

'57 Varieties' was appearing in newspapers, on billboards, signboards, and everywhere else I could find a place to stick it."

The firm he left behind now has more than 1,250 varieties, plants around the world, well over a billion annual sales — and pretty certainly nobody quite like the original H. J. Heinz.

*Originally printed in the
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*

JACK MARKOWITZ
Finance Editor

Hannah's Town. By HELEN C. SMITH and GEORGE SWETNAM.
(Cleveland: Dillon, Liederbach, Inc., 1973. Pp. 113. Illustrations.
\$3.95.)

Hannah's Town, by Helen C. Smith and George Swetnam, is a noteworthy addition to the list of books on Pennsylvania history for younger readers. Focusing on the life of one family in the old Hanna's Town settlement, it portrays what it was like to be a little girl in Pennsylvania in the pioneer days before the American Revolution.

While written primarily for readers from ten to twelve, the book contains much that will interest older persons as well. Through the story of Hannah West from Hanna's Town, her parents, her brother Jonathan, and her friend Jenny Bradford, the authors recreate one of the lesser-known chapters from early Western Pennsylvania history. In doing so they also present a vivid, interesting picture of everyday life in colonial days.

Some time before the story begins, Robert Hanna had built a house on the Forbes Road between Fort Pitt and Fort Ligonier. It became an inn and a popular stopping-place for travelers. Around it grew old Hanna's Town, a village of thirty houses with a fort, a jail, a pillory, a blacksmith shop, and several other inns. Here was held the first British court west of the Alleghenies and here were issued the Hanna's Town Resolves at the beginning of the Revolution. The town was burned by British and Indians in 1782, the settlers left, and the settlement was abandoned.

Against the background of old Hanna's Town is set the story of Hannah West and her family. The West family moved from Valley Forge to Hanna's Town in 1769 — a month-long journey through woods infested with wolves, panthers, and snakes.

The story does not purport to be an adventure story. Its most exciting moments occur when the heroine meets an Indian (a friendly

one), when she kills a rattlesnake, and when she is frightened by one of Doctor John Connolly's ruffians from Fort Pitt.

The book is most valuable for its interesting vignettes of pioneer life. Detailed descriptions portray the settlers building a log cabin and making its furniture — all in three days; corn is husked and taken to the gristmill on Loyalhanna Creek; sap is gathered and maple syrup made. The section in which the family is snowbound gives a picture of a warm, close-knit family life, with fiddle music and riddles the chief entertainment.

Home was the center of life; here children were taught to read and write; here the mother spun thread, wove and dyed cloth, and made clothes for the family; here children roasted the chestnuts they had gathered and made dolls from cornhusks.

Helen C. Smith's attractive illustrations give an added dimension to the book. Besides pictures to illustrate the events in the story, there are drawings of tools and farm implements, household articles, even directions for making a doll from cornhusks.

Helen C. Smith herself discovered the site of the fort at old Hanna's Town. Through this book she and George Swetnam will undoubtedly arouse much interest in the excavations and restorations now being conducted at this historic spot.

Department of English
Carlow College
Pittsburgh

SISTER MAUREEN WALSH

The Mollie Maguires and the Detectives. By ALLAN PINKERTON.
(New York: Dover Publications, Inc., 1973. Pp. 552. Introduction, preface, illustrations. \$5.00.)

Those interested in the tumultuous labor troubles of the Pennsylvania coal fields in the late nineteenth century are indebted to Dover Publications for reissuing what was once considered the definitive work on the Molly Maguires. At the same time, the reader constantly must be aware that this is not a book of history; it is a propaganda piece by the head of a successful detective agency who was interested in increasing his company's business. This is, as the preface to the present edition states, "a biased, self-serving" book. Originally published in 1877, it is now about one hundred years out-of-date.

That does not mean that the new release is useless. By itself it