
We Americans are supposed to have been traditionally distrustful of anything that smacked of the "welfare state." Under what circumstances, then, did we come to nourish the idea that it is the responsibility of local government to provide its citizens upon demand and for a limited period with copies of The Big Fisherman or Point of No Return? This is the question which Mr. Shera sets out to answer as he traces the growth of the public library idea in New England from the little collection of theological works which accompanied a shipload of Salem settlers in 1629 to the Boston Public Library, opened to the citizenry just two and a quarter centuries later.

The patron of the earliest public library in Boston turns out to have been that egregious profiteer Robert Keayne, who left money in 1656 to build a Town House containing a library. Private philanthropy was responsible for the establishment of a number of other town libraries before the middle of the eighteenth century, notably the Redwood Library in Newport.

The real impetus came with the vogue of the "social library" (familiar to students of Pennsylvania history as the "library company"), which lasted from the middle of the eighteenth to the middle of the nineteenth century. Incidentally, Mr. Shera questions Benjamin Franklin's claim that the Library Company of Philadelphia was "the mother of all North American subscription libraries," for he knows of no evidence that it had any influence on the social libraries founded in Connecticut in the 1730's.

He discusses the rise of the circulating or rental library, which first appeared in Boston in 1765. Rental libraries then as now tended to specialize in fiction for women readers. One notes what may have been the origin of a significant recent bibliothecal tendency in the fact that one Thomas Porter of Salem conducted a circulating library in connection with "a fountain of soda water which cools the blood, restores appetite and exhilarates the system without intoxication." Perhaps he prescribed his soda water for readers whose blood was overheated by the novels of seduction and horror which he purveyed.

The public library in the modern sense, Mr. Shera finds, was born in Peterborough, New Hampshire, in 1833, when tax money was first used to establish and maintain a collection of books for the people of the town. It was, however, with the creation of the Boston Public Library (opened in 1854) that the public library movement might be said to have "arrived."
Mr. Shera serves notice in his Introduction that he is committed to the principle that "the origins of any social agency must be sought in the internal constitution of the social milieu." In consequence, we are treated to a great variety of "social forces," "economic backgrounds," "cultural relationships," "causal factors," and the like. Despite his addiction to this kind of jargon, the author, to give him due credit, manages to bring in a great amount of relevant historical information which helps to explain the emergence of the public library in New England.

My only serious quarrel is with his consistent tendency to underrate the significance of the Puritan tradition among his "causal factors." In general, he regards Puritanism as something which inhibited the development of New England's culture—an iceberg which had to be melted before anything of value in the realm of the spirit could flourish. One might have expected to encounter this view twenty-five years ago, but hardly in a contemporary scholar so widely read in the primary and secondary materials on New England culture as Mr. Shera shows himself to be. Towards the end of his book, to be sure, he somewhat grudgingly acknowledges that "the position of pre-eminence attained by Puritan intellectualism in the American cultural heritage is clear," but the second half of this sentence—"and the early public libraries, as shaped by their coeval culture, could scarcely have escaped the influence of the church" (p. 240)—seems a curiously oblique and inadequate appraisal of what was surely a major source of the distinctive New England tradition of literacy and bookishness.

With this single qualification I recommend this book to anyone interested in the growth of the instrumentalities of American cultural life.

Friends Historical Library

of Swarthmore College


This delightful book is composed of the following parts: acknowledgments in a ten-page introduction by the compiler; a reproduction in color of a painting of Wilkes-Barre and vicinity, the work of an unknown artist about 1845; a section in which the plates are identified and their provenance given; an index; and finally, the 106 plates themselves, in black and white.

