not understand the haste in which it was produced. By some curious quirk, the footnote adjustments normally taken to convert manuscript copy to the printed page were overlooked. Furthermore, individual letters referred to in the footnotes are not identified with the collections in which they belong while newspapers are over-identified. For example, newspapers with the names of such cities as New York, Chicago, and Cincinnati in their titles do not need to be identified with their respective states, most assuredly not every time they are cited.

University of Pittsburgh

James A. Kehl


For a number of reasons this volume merits review in the Western Pennsylvania Historical Magazine. It is written by a well known local sociologist who for many years was head of the Sociology Department in the University of Pittsburgh. Sociology is essential in any but the most narrow history. And in this volume the author has in a way written good history, the history of the origins and development of sociology.

Dr. Elmer, in compiling this book, had two important advantages. Unlike some fellow sociologists, he has long had the historical point of view in regard to sociology and sociological developments. His interests are many and varied, but he has wished to apply to them the principle of evolution and the tool of scholarly historical research. And he has personally observed intently and closely the establishment of professional sociology. As this treatise well indicates, he not only saw and realized this rise of sociology, but was continuously associated with it, and often himself a significant factor.

The merits of the publication are considerable. There is much analysis of great sociological books, reports and articles. References in the context and in footnotes furnish a good bibliography of sociological literature. And these references are of value to those active in other social sciences. Peculiarly valuable are the treatments of the life and work of many of the important individuals in sociology.

These sketches of important personalities and revelations of hitherto unrecorded incidents give this volume particular value.

The book will doubtless find circulation in the large world of pro-
fessional sociology. As usual with publications of the University of Pittsburgh Press, this item represents good paper, good print, and attractive binding.

It is unfortunate that such a book is not free from imperfections often found in recent publications. Some of it is well written, but there is too much of it not well organized and not satisfactorily rhetorical nor always grammatical. Both the manuscript and the galley proof should have been given more careful reading. The title is not descriptive of the context nor linguistically accurate unless one means “contemporary” as the last sixty or seventy years. The volume is in reality a history of professional sociology, more especially in the United States. Also, there is a superabundance of quotations, sometimes of great length and frequently without immediate references. And the criteria of format are not duly respected. Titles of printed books, pamphlets, magazines are not uniformly italicized. There are some errors of spelling and punctuation.

It is regrettable that the text of this volume falls belows the value of its context and of its contribution to the social sciences.

University of Pittsburgh

Alfred P. James