THE SIGNIFICANCE OF WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA IN AMERICAN HISTORY

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The significance of western Pennsylvania in American history is the result of the geography of the region. Extending from the Allegheny Mountains to the Ohio River and from the watershed of the Potomac to Lake Erie it is the land passageway from the northeastern part of the United States to the Ohio and Mississippi valleys and the lands beyond. Through it run east and west five great trunk-line railroads and three or more main automobile highways. The origin of the term "Keystone State" may be uncertain but geographically it applies well to Pennsylvania. Eastern Pennsylvania is the land passageway of north and south transportation along the Atlantic coast, and western Pennsylvania is equally the keystone of the land bridge from northeast to northwest.

Appreciation of the significance of the upper Ohio Valley is first found in documentary materials connected with New France. It is true that Iroquois hostility kept the French off Lakes Ontario and Erie for half a century, during which period they used the Ottawa River route to the upper Great Lakes. But at length they came to see the superiority of the lower route by way of Lakes Ontario and Erie. As early as 1669 La Salle

1 This paper was read in Chicago on April 14, 1913, at a meeting of the Mississippi Valley Historical Association; in Washington, Pennsylvania, on July 14, in connection with the historical tour under the auspices of the Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania and the summer session of the University of Pittsburgh; and in West Overton, Pennsylvania, on September 16, at a meeting of teachers under the auspices of the Westmoreland-Fayette Branch of the Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania. Dr. James is a professor of history in the University of Pittsburgh. In 1931-32 he served as research associate on the staff of the Western Pennsylvania Historical Survey. Ed.


3 A mass of accessible material in proof of this statement is in Documents Relative to the Colonial History of New York (Albany, 1853-87), vols. 9, 10, and in Pierre Margry,
went west by way of Niagara and on the peninsula he met Joliet returning from the upper lakes by the lower route. It has been claimed that La Salle planned to reach the Mississippi by way of a river known to Indians, probably the Ohio with its tributary the Allegheny. That he actually made use of this route is no longer credited, but the French under Marquette, Joliet, and La Salle did explore the Mississippi River and in doing so located the mouth of the Ohio and some of its lower tributaries. In fact they seem to have identified the Wabash as the main stream and considered what we know as the Ohio to be only a tributary. It is possible that Swedish and Dutch fur traders reached the Ohio River in the seventeenth century. Certainly a Dutch trader from Albany, Arnout Vielle, was in this region in 1692. There is also some evidence that explorers from Virginia saw the reaches of the Ohio at a comparatively early date. But the settlement of Louisiana by the French in 1699 meant that New France would eventually be concerned about the nearest and shortest route from Quebec to New Orleans. It is obvious from the records that the French, probably from Indian accounts, realized the significance of the upper Ohio Valley long before the first Frenchman set foot upon the region drained by the Allegheny and Monongahela rivers.

In the seventeenth century the fur-trade rivalry between the French and the English was centered along the Hudson River and its tributaries.


7 Sufficient evidence may be found in New York Colonial Documents, vol. 9. In Nicholas Bellin, Remarques sur la carte de l'Amérique Septentrionale (Paris, 1755), there is reference to a trip down the Ohio River in 1729 taken by De Léry, chief engineer of Canada. See also Charles A. Hanna, The Wilderness Trail, 2: 126 (New York, 1911).
After the westward migration of the Shawnee and Delaware Indians about 1725 this rivalry was transferred, in part, to the upper Ohio Valley. During the second quarter of the eighteenth century there was vigorous competition between the French and the Pennsylvania fur traders for the rich profits of Indian trade in western Pennsylvania and in the region later known as the Old Northwest. The first actual hostilities in the region appear to have been between fur traders of Pennsylvania and of New France. The appearance of Virginia and Maryland traders on the scene just before the middle of the century further added to the confusion, and, with the organization and activities of western land companies in Virginia, things moved rapidly to a crisis.\footnote{New York Colonial Documents, vols. 3, 4; Charles H. McIlwain, introduction to Peter Wraxall, An Abridgement of the Indian Affairs (Cambridge, Mass., 1915); George P. Donehoo, Pennsylvania: A History, 2:624–645, 651–655, 976 (New York, 1926); Hanna, Wilderness Trail; Pennsylvania Archives, second series, 6: 113–117 (Harrisburg, 1877); Francis Parkman, Montcalm and Wolfe, 1: 87–90 (Boston, 1897).}