The first thirty-four reproductions depict early scenes in the Wyoming Valley, including several of the massacre. One of the latter, entitled "Disastre de Vioming" (Plate 15), is a French version of the catastrophe. Those interested in the history of the coal industry in the Valley will find some pictures of significance in this section. No. 23, for instance, shows an early coal mine of 1808.
For those of us who live near the historic forks of the Susquehanna River, the plates beginning with No. 35 are most appealing. The compiler uses some of the famous Bartlett drawings in this section. I have had several Bartletts—in color—hanging in my home for a number of years. No. 49, called "View of Northumberland," shows up pretty well in black and white, but it is much better in color, the form in which I have it. Bartlett's "View of the Susquehanna," which pictures the three-cornered island above Owego, has been copied by others (Nos. 41 and 42). I wish the compiler might have found room for Bartlett's striking "View on the Susquehanna, at Liverpool."

Especially noteworthy is No. 45, which is the only contemporary picture of Azilum. It was done by Comte de Colbert-Maulevrier and is from the collection of Comte Paul de Leusse, Paris. The drawing, entitled "Northumberland et Sunbury au Confluent des 2 branches de la Susquehannah" (No. 47), done in 1798, comes from the same hand and the same collection.

Residents of the Lehigh Valley will enjoy No. 61 and others following it, which show how coal was brought down from the mountain back of Mauch Chunk. Denizens of Bethlehem will welcome the early views of their town. The Delaware Water Gap is represented in a number of pictures, all interesting. George Inness's troubles with the president of the Delaware and Lackawanna Railroad should be read in connection with No. 106.

All in all, this is a wonderful book. I recommend it without reservation.

Susquehanna University

William A. Russ, Jr.


The earliest history of the New World, with all the great literature of discovery and exploration, used to be the favorite theme of American historians, and for many years was the most familiar part of our national folk-lore. In the past half-century, however, the scope of American studies has so broadened, and so many new materials have confronted the historian, that the exhilarating adventure of European peoples which first opened the fringes of this continent has become a neglected rather than the most familiar part of our story. Indeed, as Dr. Carl Bridenbaugh has so frequently pointed out, colonial history is now relegated to a minor place in our studies, and in many colleges is entirely disregarded.

That is why the materials of this book will seem a simple retelling of an old, familiar tale to a few of the readers of this quarterly, but for the vast majority will contain much that seems fresh and new.

R. V. Coleman is a distinguished editor and publisher, skilled in history. To him belongs much of the credit for the great DAB; he has been co-editor of the Dictionary of American History, the Atlas of American History, and the Album of American History. He is a clever writer, who knows what the needs of the largest reading public are; he likewise has the touch of scholarship. To the teacher looking for agreeable and stimulating collateral assignments, no recent book on America of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries will be more apt.

The First Frontier is designed to be "the inside story of how this country
began...why the first settlers came, what sort of people they were, how they made their livings, how they behaved, what they thought about.” Briefly and incisively, with literary skill and from the best sources, Coleman describes the Indian natives of the continent, the first voyages of the Spaniards, British, French, Dutch, and Swedish enterprises, and social life in the seaboard commonwealths. His eye for color, his skill in biographical sketches, his sense of adventure and of steady movement, all give his pages an appeal which few other short general books in colonial history have.

There are weaknesses, of course. Coleman is writing social history, not economic or political. His emphases are distributed unevenly. He is also covering a very large canvas, and in spots his picture is a mere sketch. But the whole impression is vivid, authentic, entertaining. His story stops with the Restoration in 1660; consequently neither Penn nor Pennsylvania appears; but chapters on “The Tobacco Colonies,” “The Puritan Colonies,” and on the Restoration are fresh and surprisingly original. Abundant illustrations are well-chosen and helpful. Students accustomed to monographic style will find Mr. Coleman’s refreshing prose a welcome relief.

The Story of Snyder County [Pa.]. By George F. Dunkelberger (Selinsgrove, Pa.: Snyder County Historical Society, 1948. Pp. xviii, 982. $8.00.)

The history of a county should be written in a large setting rather than in a strictly local one, and by a person having wide experience. It should be accurate so that researchers and others can depend on it. A number of the histories of counties in Pennsylvania and its neighboring states have been prepared hastily and have been issued as commercial ventures. Many others have been compiled by persons who labored diligently in their writing but within rather narrow horizons.

