



George Frederick Jewett

1896-1956

George Frederick Jewett was born on August 22, 1896, the son of James Richard Jewett, Professor of Arabic at Harvard University, and Margaret Weyerhaeuser Jewett, eldest daughter of the timber pioneer Frederick K. Weyerhaeuser. Jewett was educated at Phillips Academy at Andover, Massachusetts, and subsequently received his A.B. degree from Harvard in 1919. He was graduated from Harvard's School of Business in 1922.

Jewett married Mary Pelton Cooper on September 12, 1925. They had two children: George Frederick and Margaret Weyerhaeuser.

He joined the Clearwater Timber Company at Lewiston, Idaho, in 1924, one of the several Weyerhaeuser concerns in northern Idaho, and in this context, Jewett began working to ameliorate the extremely depressed situation of the timber industry. Severe national over-

production and a decreasing demand for wood, coupled with physical problems peculiar to Idaho, were the causes. In 1931, Jewett instigated the merger of Clearwater Timber Co., Potlatch Lumber Co., and Edward Rutledge Timber Co., establishing Potlatch Forests, Incorporated, a company that gained the reputation of being a pioneer in instituting good forest practices. Jewett served as president and then as chairman of the board of Potlatch Forests, Incorporated. He made a worthy contribution to forestry not only as a businessman but also as an advocate of private enterprise in forestry, as a conservationist, and as an active proponent of forest taxation reform.

Jewett was vitally active in forest conservation and efforts to reduce the inequities of burdensome forest taxation in Idaho. He was concerned with lumbering not only from a purely business standpoint but

also proved himself a far-sighted advocate of practical innovations and scientific research in his field.

Perhaps the most vital aspect of Jewett's work was his fight to prevent excessive federal regulation of private forestry. As president of the Western Forestry and Conservation Association (he was elected to this position in 1935), he actively pursued his points of view.

Through his relationship with Western Forestry and Conservation Association, Western Pine Association and the Pacific Northwest Regional Planning Association, Jewett strove unceasingly to establish sustained yield forest management and good forest practices. His influence on the implementation of conservation practices and efficient forest management, both in the Pacific Northwest and nationally, cannot be overestimated.

While president of Potlatch, Jewett was instrumental in launching the company into the pulp and paper business at Lewiston, making the Potlatch Mills the only pulp-related facilities in Idaho.

In addition to his business interests, Mr. Jewett found time for a wide range of political and philanthropic activities. Both he and Mrs. Jewett were active in the Republican Party, in the English Speaking Union, the Y.M.C.A. and in numerous local Spokane and Pacific Northwest charitable institutions. Their interest and support of the Cathedral of St. John at Spokane, of Harvard University, Wellesley College, and of the American Universities of Cairo and Beirut is further proof of the way in which they gave generously of their resources.

George Frederick Jewett died on November 23, 1956. Forest conservation lost a strong advocate but Mr. Jewett's pioneering work endures as the foundation of a strong industry.