and women from non–English-speaking European countries. Much of the history of coal-mining towns, of steel-mill communities, is still buried in letters written in Hungarian, Polish, Slovak, and Lithuanian and in official documents of the old Austro-Hungarian Empire. It is to be hoped that students of history in western Pennsylvania who have facility in the use of one of the central European languages as part of their heritage will be challenged to undertake this type of research. In this way only can there be obtained a fundamental grasp of the human factors involved in the social and industrial development of the state.

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**George Washington, Republican Aristocrat.** By _Bernard Fay_. (Boston and New York, Houghton Mifflin Company, [1931. xvi, 297 p. Illustrations, maps.])


Washingtoniana has increased tremendously in bicentennial times until it is almost impossible to say new things about Washington. There still remain, however, those authors who wish to say the old things in a new way. Judge Ritter presents the business side of Washington's character, generally neglected by most biographers, while M. Fay and Mr. Young interpret George Washington from French and English points of view, respectively.

The Ritter _Washington_ discloses how successfully the great Virginian carried his private business along with his many public duties. Haworth's farmer Washington has stood alone for years as the only unromantic approach to his business genius. Judge Ritter reveals Washington as a shrewd investor, a successful
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director of corporations, a sagacious industrialist, an enterprising realtor, a business general and president, a systematic accountant, an experimental farmer, a promoter of westward extension— in short, business principles were applied to many of the Washington undertakings. One cannot avoid being impressed with the realization that Washington looms larger because of this interesting portrayal.

M. Fay has written an aristocratic interpretation of Washington in the grand manner and with much skill. This is not a complete biography, but rather a collection of exquisite, impartial, and clever essays of Washington the gentleman, Virginia colonel, planter, general, and president. The author's nationality is evident when he discusses the colonial wars and the French Revolution, but it must be said that he is lucid and honest in his presentation. The introductory remarks read like some Jared Sparks gazing at the Richmond Houdon, but the bulk of the volume is frank. Indeed, it is refreshing to find one Washington biographer following Rupert Hughes (and M. Fay likes him), but without carping gibes and with much more brilliance. M. Fay has sharpened some of the lines in the Washington silhouette, particularly as the hero of the French wars and as "the father of his country."

An English view of the leader of the Revolution is presented by Mr. Young, who insists that Washington was not "peculiarly English." The British state papers make an interesting contribution to this biography, but the author displays an inadequate or elementary knowledge of eighteenth century American history. It is written for English readers who must have the Washington and Custis genealogies detailed and the term "minute-men" explained. The presidential years are dismissed in fifteen pages and there is an overemphasis of military details. Mr. Young's summary rehearses the details of his narrative to an annoying extent. Our British cousins will lose sight of the real figure of George Washington if their approach must be this study—"the first in a century" of English biographies of Washington.

Of the Washington contacts in western Pennsylvania, only the military campaigns of 1753–58 receive adequate treatment in any of these books. "These four years," writes M. Fay, "had spread his name all over the world, formed his character and made him a great man." Mr. Young discredits Washington as "hero of
the Monongahela," and contends that French bullets passing through Washington's waistcoat at Braddock's Field won for him the command of the Revolutionary armies. Judge Ritter contributes little to Washington's activities in western Pennsylvania, and one cannot expect foreign authors to enthuse over the frontier phases of his career. Both M. Faÿ and Mr. Young are sympathetic to Jumonville's cause. The Faÿ chapter relating to Washington's participation in the French wars makes a scholarly monograph told in a new way, thoroughly delightful after one has examined documentary and secondary accounts.

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