The present book was in the making over a period of approximately eight years, and was issued as a public service. It was prepared with painstaking care by Dr. Dunkelberger, who is not only a native of Snyder County and a long-time resident therein, but a mature scholar as well. From 1926 to 1946 he was professor of education and psychology in Susquehanna University, at Selinsgrove, and from 1926 to 1937 he was dean of that university. The volume fills a gap, for it is the only book devoted entirely to an over-all picture of Snyder County, which is situated in central Pennsylvania and inhabited largely by Pennsylvania Germans.

The book gives considerable evidence of the large setting, such, for instance, as the opening chapter, which deals with Governor Simon Snyder, the man for whom the county was named, chapter seven entitled “The Indians of Pennsylvania and of the Susquehanna Valley,” chapter eight entitled “Conrad Weiser and the Indian Chief Shikellamy,” chapter nine entitled “Indian Troubles within the Territory now Snyder County and the Adjacent Areas,” and those portions of chapter ten which are devoted to the prevailing population of the county, the Pennsylvania Germans. (See pages 249-256, dealing with the Pennsylvania German dialect, and pages 259-271, dealing with the characteristics of the Pennsylvania Germans.)
This book contains a vast amount of detailed information concerning economic development, political life, and the social customs of the people from the time of the pioneers to recent years. Thirty-nine illustrations include maps, portraits of prominent men, and pictures of early houses, courthouses, schoolhouses, churches, and bridges. The lack of an index impairs the value of the book as a work of reference.

Fortunately, the "current biography" feature, which occupies a large portion of quite a number of the county histories of Pennsylvania and of other states and which is used to promote sales, is not found in the present work.

The preface leads one to infer that much of the information in the book was obtained through interviews with many people in all parts of the county, from records at the courthouses at Middleburg, Lewisburg, Sunbury, and Harrisburg, from state officials at Harrisburg, and from Snyder County newspapers. The book does not bristle with footnotes, or with citations in the text, referring to the specific sources from which the information was drawn. This lack may have been intentional, for the purpose of making the work more interesting than otherwise for the general reader. Some persons would prefer many more citations of sources than are given, but they will have little if any reason to believe that the statements in the book are unsupported by fact.

At the end of each of twenty of the thirty-six chapters there is a section entitled "Selected Readings" which includes from two to thirty titles cited in extremely brief form and without page references.

Parts of this book are likely to be of interest to a few persons who have never lived in Snyder County. Among these are the sections dealing with "trolley" and bus transportation between Selinsgrove and Sunbury (pp. 481-488) and those dealing with the suit for damages resulting from a railroad accident at Kreamer (pp. 591-596).

The book definitely should be added to any general collection on the history of Pennsylvania and to every collection on the history of the Pennsylvania Germans.

U. S. Department of Justice

HOMER T. ROSENBERGER


In this lively little book Professor Rogers takes apart "The New Science of Public Opinion Measurement," and finds that it is neither a science nor a method of measuring public opinion. The pollsters, it appears, have never attempted to define what it is they are measuring, nor have they articulated their "premises as to the nature of the political society in which public opinion should be the ruler." They mistake the American constitutional system for a town-meeting government. They assume that majority rule should operate automatically, and that offhand answers of a selected sample of people add up to public opinion. "For the pollsters to maintain that percentage of 'yeses,' 'noes,' 'no opinion,' 'never heard of it,' disclose public opinion on [matters] to which many respondents may not have given a moment's thought . . . is to advertise a mouthwash as a cure for anemia."
But Rogers does not condemn all polls. Properly used, he sees them serving many useful purposes. It is the exaggerated claims and the boasts of the pollsters which he explodes with biting demonstrations. The answers from a representative sample on preferring beer in cans or in bottles, or kitchen soap in flakes or cakes, can be relied upon. Polls on a variety of questions have become a new kind of newspaper reporting which gives the reading public new data that may be worth analysis. Even public administrators have found polls of value in guiding policies and in choosing methods of putting them into effect. But when it is suggested that polls “may reflect the wishes of the electorate more faithfully than elections,” that they might “implement democracy scientifically,” or that they “count the public pulse,” then, according to Rogers, the $100,000,000 polling business is misbranding its products.

