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up...and could help ease Managua into a family-oriented dictatorship in the Nicaraguan tradition" (p. 216).

Cruz has tried to hide himself, his thoughts and aspirations, behind the smokescreen of a mediocre historical account, hyped by claims to inside revelations that never materialize. Yet unwittingly he *does* expose himself. In all his many asides about the Nicaraguan character – "conspiracy is the ancient legacy of Nicaraguan political culture," "my enemy today is my friend tomorrow and my enemy the day after, the saying goes," "we believe we are all kings" – Cruz is making a confession. In transferring his own supreme selfishness onto North Americans, Cruz may be wielding a certain ironic justice, but to portray his own nation as being entirely seeped in the Cruz personality is an act of betrayal and dishonesty that renders this book of little value beyond that of vaguely amusing.

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Stephen H. Haber. *Industry and Underdevelopment: The Industrialization, 1890-1940*. Stanford, Stanford University Press, 1989. 229 pp.

Stephen Haber's structural economic history of Mexican industrialization in the formative years offers a concise, cogent explanation of Mexico's current industrial underdevelopment. For Haber, the period in which the basic structures of modern Mexican industry were established is the key to understanding contemporary problems, and is a period little studied. There is a "voluminous literature" on Mexican industry since the Second World War; Haber views that period "as essentially an elaboration and consolidation of the process that took place between 1890-1940." Haber's work is a very valuable contribution to the field, a clear, sensible analysis employing sound methods and sources.

Haber introduces the Mexican economic crisis since 1982 on page one, and concludes that "It should have surprised no one that the Mexican 'miracle' fell apart as quickly as it did." The profitable promises of post-war development were shattered by the realities of the "institutions and

arrangements" that had allowed the earlier rapid growth to occur. Haber asks, "What were these institutions and arrangements?" Why did Mexico fail to develop? He then proceeds to outline the causes of Mexico's industrial underdevelopment, using an abundance of statistics derived from unutilized sources.

One reason why the post-war period has been given so much attention by scholars is the abundance of macro-level, official sources, written from government reports, industrial censuses, surveys, and other published data. Such data is not available for the earlier period. Thus, it seems that industrialization was founded in these later years. Haber utilizes primary sources from individual firms and industrialists: they include corporate annual reports, correspondence of owners and labor unions with government agencies, corporate accounts and stock market records. These sources are supplemented by a host of others ranging from the Mexican financial press to tax records, as well as oral history interviews with Mexican industrialists.

Haber's sources condition his method. With such an abundance of archival material, he looks at individual firms and industries and uses these case studies to generalize about the development of Mexican manufacturing. Such an approach breaks with previous studies, which were written from aggregate census categories and combined the data for all firms and industries. This case study approach, then, addresses a range of questions previously not considered. For instance, Haber demonstrates the connection between Mexico's nascent industrialization and the political evolution of the state. He delineates the birth of industry and studies the effect of the Revolution and the Depression on its development.

Haber traces individuals and companies in specific industries to show the inter-relationship of commercial, manufacturing and political elites. This analysis focuses on the following industries: steel, paper, cement, glass, beer, cotton and wool textiles, soap, dynamite, and cigarettes. He does not purport to construct a comprehensive model of the manufacturing sector.

The organization of this thin volume is exemplary. There are essentially three parts, beginning with a discussion of the political-economic background of Mexico in the 1870's; the Porfirian state created the conditions necessary for large-scale industrial investment and moved to eliminate regional barriers to a centralized government and economy.

Yet from its inception, rapid industrial growth was built upon weak and unstable foundations.

Mexican industry developed as it did because of the "contradictions and limitations inherent in the rapid industrialization of an underdeveloped economy." These constraints are enumerated in the second part of the work (chapters 3-6). The productive capacity of this imported manufacturing plant was more appropriate for developed consumer markets than Mexico, and thus manufacturing was not particularly profitable unless a firm dominated the market. In other words, there were not enough consumers who could buy the products of these potentially productive enterprises, and the scale of production limited the growth of industries. In this climate of low demand, only a few large firms survived, monopolizing the market.

Furthermore Mexico could not export manufactures, which of course would have alleviated many problems. The transitional nature of the Mexican economy and the highly competitive international market precluded this option. In fact, local manufacturers could barely survive in their own domestic market, given the quality and relatively low cost of foreign imports. Thus, industrialists obtained increased levels of protection from governments, which in the long term would only destroy the competitiveness of their goods.

