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The Spanish Crown and the Defense of the Caribbean, 1535-1585: Precedent, Patrimonialism, and Royal Parsimony. PAUL E. HOFFMAN. Louisiana State University Press, 1980. Pp. xiv + 312. Maps, tables, appendices, glossary, notes, bibliography.

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same time she deemphasizes manuscript material which indicates the effects of such influences as immigration, class, and ethnic factors in the life cycles she has depicted. At times arguing at odds with remembrances described in correspondence, autobiographies, and diaries, Lagemann disputes her historical actors. Often assumptions are not strongly tied to manuscript evidence, which is curious considering the voluminous written legacy left behind in books, manuscripts, and articles by this generation.

Ultimately, the book must be judged by the extent to which the five biographies are indicative of the generation of cohorts addressed by this research. With no explanation by the author of why she chose these particular reformers, or why their lives are indicative of the experiences of their cohorts, one is left with unanswered questions. In a period marked for the dominance and influence of Yankee Protestants, why were three-fifths of Lagemann's sample Jewish, and why is religion an ancillary factor in her analysis? During a period characterized by the increasingly political participation of female activists, why did Lagemann downplay the significance of the political appointments earned by her sample?

The form of biography offers historians the opportunity to weave personal and political aspects of singular human experience against the warp of collective social experience. Lagemann has succeeded in describing the lives of five female leaders while failing to examine the context of their opportunities and limitations in the wider social arena. Her study of education and pedagogy nevertheless fills a historiographical gap in women's and social history. She has drawn a portrait of struggle by social reformers implementing differential personal strategies to address important social issues of their times. If the picture she has drawn is sometimes static and limited, it is a picture with which we need to become more familiar.

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The Spanish Crown and the Defense of the Caribbean, 1535-1585: Precedent, Patrimonialism, and Royal Parsimony. By PAUL E. HOFFMAN. Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1980. Pp. xiv + 312. Maps, tables, appendices, glossary, notes, bibliography, index. \$30.00.

Until recently the history of the colonial Spanish Caribbean had received little innovative attention from scholars. When the area was studied at all, interest centered on either the early years of discovery, conquest, and settlement, or on defense, piracy, contraband trade, and non-Spanish attempts to found colonies in the area during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. The present study is significant because, while firmly in the latter genre, it looks at the seldom-studied period of the mid-sixteenth century. Hoffman disagrees with the time-honored belief that the Spanish Crown was incapable of dealing with the challenge to its sovereignty in the Indies. Instead, his book graphically demonstrates that Spain began to formulate the policies and procedures to deal with a foreign presence in the Indies during the middle of the sixteenth century. In fact, Spanish arms enjoyed some success in meeting the physical threat to their colonies even at this early time, though the techniques employed would only reach maturity in following centuries. No less significant is the author's use of

previously ignored source materials--especially records of royal expenditures for defense in the Indies--to which he applies a sophisticated methodology.

Breaking new ground, Hoffman bases his study heavily on treasury records of the *Casa de Contratación* in Spain and seventeen treasuries in the New World. All of them can be found today in the *Archivo General de las Indias* of Seville and the *Archivo General* of Simancas. These records not only contain lists of expenses, but also copies of royal *cédulas*, authorizations, and dispositions of the actual transactions which appear to be about seventy percent complete for the years under study. Hoffman discusses his methodology in a general way in the introduction and in much greater detail in a highly useful appendix. He uses a sophisticated computer technique to help analyze his rich, extensive sources, and to construct the work's many excellent tables. This method allows him to formulate a time series revealing important patterns of development during the period under study.

In the course of four chapters, dividing the period 1535-1585 into what Hoffman believes were unique stages in the formation of a viable defense for the Indies, several types of expenditures are considered. These include money spent for fleets and convoy escorts, patrol squadrons, land fortifications, munitions, militias, and garrisons. At the same time, the author applies his statistical method to the size and frequency of contraband trade and corsair attacks in the Indies. Hoffman painstakingly correlates data obtained in this manner with several factors he considers crucial in shaping the Spanish effort, the most important of which are: the historical experience available for the Crown to build upon (precedents); recognition by all parties involved of the King's obligation to deal with the problem (patrimonialism); and royal willingness or ability to pay for defense (parsimony). All of this is summarized and conclusions drawn in the concise final chapter of the book. By using this method and organization, Hoffman is able to arrive at the clearest, and perhaps the most significant, picture to date of the patterns of defense in the Indies.

