

## Atlas of the Historical Geography of the United States

THE Business Historical Society calls to the attention of its members a recent publication which should be of greatest value and interest. This is the *Atlas of the Historical Geography of the United States*, which has been published jointly by the Carnegie Institution of Washington and the American Geographical Society of New York. The "Atlas" will undoubtedly fill a large need, not only on the part of scholars and students, but also on the part of men of affairs.

The work of preparing the "Atlas" was not a hasty task; it covered a period of more than twenty years and received the collaboration of some of the foremost specialists in American history and geography, including Dr. J. F. Jameson (who originated the first plan for the work), the late Professor F. J. Turner, Professors Max Farrand, M. W. Jernigan, J. A. Robertson, R. H. Whitbeck and R. de C. Ward. The larger part of this work was carried out between 1913 and 1927 under the direction of Dr. Charles D. Paullin of the Division of Historical Research, Carnegie Institution of Washington, under whose name the "Atlas" appears.

The study is broad in its scope, covering the essentials in political, social, economic, religious, educational, and military history of the United States in so far as they may be shown on maps. One of the most interesting and comprehensive parts of the work is that devoted to the study of the ever moving frontier, with its consequent influence on American life and thought. Another topic closely related to this is that of Sectionalism under which the authors of the "Atlas" attempt to show how the diversity of the material elements of our civilization finds its counterpart in an even greater diversity among intangibles: racial traits, institutions, religious beliefs, educational and cultural standards, social policies, economic and political issues.

The summary of the contents, prepared by the editor, John K. Wright, gives the best idea of the value of the "Atlas":

*Natural Environment.* The maps begin with seven plates illustrating the natural environment as a background for the study of American history. On the first plate five maps place North America in relation to the rest of the world as regards winds, ocean currents, and areas where important cul-

tivated crops are grown; limits of continental glaciation and also natural regions as defined by Herbertson and Passarge are depicted. Nearly thirty years ago Professor Herbertson stressed the historical significance of the concept of natural regions in these terms: "The recognition of natural regions gives the historian a geographical foundation for his investigations into the development of human society. . . . By comparing the histories of the same race in two different regions, or of a succession of races in the same region, it should be possible to arrive at some knowledge of the invariable effect of a type of environment on its inhabitants, and at some estimation of the non-environmental factors" (A. J. Herbertson: *The Major Natural Regions*, *Geogr. Journ.*, Vol. 25, 1905, p. 309). Maps showing natural regions surely would seem to belong at the very beginning of every atlas of historical geography. The remaining maps dealing with the natural environment cover the continental United States only and show relief, physiography, soil and vegetation regions, forests at different dates, climatic elements, and mineral resources.

*1492-1867. Cartography and Explorers' Routes, 1535-1852.* The historical part of the "Atlas" opens with reproductions of forty-eight early maps selected to illustrate the gradual widening of geographical knowledge of North America from 1492 to 1867. They disclose how the outlines of the continent were gradually rounded out into their familiar forms and how detailed information was acquired of particular regions — such as the St. Lawrence-Great Lakes Basin, the Mississippi Valley, and the Far West. The reproductions are supplemented by three maps especially drawn for the "Atlas," on which are marked the routes of Spanish, French, and American explorers west of the Mississippi, 1535-1852.

*Indians.* The North America of the explorer and pioneer was not an uninhabited wilderness. The Indians were often an obstacle — at times a serious one — in the way of the advancing settler. Four maps show the locations of Indian battles, skirmishes, and massacres from 1521 to 1890, and, thereby, the progressive westward movement of the zone of Indian warfare. More peaceful contacts with the aborigines are recorded on maps covering Christian missions to the Indians 1567-1861, lands ceded by the Indians to the government 1750-1890, and Indian reservations 1740-1930. The Indians differed greatly among themselves in character, language, customs, and degree of civilization, and these differences often meant much in the relations of settlers and government to the several tribes. Hence a map is included on which are indicated the areas occupied by Indian tribes and linguistic stocks about 1650.