Another concern raised is the low productivity of Mexican labor, compared to its counterparts abroad. This was characteristic of developing countries, although the problem in Mexico had its own flavor. Haber relates occasions when entire shifts of textile workers would abandon their machines for days in order to attend nearby fiestas and drink pulque. There was also a severe shortage of skilled labor.

A third major constraint was the high cost of imported capital goods and the inability to mobilize sufficient amounts of capital to finance starting-up costs. In the absence of banks, merchant-financiers formed a powerful industrial clique which discouraged competition by monopolizing access to capital and rigging the market. They shaped government policies to their liking, and as Haber observes, "these financiers *were* the state." In addition, like in the colonial period, many of these merchants were not Mexican-born. Thus a noncompetitive industrial structure evolved in Mexico.

The third part of the work (chapters 7-10) traces the profitability of major manufacturing enterprises from the Profiriato, through the

Revolution and the Depression, to the recovery period of 1933-39. Haber reveals some notable trends which affirm the vulnerability of Mexican industry. The same process of economic growth which was to save industry led to a revolution. Although the long conflict did not ruin industry, investment was truncated as early as the financial crash of 1907-8. The contraction of industry was exacerbated by the depression, which Haber defines as the years 1925-1932.

When conditions improved in the 1930's, Mexico's industrial plant dated from the Porfiriato and constituted the foundation of industrial expansion in the decades after the Second World War. That foundation protected by the war, supported later industrial growth but could not sustain the growth. The structure and organization of Mexican industry contained too many problems and contradictions to succeed in the long term. "An essential bulwark of support for whatever government came of power," the nation's industrialists have cultivated a working relationship with the Partido Revolucionario Institucional (PRI). For these reasons, underdevelopment has persisted to the present.

In these last chapters, Haber reveals some interesting findings. Mexico's experience during the depression was unusual in that consumer goods manufacturers did worse than their producer goods counterparts. Also, the depression began and ended earlier than in the United States and Western Europe. Haber portrays Cardenas as a skillful politician who was not hostile to industry and capitalism, but allowed companies to grow and ensured social peace by carrying out agrarian reform. Mexico's problems, according to Haber's results, are both internal and external; such an analysis adds depth and complexity to earlier "dependency" interpretations.

Haber concludes that Mexico's ambitious industrialization program, based on imported technology and government protection, was doomed to fail. It failed to maintain a process of self-sustaining economic growth. Such a pattern characterizes late industrializing countries, according to Gershenkron. The "emphasis on big firms, the preponderance of heavy industry, the important role of the state, the utilization of capital-intensive methods of production, the unevenness of growth..." were observed in Eastern and Central Europe as well. By studying the organization and structure of Mexican Industry, Haber is able to employ his approach to the study of other less-developed countries. He is also able to address social and political concerns in the course of his work.

Stephen Haber's first book, a product of his dissertation at UCLA, is a valuable contribution to the study of industrialization in Mexico. The field awaits similar work from Haber on Argentina and Brazil.

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Ramkrishna Mukherjee. *Uganda: An Historical Accident?: Class, Nation, State Formation*. Trenton, New Jersey: Africa World Press, 1985. 281 pp.

Cole P. Dodge and Magne Raundelen, eds. *War, Violence and Children in Uganda*. Oslo: Norwegian University Press, 1987. xvi + 159 pp.

Holger B. Hansen and Michael Twaddle, eds. *Uganda Now: Between Decay and Development*. Athens: Ohio University Press, 1988. 376 pp.

These three works analyze events that have taken place in Uganda over the past century. In *Uganda: An Historical Accident*, Mukherjee analyzes the "political developments" during the Colonial era. He looks at Lugard's Dual Mandate policy which he, like many other analysis sees as a Divide-and-Rule strategy. This policy enabled people to look at the Colonial-imposed district and regional headquarters as their primary source of legitimate authority. Therefore, indigenous kings and superimposed kings and superimposed chiefs were used as surrogate leaders to safeguard Colonial interests throughout the country. In the long run, this policy inhibited any form of national unity amongst the people.

The author looks at the incorporation of Uganda into the world economy. This meant that since the country was growing and exporting low-cash paying crops, it was inevitable that the economy would continue to "perpetually" and peripherally be weak; a legacy that continues to this day.

The author looks at regional bias in the economic development of the country. Most economic infrastructures were located in the South, while the Northern region was primarily a source of cheap labor. This