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RICHARD FELTNER PAPERS, 1974-77

Collection Type

Federal Records

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0.4 linear feet (ca. 800 pages)

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Textual

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Biography

Richard L. Feltner

Oct. 16, 1938 - Born, Crawfordsville, Indiana

1960 - B.S., Purdue University

1961 - M.S., Purdue University

1961-64 - Kellogg Foundation Fellow, North Carolina State University

1965 - Ph.D., North Carolina State University

1965-68 - Assistant Professor of Agricultural Economics, Michigan State University

1968-70 - Assistant Dean and Director of Resident Instruction, College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Michigan State University

1970-74 - Professor of Agricultural Economics and Head of Department, University of Illinois

1972-73 - Chairman of the University of Illinois Committee on Educational Policy

1974-77 - Assistant Secretary of Agriculture for Marketing and Consumer Services; Member of the Board of Directors of the Commodity Credit Corporation; Chairman of the National Advisory Council on Child Nutrition

1977-81 - President, Federal Intermediate Credit Bank of Louisville

1982-85 - Professor and Associate Dean, School of Business, University of Louisville

1985-93 - Professor of Economics and Dean, School of Business, Bellarmine University

1993-99 - Professor of Economics, School of Business, Bellarmine University

1999-- Retired and Professor Emeritus, Bellarmine University

Scope and Content Note

Richard L. Feltner was an academic expert in the field of agricultural economics when he became the Assistant Secretary of Agriculture for Marketing and Consumer Services. After earning his doctorate, he pursued a career in education in the agricultural departments of Michigan State University and the University of Illinois. The position of Assistant Secretary of Agriculture for Marketing and Consumer Services stemmed from an educational and professional relationship Feltner began with Secretary of Agriculture Earl Butz when both were at Purdue University – Feltner as a student and Butz as Dean of Agriculture. President Nixon appointed Butz as Secretary of Agriculture in 1971 and in 1974, when Clayton K.

Yeutter shifted from Assistant Secretary of Agriculture for Marketing and Consumer Services to Assistant Secretary of Agriculture for International Affairs and Commodity, Butz turned to Feltner to fill the vacancy. In April 1974 President Nixon appointed, and the Senate confirmed, Feltner to the post.

The Marketing and Consumer Services division of the United States Department of Agriculture is made up of four offices: Agricultural Marketing Service, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Food and Nutrition Service, and Packers and Stockyards Administration. Some of the programs and operations Mr. Feltner's office oversaw included the Food Stamp Program, the Food Distribution Program, meat, poultry, and egg products inspections, plant protection and quarantine programs, child nutrition programs, and marketing regulatory programs. For a more detailed summary of the Marketing and Consumer Services division of USDA, please see the 1974-75 United States Government Manual (see Appendix A for relevant pages).

Scope and Content Note

The Richard L. Feltner Papers consist solely of speech material from Feltner's time in office and shortly thereafter. Feltner's speeches primarily focused on what Marketing and Consumer Services was doing for the agricultural community as a whole, as well as specifying how this office impacted the work and lives of whomever Feltner addressed at a particular event. On several occasions Feltner was asked to stand in as speaker for other prominent USDA officials, including Secretary Earl Butz. Feltner's words often depict what his office dealt with on a daily basis, focusing on such topics as food stamps, child nutrition, and federal regulations and market values affecting the United States' agricultural economy.

Specific to the Ford administration, several of Feltner's speeches mention the World Food Conference organized by the United Nations in November 1974. With this conference, the U.N. hoped to create a plan of action to aid those countries facing starving and malnourished populaces. By September of the following year, the United States sent Feltner to the International Wheat Conference with a proposal for an international grain reserve system that could be used by countries facing famine and drought. Another subject addressed in a number of Feltner's speeches was the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service's (APHIS) screwworm eradication program, which, in 1976, was finishing construction on a plant in Tuxtla

Gutierrez, Mexico. (Screwworm eradication is a form of biological control in which male flies are sterilized by gamma rays and then released in infested areas. Thus, any subsequent mating will produce unfertilized eggs, which will reduce the overall screwworm/fly population.) An additional timely topic was the National School Lunch Program. In the fall of 1975, President Ford vetoed legislation that would have amended the National School Lunch and Child Nutrition Act of 1966. Congress quickly overrode this veto, and Feltner's speeches shortly thereafter expressed the administration's viewpoints on the legislation and program.

