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The American West - Perpetual Mirage

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Statement of Senator Mike Mansfield (D. Montana)

The American West, Perpetual Mirage

COPY

4/29/57

Mr. President, the June issue of "Harper's Magazine" contains an article entitled "The American West, Perpetual Mirage" written by the noted historian Walter Prescott Webb.

Mr. Webb has prepared an engrossing study of the West, in which he presents a new understanding of what the West means, what it is and why it is.

We all have our own associations with the West but the author suggests a few new concepts. His most interesting observation is that the overriding influence that shapes the West is the desert.

The article is an engrossing literary effort and suggests a new logical and reasonable understanding of the American West. I highly recommend this article to all of my colleagues here in the Senate. I am sure that you will find Mr. Webb's work fascinating as well as informative.

Mr. President, I ask that this article "The American West, Perpetual Mirage" by Walter Prescott Webb be printed at the conclusion of my remarks in the Congressional Record.

APR 29 1957