

Dávila Garibi, José Ignacio. *Toponimias Nahuas; normas para la interpretación de toponimicos de origen náhuatl y análisis etimológicos de trescientos de ellos*. (Instituto Panamericano de Geografía e Historia, pub. núm. 63.) Mexico: Editorial Stylo, 1940. xxxii+251 pp.

The author of this book is one of the few scholars in the world with a working knowledge of the Náhuatl language. Dávila Garibi is the author of an historical treatise on the Náhuatl language ("La Escritura del Idioma Náhuatl a través de los siglos" in *Memorias y Revista de la Academia Nacional de Ciencias "Antonio Alzate,"* T. 54, núms. 4, 5 y 6, pp. 223-309), and a study of Aztec names (*Epítome de Raíces Nahuas* [Mexico, 1938]). He has charge of all Náhuatl derivations in the set of Francisco Hernández' *Historia de las Plantas de Nueva España*, which is now in the process of publication.

*Toponimias Nahuas* has expanded and brought up to date what Peñafiel began in his *Nombres Geográficos de México* (Mexico, 1885). Dávila Garibi's work does not include the Aztec hieroglyphs but it embraces all sorts of names, while Peñafiel's edition contained only those names found in the Codex Mendocino together with their hieroglyphs. Since Mexico swarms with Náhuatl place names, this work should be of interest and importance to every student of Mexican life and culture.

Dávila Garibi has divided his book into six parts, two appendices, and a bibliography of 36 items.

Part I—Notes on the interpretation of place names.

Part II—Definitions and use of postpositions occurring in place names.

Part III—Definitions and use of reverential, augmentative, and diminutive suffixes.

Part IV—The use of numerical af-

fixes in forming Aztec place names.

Part V—The influence of Spanish upon the form and spelling of Nahua names.

Part VI—A complete analysis of 300 place names, together with the pronunciation of each.

Appendices A and B deal with the name Coyoacán, discussed and interpreted by Lawrence Ecker and Cecilio A. Robelo.

Mexico will never be understood until its native cultures are understood, and books of this type are very important contributions to such an understanding. They constitute keys to an untouched storehouse of Náhuatl documents.—(G.T.S.)

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Garibay K., Angel María. *Llave del Náhuatl; Colección de Trozos Clásicos, con Gramática y Vocabulario, para Utilidad de los Principiantes*. Otumba, Mex., 1940. 259+[2] pp.

The 16th and 17th centuries in Mexico saw a flood of books and pamphlets in and about the native languages, especially Náhuatl, the Aztec language. Only a few Náhuatl grammarians, however, have contributed important grammars: Andrés de Olmos, a portion of whose works was published by the Frenchman Rémi Siméon; Alonso de Molina, whose grammar was republished in the 19th century; Horacio Carochi, who made an attempt to edit a complete grammar of Náhuatl in a scholarly pattern. Others were published in the 19th century by Chimalpopoca Galicia and Antonio del Rincón. Mariano Jacobo Rojas in 1927 issued a small grammar of modern Náhuatl.

Perhaps the first scientific approach to classical Náhuatl (that approaching the spoken language of the Aztec nobles) is the grammar under review. Garibay comes to his task well versed in a number of ancient and modern languages, including studies in Otomí. In the field of Náhuatl, he became