
NEW TITLES

*History***THE BLACK FAMILY IN
SLAVERY AND FREEDOM,
1750-1925**

By Herbert G. Gutman
Pantheon, 1976, 664 pp. \$15.95
L of C 76-7550
ISBN 0-394-47116-4

**PERSPECTIVES AND
IRONY IN AMERICAN
SLAVERY**

Edited by Harry P. Owens
Univ. Press of Miss., 1976
188 pp. \$8.50 cloth,
\$3.50 paper
L of C 76-18283
ISBN 0-87805-074-4
ISBN 0-87805-025-6 pbk.

**TOWARD A WARLESS
WORLD: The Travail of the
American Peace Movement,
1887-1914**

By David S. Patterson
Indiana, 1976, 339 pp. \$15
L of C 75-28916
ISBN 0-253-36019-6

For decades, American historians put credence in Ulrich Bonnell Phillips's *American Negro Slavery*, an anatomy of the South's "peculiar institution" that appeared in 1918. Later researchers focused on slavery's variety or long-term impact on Afro-Americans. Only recently have young revisionists examined the life of the slaves themselves; Gutman's new book is an awkwardly constructed but important example of this approach. He depicts the ironically persistent cohesiveness of the black family in the face of the slave masters. Its eventual fragmentation, he contends, came with the Great Depression, much later than other historians have assumed.

For the general reader, the results of additional recent research appear in handy form in papers given at a University of Mississippi conference in 1975. The essays edited by Owens provide a sampling of new methodologies and points of view that preoccupy contemporary historians. They include Carl Degler's comparisons of slavery in the United States and Latin America, Eugene Genovese's Marxist analysis, David Brion Davis's discussion of slavery's impact on the "American mind," Stanley Engerman's "cliometrics," William K. Scarborough's unyielding faith in the "virtues" of the slave South, John Blassingame's view of the "slave community," and Kenneth Stamp's reminder that historians in this field must depend on "treacherous," elusive sources.

In this balanced critique, Colgate historian David S. Patterson examines the American peace movement before World War I, a time of general tranquility and expanding interest in international affairs. Placing his subject in the broad context of the Progressive era, he shows that a general "shift in emphasis from

moral absolutes to specialized, utilitarian knowledge" paralleled the peace movement's change from simply opposing "imperialism" and "war" to advocating permanent international institutions such as a world court. Despite increasing membership and generous financial help from industrialists like Andrew Carnegie, however, the American peace movement failed to make a significant impact on Washington policy or even to develop a unified agenda for action. Why? In addition to external pressures, Patterson cites internal weaknesses: "ambiguous motives, divided loyalties, flawed perceptions, misguided tactics and strategy," and the upper-middle-class "elitism of peace advocates."

DIPLOMATS AND BUREAUCRATS: The First Institutional Responses to Twentieth-Century Diplomacy in France and Germany

By Paul Gordon Lauren
Hoover, 1976, 294 pp. \$11
L of C 75-29785
ISBN 0-8179-6531-9

Paul Lauren, a historian at the University of Montana, presents a compact account of the responses of the French and German Ministries of Foreign Affairs to the dramatic changes in European society brought about by World War I. Acceding to public demands for more open and accountable diplomacy, officials in Berlin and Paris transformed their simple, isolated ministries into complex, rational, and "politically active" bureaucracies. Although handicapped by insufficient analysis of his own rich data, Lauren is particularly interesting on innovations by both governments to promote overseas trade and to assume new responsibilities for internal, domestic propaganda.

GOYA and the Impossible Revolution

By Gwyn A. Williams
Pantheon, 1976, 194 pp. \$15
L of C 76-5945
ISBN 0-394-49304-4

Williams is a Welsh historian noted for his study of the French Revolution, *Artisans and Sans Culottes* (1968). He now makes a bold attempt at interpreting Goya's mind as a microcosm of the turbulence and contradictions of the Spain in which the artist lived until 1824, when he left France to paint and die in exile four years later. One virtue of Williams's book is that it provides a vivid, capsule account of Bourbon rule, Napoleon Bonaparte's installation of his brother Joseph as King of the Spaniards, the civil war of 1808-14, the famine of 1811-12, the Restoration of the