ORAL HISTORY of H. Tracy Hall, recorded August 6, 1973.

Sherlene: We're having Family Home Evening at the Hall's house. Dan and Sherlene and David and Karen are back on vacation from Chicago and New Jersey, respectively. Charlotte and Nancy are here. Virginia is on her mission in Scotland, and it's August 6, 1973.

Dad, we just finished asking these first 6 questions of Mom on the other tape and now we're letting her catch her breath and Dad just came back from a ball game with his Priests. So now we're going to give it to him.

Tracy: You have Mom on 2 sides on that other one?

Ida Rose: One! Just one side!

Tracy: This is the other side of the same tape?

Sherlene: We decided to start a new tape.

Ida Rose: I was just telling Karen, it will only take you half as much tape.(laugher) Oh, we might get him wound up.

Sherlene: We made Mom take a big oath that she would tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, unless it proved to be embarrassing.

Tracy: You did!

Sherlene: We'll just assume you're not going to tell any lies here. (laughter). OK, let's start at the beginning. Why don't you tell us a little bit about your ancestry, and where they came from.

Tracy: Well, my father, Howard Hall, was bom in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, June 22, 1887. His parents were Henry C. Hall and Mary Ann Woodcock, and offhand I've forgotten where they were born. Henry C. Hall's father was also Henry C. Hall. This first Henry C. Hall in Ohio somewhere was the first - they used to have mule drawn street cars — and he was the driver of one of those first street cars where they pulled the street car with a mule, and the Hall's were sort of in the railroad business from that time on. His son, Henry C. Hall was working on the railroad and then came to Pocatello, Idaho, to work on the railroad and was transferred from Pocatello, which was a rail center, to Ogden, Utah, which was a larger rail center, and somehow, later on, this second Henry C. Hall, who was the father of Howard Hall, got into the transfer business.

My father started work on the railroad too, at a young age. He quit school in the 5th grade, as many people did in those days, and worked at what was called a "call boy" on the railroad beginning at age 11. Now what a "call boy" did was go around and wake up the engine crews. You know switching and trains going in and out of the yard. You see, Ogden was the largest rail center west of Omaha, Nebraska. And I guess they didn't have telephones in those days. They weren't too common and my dad would know the apartments or the homes where they lived and he would have to go there and wake up the crews. You would have thought they would have had an alarm clock or something.

Ida Rose: Well, no. They didn't know when they would go out.

Tracy: I suppose maybe that's it. Maybe there were unexpected calls. Trains would be late and what-not. Anyway, that was his first job on the railroad, and he continued working on the railroad and moved up the line becoming brakeman, fireman, and various things, and this is what he was doing when he met my mother at age — around 31 or 32. 31,1 guess. I don't know why dad didn't get married earlier. My mother had opportunities to get married that I remember her talking about, but she didn't like the guys that wanted to marry her. In fact she had to run away from one who chased her to Idaho and then chased her back to Salt Lake. She couldn't get rid of him. But, I never heard my dad talk about any former girl friends or anything. I never did.

But my mother had become a book-keeper. She had gone to Henager's Business College or LDS Business College. I think it was Henager's and had learned book-keeping. She also learned sewing in one of these sewing colleges. Maybe the business colleges were kind of trade schools that they used to have in those days probably taught sewing. Anyway, she took sewing and learned sewing and book-keeping both very well and I think she did both for a living at various times.

Ida Rose: I remember that she did sewing.

Tracy: Oh, yes. She was a good seamstress. She learned all the tailoring and everything else. Maybe not like your mother, but my mother made - as boys, see, there were 5 of us — she made all of our clothes. Shirts, pants, the works up until - well, she made suits, too. As a matter of fact, Bishop deMik used to give my mom his old suits. He worked — he was a top salesman at Fred M. Nye, and he always looked well dressed.

Ida Rose: Sharp looking!

Tracy: You know, he had on the latest suits - and new suits. And he would occasionally give his discarded suits to my mom and she would cut them down to size to fit us boys - clear up until I was age 18 or 19, she was doing this. So, she was a good seamstress.

Ida Rose: What a job!

Tracy: But, anyway, she was working in Wilson's Grocery store which was on Wall Avenue at approximately - this is a guess, 27th Street, perhaps 28th Street and Wall Avenue. [The store was at 28th and Wall Avenue, northwest corner. The building still stands (1988) and has been remodeled into a shelter for the homeless and vagabonds, providing meals and a place to sleep, and can be recognized by the neon sign that reads "Jesus Saves."]

At this time my grandmother and grandfather Hall were living on Binford Street. North side of the street, I've forgotten the number, about 2 houses from the corner of Wall and Binford. [This house was torn down in the late 1970's, as were all the other homes on the north side of Binford Street, to make way for the "Golden West Credit Union" to serve the railroad employees.]

This was a fairly nice home for the day, but it was down in the railroad section of town that negros lived there. Negro porters and other people lived there. My grandfather lived next door to negros all his life, I guess. There was not all that much segregation. I suppose in that day that negro porters were fairly high-class people. I just read a Readers Digest article about Negro porters and they sort of helped advance their people because they got out and saw what the rest of the world was like and in its own day that was a fairly

high station in life, being a negro porter. But they lived all around there - the negro people who worked on the railroad were just behind him and beside him, but the negros lived in houses just as good as my dad did because I had been in some of those houses. But it was a much nicer house than I ever lived in as a kid. My grandfather Hall's house. They had moved there from Pacific Avenue. They had first lived and had built a house on Pacific Avenue, but that was later taken over by all the railroad tracks. Huge switching yards that they had built in Ogden, so they had moved to Binford.

Well, somewhere along the line, my dad had saved most of his money. As a matter of fact in those days if you were still living at home you gave almost all your earnings — well you gave all your earnings to your parents. I remember my father saying that — and, golly, he must have been in his twenties - that he would just bring his pay home and turn it over to his mother. And one day he bought a friend of his and himself a bottle of soda pop out of the pay and his mom noticed the ten cents missing when he got home and he got a scolding for it. [Most people were paid in cash in those days.]

But, anyway, my dad must have earned an awful lot of money between age 11 and age 32 when he got married, but when he got married he didn't have anything, because he had been giving it to his parents that whole time. But with that money --I guess Grandpa Hall had been saving at least some of what Dad brought home, and my grandfather formed a transfer business. Transfer business in that day was a truck and trucking. It was local trucking mainly and moving. I guess it wasn't so local, because I've heard my dad talk about trucking into Idaho and trucking into Wyoming. But he made my dad a partner in the business, but I guess he was a non-owing partner. I have a picture. The business was located on 25th Street. 25th Street never did have too good a reputation in Ogden because it had drinking, prostitutes, and those kinds of things, but there were some respectable businesses along there.

Ida Rose: Oh, it has a terrible reputation now.

Tracy: I can remember a Murphy's Curio Shop — there were businesses that catered to the railroad trade because the railroad station was at Wall Avenue and 25th Street - right at the foot of 25th Street. There was a hotel there and other things. I've forgotten the exact address, but I believe the transfer business of Grandpa Hall's was called City Transfer and Storage, was located on the South side of 25th Street, and I believe it was between Wall Avenue and Lincoln, probably about in the middle of the block. Now, my dad knew all the Jewish people and the pawn shops and the clothing business and he had some gentile non-Mormon friends, too. I remember a fellow by the name of Murphy who owned the corner and ran a curio shop and I believe a kind of a lunch counter, or something. I know he was a nice man. My dad was friends with him all his life. But anyway, my grandpa Hall, Henry C. Hall, had the first Model T truck — the initial business was with teams, see — horses pulling wagons to move peoples' furniture, and, of course, they were right by the railroad station and they would truck stuff that came on the railroad cars ~ they'd put it on their wagon and hawl it to the customer in the area. But as soon as macks came along, my grandpa Hall got — I believe it was called a 3/4 ton truck in those days, maybe a one ton Model T truck. I wish Grandpa were here to tell us. I believe it was probably the first in Ogden, and this sort of gave them greater range and they would truck stuff from the depot in Ogden clear into Idaho and clear into Wyoming and other places. Dad told us some pretty good stories through the years on his trucking business.