Related Materials (March 2005)

Materials related to the agricultural topics covered in the Feltner Papers can be found in: the Richard B. Cheney Files, the Norman E. Ross Files, the Charles H. McCall Files, the President Ford Committee Campaign Records, the Presidential Handwriting Files, the James M. Cannon Files, the Paul C. Leach Files, the L. William Seidman Files, the A. James Reichley Files, the I. David Wheat files, the Patricia Lindh and Jeanne Holm Files, the White House Records Office: Legislation Case Files, the Sarah C. Massengale Files, the White House Central Files Name Files for Richard L. Feltner, and the White House Central Files Subject Files AG (Agriculture), FG (Federal Government Organizations/Units), and FO (Foreign Affairs).

Last Modified Date

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Speech File, 1974-77.

(Box 1, 0.4 linear feet)

Speeches made by Richard Feltner as Assistant Secretary of Agriculture for Marketing and Consumer Services and shortly thereafter. The speeches were given around the country on a variety of agricultural topics, including farm management, nutrition, federal regulations in agriculture, and agricultural economics. The speeches, sometimes supported by Feltner's handwritten notes, include drafts and reading and press copies.

Arranged chronologically and alphabetically thereunder.

Box 1 - Speech File

Status

Title

OPEN May 11, 1974 - UPI-AGR (Notes)

OPEN July 11, 1974 - 1974 Indiana Farm Management Association Banquet; Mitchell, Indiana

OPEN August 28, 1974 - 43rd National Convention of Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity; University of Tennessee; Knoxville, Tennessee

OPEN August 29, 1974 - New York State Fair "Government Day"; Syracuse, New York

OPEN September 12, 1974 - Chicago Board of Trade and Chicago Mercantile Exchange; Chicago, Illinois

OPEN October 3, 1974 - National Broiler Council 20th Annual Meeting; Atlanta, Georgia

OPEN October 14, 1974 - American Meat Institute; Chicago, Illinois

OPEN October 21, 1974 - Northeastern Poultry Producers Council Annual Convention; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

OPEN November 1, 1974 - Houston Chamber of Commerce Agribusiness Seminar; Houston, Texas

OPEN November 13, 1974 - Association of Institutional Distributors; Arlington, Virginia

OPEN November 14, 1974 - Opening of New Dry Sausage Facility; Omaha, Nebraska

OPEN November 15, 1974 - 61st Annual Convention of the Oregon Cattlemen's Association; Portland, Oregon

OPEN November 19, 1974 - Northeast State Agencies Conference, Food and Nutrition Service; Cherry Hill, New Jersey

OPEN December 9, 1974 - Unknown Engagement, Indiana

OPEN December 12, 1974 - State Child Nutrition Directors' Conference; Scottsdale, Arizona

OPEN January 7, 1975 - American Farm Bureau Federation, Marketing Conference; New Orleans, Louisiana

OPEN January 8, 1975 - Unknown Engagement for the Cotton Industry

OPEN January 22, 1975 - Ohio Certified Growers School, Fawcett center of Tomorrow, Ohio State University; Columbus, Ohio

OPEN January 30, 1975 - Illinois Society of Professional Farm Managers and Rural Appraisers' Winter Meeting; Champaign, Illinois

OPEN February 7, 1975 - 8th Annual Membership Meeting of the North Carolina Soybean Producers Association; Raleigh, North Carolina

OPEN March 6, 1975 - Seminar at Clemson University (Notes)

OPEN March 13, 1975 - Chicago Agricultural Economics Club; Chicago, Illinois (Notes)

OPEN March 13, 1975 - Comments to United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Employees; Chicago, Illinois (Notes)

OPEN March 13, 1975 - University of Illinois YWCA and YMCA

OPEN March 15, 1975 - 30th Annual Meeting of the Independent Livestock Marketing Association; Indianapolis, Indiana

OPEN March 18, 1975 - Farmers Week; East Lansing, Michigan

OPEN April 3, 1975 - Federal Bar Association; Kansas City, Missouri

OPEN April 27-May 2, 1975 - Executive Workshop in Agri-Dynamics; Washington, DC (Notes)

OPEN June 5, 1975 - Associated New York State Food Processors, Inc.; Grand Island, New York

