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Sherwood O. Berg Papers

Finding Aid

South Dakota State University Archives and Special Collections
Briggs Library (SBL) Room 241 Box 2114
1300 North Campus Drive
Brookings, SD 57007
Phone: 605-688-5094
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Collection Summary

Identifier

UA 53.13

Title

Sherwood O. Berg Papers

Creator

Sherwood O. Berg

Dates

1956-1970

Extent

8.0 linear feet -- 8 records center boxes, photographs

Language

English

Repository

South Dakota State University Archives and Special Collections, Hilton M. Briggs Library, Brookings, South Dakota.

Access note

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Preferred Citation

Name of item. Sherwood O. Berg Papers. UA 53.13. South Dakota State University Archives and Special Collections, Hilton M. Briggs Library, Brookings, South Dakota.

Abstract

Sherwood Berg was president of SDSU from 1975-1984. This collection consists of material related to the National Advisory Commission on Food and Fiber established by President Lyndon B. Johnson on November 4, 1965 on which Sherwood O. Berg served as chairperson.

Biographical Note

Sherwood O. Berg was raised on a farm near Hendrum, Minnesota. All of his public schooling was taken at Hendrum where he participated in 4-H Club work for at least 10 years, earning honors in this area. His father died while he was a senior in high school and for a time, Berg took over the management of the home farm.

He attended the School of Agriculture on the St. Paul Campus of the University of Minnesota for two years. He entered South Dakota State College [SDSC] the fall of 1940. He chose to come to SDSC because of their agricultural program, the opportunity to place on the basketball team and to work so that he might contribute to paying his college expenses. In 1943, he entered military service where he remained until 1946. While Berg was in military service, he obtained U.S. Army, field infantry experience. During his last year of military service, he was Military Government Food and Agricultural Officer.

In 1946, Berg returned to South Dakota State. In 1947, he was granted the BS degree. In 1948, he was awarded an MS degree from Cornell University, Ithaca, New York. In 1951, the University of Minnesota conferred the PhD degree on him. Following the completion of his work for the PhD, he was agricultural attaché to Yugoslavia from 1951 to 1954 and to Norway and Denmark from 1954 to 1957.

In July 1957, Berg accepted the position of Professor and Head, Department of Agricultural Economics, University of Minnesota. He held this position until June 1963. In July 1963, he accepted the position of Dean of the Institute of Agriculture, and Professor of Economics, University of Minnesota. During his tenure as Dean of the Institute of Agriculture, he served as chair of the President's National Advisory Commission on Food and Fiber.

From 1973 to 1975, Berg was Director, The Indonesia Project of Midwest Universities Consortium. After his work in Indonesia he returned to the United States and to his Alma Mater, beginning his duties as President of South Dakota State University August 1, 1975. A position he held until 1984.

In 1952, Sherwood O. Berg married Elizabeth Ann Hall. They have two children, Mary Elizabeth and Bradley Joseph.

National Advisory Commission on Food and Fiber

President Lyndon B. Johnson established the National Advisory Commission on Food and Fiber on November 4, 1965 on which Sherwood O. Berg served as chairperson. President Johnson instructed the Commission to make an appraisal of agricultural and foreign trade policies; to conduct a study of the effects of agricultural policies on the performance of the economy and foreign relations; and to prepare a report, which would serve as a guide for future decisions and policies

The work of the Commission was initially divided into six major areas: 1. Production and consumption trends and potentials in the world, 2. Policies for commercial agriculture, 3. Policies for the non-commercial sector of agriculture, 4. Policies for forestry and natural resources development, 5. Agricultural trade and foreign economic policies; and 6. The role of agriculture in world economic development. Five commissioners with staff and consultants were assigned to each area.

The full time staff was small and included professional economists on leave from universities, from the federal government and from business. They were augmented by a group of consultants and experts from both the public and private sector. The Commission's research and study took many forms. Surveys were conducted; existing information was analyzed; position papers were prepared. The Commission was briefed by leading authorities and experts, and public hearings were held throughout the country.

The full Commission met 13 times over a period of 18 months for two or three days each time. At these meetings, the Commissioners heard testimony from leading authorities and experts and engaged in group discussions. The staff and consultants who later proposed recommendations prepared analyses and materials focusing on specific issues.