Ida Rose: Was it pretty successful?

Tracy: Oh, yeah. My dad — my grandfather Hall, by my standards was rich.

Ida Rose: When did the business break up?

Tracy: Well, my grandfather, Henry C. Hall, of course, was non-Mormon. My dad was the first to join the church and his mother and father opposed it a great deal. Gave a lot of opposition to it. They changed just before their death, but before that they didn't think anything of Mormonism. My grandfather Hall drank. He used whisky like a lot of people did who weren't Mormons.

Ida Rose: And some who were.

Tracy: And some who were, I guess. I suppose it was getting the better of him in his older years as he approached seventy, and that was probably partly the cause for the transfer business going down the drain. My dad got out of it and my dad's brother Sam carried it on for a little while, but it eventually just faded out. I guess it must have lost anything that it ever built up. I don't know how it was finally phased out. I don't know whether Grandpa owned that property on 25th Street or not. I would guess that he did.

Sherlene: I think that was interesting, because when I was on a debate trip at Weber that was one of the big sights that we got to see. Everybody got on the bus and they drove us down 25th Street so we could see all the prostitutes and the closed windows. You know, this was the gangsters alley, and I can remember the creepy feeling I got going down 25th Street. I was just — just sick, the whole ride, but really interested.

Tracy: Well, during prohibition days it was the street where you could buy the booze and where the prostitutes were located. Bishop Lofgreen of the 18th Ward once took us kids, I suppose we were 15 or 16 years old, down 25th Street and pointed out where the brothels were.

Ida Rose: That was a good thing to do for young boys.

Tracy: Well, he was just showing us what to be aware of. You know, some kids — some young kids could be ignorant of what 25th Street was all about, but he took us down an alley and showed us a pile of whisky bottles. This was still during prohibition, supposedly, and that pile of whisky bottles was as tall as this ceiling. Just one huge mound of whisky bottles.

Ida Rose: What was the matter with the local garbage collection?

Tracy: I imagine the police were in cahoots with everything that went on on 25th Street.

Sherlene: Well, they still are from what we heard while we were there. The police were the ones that were keeping 25th Street going. I don't know if that is true, but...

Tracy: Well, I got detoured, but what happened — my grandmother used to shop at this Wilson's grocery where my mother was the book-keeper and she would send Howard down to the store and he'd see this pretty girl, you know. Apparently Grandpa Hall was kinda bashful. He must have been to go to age 32 ... but he was always neatly dressed apparently. He wore a hat, you know, and was always neatly dressed according to my mother. So he would go down there. Grandpa Hall smoked cigars in those days — and, ah, they started eyeing each other, I guess, I don't know how dating started, but, at least that's where they met, and that was the beginning of the thing. But, my mother, of course, recognized that dad was a really fine nice fellow, but, of course, he wasn't a Mormon. He hadn't been raised in an LDS home.

He had one or two contacts with Mormons, one way or another. Somewhere in Wilson Lane — I heard him mention a contact with Mormons. I don't know what the deal was there.

Ida Rose: He wanted to go to the dances. I remember that, and his mother wouldn't let him.

Tracy: But, anyway. Yeah, my grandmother Hall was little bit. I don't know what you would say — peculiar in some ways. While she had 5 - was it 5 children herself? She somehow got the idea that it was sinful to have children, and she didn't want Howard to have children and she didn't want her son Sam to have children — and Sam never did. Sam got married late in life and so did my dad — I don't know, I suppose that she must have been hanging on to my father, you know, and keeping him away from girls and not letting him date and what not — I don't know —to a late age. It's strange, but in those days, I suppose parents had more control. You know, like taking all the money he earned from age 11 clear up until he got married at age 31 or so.

Ida Rose: This was just a standard practice. You had to go out on your own and then you could have your money. But as long as you were in the parental home, you gave everything to the parents.

Tracy: Anyway, as time went on, see, my dad started to see the light. By the way, my dad was a Socialist at this time.

Ida Rose: He used to get up on the soapbox.

Tracy: Yeah, and he would go to City Hall Park in Ogden and stand on a soapbox and preach Socialism. (laughter) He was the biggest capitalist there ever was!

Sherlene: But he wasn't immoral, or wild, or anything like that.

Tracy: I wouldn't think so. I don't think so, at all!

Sherlene: Because he used to talk about the days in his youth when he was a Socialist and a Communist and he'd sort of contrast that with Mormonism

Tracy: He wasn't a Communist. He was a Socialist.

Sherlene: I don't get that picture of him. At least from my impression of Grandma, I don't think she would have married a man who was that way.

Dan: He was an idealistic type Socialist, I'm sure.

Tracy: Well, anyway, I don't know what discussions he and Mom had, but he finally decided that the church was true, and so having decided that, he said, Well, you ought to have to live the Word of Wisdom. I guess he drank a little — on occasion. I'm sure he didn't drink a lot. Dad drank and I guess his brothers did. So he said that when he decided to quit smoking there wasn't anything to it. He just threw away his last cigar and never touched any tobacco from then henceforth, ever.

Sherlene: He told me that he shook on his bed for 3 days.

Tracy: Did he?

Sherlene: Yea, when I was a little girl, I asked him if he gave up cigarettes. He told me that he just shook for a few days.

Tracy: He might have done. Well, anyway ...

Sherlene: He got over it. He said he never ate ...

Tracy: He quit see. He didn't try to taper off, or anything. He just made the decision to quit and he quit. And, of course, he had been drinking tea and coffee in his home all his life and he quit that and never touched it again. He never touched any alcohol again. And then, of course, came the issue of his railroad work. A good job. You see he had been working on the railroad for 20 years. Really worked his way up.

Ida Rose: And in Ogden, those were the best paying jobs.

Tracy: Oh, yeah.

Ida Rose: They paid $200 per month. They got about $200 a month and they were the rich people in town.

Tracy: So with his idealism, he said, "Well, if I'm going to be a member of the church, I'm going to have to take my family to church. I can't work on Sunday anymore like the railroad had me doing." So he quit working on the railroad.

Sherlene: This was after he had a lot of children, wasn't it?

Tracy: Oh, no!

Sherlene: No children!

Ida Rose: He had a couple.

Tracy: He may have had Gene and I.

Ida Rose: It was after the war. [World War I]

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Tracy: Of course, that's another thing. He went into the war just before I was born, I guess.

Ida Rose: And you were born while he was in the service.

Tracy: Was I? I used to know that relationship, but I've forgotten. [Howard Hall went into the army shortly after he was married and served from September 1918 to January 1919. He served only about 5 months because the war ended shortly after he entered the service. Tracy was bom October 20, 1919.]

My father went to Camp Lewis in Washington and was in the trucking group. What did they call them? Anyway with all his railroading and trucking experience, he was a truck — in a truck battalion that would deliver supplies to the front lines, supposedly ...or something like that. [Howard Hall was a Wagoner (truck-driver -- wagoner was the old name) — in Company A, 13th Ammunition Train, 90th Division, at Fort Lewis, Washington.]

