

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER LIBRARY
ABILENE, KANSAS

BENNETT, ELMER F.: Papers, 1950-82

Accessions: A70-21, 90-9, 90-9/1
Processed by: BSR, JAW, TB
Date Completed: November 1992

Elmer F. Bennett donated half of this collection to the Eisenhower Library in September 1969. The remainder of the material was received from Mr. Bennett's widow in early 1990.

Linear feet of shelf space occupied: 11
Approximate number of pages: 22,400
Approximate number of items: 10,000

An instrument of gift for these papers was signed by Mr. Bennett in September 1969. Literary rights in the unpublished writings of Mr. Bennett in this collection and in all other collections of papers received by the United States have been donated to the public. Under terms of the instrument of gift the following classes of documents are withheld from research use:

1. Material relating to the family and private business affairs of Mr. Bennett or of persons who have had correspondence with him.
2. Material relating to investigations of individuals, to proposed appointments to office, or to other personnel matters.
3. Material containing statements made by or to Mr. Bennett in confidence unless the reason for confidentiality no longer exists.
4. All other material containing information or statements that might be used to embarrass, damage, injure or harass any living person.
5. Material containing statements or information which might prejudice the conduct of foreign relations of the United States.
6. Materials which are security classified pursuant to law or Executive Order, or which contain information which would adversely affect the security of the United States.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

Elmer F. Bennett was an attorney who held various positions in the Department of the Interior during the Eisenhower administration. Bennett specialized in the legal problems of the use of natural resources. In later years he worked for the Public Land Law Review Commission and then for the Office of Emergency Preparedness. In the latter office he dealt with the problem of oil imports and oil price increases in the early 1970s.

In September 1969 Bennett deposited portions of his papers in the Eisenhower Library. This first accession, totaling about half of the present collection, pertained to Bennett's work in the Interior Department. The material was received in a disorganized state so the processing archivists created an artificial arrangement scheme in which the records were filed alphabetically by subject.

The second half of the collection was received from Bennett's widow in 1990. This accretion pertained to both the Interior Department and the Office of Emergency Preparedness periods of Bennett's career. The material was interfiled with the first accession to produce one single alphabetical sequence.

The collection in its present form contains extensive information on U.S. policy regarding natural resources. The material from the Eisenhower administration pertains largely to water use, particularly the development of the Colorado River and Columbia River basins. Bennett served on a delegation to negotiate a treaty with Canada on the use of Columbia River water, and his files contain minutes, correspondence and drafts of the treaty. Additional files cover Indian policy, administration of the Interior Department, reclamation projects and oil imports.

The material from the Office of Emergency Preparedness pertains solely to the investigation of oil imports and the increase in oil prices from 1970 to 1973. The material includes government correspondence and reports, and also information received from private oil companies. Some of the documents are originals, but there is also a large file of electrostatic copies of documents which Bennett acquired in 1982, apparently as part of a law suit in which he provided evidence.

BIOGRAPHY

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| September 17, 1917 | Born in Longmont, Colorado |
| 1941 | Received law degree, Stanford University |
| 1942-1948 | Administrative work, U.S. War Department |
| 1948-1951 | Trial attorney, Federal Trade Commission |
| 1951-1953 | Legal advisor and executive secretary to Senator Eugene Millikin of Colorado |
| 1953-1956 | Legislative Council, Department of the Interior |
| 1956-1957 | Assistant to the Secretary of the Interior |
| 1957-1958 | General Counsel, Department of the Interior |
| 1958-1961 | Under Secretary of the Interior |
| 1961-1966 | Member, Ely, Duncan & Bennett (law firm) |
| 1966-1970 | General Counsel, U.S. Public Land Law Review Commission |
| 1970-1973 | Special Assistant and General Counsel, Office of Emergency Preparedness |
| 1973-1988 | Member, Loomis, Owen, Fellman & Howe (law firm) |
| July 10, 1989 | Died in Roslyn, New York |

