

The most controversial aspect of the royal monopoly was its incorporation of the actual manufacturing and distribution of cigarette products. Such activities had long been controlled by a substantial number of small business operators. But in the decade of the 1770s, manufactories were established in Mexico City and five important regional centers. Likewise, the employees of the hundreds of *estanquillos* throughout the colony that retailed the products came under the authority of the monopoly's administrator, a royal appointee. Because the marketing of tobacco had not attained the scale and profitability to interest Mexico's mercantile community, no commercial group protested the creation or continuation of the monopoly.

While all three sections of the book provide their own satisfactions, perhaps the final one on the tobacco manufactories and the activities and discontents of the workers contributes the most new material and the freshest perspective. It has long been known that these processing plants employed large numbers of women as well as men; Deans-Smith tells a good deal about their social composition (a surprisingly high percentage were Spanish), work conditions, and complaints.

This multidimensional work speaks to the interests of political, economic, and social historians. The author's thoughtful references to analogous situations in other countries and her apt consideration of theory contribute notably to the book's success.

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*Trabajo y sociedad en la historia de México: siglos XVI–XVIII.* By GLORIA ARTÍS ESPRIU et al. Tlalpan: CIESAS, 1992. Photographs. Plates. Illustrations. Maps. Tables. Notes. 218 pp. Paper.

This book gathers four studies dealing with the labor organization and production systems in Mexico during the pre-Hispanic and colonial periods. "Trabajo tributario y consumo suentario en el México antiguo," by Luz María Mohar Betancourt, uses the codex *Matrícula de Tributo* and the *Códice Mendocino* to illuminate the social division of labor on which the Aztec state based its tributary system. Mohar Betancourt presents a classification of tributaries according to the goods they were to relinquish to Aztec tribute collectors. Although the role of peasants, artisans, and especially women tributaries is underscored, this study emphasizes that the accurate planning of the tribute system was a product of the might of the Aztec state.

"Los arrieros novohispanos," by Clara Elena Suárez Argüello, examines the position of the muleteers in the colonial economic system of central Mexico during the eighteenth century, utilizing records from the Archivo de la Nación. The first part of the study is an analysis of the transportation sector, highlighting its internal segmentation according to capital and ownership. The author discloses the com-

plexities of the sector, with its different types of entrepreneurs and laborers, as well as the assorted types of arrangements between productive units and muleteers. The second part of this study centers on the jurisdiction of Cuautla Amilpas, using a 1791 *padrón* (census) to determine the demographic distribution of muleteers. It underscores the struggle between miners and sugar hacendados for access to transportation. The author successfully demonstrates that the muleteers, far from being a marginal group, were solidly integrated in the local community through business links (and conflicts), kinship networks, and family life.

“Trabajadores y cambios tecnológicos en los ingenios azucareros (siglos XVII y XVIII),” by Beatriz Scharrer Tamm, is a thorough description of the technical aspects of sugarcane cultivation and sugar production, based on secondary sources and documents, mainly hacienda inventories. The author points out that technological changes in the eighteenth century were concomitant to the change from slave to wage systems. Also, transformations in agricultural notions and labor organization modified the harvest cycle and productivity in the second half of the century. “La organización del trabajo en los molinos de trigo,” by Gloria Artís Espriu, depicts the work process in central Mexican mills, using documentation from the Archivo del Antiguo Ayuntamiento de México and the Archivo General de la Nación. The author argues that mills were primarily instruments oriented to allow their owners to participate in the commercial speculation of grain. She supports her view by resorting to an analysis of production expenses and of the labor organization in the mills.

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*Haciendas y comunidades indígenas en el sur de Zacatecas: sociedad y economía colonial, 1600–1820.* By AGUEDA JIMÉNEZ PELAYO. Córdoba, Mexico: Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia, 1989. Illustrations. Maps. Graphs. Tables. Notes. Bibliography. 228 pp. Paper.

This is a solid regional monograph that presents new empirical findings on a well-worked theme of rural Latin American colonial history. Agueda Jiménez Pelayo’s study is centered on land tenure as viewed through two principal institutions of agrarian life: the Indian community and the hacienda. Her research focuses on Los Cañones y Teocaltiche in southern Zacatecas, a frontier region of Nueva Galicia that faced the Chichimec nomads to the north. The sedentary Caxcanes of this area shouldered the burdens of tribute and repartimiento labor to benefit local hacendados. Caxcanes pueblos held on to village lands throughout the colonial period; and in their category of *indios fronterizos*, they successfully appealed to the crown, through the Audiencia de Guadalajara, for rather generous allotments of land under the headings of *fundo legal* and *tierras de comunidad*. However, as Jiménez Pelayo demonstrates, their retention of communal land was achieved only through a prolonged history of confrontation and litigation between Indians