

NEWS AND COMMENT

The Second Annual Report of the Archivist of the United States, 1935-1936 contains, besides the reports of the archivist and of the various offices and divisions of the Archives, a report to Congress of the National Historical Publications Commission "Recommending a Publication on the Ratification of the Constitution" and the "Report of the National Director of the Survey of Federal Archives to the Works Progress Administration" for the year ending June 30, 1936.

Pennsylvania History for April includes articles on "The Election of 1896 in Pennsylvania," by S. K. Stevens; "Pennsylvania: A Study in Religious Diversity," by Robert Fortenbaugh; "A New View of William Penn," by Burton Alva Konkle; and the "Preliminary Report of the Committee on Future Plans and Policies" of the Pennsylvania Historical Association, by the chairman, Lawrence H. Gipson. In the July number are articles on "Conrad Weiser and the Delawares," by Paul A. W. Wallace; "David Lloyd, Penn's Great Lawmaker," by Burton Alva Konkle; "Pennsylvania and the Constitution Sesquicentennial Celebration," by S. K. Stevens; and "The Accident on Board the U. S. Steamer 'Princeton', February 28, 1844: A Contemporary News-letter," edited by St. George L. Sioussat. As usual each number contains much information about current historical activities throughout the commonwealth.

Public Education, monthly bulletin of the Pennsylvania Department of Public Instruction, usually devotes a section to the work of the Pennsylvania Historical Commission as reported by its chairman, Major Frank W. Melvin, under the heading "Pennsylvania in History." The June number includes notes on the "Earliest Building in Pennsylvania" and on the annual meeting of the Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology held at Hershey on April 23 and 24; the July number, articles on the "Earliest White Settlement in Pennsylvania," that of the Swedes, and on "Pre-Historical Pennsylvania;" the August number, a digest of new legislation affecting the commission; and the September number, the governor's proclamation designating "the years 1937, 1938 and 1939 a period of state-wide commemoration: Calling particular attention to September seventeenth, 1937, the anniversary of the day on which the Constitution was signed in Philadelphia; to December twelfth, 1937, the anniversary of the day on which the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania ratified; to June twenty-first, 1938, the anniversary of the day on which the ratification of the ninth State

insured the final adoption of the Constitution; and to April thirtieth, 1939, the anniversary of the Inauguration of George Washington as first President of the United States under the Constitution."

The *Monthly Bulletin* of the Pennsylvania Department of Internal Affairs offers instructive and readable articles on "Canalization, as Early Means of Transportation, Conceived by Penn," in the April number; a "Summary of the Regional Geography of Pennsylvania," with an accompanying map, in the May number; "State's Struggle for Supremacy Noted in Its Early Canal History," in the June number; "Routine Business Conducted by State on Day Nation Was Born," in the July number; and "The Pageant of Iron in Pennsylvania," by Dr. David F. McFarland of Pennsylvania State College, in the August number.

An unpublished Washington document from the Bouquet Papers, edited by E. Douglas Branch of the University of Pittsburgh, appears in the April number of the *Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography*. It is a plan of campaign against Fort Duquesne proposed in 1757, and although the document is not signed, the handwriting, style, and other indications point to Washington as the author. In the same number are articles on "The Attack on the Judiciary in Pennsylvania, 1800-1810," by Elizabeth K. Henderson; the third installment of "Some Unpublished Correspondence of John Adams and Richard Rush, 1811-1822," edited by J. H. Powell; "Business in Philadelphia During the British Occupation," by Willard O. Mishoff; and "The End of the Penns' Claim to Delaware: Some Forgotten Lawsuits," by Richard S. Rodney. In the July number Arthur P. Whitaker discusses the latter eighteenth-century trade with Spanish New Orleans—much of it by way of the Ohio and Mississippi valleys—of "Reed and Forde: Merchant Adventurers of Philadelphia." Following this are articles on "New Light on the First Bank of the United States," by James O. Wettereau; "Mr. and Mrs. William Bingham of Philadelphia," by Margaret L. Brown; and under notes and documents, "Thomas Budd's 'True and Perfect Account' by Byllynge's Proprieties in West New Jersey," edited by John E. Pomfret. Another noteworthy recent publication of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania is a typographically and scientifically satisfying pamphlet on the origin, formation, and adoption of *The Constitution of the United States* as reflected by the notable collection of books, pamphlets, and documents displayed by the society in commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the signing of that instrument.

