

ulation of political power in the local communities or small cities in Mexico. Further, they have not used recent Mexican or North American political analyses of national politics in their somewhat shallow discussions of the interrelationship between local, state and federal political control.

The book contains a short appendix with a list of caciques denounced by various groups in 1970 and 1972, and a short autobiography of a cacique. Despite the weaknesses of this collective study, the book is valuable to the historian or social scientist interested in the development of rural political power in Mexico.

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The Mexican Profit-Sharing Decision: Politics in an Authoritarian Regime. By SUSAN KAUFMAN PURCELL. Berkeley, 1975. University of California Press. Tables. Appendix. Notes. Bibliography. Index. Pp. xiii, 216. Cloth. \$15.75.

The Mexican Profit-Sharing Decision: Politics in an Authoritarian Regime is a slender, carefully written and well-documented study of both factual and theoretical significance. The narrative of events offers a useful body of detail concerning the historical background, intricate maneuvers, political styles, and political structures from which emerged a significant policy decision in the modern Mexican political system. Moreover, Professor Susan Purcell has accomplished the difficult task of keeping theoretical concerns in focus while presenting the involved decision-making process.

The decision to establish a profit-sharing system for Mexican industrial labor had historical and institutional roots in the original wording of Article 23 of the Constitution of 1917, but it was three decades before widespread support to implement the idea appeared among labor leaders. Profit-sharing was initially regarded as inimical to success of the class struggle, but with the expansion of industry, the inauguration of modernity in data collection, and the decline of class struggle ideology among Mexico's major labor leaders, profit-sharing became a more important issue.

Professor Purcell uses both interview and documentary data to examine the maneuvering associated with the decision-making process and underscore a number of theoretical points relating to authoritarian systems in general, and to that of Mexico in particular. First, Mexico represents an example of an "inclusive" rather than "exclusive" au-

thoritarian system. Thus, while, the central government, and principally the President, initiates policy, leaving lesser political figures and the original interest groups only a "reactive" mode of conduct, there is a careful, persistent effort from the top to consider differing points of view and conciliate interest conflicts before a final decision is made. Second, the government persistently seeks to illustrate the rewards of compliant behavior to offset its use of force in suppressing political protest and political violence. Third, the capability of secrecy and arbitrary action lodged in the President is used to gain advantage in bringing about a decision, but consultation with all concerned parties also is observed as an integral part in the process. Fourth, the decision-making process contributes to minimize discontent, class coalescence, and possibilities of violent protest through emphasis upon patrimonial, patron-client relationships in separate vertical hierarchies which depend upon government and President to facilitate communication among them.

Finally, these and other characteristics contribute to an authoritarian system which centralizes power at the top while seeking to minimize violence by fostering an image of patrimonial benevolence that fits well with the traditional deferential style which Mexicans regard as proper conduct when in a subordinate status.

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VINCENT PADGETT

The Spanish in America, 1513–1974: A Chronology and Fact Book.

Compiled and edited by ARTHUR A. NATELLA, JR. Dobbs Ferry, New York, 1975. Oceana Publications. Index. Bibliography. Pp. vii, 139. Cloth. \$6.00.

Somos Chicanos: Strangers in our Own Land. By DAVID F. GÓMEZ. Boston, 1973. Beacon Press. Illustrations. Index. Pp. xix, 204. Cloth. \$8.95.

The Chicano. Edited by NORRIS HUNDLEY, JR. Introduction by MATT MEIER and FELICIANO RIVERA. Foreword by MIGUEL LEÓN-PORTILLA. Santa Barbara, California, 1975. American Bibliographical Center—Clio Press. Maps. Index. Pp. xvii, 168. Cloth. \$9.50. Paper. \$4.75.

These three books are aimed at three different audiences who share an interest in the Chicano. The first book is an attempt at establishing a chronology of contributions made by Hispanic people