A History of American Life. Edited by Arthur M. Schlesinger and Dixon R. Fox. (12 vols., New York: Macmillan, 1927-1944. $4.00 per vol., $30.00 the set.)

A History of American Life was undertaken in the middle 1920's and planned by its editors as a means of bringing the social and cultural history of the nation into a more prominent position in American historiography. The volumes began appearing in 1927 when four of them were published, and the eight others projected have since appeared at irregular intervals. They have set a pattern where no pattern previously existed and have given much stimulus to further thought and research on the problem of an adequate synthesis of American cultural history. The appearance of Krout and Fox, The Completion of Independence, the last and one of the most successful of the volumes in the series makes it appropriate for those engaged with Pennsylvania history to examine the completed work in the light of their own interests.

As Pennsylvania was founded so late in the eighteenth century, it figures very little in Wertenbaker's First Americans 1607-1690. References to it are mainly incidental and for the most part refer to early home architecture. However, in Adams' Provincial Society, the state of the colony gains its rightful share of attention. In this volume the society of Pennsylvania is considered in relation to those of its sister colonies. The emergent culture and the racial groups which produced it, the agriculture and trade which supported it, and certain of its principal exponents like Franklin, receive their due. Greene's Revolutionary Generation, like most of the volumes in the series, eschews political and military history, and thus omits all but casual mention of the most spectacular part played by Pennsylvania in the Revolution. This is compensated for by a detailed discussion of some of the effects of the conflict on the composition of the society of the new commonwealth and the influence of these momentous experiences on its economy and culture.

The most effective treatment of Pennsylvania is found in the latest volume. Krout and Fox have the advantage of a high point in the Commonwealth's cultural history and they make good use of it. Philadelphia in the period, 1790-1830, was the Athens of America, the cultural capital of the nation which shed its light afar. Moreover, the western part of the state had

*Beginning with our next issue, this department will be edited by Dr. J. Orin Oliphant of Bucknell University.
grown beyond the stage of being a frontier post and Pittsburgh was becoming renowned as a center of activity, a gateway to the growing west.

The consideration of Pennsylvania's role having reached a high point in Krout and Fox, there now begins a slump. In Fish's *Rise of the Common Man* the references are fewer and more particularly devoted to two great institutional changes. One of these is the fight for free schools, and the other for the revision of the constitution in the direction of more democracy. In Cole's *Irrepressible Conflict* Pennsylvania seems to figure but little, but the phases of the life of the Commonwealth referred to are most significant, oil, coal and politics. In Nevin's *Emergence of Modern America* there is even less mention and this, unhappily, to slums and corruption.

From the viewpoint of Pennsylvania history the greatest surprise comes in Tarbell's *Nationalizing of Industry*. The great story of the growth of big business is told with only casual mention of the Commonwealth's great enterprises. One of the greatest phases of the nation's industrialization was the intensive development of the middle Atlantic region of which Pennsylvania is so large a part, but the author nowhere really develops this main theme. There are references to Carnegie, the Pennsylvania Railroad, oil, and the Homestead strike, but the part played by the region is not presented in anything like the fullness which its importance merited.

In Schlesinger's *Rise of the City*, there is as much consideration of the Commonwealth and of Philadelphia as their activities in that trend of the period would presumably warrant. In fact the author has the kindness to soften some of Philadelphia's shortcomings, but his allusions to Pittsburgh would hardly satisfy the most zealous of her citizens.

Faulkner scarcely mentions Pennsylvania in *The Quest for Social Justice*, except to include Penrose in the catalogue of the bosses. Here again a key situation is neglected. One of the greatest citadels which the advocates of reform had to attack was the peculiar structure which Pennsylvania's architects, the Camerons, Quay and Penrose had constructed. In many respects it was more cleverly conceived and more perfectly constructed than the other machines in the nation, and it should have had a careful analysis. In Slosson's *Great Crusade and After* we find that Philadelphia attempted a Sesquicentennial celebration of the Declaration of Independence, that the University of Pittsburgh erected a skyscraper and that Gifford Pinchot was governor.

