

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER LIBRARY
ABILENE, KANSAS

FRANCIS, CLARENCE: Papers, 1933-73

Accession A77-9
Processed by: TB
Date Completed: August 1978

The papers of Clarence Francis were deposited in the Dwight D. Eisenhower Library by Mr. Francis in December 1976.

Linear feet of Shelf space occupied: 4.5
Approximate number of pages: 8,800
Approximate number of items: 4,000

An instrument of gift for these papers was signed by Mr. Francis in May 1977. Literary property rights are retained by the donor until his death. At that time such rights pass to the United States. Under terms of the instrument of gift the following classes of documents are withheld from research use:

1. Papers relating to the family and private business affairs of Mr. Francis.
2. Papers relating to the family and private business affairs of other persons who have had correspondence with Mr. Francis.
3. Papers relating to investigations of individuals or to appointments and personnel matters.
4. Papers containing statements made by or to Clarence Francis in confidence unless in the judgment of the Director of the Dwight D. Eisenhower Library the reason for confidentiality no longer exists.
5. All other papers which contain information or statements that might be used to injure, harass, or damage any living person.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

Clarence Francis, business executive and internationally recognized expert on food, was born in New York in 1888. Upon graduating from Amherst College in 1910 he went to New York City intending to apply for work at the Standard Oil Corporation. By mistake, Francis went to the wrong office and soon found himself working for the Corn Products Refining Company, a small food manufacturing firm. This inauspicious beginning led to a life-long interest in the food industry. By the time Francis retired from the General Foods Corporation in 1954 he had risen to become Chairman of the Board of Directors.

In addition to his work in the food industry, Francis also served as a government consultant. By 1933 he was recognized as an expert on food production and distribution. When the National Recovery Administration, one of President Roosevelt's New Deal agencies, was created to establish codes to regulate business operations, Francis was hired as a consultant to help draft codes for the food industry. The successful conclusion of this task led to further demands for his services. Between 1940 and 1943 he assisted in defense mobilization; from 1943 to 1945 he led a committee which studied the food services at several naval bases in the United States; he studied manpower training and utilization in the Defense Department, 1951-52; and he evaluated the Mutual Security Program in 1953.

Francis' consultant work required taking extended leaves from his work at the General Foods Corporation. After his retirement in 1954 he was able to devote most of his time to government service. He became a special consultant to President Eisenhower with the responsibility of disposing of the vast agricultural surpluses which the federal government had accumulated. At the same time he served as chairman of the Citizens Committee for the Hoover Report, and was the American representative on the European Productivity Agency.

At the end of the Eisenhower administration Francis left government services and returned to private business. His last major activity was with the Economic Development Council of New York City, from which he retired in 1972 at the age of eighty-three.

The Papers of Clarence Francis cover the period from 1933 to 1973 and are arranged into three basic series. Despite his many years in service in the food industry, the papers contain practically no information on the business activities of Mr. Francis. However, his consultant work for the government and various quasi-governmental groups is well documented. Most of this documentation is contained in the first, and largest, series of the collection, the Governmental Service Series.

Each major organization for which Francis worked is represented in the Governmental Service Series, although the amount of documentation varies from agency to agency. The most detailed information on his work concerns his activities as chairman of the committee to study the navy food service and as chairman of the Citizens Committee for the Hoover Report. The information about his work on the disposal of the agricultural surplus is fragmentary. For more detailed information on this phase of Francis' activities the researcher should consult the White House

records of Clarence Francis and also the papers and records of his assistant James Lambie, all of which are in the Eisenhower Library.

The second series in the collection is the General Series. This series contains a large collection of his speeches, as well as information on his membership in professional associations and awards which were presented to him. There is some autobiographical data compiled by Francis, including a set of memos in which he described his recollections of prominent persons and events. The "Recollections" folder is elaborately described on the attached container list.

Further information of this nature is contained in Francis' oral history transcripts. Francis was interviewed twice, once concerning Herbert Hoover and once concerning Dwight D. Eisenhower. Several copies of the interview transcripts were found in Francis' papers. These have been transferred to the oral history collection of the Eisenhower Library where they are available to researcher, subject to restrictions imposed by Mr. Francis.

The General Series also contains information on Francis' participation in the work of various public service groups, as well as additional documentation on his government service.

