the sharp decline in transatlantic trade with the Peninsula served rather to stimulate domestic industry and agriculture and to encourage inter-regional commerce. The balance of economic power within the Hispanic world shifted decisively in favor of the colonies. "Spain's recession was America's growth." The theory heightens our sense of the impact of the Bourbon reforms. Lesley Byrd Simpson's "forgotten century," if pushed forward to encompass the years 1650-1750, was precisely the time when Spain derived least profit from its empire.

In contrast to this periodization, Demetrio Ramos implicitly accepts (his chapters divisions prove this) an older scheme in which only three main epochs were discerned: the first years of conquest and settlement; the long middle decades of quiet growth; and the final Bourbon assault upon the older order. In the first of the two essays into which his book is divided, Ramos examines the formulation of the various codes of law which governed colonial mining. He remarks the oddity whereby the Mexican industry was regulated not by the Toledan ordinances but by the *Nuevo Cuaderno* promulgated by Philip II for the Peninsula. He comments that the eighteenth century code was influenced by enlightenment notions of progress and efficiency. Ramos describes the main sea-lines of interprovincial trade in the Caribbean, the River Plate, and the Pacific. He neglects the long-distance commerce of the Mexican interior. He merely hints at the magnet-like quality of Potosí's rich market. The consequence of *comercio libre* and its antecedents was to destroy the inter-regional "common market" in colonial produce which had developed under the Habsburgs.

The declared aim of this work is to describe the channels through which trade flowed. Ramos explicitly avoids any examination of supply and demand, of markets and producers, of the variations or cycles in the volume and value of merchandise. His few statistics are illustrative rather than demonstrative. Granted this abstention from any assessment of relative magnitudes or values, what remains is an impression of overall movement rather than any sense of the economic forces which prompted it. Ramos has read widely in the secondary literature of his subject and is careful to cite it all.

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*Politics and Trade in Southern Mexico, 1750-1821*. By BRIAN R. HAMNETT. Cambridge, England, 1971. Cambridge University Press.