

Irving:

We appear to have general statistics (general in the sense that they are in round numbers; frequently not very carefully defined; are taken from secondary sources) to substantiate, to some degree, the following points :

A. Of a general nature

1. Share of trade by US in LA countries has increased materially since 1940.
2. Share of trade by UK has decreased materially since 1940.
3. Share of trade by Axis disappeared after 1941.
4. Share of trade by Argentina in other LA countries has increased materially.
5. Trade among LA countries, in general, has been increasing since about 1935.
6. In all LA countries, the value of imports and exports has increased materially since 1940.
7. There is evidence indicating considerable growth of marginal producers during the war- particularly in minerals and forest products.
8. Evidence shows less imports, in terms of value, of machinery and equipment during the war years than would be expected under normal circumstances. But in particular mining, processing, and transportation industries there has been notable advances due to US Export-Import Bank loans, US government contracts and loans.
9. Since the early 1930's, LA countries have succeeded in securing a larger percentage of world trade, most noticeably since the war, and at the expense of Europe and Japan.

10. US investments in LA countries have increased.

11. UK investments in LA countries do not appear to have increased in recent years.

B. Of a specific nature

1. There has been an important growth of textile manufacture - Brazil, Peru, Mexico. C
2. Food processing for export is increasing - Brazil, Argentina. C
3. Material increase in airports, airlines- Brazil, Argentina C
4. The war caused an increase in sugar production- Cuba
5. " " " " " " petroleum " - Venezuela, Colombia
6. Some countries' mineral economy has been hitched completely to the US- Bolivia, Peru, Chile.
7. Brazil's coffee has secured a larger share of world trade.
8. Individual countries are developing food processing industries to capture a larger share of world trade- Cuba, Colombia
9. Rubber production appears to be marginal- Brazil, Colombia, Bolivia
10. Chile's nitrate and copper exports increased during war, but position appears unstable.
11. Bolivian mineral production increased during war, but position appears unstable.
12. Mexican economy appears to have benefited during war, with what appears to be balanced economy as between manufactures and total production.
13. Brazil's economy appears to have benefited during war in the direction of a balanced economy.
14. Countries continuing with an unbalanced economy are Bolivia, Colombia, Cuba.

15. Countries with what may be called a "partly unbalanced economy" are Peru and Chile. Both noticeably lack industrial development, with Chile depending too much on exports of nitrates and copper, and Peru importing wheat and other foods.
16. Largest developments now taking place in countries with stable economies- Mexico and Brazil.

These are conclusions that you would expect from general observation.
We haven't enough statistics on all points.

Harold Weisberg is continuing investigation into the question of internal stability, i.e., the relation of value of manufacture to total production.

We would also like more figures on the total number of industrial workers, and the number in principal industries.