fault tends to initiate business policy. Recent trends demonstrate what is going on widely in fruit production — that is, a sharp reduction in the number of producers and increased production through research on declining acreage.

The format of the book and its physical qualities are almost extravagant, particularly in terms of the heavy slick paper, fifty-some photographs, and the many cartoons, illustrations, and tables, all highly useful. Technical and financial detail are handled skillfully and clearly, and there is just enough personal data on the important participants to give the story a healthy flesh-and-blood quality. The author has become knowledgeable on the science of viticulture as well. The heart of his material has been interviews with members of the Welch family, longtime employees, and leaders of the two organizations, interwoven tastefully. Financial records, however, were not available after 1969 — for reasons not clear to this reviewer. First names are used widely to avoid confusion, giving the style a tolerable homeliness without vulgarity. Company and industry-wide developments are discussed carefully with seldom a boring page.

Good bibliographical essays tie in with each chapter's material. The notes are at the back of the volume, but judging by their character, some of which are pages in length, do not seriously divert the reader's attention. Occasionally there is misuse of words. For example (p. 10), flaunt is used in the sense of disregarding openly, rather than as extravagant display. The price of the book is high, but considering both materials and literary workmanship, Syracuse is to be commended for putting out a definitive work which should be worth the price to most libraries as an example of first-rate business history.

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Unlike traditional state histories, Professor Williams's new book does not begin with the statehood movement, nor does it pay tribute to founding fathers or give a general treatment of economic
development. He does not describe West Virginia's flora, fauna, or its geologic past. This is as it should be, for descriptive histories of this type have been ably written by James Morton Callahan, Charles Ambler, Maurice Brooks, and Earl L. Core, among others. Besides, to do otherwise would be to ignore the purpose of The States and the Nation Series, of which this volume is a part. With funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the editors of the series selected historians to write for each state highly interpretive monographs which emphasized what was of the greatest significance to the nation. Williams has captured the spirit of this mandate in a book that will serve, for some time to come, as a model for the writing of state history.

The author clusters the essentials of West Virginia's past around seven well-recognized conflicts and crises, like Point Pleasant, which in October 1774 was the location of the dramatic battle that ended Lord Dunmore's War and opened the upper Ohio Valley region for settlement. Its importance lies in the larger stream of American history, but some local history enthusiasts have peddled it as the first battle of the American Revolution. To Williams the battle serves as an appropriate introduction for one of the major themes of West Virginia historiography — a proclivity towards fantasy as an escape from a past which has been unpleasant, if not painful. In addition, the author uses Point Pleasant to illustrate the impact of the Revolutionary period on that portion of Virginia which became West Virginia. Considering land in its broadest context — as both property and territory — he describes how the land speculation, which lay behind the Battle of Point Pleasant, began the state's colonial economic status within the American commonwealth.

This theme of West Virginians' attitudes toward their past is expanded on in the fifth chapter, entitled "Paint Creek," after the location of the state's first full-fledged mine war. At issue was recognition of the United Mine Workers of America by the Paint Creek and Cabin Creek mine operators. A score of men lost their lives before the strikers were forced into submission by the operators, who were backed by the National Guard and Governor Henry D. Hatfield. In a compromise gesture, Hatfield agreed to enforce prolabor laws already on the books, but which "the operators had freely violated for years" — a concession described by the author as typical of the "cynical tradition of West Virginia justice and politics." Hatfield's involvement illustrates how the lack of middle ground between labor and management put the governor, despite his strong sympathies for the
miners, on the side of the operators. The same year found Hatfield a participant in West Virginia's fiftieth anniversary celebration, which artlessly ignored all the realities of the state's past which were "subversive of the state's pride and its sense of community." Instead, there was an emphasis on the upbeat, or on West Virginia as a "land of peace and plenty where love now prevailed," as one poem written especially for the occasion proclaimed.

In West Virginia, real history, Williams insists, was so unpalatable that it begot romantic history, much in the same fashion as the South embraced the "Gone with the Wind" mythology. Although the congruence of the 1913 mine war and the fiftieth anniversary dramatize this phenomenon, Williams explores similar instances, such as the 1909 effort to have the Battle of Point Pleasant established as the first battle of the Revolution, the veneration of Stonewall Jackson as a West Virginia hero, and the Greenbrier Hotel at White Sulphur Springs as the "era's finest expression of . . . social escapism." In juxtaposition, the author describes the social ills which came in the wake of industrialization and which saw West Virginia's natural resources exploited with only meager benefits coming to state residents, except to the "middlemen" who served the absentee owners of the coal, lumber, gas, and oil. This compradore class grew rich (as ex-Governor MacCorkle put it, "I smiled and the money came"), and they successfully thwarted the efforts of reformers who wanted to gain a degree of control over West Virginia's abundant resources.

These and other themes, all of which relate to the mainstreams of American history, are masterfully explained in other chapters of Williams's book. Not only is the content of this volume substantive, but its style is graceful and its tone objective. While dealing with subject matter that by its nature encourages partisanship, Williams maintains a sense of perspective, imparts it to the reader, and offers reasonable explanations for many perplexing issues which have defied historical analysis. Many of his conclusions are applicable to other states within the Appalachian region.

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Allegany County: A History. By Harry I. Stegmaier, Jr., David M. Dean, Gordon E. Kershaw, and John B. Wiseman. (Par-