

manufacturers, who in collusion with local businessmen-brokers had a grip on the marketing and price of henequen before World War I. The workers, by that time a rural proletariat debased to slavlike conditions, could do little else but survive from day to day. It is Joseph's thesis that no matter how much Yucatán may have needed a revolution, such a movement was bound to fail. "Must the constraints of the international economy, the national political structure, and the region's social formation inevitably force compromises and alliances on revolutionaries that deflect or ultimately defeat the revolutionary drive?" (p. xv). The answer is a resounding "yes." The economy of Yucatán never recovered. Neo-Marxists should note, however, that export dependency was not the primary factor in economic decline, but one among several.

Revolution from Without is divided into three parts. The last two are well researched and contain new material from several sources in the United States and Mexico. The first part, on the old regime, presents some problems. Here Joseph relied heavily on published materials. Research on Yucatán before 1900 is spotty; some of it is outdated, and much is inconclusive. There is no detailed history of the rural estate from the *encomienda* to the henequen plantation. Recent ethnohistorical studies have yet to be published. Generalizations on hacendados and workers alike are perilous. Other matters as seen by this reviewer are minor. The use of Marxian terminology throughout seems arbitrary to the extreme. Although the term *la casta divina* was never exactly defined by its formulator, General Salvador Alvarado, the author of this book has an even greater problem of definition. Finally, a more thorough study of Felipe Carrillo Puerto's family background would seem appropriate. Though the younger son of a large family of modest means, Carrillo counted many hacendados among his relatives and friends. Many estate owners felt that the uncontrolled violence meted out against them by Carrillo and his followers were attacks by the revolutionary on those of his own kind. This may have been a factor in Carrillo's execution.

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Neighbors—Mexico and the United States: Wetbacks and Oil. By ROBERT JONES SHAFER and DONALD MABRY. Chicago: Nelson-Hall Publishers, 1982. Tables. Index. Pp. ix, 241. Cloth. \$18.95. Paper. \$9.95.

This is a curious book. It is not a scholarly work; the authors themselves tell us in the "Preface" that it is addressed to a "broad audience" (p. ix). It lacks the scholarly apparatus of footnotes and references, and

even the bibliography is thin; it lists no articles and only two pages of book titles without annotation to guide the uninitiated. It is neither history nor political analysis, but includes some of each. It is too disjointed to serve as a textbook and too cursory to satisfy the serious but nonexpert reader.

So what is it? It is a brief study, written generally in a light, breezy style, of some 200 pages—if we omit the four scenarios—that includes two chapters on migration, and one each on petroleum, the border, Mexican Americans, economic relations, and a series of other problems requiring attention. Brief historical narratives open each chapter and some political analysis/international politics are included in most. The scenarios make for some interesting fictional reading but are not very believable. On controversial issues, the authors are scrupulously evenhanded, perhaps excessively so. They argue the cases from every side on the treatment of migrants and Chicanos in the United States, economic nationalism of both countries, and the negotiations over Mexican natural gas, to name only a few. Oddly, though, in their chapter on Mexican Americans they have almost nothing to say about the political experiment of La Raza Unida and make no mention at all of José Angel Gutiérrez, a major political figure in Texas in the 1970s.

This is the first book (that is not an anthology) on Mexican–United States relations to appear since the discovery of the rich new petroleum deposits in Mexico. That factor demands a serious assessment of the changes and potential future trends in the relationships between the two countries. Unfortunately, the present study does not fulfill that need.

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Constraint of Empire: The United States and Caribbean Interventions.

By WHITNEY T. PERKINS. Westport: Greenwood Press, 1981. Notes. Bibliography. Index. Pp. xv, 282. Cloth. \$35.00.

Whitney Perkins has had the interesting idea of examining the Caribbean interventions of the United States through study of four selected countries (Cuba, Nicaragua, Haiti, the Dominican Republic), and analysis of them across four consecutive stages: the establishment of a United States commitment, the period of Yankee control, the ultimate disengagement, and subsequent United States relations, including reengagement in the Dominican Republic and aborted reengagement in Cuba. The common framework facilitates comparisons and suggests general trends without being overly repetitious.