Although the book is severely critical, and occasionally labors its points, it is constructive; it informs while it criticizes. It contrasts polling, for example, with the methods of a British organization known as “Mass Observation.” This deals with private opinions rather than “opinion,” and informs rather than measures. Those who conduct polls are dependent on answers given to strange interviewers; what people say to friends, to their wives, to themselves, may be quite different. “In the mind is the private thought, on the tongue public statements.” What people say they will do, or think they will do, is not necessarily what they actually will do.

An illuminating chapter discusses the nature of public opinion and makes plain why public opinion can not be measured by the pollsters’ methods, if at all. How can the intensity of feeling, the determination of minorities whose opinions often come to prevail, be measured? If a majority prefers coffee to tea, is that knowledge public opinion? Can the method of adding up “yeses” and “noes” measure attitudes of groups of people toward political and social issues? Do answers to questions without discussion of issues make real opinions? And, in making up public opinion, how many uninformed answers are equal to an answer of one informed leader and advocate?

Finally, there is a notable discussion of origins and characteristics of popular government, of functions of public representatives in relation to constituencies, and of the part that leadership and discussion play in making public opinion and determining action by democratic states. Emphasizing the basic issues of freedom and government which the pollster business bypasses, the author points out that it may do more harm than misbranding. And it is quite unable to give any guidance to modern democracies in dealing with the threatening problems that now face them. The book is no mere critique of polling. It is also a popular, though scholarly, restatement of the fundamentals of popular government.

*Washington, D. C.*

WILLIAM M. LEISENSON


The problem of the immigrant in America has produced many and varied responses in this country—nativism, bigotry and intolerance in the first part
of the nineteenth century, economic exploitation in the second half, attended
by a realization of the dangers of an immigrant flood, and finally the attempt
at assimilation—the "melting pot"—of the late nineteenth and early twenti-
eighth centuries. In this latter phase came the Americanization movement. Social
workers realized the plight of the foreign-born, political reformers found him
a problem child, industry and labor considered him under some conditions a
liability. He had to be assimilated.

The social and educational movement to assist this process soon received
powerful allies. Patriotic societies feared for the safety of the country; conser-
ervative groups were concerned over the infiltration of foreign radicalism;
all were alarmed lest a lower standard of living and illiteracy prevent assim-
ilation. Then came World War I. The foreign-born naturally showed a
sympathy for the homeland, and thus led the patriot to doubt the loyalty of
the so-called "hyphenated American." With our entrance into the war, how-
ever, Americanization became a patriotic crusade, a morale-building program
for prosecuting the war, and an attack on divided loyalties. Foreign-born
citizens were praised for their virtues in support of the "Great Crusade," but
their lapses were thrown into high light. Illiteracy as revealed by tests given
to drafted men was shockingly high. There was thus disclosed an even
greater need for teaching the English language than many had thought.

Postwar hysteria, 1918-1921, brought out a new phase of the Americaniza-
tion movement. Bolsheviks and I.W.W.'s aroused new fears and intensified
the drives, which sometimes became vicious—attacks were made on "teaching
an enemy language"; foreign cultures were impugned; and some of the im-
migrants likened Americanization to the "Prussianizing" or "Magyarizing"
of minorities in the old world. But this hysteria subsided as the "Red Scare"
passed.