But the war ended while he was in training in Fort Lewis. His brother Ralph, though, had been shipped overseas in World War I and was in England, and we had this great flu epidemic, you know, where people died by the tens of thousands and Ralph got this bad flu and died in England and was buried over there.

Ida Rose: Did they ever ship him home.

Tracy: Yes, after the war was over and things cleared away, if you wanted it, they would exhume the body and ship it home. Ralph was shipped home. He's buried in Ogden City Cemetery.

Let's see. Dad had an older brother Eugene. That's where my brother Eugene gets his name, who died as a baby and is buried somewhere in the Pocatello, Idaho, area. Ida Rose have been up there trying to find a record of the birth and the death and the cemetery, and we've never been able to locate anything. And I think we must have asked Grandpa Hall about the burial, or something, and he knew nothing. Of course, he would have been younger when that occurred. He hadn't been born yet. Let's see. And then he had Sam, who was the oldest brother. I don't know if Sam was older than Eugene or not. I have forgotten. Eugene may have been the first, and then there was Howard, my father, and then there was Ralph, and then the youngest was May.

Ida Rose: Tracy is supposed to look a lot like Ralph did.

Tracy: Yeah, when I was young walking around the streets of Ogden at age 17 or 18, occasionally a man would come up to me and say, "Hi, Ralph!" So apparently I looked a lot like my uncle Ralph. It used to happen a lot. Not just an isolated incident. A lot of people would think I was Ralph.

Ida Rose: His wife says that she would see him sometimes and really take a double-take because he looked so much like him.

Tracy: My aunt Grace. She never did re-marry. She's still living. She lives in Pebble Beach, California. And she has been a widow for approximately 55 years. She never remarried.

Sherlene: I think I met her once. Doesn't she have kinda blond hair. She's a very attractive woman.

Tracy: That would be her daughter. Well, let's see. Where were we?

Ida Rose: You were saying when he quit the railroad.

Tracy: He never did really have a good job after that. He went into insurance.

Ida Rose: He always tried to sell, and he never ,,,

Tracy: He liked selling, but he was never a good salesman.

Ida Rose: He was a sucker for any salesman that came along. Anyone could sell him anything.

Tracy: He later on got a pretty good job in a creamery. A truck driver, I think, again, but then when the crash came in 1929, something happened to that job. Somewhere along the line he went back to work on the railroad. You know, once you quit the railroad, you're

sort of at the bottom of the pile again. You lose all of your seniority. So he took a job in Carlin, Nevada. I must have been 5 or 6 years old, because these are some of my earliest memories. I can just barely remember them. We went on the train. We had free passes on the railroad, because he was working on the railroad. We went to Carlin,and we lived in a log cabin while we were there.

Ida Rose: Now where was this, Nevada?

Tracy: Carlin, Nevada.

Ida Rose: We stopped there once.

Tracy: But we didn't stay there very long. Yeah, we went out and got a picture of the old little tiny church out there. Liz and Marty took it for us and mailed it to us. But we didn't stay there very long. They had an electric generator in town and they turned it on only one day a week. So you used kerosene or candle light.

Ida Rose: And did your washing that day.

Tracy: Yeah, you did your washing the day they turned the electric power on in town. I remember some interesting things about that town. I remember a lady who smoked a corn-cob pipe and that really seemed funny to Eugene and I. We thought that was funny -- the lady that smoked a corn-cob pipe. In this little log house we rented there was a player piano which was fascinating to us. Some of the terrifying moments of my early life occurred in that town. There were big bullies in that town.

Ida Rose: You had more big bullies.

Tracy: Well, I was little. When I was young, I was tiny. I was really skinny and underweight and people thought that I was going to die I was so unhealthy looking all the time and so little. And I always got picked on by bigger boys. They looked for a weakling to pick on. But they used to pick on Eugene and I both in that town an awful lot and being a tough railroad town it was really something. And the kids were tough! One incident, a kid got up on his house with a 22 and was shooting at his mom and dad and wouldn't let any of his family members come near the house. That's the kind of town Carlin was.

But some kid ... and you know these metal culverts, these spiral kind of galvanized pipe they put under a road and things like that. There was one just big enough for a little 4 or 5 year old kid to crawl in, real tiny. And these kids enticed me to crawl in from one side and Eugene to crawl in from the other side, and then they built a fire at each end of the culvert.

Sherlene: You're kidding! I've never heard these stories.

Ida Rose: Oh, you should hear some of the ones he's been through.

Sherlene: How did you get out?

Dan: You weren't able to turn around in it, were you?

Ida Rose: You couldn't get out. It was a wonder you weren't asphyxiated.

Tracy: Yeah, it was a wonder we didn't get killed, because the smoke came in, you know, and we were chocking and gasping. I am not quite sure how we were rescued from that. Gene and I were in lots of situations ....

Sherlene: You mean you don't remember! I would remember.

Tracy: Well, maybe, you know kids will do things. They are going to scare you right up to the point of death and then they are going to rescue you. They may have ... Some older boys may have come along or something and moved the fire. See, you wouldn't have been able to get out without crawling through the fire. You would have got burned. - kicked the fire away and we got out. There were some strange things in that -- little kids, you know will get into everything. I can remember the railroad station ...

Ida Rose: Little kids like you.

Tracy: And crawl space underneath it was held up by square posts just maybe a foot and a half off of the ground and you could sort of crawl under the station, and the entire area under the station was matches ...

Ida Rose: That you could light?

Tracy: Yeah. You could scratch them and light them.

Ida Rose: Oh, boy!

Tracy: And I guess that kids had got under there and strewn matches under there for what mischief I don't know, but I remember you could go under that station any time and there was just matches everywhere underneath the station. We only lived there for a short while. Maybe only about 6 months and then we moved back to Ogden.

Sherlene: I bet your mother had something to do with that

Tracy: That period was sometime around 1927, and it may have been after that that he got the job at Nelson-Ricks Creamery.

Ida Rose: Well, where were you baptized, then? Was that after you were baptized?

Tracy: Oh, no. No. I could have only been six — I hadn't gone to school yet.

Ida Rose: If this is 1927.

Tracy: Maybe that's too late. Maybe it was '25.

Ida Rose: It would have been. Because you were baptized in Marriott.

Tracy: Yeah, Well, Yeah, I'm probably making this too old. I may have been only 4 or 5, and we were living on 16th Street. I was born on 16th Street And then my dad and mom purchased a lot. I can remember going to this cherry orchard in Ogden on about 15th Street and Jefferson Avenue and walking across a plank across the Mill Creek. I can remember that. They bought this lot in this cherry orchard. A new development and we moved there and lived in a tent and I can remember our piano being in a tent

Ida Rose: The same piano that you had all the time.

Tracy: Uh, huh!

Ida Rose: Well, I'll be darned. When did you get that piano? Do you remember?

Tracy: My father bought that for his mother and the mother gave it to us.

Ida Rose: Where is that now. Who has got it now?

Tracy: I don't know what has happened to it by now. It's gone.

Sherlene: I have a couple of questions. You've answered a lot of these, but maybe you can just describe your parents a little bit more. What they looked like. What their personalities were like.

Tracy: Well, both of them were reserved and retiring and quiet. At least that's my impression. Now Grandpa lived with us here in his older years you know, when he was around 83 - 85 and he seemed to be plenty out-going then, but when I was younger, I don't remember him being that out-going. Maybe he was and I didn't know it.

