

I should not forget to mention some noteworthy pages on tariffs, foreign exchange control, and the use of the two-tier currency market during the '30s to limit nonessential imports. And, of course, Roca-Runciman is part of the scene.

Banque Bruxelles Lambert

HUGO DE CLERCQ

Sindicalismo y peronismo: Los comienzos de un vínculo perdurable. By HUGO DEL CAMPO. Buenos Aires: Consejo Latinoamericano de Ciencias Sociales, 1983. Tables. Notes. Figures. Bibliography. Pp. 273. Paper.

In this book Argentine historian Hugo del Campo examines the process by which a majority within the Argentine labor movement became committed to the cause of Peronism. He begins with background chapters designed to explain the continuity within the historical development of the movement and ends with the destruction of the Partido Laborista after the elections of 1946. The bulk of the work, however, concentrates on the events of the late 1930s, and even more on the 1943–46 period. It highlights Perón's rise to power, as well as the changing relations between the ambitious colonel, his opposition, the working class, and union leaders.

This is a carefully researched and clearly written book. It brings together into a coherent history the basic events of the period, an obviously crucial one for the Argentine labor movement and the working class as a whole.

On balance, the work provides few surprises and offers no shockingly new interpretations of the material. It is an intelligent summary of the arguments put forth on most of the key issues of this chapter in Argentine history. The book also contains a wealth of details on actors and organizations that played minor, albeit important, roles in the drama. In several places del Campo hesitates to take a strong stand on matters under debate, but indicates a preference for one side or another. For example, he agrees with the current wisdom favoring the thesis that support for Perón came from "old" workers rather than new ones. Perhaps the book's most valuable contribution lies in its solid presentation of the historical factors that shaped the labor movement in such a way so as to make its adhesion to Peronism a natural outcome under the circumstances. In this light, the syndicalist influence from the 1920s and the politics of bargaining with the state (during the first Yrigoyen presidency) paved the way for later understandings between the unions and Perón in the early 1940s. Indeed, seen in this context, the alliance with Perón hardly represented a new direction for labor, or at least not for a significant portion of it.

If there is any criticism of the book it perhaps flows directly from one of its strengths. The presentation is measured and lacks the polemics that so often mar writing about Peronism. While this enhances the value of the study, I often

wished the author had put more of himself into the work. There is, for example, no concluding chapter which could have summarized and brought together all the rich and varied material in the preceding chapters. Here the author might have shared some more of his insights into the period. Despite this minor flaw, however, the book is clearly an excellent contribution to Argentine working-class and labor history.

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From Slavery to Vagrancy in Brazil: Crime and Social Control in the Third World. By MARTHA KNISELY HUGGINS. New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press, 1985. Tables. Figure. Map. Appendixes. Bibliography. Index. Pp. xix, 183. Cloth. \$25.00.

This book seeks to examine how the criminal justice system was used to discipline and organize labor in the Brazilian Northeast following the abolition of slavery. The records of the Recife House of Detention provide the primary documentary source for this ambitious project. Huggins sampled the incarcerated population at ten-year intervals during the period 1860–1922. The sample included all the slave detainees and 15 percent of the other detainees. An additional sample was taken for 1885 in order to examine closely the effect of abolition on arrests.

The resulting sample provides rich insights into the social background of the men and women detained both for felonies and for misdemeanors. Huggins also presents a useful overview of the social characteristics of the house of detention's population during this time. In particular, she analyzes the sex, color, and skill levels of the sample population. This discussion would have been much improved if rates, rather than percentages, had been provided. However, it may be that adequate census data are not available. At the conclusion, the author offers an interpretation for changes in the mix of offenses.

Huggins argues that public order arrests were the primary mechanism used to force the urban underclass to accept rural employment. She demonstrates that misdemeanor arrests increased as a percentage of all arrests between 1800 and 1900, then fell to levels found before abolition. The author explains that the dramatic decline in these arrests in 1890 is a statistical anomaly probably caused by the use of some other detention facility. However, she found no evidence to support this contention.

Although Huggins consistently asks provocative questions, and the topic is interesting, there are a number of unfortunate flaws. The book begins with an overly long and loosely argued evaluation of the relative utility of modernization and dependency theories in criminological investigations. This is followed by a stale and imprecise application of dependency theory to Brazilian economic de-