Indian Affairs - Office of Public Affairs

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Secretary of the Interior Douglas McKay today announced the appointment of Harwood Keaton, Okmulgee, Oklahoma, effective July 18, as assistant area director for the Bureau of Indian Affairs at Muskogee, Oklahoma.

Born in Gibson County, Tenn., and educated in the schools of that State, Mr. Keaton moved to Oklahoma at an early age and has been in the oil and gas business there for more than 40 years. During much of this time he was self-employed and gained wide experience in negotiating leases with landowners and financial institutions, and in supervising actual field development of production. From 1943 to 1948 he was in charge of the oil and gas business of Sells Petroleum, Inc.

In his new post Mr. Keaton will assist Paul L. Fickinger, Area Director, in connection with Indian lands and mineral rights and will be responsible for direction of these activities for the Bureau in the eastern Oklahoma area.