The *Journal* of the Presbyterian Historical Society, beginning with the March-June number and continuing in the September-December issue, is publishing the doctoral dissertation on "The Early Development of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America in Pittsburgh" submitted to the graduate school of the University of Pittsburgh by the Reverend Dr. William W. McKinney. It is expected that the remainder of this important contribution to the religious history of Pittsburgh will appear in later numbers of the *Journal* and it is to be hoped that eventually the whole will be made available in book form also.

Two articles of western Pennsylvania interest may be noted in the *Proceedings and Addresses* published by the Northumberland Historical Society on May 1, 1937: one an account of "William Maclay, the Surveyor," by Heber G. Gearhart, and the other "The Story of Regina Leininger, Indian Captive of the Penn's Creek Massacre," by Charles F. Snyder.

With historians and students relying more and more upon local newspapers as sources of information, the recent publication of *American Newspapers, 1821-1936*; *A Union List of Files Available in the United States and Canada*, edited by Winifred Gregory under the auspices of the Bibliographical Society of America (New York, H. W. Wilson Company, 1937), promises to be an extremely useful bibliographical tool. This volume lists all known newspapers published in the United States and its possessions and in Canada and locates available files in more than three thousand libraries and other depositories. In the large section dealing with Pennsylvania newspapers the western part of the state accounts for several hundred entries. It is an interesting commentary that there is no central depository for these papers. Although both the Library of Congress and the Pennsylvania State Library have large holdings, it is usually necessary to consult files of local newspapers in courthouses, libraries, or publishers' offices in each locality.

Among the personalities mentioned by J. Murray Gibbon in *The Coureur de Bois and His Birthright* (Ottawa, 1936), is Charles-Michel de Langlade, who in 1755 "headed a band of coureurs de bois and Indians in an attack on Fort DuQuesne, site of the present Pittsburgh."

A Check List of Manuscripts in the Edward E. Ayer Collection, compiled by Ruth Lapham Butler (Chicago, 1937), mentions a number of items of western Pennsylvania interest to be found in the Ayer Collection of the Newberry Library in Chicago. Included are letters of Robert Dinwiddie, Sir John St.

Clair, George Croghan, Thomas Gage, Archibald Lochry, George Morgan, and John Gibson, and a transcript of General Braddock's orderly books, all relating to the pre-Revolutionary history of this section. Some of the material—orderly books, letters of Dinwiddie, Croghan, and others—has been printed, and it is to be regretted that the check list does not always cite publication.

An interesting account of "The Services of the Frontier Merchant," by Lewis E. Atherton, appears in the September number of the *Mississippi Valley Historical Review*.

A Guide to the Resources of the American Antiquarian Society (Worcester, 1937) is a useful index to the resources for study of American history and literature available at the society's library and might serve as an example, for other libraries and historical societies, of what may be done in the way of compiling a usable and interesting catalogue.

McGuffey Readers occupy a large place among "Old School Books in the Ford Collection" described by Henry A. Haigh in the spring number of the *Michigan History Magazine*.

The importance of the museum as a "public university" and "active laboratory" and the responsibility of the museum worker are stressed in articles by Arthur C. Parker in the May and June issues of the Ohio State Archæological and Historical Society's *Museum Echoes*.

In the introductory paragraphs of his article on the "1937 Flood at Louisville" in the *Filson Club History Quarterly* for April, Gustave A. Breaux briefly reviews the major flood disasters of recent years—the Johnstown flood of 1889, the Dayton flood of 1913, and the Ohio River flood of 1937.

"Duncan McArthur: The Military Phase," printed in the *Ohio State Archæological and Historical Quarterly* for April, the second of a series of articles on McArthur (see *ante*, 19: 157) by C. H. Cramer, treats of the former Ohio governor's military activities after 1812. The July issue of the *Quarterly* contains an interesting article entitled "A Surveyor on the Seven Ranges," in which the author, B. H. Pershing, describes the impressions of the western country gained by Winthrop Sargent in the latter's work as a surveyor of Ohio lands in 1786. On his way from Philadelphia to Pittsburgh, en route for Fort McIntosh, Sargent recorded in his diary that Hannastown consisted of thirty log huts "that would have disgraced the American Army"; and at Pittsburgh he found Smith's Tavern "tho' as good as any . . . bad enough and very extravagant." Returning from Fort Harmar in August he again passed through Pittsburgh and confirmed

in his diary his earlier unfavorable impressions of the inhabitants, adding, "but I did not know them so totally destitute of any kind of hospitable civility as I am now authorized to pronounce. Their whole labor is at the Billiard Table."