The Commission was made up of 31 members who represented agriculture, economics and labor throughout the United States. The chairperson was Sherwood O. Berg, who was Dean of the Institute of Agriculture at the University of Minnesota at the time. The remaining members were Harry B.

Caldwell, Willard W. Cochrane, C.W. Cook, George C. Cortright, Woodrow W. Diehl, Edmund H. Fallon, Carl C. Farrington, Frank Fernbach, Roscoe G. Haynie, Fred V. Heinkel, Roy Hendrickson, William A. Hewitt, George K. Hislop, J.G. Horsfall, Herbert J. Hughes, D. Gale Johnson, Herman S. Kohlmeyer, Robert Magowan, L.L. Males, Edward F. Mauldin, Paul Miller, W.B. Murphy, Ernest J. Nesius, Leon Schachter, Janice M. Smith, Lauren Soth, Jesse Tapp, Jay Taylor, Herman Wells, and John Wheeler.

Arrangement

This collection is arranged into series:

Series 1. National Advisory Commission on Food and Fiber

Sub-series 1. Collected material

Sub-series 2. Correspondence

Sub-series 3. General Commission records

Sub-series 4. Hearing records

Sub-series 5. Meeting records

Sub-series 6. Publications

Contents Note

This collection is composed of material related to the National Advisory Commission on Food and Fiber established by President Lyndon B. Johnson on November 4, 1965 on which Sherwood O. Berg served as chairperson.

The collected material is composed mainly of information collected for use by the Commission in conducting its studies. This material covers a range of topics from cotton and hunger to agriculture and government policies.

Series 1. National Advisory Commission on Food and Fiber

Sub-series 1. Collected material. The collected material is composed mainly of information collected for use by the Commission in conducting its studies. This material covers a range of topics from cotton and hunger to agriculture and government policies.

Sub-series 2. Correspondence. The correspondence is composed of communications in the form of memorandums and letters between commission members. Also included are congratulatory letters and reactions to the final report.

Sub-series 3. General Commission records. The general commission records are composed of Commission budget information, clippings, member lists and biographies, daily activities reports, press releases and study group material.

Sub-series 4. Hearing records. The hearings material consists of correspondence statements, transcripts and some chairman's notes for hearing conducted by the Commission throughout the United States. This material is arranged alphabetically by location of the hearing.

Sub-series 5. Meeting records. The meetings material consists of agendas, correspondence and items discussed at the many meetings held by the Commission. This material is arranged alphabetically by location of the meeting.

Sub-series 6. Publications. The publications consists mainly of drafts of the final report to the President of the United States, but also includes background papers, briefing statements, brochures and technical papers produced by the Commission. The report drafts are arranged by chapter with each folder including notes, additions and corrections to the report. The remaining folders are filed alphabetically.

Key Words

Berg, Sherwood O.

Agriculture

Cotton

Fiber plants

Food

Hunger

South Dakota State University -- Presidents

Textiles

United States. National Advisory Commission on Food and Fiber

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access

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Researchers conducting extensive research are asked to make an advance appointment to access archival material. Please call or e-mail prior to visiting the collection and indicate as much detail as possible about a particular topic and intended use.

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Arranged and Described by

Crystal J. Gamradt, Archivist, 2002 June 6.

Container List

Series	Box	Folder	Description	Date(s)
1. Collected material	1	1	Address by Secretary of Ag. at Federal Land Bank anniversary dinner	1967
1. Collected material	1	2	Agricultural Policy Review	1968
1. Collected material	1	3	Agriculture's status and potential	undated
1. Collected material	1	4	American Freedom from Hunger Foundation	1966

