Indian Affairs - Office of Public Affairs

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Appointment of Clyde W. Pensoneau as superintendent of the Hopi Agency, Keams Canyon, Arizona, was announced today by Commissioner of Indian Affairs Philleo Nash. The assignment is a recall for Pensoneau, who served as superintendent at Hopi from 1954 to 1956. Increasing economic development and education activities on the Hopi Reservation "demand a superintendent with intimate knowledge of Hopi affairs," Nash said.

The new appointee will take over January 3, 1965, succeeding Herman O'Harra, "who is retiring after 33 years of Federal service.

Pensoneau has been assistant director of the Bureau's Gallup Area Office in New Mexico since September 1962. He has had over 20 years of experience with the Bureau in extension and credit work.

He joined the Bureau in 1941 as a farm aide at Uintah and Ouray Agency in Utah and was promoted to farm agent a year later. In 1944, he transferred to the Nevada Agency, as principal agricultural aide and after a year was named farm management supervisor at the Pyramid Lake Sub agency, Nevada. In 1948, he was given supervision of extension and credit work at Fort Berthold Agency, North Dakota, and remained in that position until he transferred to Colorado River Agency, Arizona, in 1952. Two years later, he was named superintendent of the Hopi Agency. He transferred to the Central Office in Washington as agricultural extension supervisor in 1956, and later became supervisory finance specialist in the Bureau's branch of credit.

Born in Jones, Oklahoma, in 1914, Pensoneau is an enrolled member of the Kickapoo Tribe. He graduated from Oklahoma A &M College in 1941 with a degree in animal husbandry.