

YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY

ORAL HISTORY PROGRAM

Education in Youngstown

Personal Experience

O H 1018

ELIZABETH HARRY

Interviewed

by
Jeanne Ontko

on

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O This is an interview with Elizabeth Harry for the Youngstown State University Oral History Program, on education in Youngstown, by Jeanne Ontko, on May 13, 1981

Can you tell me something about your background, a short biography of your life? For instance, where were you born? What did your parents do? Where were you educated?

H Well, I am one of five children, I am the oldest I have two brothers and two sisters, and my youngest brother is only six years and 12 days younger than I am, so we are all very close My father was in the vegetable growing business He had about 1,200 acres under cultivation

O So he was a farmer?

H So he was a farmer?

H Yes, you could call him a farmer, I suppose, in the larger sense, because it was a large farm, all mechanized And in the beginning, of course, there was a lot of hand labor involved, but then later it all went to mechanization One time, I know it was harvest season, we were going to have 200 people topping onions, but then, of course, when mechanical machines came about in operation, it cut the labor force

O And this was in Iowa?

H Yes, this was in Iowa, Clear Lake, Iowa which is the northern part of the state about 20 miles from the Minnesota line in the central part of the state

O Did you enjoy living on a farm?

H Well, I never thought of it as a farm We were just on the edge of town, we did not have any animals, except pets, and we were the first house outside the city limits and we would walk Of course, I would be the oldest one so I would start things I started kindergarten when I was four, and in the morning my mother would take and we would walk home at noon, and then she would take us back at noon and we would walk home at night We would never start to school until we heard the bell ring -- we were about a mile and a half away -- and when it would ring, we would all five jump into the car and zoom up the street at 80 miles an hour to get to the high school in time and the dogs along all the streets recognized the car coming and always got out of the way because they knew we were going to school

O Did your mother have a job, besides being a mother?

H No With five children under six years of age, she did not, although she had been a teacher In fact, my mother was one of 11 children -- she was third to the youngest -- and all the girls in the family, with the exception of one, I think, were teachers My mother taught in the beginning at a country school house and, at that time, I think she was paid 40 dollars a month She would take a horse and buggy and go to this country school so that all this 40 dollars she could save to send her youngest brother to Iowa State where he was a civil engineer In high school, he was valedictorian of his class In college he was the top man of his class. He now is a nursing home, but he did have an engineering firm in Toledo, Ohio Uncle Leum, it is sad, out of eleven children, he is the only one to ever have hardening of the arteries and now -- I should not say senile -- but he does not know what is really going on He was one of the smartest of the family and his life has only been devoted to others, like his brother Jim out in Montana That is another sad story

Uncle Jim was going to marry Bessy Baker, but he went out to Montana to make his fortune He ran into weather, you know, no rain for months on end and the wheat farm, he just never made money financially A wonderful person, but not a money maker, so he never married Bessy never married, and I know at one time my uncle Leum bought a new car just to give to him because things got bad I imagine my uncle, he never had children of his own -- he married late in life -- but he probably had educated ten people, payed for them to go to school

O He is a very exceptional man

H Very I remember when I was ready to go to college Since my mother had helped him, he had wrote to my father to send me, and my father thought it was not necessary to send me But Unlce Leum was the man that was there when always needed If you can image, we all took some form of music, and my mother was so elated evertime she thought my brothers were going to amount to something My brother Jimmy wanted a clarinet, so she threw him down a clarinet That lasted two weeks Then he thought he would like a trumpet, so she went and got him a brand new trumpet That lasted, I do not know how long

Every morning before we went to school, we always had to practice, so there would be someone on the piano, someone on the violin, someone on the clarinet, someone on the trumpet, someone on the drums My father left, naturally, and I think my mother closed her ears It was wonderful for us There were four of us in college at the same time, in four different states I was in New York, my sister Jacky would be in Charleton, Minnesota, Jimmy would be at Iowa State, and Kay would be Cleveland. Jack was still in high school