From this review it can be seen that certain themes which have been recorded from time to time in the pages of this magazine may again be emphasized. This series on the whole represents rather accurately two facts. One is that there has never been a school of Middle Atlantic historians who have made the activities of that region as well known as have their brethren in New England, in the South and in the West. The other is that within Pennsylvania there has been so little real interest in the great social, industrial and political development of the Commonwealth since the 1830's. There is a dearth of material collected and of monographic writing. The official repositories of data, the historical societies in the main, and private collectors have been occupied largely with colonial and revolutionary interests.
However, there are signs on the horizon of a wider interest which it is hoped will flower, so that the writing of another history of "American Life" will not find so little to say about Pennsylvania.  

University of Pennsylvania  

ROY F. NICHOLS


To the growing company of distinguished early Pennsylvanians whom these latter days are honoring with biographies of the first quality, Dr. Wallace and Dr. Graeff have now added the name of Conrad Weiser. The records know him as "Province Interpreter;" to the Indians, who shared him with the White Men, he was Tarachiawagon, The Holder of the Heavens; while his strongest claim to the notice of his contemporaries and the remembrance of his posterity is his unremitting service as a builder and sustainer of Pennsylvania's policy toward the Indian tribes within its borders in the second third of the eighteenth century.

Like the greatest of his contemporaries, with whom he was sometimes associated in Indian affairs, Weiser was a many-sided man, typical of his time and place. Dr. Wallace, in his very excellent volume, labels this Indian ambassador "one of the world's great originals, a hot-headed, true-hearted, whimsical Jack-of-all-trades; a farmer and the owner of a tannery, one of the founders of Reading, Pennsylvania, a colonel on active service during the French and Indian War, the first President Judge of Berks County, a faithful husband and the father of fourteen children, a monk at Ephrata, a pillar of the Lutheran Church, a promoter of Moravian missions, a rebel in New York and a prisoner in an Albany jail, a hymn-writer, traveler, statesman, linguist, diplomat, and woodsman." The biography of such a man could not fail to be at once informative and entertaining; nor does it. But except for the strangely dark and tortured Ephrata episode and for a few personal glimpses (as into the contents of Weiser's library), in both these biographies it is chiefly the diplomat we see and the course of Indian affairs we follow.

The key to Pennsylvania's Indian relations in the second third of the century was the hegemony of the Six Nations. After 1732 it was, in Thomas Penn's words, the colony's policy "to strengthen the hands of the Six Nations, and enable them to be the better answerable for their Tributaries." This policy was formulated primarily by James Logan; it was sustained and strengthened through three decades by Conrad Weiser and his opposite number, "the Six Nations' proconsul at Shamokin," Shickellamy. With statesmanlike vision these three comprehended the outward thrust of the French and the English into the Ohio Valley and the necessary relations of each to the Six Nations and to the latter's nephews, the Delawares. The
removal of the Minisink Delawares from the Forks of the Delaware by the Philadelphia Conference of 1742 was, Dr. Wallace holds, essentially a local matter, which did not signify that the Delawares might hold no lands anywhere. Nonetheless, smarting under the humiliation of the status of "women," lying athwart the English settlements in Pennsylvania, this tribe was a useful tool ready for the hand of the French or of Quaker partisans equally. Conrad Weiser had had some part in formulating the policy to uphold the Six Nations' authority; his last public service, at Easton in 1758, saw Tedyuscung's submission at last to his uncles of the Six Nations and the restoration of peace after a short but frightful frontier war.

A cavalcade of Pennsylvanians marches through these volumes; and it is not the least merit of Dr. Wallace's book especially, that he characterizes each with a few deft (if caustic) strokes: Richard Peters is jealous and intriguing; Croghan's integrity is by no means beyond doubt; Israel Pemberton, King of the Quakers, is "eager, self-righteous, furtive, and complacent." Was Conrad the only honest man in provincial Indian affairs? Doubtless the works of Volwiler, Cummings, and Thayer would soften the verdict of Weiser's advocates.

