



AgEcon SEARCH
RESEARCH IN AGRICULTURAL & APPLIED ECONOMICS

The World's Largest Open Access Agricultural & Applied Economics Digital Library

This document is discoverable and free to researchers across the globe due to the work of AgEcon Search.

Help ensure our sustainability.

Give to AgEcon Search

AgEcon Search
<http://ageconsearch.umn.edu>
aesearch@umn.edu

*Papers downloaded from **AgEcon Search** may be used for non-commercial purposes and personal study only. No other use, including posting to another Internet site, is permitted without permission from the copyright owner (not AgEcon Search), or as allowed under the provisions of Fair Use, U.S. Copyright Act, Title 17 U.S.C.*

profitable reading and a valuable reference. It should be useful for orientation purposes in an area that continues to experience a population explosion in a period when great efforts are being made to improve health, education, and economic opportunities.

James L. Paschal

The Alliance for Progress: Problems and Perspectives

Edited by John C. Drier. The Johns Hopkins Press, Baltimore. 146 pages. 1962. \$3.95.

THE JOHNS HOPKINS School of Advanced International Studies sponsored a series of lectures on the Alliance for Progress in the spring of 1962. Five lectures were selected as essays for this publication to contribute to the success of the Alliance though enlightened public opinion and support.

Authors are Milton S. Eisenhower, Raúl Prebisch, José Figueres, Teodoro Moscoso, and Dean Rusk, who deal with historic roots, economic aspects, political goals, social change, and the context in world affairs of the Alliance, respectively. The text of the Charter of Punta del Este which established the Alliance is also included.

"Economic Aspects of the Alliance," constituting about half of the essay material and of primary concern to economists, makes a case for planning. Industrialization is the key to economic development and must play two dynamic roles: Supply-needed goods the region cannot afford to import; and the absorption of excess manpower from agriculture and other sectors.

Past industrialization patterns were characterized by static monopolies and the failure to fulfill both roles; new and unguided industrialization efforts are likely to be characterized by the adoption of labor-saving technology of the developed countries and the failure to fulfill the manpower absorption role.

Associated problems are agricultural development, education and technical training, income redistribution and capital accumulation, and combining internal and external resources.

The solution is planning with the quantification of targets and resources, along with the necessary government intervention, to reduce existing monopolies and to guide new efforts to a balance between labor-saving and labor-absorbing investment.

The other four essays are concerned with facets of the Alliance related to its central purpose of increased economic growth to raise living standards. The Alliance is viewed as the positive result of a long evolutionary process. Development financing problems are held small, political problems almost unsurmountable. Needed is a sense of urgency for the most important common venture of the Hemisphere.

The publication measures up to objectives and should prove stimulating and useful to developed economists.

Charles R. Davenport

International Economic Instability—The Experience After World War II.

By Joseph D. Coppock. McGraw-Hill, New York. 184 pages. 1962. \$7.95.

CONCERN over international economic instability is not new; it has been evident at least since the end of World War I. But the emergence of new nations with the attendant worldwide revolution of rising expectations has now forced countries to take steps, and rapidly, to remove as much of the instability as possible through stabilizing economic arrangements. Post-World War II institutions such as the International Monetary Fund and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development are but two of many mechanisms which over the years have been developed to reduce instability. Today concern is directed primarily to those popularly called underdeveloped countries where extreme shifts of export earnings, often arising out of the proceeds of one or two commodities, cause volatile swings in the national income with serious unstabilizing effects. In *International Economic Instability* the author attempts to analyze the problems created by international economic instability. His approach is statistical.

The author has chosen export proceeds as the "primary dependent variable" in measuring international economic instability and, adopting the log variance method of measurement, develops for the years 1946-1958, indexes of instability for 83 countries based on the movement in export proceeds. This measure of instability is also used for several other variables which seem to bear on instability of export proceeds. The index meas-