RECENT REFERENCE WORKS ON LATIN AMERICA

Allan Metz Drury College

- LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN: A CRITICAL GUIDE TO RESEARCH SOURCES. Edited by Paula H. Covington, with David Block, Dan Hazen, Peter T. Johnson, and Barbara Valk. (New York: Greenwood, 1992. Pp. 924. \$115.00 cloth.)
- HISTORICAL DICTIONARY OF THE SPANISH EMPIRE, 1402–1975. Edited by James S. Olson, Sam L. Slick, Samuel Freeman, Virginia Garrard Burnett, and Fred Koestler. (New York: Greenwood, 1992. Pp. 705. \$89.50 cloth.)
- THE UNITED STATES IN LATIN AMERICA: A HISTORICAL DICTIONARY. By David Shavit. (New York: Greenwood, 1992. Pp. 471. \$75.00 cloth.)
- HISTORICAL DICTIONARY OF COSTA RICA. By Theodore S. Creedman. Second edition. Edited by Laurence Hallewell. (Metuchen, N.J.: Scarecrow, 1991. Pp. 338. \$42.50 cloth.)
- LATIN AMERICAN POLITICAL GUIDE. Nineteenth edition. By James L. Busey. (Manitou Springs, Colo.: Juniper, 1991. Pp. 179. \$6.00 paper.)
- LATIN AMERICA: A POLITICAL DICTIONARY. By Ernest E. Rossi and Jack C. Plano. (Santa Barbara: ABC-Clio, 1992. Pp. 242. \$60.00 cloth, \$22.95 paper.)
- POLITICAL PARTIES OF THE AMERICAS, 1980s TO 1990s: CANADA, LATIN AMERICA, AND THE WEST INDIES. Edited by Charles D. Ameringer. (Westport, Conn.: Greenwood, 1992. Pp. 697. \$99.50 cloth.)
- HISTORICAL STATISTICS OF CHILE. VOLUME 6: GOVERNMENT SERVICES AND PUBLIC SECTOR AND A THEORY OF SERVICES. Compiled by Markos J. Mamalakis. (New York: Greenwood, 1989. Pp. 840. \$195.00 cloth.)
- ATLAS OF MEXICO. By James B. Pick, Edgar W. Butler, and Elizabeth L. Lanzer. (Boulder, Colo.: Westview, 1989. Pp. 367. \$74.50 paper text edition.)
- A GUIDE TO CUBAN COLLECTIONS IN THE UNITED STATES. By Louis A. Pérez, Jr. (New York: Greenwood, 1991. Pp. 179. \$42.95 cloth.)
- SCHOLARS' GUIDE TO WASHINGTON, D.C., FOR LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN STUDIES. By Michael Grow. Revised by Craig Van Grasstek. (Washington, D.C., and Baltimore, Md.: Woodrow Wilson Center Press and Johns Hopkins University Press, 1992. Pp. 427. \$60.00 cloth, \$19.95 paper.)

266

The eleven reference works on Latin America under review here reflect the recent upsurge in publication of reference tools in this field. This group of titles includes one comprehensive work, Latin America and the Caribbean, and a variety of more specialized reference books. The three sharing a historical orientation are Historical Dictionary of the Spanish Empire, The United States in Latin America, and Historical Dictionary of Costa Rica. Those with a political emphasis are Latin American Political Guide, Latin America: A Political Guide, and Political Parties of the Americas, 1980s to 1990s. Two works using a statistical or quantitative approach are Historical Statistics of Chile and Atlas of Mexico. Considered last will be two specialized guides, A Guide to Cuban Collections in the United States and Scholars' Guide to Washington, D.C., for Latin American and Caribbean Studies.

The comprehensive Latin America and the Caribbean: A Critical Guide to Research Sources updates and expands a standard work of Latin American bibliography, Latin America: A Guide to the Historical Literature (1971), edited by Charles Griffen, which covered literature published before 1967. As editor Paula Covington notes in the expanded version, "Despite its age, the 'Griffen Guide' remains the most useful single source for Latin American bibliography" (p. 292). Latin America and the Caribbean complements the earlier work by emphasizing scholarly sources published since 1960, but it also includes previous references and bibliographic titles of prime importance.