Both volumes possess sketch maps—Dr. Wallace's are superior; and Dr. Graeff's book has some illustrations. Dr. Wallace's book is completed by an excellent index; Dr. Graeff's has none. Dr. Wallace's notes (printed at the back of the book in deference to what publishers fancy is the common wish) are in general to manuscript sources only; Dr. Graeff's notes, however, since they include some secondary materials, are more immediately helpful. Both authors have quoted from letters and journals, Dr. Wallace so extensively that his work in places possesses almost the value of a source itself. Yet, despite the staggering mass of detail which it must master, Dr. Wallace's prose is spirited and comfortable, catching the texture of the Indian mind and the flavor of the Indian idiom as well as the quality of Weiser and his associates. Dr. Wallace has written a careful, comprehensive, and understanding work, a stout and sturdy book worthy of its subject. Conrad Weiser would not ask a finer, fitter biography than this. Nor will we.

Dickinson College

Whitfield J. Bell, Jr.


The second volume of Muhlenberg's Journals begins with the entry for January 1, 1764, and closes with the entry for December 31, 1776. It therefore covers the period of controversy between Great Britain and thirteen of her American colonies and more than a year and a half of the war for American liberation. By years, this volume is very unevenly divided. The entries for the first two years fill 295 pages, those for the next eight years
fill 260 pages, and those for the last three years fill 217 pages. For some of the years the information given is decidedly skimpy.

One who turns to this volume expecting to find in it a year-by-year account of the events which brought on the War for American Independence will be disappointed. It is not a political diary. Indeed, only an occasional entry before 1775 would lead the reader to think that not all was well within the British Empire. Two such entries, however, are rather significant. On April 15, 1765, Muhlenberg wrote that news had been received from England that "the supreme government" intended to impose a stamp tax on the colonists. On October 5, 1765, he wrote that his parishioners, acting on his advice, had decided not to join the English in public mourning on the arrival at Philadelphia of a British shop bearing stamped papers. His reasons for thus advising them rested on two grounds: first, duty required the Germans to be subject to the authorities that had power over them, and, secondly, expediency dictated that the Germans refrain from letting the English egg them on so that later the English could not shift the blame to them. The position of Muhlenberg in this disturbing controversy was, indeed, an embarrassing one, for apart from his belief that it was his duty to teach his people to be obedient to the powers that be, he was himself, as he remarked, "doubly a subject" of George III, being by birth a Hanoverian and by naturalization a British subject.

In general, the subject matter of this volume is like that of the preceding one. It is in part a record of baptisms and confirmations, of marriages and funerals, of petty squabbles and puerile jealousies. But it is more than that. It is a record also of the doings of an energetic man burdened not only with pastoral duties, but also with a heavy correspondence; for Muhlenberg was in fact bishop without miter of a vast diocese that extended from Canada in the south to Nova Scotia in the north.

Two events of more than ordinary significance will attract the attention of the reader of this volume. One of these was Muhlenberg's long trip by sea from Pennsylvania to South Carolina and Georgia, between August, 1774, and March, 1775. It was not a pleasure trip, but a trip made in pursuit of duty. The other event was the war itself, which was coming on apace when Muhlenberg arrived home from the South. The quarrel between the colonies and the mother country Muhlenberg could let pass with scant notice, but a civil war that spread its desolations through the land he could not possibly ignore. So as we turn the closing pages of this volume we become painfully aware of the social dislocations the war was making. We learn that men were dying, and that women and children were weeping.

Toward the end of this volume the reader will come upon a discordant note. Thirty-four years of labor in the New World had taken their toll; Muhlenberg was getting old, and by 1776 his groans were becoming habitual. In the spring of that year, as he was once more establishing a new residence, he summed up his pilgrimage in America in these words: "This is the eighteenth time . . . that I have changed my residence. I have been like an Arab who pitches his tent first here, then there." In July, 1776, he complained that he could no longer endure riding a horse, and in September
of that year he could not help writing that he was "feeling all sorts of pains in this broken down old body as the equinoctial time is at hand." On the last day of that year he wrote that he had become "an unprofitable burden to the earth."