The Americanization movement is described by Dr. Hartman with meticu-
losous detail regarding organizations, committees, legislation (municipal, state,
and national), publications, and educational programs. Since these were fre-
quently similar, the recital is somewhat tedious. But it is an important record
and it is ably presented. It discloses American idealism, educational progress,
and experiment, as well as the "movement" which often gets out of hand. In
retrospect it holds much of value for the educator and the social scientist. The
author concludes that the movement, "Idealistic in tone, nationalistic in goal,
patriotic in expression, . . . takes its place alongside those other crusades of
the past, abolitionism, woman's suffrage, civil service reform and universal
education."

Albright College

Milton W. Hamilton

Sons of Science: The Story of the Smithsonian Institution and its Leaders.
By Paul H. Oehser. (New York: Henry Schuman [1949]. Pp. xvii,
220. $4.00.)

This book is the seventh in the series, The Life of Science. It consists of
biographies of the original benefactor, of the five secretaries whose services
have been completed, and of others connected with the Smithsonian Institu-
tion in various capacities, as Powell, Ridgway, Goode, and the present secre-
BOOK REVIEWS AND BOOK NOTES

Pennsylvanians will be interested in the life and work of the second secretary, Spencer Fullerton Baird, whose ornithological studies began in and around Carlisle and Dickinson College.

There is no better book on the Smithsonian Institution and its personnel. Without derogation of the genuine values of the book, it may be observed that it is not particularly successful in achieving what Arthur M. Schlesinger, Sr., desired: namely, a treatment of "science as an aspect of the operation of historical forces and conditions." In fact, and in humanizing the leading figures of science, much remains to be done. These tasks seem peculiarly difficult, and no one yet has met the requirements satisfactorily.

*The James Milliken University*

DANIEL J. GAGE


James Thomas Flexner, author of *America's Old Masters* and of *First Flowers of our Wilderness,* here continues his study of American art in the first full-length portrait of America's first major creator in any of the arts.

*John Singleton Copley* presents the main facts of the artist's life and character in an interesting manner. His development as an artist is traced from his earliest fumbling attempts as a provincial youngster to the brilliant successes of the London years, when he not only was accepted as an equal by the great figures in English art but anticipated in some of his paintings the romantic developments of the next generation in France. Flexner feels that his work may have influenced such artists as Géricault and Delacroix toward their revolutionary activities. Throughout the book Flexner calls attention to the effect that the conditions of Copley's life and surroundings had on his art, from the "burly, dry, downright, painfully executed studies" of the colonial period to the sophisticated creations of his later years.

Although this book is primarily a biographical and artistic study, it is also interesting for the way it illuminates the social and political history of the
time. We see Copley first as a frightened child in the Boston slums; then his progress toward respectability as an industrious apprentice; and finally, his transformation into a fine gentleman who was able to marry into one of the leading Tory families of Boston and who in England associated with the aristocracy as well as with the commercial and artistic leaders. Though he had been born into that class from which Sam Adams’s revolutionary rabble was recruited, and during his early career seems to have sympathized with the radical party, in later years he was thrown more and more with the wealthy Tories of his wife’s circle. Nevertheless, he did not forget his origins. On the eve of the American Revolution he attempted to preserve the peace by effecting a compromise between the merchants and the rebellious patriots. Even after he had left America he followed her fortunes anxiously. During the Revolution he wrote his half-brother: “Poor America, I hope for the best but I fear the worst. Yet certain I am that she will finally emerge from her present calamity and become a mighty empire.”

This book is valuable not only for its subject matter and the vivid way it is presented. It also contains thirty-two excellently chosen reproductions of Copley’s paintings—one in color, and the rest in black and white—together with a catalog of illustrations giving the dimensions of each painting, its date (when known), and its present owner. There are in addition an extensive bibliography and a useful index.

Bucknell University

BLANCHARD GUMMHO


To most students of the Civil War era, the name of John G. Nicolay is inseparably connected with that of his friend, John Hay, who assisted him in his White House secretarial duties and later collaborated with him in the first large-scale biography of Abraham Lincoln. Whereas Hay’s career has received its full share of attention from the biographers, Helen Nicolay’s volume, written almost a half century after her father’s death, represents the first attempt at a biography of “Lincoln’s secretary.”