Since the appearance in the first half of the last century of John Marshall's \textit{Life of George Washington} and Jared Sparks's edition of Washington's \textit{Writings}, volume 1 of which is a \textit{Life of Washington}, and particularly since the publication in 1884 of Francis Parkman's \textit{Montcalm and Wolfe}, the general outlines of what followed in the next decade have been well known.\footnote{The events of this period are traced in Marshall, \textit{Washington}, 2: 3–71 (Philadelphia, 1804); \textit{Washington, Writings}, vols. 1, 2 (Sparks edition, Boston, 1837, 1834); and Parkman, \textit{Montcalm and Wolfe}, passim.} Recapitulation here is unnecessary. A few summary statements, however, indicating the part of western Pennsylvania in the events of the period, will not be out of place. The famous boundary dispute between Virginia and Pennsylvania, extending over a full generation, was of the gravest character, with long-lasting consequences.\footnote{The documentary material on the boundary dispute is extensive and is scattered through the records not only of Virginia and Pennsylvania, but also of other colonies and states and even of Great Britain and France.} The possession of western Pennsylvania was the bone of contention that produced military hostilities between France and England and precipitated the French and Indian War,\footnote{There is little disagreement on this subject. Sufficient evidence is in Robert Dinwiddie, \textit{Official Records} (Virginia Historical Society, Collections, vols. 3, 4—Richmond, 1883–84) and in the records of Great Britain and France and of Pennsylvania and New York.} and western Pennsylvania was the first
territory, now within the United States, wrested from France in that war. In western Pennsylvania George Washington acquired the military experience and knowledge of so much importance to him twenty years later. For half a decade Pittsburgh shared with Oswego and Niagara control of the Old Northwest. Pontiac's War may have begun and ended at Detroit, but its outcome was decided at the battle of Bushy Run in western Pennsylvania. And, in spite of the fact that expeditions were made by the British into the Illinois country from the Great Lakes and from the Gulf of Mexico, Pittsburgh appears to have been the real gateway to that district from 1765 to 1772.

In an earlier study on the first trans-Appalachian English-speaking frontier, the conclusions of which have been further confirmed in a year of special research, the significance of western Pennsylvania as the place of settlement of the first English pioneers in the Mississippi Valley has already been indicated. Extensive reading in the documentary materials of early western Pennsylvania history will convince anyone that these early western Pennsylvania frontiersmen were the prototype of that middle group of frontiersmen to whom the late Frederick Jackson Turner gave primary consideration. It may be added here that southwestern Pennsylvania in the decade from 1770 to 1780 furnished the prototype of the plantation slave owners of Kentucky, Tennessee, and Missouri,

12 Fort Frontenac was taken from the French on August 26, 1758, but it was in what is now the Dominion of Canada. Its capture had an important relation to the capture of Fort Duquesne on November 25, 1758. An account of the fall of Fort Frontenac is in Parkman, Montcalm and Wolfe, 2:334-338.

13 Source materials on Washington in western Pennsylvania are discussed in Alfred P. James, "Opportunities for Research in Early Western Pennsylvania History," ante, 16:128 (May, 1933). Washington's well-known style of writing was influenced by the military language of Braddock, Forbes, and Bouquet.

