emergency treatment for employees and customers. Most of the industries of Western Pennsylvania did likewise. After this time preventive medicine was emphasized rather than curative efforts. In the years of 1917 to 1940 many of the industries instituted pre-employment examination of workers. Between 1940 and 1950 many forms of insurance plans, including the Blue Cross and the Blue Shield, were adopted by some companies to help cover the expenses of hospital and disability benefits. Some companies developed their own self-insured plans, such as the United Mine Workers of America Welfare and Retirement Fund.

In the field of mental hygiene credit is given to the H. J. Heinz Company for early recognizing the importance of mental hygiene in industrial production, with the use of libraries, recreation rooms and music.

Although the Western Pennsylvania Medical College was formed in 1883 by several prominent Pittsburgh physicians, it was not until the 1930's that courses of lectures in the field of industrial medicine were introduced; and in 1948 the Graduate School of Public Health in the University was established. In 1913 Pennsylvania established the Department of Labor and Industry, followed by the Bureau of Industrial Hygiene in 1923; and the U. S. Bureau of Mines was established locally as the Pittsburgh branch.

This work is well authenticated, and while repetition of the activities of the various agencies appear in many of the chapters this fault may be necessary to preserve clarity and sequence of events in the development of industrial medicine in Western Pennsylvania.

Pittsburgh

C. W. W. ELKIN


Those who attended the Mississippi Valley Historical Association’s annual meeting at Pittsburgh two years ago will remember Alexander DeConde as a purposeful young professor from Duke University. On the last day of the program for 1956 he read a paper, entitled “Washington’s Farewell, the French Alliance, and the Election of 1796.” (See the March, 1957 issue of *The Mississippi Valley Historical Review*, pages 641-658.) Now his complete study of politics and diplomacy under George Washington (1789-1797)
has been published, but his book is still primarily a diplomatic study of the demise of the French alliance. Edward S. Corwin in a much earlier work, *French Policy and the American Alliance of 1778*, concluded that the effectiveness of the alliance ended with the peace of 1783. DeConde places the date ten years later at the time of the Jay treaty. After that event, we all know that nationalism in Philadelphia or *ad hoc* Federalism, as DeConde puts it, soon forced the American people to be pro-British in order to be pro-American.

DeConde, now at the University of Michigan, has looked at the destruction of the French alliance and has blamed it on partisan politics. Entangling alliances (with France) were to be avoided in favor of Hamilton's pro-British leanings. Fortunately for us Hamilton was successful, but for a time Federalists felt "that France threatened the existence of the Union and that Westerners supported her seditious plots."

Nationalism, more than DeConde's claim of partisan politics, however, seems to have been the deciding factor in Western Pennsylvania. During 1796 Hugh Henry Brackenridge, who was not unfriendly to the French alliance, was contacted "frequently" and "without common prudence" by General Victor Collot, a French agent on "reconnaissance" in the West. James Ross was attempting at the same time to convert Brackenridge to support the Jay treaty and told him that "there was a party in the U.S. who wanted to overturn the govt, who were in league with France, and that France, by a secret article of treaty with Spain, was to have Louisiana." Brackenridge was convinced eventually that "there was a conspiracy to deliver our country or some part of it at least to the French," and for this reason he reported his conversations with Collot to Ross in the Senate, who gave the information in turn to Washington.

DeConde has synthesized his material well for the *Entangling Alliance*, and the scope of his research can be seen easily from the footnotes. His summary evaluation of Washington as "slow of mind," however, seems too harsh and prejudiced by his predilection for the anti-Hamiltonians or pro-French. We in Pittsburgh, at least, are aware that the national spirit which Washington helped to raise here in the British Empire of 1758 was his quickening attribute in the American Republic of 1796.

Pittsburgh

James H. Mast