



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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PAUL G. REDINGTON IS NAMED
CHIEF OF BIOLOGICAL SURVEY

Paul G. Redington, Assistant Chief of the Forest Service, in charge of the Branch of Public Relations, has been named by Secretary of Agriculture Jardine as Chief of the Bureau of Biological Survey to succeed Dr. E. W. Nelson. The appointment will become effective May 9, according to the announcement made to-day.

Doctor Nelson has been associated with the work of the Department of Agriculture since 1890, and has been Chief of the Bureau of Biological Survey since 1916. During more than 50 years spent in the study of wild birds and animals he has accumulated a vast knowledge and experience. In order that he might devote his entire time to the assembling of information he has gathered and to round out his work in the field of science, he asked Secretary Jardine to relieve him of the executive responsibilities as chief of the bureau.

Before he began devoting his entire time to administrative work in the department Doctor Nelson spent more than twenty years as a scientific explorer in different parts of the continent from the Arctic to the Tropics. From the collection of birds and mammals obtained at this time he and others have described hundreds of species previously unknown to science. As a part of his Arctic experiences he was a member of the "Jeannette" search expedition in 1881 and was with the first party to land on Wrangell Island. His work on the customs and history of the Eskimos, made as a result of his study of these people while in Alaska in the 70's, is still an authoritative publication. In Mexico his travels during fourteen years extended into every State and Territory of that country and resulted in securing large collections of specimens of mammals, birds, reptiles, and plants and in the accumulation of a vast amount of data, which he now expects to find time to prepare for publication.

His published work includes monographs of mammals and birds and descriptions of many new species. He is also the author of popular books and articles dealing with various phases of wild life and wild-life conservation.

During the ten years he has served as chief of Biological Survey the Bureau has developed and it is now generally recognized throughout the world as one of

the leaders in the study of wild life and its conservation.

"Doctor Nelson has performed a valuable service to science and has made an enviable contribution to our knowledge of wild life," said Secretary Jardine in announcing this change in personnel. "In connection with one of Doctor Nelson's books on the Wild Animals of North America, Theodore Roosevelt once said that the author was 'one of the keenest naturalists we have ever had and a man of singularly balanced development.' In recognition of his scientific work both in the field and in the laboratory a large number of species of various animals and plants have been named in honor of Doctor Nelson. It seems only proper that he should be relieved of the responsibility of administrative duties in order that he may turn his entire attention to bringing together the results of his experience and give more of his time to research studies. He will remain in the Bureau of Biological Survey as Senior Biologist."

"Mr. Redington has been connected with the Forest Service since 1904, and the lines of work on which he has been engaged both in Washington and in the field have been such as to well fit him for the various activities of the Biological Survey," said Secretary Jardine. "These activities include the conservation of the useful game and fur-bearing animals, game and insectivorous birds, and other beneficial or harmless forms of wild life and the control of those forms that are found to be injurious to agriculture, stock raising, horticulture, and forestry."

Under the Biological Survey also are 72 bird and big game reservations, and Mr. Redington's experience with wild life administration on national forests will be an asset both to him and to the Biological Survey in his new field of public service. Throughout his service over nearly the entire United States he has taken an active personal interest in wild life and its conservation. He has acquired his familiarity with our game birds and animals through his numerous contacts in outdoor life."

Mr. Redington has served the Forest Service in many western and southwestern States and in the headquarters at Washington. Following his appointment in 1904 he was assigned to work in Montana, Wyoming, and Idaho. Appointed forest inspector in 1906, he inspected timber sale work in Wyoming, Colorado, and Utah. In 1907 he was advanced to the position of inspector, and the following year was transferred to Colorado as associate district forester. From 1911 to 1916 he was supervisor of the Sierra National Forest in California, and from this position was promoted to district forester of the Southwestern District, with headquarters in New Mexico. Before returning to forestry work in California in 1919 he was city manager of Albuquerque for a term. For the next five years, as district forester of the California District, he administered the eighteen national forests of that State, and one year ago was promoted to assistant forester, with headquarters at Washington.

Mr. Redington is a native of Illinois. He was graduated from Dartmouth College in 1900, and during the years 1902 to 1904 took a post-graduate course in the Forestry School at Yale University, receiving the degree of Master of Forestry.

Mr. Redington will be assigned to the staff of the Biological Survey on February 16, spending the time prior to May 9 in becoming more familiar with the details of the Bureau's work.

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