14 Pittsburgh's rôle in this respect may be studied in the correspondence of Amherst, Stanwix, Monckton, Bouquet, Sir William Johnson, Gage, George Croghan, and others, most of which is accessible in print, or in reproductions in the Library of Congress. The letters to Gage are not as yet accessible to the public.

15 Evidence for this statement may be found in Thomas Gage, The Correspondence of . . . with the Secretaries of State, 1763-1775, vol. 1 (edited by Clarence E. Carter—New Haven, 1931).

16 Alfred P. James, "The First English-speaking Trans-Appalachian Frontier," in Mississippi Valley Historical Review, 17:55-71 (June, 1930).
and in following decades this region even furnished the slave owners and the slaves themselves.  

On the valid theory that those things are most important in history that have most influenced later times, some writers of textbooks on the history of the United States have given slight consideration to the rôle of the Indians. But understanding of the past for its own sake is valuable, and in this respect Indian history cannot be disregarded. If, as it would seem, it is impossible to understand Virginia, New York, and New England in the seventeenth century apart from the story of the Indians, it is similarly impossible to understand Pennsylvania and the West in the eighteenth century apart from the history of Indian relationships and affairs. It is quite probable that nowhere in the history of the United States can the complex problems of Indian relationships be seen more completely than in western Pennsylvania from 1740 to 1795. Peace, trade, diplomacy, missionary activity, occupation of Indian lands, land cessions, war, massacre, and every other feature of contact between whites and Indians appear in the story. Important individuals, white and Indian, too numerous to mention by name, were involved in these relationships. The campaigns of Colonel Bouquet, Colonel Brodhead, Lord Dunmore, Colonel Andrew Lewis, General Harmar, General St. Clair, and General Wayne are but the more famous military aspects of a half century of troubled relationships.

The significant rôle of western Pennsylvanians in the American Revolution has received attention by local historians and by students specializing in various aspects of frontier history. Clarence W. Alvord has convinced

18 Ralph V. Harlow, The Growth of the United States (New York, 1925), is an example. See especially p. 3.
19 The general account in Donehoo, Pennsylvania, vol. 2, is very satisfactory. Dr. Donehoo for many years has specialized in Pennsylvania Indian history. In addition to the main sources used by him there is much manuscript material in such sources as the Bouquet and the Haldimand papers in the British Museum, the Amherst Papers in the Public Record Office in London, and the Gage Papers in the possession of Mr. William L. Clements in Bay City, Michigan. The Library of Congress has reproductions of much of this material.
20 There is a good general account of this topic in Donehoo, Pennsylvania, but there are materials not consulted by Donehoo in the Virginia State Papers at Richmond, in the
most of the historical world that the causes of the American Revolution arose in large part out of western problems,²¹ but no historian of such prominence has yet shown that frontiersmen in the West, particularly in western Pennsylvania, carried on contemporaneously with the American Revolution a struggle as desperate and as important as that farther east along the Atlantic coast. There has of course been much attention paid to the part of George Rogers Clark in the Revolution and to that of Kentucky, but information on the dangerous loyalist plot of Dr. John Connolly and on the Pittsburgh renegades, Simon Girty, Alexander McKee, and others who fled to the British, has not yet been introduced into general histories.²² The whole story of the Revolution in the West has not been put in adequate perspective. In such perspective it will reveal that the winning of the West began, so far as the Mississippi Valley is concerned, in western Pennsylvania.

The contribution of western Pennsylvania to Kentucky in the eighteenth century is a matter of importance and interest. The settlement of the Virginia boundary dispute and the provision for the gradual emancipation of slaves in Pennsylvania caused a minor migration to Kentucky, from where at a later date the descendants of the immigrants played a rôle in the expansion of the United States and the growth of the West.²³

After the establishment of the Northwest Territory in 1787, Pittsburgh was more than ever "the gateway to the West"; for several decades it was the base of western operations, civil and military, and the depot of supplies and exchange, a position maintained until the age of steamship

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Draper Collection of the Historical Society of Wisconsin at Madison, and in the Haldimand Papers. The voluminous Indian records in the Public Archives at Ottawa should also be mentioned.