OPEN June 24, 1975 - Washington Bankers Association; Olympia, Washington

OPEN September 5, 1975 - Signing of the Agreement to lease the Site for the Animal Import Center at Stewart Airport; Newburgh, New York

OPEN September 10, 1975 - Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) Executive Development Conference (Notes)

OPEN September 11, 1975 - Florida Citrus Growers Institute Annual Meeting; Sebring, Florida

OPEN September 29, 1975 - United States Proposal for an International Grain Reserve System as Presented at a Preparatory Meeting of the International Wheat Council; London, England

OPEN November 4, 1975 - National Advisory Council on Child Nutrition; New Orleans, Louisiana

OPEN November 10, 1975 - Tennessee Nutrition Council's Nutrition Workshop; Nashville, Tennessee

OPEN November 14, 1975 - Rural America Luncheon of the 109th Annual Session of the National Grange; Columbus, Ohio

OPEN December 2, 1975 - National Fertilizer Solutions Association; Denver, Colorado

OPEN December 2, 1975 - Winter Meeting of the National Livestock Producers Association; Denver, Colorado

OPEN December 3, 1975 - National Silo Association, Inc.; Chicago, Illinois

OPEN January 13, 1976 - White House Regional Conference on Consumer Representation, Northwestern University; Evanston, Illinois

OPEN February 2, 1976 - Combined Meeting of the Ford Worth and Dallas Agriculture Clubs During the Southwestern Exposition and Fat Stock Show: Fort Worth, Texas

OPEN February 29, 1976 - Kellogg Farmers; East Lansing, Michigan (Notes)

OPEN March 8, 1976 - Virginia Agricultural Bankers Conference; Blacksburg, Virginia

OPEN March 10, 1976 - 18th Annual Agriculture Industries and Rural Policy Forum, University of Illinois

OPEN March 28, 1976 - Alpha Gamma Rho Founders Day, Delta Chapter, Purdue University (Notes)

OPEN April 6, 1976 - Annual Meeting of the Federal Land Bank Association; Crawfordsville, Indiana

OPEN April 30, 1976 - West Coast Conference for Institutional Fiduciaries; San Francisco, California

OPEN May 4, 1976 - Food Conference; St. Paul, Minnesota

OPEN May 13, 1976 - Dr. Cowder's Class of Agriculture Policy Process, Belmont House (Notes)

OPEN May 16, 1976 - American Meat Institute (AMI) Executive Committee (Notes)

OPEN May 18, 1976 - Farm Management Workshop; Madison, Wisconsin

OPEN July 14, 1976 - Dick Farr and Dick Feltner; Greeley, Colorado

OPEN July 16, 1976 - 16th Annual Western Resources Conference, Colorado State University; Fort Collins, Colorado

OPEN August 16, 1976 - National Farm and Power Equipment Dealers; St. Louis, Missouri

OPEN August 17, 1976 - American Agricultural Economics Association; State College, Pennsylvania

OPEN August 25, 1976 - Dedication of the Sterile Screwworm Fly Production Plant; Tuxtla Gutierrez, Mexico

OPEN September 20, 1976 - National Agri-Marketing Association; St. Louis, Missouri

OPEN September 23, 1976 - Oregon Cattlemen's Association; Bend, Oregon

OPEN October 4, 1976 - League of Republican Women of the District of Columbia; Washington, DC

OPEN October 15, 1976 - National Broiler Council (Notes)

OPEN October 21, 1976 - DeKalb AgResearch Corporation Seminar

OPEN October 27, 1976 - National Advisory Council on Maternal, Infant and Fetal Nutrition

OPEN October 30, 1976 - Farm Appreciation Day, Western Illinois University

- OPEN November 30, 1976 - American Society of Farm Managers and Rural Appraisers, Inc.; St. Louis, Missouri
- OPEN December 6-7, 1976 - National Advisory Council; El Paso, Texas (Notes)
- OPEN December 16, 1976 - Organization of Professional Employees of United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) (Notes)
- OPEN January 12, 1977 - Joint Technical Conference Screwworm Eradication Program (Agenda)
- OPEN February 14, 1977 - Virginia Farm and Industrial Equipment Dealers Association; Roanoke, Virginia (Notes)
- OPEN February 17, 1977 - Iowa State University Conference; Ames, Iowa (Notes)