My mother was kind of retiring. Both were short. My father, I don't know what his height was. He was dark. Had a dark complexion, and youthful. Grandpa Hall was youthful! At 85 when he died, most people would take him for 65 or 60. He always looked youthful. Grandpa Hall was very strong physically. Extremely strong.

Ida Rose: He was little, but he was strong.

Tracy: From his moving days. You see, in this transfer business — in those days, a man really had to be able to lift a piano. My dad claims to have taken a piano up the stairs to a second story all by himself on more than one occasion. And I can believe it. He was really strong.

Sherlene: Well, when he had that first heart attack, didn't they tell him that it was from all those years of lifting heavy things, or something ...

Tracy: I don't know ...

Ida Rose: That was probably why he could survive the heart attack.

Sherlene: Well, they told him to quit lifting things, though after that. That was later on in his life when they told him to quit lifting things.

Tracy: Well, he had the heart attack at age 65 and he lived 20 years beyond that.

Ida Rose: Did you know that when he was 85 he had forgotten that he had had a heart attack? When we reminded him that he had had a heart attack, he couldn't remember that he had had a heart-attack.

Tracy: I don't ever remember Dad as being sick, but my mother was sick a lot But my mother's sickness never kept her from working. She worked constantly for us kids. And she was always working late into the night. She was always up whenever any of us came in.

Ida Rose: After we were married, she was always up ironing at night or something.

Tracy: If I were to come in at 2:00 o'clock in the morning, my mom would still be up ironing or sewing, or washing.

Sherlene: No wonder she was sick!

Tracy: But, ah, while she was .. she had goiter removed and her eyes were never very good. She had an eye operation at one point.

Ida Rose: On her tear ducts.

Tracy: Uh huh. Her general health was never too good, but it never kept her from working.

Ida Rose: She had a goiter operation.

Tracy: She never played sick in order to take advantage of being sick. And during depression years and what-not, she went out to work too. She didn't work at good jobs. She worked as maid in the Broom Hotel for a long long time.

Ida Rose: I was telling you kids that my parents for a year or two were on WPA. Were your parents ever on the WPA?

Tracy: They never did go on it.

Ida Rose: Didn't they?

Tracy: No.

Sherlene: How come they didn't? Just too proud?

Tracy: I think so. They were really against it.

Ida Rose: Dad .... like I said. He got off of it just real fast.

Sherlene: He wasn't a socialist anymore.

Tracy: Oh, after my dad joined the church, socialism was out.

Ida Rose: And a man in those days ... This is why I can't see how our country has gotten into the welfare situation it has because people ... it was their pride to be able to support themselves and to take care of their own. And not have to have any help.

Dan: What about all those people who wouldn't work ...

Ida Rose: That was the .... but I mean ... It was ... It was the history of the country. A man ... a man who was on welfare and had to be taken care of was looked down upon.

Sherlene: You see, he really looked down on this guy, who did that.

Dan: But there were all these men doing this.

Ida Rose: Oh, yeah, but I think this was the beginning of that type of a thing, the welfare .. kind of a welfare ....

Tracy: Syndrome.

Ida Rose: Syndrome!

Sherlene: You described it a little bit, but what kind of an atmosphere was in your home while you were growing up?

Tracy: Well, ah, I remember it as pleasant. I know that we were poor. Of course people around in most places I can remember, but, ah, I never resented it. I know that I would listen to things that my dad would tell me. I can remember he told me one time when I was real young, he said, "Coca Cola has bad things in it. You should never drink it." So I never did. I believed him, you know, and I never tried it.

I remember another lesson he gave me. He said, don't ever envy rich people, and don't ever think it's bad for somebody to have money. He said it's OK. He said, that's our system. He says most people who earn money have got it because of hard work. And then most people who earn these huge sums of money put their money to work. They build businesses and make it so people can have jobs. So he says, "Don't... don't ever" .. In other words he's preaching me the opposite of socialism, see, which he had abandoned. He was preaching me the free enterprise system. And telling me not to ever envy or feel bad because some people seem to have money. That was OK. There was nothing the matter with it. I remember those two things very well.

I know that our parents used to read the Book of Mormon to us at night. I can remember that. Five little boys - no sisters. There were no deaths in our family as children, but I think my mom had some miscarriages. Haven't you heard her ...

Ida Rose: Yes, she said that...

Tracy: I don't know how many.

Ida Rose: She said she had quite a few between Wendell [ that would have been Donald] and Delbert. She wouldn't have had any room to have any between the rest of you. (laughter) You were pretty close together. [One year and 2 Montis between Tracy and Eugene, two years and 4 months between Gene and Wendell, one year and 3 months between Wendell and Donald, five years between Donald and Delbert — because of the miscarriages.] But I think she had several.

Tracy: Our family members were pretty well behaved. All of them.

Ida Rose: They were all smart kids, too. Everyone of them were really intelligent kids.

Tracy: Eugene had a few scrapes that I can remember. I can remember that at a very early age, he came home with the smell of tobacco on him and he couldn't have been more than 5. (laughter) And I can remember my mom and pop really grilling him, really giving him the business. It's funny how you get into scrapes. Other kids teach you things you shouldn't ever learn. I can remember a dirty joke that was told to me at age 5.

Ida Rose: Do you want to tell it? (laughter)

Tracy: No. But you would think that you would forget those things. That's the trouble with dirty jokes. You want to close your ears when .... they stick with you.

Ida Rose: That's what I tell my Sunday School class. You'll remember those dirty jokes all your life, but you won't remember the funny ones. You just try to remember a funny one.

Tracy: But I can remember some of those early experiences when people ... usually older boys, you know, I think they take great delight informing these young innocent boys of all these things.

Ida Rose: Yeah, all those ...

Sherlene: Just like Nancy is taking delight in teaching Daniel to say, "No way!" (laughter)

Tracy: I can remember when the boys in my neighborhood, and I'm sure there was no more than 5, started telling me about sexual intercourse. Only they didn't use that high-falutin' term, you know. I, I, ... you know, ... I was shocked ...What, what you talking about? — you know.

Sherlene: How old were you?

Tracy: Five. I think. I couldn't have been more than five. "Well, your mother and father do it," they said. And I said,...

Ida Rose: "Not my mother and father!" (laughter)

Tracy: Yeah! Not my mother and father! (laughter)

Sherlene: Well, I heard it at twelve and I didn't believe it.

Tracy: And I didn't have any idea what a girl was like. I didn't have any sisters. So, I didn't know, you know. So I said, "What do they do?" you know — I thought that the man must be putting his thing, you know, in the back part. (laugher) I didn't know a lady had a front part, you know. (more laughter) But, you'd be surprised how early in life that big boys start telling little boys all this stuff, you know, that they don't even need to know until they're thirteen years old.

Sherlene: Older than that!

Tracy: But, during this same period I can remember playing tag, you know, and the guys would say,... you know, they come and tell you when your young and innocent, you don't know any better, they'd say, "Now we play tag with all these girls, you know, and it's the kinda tag where you tackle them, and the object of the game is to tackle them and feel their bottom. Age 5, they're telling you that kind of stuff!

Sherlene: Well, the little First Graders still do it. This was when you were in those long pants?

Tracy: This was in Ogden, when I got out into the country, it was wilder still. But...

Ida Rose: I had a very ... I had a very secluded childhood! I never got into any of this.

Tracy: I think girls have a more secluded childhood than boys ... but these older boys, .. They want to get all these young innocent boys and tell them all this stuff.