²² Not even in such detailed works as Edward Channing, A History of the United States (New York, 1926), and Claude H. Van Tyne, The War of Independence; the American Phase (Boston and New York, 1929), is there mention of these affairs.

²³ Burns, ante, 8:210–214. Western Pennsylvania’s contribution to Kentucky has not been investigated. Professor Archibald Henderson has written the author concerning the importance of this subject. Among those who went from Pennsylvania to Kentucky were members of the Neville, Gist, and Croghan families.
transportation on the Mississippi and its tributaries. Here it may be remarked that in the matters of the navigation of the Mississippi and the purchase of Louisiana, the people of western Pennsylvania as well as of Kentucky, Tennessee, and Ohio, exerted political pressure to influence diplomatic negotiations, and played a significant rôle. They were hardly less interested and less affected than the people of other regions to whom more attention has been paid.

At a very early date western Pennsylvania had among its inhabitants men of more than local significance, among whom should be mentioned Arthur St. Clair, Albert Gallatin, Hugh Henry Brackenridge, and Alexander Addison. To these might well be added James O'Hara, Pittsburgh's first business magnate and the prototype of Andrew Carnegie, Henry C. Frick, and other industrial barons, of importance not only in Pittsburgh but also in the entire Mississippi Valley.

The spread of religious denominations and churches from coast to coast has been a feature of great social importance in the national development of the United States. A significant part of this expansion was the estab-

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24 Information on Pittsburgh as the base of western operations may be found not only in the papers of St. Clair, Wayne, Wilkinson, and William H. Harrison, but also in widely scattered materials such as the reports of the quartermaster general of the United States, preserved at Fort Myers, Virginia. There is also material on this subject in the Craig Papers in the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh. See Leland D. Baldwin, "The Rivers in the Early Development of Western Pennsylvania," ante, 16:79–98 (May, 1933).

25 Evidence may be found in the writings of Hugh Henry Brackenridge, Albert Gallatin, and William Findley; in the Annals of Congress; and in the Pittsburgh Gazette.


27 Eulalia C. Schramm, "General James O'Hara—Pittsburgh's First Captain of Industry" (University of Pittsburgh master's thesis, 1931). An abstract of this work is in University of Pittsburgh, Abstracts of Theses, 7:366 (Pittsburgh, 1931). Important O'Hara papers have recently been deposited with the Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania.

28 The bibliography on this topic is already voluminous. New studies are in process in many places. The maps by Marcus W. Jernegan in Charles O. Paullin, Atlas of the Historical Geography of the United States, plates 82–88 (Washington and New York, 1932), illustrate this spread.
lishment of denominations and churches in western Pennsylvania in the two decades from 1768 to 1788. The story of ecclesiastical development in western Pennsylvania during these years and in fact for several additional decades appears to be a good introduction to the religious history of the middle section of the Mississippi Valley.

The famous Whiskey Insurrection in western Pennsylvania in the last decade of the eighteenth century was a matter of varied and weighty importance, not simply a series of dramatic incidents. Historians have considered it mainly in connection with its economic causes and the demonstration of national strength in its suppression. Such treatment seems inadequate. Could it not be given the sort of study and critical analysis that has been given to the American Revolution? It seems safe to say that in many ways the insurrection was an important indication of frontier social, economic, and political sentiment. It was probably a manifestation in part of the survival of pre-Revolutionary and Revolutionary theory and behaviorism. The influence, also, of the French Revolution had spread since 1789 even into the remote rural regions of the western world. In some ways the insurrection was but a dramatic feature of the development of anti-Hamiltonianism in the United States as a whole, and its suppression by an overwhelming demonstration of superior power, while it may have strengthened the central government, does not appear to have

29 Manuscript records of these early churches are still in existence. Few of them have been printed but much work has been done on them by graduate students of the University of Pittsburgh, and the Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania possesses transcripts of many of them made by Mr. Jesse Coldren and by Miss Jessie M. Tomb. Much manuscript material is in the archives of the theological seminaries in Pittsburgh. A master's thesis (1931) by Miss Marybelle Pierce on "The Establishment of the Associate, Reformed, and Associate Reformed Churches in Western Pennsylvania," is summarized in University of Pittsburgh, Abstracts of Theses, 7: 362.