A sketch of George Rapp and the Harmony Society, entitled "A Naturalist's Pilgrimage to New Harmony," by William P. Alexander appears in the *Indiana Magazine of History* for September; and a pageant held on June 20 depicting episodes in the settlement of New Harmony, Indiana, home of the Harmony Society from 1815 to 1825, is described in the *Indiana History Bulletin* for July. The ceremonies held in July in observance of the sesquicentennial of the passage of the Northwest Ordinance of 1787, providing for the government of the territory northwest of the Ohio River, are detailed in the April, June, and August issues of the *Bulletin*.

A sketch by Josephine Boylan of the Illinois Railroad, the cars for which were procured in Pittsburgh and whose eastern terminus was the town of Pittsburg, Illinois, named "in honor of that wealthy and respectable city of the same name in Pennsylvania," is in the *Journal* of the Illinois State Historical Society for July.

An account of the second son of the famous Christopher Gist by Samuel C. Williams appears under the title "The Father of Sequoyah: Nathaniel Gist" in the March number of the *Chronicles of Oklahoma*.

The account of the "Events of State Societies," printed in the *Quarterly Bulletin* of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution for July includes the commemoration in April of the 203rd anniversary of the birthday of General Arthur St. Clair by the chapter of that name and the Pittsburgh chapter. In the *Pennsylvania S. A. R. News* for February, quotations from James Kenny's diary of 1762-63 are used to illustrate the fact of former flood waters on the Ohio; in the April issue is a short sketch of General Hugh Mercer; and in the June issue, under "Greensburg Program," is a brief review of the history of Greensburg followed by a list, with biographical data, of soldiers buried within a radius of two miles of that city.

In the *New Republic* of May 19, Stark Young, in an article entitled "Massa's in Cold, Cold Ground," supports the contention made by Mrs. Evelyn Foster Morneweck in her well documented pamphlet, *The Birthplace of Stephen C. Foster* (1936), that Foster was born in a building early replaced by the present Stephen C. Foster Memorial Home in Pittsburgh, and not in the then near-by cottage purchased by Henry Ford and removed to Greenfield Village in 1934.

A review of "The National Labor Relations Act" by Carroll R. Daugherty, together with a general review, with charts, of business and industrial activity during February and March are published in the *Pittsburgh Business Review* for April 29.

News stories in the *Pittsburgh Bulletin Index* from April through September contained historical material on the Catholic parish schools of the Pittsburgh diocese and on the Phipps Conservatory (April 1); city housing conditions, the Frick Training School for Teachers, and McCann & Co., food store (April 8); local kindergartens (April 15); the Pittsburgh Junior League Thrift Shop and the Pittsburgh Hotels Corporation (April 22); the North Side planetarium, project of the Buhl Foundation (April 29); the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra (April 29, May 6, 13, June 3, September 9); the Allegheny Steel Corporation and its president, William F. Detwiler (May 6); the Mellon Institute (May 13); the Pittsburgh Garden Center (May 20); the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board, the Art Society of Pittsburgh, and the local New Theater (May 27); Carnegie Institute of Technology and its president, Dr. Robert F. Doherty, and the Fort Pitt Bedding Co. and Sealy, Inc., mattress makers (June 3); the University of Pittsburgh (June 10); the Allegheny County Juvenile Court and Detention Home (June 17); the local activities of the Catholic Radical Alliance (June 17 and September 16); the University of Pittsburgh Press, the Croatian element in Pittsburgh and Millvale's St. Nicholas Roman Catholic Church, and Joseph Horne Co. (June 24); the local activities of the American Federation of Teachers, and the McKenna Brass & Manufacturing Co. (July 1); the local projects of the NYA (July 8); Pittsburgh City Council, the South Park Playhouse, and Morris, Brown & Co., brokerage firm (July 15); Follansbee Brothers Co., steel manufacturers (July 29); the Bureau of Business Research of the University of Pittsburgh (August 12); the local music project of the WPA, the Hookless Fastener Co. of Meadville and its founder, Colonel Lewis Walker (August 19); agricultural fairs in Pittsburgh and Allegheny County (September 9); the Board of Foreign Missions and the centennial observance in Pittsburgh of its founding, and local distilleries (September 16); Scottdale (September 23); and the Homeopathic Medical Society of Pennsylvania and homeopathy in Pittsburgh (September 30). Also included are biographical data on Russell Gould Twiggs, Everett Warner, Mrs. Howard Permar, and Richard Crist, Pittsburgh artists, in the issues of April 1, May 6, 27, and July 1, respectively; William E. Pakala, inventor (April 8); the Reverend Edward Bleakney, former pastor of the Mt.

