

ico City in the years 1854-1861. The author discusses the political orientation, content, and leading contributors for the fourteen papers whose files she was able to examine. Briefer comments are supplied from secondary sources for another nineteen, while the remainder are listed with little more than their titles.

The author correctly points out that the polemicists of the period were not professional newspapermen; rather they were intellectuals who in a time of crisis abandoned belles-lettres to take part in the political fray. Some were also ambitious politicians who used the press to advance their personal interests, a factor to which the author might have given greater attention.

The book is written in a clear direct style. It is, however, little more than an introductory sketch to a broad subject, and it is to be hoped, as the author herself says in her introduction, that others will be attracted to so promising a theme.

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Planes políticos y otros documentos. Prologue by MANUEL GONZALEZ RAMIREZ. Mexico City, 1954. Fondo de Cultura Económica. Fuentes para la historia de la Revolución Mexicana, No. 1. Notes. Illustrations. Indexes. Pp. lxxiii, 353. 30.00 pesos.

This volume includes practically all of the revolutionary plans issued in Mexico, from that of the Liberal Party in 1906 down to the Plan Almazanista of 1940. The book is the first of three projected volumes, each of which will cover certain aspects of the Mexican Revolution. In his Introduction, González Ramírez gives a general background for the published documents. Most of the plans are already available in various secondary books or in newspapers, but this volume will be a handy reference work. Moreover, it contains hard-to-find state revolutionary plans. For example the books include three such plans issued in 1914; one from Veracruz on petroleum, another from Tabasco dealing with rural property,

and the third from San Luis Potosí concerning minimum wages.

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Porvenir de México. By LUIS G. CUEVAS. Introduction by FRANCISCO CUEVAS CANCINO. Mexico City, 1954. Editorial Jus. Appendices. Index. Pp. xxvi, 499.

The edition of *Porvenir de México* published in 1954 was the third issuance of the work produced by the conservative Mexican statesman and scholar, Luis G. Cuevas. The earlier editions (1851-1857 and 1933) were, however, incomplete, and the present edition is the first complete version which includes certain hitherto unprinted essays and papers of Cuevas discovered after the first edition.

No more thorough-going study of the epoch of Iturbide has been written, and while Cuevas' direct association with the conservative faction in Mexico colored his views, his approach was never that of a blind partisan. Never a liberal, he was much more than an anti-liberal. He feared, wisely enough, that Mexico would lose her national existence unless the bitter strife marking the first generation of Mexican independence were halted. Like an early Ortega y Gasset, Cuevas worried about the state of civilization as well as that of Mexico: "Solo en nuestro siglo pudo pensarse que el hombre sería feliz luego que viese destruída su fortuna, que los pueblos progresían sin la influencia del interés individual, y que serían fuertes también en razón de la debilidad de sus autoridades y de sus gobiernos . . . la irrupción de las ideas anti-sociales pudiera ser tan desastrosa como la de las bárbaros en los siglos de la Edad Media."

Written in the Latin belles-lettres style, *Porvenir de México* is a classic analysis of early nineteenth-century Mexico by a profound observer of (1) man and (2) Mexico. The fact that Cuevas perhaps misjudged the future of Mexico is less important than his clari-