30 The contemporary writings of Hugh Henry Brackenridge, Albert Gallatin, and William Findley on the Whiskey Insurrection are well known, as are also the later writings of Henry M. Brackenridge and Neville B. Craig. All general histories of the period deal with the topic.

31 Mr. C. Stanton Belfour of the University of Pittsburgh has written an excellent unpublished study of this behaviorism.

32 Channing, United States, 4: 335; Claude M. Newlin, "Hugh Henry Brackenridge, Writer," ante, 10: 247, 250-252 (October, 1927); Harry R. Warfel, "David Bruce, Federalist Poet of Western Pennsylvania," ante, 8: 217 (October, 1925).
endeared the Federalist party to the people of the region. Both Brackenridge and Gallatin are soon found in active opposition to the Federalists.  

The elections of 1798 in Pennsylvania and of 1800 in the United States went against the Federalists. Western Pennsylvania swung to Jeffersonianism in 1798 and from that time until 1858 contributed to the domination of Pennsylvania by the party of Jefferson and Jackson. This is a matter of more than local historical importance; for it cannot be disregarded that as Pennsylvania went so went the United States, almost without exception, from 1798 to 1884.

As the result of its geographical position and its two famous highways, western Pennsylvania, situated on the main routes to the Middle West from 1765 to 1825, inevitably played an important part in furnishing men and supplies in the War of 1812. The armed forces of the United States both on land and on Lake Erie drew heavily upon Pittsburgh and western Pennsylvania. This, of course, is not strange. It is merely an illustration of the fact that, as a result of geography and roads, western Pennsylvania, either as a manufacturing region or as the base of commercial, transportation, financial, and even industrial agents of eastern firms and institutions, supplied goods and services for the lower half of the Old Northwest during the whole first half of the nineteenth century.

33 Gallatin was by education a liberal and a Republican; Brackenridge was a Federalist in 1789 and later a convert to Jeffersonianism. The rapid development in the region of hostility to Hamilton's policies is revealed in Russell J. Ferguson, "Albert Gallatin—Western Pennsylvania Politician," ante, 16:183-195 (August, 1933).

34 In the election of 1796 Jefferson received fourteen of the fifteen electoral votes of Pennsylvania. In 1799 Thomas McKean, Democrat, won the governorship over James Ross, Federalist, by a vote of 38,036 to 32,641. In 1800 Jefferson received eight electoral votes from Pennsylvania to seven for Adams. Pennsylvania Manual, 1931, p. 490, 492.

35 This is a general statement. The Democrats lost the state twice in presidential elections and several times in state elections. Pennsylvania Manual, 1931, p. 489.

36 John N. Boucher, ed., A Century and a Half of Pittsburgh and Her People, 1: 362-368 (New York, 1908); Sarah H. Killikelly, The History of Pittsburgh, Its Rise and Progress, 419 (Pittsburgh, 1906). The two highways were the Forbes Road, which later became the Pennsylvania Road, and Braddock's Road, which became the famous Cumberland or National Road. The bibliography of these roads is extensive. See particularly Archer B. Hulbert, Historic Highways of America, vols. 4, 5 (Cleveland, 1903).

