

count and analysis are incorrect. It must be noted, however, that other scholars with other sets of values (Harris is generally sympathetic to Che) and other methodologies (Harris relies upon the narrative) might have come to different conclusions concerning the reliability of the sources and, therefore, the validity of the data.

In addition, there are a few questionable assertions in Harris' book. He claims, for example, that the rise to power of the M.N.R. in 1952 was the result of a "true popular revolution" (p. 137). While the rise to power of the M.N.R. might have brought about a "true popular revolution," one may doubt that it was the result of one. Harris also states that the "peasants themselves . . . organized and carried out the dismemberment of the former feudal estates and the redistribution of their lands" (p. 138). While the peasants did play such a role in some places, these actions were not as widespread as Harris suggests. In general, however, his work is an extremely interesting and probably accurate account and analysis of Che Guevara's Bolivian adventure.

Bonachea's and Valdés' book contains many of Che's most interesting and useful works. It includes, for example, "Notes for the Study of the Ideology of the Cuban Revolution," "Tactics and Strategy of the Latin American Revolution," "Guerrilla Warfare: A Method," "On the Budgetary System of Finance," "Socialism and Man in Cuba," and "Message to the Tricontinental." It also contains some of Guevara's less immediately accessible speeches, interviews, and letters. The book is especially valuable, however, because of its "Introduction," which is essentially an analysis of the development of Che's political, economic, and social ideology. In general, Bonachea and Valdés attempt to explain the evolution of Che's ideas in terms of his personal development—that is to say, in terms of the events in his life. They generally succeed; in fact, the "Introduction" is probably the best concise analysis of the development of Che's political, economic, and social thought currently available in English.

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*Puerto Rico, una interpretación histórico-social.* By Manuel Maldonado-Denis. México, 1969. Siglo XXI Editores. Bibliography. Pp. 255. Paper.

It is hardly necessary to argue today that Puerto Rico has a recorded or recordable past. For students of Puerto Rican affairs,

the question is no longer the existence of that past but its relevance to contemporary social and political developments.

Puerto Rico also has a rich tradition of research stimulated especially during the last twenty years by the controversial status of the island. The growing dialogue between adherents of commonwealth, statehood, and independence is becoming a respectable and well-worked area of Puerto Rican studies.

This study by Manuel Maldonado-Denis of the University of Puerto Rico seeks to explore whether there is a Puerto Rican social structure and overall scheme of progress and liberty, first under the American tutelage and more recently under the Partido Popular Democrático. The author's theoretical orientation comes from the works of Karl Marx and John Stuart Mill. Maldonado-Denis' main points emphasize: 1) that Puerto Rico is a colony of the United States and that the United States practices a policy of classic imperialism; 2) that the P.P.D. has developed a vulgar small middle class that seeks to ape the worst habits of its counterpart on the American mainland; and 3) that the party of Luis Muñoz Marín has emasculated the Puerto Rican labor movement and precipitated a form of colonialism that has greatly retarded the struggle for labor's rights.

To provide a setting for his principal ideas, the author limits his analysis to the social and political developments of the last seventy years. He aptly outlines the Puerto Rican political upheaval as it developed from an emphasis upon independence during the 1920s and 1930s to the all-consuming desire for social and economic reforms during later stages. Yet so inseparable are these two goals that all political leaders from Albizu Campos to Sánchez Vilella clearly reflect both of them. It is precisely this double nature of Puerto Rican aspiration which has fascinated students. North American ideas did not merely produce a demand for social and economic betterment; by the 1950s under the leadership the P.P.D. they had already penetrated deeply into Puerto Rican thought.

A few of Maldonado-Denis' observations are debatable—among them that Muñoz Marín betrayed and ruined the independence aspirations of many Puerto Ricans and that his role in the history of Puerto Rico will in time be defined as “jailer and executioner” of Albizu Campos.

Also the primarily descriptive and comparative approach of this book, at first glance promising, proves a disappointment. Covering as much as he does, the author necessarily sketches and oversimplifies most of his descriptive material. This indeed reduces the

value of the book for area experts, who require fuller detail. And there is not enough depth and precision of analysis to compensate for this. The beginning student, who is not likely to have more than a few slices of information about Puerto Rico, will find it useful, though not as a reliable guide to the debatable issues of Puerto Rican nationalism. Let the reader beware; this is a highly emotional and personal analysis of a topic which has inspired much argumentation.

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*Capital y desarrollo: La Venezuela agraria.* Vol. I: *La etapa agraria.* By DOMINGO ALBERTO RANGEL. Caracas, 1969. Universidad Central de Venezuela. Instituto de Investigaciones Económicas y Sociales. Tables. Notes. Pp. 370. Paper.

This volume is an extremely valuable analysis of the Venezuelan economy. At the beginning a fifty-page introduction offers an excellent resume of the historical background from which that economy derived its orientation. Underdevelopment is shown to have been superimposed upon this region, a neglected segment of colonial Spain, remotely governed from Bogotá. Few people and much grassland made cattle ranching the logical development. To be sure, for centuries the Spaniards had been conditioned by the Mesta, which favored ranchers at the expense of cultivators, so that wherever they went they were sympathetic to ranching. The Conquistadores tried to find gold, but when unsuccessful they turned to farming—preferably to cattle ranching, for cattle walk to market. The early colonial towns built simple garrison towns in which soldiers lived off the products produced locally. There was not the remotest possibility of establishing an exchange economy.

The first section of the book discusses in detail the three fundamental forces operative in the economic development of the nation: the regional nuclei of development, the influence of state activity on domestic growth, and the international demand for Venezuela's products. In the body of the work, under the rubric of structure and rhythm of the economy, it is shown how the adverse factors of civil war, floods, and malaria were effective during the period from 1891 to 1920, not only in decreasing the growth rate of the population, but in pushing people out of the country into the cities. The country has paid a high price for surviving feudalism and the wars of independence—the impossibility of generating capital.

The final section of the book, dealing with capital formation in