

generalized the long period free of rebellions such as occurred in the U.S. South and Barbados, required co-operation between planters. Unless a St. Domingue type situation was threatened there was always a tendency for individual planters to opt out of mutually beneficial measures. These would include the refusal to buy the warlike Coromantine slaves and to provide militia patrols outside their own local areas.

Some might also question Craton's assessment of missionary activity in the last years of slavery as well as the relationship between rebellion and emancipation. The salient feature of plantation regimes in the Americas was their ability to sustain the oppression of slaves over nearly four centuries — despite the frequency of local conspiracies and rebellions. With the single exception of St. Domingue, slave regimes were turned into free labour regimes (though with planter control left intact) as a direct result of intervention from without rather than within. At the risk of sounding Eurocentric what made the later rebellions dangerous to the planters was the metropolitan response to the actions of the slaves rather than the rebellions themselves. The modest goals of the slaves, and their forbearance — in contrast to the invariably vicious white repression which followed — hint at reasons for the failure of slave revolts in the British Caribbean. To the extent that slaves' behaviour was influenced by Christianity perhaps the real role of the missions was to blunt slave resistance rather than to encourage it. If, as the author argues, slaves adapted Christianity for their own ends they did not do it very effectively in Craton's terms. Perhaps the Gramscian hegemony to which the author briefly refers in the epilogue began to operate as much before 1834 as after.

None of these considerations do anything to devalue the contribution of this volume. Historians of the Caribbean as well as anyone interested in the role of rebellion in this, the most elemental of class relationships, will be using this volume for many years to come.

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PETER DESHAZO — *Urban Workers and Labor Unions in Chile, 1902-1927*. Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 1983. Pp. xxxi, 351.

Social scientists interested in early twentieth-century Chile will find this monograph of particular value. The author studies the working people in the nation's two largest cities, Santiago and Valparaiso, and the labour unions they organized from 1902 to 1927. The earliest strike by an Anarcho-Syndicalist "resistance society" or workers' group in 1902 is the starting point of this analysis, and the seizure of power in 1927 by the anti-labour dictator Carlos Ibanez marks the end of the initial period of union importance in Chilean history. The first three chapters are devoted to a careful portrait of urbanization and industrialization and the employment and living conditions of urban workers in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The final five chapters are organized chronologically and investigate in detail the uneven, but constant, growth of labour organizations.

DeShazo convincingly demonstrates that the Anarcho-Syndicalists established the largest and most effective unions in Chile during the early decades of the century. Membership statistics, the number of strikes sponsored by their groups, and the successes of their efforts are cited as proof of this thesis. The attraction of Anarchism to Chilean urban labourers is explained by the almost entirely national leadership of the movement, its emphasis on anti-authoritarianism and local autonomy, and the attention its unions gave to practical "bread-and-butter" issues such as wages, hours, and working conditions. The study also traces the

development of non-Anarchist groups, particularly those influenced by Marxism. However, DeShazo emphasizes that the Anarchists' unions in Santiago and Valparaiso far outdistanced their Marxist rivals in both numbers and impact.

The importance of this work is its resuscitation of the preponderant role of Anarchists in Chile's early labour development. Recent Marxist historians such as Hernan Ramirez Necochea, Julio Cesar Jobet, and Luis Vitale have centered their research on the growth and influence of Socialist and Communist unionism, while overlooking the major part played by Anarchism. Other researchers who have focused on the absorbing political struggles during these years likewise have disregarded the accomplishments of the Anarchists, who of course refused to participate in electoral politics. While non-Anarchist unions were strong in the northern nitrate fields and the southern coal mines, DeShazo argues with authority that the Anarchists' strength in Santiago and Valparaiso makes any history of Chilean unionism incomplete unless it also incorporates their silent contributions.

This work is the result of thorough research and the author's points are clearly presented. Extensive archival investigation in Santiago, Valparaiso, Washington, London, and Amsterdam, a series of interviews with labour activists, and an impressive bibliography of periodicals and secondary sources were utilized by DeShazo. The work is intelligently footnoted, and helpful series of maps and tables and a glossary of Spanish labour terms allow the reader to follow the text with ease and understand the array of statistical material presented. Well-chosen quotes from contemporary speeches and articles buttress the author's assertions and add interest to his presentation.

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CHRISTOPHER MOORE — *Louisbourg Portraits. Life in an Eighteenth Century Garrison Town.* Toronto, Macmillan of Canada, 1982. ix, 302 p.

Cet ouvrage met en scène cinq personnes qui ont vécu à Louisbourg, Isle Royale : Louis Davory, un aventurier parti de sa Bretagne natale « pour voir les pays » (p. 42); Jacques Rolland, un jeune marchand ambitieux et imprudent qui se laisse conduire à la faillite; Charles Renaut, un malheureux pêcheur bientôt emporté par la mer; Jean Lelarge, un fils de charpentier promu officier dans la Marine Royale; et, Jodocus Koller, un soldat suisse du régiment Karrer qui sera déporté en France après le premier siège de Louisbourg en 1745.

Le récit est écrit dans un style animé, le langage est simple et direct, accessible à un public large. Les personnages de ce livre, faits de chair et de sang, parlent, bougent, vivent. L'auteur les aime et nous communique merveilleusement son attachement; on participe sans réticences à leurs peines et à leurs joies. Les épisodes s'enchaînent dans un rythme bref et précis. Ni lenteur ni lourdeur, tout se déroule comme les images d'un film, allègrement, au fil des pages.

Il ne s'agit ni de personnages fictifs, ni de stéréotypes historiques. Les gens de ce livre sont vrais. Puisant dans les archives administratives, les registres paroissiaux, les minutes notariales et surtout judiciaires, l'auteur a méticuleusement reconstitué leur vie quotidienne et leur environnement. Les événements et les décors sont transcrits avec fidélité dans le moindre détail. Souple et objective, nourrie de plusieurs années de recherches et de réflexion, l'interprétation ouvre des perspectives nouvelles sur les fonctions économiques et sociales