Not until the third and final volume of the *Journals* has appeared will it be possible for anyone to make a just appraisal of this work. It can now be said, however, that the high standards of editing revealed in the first volume have been maintained in the second, and it is perhaps not too early to say that this work will rank as one of the great American diaries of the eighteenth century. Fortunately, a comprehensive index is promised as a part of the third volume.

Bucknell University

J. ORIN OLIPHANT


Mr. Luthin might well have given as a subtitle to his little book the heading which fronts one of its chapters: The Triumph of Availability. The work is, as a matter of fact, primarily a series of case studies in which the principal aspirants to the Republican nomination in 1860 are held up to the light in an attempt to clarify their weaknesses and strength. Lincoln emerges as the only candidate around whom the polyglot Republicans could rally their party as a whole. Seward "was too radical on the slavery question"; too suspect by the Native Americans; and too close to the "alleged corruption" of Weed. Toward Chase there was displayed similar distrust by the conservatives and anti-foreigners, and he was further tainted with erstwhile Democratic leanings and free trade sentiments. Edward Bates of Missouri was looked upon as still too close to the "Americans" to woo the important German vote. Cameron's appeal was too limited, his reputation as spoilsman too notorious, for his candidacy to be considered seriously. Similar disabilities destroyed the hopes of Justice McLean of Ohio, Governor Banks of Massachusetts, and others in the field. In the words of Mr. Luthin, "There remained Abraham Lincoln."

The scope of the work is actually much narrower than the title would indicate. Only four chapters out of thirteen (excluding a summary) deal with the actual campaign, the others being primarily concerned with analyses of Republican greats and Lincoln's victory at the Chicago convention. Nor should one, despite the ambitious jacket blurb, look here for any treatment of the activities of Lincoln's opponents except in their northern campaigns. There is not, for example, a single reference to a newspaper in any of the states later to form the Confederacy. Even granting the sectional nature of the Republican party and the limitations of its own appeal, such a treatment can produce only an incomplete picture of the "first Lincoln campaign," unless that phrase be given a very limited interpretation indeed.

The major weakness of the work, however, is its failure to illustrate what Mr. Luthin designates in his summary as the principal secret of Republican success. "In spite of this diversity of aim among Republicans,"
he says, "it cannot be denied that the major issue, when the party was considered as a whole, was that of slavery extension . . . they were aware of the psychological and emotional factors surrounding slavery as a vote-getting issue. They exploited these possibilities to the full. . . ." If this is true, Mr. Luthin has seemingly overlooked a major opportunity by neglecting to explain to the reader how it was done, for nowhere in his account does such "exploitation" receive much attention.

Despite these weaknesses, which may well have been occasioned by an attempt to do too much in 227 pages, the work is of great value as a summary of the first Republican presidential success. Especially helpful and enlightening is the author's analysis of local political situations in the various states. His account of Simon Cameron and Andrew Curtin as leading figures in one of the pivotal areas of the campaign should prove of real interest and value to Pennsylvania readers.

Loyola University of the South

JOSEPH G. TREGLE, JR.


This tercentenary volume is a reminder to the public of the many-sided nature of William Penn's contributions to American civilization. Without attempting to assess the historical importance of Penn's contributions, it sets forth those of Penn's ideas on self-government, on toleration, on the rights of individuals, on world peace which antedate the ideals or aspirations of the vast majority today. For the most part, the editors allow Penn to do most of the talking himself, through letters and his formal writings. Besides, various constitutional documents, such as the Charter of Privileges of 1701, Penn's Essay towards the present and future peace of Europe . . . , as well as Fruits of Solitude and its sequel are reprinted in full, and of themselves make the volume worthwhile.

Since Remember William Penn is a presentation of Penn's contributions to American life, the editors have not given us a biography. Indeed, from the point of view of biography, the volume would be badly out of focus, for only those aspects of Penn's life that have a modern flavor are given much attention. There is relatively little, for example, on his religious preoccupations. To be sure, a competent, though brief, chapter indicates the extent to which Penn's religious faith in God and man determined his views in every field. His faith in man made him champion the ancient rights of Englishmen. The editors have reprinted, with some additional comment, the thrilling court record of Penn's trial for breach of the peace in 1670. The trial, which turned into a test of the independence of juries, shows Penn in the somewhat unfamiliar role of crusader. His brilliance at the law and his courageous tenacity before a hostile bench give this incident a dramatic quality that should make it take a prominent place in the traditions of democracy. The editors give due prominence to his less spectacular, though
undoubtedly more solid contributions to liberty in his organization of the
government in Pennsylvania.