As noted in the preface to Latin America and the Caribbean, Latin Americanists have long sought an "interdisciplinary guide to reference and bibliographic sources on Latin America and the Caribbean." This need has now been filled. Latin America and the Caribbean is intended to serve at least three purposes: as a guide to reference and bibliographical works vital to researchers dealing with this region, as an introductory text on research methodology and teaching bibliography for undergraduates and graduates in Latin American studies in the United States, and as a tool for identifying major Latin American collections in the United States.

The main part of the work is divided into fifteen sections: a general bibliography of interdisciplinary sources followed by sections on anthropology, art and architecture, databases, economics, education, geography, history, literature, the performing arts, philosophy, politics, religion, sociology, and women's studies. Some sections (like those on history and literature) include subsections on various time periods, subfields, or regions. Each section contains an introductory essay or essays surveying research and access to information on the subjects and their subfields; a descriptive discussion of the nature and evolution of source material and contemporary research trends; one or more bibliographic subdivisions on reference and finding aids and scholarly research sources (such as major histories, journals, surveys); and a section on resources consisting of short

descriptions of pertinent special collections such as vertical (or clipping) files, film holdings, primary sources, and other specialized collections. *Latin America and the Caribbean* concludes with indexes arranged according to subject, author, and title.

This ambitious reference work represents the academic contributions of distinguished scholars and bibliographers on Latin America. Chief editor Paula Covington is Latin American and Iberian Bibliographer and Lecturer in Latin American Studies at Vanderbilt University. As she explains, the book's purpose is to serve "as a sourcebook to identify reference and bibliographic works central to research" on Latin America and also to identify selectively "specialized collections and resources available in U.S. research libraries" (p. xi). Latin America and the Caribbean is certain to become a standard reference work in its field.

The group of titles under review also includes three reference works on history, all in dictionary format. Editor James Olson's Historical Dictionary of the Spanish Empire, 1402–1975 can serve as a ready reference work for students as well as specialists. Its main foci are the people, institutions, and colonies of the Spanish empire from Iberian expansion to the Canaries in 1402 to the relinquishing of the Spanish Sahara in 1975. This work offers short descriptive essays on a variety of subjects: "colonies, individuals, political institutions, legislation, treaties, conferences, wars, revolutions, technologies, social and religious groups, and military battles" (p. vii). Two helpful features are the listing of references immediately following each entry, which supply additional sources for indepth study and the cross-references in the text indicated by asterisks, which identify related terms. Two appendices provide a chronology of the Spanish empire and a listing of colonial viceroys of the empire from 1535 to 1824. Other features include an introduction offering a brief historical overview of the Spanish empire (a world map would have been helpful here) and a sizable selective bibliography and index.

The United States in Latin America: A Historical Dictionary by David Shavit provides information on individuals, institutions, and events that have made an impact on U.S.–Latin American relationships, particularly U.S. citizens, organizations, and institutions operating in the region. This work's geographical scope encompasses all of Latin America (including the Caribbean) with the exception of the portions of Mexico that were annexed by the United States. Geographical names in each entry are those used in the period under consideration. A listing of variant geographic names is provided at the outset (p. xv). According to Shavit, this work seeks to offer "comprehensive coverage of persons, institutions, and events that brought the United States into contact with Latin America" (p. vii). References located at the end of each entry indicate the sources of information found in general biographical dictionaries like the Dictionary of American Biography, National Cyclopedia of American Biography, Appleton

Cyclopedia of American Biography, Notable American Women, Who's Who in America, Who Was Who in America, Current Biography, and Contemporary Authors. The references attempt to list all books and articles written about a particular entry, although references appearing in the Dictionary of American Biography and Notable American Women were not included. Cross-references identified by asterisks refer the reader to related items elsewhere in the volume.

