

The Late Overton Price.

Foresters and forest conservationists throughout America learnt with very deep regret of the recent lamentable death of Mr. Overton W. Price. Mr. Price, while only thirty-nine years old at the time of his death, had been connected with forestry work for about twenty years, and his reputation was international. During Dr. Gifford Pinchot's term as United States Forester, Mr. Price was his assistant. He resigned shortly after Dr. Pinchot left the service, and since that had been practising as a consulting forester. He was also Vice-President of the National Conservation Association. He visited Canada on many occasions, and at the time of his death was consulting forester to British Columbia. Mr. H. R. McMillan, Chief Forester of British Columbia, sends the following appreciative note on Mr. Price's work:—

'Canadian forestry will long feel the loss of Overton W. Price. Mr. Price's first services to Canadian conservation were indirect. Under his influence, working in association with Mr. Pinchot, the educational effect of the United States Forest Service knew no international boundary.

'The crystallization of forest sentiment in Canada, the springing into life of Canadian forest organizations can be traced directly to the international forest leaders of the United States, of whom Mr. Price was one.

'Mr. Price's direct services to Canadian forestry began in 1906 when, as representative of the United States Forest Service, he attended the Canadian Forestry Association Convention in Vancouver. His greatest service to Canada was rendered while acting as consulting forester to the Province of British Columbia during the two and a half years previous to his death.

'The Royal Commission on Forestry, with Mr. M. Allerdale Grainger as secretary, had shown the necessity for a Provincial Forest Service, and had outlined an organization, but the work from the ground up remained to be done. The credit of the organization belongs to Mr. Price. His breadth of vision conceived it, his zeal carried it through, his counsel guided it, his standards are and will be its inspiration. His memory will live long with foresters in British Columbia.'

Strength of Hickory.

Hickory is the strongest Canadian wood. When properly seasoned a hickory column will support a weight of twelve tons per square inch cross-section, which is considerably more than what could be borne by a pillar of cast iron or steel of the same length and weight.

Forest Fires.

The reports received from east and west indicate that this was in some respects the worst season for forest fires since an organized attempt has been made to fight these conflagrations. In most parts the snowfall was unusually light. It was hoped that copious spring rains would make up for this, but, on the contrary, spring opened very dry and cold, with the result that by the middle of June vegetation was scarcely more advanced than ordinarily it is in the early part of May. The result was that the very dangerous period extended at least a whole month longer than usual. More effort to discover and fight fire was put forth than ever before, with the result that in spite of the bad season losses were kept down a much below what was feared. Such a season as this indicates that under ordinary conditions thorough organization of the fire fighting forces can almost completely eliminate forest fires.

Protect Young Timber.

Mr. Clyde Leavitt, chief fire inspector of the Railway Commission, stated, in an interview, that the railways were doing everything in their power to prevent bush fires near the railway tracks from spreading. 'It seems to me,' said Mr. Leavitt, 'that there is too little attention paid to the fires in the cut over areas, and too much protection concentrated on the merchantable timber limits. If more effort were devoted to protecting the young timber it would give it a chance and prevent the fire from spreading to the limits where the trees are large enough for merchantable use.'

MAKE IT KNOWN.

Many people first have their attention directed to forest conservation by conventions. They join the Association just before or at the Convention, and consequently the literature sent out to those already members may not reach them. Members are, therefore, requested to make known to any who may be interested the fact that the Halifax Convention, Sept. 1 to 4, has been postponed indefinitely, and that all railway and other arrangements are cancelled.