

Roger, Geoffrey J (mainly from The Advertiser, Adelaide, Friday 12 April 1935, on Trove)

CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS Mr. G. J. Rodger, Of N.S.W., Appointed (Former Adelaide man)

Following a personal interview which the Minister of Afforestation (Mr. Ritchie) had in Sydney last week with the senior officer of the New South Wales Forestry Commission (Mr. Geoffrey J. Rodger) , Executive Council yesterday appointed Mr. Rodger Conservator of Forests for South Australia at a salary of £640 a year, in succession to Mr. Julius, who left the service in January last on reaching the retiring age. Mr. Rodger was one of several who applied for the position, and his qualifications and experience so impressed Mr. Ritchie that when he was in Melbourne last week he decided to go on to Sydney to discuss forestry problems with Mr. Rodger. Mr. Rodger is a South Australian, having been born at Kensington 40 years ago. He is the eldest son of Mr. and Mrs J. Rodger, of Dulwich. He was educated at Christian Brothers' College, and took the degree of Bachelor of Science in forestry at the Adelaide University in 1915, when he was appointed assistant forester at Bundaleer. Shortly afterwards he went abroad with the AIF., and saw war service until the conclusion of hostilities. During periods of leave he inspected French and Belgian forests, and on being demobilised he was attached in 1919 for three months to the Forestry Authority of Great Britain. In this capacity he gained experience in silviculture and forest management. Returning to South Australia he resumed his connection with the Forestry Department, but resigned shortly afterwards to accept an appointment with the New South Wales Forestry Commission which he retained until **May, 1924**. Seeking wider experience he then **took the position of senior divisional forest officer in Western Australia, and remained there until March, 1926**. The Federal Government next secured his services, and he became chief forester in the Federal Capital Territory until August, 1928. In 1927 he was loaned to the Tasmanian Government to survey its forest resources and prepare plans for the reorganisation of the forest services of that State. In August, 1928, he became chief working plans officer for the New South Wales Forestry Commission, and became senior officer of the Commission in 1931. Mr. Rodger, who is married, and has one child, will arrive in Adelaide within a few weeks. "South Australia Fortunate" SYDNEY. April 11. The Inspector-General of Forests for the Commonwealth (Mr. C. E. Lane Poole), who is on sick leave in Sydney, said tonight that South Australia was very fortunate to obtain the services of Mr. Rodger, who was a forester whose work, both in administrative and executive capacities, was of a very high order.

Was later the Director General of the Forests and Timber Bureau in Canberra. Also did the "Report of the Royal Commission appointed to enquire into and report upon the bush fires of December, 1960 and January, February and March, 1961 in Western Australia : the measures necessary or desirable to prevent and control such fires and to protect life and property in the future, and the basic requirements for an effective state fire emergency organization" by G. J. Rodger, Royal Commissioner (1961).