The United States in Latin America also contains an introduction providing a brief overview of U.S.–Latin American relations and lists of abbreviations, place names, chronology, "Chiefs of American Diplomatic Missions in Latin America, 1823–1990," and "Individuals by Profession and Occupation." A bibliographic essay on hemispheric relations and an index also are included. Although the title of this volume might seem to imply U.S. activities or interventions in Latin America (and it does include some entries such as "Dominican Crisis" and "Guatemalan Crisis"), most entries focus on U.S. organizations and individuals involved in Latin America.

Historical Dictionary of Costa Rica is a posthumous second edition by Theodore Creedman that was completed by Laurence Hallewell of Columbia University. This book is part of Scarecrow Press's Latin American Historical Dictionary Series, which includes historical dictionaries on Guatemala, Panama, Venezuela, Bolivia, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Chile, Paraguay, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands, Ecuador, Uruguay, the British Caribbean, Honduras, Colombia, Haiti, Argentina, French and Netherlands Antilles, Brazil, Peru, Mexico, and Cuba. This second edition also contains an updated bibliography arranged under eight headings: General Bibliographies, Historiographies, and Research Materials; the Pre-Columbian, Conquest, and Colonial Periods; the Independence Period; the Confederation Period and Central America in General; 1840-1940; the "Liberal" Period: 1889-1940; the 1940s; and the Post-Civil War and Contemporary Period. An added feature is a short chronology. The introduction contains a brief historical overview of Costa Rica accompanied by two maps.

Three reference works under review share a political theme. The nineteenth edition of *Latin American Political Guide* by James Busey (now professor emeritus of political science, University of Colorado) began modestly in 1957 as a series of annual classroom handouts entitled "Contemporary Latin American Politics." The content of the expanded work now includes: "Note on Iberian Names," "Latin American Political Background" (including the subsections "Forms of Government," "Socio-Historical Backgrounds," and "The Present Scene"); "Northern Latin America," which covers Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama, Cuba, Haiti, Dominican Republic, and Puerto Rico; "South America," which includes Argentina, Uruguay, Para-

guay, Chile, Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia, and Brazil; "Note on Sources"; "Selected Bibliography"; and "Index of People, Parties, and Movements." Busey's political orientation tends to be right of center. For example, the Guatemalan regime of Jacobo Arbenz (1951–1954) is described as an "increasingly radical" one that "showed signs of undue influence by Soviet-inspired Marxists. . . . Arbenz and his government were favorites of Marxist circles around the world . . ." (p. 15). Another example is his description of Chile's Salvador Allende (1970–1973) as the "longtime leader of the extreme-left Socialist Party. . . . [The] distinguished Marxist president . . . refused to resign and lost his life under circumstances that have never been entirely clarified" (p. 98).

Latin America: A Political Dictionary by Ernest Rossi and Jack Plano (both at Western Michigan University) is a revised edition of their Latin American Political Dictionary (1980). The new edition contains numerous changes and additions, including about fifty new entries. Although operating selectively, the compilers have attempted to incorporate significant subjects, issues, individuals, and institutions so that the book would continue to be the "useful teaching tool, learning tool, and reference source that was first published in 1980" (p. vii). The main objective is to provide a guide to the terminology and functioning of politics in Latin America. Another goal is to enable "students of Latin American politics, economics, sociology, geography, and history to acquire, easily and accurately, a knowledge of some of the most useful concepts that relate" to Latin America (p. vii). The authors' focus is on the region and the United States' relationship to it.

A number of the special features of *Latin America: A Political Dictionary* are designed to attain these goals. First, entries were chosen to complement the content of various texts on Latin America. Second, a chapter format that is subject-oriented facilitates teaching and learning. Third, all entries include current definitions and close with a paragraph explaining the term's historical significance and relevance to the present day. The many cross-references and detailed index point the way to additional information.

