

cial, newsmen, and businessmen in the United States for the unexpected and alarming trend of events. His appraisal of the role of foreign capital appears to place somewhat more emphasis on "Exploitation" than on benefits, though admitting that it has been less malevolent than the domestic variety.

Chapters eight and nine, both concerned with the place and influence and mission of the Roman Catholic Church in Latin America, seem to indicate the main objective of the book. The author does not try to conceal the fact that many of the Roman Catholic clergy have allied themselves with oligarchic reaction in the past, but he expresses his firm belief that they are now the champions of the middle and lower groups, and he contends that neither private capital investments, nor technical aid, nor "government-to-government" loans and grants from foreign countries can shield Latin America from Communism without the accompaniment of moral reform. Neither does he anticipate that these countries, by and large, will develop into free-enterprise democracies. He rather expects that most of them will at best become socialist or welfare states ruled by governments more dictatorial than democratic.

His conclusion reveals that his enthusiasm for foreign aid is limited mainly to the Peace Corps. He recommends tremendous emphasis on the part of religious and benevolent and non-profit organizations, including colleges and universities, on person-to-person programs. His statistical appendices indicate that membership in the Roman Catholic Church is increasing rapidly, along with the general population of the region and the growth of urban centers.

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J. FRED RIPPY

COLONIAL PERIOD

Columbus in the New World. By BRADLEY SMITH. New York, 1962. Doubleday. Illustrations. Pp. 192. \$15.00.

The Amazon. By EMIL SCHULTHESS. Edited by EMIL EGLI. New York, 1962. Simon and Schuster. Illustrations [no pagination]. \$15.00.

These two books are excellent, unique and expensive. Unquestionably the cost of producing this kind of work is high. The heart and blood of these books are the exquisite—if not excellent—pictures. The Columbus book has a running narrative; the Amazon work has a more restricted prose.

Smith, a native of New Orleans, is a "free lance writer and photographer." He has worked for *Life*, *Look*, *Holiday*, and other magazines. He is also author of some good books and he has homes in California and Jamaica. He is an ardent sailor and a celebrated photographer with a show in the Museum of Modern Art. In this book Smith sailed and visited the route and places followed and visited by Columbus in his four voyages. Most of all Smith tried to show—and he did it very well—the changes or especially the lack of changes in the five hundred years. Indeed Smith was most anxious to photograph places and people exactly as Columbus saw them. If the historian or anthropologist might raise his eyebrows at such an attempt, I think Smith has finished his task with better than expected success. His narrative relies heavily on Morison's works and he says so. The text is simple but most satisfactory. It is needless to say that the photos are superb. The book is a valuable addition and should enhance the teacher's lectures on the Columbus epic.

The Amazon book has less value to the historian but it still should be welcome. Schulthess is also an artist in photography. His pictures are of equal quality to those of Smith. Emil Egli is a scholar and author of good geography books. He wrote the narrative of the Amazon book in easy prose with a scholarly and quite informative twist. The information is not historical but rather geographical. The lack of any historical data is a valid criticism.

The area covered by the book is extensive—it covers the whole Amazon drainage basin. And this basin is indeed huge, extending from Quito to the Atlantic and from Brasília into Venezuela. This includes much of the Bolivian and Peruvian Andes. The whole basin is 2.7 million square miles which is one-twentieth of the world's land area.

Schulthess is an honest man. He writes, "I knew only too well from my first Amazon trip that we would not find in the tropical forest of Amazonia that 'photographer's paradise' that is presented to us in the rich technicolor of the illustrated papers and magazines. Just where is this classical jungle scenery, where the eye is constantly delighted by a gorgeous profusion of orchids, where packs of monkeys go swinging from tree to tree, where parrots dispute raucously on low-hanging branches and where the jaguar, haughty but keeping a respectful distance, steps forth from the tangle of the forest? This paradise does not exist. The tropical forest is, rather, a 'green hell,' in which it is very easy for beast and bird to conceal themselves behind the rank foliage." Such a truthful photographer has given us a truthful picture of the whole basin—jungle, mountains, people,

and everything. This book as the other one makes an excellent addition to help students understand the Latin American milieu. It should be put on the reserve list to be seen and consulted by our students. Naturally anyone interested in Latin America will also find it useful. There is quality and art in both books.

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CHARLES W. ARNADE

Cacicazgos y nobiliario indígena de la Nueva España. By GUILLERMO S. FERNÁNDEZ DE RECAS. México, 1961. Biblioteca Nacional de México. Instituto Bibliográfico Mexicano. No. 5. Illustrations. Indices. Pp. xxvi, 351. Plates 27. Paper.

Despite a wide interest in the subject, books on Mexican colonial *cacicazgo* are extremely rare. The subject appears as one of significance in the general problem of indigenous survival and adaptation to colonialism, for *cacicazgos* reflected native social class systems while they adjusted to Spanish rules of primogeniture, *mayorazgo*, and property possession. Caciques are frequently interpreted as the most acculturated members of colonial Indian society and likewise as the ones who most successfully maintained positions of native power. They mediated the Spanish and Indian worlds. Moreover we have more information about them than about any other Indian class.

Cacicazgo still needs a thoroughgoing historical analysis, however, for our present knowledge really derives from a limited number of texts and from an application of undemonstrated social theories. The present work is not such an analysis, though it provides some of the materials for making one. Its brief preface barely introduces the subject. The remainder of the volume consists of documents on colonial Mexican *cacicazgos*, presented without elaboration or commentary. The texts are taken from the Archivo General de la Nación in Mexico and principally from the *ramos* of Tierras and Vínculos. Most derive from colonial legal cases involving disputes over land possession or over inheritance. The full texts are given in some instances but a large part of the volume consists of summaries of the recorded statements of legal witnesses. Most of the materials relate to the central plateau area, with occasional documentation on *cacicazgos* in Oaxaca, Guanajuato, Michoacán, and Querétaro.

In general the texts do indicate a high degree of Hispanization at the upper levels of Indian society, notably in the later colonial period. Ethnic mestization occurred, and the landed properties were subjected to Spanish rules of inheritance. The materials have much more of a Spanish than an Indian character. The tendency to legal