

*Morelos. Priest, Soldier, Statesman of Mexico.* 2nd ed. By WILBERT H. TIMMONS. El Paso, 1970. Texas Western College Press. Bibliography. Index. Pp. vii, 184. \$6.00.

The major part of this second edition is the same as the first edition. The most important textual changes clarify two points, Tadeo Ortiz' revolutionary career and the content and authorship of the "Medidas políticas" document. Recent studies on Hidalgo and other revolutionary figures are noted in the bibliographic essay, which has been substantially updated, but only one paragraph of the text has been added which reinterprets Hidalgo's actions in the light of Hugh Hamill's research.

Wilbert H. Timmons has made a substantial reassessment of Tadeo Ortiz, a minor revolutionary figure. Ortiz claimed that Morelos had commissioned him to act as diplomatic agent to New Granada. Timmons did not question the authenticity of Ortiz' claims in the first edition. However, additional research since that time has caused him to conclude that Ortiz' claims were fabricated. Ortiz was not commissioned by Morelos; his letters did not reach that revolutionary leader; and the document addressed to Tadeo Ortiz and signed by "Manuel" Morelos was actually written by Ortiz himself.

Timmons also establishes that the document called "Medidas políticas," which has been assumed to be a plan of agrarian reform written by Morelos, was actually a military plan written by the Guadalupe Society of Mexico City.

The second edition, like the first, remains a solid, objective study, and the only full-length biography of Morelos in English. As such it will continue to be a work of importance to students in the United States.

K. H.

*La batalla de Boyacá—7 de agosto de 1819—a través de los archivos españoles.* Edited by JUAN FRIEDE. Bogotá, 1969. Banco de la República. Illustrations. Maps. Notes. Pp. lxxii, 325. Paper.

Juan Friede, a distinguished Colombian historian, has brought together in this handsome volume 148 documents referring to the famous battle of Boyacá (1819). All but one of the pieces come from the Lilly Library's rich Mendel Collection of Latin American manuscripts at Indiana University, and most of the items are published for the first time.

Friede prefaces his collection with an introductory essay which places the documents in their proper context. He explains the role of the Congress of Angostura, describes New Granada at the time of independence with special emphasis on the patriot and royalist leaders, discusses Simón Bolívar and his army, analyzes the battle of Boyacá and its consequences, and concludes with an interpretation of Bolívar as the father of Panamericanism.

Letters from patriot and royalist leaders comprise the major part of the material. About a third of the documents deals with the preparations for the decisive conflict, and another third concerns the repercussions of the battle in Colombia and in various other parts of America. The rest are divided among a few pieces about the battle itself, some official letters from Spanish officials in America to Spain, and a number of republican documents intercepted and sent to Spain.

In all, this collection is a welcome addition to the printed documentation on the independence. It makes available to scholars items which might otherwise remain unknown. Perhaps it will encourage other scholars to visit the Lilly and explore the rest of the Mendel Latin American collection.

J. V. L.

*Manuel y José Azueta: Padre e hijo. Héroe en la gesta de 1914.* By LEONARDO PASQUEL. México, 1967. Editorial Citlatépetl. Illustrations. Appendices. Bibliography. Pp. vii, 218. Paper. \$20.00 (Mex.).

This compact volume, focusing upon a footnote of history is a labor of love dedicated to popularizing one of

its subjects, so that he may be memorialized in granite. It contains separate biographical sketches of two minor characters in the American seizure of Veracruz in 1914—the commander who organized the resistance at the Naval Academy and his son, who died in the combat. The author, director of a cultural center in Veracruz, seeks to enhance the city's name and further the construction of a monument to Commander Azueta.

The result is page after page of hero worship and descriptive passages, both steeped in superlatives. There are several inaccuracies in the account of the Veracruz incident. American casualties at the Naval Academy encounter are exaggerated, and the author succeeds in placing at Veracruz a vessel that was not present at the time of the landing. A picture caption (opposite p. 56) is a mistranslation of the English caption and entirely reverses its meaning.

The brief bibliography consists entirely of secondary works, nearly all in Spanish, and the volume is conspicuously devoid of footnotes. The appendix contains a French correspondent's account of the events at Veracruz and Tampico, unfortunately written from the latter city and hence inaccurate regarding the landing.

The only portions of interest to historians—and that only marginal—are the references to Manuel Azueta's pivotal role in the formation of the Mexican Navy during his numerous trips abroad to purchase and supervise the construction of warships and the brief reference to Carranza's stubborn refusal to accept the services of anyone who aided Huerta, even if that individual had fought against the Gringo invaders at Veracruz, as in the case of Azueta. These items, however, are merely mentioned, rather than analyzed. The volume adds little to existing knowledge about the occupation of Veracruz, save for the movements of the title characters.

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*México visto en el siglo XX. Entrevistas de historia oral.* By JAMES W. WILKIE and EDNA MONZÓN DE WILKIE. México, 1969. Instituto Mexicano de Investigaciones Económicas. Appendices. Bibliography. Indices. Pp. x, 770. \$100.00 (Mex.). (Distributed by "Cuadernos Americanos," México.)

Although the tape recorder has not yet revolutionized the study of history, it has at least added a completely new dimension. Scholars have long used personal interviews to gain information not available in documents. But accuracy was difficult, if not impossible, when the oral words had to be taken down by hand or on a typewriter. The case and efficiency of using a tape recorder put an end to that problem. Oral history programs proliferate in the universities of the United States. James W. Wilkie, now based at UCLA, began such a program at Ohio State University, and this volume is the first published result of his interviews in Latin America.

Aided by his wife, Edna Monzón de Wilkie, James Wilkie talked at length with leading political figures in Mexico, drawing them out in numerous sessions to reveal hitherto unknown aspects of Mexico's recent history. Here are his interviews with Ramón Beteta, Alemán's secretary of the Treasury; Marte R. Gómez, a Zapatista; Manuel Gómez Morín, leader of PAN; Vicente Lombardo Toledano, Marxist labor union leader; Miguel Palomar y Vizcarra, of the Catholic Action movement; Emilio Portes Gil, provisional president in 1928; and Jesús Silva Herzog, Marxist and journalist.

James and Edna Wilkie have since taken their recorder and tapes to Costa Rica, Bolivia, and Venezuela. Speaking for all true Mexicanists, however, I wish that they could come back to Mexico fairly soon to interview Miguel Alemán, Lázaro Cárdenas, Daniel Cosío Villegas, David Siqueiros, Carlos Fuentes—the list is endless!

R. E. Q.