

ries on "the theatre, the latest play and the most interesting actresses" (194) frequented the pages of the magazine. Even when the editors included stories reminiscent of *McClure's* crusading spirit, the difference in tone between the two periodicals was appreciable. "The upbeat style of *The American* was an attempt to reform the country by pointing out what had been repaired rather than what needed to be reformed" (184). Except for her series on the tariff issue, which appeared sporadically in *The American* between 1906 and 1909, Tarbell's subsequent works disappointed those who had admired her relentless, hard-hitting style. Although she wrote movingly of the plight of female factory workers, she also praised the scientific management techniques advocated by Frederick Taylor and Henry Ford's brand of industrial paternalism. In addition to the women's articles which feminists found so odious, her sympathetic and uncritical biography of Elbert H. Gray, chairman of U.S. Steel, and a naive three-part sketch of Benito Mussolini were written, in Brady's estimation, because Tarbell needed money.

Although the feminists' blueprint for a "worthwhile life" (higher education and a profession) brought Ida Tarbell fame, independence, in the form of economic security, remained elusive. Tarbell earned a comfortable living for a single woman, but as the most successful and stable member of her family, she became the economic and emotional mainstay of her aging parents, her sister Sarah, and her brother Will and his family. When her father died, he left behind a modest estate which his son eventually squandered away. Sarah, whose health was precarious, achieved only marginal independence when she followed in her older sister's footsteps by shunning marriage in favor of an undistinguished career as a painter. For almost 30 years, from Will's

## BOOKCASE

### *The Twentieth Century History of Beaver County Pennsylvania 1900-1988*

Edited by Cheryl Weller Beck

The Beaver County Historical Research & Landmarks Foundation, 1989. Pp. 644. \$50, plus postage

**T**HE most comprehensive history of Beaver County to date, this volume was researched and written by a 17 member team of scholars under the direction of Cheryl Weller Beck; it picks up on the county's history where Bausman's 1904 history left off. The chapters cover topically virtually every category of history from religion and education through business and sports, to name a few. More comprehensive than interpretive, its rich detail makes it an ideal research volume.

### *A Pennsylvania Chronicle: The History of Marshall Township*

By Judith Oliver

Marshall Township, 1988. Pp. 452. \$10

Beginning with the early "[p]eople [who] lived in Marshall Township 10,000 years ago," this book focuses on the evolution of the land, people and institutions that became the township. It contains rich detail on a corner of Allegheny County about which little has been written. The illustrations, ranging from photographs of arrowheads to township maps, echo the book's unusual broad sweep, punctuated with selected details. This would be a useful addition to the library of anyone interested in regional development.

### *The Carnegie Nobody Knows*

By George Swetnam & Helen Smith

McDonald/Sward Publishing Company, 1989 (new edition; first published by Twayne Publishers, 1980). Pp. 186. \$14.95

This book draws attention to the literary side of the great industrialist, and to his writings which have been largely neglected. Focusing on the author's literary ideas and style over the span of his life, the book points to the authenticity of and consistent patterns in his works. While no attempt is made to explain away the ambivalent sides of Carnegie, this book, by virtue of its unique perspective, provides an interesting counterpoint to the most prominent historical perception of the man.

### *Galusha A. Grow: The People's Candidate*

By Robert D. Ilisevich

Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press, 1989. Pp. 319. \$39.95

This biography of Grow, known most for his tenure in the U.S. House of Representatives, captures the conflict-ridden pre-Civil War era, underscoring the ways in which Grow personified the era's rebellious spirit that manifested itself in new political alignments. Grow represented a vigorous abolitionist constituency in northeastern Pennsylvania. The book charts the course of his political career from free-soil Democrat to Republican to Speaker of the House in 1861.