While Penn's faith in the virtues of self-government and of civil liberties
has generally triumphed in this country, some of his ideas still lack realiza-
tion. The editors state that world peace is the only one of Penn's objectives
remaining unachieved. To this, however, should be added Penn's concern
over justice in the relations between peoples of different races and levels of
culture. The chapter on his Indian policy reminds us that Penn is still
ahead of us here. Still more timely is his little essay on peace, dated
though it is in many ways. In particular, his diagnosis of the problem of
peace commends our attention, for, although he finds the roots of war in
human nature, he remains nevertheless an optimist, believing that human
lust can be canalized and pacified by proper institutions. To this end he
prescribed a Diet of Europe, a supergovernment with power to coerce mem-
ber states. This alone is reason enough for remembering William Penn.
Brattleboro, Vt. Daniel S. Allen

Byways in Quaker history. A collection of historical essays by colleagues
and friends of William J. Hull. Edited by Howard H. Brinton. (Wall-
ingford, Pendle Hill, 1944. Pp. x, 246.)

In the introduction Brinton states that the purpose of the volume is "to
honor a beloved Quaker historian by enlarging the dramatic record of a
religious group whose participation must be taken into account in any
complete history of American life and thought." Unfortunately, many of
the essays fall short of this ambitious goal. Some of the contributors have
emphasized the "byways" of the title at the expense of the "history." All
too many of them throw all too little new light on the place of Quakers in
American life. And, while some of the material is new, many of these topics
have little of the dramatic about them. The heavy hand of the antiquarian
is sometimes present, effectively preventing an imaginative treatment of
minutiae which alone can give them a general significance.

In spite of these general shortcomings, there is much excellent material
in the volume. D. Elton Trueblood has an excellent biographical essay on
the poorly illumined life of the schismatic Elias Hicks. Even though this
rustic Quaker has historical standing of his own, Trueblood takes pains
to point out that his life is worth illuminating because of his influence on
Walt Whitman, if nothing else. There are three essays on Whittier. In
the first of them, Rufus Jones analyzes the poet's religious faith, emphasiz-
ing the mystical elements, although he notes that in combining mysticism
with a keen interest in the secular welfare of society Whittier was easily
the most illustrious Friend of his day. Perhaps none of the contributions
stress Quaker participation in American life as much as C. Marshall Taylor's
somewhat uncritical yet revealing picture of Whittier enjoying himself
thoroughly in the maze of professional politics. One or two of the essays
provide quite exhaustive study of some minor problem. Most successful of
these is T. E. Drake's examination of the life of Elihu Coleman, a Nantucket Quaker of the eighteenth century, who has gone down in history as the second New Englander to write against slavery.

There are other essays of value and interest, including Janet Whitney's biographical essay on William I. Hull, and a highly philosophical critique of the original doctrine of the Inner Light. Yet one can only regret that some of the contributors had not selected byways with wider vistas, less remote from the highways of American history.

Brattleboro, Vt.

**DANIEL S. ALLEN**


The need for a biography of Prince Demetrius Augustine Gallitzin may not be urgent, but Daniel Sargent's book makes a contribution that one would wish not to ignore—a contribution to the religious and social history of the United States in general and of Pennsylvania in particular.

Gallitzin, who was the son of a Russian prince imbued with the Enlightenment and of a German lady once imbued, but subsequently reconverted to the Catholicism of her childhood, was sent to this country in 1792 to continue his education by travel and observation. Dominated by his mother's influence, he sailed for Baltimore in the company of a man who was to assist Bishop Carroll as a missionary priest; and although he had never before given evidence of an idea, he must have reached a conclusion en route, for when on arrival he was presented to the Bishop, he indicated that he, too, might like to become a missionary priest. And so, lodging first at the Sulpician Seminary in Baltimore, then attending Georgetown, he underwent training that in March, 1795, culminated in his being the first priest wholly created in the United States.