Francis worked with these particular groups on a part-time basis and there is relatively little documentation. Of particular interest, however, is the folder on the Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, which mentions Francis' fund raising work and details his efforts to have President Eisenhower attend the groundbreaking ceremony.

Francis also served on the committee which supervised the U.S. exhibition in Moscow in 1959. He traveled to Moscow to visit the exhibit and was present at the famous "kitchen debate" between Vice President Nixon and Premier Khrushchev. Francis wrote a lengthy account of his trip which is located along with other material, in the "Trip to Russia" folders.

The third series in the collection is the Correspondence Series. Although Francis corresponded with a large number of people, the series pertains primarily to only two persons, Herbert Hoover and Dwight D. Eisenhower.

Hoover and Francis had first met in the 1920s when Hoover was Secretary of Commerce. However, this series contains almost no information on any relationship they might have had prior to 1954 when Francis became chairman of the Citizens Committee for the Hoover Report. In this capacity he had to work closely with Mr. Hoover and the two men quickly developed a close friendship which continued until Hoover's death in 1964. The Hoover correspondence and the material on the Citizens Committee for the Hoover Report overlap in time and supplement each other to a considerable extent.

Francis was not as close to Dwight D. Eisenhower as he was to Hoover. He had not known Eisenhower well prior to being appointed a special consultant, so the two men maintained a formal relationship. As with the Hoover correspondence, the Eisenhower correspondence overlaps and complements the file on Francis's activities as special consultant.

An interesting aspect of Francis' papers was his practice of preparing memos after major events. After many of his meetings with Eisenhower and Hoover, Francis would write memos detailing the topics discussed, opinions held by the people present, and any other items of interest concerning the conversation. These memos are scattered through the correspondence files and contain information on the opinions and philosophies of both Hoover and Eisenhower.

In addition to the textual material, this collection contained several books and photographs. The books, including a copy of the White House Staff Book and a published text of one of Francis' speeches, have been transferred to the Eisenhower Library book collection. The photographs have been turned over to the audiovisual collection.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE (Personal)

Dec. 1, 1888	Born Staten Island, New York
1910	Graduated from Amherst College
May 5, 1914	Married Grace Abbott Berry
1910-1919	Worked for Corn Products Refining Company
1919-1924	National Sales Manager, Ralston Purina Company
1924-1927	Director and Vice President, Post Products
1927-1929	President, Post Products
1929-1931	Vice President in charge of Sales, General Foods Corporation
1931-35	Executive Vice President, General Foods Corporation
1935-1943	President, General Foods Corporation
1943-1954	Chairman of the Board of Directors, General Foods Corporation
1960-1963	Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer, Studebaker Corporation
1964-1965	Chairman, Lillard Syndications, Incorporated

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE (Government)

1933-1934	Advisor, National Recovery Administration
1940	Member, Advisory Commission to the Council of National Defense
1941-1943	Member, Defense Plant Corporation
1943-1946	Chairman, Navy Food Inspection Committee
1951-1952	Chairman, Citizens Committee for Defense Department
1952	Member, Citizens Advisory Commission on Manpower Utilization
1953	Chairman, Mutual Security Evaluation Project
1954-1960	U.S. Representative to European Productivity Agency
1954-1958	Chairman, Citizens Committee for the Hoover Report
1954-1960	Special Consultant to President Eisenhower on disposal of agricultural surpluses
1965-1971	Member, Economic Development Council of New York City

DESCRIPTION OF SERIES

Box Nos. Series

1-5 I. GOVERNMENTAL SERVICE SERIES. 1933-1970. 4 3/4 containers.

Correspondence, memos, reports and orders pertaining to the service of Clarence Francis on major government advisory commissions and as a special consultant to President Eisenhower. The material is arranged by the organization with which Francis served, in chronological order.

5-9 II. GENERAL SERIES. 1933-1972. 4 containers

Correspondence, memos, reports and printed material pertaining to various activities of Clarence Francis. The material is arranged alphabetically by subject.

9-11 III. CORRESPONDENCE SERIES. 1937-1973. 2 1/4 containers.

Correspondence and memos between Clarence Francis and his friends and colleagues. The material is arranged alphabetically by the name of the correspondent.