Series	Box	Folder	Description	Date(s)
1. Collected material	1	5	Background information: Miscellaneous	1965-1966
1. Collected material	1	6	Changes in agriculture in 26 developing nations 1948 to 1963	1965
1. Collected material	1	7	Chemistry's role in feeding the world	1967
1. Collected material	1	8	Cohort contributions to change in total number of farms	1967
1. Collected material	1	9	Compilation of statutes...	1965
1. Collected material	1	10	Dept. of Agriculture appropriations for 1967	1966
1. Collected material	1	11	Economic outlook for U.S. cotton	1967
1. Collected material	1	12	Dept. of Agriculture and related agencies appropriations bill, 1968	1967
1. Collected material	1	13	ENOUGH! The tale of our struggle	1966
1. Collected material	1	14	Federal telecommunications system	1966-1967
1. Collected material	1	15	Fibers in the United States: A graphic summary	1966
1. Collected material	1	16	Finance and development	1966
1. Collected material	1	17	Food for freedom	1966
1. Collected material	1	18	Food for peace	1963-1966
1. Collected material	1	19	Food from farmers to consumer	1966
1. Collected material	1	20	Food Industry newsletter	1966
1. Collected material	1	21	Foreign Assistance Act	1967
1. Collected material	1	22	Human and institutional element in agricultural administration	1966
1. Collected material	1	23	Implications of change in input markets for credit and finance...	undated
1. Collected material	1	24	Implications of the findings of marketing research ...	undated
1. Collected material	1	25	Industry changes in feed, fertilizer, petroleum, and other chemical...	undated

Series	Box	Folder	Description	Date(s)
1. Collected material	1	26	Issues emerging out of the food commission report	1966
1. Collected material	1	27	Kiplinger newsletters	1965-1967
1. Collected material	1	28	Miscellaneous	1966-1967
1. Collected material	1	29	National Food Marketing Commission : Issues	1966
1. Collected material	1	30	National Limestone Institute convention highlights	1967
1. Collected material	1	31	Next 15 years in agriculture	1965
1. Collected material	1	32	Notes on the agricultural economics of 17 European countries	1956
1. Collected material	1	33	Nutrition Foundation, Inc. 25th anniversary report	1967
1. Collected material	1	34	Organization and structure of producer units of farm products	undated
1. Collected material	1	35	Population control	1966
1. Collected material	1	36	President's Science Advisory Committee [PSAC]	1966-1967
1. Collected material	1	37	Price merchandising in food retailing: a case study	1966
1. Collected material	1	38	Price, supply, and demand for cotton	1967
1. Collected material	1	39	Public Law 480 [SEE ALSO Food for Peace]	1965-1966
1. Collected material	1	40	Public policy and the application of science to agriculture	1967
1. Collected material	1	41	Race between procreation and food production	1965
1. Collected material	1	42	Report: Limited land in the world food problem	undated
1. Collected material	1	43	Requested policy papers	1967
1. Collected material	1	44	Research recommendations of "The World Food Problem"	1968
1. Collected material	1	45	Reserves of agricultural commodities...	1966
1. Collected material	1	46	Rural society in transition	1966

Series	Box	Folder	Description	Date(s)
1. Collected material	1	47	Synthetics & substitutes for agricultural commodities	1966
1. Collected material	1	48	Ten years of cotton textiles	1966
1. Collected material	1	49	United Nations Review	1964
1. Collected material	1	50	US Food and Fiber System in a Changing World Environment	1967
1. Collected material	1	51	War on hunger	1966-1967
1. Collected material	1	52	Washington Farmletter	1965-1967
1. Collected material	1	53	Western Europe agricultural situation	1965
1. Collected material	2	1	Working papers: Commodity programs for agriculture	1966
1. Collected material	2	2	World food crisis	1965-1966
1. Collected material	2	3	World food needs	1962
1. Collected material	2	4	World Food Study and Coordination Commission	1967
1. Collected material	2	5	World population and food crisis	1965
1. Collected material	2	6	World war on hunger [Hearing before Committee on Agriculture]	1966
1. Collected material	8	11	Clippings	1967
1. Collected material	8	12	Congressman Curtis report on US cotton textile trade policy	1966
1. Collected material	8	13	Southwestern Miller	1966
2. Correspondence	2	7	Comments given on draft of report	1967
2. Correspondence	2	8	Comments of staff reactions to report	1967
2. Correspondence	2	9	Commission members A-G	1966-1967
2. Correspondence	2	10	Commission members H-L	1965-1969
2. Correspondence	2	11	Commission members M-Z	1965-1969
2. Correspondence	2	12	Congratulatory letters A-M	1965-1966
2. Correspondence	2	13	Congratulatory letters N-Z	1965-1966
2. Correspondence	2	14	General operations	1965-1967
2. Correspondence	2	15	Halvorson memorandums	1965-1966
2. Correspondence	2	16	Hillman memorandums	1966-1968
2. Correspondence	2	17	Miscellaneous A-C	1965-1967
2. Correspondence	2	18	Miscellaneous D-F	1965-1967

