A Modern Forestry Report

The most attractive paper bound book on the subject of forest resources that has been published in Ohio to date is the joint effort of the Agricultural Experiment Station and the Central States Forest Experiment Station staffs. Its colored cover is a reproduction of a photograph of a rolling farm landscape with some high grade timber logs ready for market. The back cover reprints a valuable essay by Louis Bromfield on the subject of conservation. Between these covers are maps, charts, photographs and significant discussion of our forest resources and problems. One fact out of many that is worth the reader’s consideration is that while at present Ohio produces only 27% of all wood and 15% of timber consumed in the state, under forest management our people can bring that, over a period of years, to the point where consumption does not exceed annual growth increment. Just how this is to be accomplished is briefly suggested in the pamphlet. The reader is urged to concern himself in finding the answers.

Since such a publication issued for public distribution must be limited, it is hoped that it will reach those persons who will give it publicity or will reflect upon its findings. In attempting to cover the whole subject of forest planning and use, it is perhaps unavoidable that occasionally uneven treatment has resulted. Two staffs of specialists have engaged in the task. Yet on the whole there is a fine job of editing and co-operation, and it is to be hoped that more works of this type will be presented. The foreword by Mr. Secrest offers a unique reminder that during his career there has been a great change in viewpoint toward forestry. When he was himself almost the lone forester in the State of Ohio, the farmer and the forester were likely to be regarding each other antagonistically. It is significant of the modern perspective that we find a career forester the Director of an agricultural experiment station. As a progress report this paper is recommended to every reader of “The Ohio Journal of Science.”—A. E. Waller.

Ohio’s Forest Resources, edited by Oliver D. Diller. 109 pp., plus maps, charts, photographs. The Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station, Wooster, Ohio, in co-operation with The Central States Forest Experiment Station, Columbus, Ohio, 1944. No price indicated.