- O Why did you go to New York for college?
- H The only reason I got my masters at all, it was not any dedication to any particular field, but that I just loved college life
- O Oh, really?
- H I did not want to go on to get a job I just wanted to go to college
- O So you got your master's in New York?
- H Right
- O How about your undergraduate degree?
- H I went to Geneva College for two years, and then I went to the University of Iowa in Iowa city, then MIU
- O What did you major in? Was there a specific major?
- H Well, of course, it was liberal arts my first two years, and then you had to declare a major I think I declared the wrong thing, but I could not have anything I was in the school of commerce, business, and since I had my undergraduate degree in that, I just went on to retailing, MIU retailing
- O Do you remember what it was like when you were in college, when you were an undergraduate?
- H How far back? My freshman year or later?
- O Start with your freshman year You have two daughters and they have gone to college, too Can you compare what it was like when you went to college, from the stories that they have told you about college? Did you live on campus? How many courses a day did you take? What were the professors like? What was the atmosphere like when you were going to college?
- H Wonderful
- O In what way?
- H In every way You know, I was the oldest of five children and so I got on the train and I went 300 miles to Missouri I knew one girl; she was a year ahead of me She was very wonderful to me, but I did not know her too well and I never

seen her in school before I was homesick, I do not think I smiled for six months I was terribly homesick and I remember one time calling home and just cryin on the phone for 15 minutes, and all I could say was do not hang up My mother said after this, "We will do our crying in private " Of course, you did not phone then like you do today Now that my daughters are in college, they phone every several days if they want to It is just a different thing

O How big of a college was it?

H Well, when I went there, there would be, maybe, a thousand students I think it cost a thousand dollars in 1936 when I went

O This would be for how long of a time?

H A year

O A year?

H And now my daughter is going there and for a year, I think, it was about \$5,000

O You have taught at Youngstown State, right?

H Yes, for ten years, 1965 to 1975

O Could you compare or contrast the two colleges or any of the colleges you went to with Youngstown State? Were they similar, campus-wise, scholastically? Were they similar?

H It has changed tremendously from 1965 until now

O Youngstown, you mean?

H Yes, Youngstown has Of course, when I arrived, it was not a state school and it was on semester stages, too You would often see Chris and Joan on the campus Much more informal atmosphere, a much more intimate atmosphere And you had much freer reign, I would say

O In what way?

H In the classroom I think when it went state, it was probably for the good, but things were more standardized

O Well, could you give me an example of what you mean by that?

- H Well, I meant from the stand point of curriculum I think before you were given more latitude
- O Do you mean in what you taught?
- H Yes, and what you covered
- O Well then, what did you teach at Youngstown State?
- H Oh, communications in the English department, and the way I even got into it, I had no interest in even going When I was in school, I did not want to be a teacher, I would not have touched it with a ten foot pole That is the last thing I would have thought of I thought it was impossible I did not want to be one of those
- O Why? Did you have a negative experience with a teacher?
- H No, I just thought it was a deadly job
- O Really?
- H No, and I came from a line of teachers, but I did not want a thing to do with it Then my friend, Eloise Ulgrum, it was at the time when there was all these boys, they did not want to be in any draft or anything and they could go to school and get out of it My friend Eloise said the English department, they were so short, they just needed teachers desperately In fact, I received a letter just two years before I do not know where they even got my name
- O You mean you were still in Iowa when you got this?
- H No I was here in Youngstown, in Canfield
- O Okay
- H I received a letter asking if I would like to help them out If I could help them in any subject, they would fix my hours to their's So I did not even bother to answer I threw it in the waste basket But then I saw my friend Eloise and she said, "You might be interested Why do you not come up?" I said, "Oh, I do not know if I am interested or not " She said, "Oh, why do you not just let me set up an appointment with Mr Dykleman? He can see if you would be interested " I said, "Okay " So, I said to my husband, who graduated from YSU, "I do not even know where to go " And he said, "Oh, I will take you up there and wait for you," which he did. So I climbed up the four flights of stairs and when I got up to Mr

Dykleman's office, I was completely breathless

O Where was this at

H In Jones Hall on the top floor He had his door opened, there was someone on the typewriter right outside and the radio was on, I could hardly hear a word he said When I arrived, I said the only thing I could find was my master's degree and my kindergarten picture, and I do not think he wanted my kindergarten picture So I brought this He said, "I do not care about that either." He said, "That is okay " He asked me some questions, but I could never hear what he said with all the commotion going on I made some answers and then silence just rang I guessed he was through I said, "Well, do you think I can handle the job?" He said, "We will notify you Just tell us what you want to do " So I said, "Fine, but then I would like to go during the summer, you know, just as a trial, to listen to someone else I went everyday that I could in the summer Then in the fall, I received a letter I had asked for Tuesdays and Thursdays, they scheduled me for Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, and it was not even in my name, but it got to me somehow So I called and said, "This is not for me, it is for some different name " "No, that means you are all set " I said, "Oh, okay " Nothing had been mentioned about money I did not have any idea until I was there about two months, when I was even going to get paid I was rather pleasantly surprised You were paid on your degree and here I started in with more than my friend was making, who had been there for three years

O Do you remember how much it was when you first started out?