The rise of tariff protectionism in Pennsylvania was significant both in the economic and in the political history of the United States before the Civil War. By the end of the war the sentiment and policy of protectionism had registered a triumph, at least for a time and in a considerable degree. This triumph was related to the war not only as a result of it, but also to some extent as a cause. The struggle of Pennsylvania for the preservation of the protective tariff system in the United States since the Civil War has probably been equally significant in our economic and political experience. In all this contention, whether for the establishment or for the maintenance of tariff protection, western Pennsylvania was not much behind eastern Pennsylvania in aggressiveness. Her congressmen, such as Baldwin, Ritner, Stewart, Wilkins, and Forward, in the first half of the nineteenth century, and Negley and Dalzell in the second half, and her senators, such as Quay, Knox, Oliver, and Reed, have reflected well the dominant interests or sentiments of important elements in their constituencies. The history of the United States cannot be fully known until the tariff history of western Pennsylvania is revealed. The capture of the Republican party in Pennsylvania by the protectionists in 1858 and in the nation at the Chicago convention of 1860 is no inconsiderable explanation of the election of Abraham Lincoln to the presidency of the United States. It was not anti-slavery, but protectionism that carried western Pennsylvania and the rest of the state in the election of 1860. Western Pennsylvania was no stronghold of abolitionism or of any other form of anti-slavery sentiment. Down until the close of the ante bellum

39 Material on some of these men may be found in Sewell E. Slick, “The Life of William Wilkins” (University of Pittsburgh master’s thesis, 1931), a summary of which is in Abstracts of Theses, 7 : 367; Robert M. Ewing, “Hon. Walter Forward,” ante, 8:76–89 (April, 1925); Alfred P. James, “General James Scott Negley,” ante, 14:69–91 (April, 1931); Kathryn Bestzell, “The Congressional Career of John Dalzell with Special Emphasis on His Tariff Views” (University of Pittsburgh master’s thesis, 1932), a summary of which is in Abstracts of Theses, 8:405 (Pittsburgh, 1932).
40 The Congressional Record reveals both the protectionist theories of these men and something of the dominant interests represented by them. Dr. John W. Oliver of the University of Pittsburgh has spent several years in the preparation of a biography of Quay based on family papers.
41 James G. Blaine, Twenty Years of Congress, 1:206 (Norwich, Conn., 1884).
period this region illustrated well the indifference or division of opinion of the whole border territory on the issue of slavery.\(^{42}\)

But the breaking up of the Union was another matter. Protectionists may have themselves blustered from time to time about the desirability of disunion, but self-interest quickly brought all Pennsylvania protectionists and particularly those of western Pennsylvania to the realization that the preservation of the Union was vitally important.\(^{43}\) The market of the South was well worth fighting for, and western Pennsylvania would have been peculiarly hard hit by the loss of southwestern business. Protectionism on the part of a slave state republic in the South, a possibility never abandoned by the Confederacy, however good in theory for others, would have been very bad for Pittsburgh and western Pennsylvania. Because of the feeling against disunion the region surpassed the rest of the state in contributions of many kinds to the prosecution of the Civil War. It quickly became a hive of war activity.\(^{44}\) Although it furnished few very prominent military commanders,\(^{45}\) its regiments fought in every theater of the war. Its mills and factories poured forth war materials and army supplies, greatly to the enrichment of Andrew Carnegie and other western Pennsylvanians; for war, as is well understood in some circles, is more effective than tariff protection.\(^{46}\) In fact the prominence in industry of western Pennsylvania seems to have been established during the Civil War. Hitherto the industry of the region had developed steadily rather than dramatically, but the impetus of war needs gave it an upward spurt that, with various accentuations, continued to the end of the century.\(^{47}\)


\(^{44}\) The author is indebted to his colleague, Mr. William J. Martin of the University of Pittsburgh, for confirmation of this idea. See also Louis Vaira, “Some Aspects of Pittsburgh’s Industrial Contribution to the Civil War,” \textit{ante}, 6:9–20 (January, 1923).

\(^{45}\) General James Scott Negley was an exception. James, \textit{ante}, 14:69–91.