Miss Nicolay’s portrayal of her father is substantially what might be expected from a devoted daughter, who is nonetheless a well-known Lincoln scholar. Students of this period will find the Nicolay volume rewarding chiefly because it draws upon the previously unused private journals of the author’s father and upon various items of his personal correspondence. Its scholarly value, however, is lessened by the absence of documentation, either in the form of footnotes or of a bibliography, however brief.

How Nicolay came to be designated as Lincoln’s secretary is a mystery which this volume only partially dispels. That he performed his duties with the utmost competence and loyalty is, nevertheless, amply demonstrated. While at the White House, Nicolay began collecting material for the Lincoln biography, which was to require almost thirty years for him and Hay to complete. One would gather from Miss Nicolay’s narrative that her father shared Hay’s aspiration to “write like two everlasting angels who don’t care
a twang of their harps about one side or the other," but she makes no mention of how Nicolay reacted to Hay's suggestion that in writing about McClellan, "it is of the utmost moment that we should seem fair to him while we are destroying him." In view of this last statement of Hay's, which appeared in a letter to Nicolay, the contention (p. 281) that "it was a matter of greatest satisfaction to both authors that not a statement in the entire work had been made from personal bias" hardly rings true.

Readers of this magazine will find especially interesting Miss Nicolay's version of her father's controversy with A. K. McClure as to the rôle which Lincoln played in the nomination of Andrew Johnson for the vice presidency in 1864. Miss Nicolay stoutly upholds her father's view that Lincoln had nothing to do with the action of the convention in this regard. To judge from the evidence presented by Sandburg and other writers, however, Miss Nicolay has not done full justice to McClure's side of the controversy. In many ways this is simply another example of the potency of the Lincoln legend.

Pennsylvania College for Women

J. CUTLER ANDREWS


The president emeritus of Haverford has written this book to supply a need for a survey of Quaker history, beliefs, and past and present-day activities. Between its covers may be found a full and accurate understanding of the Quakers and their way of life, what otherwise would only be discovered after considerable searching in a great number of unrelated volumes. Dr. Comfort also cherishes the hope that some readers, at least, may find in his pages the presentation of a type of religious life and thought largely disassociated from dogmatic creeds or ecclesiastical forms and government which will be an answer to their seeking.

Pennsylvanians will be especially interested in the story of William Penn and Quaker life in the colony, and in the account of the Great Separation which divided the Quakers into two groups, the Hicksites and the Evangelicals, and gave them Swarthmore and Haverford as rival colleges. Fortunately, this breach is now largely healed. It will surprise many to learn that there were twice as many Quakers in Philadelphia in 1830 as there are today, and that this depletion in membership is attributed to the two-century-old practice of dismissing from membership any Quaker who married outside the fold.

The Society of Friends numbers about 115,000 members in America and 160,000 in the whole world, but their influence for good has been far out of proportion to their small membership, particularly through the work of the American Friends Service Committee whose service is world-wide and is supported by many non-Quakers. This work is described in the latter part of the book.

Bucknell University

GORDON POTIAT
Arthur Herman Wilson, in "The Great Theme in Shakespeare," attempts to prove by a study of selected plays that Shakespeare had a philosophy: "love is the purest flame that man can feed, and that only love, when sacrificed, can redeem hate." Failure to analyze the meaning of the phrase "when sacrificed" makes his conclusion somewhat unconvincing. Robert F. Meader's "Colonial Church Architecture in New England" discusses the religious, social, economic, and artistic influences on church architecture between 1650 and 1850, the decline of taste after 1850, the Italian and English architects who influenced colonial architects, and the work of Jefferson, Bulfinch, Benjamin, and Carter. An authoritative study, based on a mass of newspaper articles and letters, of the first effort of the Southern states from 1865 to 1868 to win the fight against Negro rule is presented by William A. Russ, Jr., in "The Strategic Retreat from Appomattox." Russell Wieder Gilbert in "Pennsylvania German Wills in Fifteen Counties" has caught amusing glimpses of the life of the Germans in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries; he has also disclosed the high position occupied by the church and the family, especially the mother.

