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SCHEELE

SCHEELE, Dr. LEONARD (OH-85) 44 pages PRCQ (M)

Surgeon General, U. S. Public Health Service, 1948-56.

DESCRIPTION: Personal background. Appointment as Surgeon General. Meetings with Eisenhower: at SHAEF; at Cabinet meetings; at Columbia University. Oveta Culp Hobby. Extensive comments on Salk polio vaccine: Sabin-Salk disagreement over nature of vaccine; approval by Public Health Service; quality control; problems with defective batches; distribution of vaccine; Congressional interest in public health programs; Parke-Davis Company; sterilization by ultraviolet radiation; public relations problems; Russian interest in vaccine. Scheele's contacts with White House staff. Sherman Adams. Security investigations on recipients of government grants: Dr. John P. Peters of Yale; Dr. Linus Pauling. Senator Joseph McCarthy. President Truman's appointments to regulatory agencies. Oveta Hobby's resignation from H.E.W., 1955. Thomas Parran (Scheele's predecessor at Public health Service). Marion Folsom. Public Health Service involvement in immigration cases. Richard Nixon: at World Health Organization meeting in Geneva; interest in State Department; interest in physical education programs. Need for non-political professional scientists at Public Health Service. A name index is located at the end of the transcript.

[Columbia University Oral History Project, interview by Thomas F. Hogan, 1967]