Ida Rose: David, did you have a secluded childhood.

David: Until I was about nine.

Tracy: Well, anyway, uncle Gene got in a couple of these kind of scrapes with tobacco and I didn't.... It's the older boys, you know, who come and ... I could tell you a lot of the other things that the older boys try to get you to do, and I am sure we weren't any older than 4 or 5 that are worse than what I told you by a long ways. But I won't get into those. And you are innocent, you know. Mothers have got to really be on their guard. They really do ... 'cause at a very early age those older boys ... they're going to be getting those little kids into all kinds of mischief. But I don't remember any .... Gene ... if there was anybody who rebelled just a little tiny bit, maybe it was Eugene. It wasn't a big rebellion at all.

Ida Rose: And he came back.

Tracy: Yeah. Most of the boys went right along and we always ....

Ida Rose: I think Gene got in with a bunch of wrong boys in high school.

Sherlene: But he's sure straight now.

Tracy: Oh, yeah. We all went to church regularly. We did every assignment they ever asked us. We were completely faithful in church. The whole family. Parents and all the kids. Never any problems. Always ... Always ... We could always be depended on . Everybody in the whole family.

Ida Rose: And that's how our family was. Even though my father was inactive. They'd always ask the girls to handle the parties and decorate and stuff like that.

Tracy: Yeah, ... What's you next question, daughter?

Sherlene: Let's see ... What are the names of your brothers, tell us about them, describe each of them a little.

Tracy: In order of descending age? Howard Tracy, Eugene Melvin ...

Ida Rose: That's just two. (laughter)

Tracy: Wendell Herbert.

Ida Rose: After Herbert Hoover?

Tracy: No, after the Herbert's.

Ida Rose: Oh, sure!

Tracy; I asked Mom about that. It's after the Herbert ancestors and not Herbert Hoover. ... and Donald Rey, and "Rey" spelled R-e-y, and Delbert Henry. Henry after his 2 grandfathers, his grandfather and her great-grandfather, Henry C. Hall.

The brothers — Eugene might be a hair taller than I. Delbert is tall. Wendell and Donald ... a little short.

Ida Rose: Donald is tall.

Tracy: Wendell is the shortest. All of them tend to have hair fairly dark. Donald is the lightest.

Ida Rose: Gene was light. He was always blond.

Tracy: My mother and father's hair - both brunette

Ida Rose: You and Wendell are the darkest in the family.

Tracy. Not real dark brunet, just moderate brunet. Both had blue eyes.

Sherlene: Did you get along pretty well ... as brothers?

Ida Rose: Oh, yeah! They never fought.

Tracy: We were different We didn't fight at all.

Ida Rose: I never seen them so good ... as fight.

Sherlene: They still don't. They seem to really have a lot of love for each other.

Tracy: There was a little antagonism between Eugene and I at times, because of our somewhat different personalities. I think. I was always the goer. I was out exploring the universe - constantly. And Eugene preferred to stay at home and read books. He was a great reader. He would read and I'd be out seeing what...

Ida Rose: They were like Tracy and David.

Tracy: All the kids were good students. Every one of them ... were good students. Never any problems in school with any of them.

Sherlene: Now why do you think they were good students?

Ida Rose: Well, they were smart kids.

Sherlene: Did your parents push it or ....

Tracy: Not a bit! We were never taught to go to college. We were never...

Ida Rose: Not a bit! No pushing at all.

Tracy: We were never pushed for "A" grades or anything. Never.

Sherlene: How come then?

Ida Rose: It was a difference in the culture. They were raised in ... I think that was one of the things. During the depression. And teachers would tell the kids - Well, there is one way you can get ahead ... and that's be smart and ... nobody ever told him about going to college until he got in high school.

Tracy: No. Every kid in our family just automatically liked school. When the kids would shout, "No more teachers, no more books, no more teachers with their cross- eyed looks," some darn thing, and tear up all their papers and throw them away at the end of the

year, I would have mine carefully preserved , holding them against my chest, so that they wouldn't take them away from me.

Ida Rose: Preserve them for posterity.

Tracy: Take them home and save them. My brothers were the same. (laughter)

Sherlene: Ohh! ..... See, these are the neat things ... you don't get stories like this ..

Tracy: Out on the farm ... we lived there through the first and second grade at Mound Fort School when we lived on 15th Street and Jefferson Avenue. In a half a house my Uncle Henry built. My uncle Helon Henry

End of Tape, side 1.

[There was apparently some of what Tracy said not recorded at the end of side one.] After discussion with him, the essence of what was not recorded is: He went to the first and second grade at Mound Fort. Then the family moved out to Marriott, Utah. If the kids at Mound Fort were rough, the kids in Marriott were terrible. Tracy said he came to church one Sunday early. There was only one other boy there. He was running around the chapel, kicking chairs apart. His special target, however, was a funeral door in the chapel which was joined at the top and bottom with some kind of fastener, but which had no central post. The kid would run up to it and with both his feet (like a karate jump) against the door to try to break it down. Tracy said he couldn't believe anyone would deliberately do such things, especially in the church.]

In his own words: He was running around like a beast .... like the Devil was in him ... no fooling! He'd run around and then he'd throw himself against the door — there were some double doors there — with his feet, though. He would run and jump with both feet against the door. Destructive little .... beast. That's the way a lot of those country kids were. I was just abhored at such things. I thought it was awful.

Sherlene: You know, that Stanger's son was my District Leader in Germany on my mission. He was a good missionary.

Tracy: Well, the boy, maybe, grew up to be OK too! [He did. Was very active in the church ...am ember of bishopric, etc.]

My parents decided ... it was my mom. I don't think my dad wanted to do it too much. Wanted to take us kids out on the farm where she thought it would be better. And it was in some ways, but in other ways, I think it was worse. Kids were dirtier mouthed on the farm, than we were in the city.

Ida Rose: And rougher!

Tracy: And rough ... and ... and, ah .... just sex all the time ... was all the things those kids ever talked from the time they were six years old ... out on the farm. And they smoked and did all kinds of things. That Stanger boy .. his uncle or somebody used to be a tobacco salesman. He had a whole wooden case of Chesterfield ... and the swimming hole for the whole Marriott area was at the end of our farm and, of course, on the farm you go swimming in the nude all the time. And that's where they'd tell dirty stories and smoke cigarettes and all that kind of stuff.

Well, these big boys, they'd get hold of you and ... even Gene and I, we smoked those cigarettes ... and then we'd go eat onions to go home so your mother wouldn't know that you had been smoking. (laughter) I hate to admit this, but I started to get worried ... I don't know how many I had smoked. I don't think I had smoked very many. Maybe I had smoked six of them over a period of a couple of weeks, or something, I know that...

Sherlene: You wouldn't touch Coca Cola, but...

Tracy: Yeah, my dad didn't tell me not to smoke. I guess he assumed I wouldn't. (laughter) But, anyway, I knew you could get the habit, and I started to imagine that I had the habit. I'm sure I hadn't smoked enough of them to get the habit. And I didn't do it willingly, anyway.

Sherlene: Didn't it make you sick when you first smoked?