Since this is a study of royal defense expenditures, it might at first seem that the Crown plays a more important role in the discussion than current opinions of royal effectiveness will allow. But the author goes beyond an unthinking listing of the actions of an omniscient Crown by critically relating what the ruler and his councils thought or decreed to what actually took place, both as revealed by actual expenditures and by local reception of, or indifference to, royal moves. Hoffman presents a picture of a Crown which, especially in the early colonial period, was hard-pressed to make its wishes felt over local, political, or commercial interests, a Crown whose plans were often ignored or circumvented, whose monies were continually usurped by officials on the scene for other purposes, and whose sometimes inadequate or belated responses were often augmented by ad hoc local initiative.

At first glance, Hoffman's findings appear to support the old view of Spanish ineptitude in meeting the threat to the colonies. Certainly the continuous references to delay, seemingly ill-timed royal parsimony, monopolistic mercantile policies which served to encourage contraband trade, and continual failure of diplomacy seem to point to that traditional view. But Hoffman sees in this early period the beginnings of formulating a defense policy based on the precedents of experience and the growing realization that the empire could no longer be maintained through the efforts of the private sector alone. The Crown, the commercial interests, and the citizens of the Indies themselves moved in fits and starts toward the acknowledgement that royal monies and energy--royal patrimony--

would have to be vigorously employed if sovereignty was to be preserved. Though the results were certainly uneven, the effort was successful in meeting the threat given the technology of the time and so long as certain assumptions (such as the typical size of corsair fleets) were not challenged.

On the whole, Hoffman's treatment of his subject is comprehensive, but in some cases the discussion might have been deepened. Though the author gives a clear picture of the growth and organization of militias, a similar treatment of royal garrisons is not as complete. He indicates that garrisons, usually temporary in nature, were recruited from both the Indies and Spain. It would be enlightening to know the proportion of individuals provided by each area and perhaps the social type involved. Certainly the extent to which the Indies were expected or able to provide hired garrisons for their own defense is a significant factor, and a discussion of it would have strengthened the work.

The only real technical drawback is in some sections of narrative prose, notably those dealing with fleet movements. With their many references to commanders, fleets, and an occasionally choppy chronology, they can become confusing and tedious. Surely these sections could have been streamlined to retain the details without leading the reader through a morass of names and dates. It must be emphasized, however, that these structural flaws are relatively minor, and most of the writing is clear and informative. Hoffman always summarizes his discussion, minimizing any confusion which might arise from parts of the text. He has demonstrated that the sixteenth-century Caribbean saw the establishment of important precedents for defense which would lead to the more successful systems of the following centuries. Both his innovative use of sources and groundbreaking conclusions bring fresh insights to an old problem.

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São Paulo in the Brazilian Federation, 1889-1937. By JOSEPH LOVE.
Stanford: Stanford University Press, 1980. Pp. xx + 398.
Illustrations, tables, appendices, notes, bibliography, index.
\$25.00.

Recently some American Brazilianists have begun to question their approach to Brazilian history. This developing school of thought has decided that the use of the term "Brazil," when applied to the period from 1889 to about 1940, is inaccurate and misleading. During this period, it is argued, Brazil was not one unified entity but rather an extremely loose association of diverse and geographically separate regions which can only be truly understood in their separateness. Joseph Love is one of the three main founders of this new view and his book forms the third part of a trilogy of Brazilian regional studies by the founders of the school. (The previous two works in this trilogy are *Minas Gerais in the Brazilian Federation, 1889-1937* by John Wirth and *Pernambuco in the Brazilian Federation, 1889-1937* by Robert Levine.) All three are concerned with the period in Brazilian history known as the "First Republic."

The basis of this regionalist history, according to Love, is an almost complete erosion of a centralization which had characterized colonial and pre-republican Brazil. From 1822, the year of