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NEWSOM

NEWSOM, HERSCHEL D. (OH-306) 109 pages PRCQ (M)

Master of the National Grange, 1950-68; member of various boards and commissions in the Eisenhower administration.

DESCRIPTION: Interview #1. Personal background, and general overview of his work with the National Grange. Comments on DDE as president: his sense of duty; his philosophy on running the presidency. Comments on Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson: his philosophy of agricultural economics and international trade patterns; his policy on international cooperation re agricultural production; explanation of differences between Benson's and the Grange's price support plans; short observation on P.L. 480, and US agricultural surpluses. Importance of the Agricultural Act of 1965, and a stable price structure for agricultural products in the world market. Comments on the Grange's relationships with the Farm Bureau and the National Farmer's Organization. Short observations re his service on several boards and commissions in the Eisenhower administration. DDE's views on foreign aid. Comment on the impact of rural electrification programs.

[Columbia University Oral History Project, interview by Ed Edwin, 1968]