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**The Ecology of Invasions.** *Charles S. Elton.* John Wiley & Sons. 181 pp. \$5.25.

This book, written by the author of the first good textbook of animal ecology, brings together the facts of faunal history, the ecological concepts of the structure and dynamics of populations, and the theme of conservation. With this multiple viewpoint, there are detailed discussions of invasions (natural and man-caused) of continents, islands, fresh-waters, and seas, by all suitable groups of organisms. His conclusions are that there is need for actually planning a better and more varied landscape so as to put into the altered landscape some of the ecological features of wilderness, phrasing it as follows:

"From now on, it is vital that everyone who feels inclined to change or cut away or drain or spray or plant any strip or corner of the land should ask themselves three questions: what animals and plants live in it, what beauty and interest may be lost, and what extra risk changing it will add to the accumulating instability of communities. That is: refuge, beauty and interest, and security."

In its 174 pages there are references to 297 publications. This list alone is worth while, and the entire text is stimulating.

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