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Book Reviews

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BOOK REVIEWS.


The book here reviewed is an attempt, and an eminently successful one, to trace the development of the present attitudes primarily towards the forest and incidentally towards the range lands lying within the United States. The author starts with the attitude of the early settlers along the Atlantic coast and presents in chronological order the gamut of feelings towards these natural resources that have run from that of an inexhaustible nuisance to that of a vital factor in our society whose conservation is imperative.

The author has concerned himself primarily with the public domain of the United States and the laws which have regulated the use of these lands and accomplished their transfer to private hands. One is impressed by the manner in which the motivation for these laws and their consequences, often unexpected, have been identified. In the latter part of the book the pressures, both public and private, which have fostered and encouraged conservation of forests in private hands are considered. And finally, a picture is presented of existing attitudes and land laws along with some prognostication as to future developments in this area.

The book also contains three appendices which may be of considerable value. The first pertains to federal policy in related fields; the second contains a chronological summary of events mentioned in the text; and the third presents a bibliography of materials on the subject.

BOOKS RECEIVED.


