



Resignation of Will C. Barnes Ends Long Federal Service

Will C. Barnes has submitted his resignation as secretary of the Geographic Board and will leave the Federal Service next month. He has held that position since his retirement from the Forest Service, Department of Agriculture, two years ago, in which he was Assistant Forester in Charge of Range Management. Mr. Barnes is a member of Local Union No. 2, Washington, D.C.

Upon his retirement from the Forest Service, Mr. Barnes completed 21 years in that part of the Government service. He had served for several years as a member of the Geographic Board and his experience and broad knowledge were immediately sought by that body through a transfer to the post of secretary of the Board.

Mr. Barnes is widely known among foresters and livestock men throughout the country and has had a varied career as soldier, cattleman and public official. He has devoted many years to the public service and has taken an important part in the development of grazing management and conservation of range resources.

Born in San Francisco, June 21, 1858, his first interest was in music, and he received considerable musical education. But his adventurous spirit soon came to the fore, and while yet a boy he went to Arizona and became identified with the early pioneer life of that State.

During the Apache Indian War in Arizona, Mr. Barnes served in the United States Army as first class sergeant in the Signal Corps. In recognition of outstanding valor in line of duty, when he made his way through hostile Indian lines to secure relief for his besieged detachment, he was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor in September, 1881.

Having had many years of experience as a practical stockman on the ranges of the Southwest, he went into the cattle business in Arizona after leaving the military service. In 1888 he was appointed a member of the Arizona Livestock Sanitary Board, serving 12 years. Later he was a member of the New

Mexico Cattle Sanitary Board for seven years, its secretary for three years, and its president for one year.

For two years, Mr. Barnes served as secretary of the Intermountain Cattle Growers' Association, the immediate predecessor of the American National Livestock Association. He has held a number of public position, including Arizona Commissioner to the World's Fair in 1893, member of the Arizona State Legislature, 1891-93, and a member of the New Mexico Legislature, 1901-03.

Entering the Forest Service as inspector of grazing at Albuquerque in 1907, he became in 1915 chief of the Branch of Grazing Management. He was one of the first grazing experts in the Forest Service, and has been a leader in the grazing management work of the Service almost from its inception.

Mr. Barnes leaves the Federal Service to indulge a desire he has long had for extended travel and for literary work. He plans to embark on a trip around the world, and with Mrs. Barnes, will go first to Phoenix, Ariz., there to spend two or three months completing a history of Arizona. Thence they will go to Honolulu and the Philippines and on around the world. The trip will consume a year and a half.