Series	Box	Folder	Description	Date(s)
2. Correspondence	2	19	Miscellaneous G-H	1965-1967
2. Correspondence	2	20	Miscellaneous I-O	1965-1968
2. Correspondence	2	21	Miscellaneous P-Z	1965-1969
2. Correspondence	3	1	Outside response to final report	1967-1968
2. Correspondence	3	2	President Lyndon B. Johnson and Vice President H.H. Humphrey	1965-1967
2. Correspondence	3	3	Requests for Food and Fiber Report and address list	1966-1970
2. Correspondence	3	4	Response to report	1967-1968
2. Correspondence	3	5	Technical papers	1967-1968
2. Correspondence	3	6	US cotton policy	1966
3. General Commission records	3	7	Budget	1966-1967
3. General Commission records	3	8	Clippings : after release of report	1967
3. General Commission records	3	9	Clippings : Commission personnel	1965-1966
3. General Commission records	3	10	Clippings : miscellaneous	1965-1967
3. General Commission records	3	11	Commission members biographies	1965-1966
3. General Commission records	3	12	Commission members lists	1965-1967
3. General Commission records	3	13	Committee information	1965-1966
3. General Commission records	3	14	Consultants	1965
3. General Commission records	3	15	Daily activities report	1965-1966
3. General Commission records	3	16	Don Lerch file	1966-1967
3. General Commission records	3	17	Engagements and discussions on report	1967-1968
3. General Commission records	3	18	Executive order	1965-1966
3. General Commission records	3	19	Goals	1966
3. General Commission records	3	20	James App file	1966-1967

Series	Box	Folder	Description	Date(s)
3. General Commission records	3	21	LaVern Freeh diary of events	1965-1967
3. General Commission records	3	22	List of files	1967-1968
3. General Commission records	3	23	List of statements submitted	1966
3. General Commission records	3	24	Plan of action	1965-1966
3. General Commission records	3	25	Press releases : final report	1967
3. General Commission records	3	26	Press releases : membership	1965-1966
3. General Commission records	3	27	Press releases : miscellaneous	1965-1967
3. General Commission records	3	28	Press releases : staff news	1966-1967
3. General Commission records	3	29	Reception : report release	1967
3. General Commission records	3	30	Robert E. Olson file	1966-1968
3. General Commission records	4	1	Staff organization	1966
3. General Commission records	4	2	Study Group I	1966
3. General Commission records	4	3	Study Group II	1966
3. General Commission records	4	4	Study Group III	1966
3. General Commission records	4	5	Study Group IV	1966
3. General Commission records	4	6	Study Group V	1966
3. General Commission records	4	7	Study Group VI	1965-1967
3. General Commission records	4	8	Television series	1967-1968
3. General Commission records	4	9	Travel records	1966-1967
4. Hearing records	4	10	Atlanta: correspondence	1966-1967
4. Hearing records	4	11	Atlanta: statements	1966
4. Hearing records	4	12	Atlanta: transcript	1966
4. Hearing records	4	13	Dallas : chairman's notes	1966

Series	Box	Folder	Description	Date(s)
4. Hearing records	4	14	Dallas : correspondence	1966
4. Hearing records	4	15	Dallas : transcript	1966
4. Hearing records	4	16	Dallas : unedited transcript	1966
4. Hearing records	4	17	Minneapolis : correspondence	1966
4. Hearing records	5	1	Minneapolis : statements	1966
4. Hearing records	5	2	Minneapolis : transcript	1966
4. Hearing records	5	3	New York : correspondence	1966
4. Hearing records	5	4	New York : private hearing	1966
4. Hearing records	5	5	New York : statements	1966
4. Hearing records	5	6	New York : transcript	1966
4. Hearing records	5	7	San Francisco : transcript	1967
4. Hearing records	5	8	St. Louis : correspondence	1966
4. Hearing records	5	9	St. Louis : statements	1966
4. Hearing records	5	10	St. Louis : transcript	1966
4. Hearing records	5	11	Tucson : correspondence	1966-1967
4. Hearing records	5	12	Tucson : statements	1966
4. Hearing records	5	13	Tucson : transcript	1966
4. Hearing records	8	14	Statements	undated
5. Meeting records	5	14	Atlanta : November 9-10, 1966	1966-1967
5. Meeting records	5	15	Dallas : April 14-15, 1966	1966
5. Meeting records	5	16	Des Moines : August 16, 1966	1966
5. Meeting records	5	17	Minneapolis : September 13-14, 1966	1966
5. Meeting records	5	18	Miscellaneous	1966-1967
5. Meeting records	6	1	New Orleans : May 3-5, 1967	1967
5. Meeting records	6	2	New York : July 14-15, 1966	1966
5. Meeting records	6	3	San Francisco : January 12, 1967	1967
5. Meeting records	6	4	St, Louis : October 11, 1966	1966
5. Meeting records	6	5	St. Paul : February 12, 1966	1966
5. Meeting records	6	6	Washington, D.C. : January 11-13, 1966	1966
5. Meeting records	6	7	Washington, D.C. : March 24-25, 1966	1966