H No

O Why did you come to Youngstown in the first place, you know, from Iowa to New York to Youngstown?

H All because I married my husband

O He was originally from Youngstown?

H Yes He lived on Canfield Road and the girl he was going with, she married a boy from Demoins, Iowa, and I married him later, which was funny how that worked out

O Do you remember who some of the faculty members were at Youngstown when you started out? This would be in the English department, right?

H Oh, Gratia Murphey was there

- O She was there?
- H Barbara Brothers was there, she still is
- O She is department chairman
- H Yes, right, and Mrs Budge was there, I remember People that are still there now
- O Did they offer you any advice that you can remember, when you first started teaching?
- H No, they did not say anything Mr Dakhold was always available
- O Really?
- H Yes You could always ask him any question, and I remember one time hearing mistaken grammar on the television and it was by that commentator Cuttley Is he the one that is good?
- O Yes
- H Yes, Cuttley I think it was a mistake, if I remember in correctly, in agreement And I called Mr Daggeman and I said, "That is incorrect, is it not?" He would not say yes or no, he just talked around the bush that it could be used in conversation I said, "Just say yes or say no Do not tell me all this I want a quick answer, yes or no " He said, "I am not going to give you that " And I said, "Okay, thank you " And that was that
- O Was this the first time that you had been teaching there at Youngstown?
- H Yes I just taught Sunday school, that is all I ever taught before
- O Is it unusual to have somebody teach if you do not have a teaching background?
- H Not at the college level
- O Oh, really?
- H I could never have done it at the high school, but they do it all the time at the college level They take realitors, attorneys
- O Oh, that is true

- H And my sister, the sister next to me who is twenty months younger, was a teacher, and she said, "Thank goodness you got out of those deadly education courses You are just lucky, you would not learn anything from them anyway Just be glad you can just walk off and just start in
- O Well then, how did you start in? How many students did you have in your first class, what level class?
- H Well, it would be the first level of communications It would all be freshmen, and I think I started on about three sections There would probably be about 27 in each class, so probably 60 students
- O How did you teach it, do you remember?
- H Well, of course, you would meetings and they would give you a lot of guide lines
- O The English department?
- H Yes, the English department They would have a curriculum that they would give you, too
- O Oh, I see
- H You know, the books and what you were to cover and the literature assignments Then my friend, Eloise Ulgram, was a tremendous help to me because she had been there for three years Some of the other teachers were helpful to me
- O Do you remember what some of the books were? What did they tell you or how did they tell you teach? What did you teach?
- H Well, it depended At that time, it was divided like 405, 106, 107 and a term paper would be one division
- O That would be like that last thing, would it not?
- H Yes, I think it was in three, that would be the last
- O Were there books then that you had to read?
- H Oh, yes
- O How did you handle that? Did you have discussions afterwards or reviews? What did you expect your students to do? How would you teach the book, what

would you do?

H Of course, they would read them, and you would assign several chapters of whatever. Then there would be questions over them. I mean, they might write character sketches, that sort of thing, or development of plot or scenes would be discussed -- all that sort of thing

O Did you do plays like Shakespeare or anything like that?

H No, that is what I am doing now, you know, in the tutoring, when they have that sort of thing

O Did you find the students to be receptive when you were teaching?

H Oh, yes. In fact, I loved going back, being on the campus again, and the students. This a funny thing -- I had a neighbor who was teaching at the high school level, and she had been teaching since she was just in her 20's. She had been teaching for three or four years and this was my first year teaching. She wanted to come and teach my class one time so I said, "Fine, Linda, come right ahead." Well, she came and the kids did not like her at all and they said, "Do not bring her back again. What is she doing, trying to practice on us? We do not like her at all, what does she know about it." Here I was the novice, and they thought I was the one experienced and she was not. They had it all reversed, but it worked out okay.

O Did you have your own office?

H No, I did not have any office at all

O No?

H Nothing. You just arrived two minutes before the class and left two minutes afterwards.

O Well, how about messages, or were there any curriculum changes?

H I think I had a box, I had a mailbox. It depended on what building I was in. I was all over the campus and sometimes you would have to walk from the Pollock house down to Engineering and Science between the classes. It was much better if you could be all in one hall. One time I went to this church?

