

upon published sources, although Professor Warren has used these sources well. Examination of the files of the federal departments in the National Archives and the papers of both Republican and Democratic leaders would have added much to this study. When the papers of the principal are not available, it is the historian's task to study those of his associates and contemporaries as the best means of reconstructing the most accurate history possible. Unfortunately, this work still remains to be done in the case of Hoover and the Great Depression.

University of Oklahoma

Gilbert C. Fite

The Conservation Fight: From Theodore Roosevelt to the Tennessee Valley Authority. By Judson King. (Washington: Public Affairs Press, 1959. Pp. xix, 316. References, index. \$6.00.)

The title of this book is somewhat misleading. While the author chose to call it *The Conservation Fight: From Theodore Roosevelt to the Tennessee Valley Authority*, it is by no means a survey of the whole conservation movement for those years. Rather, Judson King's study is a documented account of the bitter conflict between the great private power interests and a handful of conservationists who recognized that future needs of the American public would not be met if all the choice sites for hydroelectric stations were granted or leased to private companies. The author discusses the Muscle Shoals controversy; the Hetch Hetchy affair; the Federal Water Power Act of 1920; Woodrow Wilson's stand for public ownership and operation of power plants; the anti-public-power policies of Harding, Coolidge, and Hoover; Franklin Roosevelt and the Tennessee Valley Authority; and the recent history of public power in the Truman and Eisenhower administrations.

This volume is more than a history of conservation achievement in relation to power. Here is a case which illustrates the maxim that an institution is the lengthened shadow of one man. That one man was Senator George Norris of Nebraska, who led the fight for public ownership and operation of Muscle Shoals and promoted the plan for regional development which ultimately embodied the Tennessee Valley Authority. Even though there are three biographies about Norris, Judson King has recorded an aspect of Norris' fight which is to be found nowhere else. He has captured exceedingly well the details of the long struggle which resulted in the creation of TVA. The reader is presented with the "inside story" of the victories and defeats of the conservation forces.

There is not an uninteresting chapter to be found in this book. Although King was director of the National Popular Government League and a participant in this phase of the conservation struggle, he reserves the exposition of his own philosophy for the final chapter, "Retrospect and Prospect." He believes that TVA is still very much alive and that the battle over it and other federal resource programs will be continued as an issue in the 1960 elections and for generations to come. His words are prophetic. On October 1 of this year TVA announced the construction of a \$100,000,000 steam electric-power generating plant at Paradise,

Kentucky. Already under construction is the multimillion-dollar Barkley Dam and hydroelectric plant on the Cumberland River. In championing his cause the author points out a few facts which speak well for TVA: the annual saving of \$103,000,000 for civilian power consumers (which does not include the tremendous savings of the government in power for defense); the fact that TVA is actually \$68,000,000 ahead of schedule in its Treasury payments; the in-lieu-of-taxes payment of \$45,000,000 to the states and counties of the valley, a sum which does not include an additional \$64,000,000 paid by municipalities and rural cooperatives.

In looking at the future, conservationist King warns that with the tremendous growth of population and the demands of modern industry we must take every means to conserve water. Further, he feels that the only way to succeed in conserving our natural resources is through a unified conservation administration. Resource problems must be above party politics and cannot be solved with policies based on nineteenth-century concepts.

The Conservation Fight is much more than a memoir of Judson King. It is a documented study written with care. Each chapter is footnoted and sources are cited. Because of the nature of the study, the author has drawn heavily upon the *Congressional Record* and a myriad of House and Senate hearings, documents, and committee reports. Unfortunately, the volume is slightly marred by printing errors which should have been corrected in proof.

The author did not live to see his book in print. He finished the manuscript just two weeks before his death on July 4, 1958. We are indebted to Judson King for his unceasing efforts on behalf of the conservation of natural resources and for the written record which he has left behind.

Indiana University

Robert A. Frederick

American Diplomacy: A History. By Robert H. Ferrell. (New York: W. W. Norton & Co., Inc., 1959. Pp. xii, 576. Maps, illustrations, references, appendix, index. \$6.00.)

This book is a welcome addition to the group of excellent textbooks now available on American diplomatic history. It is somewhat shorter than the others; it supplies for each chapter a well-selected and critically evaluated list of references; it reads easily enough to hold the attention of the average undergraduate; and it reveals clearly the author's opinion on practically every important subject of controversy. Its proportions are weighted heavily in favor of the twentieth century; the author gives more than twice as much space to the years following as to the years preceding 1900. But this does not mean that the earlier period is less carefully studied than the later. Throughout the volume the author shows that he has read the books and articles to which he refers, and he does not hesitate from time to time to name in the text the historians whose findings he accepts or rejects. He quotes also, with considerable freedom and good effect, both from source and secondary material. In short, this study adds up to an excellent