

FORMER BOULDER RESIDENT GIVEN TEMPORARY POST BY HAROLD ICKES

Will Direct Bureau Until
Permanent Chief Is
Selected

WALTER TO DENVER

Several Are Mentioned as
Successor for Late Dr.
Elwood Mead ..

WASHINGTON, Mar. 2.
(UP)—The bureau of reclama-
tion today announced the
appointment of John C. Page,
chief engineer of the bureau,
as acting commissioner.

Page was appointed by Sec-
retary of Interior Harold L.
Ickes and will direct the bu-
reau's program until a perma-
nent successor is named to
fill the vacancy caused by the
death, several weeks ago, of
Elwood Mead, veteran direc-
tor of the bureau.

R. F. Walter, director of the
Denver office of the bureau, has
been serving as acting commis-
sioner and Page will replace him.
Walter, it was understood, refus-
ed to be considered an applicant
for Mead's position. Walter will
return to Denver "to expedite
field work on the bureau's pro-
jects throughout the west."

NEITHER ICKES nor reclama-
tion officials would say when
President Roosevelt would ap-
point a permanent commissioner,
although it is expected that this
appointment will be made in the
near future.

Page and Walter both have been
prominently mentioned as pos-
sible successors to the late bureau
head and others considered in-
clude J. D. Ross, of the securities
commission and former manager
of the Seattle municipal light sys-
tem; Representative James G.
Scrugham of Nevada; J. S. James,
Montana state engineer; and John
W. Haw, agricultural agent for
the Northern Pacific railroad com-
pany at St. Paul.

JOHN C. PAGE, today named
acting commissioner of reclama-
tion, is widely known in southern
Nevada, having acted as office en-
gineer on the Boulder dam pro-
ject from its inception to within
a few months of its completion.

Page was quite active in the
social and civic life of Boulder
City and left for Washington last
year to become assistant to Mead.