O What church?

H The church that is right there on the campus

O You mean St John's?

H No

O On the corner of Spring and Wick? First Christian?

H Yes, right there

O Is that where Mr Shaffer goes, that church there?

H Oh, I am not sure where he goes

O They hold classes in there?

H Yes

O Where?

H Upstairs, up in the educational rooms Communication classes

O Oh, really?

H Yes

O What did the campus look like? Do you remember what the buildings were, because they have changed quite a bit, even since I was going here

H Jones Hall was there, and East Hall was there, that is now gone

O That is where the library was, right? Where the YSU library is now is It would be right next to Jones?

H Right next to Jones They had communication classes there and I remember one time I was down in the basement and that old building, I am sure, has been torn down

O Which one?

H Right across from Jones Hall, across the street there towards town

O You do not mean the school of business?

- H I was in that building, too. One time they moved the classes because they saw rats in there and one teacher said she would not go back to there to the rats. I said, "I do not mind a few rats. They are not going to bite me." But they cancelled the classes then. Then in the Rayen school, I had some classes there.
- O How about going west on campus? What buildings were there? Engineering and Science?
- H Well, that was just new because I was over there.
- O Was Ward Beecher there? That is in between Engineering and Science and Jones Hall?
- H In the very beginning?
- O It would be where the planetarium is now, that building.
- H I am not sure if that was there in 1965 or not.
- O Did they use the old library a lot when you were teaching?
- H Yes. In fact, at the professional level, they would have library assignments and they would go over there in the library. In fact, they would have a tour of the library.
- O Do you remember who the librarian was? Was it Hildagard?
- H Yes, that German lady.
- O Right.
- H She takes them through.
- O Yes. She is still there.
- O Somebody told me once that they had offices up in the library, in the old library -- some of the department offices.
- H They might have.
- O You do not recall that, though?

- H The English offices were not there
- O Well, the English department was in Jones Hall, right?
- H Yes, yes, there were some offices. Some of the history, I think, were
- O Yes, that is right. Now, Jones hall, you say on the fourth floor, was that just purely English or were there some other offices there, too?
- H There could have been some language. I think French was up there, and some of the languages, but mostly English.
- O How about parking. Where did people park? Do you remember? Was it a problem for you at all?
- H No, well, we do now.
- O Well, without Beeghly, there would be more parking, would there not?
- H Yes, there was plenty of parking, and in the beginning we did not have to buy a parking sticker at all.
- O You did not?
- H No, not the faculty. Now, the faculty has to buy one for the year. It was \$15 for the year, but in the beginning, you did not have to buy any.
- O Oh, really? Did you get any other benefits then as a teacher there?
- H None, I did not have to do anything else, either.
- O Was there no union?
- H No.
- O No union?
- H No union at all.
- O Was it 1967 when they went state, then? Was it around that time?
- H A little later, maybe, in the late 1960's. It seems like it was more than two years.

- O When you were teaching?
- H Yes, before it went state
- O Do you remember it personally effecting you when it became state, except for things, like you said, becoming more standardized?
- H No, not personally, except they changed from the semester to the quarter, which I like semesters better
- O How about discipline problems? Did you have any?
- H No problems whatsoever
- O Really?
- H You could not ask for nicer kids They were all there, they wanted to be there
- O What was the age range?
- H Oh, usually, when I first started, they were all pretty young, probably 18 to 21
- O It was not like now, where you had your non-traditional students?
- H No, but two months before we went state, I knew that I did have some older women in my class, and older men, too
- O I know now they have tests that they give incoming freshmen to see if they can read or write Did they have anything like that?
- H I do not think so
- O Were not there any problems like this when you were teaching?
- H Not at the beginning I suppose it would be about the 1970's, you know, when federal money was being given and they recruited students to come in, minority groups, then you got the dredges from the bottom of the barrel, people that should no more be in college and bought last Really, it was a fright In fact, slow learners and everything were there that had no business being in college, and people that I am sure never graduated from high school suddenly get up there and say, "I got it made, I am in college " They were no more college material than fifth grade

