

the Spanish. The occasional positioning of events out of correct chronological order is misleading and creates some confusion for the reader as does the frequent failure to explain the motives of major participants in power struggles.

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Doctrina del libertador. By SIMÓN BOLÍVAR. Edited by MANUEL PÉREZ VILA. Prologue by AUGUSTO MIJARES. Caracas, 1976. Biblioteca Ayacucho. Chronology. Notes. Index. Pp. xxxi, 327. Paper.

This interesting book covers some hundred documents of Simón Bolívar's work. It thus only represents a very small part of the Liberator's literary lifework if one considers, as the editor mentions, that the Bolivarian Society of Venezuela published until today eleven volumes with a total of 2,290 writings which only go as far as October 31, 1817.

The one hundred documents which are assembled in this volume have been carefully selected and in a single volume intend to give the general reader and not only the historian or the Latin Americanist a well rounded and precise synthesis of Bolívar's political, social, and economic thought. Therefore, the book neither includes letters of a purely private and intimate nature or literary character nor those famous military bulletins and administrative orders which would otherwise also be part of the works of Bolívar.

The editor has used the most accurate sources, among them the Bolivarian editions of Vicente Lecuna. For clarity's sake the orthography has been modernized. The result is a well conceived book which not only contains such famous documents as the Oath of Rome, the Manifesto of Cartagena, the Letter of Jamaica, the Message to the Congress of Angostura, the convocation of the Congress of Panama, and the address to the Bolivian Congress with which Bolívar submitted his draft Constitution of 1826, but also some forty-four letters and many messages, speeches, communications, decrees, and proclamations. All together, these give us an impressive view of Bolívar's thought—his ideas on liberty and representative government, his ideals of social equality with the repudiation of such institutions as the mita and slavery, his continuous struggle against corruption and ineptness, his advocacy of the Moral Power, his zeal for education and culture, his vision for a Pan American and universalist policy, his concern for the preservation of national wealth, and his protection of agriculture and industry.

Finally, the editor has included a valuable chronology of Bolívar's life which runs parallel to the history of Venezuela, Latin America, and the rest of the world. All in all, the book represents an excellent contribution to the study of Bolívar.

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Imperial Russia and the Struggle for Latin American Independence, 1808-1828. By RUSSELL H. BARTLEY. Austin, 1978. Institute of Latin American Studies, University of Texas. Illustrations. Tables. Notes. Bibliography. Index. Pp. xv, 236. Cloth. \$14.95. Paper. \$5.95.

Outdated articles by Dexter Perkins and William Spence Robertson were for decades the only English-language studies of Russian policy toward the emerging nations of Latin America. Now Russell Bartley's monograph, representing ten years of research efforts, provides a detailed treatment of the subject. Limited access to Soviet archives hindered the author, but he has consulted manuscript collections in Spain, Portugal, Brazil, and the United States. Moreover, he has made extensive use of studies by Soviet scholars, unavailable to all but a few Latin Americanists because of the language barrier.

The topic imposes certain limitations on Bartley. Russia had no diplomatic relations with any of the new states of Latin America until recognizing Brazilian independence in 1828 and restricted commercial relations during the entire period of the study. Consequently, the emerging nations remain in the wings while discussions and rivalries among the courts of Europe occupy center stage. Only Brazil receives much attention, due to the residence of the Portuguese royal family in Rio de Janeiro from 1808 to 1821 and to the critical place of Brazil in the New World concerns of Tsar Alexander I. Four-fifths of the book deal with the first decade indicated in the title, through the 1818 conference at Aix-la-Chapelle, which marked the end of Alexander's efforts to effect colonial pacification by means of collective mediation. Only one chapter deals with the second decade, and only four pages on the years after 1822.

Despite these limitations, Bartley has produced an able analysis of Russian policy toward Latin America within the intersecting matrixes of European power politics and the tsar's global commercial and strategic interests. This study takes its place with those of C. K. Webster