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New England Research Council on Marketing and Food Supply Records

1955-1966

2 boxes (1 linear feet)

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The collection contains the records of the NERC from its formation in 1922 until its dissolution in 1955. Included are the council's constitution adopted in 1922 and unaltered throughout the life of the organization, proceedings of annual meetings, publications, and reportson such topics as milk marketing and fruit and vegetable marketing.

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Background on New England Research Council on Marketing and Food Supply

The New England Research Council on Marketing and Food Supply was established in April 1922 after Lloyd S. Tenny of the U.S. Bureau of Agricultural Economics disclosed that federal funds would become available for research in marketing. Tenny requested that an advisory council be organized to prevent duplication of research, and the resulting organization was charged with attempting "to stimulate and coordinate the studies of economic problems connected with the supply of foods and other agricultural products of New England." Prominent among the early members of the Council were representatives from the Massachusetts Agricultural College, including President Kenyon Butterfield and the head of the Department of Agricultural Economics, Alexander E. Cance.

Throughout its thirty-three year existence, the Research Council played a role in supporting and coordinating research for agricultural marketing and production. At various times, the Council sponsored annual conferences on the regional outlook and occasional meetings on individual commodities, and they sponsored a New England crop reporting service, a New England radio news service, and opportunities for professional improvement. Having weathered the Depression years, however, the council found itself "overshadowed," as a history of the organization suggested, by the products of the Research and Marketing Act of 1946, and between 1946 and 1955, the Council's Executive Director split time between the Research Council and a number of regional and interregional projects.

In 1955, the Council reorganized after USDA support for the Executive Secretary was terminated. A subsequent organization, the New England Agricultural Economics Council was formed with representation from each of the six state universities in the region, carrying out a broadly similar mission.

Scope of collection

The surviving records of the New England Research Council document the official activities of an early regional effort to coordinate research into production, marketing, and distribution of agricultural products.

Detailed contents

Series 1. Minutes and proceedings

1922-1955

Constitution

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Council minutes

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Council minutes

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Council minutes and reports

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Series 2. Papers and publications

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Retail milk distribution

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Guide for Northeast research

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Fruit and vegetable marketing

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Administrative information

Access

The collection is open for research.

Provenance

Provenance unknown.

Processing Information

Processed by I. Eliot Wentworth, Aug. 2013.

Related Material

The **Papers of Kenyon Butterfield** (RG 3/1 B88) in SCUA contain additional materials relating to the Research Council in its early years.

The **Records of the New England Agricultural Economics Council** (MS 031) in SCUA document the activities of the Research Council's successor organization.

Language:

English

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Search terms

Subjects

Agricultural economics--New England.

Dana (Mass.)--History.

Dana (Mass.)--History.

Contributors

New England Research Council on Marketing and Food Supply [\[main entry\]](#)

Genres and formats

Minutes (Administrative records)

Link to similar SCUA collections

Agriculture

Massachusetts

New England



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