

OBITUARY



THE LATE MR. DANIEL McCAW.

15th July, 1882—29th March, 1943.

Members have read with regret of the death of Mr. D. McCaw, one of the first Councillors of the Society, in whose formation he took the keenest interest.

Mr. McCaw left his Antrim home in 1905 to begin his forestry career at Avondale, where he was an apprentice until 1907. From 1907 to 1911 he was a scholarship student at the Royal College of Science, where he took his diploma in 1912. Later he was granted the degree of B.Sc. of the National University. After a short period of practical experience in England he was appointed Forester in the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction in 1913 in charge of Knockmany Forest. His next move was to Baunreagh as first-class Forester in 1920 and while there he was appointed District Officer under the Forestry Commission. His transfer to Clonmel took place in 1923 and he remained there until May, 1940, when he was transferred to Headquarters duties as Acting Inspector. It was during his long term of seventeen years in Clonmel that most of us got to know him.

Although Mr. McCaw was suffering in health for some considerable time, that did not prevent him from applying himself energetically and without respite to his important duties in the forestry service. Indeed, it appeared at the last to be his intention literally to work to the end and it took some persuasion to get him to seek medical advice. Unfortunately his condition was worse than was thought, but even so his sudden death came as a shock.

Mr. McCaw was a figure well known to all in forestry circles in this country and he was held in affection for his many good qualities. His professional keenness was an inspiration to all and even at the last he was reading technical papers dealing with forest soil problems, in which he took a special interest. He was a careful and sound forester and had a thoroughly practical outlook.

There was a simplicity and honesty about Mr. McCaw which he could not disguise and he had a very shrewd judgment coupled with a rare sense of humour. His memory and powers of observation were remarkable, which made him a most interesting travelling companion, although the rapidity with which his mind travelled from one subject to another sometimes made it difficult to follow him.

His presence will be greatly missed. He has left for himself a monument in the valley of the Suir.