Tracy: I don't think I ever smoked enough to get sick. I was the kind of a guy that ... you've got all these big bullies around and all these farm kids, you know, telling you to do it, and sitting around and you practically got to do it or your socially .... really coerced into it. And I'm sure I would puff a little, and I'd let it burn. That kind of a deal. Anyway, I got real concerned ... They used to roll up manure, dried manure, you know, and smoke that, or bark from the tree ... I dont know — all kinds of things. Tobacco ... all those things, I'm sure I smoked. But I got concerned, and guilty, or something ... finally I got this one friend of mine, and it was a Dana kid, and I says, "We're not going to smoke anymore!" They had this whole case of cigarettes. It must have had .... probably a couple of hundred packages. I think this Stanger kid had stolen them from his uncle. They were hidden in this hollow tree down by our swimming pool down on the farm.

Ida Rose: Sounds like Tom Sawyer.

Tracy: Anyway, I got this Dana kid, I says, "We're not going to smoke anymore. I don't care what these other guys do, but we're not going to smoke!" And he agreed with me.

Ida Rose: Did you swear it in blood?

Tracy: Yeah! So we pricked our fingers, I don't know where we got the idea, but anyway, we got blood and we got a pen and we wrote on a sheet of paper on this date, you know, "Tracy Hall and Dana, it was Max Dana, will never smoke again as long as we live." and we each signed our names to that and put it in a Bull Durham can and stuck it in a hollow tree. I wonder if it's still there! And I never smoked again the rest of my farm days, and the rest of the kids kept going, and that Dana kid smokes to this day. So, he didn't stick by it, but I did.

Prince Albert

Sherlene: I can remember when I was a little girl, once I asked you, "Daddy, did you ever smoke at all. Did you ever even try it. And when you said, "Yes," Oh, was I disillusioned! Because I thought you were perfect. How could my father have ever even tried, and then you told me how you wrote in blood and you made a covenant that you'd never do it again, even though those big bullies were always after you, and then I decided you were a hero after all. (laughter) But I can remember that.

Tracy: It's funny. I haven't tasted beer. I haven't tasted alcohol. I haven't tasted tea or coffee. I've tasted Coke, but I haven't really drank the Coke, but I have tasted it.

Ida Rose: I remember one time I was at Woolworth's and the first day of my period was always rough and I usually had to go home and go to bed (laughter) And I was working at Woolworth's as assistant manager

Voice: We'll withhold the tape.

Ida Rose: I was training as the Woolworth manager, and I was so sick, I wanted to go home, and she said, "What you need is a good cup of tea." —"Well, I'm a Mormon and I don't" --"Well, this is medicine, it won't hurt you at all." And I .... -"Get on the other side of that counter!" So I got on the other side of the counter, and Mrs. ---------- she was the kindest, she was the kindest woman. Everyone was scared to death of her, but she just the personification of kindness, and she brought me this cup of tea. I just tasted it and let it go, you know ... I didn't drink it, but...

Tracy: We always had tea in our house, because my grandmother Tracy, being an old Englishman drank tea until her dying day.

Ida Rose: We used to love the smell of coffee. We made it at Woolworth's. It smelled so good, but ...

Tracy: It is interesting to me that none of the kids ever took it up, and my mom and dad didn't either, but my grandmother Tracy, who died in 1933, at age about 83 ... Mom always had tea for her.

Ida Rose: You mean Emma Marie Burdett.

Tracy: Yeah! Emma Maria Burdett Tracy.

Sherlene: Well, she was a member.

Ida Rose: Oh, yes. They didn't inform on the Word of Wisdom.

Dan: The whole point of Heber J. Grant's administration was ...

Tracy: Also those old Englishmen kept ...

Ida Rose: They could get a temple recommend. They could even drink alcohol. It was ... choice. You do it or not.

Sherlene: I remember now ... remember... Grandma Hall, when she transcribed Nancy Naomi Alexander Tracy's diary, she crossed out all references to tea and coffee, because she had changed her attitude. Daddy went and re-did it and left it as it originally was ... and it wasn't a sin then so much.

Ida Rose: Well, the church ... when the immigrants came across the ocean they were issued a ration of tea and coffee.

Tracy: Speaking of that kind of thing. My grandmother Tracy must have lived with us for 5 years and perhaps longer, as I can remember about that many years.

Ida Rose: And your father was so kind to her.

Tracy: And of all the 14 kids, in my mother's family, my mother was the least well to do, yet she took care of my grandmother, and my dad was always very kind to my

grandmother Tracy. She was crippled. She died at age 83 and how long she had been a cripple, I don't know. But she had lost the control of her bladder for one thing, and my mother had to keep her in diapers all those years that I can remember, because...

Ida Rose: Because she had no control at all.

Tracy: I suppose they have appliances you can wear to collect that now-a-days, but in those days ... so

Ida Rose: It must have been a real problem ... You'd have all that bedding to wash, and

Tracy: I know my grandmother's room. She always had her own room at our house, always smelled of urine. And I can remember ... one thing I regret to this day. I think of it every year ... on every occasion. Grandma would sometimes get a little stern at us and shake her cane at us, you know, for something we were doing as boys. Things that she didn't like and I remember she did that to me once and I made some stupid remark back ... Something about, "You stink, Grandma!" or something like that, you know, which was terrible.

Sherlene: Did she hit you with the cane?

Tracy: If she could have reached me, she probably would have! (laughter)

Sherlene: Now who was this?

Tracy: This was Emma Maria Burdett.

Sherlene: Describe her a little bit. What was she like?

Tracy: Well, she was probably very good looking when she was young. She had nice features. My mother did, too. My mother was a beautiful woman as a young girl. Very refined, cultured, English features.

Ida Rose: She had high cheek bones. Real high cheek bones. Deep set eyes. That's where you kids get those deep set eyes.

Sherlene: What was her personality like, or did you only know her when she was old and sick, and you don't know?

Tracy: Well, She died when I was 12 or 13, and, unfortunately, kids don't pay much attention to things as they should. I know she darned all our socks. I know that she would sit there in her rocking chair and darn all the socks and mend clothing. I know she did that kind of thing for all us 5 boys. Her rocking chair ... the rockers were worn real flat, because she would have to be lifted out of bed into her rocking chair, and then she would be pulled across the floor, you know, and over the years ... I remember those flat rockers.

Ida Rose: It would probably scratch the floor, too.

Tracy: Her personality, I know was pleasant. She was not stern. Oh, you know, this thing I mentioned, I was probably doing something that I deserved to be spoken sternly to ... but I don't remember her as a stern person. I can remember the kids, her own children, particularly, Uncle Harold coming to see her once in awhile. And Harold would

leave her some money. He would leave her $5.00 and he would say. "Now, mother, don't you pay tithing on this. I've already paid tithing on this." But she'd pay her tithing on it everytime, anyway! (laughter)

Ida Rose: He was the one that should have been taking care of her. He had the farm.

Tracy: No, that was not Harold. That was Helon,

Ida Rose: Oh, yeah! Harold was the one in Idaho.

Tracy: Harold was the last of the children to die. And we didn't even learn that he had died until months afterward.

Ida Rose: I remember that, and his wife ... They were living right out here in Orem at the time, and we didn't even know they had come to Orem. We thought they were in Arizona.

Sherlene: Tell us about... Well, you've told us a little bit about your childhood. What are some of your happiest memories?

Tracy: Of childhood? General things come to me right off. Maybe some specific things will. The old swimming hole down on the farm. Man, the greatest place on earth!

Ida Rose: Regrets, and all.

Tracy: Man, the .... that was probably minor. It looms because of our church's prohibitions against it, it may have been ... I don't know how ... I just don't know how major it was. I may have only smoked a couple of those darn cigarettes, I don't know.

Ida Rose: But, anyway, it went against your conscience.

Tracy: Yeah, I was real bothered about it.

