

particularly from the Andean Group secretariat, known as *Junta de Cartagena*.

It is quite clear that the Morawetz case study was mostly written at Cambridge, Mass., while it should have been written in Lima, Peru and in other capitals of the integration scheme. Thus, we have to wait for Latin American writers to get a full story of this interesting experiment.

Consejo Nacional de Ciencia y
Tecnología, México

MIGUEL S. WIONCZEK

Social Classes in Agrarian Societies. By RODOLFO STAVENHAGEN. Translated by JUDY ADLER HELLMAN. Garden City, New York, 1975. Anchor Press. Tables. Notes. Index. Pp. xiv, 266. Paper. \$3.50.

In marked contrast to the considerable quantity of research that has been conducted on social stratification in the Latin American urban milieu, surprisingly little work has been done on class divisions in rural areas. This is surprising because a large sector of Latin America's population has been and continues to be located in the countryside. Rodolfo Stavenhagen's *Social Classes in Agrarian Societies* attempts to fill this void, but does so with only limited success.

The work is a revised version of the Spanish language edition that was published in Mexico in 1969, which in turn is a revision of a 1965 doctoral dissertation presented at the University of Paris. Stavenhagen readily admits in his introduction to the current edition that much new research has become available in recent years, but adds that he "staunchly resisted" (p. xiii) the temptation to make extensive revisions in light of it. This is unfortunate since the scholar specializing in rural Latin America will find very little new in this book. Reference is made to some new sources (such as the Inter-American Committee on Agricultural Development Studies) but they appear to be tacked onto the older edition.

Despite these shortcomings, the book would serve handily as a general introduction to rural Latin America for an undergraduate course, particularly if the instructor wishes to examine the interesting comparisons which Stavenhagen makes between Latin America and Africa (Chapters 6 and 8-11). Furthermore, the book goes into an important analysis of how the introduction of agrarian capitalism, the privatization of landholdings and the development of rural migration patterns have greatly altered the pre-Columbian and early

colonial rural social structure. Despite these strengths, and the fact that he emphasizes the importance of land in determining social stratification and introduces Stinchcombe's well known typology of rural classes, Stavenhagen fails to deal in any systematic way with a central question which he poses in the introduction: "Are all peasants alike or do they divide up into social classes and strata?" (p. xii). It is this question which must be carefully addressed in a work on social classes in agrarian societies and one to which Stavenhagen should have given more attention.

University of Arizona

MITCHELL SELIGSON