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SMALL

SMALL, MERRELL F.

OH-465

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PRQ

Newspaperman; active in California Republican Party, Departmental Secretary for the Office of the Governor, 1945-1953.

DESCRIPTION, PART I – Personal Matters: Family background, wireless telegrapher, editing the *Feather River Bulletin*; early acquaintance with Earl Warren; Sacramento correspondent; politicking the press; how he got the nickname “Pop.”

PART II – Earl Warren’s Political Campaigns: 1934 Campaign: Merriam v. Sinclair, U. S. Webb’s career, administrative reform issues; 1938: Warren for Attorney General; 1942 Warren v. Governor [Culbert L.] Olson: Plumas County, role of Clem Whitaker, Japanese relocation, Lieutenant Governor [Fred] Houser; 1945 health insurance legislation; 1946 Governor Warren v. Robert Kenny: Kenny’s campaign, on the campaign trail, insistence on solo billing, primary returns, campaign costs, campaign committees, some personality clashes, Lieutenant Governor [Goodwin] Knight; 1948 Dewey-Warren ticket: Presidential prospects, Dewey and Warren in Mexico, Dewey in California, New Hampshire Governors’ Conference, Philadelphia convention, Dewey on the third ballot, Warren for Vice-President, Warren’s daughters, convention expenses, Dewey’s campaign strategy, election results, water politics; 1950 Governor Warren v. James Roosevelt: various disaffections, campaign financing; crowd attitudes.

PART III – Office of the Governor: Governor’s conferences: 1949 Mental Health, 1949 Employment, youth conferences, television conference; Governor’s Council; department chiefs; staff responsibilities; departmental reports; Social Welfare Department changes; methodical reorganization; staff teamwork; relations with legislature; role of Republican establishment; Warren’s development as a liberal; ability to communicate; preparing speeches; 1948 Gridiron dinner; legislative addresses; telephone techniques; Warren appointees: advisory committees, appointments to the bench, department directors, Thomas Kuchel’s career.

PART IV – Warren as Chief Justice: Warren and [Dwight D.] Eisenhower; ideological development.

NAME & SUBJECT INDEX

[Earl Warren Oral History Project, Regional Oral History Office, Bancroft Library, interviews by Amelia Fry and Gabrielle Morris, February 24, March 18, April 8, 1970, January 17, 1971]