Ida Rose: How about when the boys tried to drown you.

Tracy: Yeah, sometimes the big boys would get hold of Gene and I and hold us under until we just thought we would die, but I can remember 2 incidences of that, but other than that ...

Ida Rose: When the big boys weren't around ...

Tracy: Really great! The old swimming hole. Very pleasant memories of ranging around the country. It's a good thing my mother never asked me where I was.

Ida Rose: Yes, your mother gave you an awful lot of freedom. I couldn't do it myself.

Tracy: I walked over the whole north end of Weber County. I knew every .. I knew where all the swamps were. I new the shapes of all the farms. Where the trees were.

Ida Rose: Especially where the junk yards were. (laughter)

Tracy: I knew the whole works, and then after I got a bicycle, I expanded my area and I just knew where everything was. Probably had some narrow escapes with death. Ice skating. Oh, I loved to ice skate when I was a kid! I never did have a good pair of skates, though. The skates were hand-me-downs from somebody and the bottoms were always

rounded, and so .. you know, it wouldn't bite into the ice good. I never owned a new pair of skates in my life. Always somebody's .. because they were not sharp any longer, you know, rounded and ...

Ida Rose: (shouting to the outside) Nancy, you're missing some good stories!

Tracy: But, we could get on the irrigation ditch near our farm and skate maybe a couple of miles down that irrigation ditch and on to an old swamp which covered acres and acres ... and you would just have the time of your life skating down there. Then the kids would build a big bonfire out on the ice at night and ... I think that was one of the things I liked best when I was a kid, was ice skating! But I can remember a time when Max Dana, who was a young red-headed kid about my same age, we sorta took to each other.

Sherlene: This is the one you made the pact with on that tobacco.

Tracy: Yeah. We went skating down there. The kids will do bad things to you. They lead you on into dangerous things They skated down there, and I suddenly noticed the ice was kinda bouncy. And golly, the ice in that area was this thick (indicating by hands, how thick) but we had gone out into this area where it was thin, and I was a Lite scared, but this kid, he knows all about ice. "Oh, there's nothing the matter with that ice, you know, just keep going, just keep going." He stands there egging me on, and I went out and the ice started to crack, but I turned and came back and it didn't breakon me. But I'm sure that it was just on the hair's edge of breaking and letting me into that icy water.

Ida Rose: (Big sigh!)

Tracy: And knowing those country kids. That Dana kid probably wouldn't even risk his neck to try, even though he was my friend, to rescue me, Those farm kids... they were funny!

Ida Rose: I've seen things like this in our own ward. Not on this major a thing. But if the situation had been the same, they wouldn't have hesitated to take the kid out of danger.

Tracy: There was quick-sand in these big swamps. There are huge swamps out in Marriott. It's low lying land. Tememdous swamps. There was a Stanger boy who got caught in quick-sand in one of these swamps and lost his life.

Ida Rose: Really!

Tracy: Yeah. Back before we ever moved to Marriott. One of the Stanger boys... I was out exploring one of these swamps with him at one time, and he had me ... we had got way out on peninsulas and islands that wander way out around. The Stanger kid says, "Now, let's not walk all the way back. Let's take a short-cut across the swamp."

Ida Rose: Was he a brother to this one who died?

Tracy: Yeah! But he knew about this. I didn't know about it at that time. So we took off our clothes, you know, and held them above our head, and then he tells me to go first, you know. So I go first ahead of him through this swamp. And then when we get across, he tells me he had me go first because he was wondering if there was quick-sand out there. (Sounds of anguish) Bounders!

Tracy: The one in the area, his own brother had died in quick-sand in that same swamp. It's a huge swamp. It goes all over the place.

Sherlene: Your mother must have been praying hard during those years.

Ida Rose: I don't know. She had nerves like I, and yet ... really, my impression of her was that she was really quite a nervous person. I don't know how she could stand it. You kids had just all kinds of freedom. They never had to be home at any time, for supper or anything ... I can remember ..

Tracy: Most of them had to be home for supper, but I don't ever remember being scolded for not being.

We had tree houses and trees to climb and big swings and ... the farm was really neat for kids. There's no doubt about that.

Sherlene: Tell about your junk heap.

Ida Rose: Knowing you ... if your mother had known your inquisitive nature, she should have been worried all the time.

Tracy: Well, we had ..., I guess I was kind of scientifically inclined to a very early age. I know things fascinated me at a very early age. I probably had fire crackers at age 6.

David: My mom wouldn't let me have any.

Ida Rose: I inhibited you a lot more than his mother.

Tracy: My earliest remembrances of having an inquisitive and a scientific mind go back to about age 5 or 6 and I had fire crackers. I don't know where I got them. But it wasn't enough for me to just shoot off a fire cracker, I found a chunk of pipe and I put this pipe in the dirt. This was on 15th Street, and then I would stick the firecracker in the end, light it and bang it down to the end with a stick and quick put in a rock and I had a cannon, see, and I can remember my grandmother at that window hollering at me to cut that out. That was too dangerous. That's my earliest recollection of a scientific experiment. (laughter)

But then when we got out on the farm ... we moved to the farm at age seven... my age of seven ... we would go into town ... I can remember the winter times ... I guess we did it with the wagon in the summer time. We didn't have transportation — the town was 5 miles away — I can remember my dad and I and sometimes Eugene, walking along the Union Pacific Railroad tracks from 12th Street into town to get a two week supply of groceries. We pulled them back home on a sleigh in the wintertime and in the wagon in the summer time. But my dad would always take me to the Library .... I don't know whether he suggested it, or whether I suggested it, but anyway I'd go to the library and check out a scientific book. And then two weeks later we'd take it back. I can remember

Ida Rose: What kind of a books would Gene get?

Tracy: Well, Gene liked Robinson Crusoe.

Ida Rose: He liked literature.

Tracy: Yes, he liked literature. But I'd get scientific books. I can remember getting books that were beyond me ... I just could not comprehend those darn books. Later on when I got to college, I recognized that they were calculus. (laughter) But I read what I

could and got attracted to the practical things ... I'd read about crystal radios and things like that.

My first job at which I made money that I can remember was in Marriott

Ida Rose: Well, tell them where you got some of your parts.

Tracy: Well, I'll get to that. ... was weeding beets for Mr. Dana. And I got paid a quarter.

Sherlene: A day? A quarter a day!

Tracy: Then later on I can remember Eugene and I hoeing weeds in the garden for Mr. Morris at 25 cents a day, and we hoed for a Mr. Hansen, an old dutchman for 25 cents a day. Boy, was his land hard and rocky and dry.

Ida Rose: Just like our Payson farm!

Tracy: Later on we would pick beans and things like that. And I can remember my first ten dollars in a jar.... it was eight dollars, I didn't make it to ten.

Sherlene: At twenty five cents a day?

Tracy: Uh, huh. In silver dollars. I can remember a jar in Grandma's room with my eight dollars in it. When I started to get a little money, I'd read these books in the library and I was attracted to photography and trying to build radios, and I can remember doing both, but I don't know which came first. I went to a drug store and wanted to know where you buy these chemicals it talked about to use in photography. The drug store man was smart enough — I guess he had some chemistry — He said, "Well, we don't have that kind of stuff, but there are places in town where you can buy these chemicals." And he sent me to the photography stores to get those. So I was developing pictures out on the farm probably at age 10 or so. And I think I built my first crystal set at age 12. Maybe not... maybe 10. But I got enough money to buy a pair of earphones that cost me about a dollar and a half and a piece of galena crystal and what-not. So the first radio we ever had on the farm was my crystal set.