Bucknell University

MILDRED MARTIN


National Archives Accessions, No. 36, October 1-December 31, 1948. [The National Archives, Publication No. 49-26, pp. 14.]


To any one who had experience of the hardships of research in the United States Government records in Washington before 1934, the continuing efforts of the Archivist of the United States and his associates to make increasingly accessible to scholars the vast store of materials recently accumulated in the National Archives are indeed heartening. Among the recent aids to such re-
search is the new *Guide to the Records in the National Archives*. This sub-
stantial work, which supersedes the *Guide* of 1940, contains a brief descrip-
tion of the 813,280 cubic feet of records in the custody of the Archivist on
June 30, 1947. The work of many hands, the new *Guide* was made under the
supervision of Dr. Philip M. Hamer, Director of Records Control. It will be
kept up to date by the quarterly National Archives Accessions, the lists of
which supplement the *Guide* as well as the Annual Report of the Archivist.

The brief Introduction to the *Guide* will be extraordinarily helpful to one
who is just beginning to make use of the records in the National Archives,
and the copious index (pp. 621-684) will delight the seasoned investigator
no less than it will please the novice. Valuable also are the four appendices.
Appendix A describes the records received between January 1, 1946, and June
30, 1947; Appendix B lists the restrictions on the use of records; Appendix
C contains the latest list of regulations for the use of records; and Appendix
D gives a classified list of record groups.

Descriptions of materials are arranged in the *Guide* by “record groups,”
each such group bearing a number. A record group is defined as “a body of
records that constitutes a convenient unit for ‘records control’ and other
purposes of the National Archives.” There are 224 such groups listed in the
*Guide*, ranking from “Records of the War Labor Policies Board” (No. 1)
to “Records of the Office of Labor (War Food Administration)” (No. 224).

“The descriptions of records,” says the Introduction, “usually provide in-
formation as to their type, subject content, chronological span, and quantity.
At times they provide information as to the completeness and the arrangement
of the records and the existence of indexes, registers, and other devices for
facilitating use of the records; but such information has been provided on a
selective basis only, with no attempt at completeness.” As an illustration of
such descriptions we may take, because of its brevity, that of the “Records
of the War Labor Policies Board” [1918-19], which reads:

> These [records] consist of correspondence of the Chairman and
> of the Executive Secretary; minutes of the Board and of its com-
> mittees; correspondence of business and other advisers; correspond-
> ence with Governors and State labor officials; and bulletins, news-
> paper clippings, and daily digests of articles and editorials pertain-
> ing to war labor policies and to activities of the Board. A Preliminary
> Inventory of the records has been published.

*Preliminary Inventories*, published from time to time by the National
Archives, are more detailed finding aids than those the *Guide* provides. Nos.
17 and 18 of such inventories (see titles listed at the head of this review)
contain rather detailed descriptions of the materials in Record Groups 94
and 95, respectively. They are, therefore, extensions of the *Guide*.

Quite apart from the value it has for researchers, the *Guide* might well
be commended as an almost indispensable handbook for teachers of American
history and American government. Its value as a teaching aid derives from
the fact that in most cases the descriptions of materials in the record groups
are preceded “by a brief outline of the administrative history and a concise
statement of the major functions of the agency or agencies creating the
records." Nor does the reference value of the Guide end here. Many of the statements about record groups are followed by lists of published materials bearing on the subject discussed, thus giving to the Guide some of the characteristics of a classified bibliography. Hence for both investigators and teachers this compilation will prove to be a reference work of great value. It can be purchased either from the Superintendent of Documents, United States Government Printing Office, or from the National Archives.