CONTAINER LIST

Box No. Contents

SERIES I: GOVERNMENTAL SERVICE SERIES

- 1 N.R.A. - General 1933
- N.R.A. - General 1934
- N.R.A. - Personal 1933
- [N.R.A. appointments] Salegrams November 1933
- Council of National Defense (Advisory Commission) June 1940
- Council of National Defense (Advisory Commission) July - Dec. 1940
- Council of National Defense (Advisory Commission) Personnel Directory June - July 1940
- Council of National Defense (Advisory Commission) Press Releases June 1940
- [Council of National Defense] Army - Navy Journal Sept. - Oct. 1940
- Defense Plant Corporation 1941-42
- Defense Plant Corporation 1943
- Defense Plant Corporation, Jesse H. Jones Correspondence 1942
- Defense Plant Corporation, Executive Messages, Bulletins and Addresses, 1942-43
- Navy Food Inspection Apr. - May 1943
- Navy Food Inspection, Report May 1943
- Navy Food Inspection June - Aug. 1943
- Navy Food Inspection Sept. - Dec. 1943
- Navy Food Inspection 1944

- 2 Navy Food Inspection Apr. - May 1945
 - Navy Food Inspection, Notes of Inspection Tour, May 6-18, 1945
 - Navy Food Inspection, Report June 1945
 - Navy Food Inspection June - July 1945
 - Navy Food Inspection 1946
 - Navy Food Inspection, Supplementary Report
 - Citizens Committee for Defense Department, History Feb. - Nov. 1951 (1)(2)
 - Citizens Committee for Defense Department, West Coast Tour March 1951
 - Citizens Committee for Defense Department, Feb. - Apr. 1951
 - Citizens Committee for Defense Department, May - July 1951
 - Citizens Committee for Defense Department, October 1951
 - Citizens Committee for Defense Department, Nov. 1951 - Feb. 1952
 - Citizens Advisory Committee on Manpower Utilization, Background Information June - Oct. 1952
 - Citizens Advisory Committee on Manpower Utilization Nov. - Dec. 1952

- 3 Mutual Security Evaluation Project Jan. 1953
 - Mutual Security Evaluation Project Feb. 1953
 - Mutual Security Evaluation Project Mar. 1953
 - Mutual Security Evaluation Project April - May 1953
 - Mutual Security Evaluation Project Personnel
 - Mutual Security Evaluation Project Security
 - Mutual Security Evaluation Project Final Report (draft)
 - Mutual Security Evaluation Project Final Report March 24, 1953

[Mutual Security Evaluation Project] U.S. Organizations in Paris, France

European Productivity Agency Jan. 1954

European Productivity Agency Feb. - Nov. 1954

European Productivity Agency 1955-56

European Productivity Agency 1957

European Productivity Agency 1958

European Productivity Agency 1959

European Productivity Agency 1960

4 European Productivity Agency Reports (1)(2)

Citizens Committee for the Hoover Report 1953 - Apr. 1955

Citizens Committee for the Hoover Report May - July 1955

Citizens Committee for the Hoover Report Aug. - Dec. 1955

Citizens Committee for the Hoover Report 1956

Citizens Committee for the Hoover Report 1957

National Reorganization Conference Feb. 3-4, 1957 (1)(2)

Citizens Committee for the Hoover Report Jan. - Mar. 1958

Citizens Committee for the Hoover Report Apr. - May 1958

Citizens Committee for the Hoover Report June - July 1958

Citizens Committee for the Hoover Report August 1958

Citizens Committee for the Hoover Report Sept. Dec. 1958

5 Distribution of Agricultural Surpluses 1954

Distribution of Agricultural Surpluses 1955

Distribution of Agricultural Surpluses 1956 European Trip (1)(2)

Distribution of Agricultural Surpluses 1957-58

Distribution of Agricultural Surpluses 8th Semi-annual Report 1958

New York City - Economic Development Council Oct. 1969 - Jan. 1970

New York City - Economic Development Council Feb. - May 1970

New York City - Economic Development Council June - Aug. 1970

New York City - Economic Development Council Sept. 1970 - July 1971

SERIES II: GENERAL SERIES

Advertising Council

Awards

Awards - Advertising Council 1955 (1)(2)