\(^{47}\) Vaira, \textit{ante}, 6:9–20. The later industrial advances have been connected mainly with
Since the Civil War industrial significance in the production of iron, steel, aluminum, coal, coke, glass, oil, and gas has been the most important aspect of western Pennsylvania. The significance of the region as a whole, indeed, has been mainly industrial. But industrial significance has great historical importance. The social and economic historian cannot fail to be impressed with the exploitation of the rest of the world by an industrial region. On the other hand it is apparent that industrial regions themselves are exploited for the benefit of Wall Street and upper Fifth Avenue in New York, for the benefit of libraries of small towns all over the world, for the benefit of Florida and of California, and even for the benefit of certain famous American universities.

Not only in economics, but also in politics, the labor movement, science, and even in the fine arts and allied fields, industrial prominence and influence may have widespread historical significance. In connection with the significance of industrial western Pennsylvania in politics, it is sufficient merely to mention such names as Matthew Stanley Quay, Philander C. Knox, and Andrew W. Mellon. The industrial significance of the region inevitably gave it importance in the national history of labor. Several labor unions had their headquarters in Pittsburgh. For a time the Knights of Labor were powerful in the region. The first convention of the American Federation of Labor was held there. Famous strikes in the

improvements in technological, manufacturing, and administrative processes. Carnegie's autobiography throws light on the inside story of these advances.

48 These, with the addition of processed foods, are the notable products of western Pennsylvania. The food-product industry furnishes occupation for a surplus of woman labor. Western Pennsylvania is not a place of highly variegated life—exploitation of the industries mentioned has proved more profitable than the development of other fields of activity.

49 The gigantic oil and steel industries drew profits from consumers all over the world. Elsewhere the automobile industry has done the same thing in later decades.

50 Some wealthy western Pennsylvanians, such as Carnegie, Frick, and Schwab, have transferred their residences to New York City. Vast sums of money have gone to Yale University and to the University of Chicago from fortunes based on the exploitation of western Pennsylvania oil fields.

51 Notably the Sons of Vulcan and the Amalgamated Association of Iron and Steel Workers. Frederic L. Paxson, Recent History of the United States, 236 (Boston, 1928).

52 This statement is based on accounts in Pittsburgh newspapers of 1881.

region were of national contemporary and historical importance.\textsuperscript{54} In the last seventy years the problem of industrial labor in most of its aspects and manifestations has been well illustrated in western Pennsylvania.\textsuperscript{55} In the fields of science and technology western Pennsylvania has been significant, not simply nationally but even internationally, in such matters as the development of the airbrake, the airplane, the radio, and the uses of aluminum;\textsuperscript{56} and in various discoveries in applied science of the Mellon Institute of Industrial Research\textsuperscript{57} and of other industrial laboratories.\textsuperscript{58}

Even in things pertaining to intellectual life and in the fine arts western Pennsylvania has made, as a result of the wealth inherent in the industries of the region, important contributions of more than local significance. Andrew Carnegie's libraries are notable.\textsuperscript{59} The international art exhibitions of the Carnegie Institute may be mentioned.\textsuperscript{60} In music western Pennsylvania must have an honorable place in American history: Stephen C. Foster, Ethelbert Nevin, Cadman, and Harvey Gaul occupy high places as American composers. Victor Herbert and other noted musicians have served as directors of Pittsburgh orchestras. In Pittsburgh there

\textsuperscript{54} Paxson, United States, 79, 234–237, 614.

\textsuperscript{55} This is particularly true in respect to shorter hours and collective bargaining.


\textsuperscript{57} For bibliographic data see Mellon Institute of Industrial Research, Bibliographic Bulletin no. 2 (Pittsburgh, 1927) and the supplements to the bulletin published yearly from 1927 to 1933. See also Edward R. Weidlein, "Achievements in Industrial Research," in the Pittsburgh Record, 2:210–275 (June, 1928).

