

The Advertiser  
May 15<sup>th</sup> 1916

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## NEW LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR.

CHIEF JUSTICE APPOINTED.



The Chief Justice (Mr. G. J. R. Murray), who was recently appointed Chancellor of the Adelaide University, has been chosen to fill another position, held many years by the late Sir Samuel Way, namely, that of Lieutenant-Governor of the State. The notification of the appointment was received by his Excellency Governor (Sir. Henry Galway) on Saturday, and the news will be received in the utmost satisfaction. The Chief Justice was born at Murray Park, Magill, September 27, 1863. After a successful scholastic career he proceeded to Cambridge and entered Trinity College. He took the B.A. and LL.B. degrees, and concurrently taking the law course, he passed the Law Tripos in 1887, being ranked a senior. Mr. Murray was called to the bar at the Inner Temple on April 25, 1888. He returned to Adelaide the same year, and became the associate of his Honor the Chief Justice (Sir Samuel Way). In 1891 he began practising with Mr. W. A. Magarey, and quickly established a reputation as a lawyer. In 1896 he was made a K.C., and six years later was elevated to the bench. He was made Chief Justice on January 19 last.



*The Register,  
May 23<sup>rd</sup> 1916*

## SCHOOLS OF FORESTRY.

### What Britain is Doing.

[From The Times.]

The increase in the price of wood which the war has caused should direct attention to the national importance of our schools of forestry. The Universities of Cambridge and Oxford have now well-established schools which provide courses of instruction suitable for the expert, the land agent, and the landowner. The Universities of Edinburgh and Aberdeen and the Agricultural College in Glasgow also provide courses of instruction on the science of forestry, and similar provision is made at Newcastle, Bangor, and Cirencester. The aim of the courses at the various centres is to spread a knowledge of the economic as well as the technical aspects of the question, and thus to adapt the knowledge of their pupils to the commercial opportunities of syviculture. At Cambridge, Oxford, and Edinburgh there are now definite schools with separate staffs, and courses are provided which lead to degrees or diplomas. New buildings have lately been erected at Cambridge for the accommodation of the school, which is under the control of a Forestry Committee of the Board of Agricultural Studies. In addition to the University staff, an adviser in forestry has been appointed at a salary of £300 a year, partly provided by a grant from the Board of Agriculture. Before the diploma is granted the candidate must have resided for at least six months on forests either at home or abroad approved by the committee, and have gone through a prescribed course of practical work. This regulation may be relaxed in the case of individual candidates who have already a practical knowledge of the subject. The courses of instruction are designed to assist the timber industry at home and to develop production. The examination is partly in writing, partly oral, and practical.

—At Edinburgh.—

A lectureship in forestry was appointed in Edinburgh University in 1888, the first lecturer being Dr. Somerville, who is at present head of the School of Forestry at Oxford. A degree of B.Sc. in forestry was instituted in 1906. A new forestry building has lately been opened at a large cost, £4,500 of which was voted by the Development Commissioners on the condition that at least an equal sum was provided by the university. Among its most useful features are a lecture hall which will seat over 100, two laboratories used for practical work, and for museums devoted to collections illustrating various branches of the subject. A sum of £2,000 was contributed by the Development Commissioners for a forest garden, to be managed by a joint committee of the University and the College of Agriculture. Owing to the large proportion of scantily utilized moorland, forestry is and has been for more than a hundred years a branch of rural economy in which Scotland has a peculiar interest. The day is certainly at hand when the forester with a thorough training for his work is needed in this country. The extraordinary position which has arisen at the present time in regard to timber supplies clearly demonstrates not only the desirableness but the absolute necessity of a great development of the industry at home. The amount of timber which a nation uses is in direct proportion to that nation's industrial prosperity, for all industrial activities involve the utilization of wood in some degree. It is therefore, no matter for wonder that the consumption of timber in Britain with her many industries should be large; but it is startling to find that practically the whole of the supplies come from abroad, and that, in spite of the nation's opportunities, little systematic effort is made to meet the demand at home. In 1913 timber to the value of £37,372,071 was imported, and in addition manufactured wood pulp was imported to the value of between three and four million pounds, and paper, in the manufacture of which wood pulp largely enters, to the value of nearly £6,000,000. According to the Census of Production (1905) the value of timber produced at home only equals about £600,000 a year. Thus we may say that the nation is almost entirely dependent on foreign supplies. The chief sources of supply have been Russia, Sweden, Norway, the United States, and Canada. Only about a tenth of the total supply comes from British possessions. Even in normal times these countries have been supplying with some difficulty. In each of the countries the natural supplies along the waterways are becoming exhausted, and the timber has



to be got from inland districts at greater cost. There is a temptation to fell trees before they reach their full development; in many Norwegian pine forests, for example, few living trees can be seen of girth as large as many of the old stumps. Then the countries themselves are developing, and their own internal demands are increasing. The price of timber in the English market has been steadily rising in consequence of the decreased supplies. In the period between 1908 and 1913 the increase in price on all sorts is about 20 per cent., while in some kinds it is as high as 34 per cent. This upward tendency will certainly increase, as all economic circumstances point to increasing demands, while the supply is being steadily reduced.

#### —Prices Going Up.—

Although warnings have been repeatedly given as to the certain increase in the price of timber, little or no efforts have been made to meet the situation. It is an established fact that the climate of Britain is in every way suitable for the growth of the kinds of trees which are most in demand in commerce. Yet the woodland area of the country is considerably less than 3,000,000 acres, or nearly 4 per cent. of the land area, while the area of "mountain and heathland" exceeds 13,000,000 acres. Of this, which is largely waste land, large areas are eminently suitable for the growth of trees. A good deal of judgment is necessary in planting, as in unfavourable situations the outlay may prove unremunerative. But there remains an immense acreage which could successfully be planted; and the various local schools of forestry are the natural bodies for the collection and diffusion of information on the capacity of each district. Experience shows us that we can expect an average increment of at least 60 cubic ft. per acre per annum. Thus every million acres of woodland in full rotation and under proper management would supply us with 60,000,000 cubic ft. of timber each year, and in the course of time the nation could almost meet its own demands. The "red wood" of commerce is the Scotch pine, and the "white wood" is the spruce. The latter is also the tree most extensively used in the manufacture of wood pulp and paper. Both trees grow to perfection here. Then Douglas fir (Oregon pine or Columbian pine timber of commerce) and larch also find all the conditions which they demand.

#### —More Timber Wanted.—

We have hitherto been able to draw our supplies from the accumulated stocks of the natural forests abroad. The increased prices are meekly accepted as inevitable, while they are merely the result of our own neglect in not attempting to meet the demand at home. Further, we hear the pernicious argument that timber is now being replaced by substitutes such as reinforced concrete, steel, and others. This may be so, but the actual quantities of timber now being used are far greater than ever before, and the demand in the near future is likely to be greater than ever. In the extraordinary deficiency now prevailing serious positions have arisen in many industries. Of such an important material as pitwood we import about three million pounds' worth a year. Special efforts have been made to meet the extra demand, but the material is only available at increased price and at the expense of future supplies. Thus the question of the development of the timber-producing industry is now urgent. Apart from the loss in national pride in allowing ourselves to be entirely dependent on the goodwill of our neighbours, we have a vast area of land which is at present lying waste, and which could be made highly remunerative by a comparatively small expenditure of capital. The development of this industry is essentially a matter for the State. In the State woods of Saxony on the small area of 430,000 acres a net annual profit of between £450,000 and £500,000 is obtained, and many industries flourish as a consequence of the existence of the woods. Coming under this class there are the wood pulp mills, of which there are over 700 in Germany, while this country has but two.