Awards - Amherst College 1955

Awards - Henry Laurence Gantt Medal 1955

6 Awards - Mead Corporation 1965

Awards - New York University 1950

Awards - Trinity College 1950

Biography

Books [transferred to Eisenhower Library book collection]

Clippings Dec. 1948

Clippings Jan. 1949

Clippings Feb. 1949

Clippings March 1949

Clippings May 1950

Clippings June - July 1950

Clippings Feb. - May 1954

Clippings June - July 1954

Clippings miscellaneous

Cornell University

Economic Cooperation Administration

Eisenhower Administration, Legislative Achievements of 1954

Eisenhower Library

Federal Reserve Bank

Food Service Consultant Committee [proposed committee to study food service in the armed forces, 1950]

Fund for Adult Education

Grocery Manufacturers of America

Grocery Manufacturers of America, Luncheon Nov. 10, 1953

Hoover Library

7 Industrial Advisory Committee Savings Bonds 1948

Institute of Nutrition Sciences

Invitations

Lincoln Center [President Eisenhower at ground breaking ceremony 1959]

Mexican Industrial Productivity 1958

N.Y. Chamber of Commerce

N.Y. Convention and Visitors Bureau

N.Y. Herald-Tribune

N.Y. Stock Exchange

Oral History - Eisenhower (1)(2)

Oral History - Hoover (1)(2)

Photographs [transferred to audiovisual collection]

Printed Material (1)(2) [articles by or about Francis]

Recollections [opinions of famous people, organizations and events including Dwight D. Eisenhower, Herbert Hoover, Sherman Adams, Franklin Roosevelt, General Knudsen, Jesse Jones, the FBI, Food for Peace program, visits to Greece and Turkey, Richard Nixon]

Retirement 1954

8 Speeches 1910, 1933-34

Speeches 1935-36

Speeches 1937

Speeches 1938-39

Speeches 1941-44

Speeches 1945-46

Speeches 1947-48

Speeches 1949-50

Speeches 1952 (1)(2)

Speeches 1953-54

Speeches 1955

- 9 Speeches 1956
- Speeches 1957
- Speeches 1959-60
- Speeches 1962-68
- Speeches undated (1)(2)
- Speeches Requests
- Trip to California - 1950
- Trip to Russia - July 1959 (1)-(4) [U.S. exhibition in Moscow, Khrushchev-Nixon kitchen debate]
- Typewriter
- United Nations
- War Manpower Commission 1942
- War Production Board, Report of the Chairman Oct. 9, 1945
- Washington File (1)-(3) [correspondence and memos sent and received by Francis while in Washington, 1954-58: mostly social in nature: scattered data on government reorganization]

SERIES III: CORRESPONDENCE FILE

B

Brannan, Charles F.

Byrd, Adm. Richard E. [communist refugees]

C

D

- 10 Eisenhower, Dwight D. 1948-51

Eisenhower, Dwight D. March 1952 [diary by Howard Chase telling of conversations with DDE in Europe March 14-17, 1952, re political philosophy, 1952 campaign]

Eisenhower, Dwight D. 1952

Eisenhower, Dwight D. 1953

Eisenhower, Dwight D. 1954 (1)(2)

Eisenhower, Dwight D. 1955

Eisenhower, Dwight D. 1956

Eisenhower, Dwight D. 1957-58

Eisenhower, Dwight D. 1959

Eisenhower, Dwight D. 1960

Eisenhower, Dwight D. 1961 [memo by Howard Chase on visit with DDE, discusses politics and campaigns]

Eisenhower, Dwight D. 1962

Eisenhower, Dwight D. 1963

Eisenhower, Dwight D. 1964

Eisenhower, Dwight D. 1965-69

Eisenhower, Dwight D. 1970-72

11 H

Hoover, Herbert 1946-55

Hoover, Herbert 1956

Hoover, Herbert 1957 (1)(2)

Hoover, Herbert 1958

Hoover, Herbert 1959-61

Hoover, Herbert 1962

Hoover, Herbert 1963

Hoover, Herbert 1964

Hoover, Herbert undated

I - J

Johnson, Lyndon B.

K - L

Krimpas, George

Lindsay, John V. (Mayor of N.Y.)

M

Nixon, Richard

P - R

Rockefeller, Nelson

S - U

W

END OF CONTAINER LIST