

because of water scarcity, the appearance of Mexican squatters, and criticism of the Mennonites because of the similarity of their large holdings to the latifundium system.

Notwithstanding these problems, the primary obstacle to continued settlement success has been a growing shortage of land. Competition with ejido settlers has become acute and has produced restlessness among the Mennonites, causing a new wave of emigration during the 1950s to British Honduras. Settlement in the latter area is discussed in a 36-page appendix to the book.

The author feels that the Mennonites have largely shown themselves incapable of adopting the environmental adjustments needed in difficult areas. Because of this, he argues the Mennonites have begun to drop behind Mexican farmers who have had modern governmental assistance, so that the roles of the two groups have been reversed since the early years of settlement. The primary goal of the Mennonites, preservation of their linguistic, cultural, and ethnic characteristics, has caused them to reject close association with their host society and has brought about a gradual decline in opportunities. Although there is great facility for individual Mennonites to move from village to village, there are both religious and social barriers to movement outside their own settlements. Sawatzky feels that in the future, Mennonites who remain will have to form ejidos just as other Mexicans do. Unlike Paraguay, where Mennonites have had a half century to adjust to an impoverished agricultural economy which they are bound to help improve, the Mexican situation has vastly different implications for the future of these foreign settlers.

Sawatzky has presented an intriguing analysis of a pioneer settlement situation which makes us hopeful that he will be interested enough to return to the scene 20 years hence to let us know what happened.

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Mexico: Industrialization and Trade Policies since 1940. By TIMOTHY KING. London, 1970. Oxford University Press for the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development. Industry and Trade in some Developing Countries. Tables. Bibliography. Index. Pp. xi, 160. Cloth, \$6.50. Paper, \$2.50.

The purpose of Professor King's work is to present a general panorama of Mexican industry since World War II. To explain what

he considers an outstanding economic performance, he focuses the attention of the reader on the economic policies of the public sector. The style of the author is clear and direct, devoid of the technical jargon of the economist, and he succeeds in synthesizing the main findings of the most important recent studies on Mexico's economic development.

The examination of the growth of the industrial complex in Mexico is made according to presidential terms. While all administrations after President Cárdenas have followed the same basic economic strategy—rapid industrialization through the active use of the State's political and economic resources plus a rapid accumulation of capital through foreign investment and a very regressive system of income distribution—each president has emphasized certain aspects neglected by his predecessor (one result of this policy has been the absence of long-term planning). Only after 1946 did the government make explicit its commitment to industrialization, although this policy had been put into operation six years before.

The author is highly sympathetic towards the policies and actions of the Mexican government—he never questions the main assumptions of these policies—but he underlines certain problems neglected by policy makers and previous students: for example, the limits of presidential power in the economic field, imposed by bureaucratic rigidities or the necessity of avoiding policies unpopular among foreign investors.

The central part of the book is devoted to the examination of the main institutions and policies created by the public sector to foster industrialization through import substitution. According to King, credit control and the maintenance of a high tariff barrier—not direct public investment—have been the main instruments in this process. He concludes that these policies, plus an adequate agrarian policy, plus good luck, have enabled Mexico to grow rapidly and preserve at the same time a low level of inflation.

The picture is not entirely rosy. There are serious problems. Not only has the present strategy built up an extremely unequal system of income distribution; it has also failed to create an industrial sector able to compete in international markets. This fact can produce an important bottleneck for future development because to continue its present rate of growth Mexico requires an expansion of its export sector, yet it seems that the traditional exports have almost reached their limit. With thousands of young Mexicans entering the labor

market every year, the problem is very serious indeed, as the recent political disorders in Mexico have shown.

El Colegio de México

LORENZO MEYER

Power and Conflict in a Mexican Community. A Study of Political Integration. By ANTONIO UGALDE. Albuquerque, New Mexico, 1970. The University of New Mexico Press. Maps. Tables. Graphs. Bibliography. Index. Pp. xxi, 193. Cloth. \$10.00.

This volume on the Mexican political system in Ensenada, Baja California, is significant for Latin Americanists since it not only provides an interesting recent view, but also offers description which historians can utilize to interpret local Mexican development during the 1960s.

Because of the volume's main title—and because it is dedicated to Camilo Torres—the reader might expect to find strong criticism of the political system as it is manifested at the local level. Professor Ugalde's conclusions, however, are hardly critical at all. Although he mentions corruption, unethical influence, and catchwords such as "cooptation," he concludes that there is very little conflict, mainly because the system has been so successful in resolving the labor-management conflict. Thus (p. 180), "the official Party, as a symbol of the Mexican Revolution, has legitimized the demands and aspirations of the labor movement and has given the political system the brokers who have facilitated interaction and communication between the leaders of different socioeconomic groups. . . . [And although] several authors have argued that the development of a stable political system in Mexico would require internal democratization of the PRI and development of a multiparty system . . . [this] study suggests that a multiparty system would only have fragmented the Mexican society and probably would not have allowed for a peaceful routinization of the labor-management conflict. The basis for a pluralistic society would not have been developed under a multiparty system in Mexico."

Given much of the secondary literature which suggests that the Mexican political system faces crisis, especially over the development of internal democracy within the PRI, this book is not only suggestive and surprising, but especially important in that it deals with a community in a state where the PRI has faced some of its most serious opposition.

With regard to scope and methodology, Ugalde's study is limited to an examination of labor management relations and the functioning of local, state and federal government in relation to (a) community-