*Lands.* Except for the Indian's shadowy claims, which in the long run were easily swept aside, a boundless domain until recently lay open for governments, companies, and individuals to seize and subdivide and use. In the process divergent policies, practices, and conflicting interests arose, affecting in some degree the entire course of our history. The "Atlas" in-

cludes a wide variety of maps illustrating this broad subject of lands, viz. territorial questions of international scope, the evolution of the boundaries of colonies, states, and territories; the disposition of federal lands; the details of typical grants, surveys, divisions, and holdings. Particularly comprehensive are the maps covering international, colonial, and state boundary disputes. The lines as claimed by different parties and as finally agreed upon are marked in colors; and in the text the course of negotiations is narrated, and citations are given at length from the original documents describing the various lines.

*Population and Settlement.* The westward advance of the frontier and the filling up of the country behind it are treated on maps for the colonial period and on a series showing the density of population in every federal census year from 1790 through 1930. Since the latter are all based on statistics by counties and the same scheme of symbols is used consistently throughout, the maps may be directly compared with one another. They give a view of the rising and spreading tides of settlement. Other series break the tides into some of their components by showing progressive changes in the distribution of slaves, free negroes, and colored persons 1790-1930, of foreign-born 1860-1930, and of German-born, Irish-born, and Swedish and Norwegian-born 1880-1900. We may also trace the inflowing currents of immigration back to their European sources on maps of Europe for each decade from 1831 through 1929. The distribution of cities at ten-year intervals since 1790 is shown, as well as the westward advance of the center of population.

*Cultural and Religious Development.* This subject is illustrated on maps showing the distribution of colleges and universities and of churches of different denominations in 1775-1776 and for various dates since the colonial period down to 1890. Standards of secondary education are suggested on maps revealing by states per capita expenditures on schools 1871-1928, and the dates of enactment of compulsory attendance laws 1852-1918.

*Political Parties and Opinions; Reforms.* . . . The political maps (Presidential elections and Congressional measures) . . . are supplemented by a series showing by states the progress of certain great reform movements that have swept across the country: abolition, modification of property qualifications for suffrage 1775-1920, woman suffrage 1838-1920, labor legislation 1883-1931, prohibition 1845-1920.

*Economic History.* To the history of agriculture, manufacturing, transportation, commerce, and wealth is devoted an extensive subdivision of the "Atlas." For agriculture there is an introductory map of the agricultural regions of the United States followed by dot maps and cartograms for the period since 1839 illustrating crop production, land utilization, farm tenancy, and farm values. Two criteria were selected for mapping the general progress of manufacturing: value added by manufacture and number of

employees in manufacturing cities. Value added is mapped by states and number of wage earners by cities for critical years since 1839. Besides these maps for manufacturing as a whole, there are special series for particular industries: iron and steel 1620-1908, cotton 1810-1926, and motor vehicles 1909-1927. Another series illustrates the growth of the network of transportation facilities 1774-1930; canals, navigable rivers, post roads, railroads, and airways. For the increasing value of our foreign trade there are maps for the entire period from 1701 through 1929. They show total exports and imports by colonies, states, and custom districts. Maps of the world reveal the value of American trade with different regions decade by decade since 1821. The distribution of wealth in terms of value of houses and lands, taxable property, and of all property, and also as indicated by statistics of banks and bank capital and of federal income taxes collected, is mapped for different dates since 1799.

*City Plans.* Plans of seven of the principal cities of the United States at the close of the colonial or beginning of the national period are reproduced from contemporary documents.

*Military History.* The maps illustrating the colonial wars and the wars of the United States aim to make clear the progress of campaigns rather than the details of tactical maneuvers on battle fields.

The final plate is a map of the world on Mercator's projection showing outlying possessions, claims, dependencies of the United States, and also whaling grounds formerly visited by American whalers, and certain points where the American army and navy have been actively engaged beyond the boundaries of the country. Thus the "Atlas" closes, as it opens, on a large theme — the United States in its world relationships.

## In Memoriam

THE Society deeply regrets the loss of two of its members, Walter R. Callender of Providence, Rhode Island, who died April 29, 1932 and Charles H. Jones of Weston, Massachusetts, who died January 3, 1933.

Mr. Callender was born in Providence in 1872. He was a graduate of Yale University, a member of the class of 1894. After graduation he at once entered into business — at first with the firm Brown, Thomson & Co. of Hartford. In 1897 he became a member of the firm Callender, McAuslan & Troup Co., a Providence department store. He had been president and treasurer of the firm since 1921. He was a member of the board of directors of a large number of important concerns, including the Textile Finishing Machinery Company, New England Power Association, Provi-