

employ them in public works, as was begun under my reign. . . .

**194.** So that the Treasury may flourish, it is necessary to develop the kingdom; that is, its population, agriculture, arts, industry, and trade. I fear that more time and effort have always been spent in exacting or collecting taxes and rents, or in other areas of the royal Treasury, than in the cultivation of productive lands and the development of its inhabitants, who make this production possible. Today, we think differently, and this is my first charge to the Council,

and to the minister in charge of my royal Treasury: that is, that more thought be given to cultivation than to enjoyment, by which means the end product will be greater and more secure.

Cultivation consists of developing the population, as well as agriculture, the arts, industry, and trade. I have indicated in another part of this memorandum the means by which to promote and develop these areas. I won't repeat this to the Council, but trust my royal Treasury will do its part in covering the cost of its increase and improvement.

## *Excerpts from Carlos III's 'Confidential Memorandum' To the State Council (1787)*

*This memorandum was drafted by Carlos III's Minister José Moñino, Conde de Floridablanca.*

**52. Measures to eliminate idleness.** It is not possible to eliminate or reduce [the number of] idle and indolent, if at the same time jobs are not provided in which these and others can work. Nor is it sufficient for this purpose to establish and promote factories, protect the arts, agriculture, and trade, if all professions and means of sustaining man are not honored, banishing that old concern that there are some dishonorable professions, or that any mechanical or manual labor injures the nobility and its self-conception. . . .

**60. Academies of Science.** The purpose of public instruction and the academies is to complement education, which is the solid instruction of my subjects in all [areas] of human knowledge. In this area, what is most lacking is the study of the exact sciences, such as mathematics, astronomy, experimental physics, chemistry, natural history, mineralogy, hydraulics, machinery, and other practical sciences. For the purpose of promoting among my subjects the study, application, and perfection of this knowledge, I have resolved to found an Academy of Science, and I particularly encharge the Council to cooperate in this, and to frequently and opportunely remember it.

**72. National Bank.** I have found it appropriate to similarly charge the Council with the protection of the National Bank, without which trade would be lacking one of its most important supports, and the Crown its greatest and most efficient resource. All of the complaints, rumors, and attacks against an establishment of this kind, which have cost me some sleepless nights, are nothing compared to the usefulness which the nation

and the government have derived, and will derive, from it. The Council should take care to address any particular defect that might exist, and can be remedied, but not to confuse that with the Bank's general and solid usefulness and its permanence. To that end, I order that all the concessions and benefits I have granted be protected, and that the necessary ones be increased.

**74. Canals for irrigation and navigation.** Roads and canals for irrigation and navigation are necessarily used to this end; without them, there can be no facility of, or savings in, transportation [time]. The Council must make every effort to aid the respective ministers responsible for these areas, invent and propose to me the most effective means, and without constraint hasten the complete execution of these projects.

**161. Employment of troops in public works.** One important way to maintain and improve the vigor and robustness of the troops, their customs and discipline, is to employ them in public works, as was begun under my reign. . . .

**194.** So that the Treasury may flourish, it is necessary to develop the kingdom; that is, its population, agriculture, arts, industry and trade. I fear that more time and effort have always been spent in exacting or collecting taxes and rents, or in other areas of the royal Treasury, than in the cultivation of productive lands and the development of its inhabitants, who make this production possible. . . .

Cultivation consists of developing the population, as well as agriculture, the arts, industry, and trade. . . .

**205.** Products made or produced in foreign kingdoms should be prohibited, because they harm our national industry. . . .

—*translated from the Spanish by Cynthia Rush*