Lebanon Baptist Church (April 15); Jose Alemany, photographer and professor (April 22); Herbert Spencer, president of the Pennsylvania College for Women (July 22); Dr. Andrey Avinoff, director of Carnegie Museum (July 29); Marie Tello Phillips, Pittsburgh authoress (August 5); and Andrew W. Mellon (September 2).

The birth and development of the idea of scientific research which led to the founding of Mellon Institute, as well as an outline of its purposes and work, are traced in a bound and illustrated booklet (55 p.), entitled *Behind These Columns*, issued at the dedication of the new building of the institute. The addresses delivered at the dedicatory exercises held on May 6, together with those delivered at the Symposium on Recent Progress of Science, held on May 7, are featured in a pamphlet entitled *Dedication of the New Building of Mellon Institute* (71 p.); and the addresses made on May 6 are also printed in a leaflet of the same title (10 p.), reprinted from *Industrial and Engineering Chemistry* for May 10. Among the many printed accounts of the program of the dedication exercises, some of which contain historical material, are those in the April and May issues of *Greater Pittsburgh*; the latter contains the addresses made on the occasion by the late Andrew W. Mellon and by Richard K. Mellon and historical data on the "Ten New Industries Born at Mellon Institute" during recent years.

The celebration of the sesquicentennial of the University of Pittsburgh, which was held from June 1 through June 9 and included the dedication of the Stephen Collins Foster Memorial and the laying of the cornerstone of the Cathedral of Learning, gave rise to the printing of much historical material on the university and its buildings. The program of the anniversary celebration is outlined in the April and May issues of the university's *Alumni Review*; and a detailed description of the events held, entitled "The Sesquicentennial Commencement," is in the June issue, which also includes the address of the Reverend Hugh T. Kerr delivered at the laying of the cornerstone of the Cathedral on June 4. Included in an illustrated "University of Pittsburgh" feature section of the *Pittsburgh Press* for May 27 are articles on the growth and development of the university and on the history of its various schools and colleges and of the Allegheny Observatory; the *Pittsburgh Bulletin Index* for June 10 contains historical data on the Cathedral, the Foster Memorial, and the Heinz Memorial Chapel; and further interesting information on the history of the university and of the Cathedral is contained in an illustrated booklet (30 p.) published by the university and written by Agnes L. Starrett to

commemorate the laying of the cornerstone of that building. A folder printed for the sesquicentennial gives a brief sketch of the university and contains numerous views of its buildings, early and modern; and a pamphlet (6 p.), entitled *Samuel Pierpont Langley at the University of Pittsburgh* and published in explanation of the models used in an exhibit featured during the celebration, contains a sketch of the Allegheny Observatory and of the work of Langley. The history of the Foster Memorial, together with a description of the building, a review of the dedication exercises held on June 2, a sketch of the Foster Hall Collection, and a bibliography of printed material relating to Foster, are contained in a pamphlet, *The Stephen Collins Foster Memorial of the University of Pittsburgh* (16 p.), published by the Stephen Foster Dedication Committee; the dedication of the building and the collection housed there are treated by Robert X. Graham in the May issue of *Greater Pittsburgh*; and a sketch of Foster and historical material on the Memorial is in *The Literary Digest* for June 19.

The July number of *Greater Pittsburgh*, official organ of the Pittsburgh Chamber of Commerce, features, with a sketch map on the cover and an illustrated leading article, the movement sponsored by the Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania for the creation of a national park—tentatively called the “George Washington Memorial Park”—at the historic Point in Pittsburgh.

The death of Andrew W. Mellon on August 26 was the occasion for many sketches and articles containing both biographical and historical material. Among these are the review of Mr. Mellon’s life, including sketches of his political, financial and industrial, artistic, civic, and educational interests, as well as a history and genealogy of the Mellon family, printed in the *Pittsburgh Bulletin Index* for September 2; a brief biography stressing Mr. Mellon’s connection with the University of Pittsburgh, in the university’s *Alumni Review* for September; and feature articles in contemporary newspapers, notably those in the local press.

Recent issues of the *West Penn News*, an undated leaflet put out by the Western Pennsylvania Hospital, Pittsburgh, contain interesting sidelights on the history of this ninety-year-old institution and of related philanthropies such as the Charles Brewer and James Crawford fuel funds.

“The Romance of Friendship Hill,” the early home of Albert Gallatin near New Geneva, is interestingly reviewed by Henry Ward in the *Pittsburgh Press* in five installments beginning September 27.