Rossi and Plano characterize the revised version as helpful in several ways: as "a dictionary and reference guide to the language of the field of Latin American studies; a study guide for the introductory course in Latin American politics; a supplement to the *textbook* in such courses; a source of review material for the student enrolled in advanced courses; and a social science aid for use in cognate fields such as international relations and international economics" (pp. vii–ix). The contents cover an array of topics under eleven headings: Geography, Population, and Social Structure; Historical Perspective; Political Culture and Ideology; Revolution and Political Change; Political Parties, Interest Groups, and Elections; the Military; Government Institutions and Processes; Economic

Modernization and Political Development; Economic Integration; International Law and Organization; and U.S.-Latin American Relations.

The third politically oriented work under review is *Political Parties* of the Americas, 1980s to 1990s, edited by Charles Ameringer. This volume was designed to complement and update Greenwood Press's two-volume set entitled Political Parties of the Americas: Canada, Latin America, and the West Indies (1982), edited by Robert J. Alexander. Like its predecessor, the present work also forms part of the Greenwood series Historical Encyclopedia of the World's Political Parties. Alexander viewed the 1982 work as a survey of every political party of any significance in the countries and territories in the Western Hemisphere (except for the United States). Ameringer, Professor of Latin American History at the Pennsylvania State University, took over editing the present work, which stands on its own despite being an update. Political Parties of the Americas, 1980s to 1990s focuses on recent developments, offers new background information, and refers the reader to the Alexander volumes for earlier coverage and material. Each chapter surveys the nation or political unit under consideration and contains several components: a general essay summarizing basic background information and concentrating on political developments in the 1980s and the early 1990s; a revised and up-to-date bibliography; a listing of active political parties, with complete descriptions, emphasizing current changes; and a listing of the historical political parties that ceased to exist prior to 1980, accompanied by a summary sketch of each one.

Two other reference works under review contain significant statistical data. The sixth volume of Historical Statistics of Chile, entitled Government Services and Public Sector and A Theory of Services, is the latest in an ambitious series compiled by economist Markos Mamalakis, a professor specializing in Latin American economic development and history. Systematic and current as of 1988, this volume presents almost five hundred statistical tables and pertinent qualitative information on the Chilean government and analyzes the government and public sector from 1800 to 1988. The first four parts address the following topics: basic concepts, income, and employment; the period from 1817 to 1930; statistics on public-sector inventory and balance sheets, municipalities, and internal and external public debt from 1800 to 1930; and historical statistics of central government, general government, and public-sector revenues and expenditures from 1930 to 1988. The fifth part contains regional statistics on public investment, a theory of service, and a final chapter. Here one finds the following explanation: "The aim of this reference volume was to present enough revenue and expenditure statistics to gain a clear picture of the role of the Chilean State in producing not only the collective services of public administration and defense but also semi-public services, such as health, education, and welfare, and private ones, such as agricultural, industrial, transportation, trade, housing, financial and other

ones" (pp. 835–36). The preceding five volumes of the reference set Historical Statistics of Chile are subtitled National Accounts, Demography and Labor Force, Forestry and Related Activities, Money, Prices, and Credit Services, and Banking and Financial Services.

The other statistically oriented work under review is Atlas of Mexico by James Pick, Edgar Butler, and Elizabeth Lanzer. Pick is a lecturer in management and director of computing at the Graduate School of Management, University of California, Riverside. Butler is professor of sociology also at the University of California, Riverside; and Lanzer is a computer information consultant in the Department of Ecology of the state of Washington. This work contains historical and recent information in maps (organized by state and municipality) as well as in complementary tables and graphs. The corresponding text interprets major trends, provides historical background, and links results to sources on Mexico. Following the initial overview are eight chapters on the following topics: population and urbanization; marriage, fertility, and family planning; migration; mortality and health; social characteristics (such as literacy, education, indigenous language, non-Catholic religion, consumption of goods and services, crime, and housing); the economy; population economics; and transportation and communication. The ninth chapter of miscellaneous information includes data on hotels, foreign tourism, and a statistical analysis of the 1988 Mexican presidential election. Atlas of Mexico also contains an appendix, "Relevant Unspecified Population from the Mexican Census of Population, 1980," a good bibliography, and an adequate index.

