

with nineteenth-century Colombian political leaders noted for their espousal of constitutionalism, political democracy, and civilian rule.

*Mis padecimientos i mi conducta pública* offers an autobiographical account of the public life from 1810 to the 1840s of Francisco Soto, an ardent Colombian patriot and defender of constitutionalism. The theme of the three documents making up this book—a Senate speech and a *Memoria* both dated 1827 and an 1841 autobiographical sketch—is the suffering which Soto experienced because of his stubborn defense of constitutionalism during the early republican period.

*Santander* presents an analysis of the critical events marking the decade, 1811–1821, of Colombia's struggle for independence; the analysis centers on the major military and political occurrences of the decade rather than on Santander's role in those events. The essay is noteworthy because it offers an interpretation of Colombian independence by Salvador Camacho Roldán, one of the most distinguished Colombian essayists and Liberal party figures of the late nineteenth century. Camacho Roldán attributes the difficulties of the early independence period to the Spanish colonial institutional tradition and to the lack of a republican spirit, problems which he concludes were considerably alleviated by Santander's adherence to constitutional principles.

As congressman, governor, cabinet member, and twice-elected president of Colombia, Manuel Murillo Toro occupies a crucial and controversial position in the history of Colombia's political party development. From the early 1860s until the emergence of the Regeneration in 1880, he served as the principal ideologue and spokesman for the Radical wing of the Liberal party. But this brief biography by Alfredo Bateman contains little critical analysis of Murillo Toro's role in the political struggles of a period in which he towered over his contemporaries.

La Mesa, California

JAMES W. PARK

*Coffee and Conflict in Colombia, 1886–1910.* By CHARLES W. BERGQUIST. Durham, N.C., 1978. Duke University Press. Figures. Maps. Tables. Notes. Bibliography. Index. Pp. x, 277. Cloth. \$16.75.

This seminal book reflects Professor Bergquist's conviction "that investigation of basic economic trends and analysis of elite ideological and economic interests provide the most fruitful point of departure for an understanding of Colombian political history at the turn of the century" (p. vii).

The work is divided into ten chapters. The first describes nineteenth-century Colombia's political economy. The remaining nine

treat, in segments of three each, the 1886–1910 period. They examine the two themes which dominate that era: one, the worsening political polarization (part one) which brought on the awesomely destructive and socially threatening War of the Thousand Days from 1899 to 1902 (part two); the other, the nexus between that conflict and the creation by 1910 of a viable coffee export economy in Colombia (part three). The detailed content of the narrative ends with that centennial year, and the concluding chapter traces the implications of the consolidation of what he terms the “new order”—the coffee export economy.

Dr. Bergquist adds much to our comprehension of the peculiar Colombian style of bipartisan elitist politics. He posits the thesis that the mutual tolerance of economic self-interest between Conservative and Liberal elites derived from the vital circumstance that Colombians, not foreigners, have controlled the dynamic sector of the national economy—coffee export. The author’s inference that the smallholder style of coffee production extended economic gains throughout a large segment of Colombian rural society up to the 1930s is a very convincing explanation of the country’s political stability in the first third of this century. Consequently, he perceives that in Colombia, unlike such countries as Mexico, Cuba, Chile, and Venezuela, nationalistic parties of the left have not prospered.

Space does not permit more than this cursory appraisal of an extraordinary historical performance. Caveats, to be sure, exist in my mind, especially concerning Bergquist’s analysis of the 1830–1880 period, with respect to his portrayal of both the Hispano-Catholic Conservative mind-set (specifically that of Miguel Antonio Caro) and the export-oriented Liberal mentality.

Bergquist’s work is soundly researched, clearly written (despite a number of typographical errata), handsomely printed, and well supplied with supportive maps and tables. To conclude, this is one of the few truly original contributions to Colombian history in our times, just as it is a book of fundamental import for the general field of modern Latin American history.

Vanderbilt University

J. LEÓN HELGUERA

*El hombre que fué un pueblo.* By JULIO ORTIZ MÁRQUEZ. Bogotá, 1978. Carlos Valencia Editores. Appendixes. Chronology. Pp. 263. Paper.

Julio Ortiz Márquez, who has occupied important positions in the Liberal party and the government of Colombia, has written a volume that is part chronicle, part memoir, covering the agitated years from