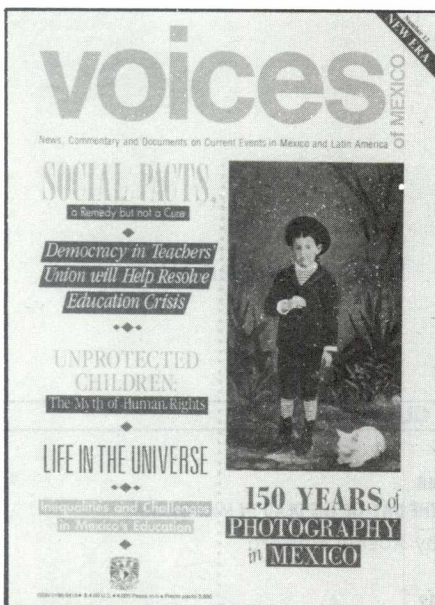


# THIS ISSUE



Cover: Angel García Domínguez  
Photo from the album of the  
Sánchez Mejorada family.  
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Result of an agreement between the business sector, trade union organizations, peasants and the government, the Pact for Economic Stability and Growth (PECE), is the option chosen to confront the country's economic crisis, which has worsened since 1982. The existence of the Pact is a demonstration of the modernization fostered by the government, but in reality it is only a synthesis of the business sector's project for the nation (reduction of salaries, privatization of the economy, support for the growth of in-bond industries and an increase in the business sector's participation in deciding national economic policies).

The existence of the Pact also reflects the weakness of workers' and peasants' organizations, while the great majority of ordinary citizens cannot see when the economic crisis is going to disappear from their daily lives. However, it is this same "ordinary citizen" who, as a political subject, has begun to exercise pressures, through election processes and social mobilizations, to end the archaic structures and strategies which still dominate the electoral system. Voices examines these changes in the pages of this issue, with the analysis of the Pact by David Barkin, and that of political transition in Mexico, by the Governor of Guerrero, José Francisco Ruiz Massieu. Another matter of great importance through 1989 in Mexico was that of education, and we present interviews with representatives of two tendencies in the teachers' trade union movement. The examination of the national situation and future perspectives concludes with themes of world relevance: the rights of children, the possibilities of life in other parts of the Universe, the celebration of the day of the dead, the 150th anniversary of photography, and a look at black films, complete this issue of Voices of Mexico.

Mariclaire Acosta