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THYE, EDWARD (OH-22) 77 pages PRCQ (M)

Senator from Minnesota, 1946-59.

DESCRIPTION: Interview #1. Personal background; committee appointments in the Senate. Comments re possibility of nominating DDE for president in 1948; first meeting with DDE. Lengthy discussion of his support for Harold Stassen as a presidential candidate and the 1952 Republican National Convention; Robert Taft. Reflections on DDE's cabinet appointments; Ezra Taft Benson and the Eisenhower administration's agricultural policies; dairy price supports; PL 480; disagreements with Secretary Benson's policies and Benson's lack of support for Thye's reelection bid in 1958. Comments re Thye's support for small business legislation; DDE's delegation of authority; Northwest Airlines route case; REA; nuclear power. Oveta Culp Hobby's influence in shaping HEW; illegal Mexican agricultural workers; mechanization of farm labor; Senator Joseph McCarthy and DDE's handling of the situation. Comments re French involvement in Vietnam; eradication program for anthrax in Mexican cattle through a joint U.S.-Mexican program.

[Columbia Oral History Project, interview by Ed Edwin, 1967]