- O Did you ever tell them that they were not college material?
- H No
- O How would you handle that if you thought they were not or if they were doing poorly in class?
- H Well, they did poorly, there is no question of that. And they dropped out No way, why if they wanted to be a nurse, why they could not be a nurse anymore than a dog could
- O Do you see any changes, like in the teachers being a little more rigid in there standards? Did that change throughout the years while you were teaching there? Do you see the teachers getting to be a little more lenient, or were they getting stricter in who they were passing?
- H I think it all depends on the individual I think that there are some people that are strict, some people are lenient, some people have compassion for others, some have none I can remember, you know you had to pass the communication test before you could graduate This boy was a senior in Engineering and he had been fearful of the communication courses and was taking them now He was set to graduate, and she failed him. I did not even know the boy, but I knew she was doing this and I went to her and said, "How can you do it?" I said, "I do not see how you can do that with a pure conscience?" She said, "I can do it easy " I said, "He will probably be in research in the ivory tower " He failed and that was it
- O Did they have any kind of grievance committee for the student?
- H Nothing
- O They did not have anything like that, then?
- H I do not think so
- O Oh, really?
- H No After a few years, I know they had this evaluation of teachers
- O What was that like?
- H Well, the students did it Just questions and you rated on a numerical basis from one to five or whatever One question was, would you ever have this teacher

again from choice? It did contain a source, but not completely by any means, but I know a teacher that I knew not a single student said they would ever have her again and I thought, gee, if I got a rating like that, I think I would quit on the spot

O Well, did it affect their employment at all?

H I do not think so It was just something, you know, it was a release of frustrations, if you want to think of it in that

O How much power did the students have?

H None

O None

H I do not think Very little They can make a lot of noise, but the administration will do as they please

O And you said before that it was more intimate at the beginning?

H I thought so

O In what way? What do you mean by that?

H Well, just from size alone, it would be more intimate It would not be as large and you knew people.

O Really?

H Oh, yes And Mr Dackerman would call you by name on a first name basis Well, he was nto always that informal, but he knew you and something about you

O Howard Jones was the president, right?

H Yes, and you saw him on campus all the time He was not out getting money for the university, he was there, if you wanted to talk to him In fact, we walked to campus, I think, ever day

O Really?

H A couple times a week I would see himand he would always be the first to speak,

always to recognize you

O That is good

H It made you feel you had more of being a personal work than just a number to come and go, hello, good-bye

O Do you recall any problems with registration?

H It was a madhouse

O What was it like?

H It was a complete mad house

O I have heard stories about it

H Well, I had nothing to do with it, really, but lines way out in the street

O Where did they register at? Do you remember what building?

H I think Jones

O Really?

H And here were these poor freshmen just completely lost, standing for hours in the long lines sometimes I mean, it was so pitiful in a way

O Did they have advisors for the students?

H Yes, but I doubt that they were of much value

O Really?

H I do not think they were

O Were you ever an advisor to the kids?

H No, I was on the limited service faculty. I did my job, I came, I left. I did not have any other responsibilities, I had no furnished benefits That was it

O During the 1960's when there was a lot of turmoil on campuses throughout the country, did you notice any protest during Vietnam at the YSU campus

- H Not much, maybe just a couple of little gatherings now and then, and a speaker
- O Would it be the students that would gather, or were there teachers that protested, also?
- H I would not even call it a protest. It was not that. Oh, I think, maybe, there was one little march, but it was not radical by any means. Everything was very low key. Of course, there would be a lot of faculty people in attendance.
- O Do you know what graduations were like?
- H I did not go to them.
- O You did not go to graduations?
- H No.
- O I just wondered what the ceremony was like. How about sports? How important was sports at YSU when you were going there?
- H Well, the people participating would be of utmost importance. To me, it was nothing. I did not go to a single game.
- O I just wondered, they have done surveys and a lot of students protest against so much money being put into sports.
- H Well, it is put in because it can be pulled out. That is the reason it is put in, it is a big business. Of course, I can remember Dom -- I cannot even say his last name -- and he has been there for years. I think he is head of basketball.
- O Oh, Buzzelli.
- H Yes. Well, he was always very interested in his students.
- O Really?
- H If you had a basketball player that was in your class, he was checking to be sure that he was doing alright and that he would be eligible to play. [He had] A very personal interest because I remember, I had several students that were on the basketball team.
- O You mean he would approach you, too?

