



newsletter

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Director Hartzog Retires



George B. Hartzog, Jr., director of the National Park Service since Jan. 6, 1964, retired, effective Dec. 31, 1972, following acceptance of resignation which had been earlier requested by the Administration.

At NEWSLETTER press time, Mr. Hartzog had not disclosed his future plans nor had his successor been announced.

In a statement issued to the press on Dec. 6, the day Secretary of the Interior Rogers C.B. Morton announced he had accepted the resignation, Mr. Hartzog said:

"It's been a great experience being director of the National Park Service in this Administration and the past Administration. I have not yet made up my mind what I am going to do next. In the meantime, I am going fishing."

Secretary Morton made the following statement:

"I have today accepted the resignation of George B. Hartzog, Jr., who has been director of the National Park Service since Jan. 6, 1964.

"Acceptance of his resignation is part of a basic change in personnel organization designed to provide new life and new direction in reaching for the President's goals.

"Changes such as this affect executive personnel both appointed by this Administration during the President's first term, as well as personnel appointed by the previous Administration.

"The President is anxious that his second term be accompanied by a new look from a personnel as well as a program standpoint.

"There will be other announcements forthcoming from the White House involving resignations and changes in assignment of various Department of the Interior Presi-

dential appointees. The people who will leave this Department, of course, have other interests and may well receive new assignments within government or elect to return to the private sector."

All "Schedule C" (exempt from Civil Service) appointees of the Department of the Interior had been requested to submit their resignations in November.

Mr. Hartzog joined Interior's Bureau of Land Management in March, 1946, after wartime service in the U.S. Army, rising from private to first lieutenant. He joined NPS as an attorney and administrator in October, 1946.

During the nine years he served as director, the National Park System gained 78 new areas, totaling almost 2,694,000 acres.

His principal field assignments have been: assistant superintendent, Rocky Mountain NP, 1955-57; assistant superintendent Great Smoky Mountains NP, 1957-59; superintendent, Jefferson National Expansion Memorial, 1959-62.

At St. Louis, he was instrumental in putting together the combination of Federal, state, city governmental and public and private initiative that led to the construction of the Gateway Arch on the St. Louis Waterfront.

He served briefly as Executive Director of Downtown St. Louis, Inc. before being named NPS As-

sociate Director in February 1963. Eleven months later he was named Director.

Mr. Hartzog was born March 17, 1920 in Colleton County, S.C. where he attended public schools. He read law under the supervision of the Hon. J.M. Mooror of Walterboro, S.C. and passed the South Carolina Bar examination and was admitted to practice in that state in 1942. He also holds a Bachelor of Science Degree from American University in Washington, D.C.

His honorary degrees include three received in 1972 — Honorary Doctor of Laws Degrees from the University of Arizona and Wofford College, South Carolina and an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters from Lincoln University, Lincoln, Ill. In 1971 he was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Laws Degree from Washington University, St. Louis, Mo.

Mr. Hartzog has received the Department of the Interior's highest honor, the Distinguished Service Award, the William A. Jump Memorial Foundation Meritorious Award Certificate, the Cornelius Amory Pugsley Gold Medal Award for 1967 from the American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society and the Distinguished Service Award of the National Recreation and Parks Association. He was also granted an honorary membership in the American Society of Landscape Architects.

He is a member of the National Park Association, the Sierra Club, the Nature Conservancy and has served on numerous commissions and boards in the fields of parks, outdoor recreation and historical preservation.

He and his wife Helen have three children; George III, Nancy and Edward.