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LEE

LEE, J. BRACKEN

(OH-98)

70 pages

PRCQ (M)

Governor of Utah, 1949-57

DESCRIPTION: Lee's political background. 1952 Republican Governor's Conference: preparation of petition calling for fair play in delegate selection; its effect on the 1952 Republican National Convention. Lee's opinions of Robert Taft and Dwight Eisenhower. Sherman Adams. Nelson Rockefeller. Lee's charge that Eisenhower administration moved toward socialism. Eisenhower's response to pressure groups. Federal aid to the states. Interstate highway system: request by governors for return of tax money to states for highway construction; role of Clay Committee. Eisenhower's effect on the Republican party. Disputes between liberal and conservative wings of the Republican party, and their effect on 1952 and 1964 campaigns. Meetings between Eisenhower administration officials and state governors. Howard Pyle. Defeat of governor's resolution on Korea, 1953. Clarence Manion and inter-governmental relations. Lee's defeat for re-election, 1956. His campaign for senator, 1958. Arthur V. Watkins. Role of Committee on Political Education in 1958 campaign. Voter polls. Campaign for mayor of Salt Lake City. Joseph McCarthy. Richard Nixon. Congressman Douglas Stringfellow: exposure of his false military service record. Ezra Taft Benson; and Reed Benson. Organization of John Birch Society. Robert Welch and his book on Eisenhower (The Politician). Influence of John Birch Society in Utah elections. Barry Goldwater and 1960 Republican National Convention. Douglas MacArthur. General comments on centralized federal government and international tensions. Staging on national conventions. Lee's opposition to federal income tax.

A name index is located at the end of the transcript.

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