- H Oh, just on the phone Yes, he called
- O Oh, that is good Were you on any committees at all?
- H None
- O Well, you were limited service, too
- H Yes, that is what I said I was on that for ten years
- O Yes, that would make a difference
- H Yes, that is right, that was it exactly That is what it was, limited service You did not have a contract, you did not know from one quarter to the next what you would be doing If they needed you, you would work and, of course, the big rush was in the fall That is when you would have all the students Then it would be less winter quarter, and spring would be down I think, maybe one time, I only taught one section in the spring
- O Were you working elsewhere then?
- H No
- O That was your only job?
- H Yes, that was my only job, and I was not working at all until I started that
- O Oh, really?
- H No, I was not doing anything
- O Were your daughters going to school at all when you were up there?
- H When I started, yes Maribeth would have been starting college, and my other daughter would have been in junior high
- O They did not get their tuition payed because you were working there?
- H No In fact, they did not go there, they went to a private school
- O Oh, I thought maybe they went there
- H. They went to Stevens

- O Oh, I see They went back in Missouri
- H Yes, but that had nothing to do with that
- O Okay, what did you enjoy most about teaching? This was your only teaching experience, right?
- H At first, right I loved everything about it In fact, I could have kicked myself that I had not done it many years earlier, because it was so gratifying Either with the students, the contact with them, that was what was gratifying And to feel that you had something to do with your life, that you could share it and their experiences and, you know, that you are completely in the classroom That, I suppose, gives you a feeling of power Well, I do not think that is the one reason I liked it
- O We understand
- H You know, there is certainly more to a job than the money you bring home, and I know I had some students, 18-year-old kids making a thousand dollars a month -- this, of course, was 1972 or so -- up at GM [General Motors], but they could not stand it They said, "To think that I am going to be here the rest of my life, putting a nut on a bolt I cannot stand it There is more to life than this. I have to go to college " You know, if you are not happy in your job, you are a square peg in a round hole, you might as well forget it But if you love your job, you look forward to it with anticipation I could not wait to get there, I hated to leave I loved every minute of it, it was my life My life revolved around it, everything else was secondary, and that is how I think of my tutoring That sort of comes first That is my commitment and that is what I want to do, and I love doing it
- O Where do you tutor at now?
- H Well, right now I am just at Western Reserve High School and I have a home instruction down in Springfield
- O Do you think you would like to go back there to teach college if you had a chance?
- H No
- O You would not?
- H No One of the reasons, of course, is that we are graduating so many English majors that the English department sort of went down They had to pull people

who were teaching upper division literature down into communication, which they deplored. They even fired about five English teachers that had contracts.

O Really? Did you remember who they were?

H No, but it was all in the papers at the time. I did not know them personally, but people just were not going into it for those courses and that was, of course, the reason. The limited service people, of course, they were the first ones let go, too, because you did not have any contracts. If they needed you, you were used. I was lucky to have been there for ten years. It was so wonderful.

O You said you enjoyed teaching freshmen the best, then?

H Oh, that was all I wanted.

O Really?

H Yes. I liked that age group because they were still untarnished.

O Did anyone from the English department ever go and talk to high schools about coming to Youngstown State?

H Not to my knowledge. I think they had recruiters who did that.

O Probably.

H I know this one, he would go and talk to high schools, but he would just sew the English teachers into a complete blackout because he was so liberal. He said, "You are back in the dark ages, ladies." He was just too much for some of them.

O Then he was the department chairman all the time that you were there, then?

H Yes, and, of course, I never knew until after he was dead, that he had leukemia.

O I did not know that.

H I went to his memorial, which was lovely. I remember seeing him. He would go, periodically, to France, or abroad. Sometimes he would look so tired, and then I would see him a week or so later and he would look so young and invigorated. Of course, that would be after a transfusion, I figured out after his death. But at the time, I did not even know that he was really ill.

O Is there anything else that you can think of that I may have missed about your

experiences teaching?

H Anything specific?

O Anything that you might want to add. It is too bad that I did not mention about the book. You could have told me about it.

H How ridiculous to forget what they all were. But now, if you had not asked me them, I might have been able to come up with them. I remember "The Old Wives Tale."

O Bennett

H Bennett, yes, I remember that. And of course, the kids hated that book pretty much. I just cannot remember them.

O Were there any certain high schools that gave a student a better college preparatory background?

H Oh, there is no question of that. Some are far superior.

O Can you think of one?

H Well, I think Canfield is excellent. You draw kids from Pennsylvania, from little communities all over, and some of those students have not had any background. They have never once given a speech in their life. Why, one girl was scared to even get up in front of the class. She said, "Just give me an F. I am not getting up there." Then again, some people are graduated from high school and, of course, never should be. They cannot even read, yet they have their diploma from high school. That still is true today. Usually, most of them do not get in to colleges, but some of them try, and then it is sort of sad for everybody that comes in.

O Well, I want to thank you very much for sharing this with me.

End of Interview