

in his as yet unpublished dissertation (Univ. de Sevilla, 1987) has made extensive use of these sources. Indigenous participants were interrogated at length; their correspondence during the rebellion seized and preserved in colonial *legajos*. One hopes that someone will take on the task of a close examination and analysis of this material to produce and publish the thorough treatment that this rebellion merits, a study that would not take what creoles and Spaniards claimed Indians advocated at face value, but one that would actually query the considerable indigenous sources.

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### National Period

*Empresa e historia en América Latina: un balance historiográfico.*

Edited by CARLOS DÁVILA L. DE GUEVARA. Santafé de Bogotá: Tercer Mundo; Ciencias, 1996. Figures. Notes. Bibliographies. xxvi, 225 pp. Paper.

This volume assesses the scholarly literature on the history of business in seven Latin American countries. The contributors—who treat Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Mexico, Peru, and Venezuela—are successful in achieving their goals. Through their extensive analysis of each country, the authors identify and discuss the major problems associated with theory, investigation, and methodology. In so doing, they point out deficiencies in the existing literature and make suggestions as to how the history of business in Latin America can be strengthened by outlining an agenda for future research on the topic.

Scholars of Latin America will appreciate the timeliness of this collection. Because neoliberal economic agendas have swept the region in the last decade, the interest and focus on Latin America has shifted from social instability and revolutionary upheaval to political economy. The authors, most of whom are Latin American and British scholars, resurrect historical analyses begun at the end of the 1970s, which placed business, both state and private as well as foreign and national, at the center of the history of the region.

But these essays advance the study of business history in Latin America by moving away from the narrow parameters of investigation and analysis, such as dependency theory, which characterized the bulk of that earlier scholarship. Accordingly, more attention is paid to the impact of regional capital and family-business networks and their relationship with the state in the formation and development of the Latin American economies. Especially important is the contribution some essays add to our understanding of how national and foreign capitalist enterprises have interfaced and altered entire patterns of socialization through such practices as labor recruitment and the transfer of technology. These studies reveal that cultural change, a dimension ignored by earlier scholars of business history, must constitute an integral component of any future research on business activity in Latin America.

In addition to the above, a major strength of this collection is the plethora of bibliographic information that each essay provides. As a result, not only is each essay grounded in an exhaustive examination of the available historical literature, but the reader is also treated to a definitive list of works on business in Latin America in both English and Spanish. The essays provide the North American scholar of Latin America a much needed compilation of these essential works, which by itself elevates the historiographic significance of this volume.

Although these contributions treat an increasingly relevant subject matter central to understanding the course of Latin American history, business history is still the exclusive domain of a handful of scholars. However, unlike the consumption of dependency theory, which punctuated the scholarly works of the history of business in Latin America during the late 1970s, this collection is relatively free of jargon. Thus, it can be useful to historians in general as well as to specialists who wish to introduce their students to this topic.

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*The Second Conquest of Latin America: Coffee, Henequen, and Oil during the Export Boom, 1850–1930.* Edited by STEVEN C. TOPIK and ALLEN WELLS. Critical Reflections on Latin America. Austin: University of Texas Press, Institute of Latin American Studies, 1998. Map. Tables. Figures. Notes. Bibliography. Index. viii, 271 pp. Cloth, \$25.00. Paper, \$13.95.

Between 1850 and the Great Depression, much of Latin America experienced a degree of economic and social change unparalleled since the sixteenth century. New investments, new forms of communication, and new exports brought greater integration into the world economy. As a result, markets increasingly displaced custom and religion as social and economic arbiters, divisions between the public and private became more defined, and commodity relations penetrated work and exchange. *Second Conquest* surveys the production histories of three of the exports closely associated with these changes: coffee, “typical of the food crops that dominated the first part of the export boom”; henequen, “the sort of agricultural product with industrial applications that became increasingly important toward the end of the nineteenth century”; and oil, “the engine of the third Industrial Revolution” (p. 270) during the twentieth century. These histories make it clear, the authors argue, that the late-nineteenth-century export revolution was not simply a “conquest” of foreign capital backed by gunboats, but involved instead negotiated, and constantly renegotiated, arrangements among overseas investors, national elites, and local peasants and workers, negotiations conditioned both by the particular local situation and by the specific historical moment.