many men in crossfire at Charleston, trying to reap some of Tarleton’s glory. Reckless Patrick Ferguson and his men charged at King’s Mountain, with many killed including Ferguson, and six hundred captured; this loss forced Cornwallis to abandon his North Carolina campaign for a Valley Forge-like winter at Winnsboro, South Carolina. Major James Weymss was defeated by General Thomas Sumter. Tarleton’s Legion, at Hannah’s Cowpens, was cut to pieces by General Daniel Morgan. In one hour “Butcher” Tarleton lost eight hundred men — one hundred killed, two hundred wounded, and more than four hundred captured. The Americans had twelve killed and sixty wounded. On retreat, Tarleton came on a “party of Americans,” actually loyalist spies and guides, and ordered them bayoneted. Cornwallis himself gave chase to Morgan, winning the field at Guilford Court House with heavy casualties, a truly Pyrrhic victory. Cornwallis, as a result, could never resume the offensive in the Carolinas.

The army, mostly barefooted, proceeded toward Wilmington. Here Cornwallis wrote to Clinton and Germain concerning a Virginia offensive. Without waiting for a reply, on May 13 he crossed the Roanoke River into Virginia. He probably had an idea that Clinton would not approve. The army arrived at Petersburg, finding General William Phillips dead and Benedict Arnold in his place. Cornwallis could not exceed Phillips’s orders from Clinton. Clinton’s next letter highly disapproved of Cornwallis’s move. Feeling that New York should be the main center of operation, Clinton ordered Cornwallis to strengthen the defenses of Yorktown. The end of the story is a familiar one, with Cornwallis enclosed on sea and land by French and Americans and surrender the only alternative.

The Wickwires describe each battle with narrative verve and clarity and have made a real contribution to the spate of books beginning to appear in the bookstores in honor of the coming bicentennial.

Pittsburgh

Florence C. McLaughlin


William L. Riordon, around the turn of the century, authored *Plunkitt of Tammany Hall,* a sparkling collection of very plain talks on very practical politics. The book records the political philosophy of
George Washington Plunkitt, a Tammany district leader. It is the story of how the Tammany political machine in New York City got power and held on to it. For example, do you want to break into politics? Plunkitt tells you how. Don't go to college and stuff your head with rubbish, but get out among your neighbors and relatives and round up a few votes. Why don't reformers last in politics? Because they're amateurs, "only mornin' glories." Is there a formula for the machine's staying continually on top? Study human nature, Plunkitt advises, and make government warm and personal. What happens when the party loses an election? Be patient, Plunkitt says. The political machine is like an ocean, reformers like the waves, and there is lots of unofficial patronage to help ride out the storm if you know the ropes.

As Plunkitt of Tammany Hall provides insight to machine politics in New York City, The New Deal and the Last Hurrah is a study of machine politics in Pittsburgh. There are marked similarities in the strategies employed by the machines in both cities in getting and maintaining power. However, by contrast, The New Deal and the Last Hurrah is a scholarly work. It brings with it an important historical dimension lacking in the New York City study. It is the carefully documented story of the "fall" of the Republican party machine and the rise of the Democratic organization in Pittsburgh during the turbulent years of the Great Depression (with a prologue and epilogue).

Many political theorists maintain that New Deal politics were responsible for the decline and eventual death of political machines or boss politics in the nation's large cities. Mr. Stave dispels this theory as far as Pittsburgh is concerned. His premise is that New Deal politics were a keynote in sounding the "Last Hurrah" for the Republican party, but, at the same time, it chimed the "First Hallelujah" for the Democrats, providing the basis for the emergence of the Democratic machine which was to remain intact in the city of Pittsburgh through the 1960s. The reader will appreciate the careful research with which the author supports this premise.

What the average citizen might call the machine, the professional politician calls the organization, and, if one may take a neutral stance, the organization might simply be described as the party structure and the men and women who run it. This book is especially rich in its description of the men and women who were active in the political and civic affairs of Pittsburgh, particularly in the years surrounding the Great Depression. Long time residents of the Pittsburgh area will
delight in the galaxy of personalities which the book brings back to memory — Herron, Pinchot, Earle, Guffey, Coyne, Jones (Edward), Vann, Fagen (Pat), Gallagher, Kane, McArdle, Laboon, Scully, Lawrence, and many others. But perhaps most of all the reader will enjoy recalling the antics, as well as the strategy, of one of Pittsburgh’s most controversial mayors and political personalities, William Nissley McNair. As mayor, McNair was a central figure in the struggle of the Democratic machine to take over political control of the city. Hence, the author pays considerable attention to McNair politics. In one chapter, “Davy the Ripper,” he traces the attempt of David L. Lawrence to have McNair “ripped” from office. In another chapter, “ Millions for Contract Labor but Not One Cent for Tribute,” Mr. Stave reviews the “battle” of McNair with the Pittsburgh City Council and the Roosevelt administration as the mayor attacked WPA legislation and other federal welfare programs as “wholesale bribery of the electorate.”

Historians and students of politics will find The New Deal and the Last Hurrah a valuable addition to the literature in the field. It is in many ways a fascinating study of the politics of welfare which came to prominence with the New Deal years. The traditional political strategies are all there — control of the public payroll; control of welfare service delivery; control of reform movements; and mastery of the intricacies of local, state, and national politics.

In some ways this book is organized in a somewhat difficult manner, and it sometimes requires concentration to keep track of “who’s on first.” Nevertheless, anyone with a taste for politics and history will find its reading a rewarding experience.

University of Pittsburgh

Christine Altenburger


Richard Bauman’s study of late eighteenth century Philadelphia Quakers seeks to discover why the Friends apparently withdrew from colonial politics in 1756 and abandoned the holy experiment. Bauman disputes the idea of withdrawal and abandonment and argues that