The final two works to be discussed provide good examples of useful reference tools for locating sources on Latin America. Louis Pérez's *A Guide to Cuban Collections in the United States* is the first in the new Greenwood Press series Reference Guides to Archival and Manuscript Sources in World History. This work was prepared to assist U.S. and Cuban researchers in locating hitherto unknown or underutilized archival and manuscript collections located in the United States. The collections included are generally those with substantive and varied holdings. Regarding presidential collections, only those with considerable material on Cuba are discussed in this book. Pérez cautions that his *Guide* is not an exhaustive guide to manuscript and archival collections but is designed instead as a tool for locating research collections available to scholars working on Cuba. Access to this helpful work is facilitated by detailed indexes according to collection and subject.

Scholars' Guide to Washington, D.C., for Latin American and Caribbean Studies (published under the auspices of the Latin American Program of the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars) is another useful work designed to locate research materials on Latin America. It is the first revised and updated edition of the initial guide, which was compiled by

Michael Grow in 1977–1978 and published in 1979. The latest volume was compiled in 1989–1990 and revised by Craig Van Grasstek in early 1991. As indicated in the table of contents, the first portion describes and assesses collections in the Washington, D.C., area according to the following categories: libraries (government, academic, public, special); archives and manuscripts repositories; museums, galleries, and art collections; map collections; collections of music and other sound recordings; film collections (still photographs and motion pictures); and data banks. The second part covers organizations, which are listed under these headings: research centers and information offices; academic programs and departments; U.S. government agencies; Latin American and Caribbean embassies and international organizations; associations (academic, professional, cultural); cultural-exchange and technical-assistance organizations; and publications and media.

Scholars' Guide also contains a list of collections and organizations as well as five appendixes on various subjects: bookstores; library collections listed by the size of their Latin American holdings; housing, transportation, and other services; a list of federal government holidays; and standard entry formats. Other features are a bibliography of reference works used in identifying collections and organizations in the guide and five indexes on personal papers, artists, library subject strength, subject, and organizations and institutions.

The topical coverage of *Scholars' Guide* focuses on the social sciences and humanities (the fields usually considered to be the core of Latin American studies), although science and technology are also included. Some five hundred collections, organizations, and agencies were considered in compiling this work. While *Scholars' Guide* furnishes directory data like names, addresses, telephone numbers, and information about specific collections, the work is basically a descriptive and evaluative guide to the research collections on Latin America in the U.S. capital.

These eleven reference works typify recent contributions to the growing array of Latin American bibliographic and reference tools. They and other new reference works are complementing and enhancing some of the standard reference works in Latin American studies such as Griffen's Latin America and the more recent Cambridge History of Latin America, edited by Leslie Bethell. The publication of more and more new reference works on Latin America is undoubtedly a positive trend that promises to facilitate the work of Latin Americanists wherever they may be working.

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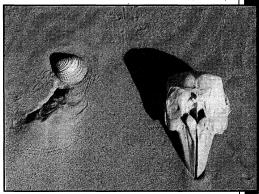
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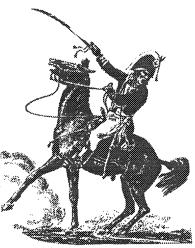
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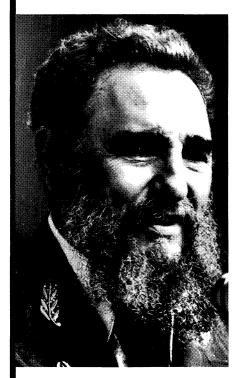
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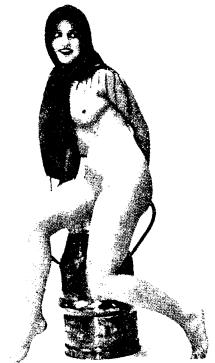
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