

curate, detailed structural knowledge is scarce for Central America. Utilizing petrographic techniques on rock samples taken throughout the whole country, *Volcanic History of Nicaragua* makes a contribution to the general geologic history of the area by focusing on two primary problems: deciphering the relations and relative ages of the various volcanic units found within the country and determining the age and origin of the Nicaraguan Depression.

The general organization of the study is concerned with the four physiographic areas of Nicaragua: the Pacific coastal plain, the Nicaraguan Depression, the interior highlands, and the Atlantic coastal plain. Within this framework the types of rocks found and their attributes are listed. Also, descriptions of faults and volcanoes are recorded.

While the conclusions regarding the geologic history of the country are general, the complexity and importance of volcanic activity in Nicaragua are conveyed. Perhaps the most important aspect of this report is that it has developed the background necessary for a more detailed investigation.

L.L.

*Cuna*. By JOANNE M. KELLY. New York, 1966. A. S. Barnes and Company. Pp. 440. \$7.50.

On the northeastern coast of Panama are the San Blas Islands—as many as the days of the year, according to Columbus. Miss Kelly has written an exciting book about the Cuna Indians, who occupy about twenty of the islands in this coconut-producing archipelago. Today this tribe numbers approximately twenty-five thousand.

Apparently bored with New York City, this young secretary tried to unravel the meaning of life from the jungle Indians. She seems to have succeeded: "I . . . found out what the reasons in my society for living and life were all about. They are the same as the reasons are to the Cuna: to live, to be happy, to have a home, . . .

to die content with the life one has lived" (p. 234). While the author puzzled about the big problems of life and death, she enjoyed the excitement associated with skin diving, spear fishing (including man-eating sharks and barracudas), a smuggling trip, and chicha feasts.

The book is not a serious anthropological study, and there are a few minor errors. Probably one should let the scientist account for the numerous albinos among the San Blas instead of attributing them to "European blood . . . from the Spanish era" (p. 55). Balboa, "the fencing master" did not hide in a barrel to escape from Spain (p. 24) but to escape his creditors in Santo Domingo. Apparently the author is not aware of the Black Legend which exaggerated not only the number of Indians killed by Spaniards but the original number as well.

Probably the most important part of the book comes as addenda. While waiting for her flight back to New York Miss Kelly witnessed the "flag incidents" and the bloody Panama riots of January, 1964. When she learned that all the killing had been caused by some American students at Balboa High School and members of the American Legion who refused to obey the law, she was justly angry: "I got up quickly and left the U.S.O. . . . I had to or I was going to murder that boy with my own hands" (for hurling a curse at every student in Panama) (pp. 436-437). If Miss Kelly had applied the same logic to the Central Zone area as she did to learning from the San Blas, however, she might have realized that friction, hostility, anger, and killing can take place without involving "leftists" or Cubans. Undoubtedly many Panamanians have been subject to the same kind of injustice which the author witnessed. This reviewer has observed them also—many of them, and prior to any talk of Cuba, Castro, and the Cold War. It is absurd to ascribe all friction today to Castro, Communism, and the Cold War. If all Americans had learned as much as Miss Kelly in her San Blas sojourn,

then many fatal errors and misunderstandings might have been avoided.

C. A. HAUBERG

St. Olaf College

among historians of North American and Latin American slavery.

FRANK OTTO GATELL

University of California, Los Angeles

*Historia de la esclavitud negra en Puerto Rico.* 2nd ed. By LUIS M. DÍAZ SOLER. Río Piedras, 1965. Editorial Universitaria, Universidad de Puerto Rico. Appendices. Bibliography. Index. Pp. 439. Paper. \$3.50.

Díaz Soler published his fine study of Puerto Rican slavery in 1953. This second, "corrected," edition is welcome for several reasons. The author has added an indispensable part of scholarly works, previously dispensed with—an index. And the book is more handsomely produced and legible this time, although the use of larger paper brought with it new pagination. Díaz dropped one appendix, a badly reproduced photo of a slave bill of sale, but there appear to be only the most minor changes in the text.

Rayford Logan reviewed the first edition (*HAHR*, XXXIV, 332-34) and noted: "Puerto Rico was fortunate in never having a large number of Negro slaves. . . . When emancipation was finally decreed in 1873, there were only 32,000 slaves in a total population of 617,328. Because of the small number . . . their treatment was generally better than elsewhere. . . . House slaves, field hands and slaves hired out by the day could obtain their freedom in eleven different ways. . . . Free Negroes, in the reviewer's judgment, seem to have been somewhat better off than those in the United States." These considerations are the meat of Díaz' interpretation. Although he does not minimize the fact that slavery was at worst raw coercion, and at best acquiescence drawn from the threat of coercion, his account is not an unbroken catalog of horrors.

It is a pity that Díaz did not add some afterthoughts to this edition reflecting upon the recent literature on slavery in the Americas, and the place of Puerto Rico in the current debates

*Yanqui, Come Back! The Story of HOPE in Peru.* By WILLIAM B. WALSH. New York, 1966. E. P. Dutton and Company. Illustrations. Pp. 192. \$4.95.

The miracles of modern medicine represent one of the most significant differentials between the developed and underdeveloped nations. Redressing this imbalance brings immediate and dramatic dividends in human, developmental, and social terms. This was amply demonstrated once again during the ten months in 1962-63, when volunteer doctors and nurses from the famed hospital ship *Hope* labored in Salaverry, Peru to bring the latest advances in the healing arts both to thousands of sick Peruvians and to the local physicians who would carry on the work after departure of the ship. Despite initial opposition from some few suspicious Peruvian doctors, the Communists, and Yankee-phobes, the staff of the *Hope* admirably achieved its principal task of treatment and instruction. According to Dr. Walsh, the *Hope* was greeted with jeers and departed with cheers.

This volume makes for interesting and occasionally inspiring reading. It contains no forbidding technical language that would discourage lay readers. At times, in fact, the "folksy" style of the author seems a bit contrived, as when he carefully preserves various "Hopie" nicknames for children, peddlers, and dogs of Salaverry. Walsh seldom departs from his principal task of informing the reader about the specific work of the ship. Thus he wisely avoids gratuitous comments on the history, culture, and politics of Peru. Readers will find very few errors in the book, although Cerro de Paseo is spelled three different ways (pp. 62-63), and there is one memorable reference to Peruvian "tribes of mestizos" (p. 40). The principal value of the