\textsuperscript{58} National Research Council, Industrial Research Laboratories of the United States, Including Consulting Research Laboratories (fifth edition, Bulletin no. 91—Washington, 1933). In western Pennsylvania there are approximately sixty such laboratories, thirty-seven of which are in Pittsburgh.


\textsuperscript{60} See the catalogues of the annual exhibitions at the Carnegie Institute, 1896–date.
has been a particularly large and active group of musicians of German antecedents.  

For half a century western Pennsylvania has furnished illustrations of most of the problems and aspects of accumulated wealth derived from the extraordinary exploitation of natural resources and of the markets of the United States and the world. The ramifications of this subject are both numerous and important, but one illustration will suffice. No small part of the allied indebtedness to the United States and even of the present debt of the United States itself represents money that flowed into western Pennsylvania to pay for the stream of war materials that poured from the mills and factories of this region from 1914 to 1919. When the history of wealth in the United States is finally written western Pennsylvania will figure heavily in its pages.

Though less determinative than the economic, other aspects of history are more impersonal and may be very significant. Brief mention may be made of two of them, one political and geographical, and the other sociological. The upper Ohio Valley is an economic metropolitan area, geographically and commercially, but politically it is split into three di-

61 There are two notable music scrapbooks of four volumes each in the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh; the first collected by William Evens covers the first half of the nineteenth century and the second compiled by Charles C. Mellor covers the last half. See also Killikelly, History of Pittsburgh, 535, 539; Erasmus Wilson, ed., Standard History of Pittsburgh, 866-873 (Chicago, 1898); and Charles N. Boyd, "Pittsburgh Composers," in the Pittsburgh Record, 5: 50-53 (April, 1931). Among the more prominent German musicians have been Fidelis Zitterbart, Jr., Adolph Martin Foerster, and Caspar Koch. The information on the German musical element has been derived from Harriet E. Spelker, "The German Element in the History of Pittsburgh," an unfinished doctor's thesis at the University of Pittsburgh.


63 Frank R. Murdock, "Some Aspects of Pittsburgh's Industrial Contribution to the World War," ante 4: 214-223 (October, 1921). Of the 250 great war plants, employing altogether more than 500,000 men and women, one, the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company, estimated the total value of its war business at $1,475,000,000. See Murdock, ante, 4: 216, 222. Munitions, however, involved less than one-fourth of the debt of the allies to the United States. See Charles Merz, "To Revise or not to Revise: The Debts Issue," in Intergovernmental Debts, 94 (International Conciliation, no. 287—February, 1933).

64 This idea is based essentially on the metropolitan area concept set forth some years ago by Professor N. S. B. Gras.
visions. One of these, western Pennsylvania, has dominant historical and political connections east of the Alleghenies. Thus the entity, integration, and even self-consciousness of the upper Ohio Valley has suffered. An upper Ohio Valley state would have been of more significance both locally and nationally. History plays queer tricks with men, regions, and countries. Sociologically western Pennsylvania is very important in American history. Representatives of many races and peoples have been drawn to the mines, mills, and factories of the region. Not even Cook County, Illinois, surpasses Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, in this respect. The manifold aspects of such human conglomeration are far more than local matters; they are national in significance and they have been and continue to be of international importance. Nor is even this the limit of their significance: they involve the universal problem of human relationships.

65 The author is indebted to his colleague, Dr. Solon J. Buck, for this observation.
66 Statistics may be secured from census reports and from local immigration authorities. Some of the racial and religious groups have their American headquarters in Allegheny County. Their rôle during and since the World War was notable—in this connection the so-called Pittsburgh Agreement between the Czechs and Slovaks might be mentioned. The complete story of these groups has not yet been written. The University of Pittsburgh is making a significant move towards the solution of the problem of human relationships in the arrangement of rooms in its new building designed and furnished in accordance with different racial backgrounds of the local population.