CONSERVATION SERIES: CONSERVATION READER

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Conservation Series: Conservation Reader by Harold W. Fairbanks

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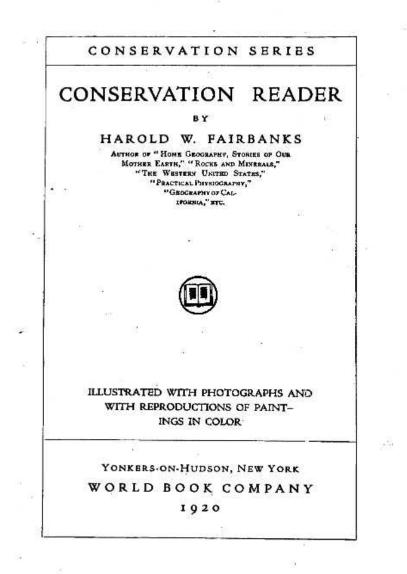
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HAROLD W. FAIRBANKS

CONSERVATION SERIES: CONSERVATION READER

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THE HOUSE OF APPLIED KNOWLEDGE

Established, 1905, by Caspar W. Hodgson

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The need for education in the principles of conservation is imperative. As Henry Fairfield Osborn states the matter, "We are yet far from the point where the momentum of conservation is strong enough to arrest and roll back the tide of destruction." The movement for the preservation of natural resources can succeed only with the establishment of an enlightened public semiment on the subject. To create and maintain such a semiment is the proper work of the schools. In making this *Conservation Reader* available for school use, author and publishers have had in mind the great and lasting service that such a text might render. The publishers believe that this little volume and others forthcoming in the Conservation Series will rank high among "Books That Apply the World's Knowledge to the World's Needs"



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INTRODUCTION

THE wave of enthusiasm for the conservation of our national resources must reach the children or it will expend much of its force uselessly.

It is from the education of the children in right ways of looking at Nature that everything is to be expected in the years to come. If they learn to understand the value of the things about them, as well as to appreciate their beauties, the carrying on and enlarging of the conservation program which is now so well under way can be safely left to their care.

The West, although it has already been ruthlessly exploited, has lost less of its natural wealth than have the longer-settled Eastern states.

In the newer parts of our country we can reasonably hope to save most of the forests and most of the wild life, and pass them on down to our children and grandchildren in something of their primeval beauty and richness.

In the East we can hope to arouse a stronger sentiment for preserving what remains of the forests as well as for extending their areas, for proper forestation will lessen the danger of erosion of the soil and of floods, and will encourage the return of the wild creatures that are of so much economic importance and add so much to the joy of life.

A book bringing out in a simple and interesting manner the principles of conservation has long been needed, for there has been little that could be placed in the hands of pupils. It is with the earnest hope of furnishing something which will answer in part the present need that this *Conservation Reader* has been prepared.

iii

Introduction

Acknowledgments are due the publishers of American Forestry and the Century Magazine for courteous permission to reprint poems taken from those publications. For their help in supplying photographic subjects to illustrate the book, thanks are extended to the persons to whom the various illustrations are accredited in immediate connection with their use in the text. The reproductions in color of two bird subjects have been secured through the friendly coöperation of Mr. T. Gilbert Pearson, Secretary of the National Association of Audubon Societies.

iv

CONTENTS

81

	CONTENTS	
	CHAPTER	PADE
	1. HOW OUR FIRST ANCESTORS LIVED	I
	2. How Our Needs Differ from Those of the First Men	9
	3. THE EARTH AS IT WAS BEFORE THE COMING OF CIVILIZED	
8	Men	18
	4. NATURE'S UNEQUAL DISTRIBUTION OF HER GIFTS	25
	5. THE LAND OF THE POOR PEOPLE	32
+	6. WHAT THE MUDDY RIVULET HAS TO SAY	39
	7. HOW FAR WILL NATURE RESTORE HER WASTED GIPTS?	44
	8. THE SOIL - THE MOST IMPORTANT GIFT OF NATURE .	51
	9. THINGS OF WHICH SOIL IS MADE	57
	10. How the Soil Is Made	б 1
	11. How Vegetation Holds the Soil	67
	12. WHAT HAPPENS WHERE THERE IS NO PROTECTING CARPET	
	OF VEGETATION	73
	13. THE USE AND CARE OF WATER	81
	14. COULD WE GET ALONG WITHOUT THE TREES?	89
	15. WHERE HAS NATURE SPREAD THE FOREST?	96
	16. WHAT ARE THE ENEMIES OF THE TREES?	104
	17. How the Forests Are Wasted	112
	18. How the Forests Suffer from Fires	119
	19. EVILS THAT FOLLOW THE DESTRUCTION OF THE FORESTS	125
	20. How Our Government Is Helping to Save the Forests	130
	21. OUR FOREST PLAYGROUNDS	139
	22. WHAT IS HAPPENING TO THE WILD FLOWERS	144
	23. NATURE'S PENALTY FOR INTERFERING WITH HER AR-	5
	RANGEMENTS	150
	24. WHAT SHALL WE DO WHEN THE COAL, OIL, AND GAS ARE	239 CONSELS
	Gone?	155 .
	25. NEED FOR PROTECTION OF CREATURES THAT LIVE IN THE	
	WATER	162
	a	*
		007 707

Contents

<u>\$10</u>

ġ.

	CEAPTER PAGE	
	26. MAN MORE DESTRUCTIVE THAN THE OTHER ANIMALS . 171	
12	27. WHAT IS HAPPENING TO THE ANIMALS AND BIRDS 176	
	28. THE TRAGEDIES OF MILADY'S HAT AND CAPE 183	
	29. THE COURT OF THE ANIMALS AND BIRDS 188	
	30. THE BIRDS OUR GOOD FRIENDS AND PLEASANT COM-	
	PANIONS 195	
	31. HOW TO BRING THE WILD CREATURES BACK AGAIN . 203	
	INDEX	

51

¥Ν

19<u>7</u>

(*)

¢.

22

25

25

vi

5 a ¹⁰