The sedentary life his career had forced upon him had both impaired his health and produced a restless desire to be on the move, and he therefore requested to be sent to an active life in the hinterland. Eventually he discovered the place he wished to be and in 1799 was appointed to a sparsely settled community in the Alleghenies. Here he founded Loretto, and here he spent the rest of his life, serving his congregation in a manner that earned him praise from Protestants as well as Catholics. There were difficulties, to be sure, difficulties mainly the result of his peculiar temperament. Naive when he should have been shrewd, passive when he should have acted, impulsive when quiet inaction might have served him better, he was often involved in personal and factional quarrels and, which was worse, in debt. But the debt was as much a measure of his efficacy in gathering Catholics as it was of his impracticality. He had relied on his inheritance from abroad, which, because of his religion and also because of an irresponsible brother-in-law, was never fully paid him. But what he had done with such money as he had been given, or such as he had succeeded in
borrowing, was to buy up large tracts of land to sell at reduced rates to Catholic settlers. This was one way he could develop a congregation.

Indeed, it is the story of the less personal struggles in Loretto that comprises the valuable portion of Mr. Sargent’s book. By means of a few original documents, hitherto unpublished or printed in obscure volumes, and in terms of the life of an individual, Mitri affords glimpses of what it meant to live in that region during the first forty years of the last century and what it meant to be a Catholic in this country. The effects of improved communications, of increased political activity, of immigrating Irish Catholics are all reflected in the attitudes of the backwoodsmen who lived in Loretto or nearby. Of course, the deeds of the Nativists are familiar. And many of the problems pertaining to the development of the Catholic Church organization, particularly in cases in which population density was a factor, have been written about before. But less familiar, and certainly worth the recounting, is the way the Church was able to take root in isolated rural areas. There some adaptation to the needs of simpler forms had to occur, and Gallitzin’s life is an excellent vehicle for portraying the process.

Since there is this much of value in the book, it is unfortunate that there is also much to repel a reader. For the first quarter of the story, when the focus should be upon the boy, it is upon the mother, who, in her circle of intellectuals, is so frequently patted on the head and playfully referred to by Mr. Sargent that she scarcely attains the dignity of Walt Disney’s most naive creations. And the circle itself is made to consist of some very quaint and funny little people with great big ideas. Even Goethe, who is introduced into this noble company, emerges as first cousin to Mickey Mouse. In consequence, Mitri, as he is called by his parents, never comes to life, and so there is no preparation for his subsequent mental and spiritual development. Worse, Mr. Sargent himself maintains a parental attitude throughout the book and persists in referring to Gallitzin as “Mitri” until the good father is lowered into the ground. As distressing, Mr. Sargent also at times, and in the same tone of voice, becomes nauseatingly coy (e.g., “The French Revolution was . . . continuing its course unaffected by Mitri’s departure.”) and at other times depressingly silly in inaccurate simplifications (e.g., “But there was one man in the United States who had a more difficult task than anyone else in his own land or in Europe. It was John Carroll of Baltimore. . . .”). Add to all this the fact that the author never allows his own Catholic predilections to be forgotten (those Unitarians seem still to have been a pretty devilish lot), and that he sometimes speculates when he might document, and you have a book which is likely to make non-Catholics feel like eavesdroppers, and Catholics feel like victims of a lecture addressed to children.

Yet one must repeat, despite these faults, which are primarily of presentation, Mitri contains material worth notice. The historian of American culture will have to read at least two thirds of the book to be certain his own last word is definitive.

