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COOPER

COOPER, DR. WILLIAM, JR. (OH-132) 41 pages PRCQ (Columbia)

President of the Little Rock Board of Education, 1950-1959.

DESCRIPTION: Interview #1. Personal background. The Blossom Plan for desegregation; Gov. Orval Faubus' political motivations, and the effects of his actions on the crisis; attitudes of the parents and children; the Board's decision to resign; the Board's relationship with the Community; assessment of Superintendent Virgil Blossom; Dr. Cooper's opinion of federal involvement; the decision to close the schools; alternative schooling; violent reaction with regard to outside agitators; lasting effects of the controversy to outside agitators; lasting effects of the controversy. A name index is located at the end of the transcript.

[Columbia University Oral History Project, interview by John Luter, 1970]