

on his behalf, alleging he was being punished before the courts had found him guilty. (This is a curious allegation as George Pottinger, the Scottish Civil Servant was placed on suspension with full pay pending his trial with Poulson this year. It would seem a normal thing for a college to do pending the outcome of the case).

The special committee appointed to investigate the business found that President Henry L. Ashmore had not abused his position in suspending the appellant. Our sympathies are with Professor Ashmore. The Departments of Sociology are hag-ridden with these attempts to introduce politics into science. The last time we lectured on Zimbabwe at this college the Negro students present stumped out two minutes after the start of the lecture although all that had been outlined to their hearing was that North Africa was part of the Carthaginian and Roman Empires, and was White.

R. GAYRE OF GAYRE

SLAVERY: PAST AND PRESENT

By Roy Pinney. Thomas Nelson Inc., New York, 1972. Pp. 155. Price \$4.95.

This book is good and bad in parts. The early part deals with early historic slavery. The second part deals with American, and it is here that one must take issue with the writer, not so much in the facts he gives, but the emphasis in his work. For instance, some Hausa and Fulani, just by chance, must have been enslaved, but they were very few against the whole. Again, to take Herkovitz and cite literally all the littoral races of Africa is wholly wrong. Perhaps a few elements came from the east coast of Africa but they could not have been many. Then, to say that priests and literate Moslems were among them, as though these were a large proportion, and so were more cultured than the slave owners, is wholly misleading. A few may have been enslaved. But on the whole it was those very literate Moslems who were enslaving the black Africans on their own behalf.

Again, while all the facts are quoted for the slavers delivering their slaves in good condition, some old stories are given of horrific voyages. Of course, there were bad passages, and indenture labourers from Europe, and the sailors too suffered from these as much as the slaves. This is not written to condone slavery, but at least to maintain a sense of proportion.

The bad conditions for transporting slaves came after the British and other countries made it illegal, and hunted down the slave ships at sea. As a consequence, these had to be faster vessels, and so less bluff in their proportions. This the author admits (pp. 97 and 98).

The author focuses in the latter part of his book, on slavery today. "Today, slavery has gone underground and, as a result, is cloaked in subterfuge and half-truths" (p. 105). I have, myself, seen slaves in families in Ethiopia, after Haile Selassie has proclaimed the ending of slavery in Ethiopia.

However, the writer's strictures on Portuguese Angola are simply not true, as far as the Portuguese themselves are concerned. He relies on Basil Davidson, which should be enough to disprove its authenticity. To equate contract labour with slavery is nonsense. To say that with the men away from the village the women are left to cultivate the fields alone (p. 113) shows how little the author is familiar with Africa. The man does not work—he hunts, he fights, he kills.

Again, speaking of Nigeria, to equate bride-price with slavery is, once again, nonsense.

In discussing Rhodesia, to suggest that because Rhodesian Whites earn as much as the African and Asian communities combined, that the latter is "bordering on slavery" is arrant nonsense. The inheriting of widows, in Rhodesia, in tribal law, is not slavery, but social security for these unfortunates.

This is why we call it good and bad in parts.

R. GAYRE OF GAYRE

THE PEOPLE OF AMERICA

By T. D. Stewart. Weidenfeld and Nicolson, London. Pp. 261, 18 illustrations, 34 figures. Price £4.95.

The author, in his preface, tries not to step out of line with modern interpretations of anthropology by citing UNESCO that the differences between human beings may be as great or greater than between races! Of course they may, but in a restricted number of characters. In questions between Caucasoid or Black, for instance, there is an absolute difference between eyes, hair, prognathism, lips, and formation of many other features. Furthermore, when it comes to the mental and psychic questions the averages differ. However, brushing this aside, as it is typical of the times in which we live, when to proclaim racial difference is a sin, we will proceed to look at his book in other respects.

This book attempts to summarise the history of man in America from the standpoint of physical anthropology. From our point of view, the main interest of the book rests in the first part, which deals with the land bridges between Asia and America and which allowed man to enter the latter.

He points out (p. 25) that Hrdlicka, the American anthropologist, found that some of the peoples of Eastern Siberia were Amerindian in appearance. Somewhere about 28,000 years ago, or more, man entered America (p. 28).

Unfortunately the author does not consistently follow the history or prehistory of the Amerindians, but jumps straight to the Columbian settlements. However, he does throw back to earlier periods later on. He thus discusses the coming of the Vikings in 1117 A.D., and later still the earlier prehistory of the continent.

It will be noted that cross-breeding with Europeans has resulted in the Eskimoes being "more mixed and their physical deterioration has increased" (p. 141).

It is my own belief that a proto-Australoid (related to the Asians) entered America from Asia, before the latter would drift, and both were of the O blood group. But the former were long skulled, so some of this element may account for the long skulls found in early Amerindian types.

Despite certain elements of criticism this is a worthwhile book to be read and studied carefully.

R. GAYRE OF GAYRE

BEFORE COLUMBUS: LINKS BETWEEN THE OLD AND ANCIENT AMERICA

By Cyrus H. Gordon. Turnhouse Press, London, 1972. Pp. 224, 44 illustrations. Price £2.75.

Dr Cyrus Gordon argues for the lack of total isolation of America before Columbus, and points to Negroid and Semitic types, in the form of pottery. It brings people across both oceans (p. 35).

In the fourth century B.C. Theopompus, a Greek, mentions an enormous "continent" outside the Old World. Diodorus Siculus in the first century