ter bibliography, or some arrangement of reference notes might not have given her work greater conviction. To insure more interesting reading, much of the detailed description of individual paintings could have been assigned to each work in the appended list of pictures and their locations. This is true especially of the section given over to his various versions of street urchins, whereas the elaborate discussions of some of Blythe's more complex projects of the Civil War period and after seem fully justified and are intensely interesting.

The book is pleasantly printed with generous margins and is comfortable to read. Its text has been set, as one reads in the colophon, in linotype Caledonia. The design is appropriately simple with a certain interest achieved in boxed chapter headings. It is amply illustrated by offset lithography, although it is unfortunate that so much detail has been lost in the reproductions. The binding in dark red buckram, with the signature of Blythe printed in gold, its only decoration, reflects the simplicity and straightforwardness of both the subject and its literary presentation. Altogether this work is most worthy of recommendation and one with which both author and publisher might well be pleased.

University of Pittsburgh

VIRGINIA LEWIS


Here, in approximately one hundred pages is the simple, unadorned, and statistic-less story of an average American industry. It began in a modest way in 1850, when a distinguished Baltimore chemist, Dr. Richard A. Tilghman, who, while studying in England, discovered two important chemical processes, returned to the United States and obtained patents for them. The patents covered a process for manufacturing caustic soda, ash, and chlorine-bearing compounds, such as bleaching powder. It was known as "The Strontia Process."

A group of prominent Philadelphians, most of whom were Quakers, organized a small company to develop the process. At that time
our nation was receiving most of its soda alkalis from Europe, where they were being produced by a process discovered by the distinguished French chemist, Leblanc, in the late eighteenth century. The organizers of the Pennsylvania Salt Manufacturing Company believed they could, in time, supply this country with home produced sodas, salts, alkalis, bleaching powder, and other chemicals. They built a plant at Natrona, near Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

By careful management, wise business methods, and a willingness to pioneer in new allied industries, the company prospered. In the midst of the Civil War, 1863, the company paid its first dividend, and, according to the author, it has the longest record among industrial companies on the New York Stock Exchange for payment of dividends on common stock (23). This company pioneered in other directions; notably in establishing a retirement pension plan; giving free medical service to employees; inaugurating a safety program; setting up library reading rooms for its employees; and in providing a number of other services that later became uniform practice by large corporations.

Here is one of the few industrial organizations of the United States which for one hundred years has maintained a rather remarkable growth. It typifies the manner in which a small company is organized, grows, finds its place in our nation's history, and serves scores of corporations that make America the strongest industrial power of the world.

University of Pittsburgh

John W. Oliver


Historical research, whether intensive or extensive, often becomes fascinating. Sometimes it intrigues the reader. Frequently it grips the researcher. It evolves from work into a hobby and eventually into the type of avocational activity which gives life an unusual zest and interest. This development is apparent in the case of our author, How-