

trait of an attractive human being, whose best books have never ceased to cast their magic spell over countless readers.

New York City

MICHAEL KRAUS

Foreign Relations of the United States. 1946. Volume XI: *The American Republics.* Washington, 1969. United States Government Printing Office. Notes. Index. Pp. xv, 1382. \$6.75.

The objectives of American foreign policy in Latin America in 1946 differed not a bit from previous years. The United States wanted political and economic stability—defined, as usual, in State Department terms.

Juan Perón, whom Assistant Secretary of State Spruille Braden called a “typical Fascist,” continued to be the *bête noire* of the Department. Urged on by Braden, State produced the infamous Blue Book, to which the Argentines reacted with “stunned humiliation” and which helped elect Perón. Although the February election was the cleanest in Argentine history, Braden was not impressed. In his opinion it meant that in Argentina, as elsewhere in Latin America, “the fundamental principle involved and the ideals for which we have fought the war are not understood.”

When George S. Messersmith was appointed ambassador to Argentina, the Department instructed him to get Perón to comply with American wishes. Messersmith thought that he was having some success in inducing Perón to take measures against enemy property and agents and against German and Japanese schools, but the Department disagreed, and a quarrel developed. In October 1946 Messersmith tried to frighten the Department into a more tolerant attitude toward Perón by playing up the communist threat, but Washington refused to take it seriously and continued to be anti-Perón. In dealing with Argentina, if the *Foreign Relations* volume is to be believed, the Department operated in a vacuum, for there is but one reference to Perón’s radical social, economic, and antforeign decrees.

In economic matters the Department moved vigorously to protect American interests. When a strike threatened to halt copper production in Chile, Braden—hardly a disinterested observer—informed the *chargé* that the Department opposed the strike and bluntly warned against an interruption in mining operations. The *chargé* learned that the Kennecott stockholders were not “without influence.”

The Department also successfully opposed an attempt by Haiti to include in its new constitution an article which would limit land-holdings by foreigners. Elsewhere in Latin America the Department haggled over the price of coffee, tin, surplus war materiel, and cost of an air base on Galápagos. It argued about loans to the Latin countries and the differential in pay between Americans and Panamanians in the Canal Zone. (The locals averaged \$60.00 per month.) Finally, the Department tried to eliminate Axis business interests in Latin America.

And through it all, we still claimed to have a policy of nonintervention. Philander Knox would have enjoyed being Secretary of State in 1946.

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WALTER V. SCHOLLES

Engines of Change: United States Interests and Revolution in Latin America. By GEORGE C. LODGE. Introduction by SAMUEL P. HUNTINGTON. New York, 1970. Alfred A. Knopf. Borzoi Books. Map. Notes. Index. Pp. xv, 411, xvi. \$8.95.

It may be difficult to believe that there is a need for another general survey of contemporary change in Latin America. However, if one can set aside that prejudice, this excellent book merits attention. The thesis is that "revolutionary change is under way; it is inevitable; it is in many ways essential and morally justified; the interests of world peace and of the United States require that this change be assisted." And so the author, billing himself as a "random observer," analyses the forces (engines) of change in Latin America. He also attempts to outline policies which Washington should adopt in reaction to these changes.

Lodge begins with a discussion of the Latin American environment: economy, politics, culture, and some specific case studies of reform efforts. The economics chapter (darkly pessimistic) and the politics chapter (a blend of Samuel Huntington and Charles Anderson) are both illuminating. The culture chapter focuses in a sympathetic manner on barriers to U.S.-style development and makes it clear that Lodge does not want to convert Latin Americans into Spanish-speaking gringos. A chapter on Veragua province in Panama provides an interesting discussion of local development projects in which the author was personally involved. Thus we see the development theories in contact with reality.

The second section deals with the engines of change: the military,