CONTAINER LIST

| <u>Box No.</u> | <u>Contents</u> |
|----------------|---|
| 1 | <p>Arizona Land Appraisal [possible irregularities in land exchanges]</p> <p>Briefing Book on Current Issues (1)-(6) [reports as of 2/3/60 re Interior Department organization; land; water and power; mineral; recreation; fish and wildlife; Indians; economic indicators]</p> <p>Briefing Book on Current Issues (carbons) (1)(2)</p> <p>Briefing Book for Presidential Appointees Dec. 1960 (1)-(4) [Interior Dept organization; relationship with other government bodies; budgetary processes; appointee system; personal and biographical information on key department officials]</p> |
| 2 | <p>Briefing Book for Presidential Appointees Dec.1960 [copy 2] (1)-(3)</p> <p>Burns Creek Project</p> <p>Campaign File 1960 (1)-(6)</p> <p>Central Valley (Calif.) Project [water development and reclamation]</p> <p>Chico and Roseburg Trip (10/21-22/58)</p> <p>Chronological File of Correspondence (Miscellaneous) June 4-Dec. 17, 1959 (1)-(3)</p> |
| 3 | <p>Chronological File of Correspondence (Miscellaneous) June 4-Dec. 17, 1959 (4)(5)</p> <p>Colorado River: Arizona and California, Problems with the Lower (1)(2)</p> <p>Colorado River Compact Commission Minutes 1922</p> <p>Colorado River Storage Project Book I (1)-(4)</p> |
| 4 | <p>Colorado River Storage Project Book I (5)-(8)</p> |

- Colorado River Storage Project Senate Hearings March 1, 1955 (1)-(3)
- Columbia River-Drafts, Miscellaneous (1)-(5) [comparison of Canadian and U.S. treaty drafts as of 12/29/60]
- 5 Columbia River- Engineering and Legal Groups 1960 (1)-(7)
- Columbia River- Meetings and Correspondence 1960 (1)-(5)
- 6 Columbia River Miscellaneous (1)(2)
- Columbia River- News clippings and drafts on (1)(2)
- Columbia River- U.S.-Canadian Treaty (1)-(6)
- Columbia River- U.S.-Canadian Treaty (Nez Perce and Mountain Sheep areas) (1)-(3) [Edward Bacon of Columbia River Development Commission]
- 7 Columbia River Basin - U.S.-Canadian Treaty (1)-(4)
- Columbia River Development (1)-(4)
- Columbia River Development Project - Canadian Study (1)(2)
- Columbia River Development Project - Publicity (1)-(3)
- 8 Correspondence Log June 12 1956 - August 30, 1957
- Correspondence Log September 3, 1957 - October 6, 1958
- Correspondence Log (Undersecretary Chilson) May 1, 1958 - December 31, 1958
- Correspondence Log January 2, 1959 - October 5, 1959
- 9 Correspondence Log October 6, 1959 - June 28, 1960
- Correspondence Log June 29, 1960 - January 19, 1961

- Electric Power (General)
- Energy Policy 1971-73 (1)-(5)
- 10 Fryingpan Arkansas Project (1954-1957)
- Fryingpan Arkansas Project (Colorado)
- Garrison Diversion Project (Missouri River Basin)
- Giveaway Issue - Al Serena Case (1)-(4) [see also Oil and Gas Leasing]
- Guatemala Trip - May 15-25, 1959 Fourth Inter-American Indian Conference (1)-(3)
- Hells Canyon Project
- Indian Policy (1)(2) [treatment of Indians; land policies; Glen Canyon Dam]
- Indians, Hearings on Attorney Contracts Jan. 1952 (1)(2)
- 11 Indians, Hearings on Attorney Contracts Jan. 1952 (3)-(5)
- Interior Dept. Appropriations FY 1953-62
- Kings River Project (1)(2)
- Land Use (1)-(6)
- 12 Land Use (7)
- “Laws Relating to the National Park Service Enacted by the 85th Congress 1957-1958”
- Legislation - Barrett Bill (S. 863) (1)-(6) [re water use]
- Legislation - Department of Interior Views on (1)-(3)
- 13 Legislative Program, Proposed (Dept. Of Interior) Oct. 1960
- Lower Klamath - Tule Lake Drainage Facilities

Mountain Sheep and Nez Perce area projects - Middle Snake River
(Bonneville Power Administration) 1960

Note File Jan.-June 1959 (1)(2)

Note File July-Dec. 1959 (1)-(3)

