fuel options and different topography—although he presented this work as a corrective to prior over-attention to the Mississippi River Valley. A secondary concern is his discussion about race. Manganiello appropriately develops this central southern theme, but neglects some exciting new literature on race and rural electrification and state park politics. And for readers of this journal, agriculture appears only briefly in discussions about displacing floodplain farm families and again toward the end in an important irrigation discussion. Overall this is a highly satisfying volume that is an important contribution to southern water politics and environmental history.

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The latter half of the nineteenth century in America saw a remarkable transformation in the way animal diseases were understood. The germ theory of disease brought new understandings of a variety of diseases, including their influence on animal health and their implications for public health and the livestock industry. Intervening proved difficult as each disease had its own individual attributes, and the responses to them from various affected sectors varied widely. Scientific, bureaucratic, and public attitudes toward intervention ranged from enthusiasm to hostility to even murder in rare cases.

The centralized, bureaucratic apparatus created to deal with the many scientific, political, economic, and social influences of animal disease is at the heart of Alan Olmstead and Paul Rhode’s work. They contribute a much-needed and thorough examination of the genesis and early operation of the Bureau of Animal Industry (BAI), from the years preceding its creation in 1884, to its operation into the mid-twentieth century. This is a very dense examination of the BAI, but it necessarily reflects the complicated nature of animal diseases in this period and the responses that ultimately resulted in their control.

Olmstead and Rhode position their study in response to critics, particularly those of the Chicago public choice school, who posit that the heavy-handed intervention of the federal government beginning in the late nineteenth century was unnecessary and that the threat animal diseases posed to human health or economic interests were relatively benign. Olmstead and Rhode argue through-
out the book, using a series of diseases, that intervention in its various forms ultimately benefitted producers and saved thousands of lives. Case studies illustrate the difficulty the federal government faced with not only understanding the nature and implications of various animal diseases, but also how intervention took shape in the face of stiff opposition from producers, manufacturers, and an apathetic or suspicious public.

Several diseases are highlighted throughout the book such as contagious bovine pleuro-pneumonia (CBPP), hog cholera, trichinosis, foot-and-mouth disease (FMD), Texas fever, and bovine tuberculosis (BTB). Although each came with their own set of unique challenges for the BAI to address, Olmstead and Rhode take care to note that the experiences and lessons learned from many of these largely experimental and complex control efforts informed and contributed to the response to subsequent diseases. For example, the area eradication concept created to address CBPP influenced later campaigns for Texas fever, FMD, and BTB.

Olmstead and Rhode do an excellent job in exploring the more extreme opposition to the BAI’s efforts such as James Dorsey with BTB and southern cattle owners with Texas fever. Perhaps more from the farm press or farmers’ organizations on the less extreme but personal stories of livestock owners’ experiences with disease and the BAI would strengthen the volume. On the whole, however, this is an excellent piece of scholarship, highlighting a largely forgotten story of the trials of creating critical institutions that saved thousands of lives as well as ensured the health of animals and the livestock economy of the United States.

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Soybeans, navel oranges, avocados, mangoes—foods familiar to virtually all Americans today—were unknown to most Americans when the century began. Introduced through the efforts of adventurers and agricultural scientists, these and other food plants have become staples of American agriculture and commonplace in the American diet.

In *Fruits of Eden*, Amanda Harris has reconstructed the personal stories of