Like its predecessors, the Fourteenth Annual Report of the Archivist is full of useful information which, unfortunately, can not here be summarized. It is interesting to observe, however, that the records received during the year (58,507 cubic feet) brought the total in the National Archives on June 30, 1948, to 855,925 cubic feet. Also of interest is the appraisal in the Report of the valued work of Dr. Solon J. Buck as Archivist. Dr. Buck resigned on May 31, 1948, to accept the position of Chief of the Division of Manuscripts in the Library of Congress. He was succeeded by the present Archivist, Wayne C. Grover.

From the Ninth Annual Report... on the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library we learn that

... Mr. Roosevelt's papers as New York State senator, 1910-13, those relating to his campaign for nomination as United States senatorial candidate in the New York State Democratic Party primary in 1914, and his files as Governor of New York, 1929-1932, were opened during the year. Additional segments of the Presidential files were also made available. They include papers relating to various Government agencies, such as the Council of National Defense, the National Resources Planning Board, the Office of Production Management, the Defense Plant Corporation, and the Supply Priorities and Allocations Board, and to labor, 1940-45, the American Federation of Labor, 1933-45, and the Congress of Industrial Organizations, 1936-45.

As more papers of the former President are opened to study, increasing use of the Roosevelt Library by scholars may be expected.


Here is a pamphlet which in time may come to be cited as Volume I of the Pennsylvania Yearbook, or the Pennsylvania Annual Register, or some other equally appropriate title. This new enterprise is the peace-time continuation of an historical program of publication undertaken during the late war. The purpose of the Survey is to give annually a concise digest of events, and thus to provide a vade mecum to all persons interested in the affairs of the Commonwealth. Such a work might well be expanded, if the need for it should become apparent, into a large-scale annual compendium. In any event, the materials from which this and such like digests as may hereafter be made will be preserved by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission.

Because it is a digest, this Summary hardly admits of being compressed
BOOK REVIEWS AND BOOK NOTES


This number of the Bucknell University Studies contains the following articles: "American Dramatic Theory Comes of Age," by Allan G. Halline; "Jean-Paul Sartre's Doctrine of Human Freedom and Responsibility," by Gladys Calkins Cook; "Treasure by the Grace of God," by Cyrus H. Karraiker; and "A Study of Blake's 'The Tyger,'" by Jesse Bier.

Copies of the Studies may be obtained from the librarian of Bucknell University, Lewisburg, Pa.


Annual Reports of the Treasurer and the Director of the Historical Society of York County for the Year 1948. (York, Pa.: The Society [1949]. Pp. 20.)

Despite a "critical shortage of personnel," the year 1948 was a busy and profitable one for the York County Society. Its correspondence amounted to 10,571 pieces, and its visitors numbered 5,197. Furthermore, the director reports that "great progress was made in the storage and cataloguing of books."

Students of Pennsylvania history will be especially interested in that part of the Annual Reports for 1948 which deals with "The Historical Library" (pp. 9-12). Here is given a brief account of materials received during the year, among which are several manuscripts. Besides these, the Society obtained a microfilm copy of 1,044 pages of manuscript material pertaining to the history of York County in the eighteenth century. This acquisition was made possible by a grant from the Society of Daughters of Colonial Wars of
Pennsylvania. Because of the listing of these and other materials, including twenty-seven genealogies, the current Annual Reports of the York County Society have considerable bibliographical value.


The last paragraph of the “Foreword” by Dr. Francis B. Haas, superintendent of public instruction, states the purpose of this bulletin in these words:

"The Division of Child Accounting and Research, in the Bureau of School Administration, has made available data which present the enrollment possibilities for schools and colleges for the immediate years ahead. Numerous variables which may be operating independently are also discussed. These variables may be casting their influence in the same or opposite directions and are subject to interchanging. Representative years were selected to show the efficacy of these various tendencies on enrollments. It is hoped that this bulletin will also serve as a future guide to stimulate studies in local communities which may deviate from state-wide conditions."
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