Note File Jan.-June 1960 (1)(2)

Offshore Drilling, Tankers, Oil Spills (1)-(3)

14 Oil 1958-60 (1)-(4)

Oil and Gas Leasing Book I [authority of Secretary of Interior to issue
leases on Federal wildlife refuges]

Oil and Gas Leasing Book II (1)(2)

Oil Imports (Executive Proclamation Modifying Proclamation #3279)
(1)(2)

Oil Imports and Prices 1971-72 (1)(2)

Oil Import Program Miscellaneous (1)-(3)

15 Oil Import Program Releases (1)-(4)

Oil Investigation 1982

Oil Investigation Differential Impact Documents (1)-(3) [copies of
government documents re 1970-73 oil program, acquired by Bennett in
1982]

Oil Investigation Exhibits Vol. I (1)-(4)

16 Oil Investigation Exhibits Vol. I (5)(6)

Oil Investigation Exhibits Vol. II (1)-(6)

Oil Investigation Government Regulation Documents 1970-72 (1)(2)

- 17 Oil Investigation Government Regulation Documents 1970-72 (3)(4)
Oil Investigation Government Regulation Documents 1973 (1)-(4)
Oil Price Increase 1971 (1)-(3)
Oil Price Investigation Company Comments (1)(2)
- 18 Oil Price Investigation Company Comments (3)-(5)
Oil Price Investigation Data Book Volume I (1)-(5)
Oil Price Investigation Data Book Volume II (1)-(3)
- 19 Oil Price Investigation Data Book Volume II (4)-(6)
Oil Price Investigation Data Book Volume III (1)-(3)
Oil Production Suspension in the Aneth area, Utah 1958 [Navajo reservation]
Orlando Trip Inter-American Friendship Program, People-to-People Program June 20, 1959
Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission (1)-(3)
- 20 Personal Book I [May 1953-June 1956] (1)-(4) [concessions in Yellowstone National Park; water policy; GOP in Alaska; Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District]
Personal Book II [June 1956-May 1957] (1)-(5) [Hells Canyon; TVA; Alaska mineral lands; water laws]
Personal Book III [May-Oct 1957] (1)-(4) [hard metals industry]
Personal Book IV [Oct 1957-Sept 1958] (1)(2)
- 21 Personal Book IV [Oct 1957-Sept 1958] (3)(4)
Personal Book V [Sept-Oct 1958] (1)-(5)
Personal Book VI [Oct 1958-Apr 1959] (1)-(5) [Colorado Fish and Game

- Commission]
- Personal Book VII [May-Nov 1959] (1)(2) [Columbia Basin]
- 22 Personal Book VII [May-Nov 1959] (3)(4)
- Personal Book VII [Nov 1959-May 1960] (1)-(5) [mining in Death Valley]
- Personal Book IX [June-Oct 1960] (1)-(4) [electricity from Shasta Dam, California]
- Personal 1961-78 (1)(2)
- Personal - Photographs
- 23 Personal - Printed Material (1)-(4)
- Personal - University of Alaska [candidacy for university president 1960]
- Power Development - Private Enterprise [Douglas McKay speech of 11/19/53]
- Power Policy Book I (1)-(3)
- Power Policy Book II (1)-(4)
- 24 Power Policy Book II (5)
- Reclamation Laws 1959-65
- Reclamation Policy - NRA (1)-(9)
- 25 Reclamation Projects (1)-(4) [Coon-Neuberger debates re John Day Dam bill, Oregon, 1955]
- Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Institute 1965
- Speech File 1957-58 (1)-(8)
- Speech File 1959 (1)(2)

- 26 Speech File 1959 (3)-(5)
 Speech File 1960-61 (1)-(9)
- 27 Speech File 1970-73 (1)-(8)
 Speeches re Water and Natural Resources 1957-59 (1)-(4)
- 28 Tidelands
 Trinity River Division of Calif. (Central Valley Project) (1)(2)
 Water (General) (1)-(3)
 Water Resources, Legal Problems in
 Water Resources Policy, Presidential Advisory Committee on (1)(2)
 Yuma Contract [delivery of Colorado River water to Yuma, Arizona,
 1959-60]

END OF CONTAINER LIST