people remembered his tyranny. His bones were strung up on public display.

Sir Harry went to the gallows in 1662. The next tyrant was Charles II.

Today Sir Harry and Anne Hutchinson are admired by some for their stand for democratic government and civil rights. Vane is now, to many in the United States, "a true friend . . . and a man of noble and generous mind," for his belief in freedom of conscience, peace, and government by law. His statue by Frederick McMonnies, after a portrait by Sir Peter Lely, stands in the vestibule of the Boston Public Library.

*Pittsburgh*  
Florence C. McLaughlin


Mr. Ernst, professor of history at York University in Ontario, Canada, has done the revolutionary-period scholar a great service. His study of the influence of money and politics on the emergence of the United States as a nation is excellent. His scholarship is thorough and complete. The tables and graphs he incorporates, particularly those showing the average rate of exchange on sterling for the various colonies, are noteworthy and constitute a fine addition to the scholarship of the period.

The addition of the "Glossary of Economic Terms for Political Historians" in *Money and Politics in America — 1755-1775* is well merited. It adds much to an understanding of the terms denoting the complex issues which troubled the colonies and England during the years in question.

Politics, money, and economic conditions played an important role in hardening the attitude of America toward the mother country in the years immediately preceding the Revolution. The Currency Act of 1764, the subject of the book, was the most important factor in this sequence of events. The Currency Act widened the scope of colonial opposition to Britain's monetary policies. It affected both the
plantation as well as the commercial economy and, therefore, had a unifying effect on the colonies.

At that time America was in a business decline, the result of the termination of the French and Indian War here and the Seven Years War abroad. The economic program forced on the colonies by Lord George Grenville, chancellor of the exchequer, combined higher imposts and strict enforcement. This, plus the severe deflationary shock of the Currency Act, seemed calculated to ruin the colonial economy. The colonists resisted such action strongly.

Professor Ernst takes us step by step through the efforts of the colonial assemblies to cope with Great Britain's monetary policy. Britain, defending its mercantile system, was engaged in a large post-war effort to rationalize the empire and heeded not at all the objections to its policy as regards money from the planters in Virginia and the merchants of Massachusetts. The head-on clash was inevitable.

On page 359 Ernst says, "Thus the parliamentary enactments and royal policies after the end of the French and Indian War for the regulation of currency did not operate in some economic void or in a mythical state of equilibrium to be contemplated by minds steeped solely in the literature of eighteenth century history and political theory. Instead these regulations were interventions in the Atlantic economy at a time of profound internal structural change and crisis."

Certainly economics and politics mixed together had a positive effect on the attitude of those who gathered in Philadelphia in 1776 and 1787. Economic difficulties then were real, just as real as today. What Professor Ernst has done is to reintroduce the economic factor into a discussion of the causes of the American Revolution. He does not ascribe to it, however, the importance that Charles A. Beard did years ago. He does not conclude that economic matters, and them alone, caused the break with Britain. He does, however, focus on the importance of economics and monetary policy as one of the reasons why we sought our own political destiny and forged our own system of representative government.

Professor Ernst has handled a complex subject in an expert manner. The result is an engaging and yet profound study of a policy of the government in Whitehall of great importance to the colonial merchant and trader. Anyone interested in this special phase of our country's history will have their interest served well by reading this fine work in the early economic history of the United States.

*Pittsburgh*  
**Joseph G. Smith**