Cornell University

ROBERT H. ELIAS

Highly laudable interests and enterprises do not always produce laudable results. This volume well demonstrates that fact. The subject is worthy of a volume in the Pennsylvania Lives, but while the amount of time and effort involved was obviously great, the organization, scholarship and format of the treatise do not measure up to desirable standards. It is true that it furnishes light on Arthur St. Clair in the old Northwest, but the light is very irregular. The author is an antiquarian. Logical and justifiable defense of his hero is tinged with apology, sometimes accompanied by soliloquy. Chronological sequence and development are none too well preserved. It is also true that the reader gets a picture of Arthur St. Clair from the cradle to the grave, but much of the story is episodical and some of it is highly irrelevant. Since the volume is without footnote documentation and the bibliography contains only thirteen references, the value of the publication to scholars is only incidental. The usual defects of untrained authorship and semi-private printing are inevitably present. Long quotations are used as a component part of the text. Errors of fact are numerous. Members of the Royal American Regiment (p. 6) did not all come from overseas. The old Glade Road (p. 11) did not pass Ligonier. Kentucky (p. 45) is not visible from Marietta, Ohio. The English of the volume is none too good. The volume should not have been published before it was well edited and well proof-read. Somewhat obviously, this treatise was a work of love rather than of skill, so far as the author was concerned. And it is not too much to suggest that it was merely printed and not professionally published.

University of Pittsburgh

ALFRED P. JAMES


One who has been active in the practice of medicine for the greater part of a long life should certainly have much to write about. One such as Dr. Tryon, whose interesting years of practice in the Pennsylvania Dutch country were followed by work in many parts of the world, has written much that will hold the interest of a variety of readers. Physicians will find discussed here many of their own types of cases, patients, and procedures. Many will disagree with Dr. Tryon's techniques. Many more will find his approach an effective, common-sense one. The general reader, taken on a journey from Hamburg, Pennsylvania to Atlanta, Georgia, by way of Paris, Estonia, Hawaii, Pittsburgh, and Florida, will enjoy Dr. Tryon's independence and humor and will experience something of his lifelong spirit of restlessness. The historian, while being entertained, will appreciate this survey of an America moving from the horse-and-buggy days (Dr. Tryon did much walking before he could afford to ride!) to one busy demobilizing its millions of veterans, a task now providing Dr. Tryon with another field for his talents. Observations on the Pennsylvania Dutch, the
author’s career as a doctor in a group of mining towns before the day of widespread recognition of workers’ rights, and his part in Europe’s reconstruction after the first world war when he helped to break the back of an epidemic of typhoid fever—these will particularly interest the historian.

Dr. Tryon’s experience provides no exception to the generalization that a physician’s work is always interesting to the layman, although a fuller discussion of some cases would have been desired. But it is not fair to expect more than the author intended. He wanted to reminisce and not to write a medical case book. He wanted to discuss his professional creed, the foundations of which are his genuine feeling for his fellow men and his life-long conviction that general practice consists of more than the dispensing of medicine. He wanted to assess his own life’s successes and failures. The attempt, although not profound, will undoubtedly interest many. Judging these memoirs for what they are and not for what they make no pretense of being, one may say that they certainly contain an evening’s diversion for both general reader and general practitioner and, perhaps, for the professional historian.

University of Pennsylvania

John J. Reed


This new textbook, as the title implies, is written solely for Pennsylvania students of civics in response to an insistent and growing demand from teachers and school administrators for a sound, interesting, accurate, and stimulating treatment of the Pennsylvania governmental system.

The plan of the book is patterned on the outline for a course in Social Sciences, Grade Nine, as suggested by the Pennsylvania Department of Public Instruction. The text is excellently organized in three parts. Part I, “Citizenship in the American Community,” begins with a chapter on the community, and in the subsequent three chapters treats the American system of government, and the people’s part in it. The student is introduced in Part II, “Our Local, State and National Government,” to the Pennsylvania local and state governments, their growth, powers and organization. This is followed by chapters on the national government, the United States and other nations, and the cost of government. Part III, “Government’s Work for the Welfare of All,” contains six chapters devoted to the consideration of crime and its control, health and safety of Pennsylvania communities, education, regulation of business and industry, community planning and “looking forward.”

Each chapter closes with instructional aids. These consist of a vocabulary drill or word study, questions on the text, and suggested activities for further study.

Throughout the book the authors have tried to treat the subject as simply as possible. The attractive format, the authors’ interesting style and excellent vocabulary will have a definite student appeal.

Old Forge, Pa.

Harry Dorosh