Series	Box	Folder	Description	Date(s)
5. Meeting records	6	8	Washington, D.C. : June 22-23, 1966	1966
5. Meeting records	6	9	Washington, D.C. : August 31, 1966	1966
5. Meeting records	6	10	Washington, D.C. : November 15, 1966	1966
5. Meeting records	6	11	Washington, D.C. : February 8-9, 1967	1967
5. Meeting records	6	12	Washington, D.C. : February 22, 1967	1967
5. Meeting records	6	13	Washington, D.C. : March 2-3, 1967	1967
5. Meeting records	6	14	Washington, D.C. : March 30-31, 1967	1967
5. Meeting records	6	15	Washington, D.C. : May 21-22, 1967	1967
5. Meeting records	6	16	Washington, D.C. : June 23-24, 1967	1967
5. Meeting records	6	17	Unknown location	undated
6. Publications	7	1	Agriculture in the U.S.	1966
6. Publications	7	2	Background paper : Technological front in the food and fiber economy	1968
6. Publications	7	3	Briefing statements	1967
6. Publications	7	4	Brochure : Food and Fiber Policy for the Future	1967
6. Publications	7	5	Brochure : layout	1967
6. Publications	7	6	First interim report	1966
6. Publications	7	7	Report : draft - Appendices	1967
6. Publications	7	8	Report : draft - Chapter 1	1967
6. Publications	7	9	Report : draft - Chapter 2	1967
6. Publications	7	10	Report : draft - Chapter 3	1967
6. Publications	7	11	Report : draft - Chapter 4	1967
6. Publications	7	12	Report : draft - Chapter 5	1967
6. Publications	7	13	Report : draft - Chapter 6	1967
6. Publications	7	14	Report : draft - Chapter 7	1967
6. Publications	7	15	Report : draft - Chapter 8	1967
6. Publications	7	16	Report : draft - Chapter 9	1967
6. Publications	7	17	Report : draft - Chapter 10	1967
6. Publications	7	18	Report : draft - Chapter 11	1967
6. Publications	7	19	Report : draft - Chapter 12	1967
6. Publications	7	20	Report : draft - Chapter 13	1967

Series	Box	Folder	Description	Date(s)
6. Publications	7	21	Report : draft - Chapter 14	1967
6. Publications	7	22	Report : draft - Chapter 15	1967
6. Publications	7	23	Report : draft - Chapter 16	1967
6. Publications	7	24	Report : draft - Chapter 17	1967
6. Publications	7	25	Report : draft - Chapter 18	1967
6. Publications	7	26	Report : draft - Introduction	1966-1967
6. Publications	7	27	Report : draft - Part "A"	1967
6. Publications	7	28	Report : draft - Part "B"	1967
6. Publications	7	29	Report : draft - Part "C"	1967
6. Publications	7	30	Report : draft - Part "D"	1967
6. Publications	8	1	Report : draft - Summary and conclusions	1967
6. Publications	8	2	Report : Food and Fiber for the Future [Final]	1967
6. Publications	8	3	Report : footnotes	1967
6. Publications	8	4	Report : Japanese edition	1967-1968
6. Publications	8	5	Report : Memoranda of comment, reservation or dissent	undated
6. Publications	8	6	Report : miscellaneous drafts	1967
6. Publications	8	7	Report : outline	1966
6. Publications	8	8	Report : summary of commission's recommendations	1967
6. Publications	8	9	Technical papers : Agriculture and foreign economic development	1967
6. Publications	8	10	Technical papers : Foreign trade and agricultural policy	1967