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ENSLEY

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Fiscal analyst, U.S. Bureau of the Budget, 1941-47; Executive Director, Joint Economic Committee, United States Congress, 1949-57.

DESCRIPTION: Interview #1: Family and childhood; working his way through the University of Washington during the Depression; graduate school; government service fellowship at the University of Denver; hired as researcher by the Tax Foundation, Inc. in New York City; Ph.D. from New York University; joined Budget Bureau in 1943 as fiscal analyst; 1942 memorandum regarding a comprehensive anti-inflation and mobilization program; analyzing economic proposals for soundness and internal consistency; doctoral dissertation on "a nation's economic budget;" the stimulating environment with the Budget Bureau; military service; return to Budget Bureau in 1946 involving budget aspects of legislative reorganization; George Galloway; working with Senator Ralph Flanders of Vermont; Joint Economic Committee; prime office space occupied by the Committee; appointment and organization of Joint Economic Committee staff members; 1944 essay on postwar employment and unemployment; 1955 study comparing Russian and American economic growth; representing the U.S. at international meetings; 1957 meeting with Soviet economists; seeing areas of nonpartisan agreement in the Joint Economic Committee; 1950 report calling for flexible monetary policy; Flanders, Paul Douglas, Robert Taft and other members of the Committee; Arthur Vandenberg and the FDIC.

Interview #2: Ralph Flanders' attempts to raise pay and increase quality of Federal workers; Presidential salaries; Flanders' appointment to the Federal Reserve Bank; Senate Banking and Currency Committee; Flanders' conflicts with Joe McCarthy; Roy Cohn's criticism of Flanders; 1953 meeting of General Agreements on Tariff and Trade in Geneva; purpose of the Joint Economic Committee to advise Congress on the President's Economic Report; chairmen of the Joint Economic Committee; liaison with economists at universities; Congress as compared to other nations' legislative bodies; security in Congress; Wright Patman; joint committees that arose from the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946; conflicts between the executive and legislative branches on committee issues; shift from Democratic to Republican majority in Congress; witness to assassination attempts; relationship between Democratically-controlled Congress and Eisenhower; bipartisan or nonpartisan approach to economic policy; task of making recommendations to legislative committees; decline in number of joint committees; symposium for the twentieth anniversary of the Joint Economic Committee; achievements of the committee; work of Congress and the executive branch in formulating and implementing economic policy; career as president of the National Association of Mutual Savings Banks; president of the International Savings Bank Institute.

[Senate Historical Office, interview by Richard A. Baker, October 29 and November 1, 1985]