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HODGINS

HODGINS, ERIC (OH-139) 178 pages PRCQ (Columbia)

Editor, Youth's Companion, 1927-29; associate editor, Redbook, 1929-33; with Time, Inc., 1933-58, managing editor, Fortune, 1935-37 publisher, 1937-41, vice president, 1938-46; member, President's Materials Policy Commission, 1950-52; speechwriter for 1952 and 1956 Adlai Stevenson campaigns.

DESCRIPTION: Interview #1. President's Materials Policy Commission (Paley Commission), 1951, examination of strategic and other U.S. resources; National Security Research Board; Bill Paley; AEC article; uranium, bauxite; stockpiling; oil; 1952 Adlai Stevenson campaign; John Kenneth Galbraith; Arthur Schlesinger, Jr.; Stevenson's dislike of speechwriting staff; 1956 Stevenson campaign.

Interview #2. Fortune; Time, Inc.; Henry (Harry) Luce; Time's policy toward the Negro; Architectural Forum, problem of housing; "Arms and the Man" article for Fortune; Norman Davis; objectives of Fortune in 1930s; Spanish Civil War; Fortune's position on U.S. Steel; Youth's Companion.

Interview #3. Youth's Companion; history of Fortune; New Deal; criticism of Fortune by businessmen; Luce publishing innovations; vice president of Time, Inc., 1938; transition to Time magazine; magazines of the 1920s and 1930s.

Interview #4. Time "style of journalism"; comparison of Time and Newsweek; Time covers; Roy Larsen, Time circulation manager; direct mail solicitation; censorship; breaking of Japanese code; effect of World War II on publishing Time.

Interview #5. Rebuilding of Time staff after World War II; Hedley Donovan; Constance Babington-Smith; resignation as Time vice president, 1946.

Interview #6. "Mr. Blandings Builds His Castle," short story and reprints; Mr. Blandings Builds His Dream House, novel and movie; P.G. Wodehouse; copyright; sequel, Blandings' Way; Episode; Dr. Leona Baumgartner; Mary Lasker; health problems.

[Columbia University Oral History Program, interviews by John T. Mason, 1968 and 1969]