But, they had junk yards out there. On the road to Wilson Lane, between Wilson Lane and Marriott, across the Weber River where it joins the Ogden River, and this was where Captain James Brown once had his cabin. A very early historic spot.

Ida Rose: It was really the beginning of Ogden.

Tracy: He signed a peace treaty at that spot... right there. Well, people would dump junk in the river right at that point. So I would go down and find junk. Well, one day I wandered off on a side street and I came to where they had broken up a lot of slot machines. People used to gamble in those days, even the country store in Marriott had a gambling device in it. A pin ball machine.

Ida Rose: It was against the law.

Tracy: But the sheriff had confiscated several of these machines and smashed them with sledge hammers down there, and they had more neat junk in them. And I have been collecting junk ever since then. (laughter)

Ida Rose: If you don't believe it, go down to his shed. (more laughter)

Sherlene: Tell about how ... wasn't it on that junk heap that you decided that you were going to work for G.E. someday? Seems I remember an old ...

Tracy: We had a wonderful teacher in Marriott School. I started the third grade. The third, fourth, and fifth grades were in the same room.

Sherlene: You never went to kindergarten, or first or second.

Ida Rose: They didn't have kindergarten.

Tracy: I went to first and second grades at Mound Fort, at the head of 12th Street on Washington Avenue. But, I really liked this teacher. What was her name? Miss ... hmm, I should never forget her name. Miss Stallings! I liked the set-up, because in the 3rd grade, you could listen to what was going on in the fourth and fifth.

Sherlene: Why, was it all one class?

Tracy: Yes, it was all in the same room. Two rows about six to ten kids. I was in the largest sixth grade there ever was in Marriott. Had thirteen kids in the sixth grade. (laughter) But I don't know, a total of maybe twenty-five kids in that room. Third grade on the north. Fourth grade in the middle. Fifth grade on the south.

Sherlene: What school was this?

Tracy: Marriott. Marriott School. Four room schoolhouse.

Ida Rose: A little tiny four room schoolhouse.

Tracy: And in those days they didn't worry about whether some kids were smarter than others and they didn't try to hide it. The smartest kid would sit in the front seat. I always sat in the front seat. They did the same at Mound Fort. But I really enjoyed the third, fourth, and fifth grades.

Now I was little, but I was fast. I could run real fast, and I loved baseball. I really loved baseball when I was a kid. We played hard-ball in Marriott. None of this sissy softball stuff for us. We played hard-ball. The principal was a nice guy, Floyd Barnett was his name, and he would hold extra long recesses and stuff like that ~ so we really thought he was great. During ice skating season we would flood the baseball diamond and skate at school. It was supposed to be a fifteen minute recess and he would extend it to an hour some days.

Baseball was really my favorite sport. Other kids would take advantage of me. The system .... you know, you would play "work-up" most of the time — not enough kids for two teams. Do you know what "work-up" is? One guy at bat, others .... Well, the system they had ... They had the bell in that day. They would ring the bell, and everyone would line up on the front walk. And then they would play on the old Victrola phonograph there ~ not an electronic - (sounds of marching music from Tracy and Ida Rose) and then everybody would march into the schoolhouse. You'd do that in the morning and you would do it at every recess. And you would march out the same way. And then the principal would blow a whistle, and then everybody would run for the backstop. And the first guy to the backstop would be the first guy up. Now this was first grade to ninth grade. I could be the first guy to the backstop in the fifth grade. I could beat the ninth

graders there, and so every day the kids would arrange to have the big bruisers hold me back so that I wouldn't be the first one up to bat. (laughter) Bounders!

And I was good, too. Every time I was up to bat I would hit a home run. That's only a slight exaggeration. I was automatically good at baseball all the time. But the darn guys they wouldn't let me ... they would hold me back, and pull all kinds of tricks like that on me. Well,

Ida Rose: They weren't going to have that smart kid beating them at sports!

Tracy: I was already smarter than them, and they really picked on me for that

Ida Rose: I thought you told me a story that you used to hide in the registers.

Sherlene: I had the impression that you weren't necessarily always so well known. There was one teacher who didn't even know your name.

Tracy: Oh, that was high school. That was high school.

Sherlene: Well, what about the story about some mean teacher beating your knuckles because you were late.

Tracy: That was second grade.

Sherlene: Oh, tell that story.

Tracy: Well, I don't know how come, but I had wet my pants that morning, and my mom was real mad at me (laughter)

Ida Rose: You probably only had one pair.

Tracy: Yeah, and I can remember trying to get them dried out so that I could get to school on time. Well, anyway, I got to school late. Well, in those days they don't ask how come you're late to school. And I was too embarrassed to tell her, anyway. So I came in late. Stern old teacher meets you at the door. Walks you over and sticks you... remember how those desks were like that. Sticks your hands on the front of the desk like that, and then she takes the ruler and whacks them. That was Mrs. Jensen.

Ida Rose: Just once?

Tracy: No. I don't know how many times, but she did enough that it hurt plenty.

Sherlene: Was that the only time you ever got corporal punishment?

Tracy: No, I got it one other time from my favorite teacher, Miss Stallings. And it was not corporal punishment, it was just...

Ida Rose: What had you done?

Tracy: Well, the rule was you couldn't chew gum in school. The kids would do it anyway. Well, I didn't. I couldn't afford to buy gum. I had a lot of better things to spend my money on, anyway. But, some of the kids had been chewing gum in Miss Stallings class — this was fifth grade now - and one of them was one of the Slater boys. Now, what was his name? Alma Slater, and she took him up to the front of the class, and she

made him put the gum on the end of his nose. And he was standing there with the gum on the end of his nose. Of course, all the kids were down there snickering, including me. And so I started to mock him, and I was going "Ah ha, ha. You got that for chewing gum. You ought to have known better." And the teacher saw me and she thought I was chewing gum.

Ida Rose: And thought you swallowed it.

Tracy: And she came down and gave me the dickens, my favorite teacher. I was heart-broken!

Ida Rose: Serves you right.

Tracy: While I'm telling you about baseball, I was out in left-field one day and a kid hit a long fly ball out in left field, and the shortstop in front of me, a guy named Clyde Hipwell, and,... you know we caught those hard baseball with our bare hands. I never owned a glove in my life. Well, Clyde had a glove on, and this was a long fly, and he was shortstop and he held his hand up and he said, "I'll get it! I'll get it!" Well, it was a long hot one, and I didn't want to catch it bare handed, and so I just figured, well, he's right in the line of it anyway, so let him get it. And he said, "I'll get it. I'll get it!" So I turned my head, figuring he would get it, and then he ducked down, but it came by, and it hit me right smack in the left ear and I've been somewhat deaf in that ever ever since. And that ear for weeks, just hurt and hurt. Parents never took you to a doctor in those days. They couldn't afford it. But, that ear hurt so much.

I was in a play. I was at play practice that very night and it was just paining me something terrible, and that night wasn't a very good night. I was a dutchmen, a little dutch boy in some kind of a dance. We used to put on operetta's every year.

Ida Rose: You've got a picture of that.

Tracy: I think so.

Ida Rose: That was a darling production. (laughter)

Tracy: Anyway, we were going along doing some kind of a dance where we kicked and I kicked out one of the foot-lights. (laughter)

Sherlene: You had a bad knee that day!

Tracy: I was really conscientious in those days. I thought if you damaged something, you ought to pay for it, you know. I guess I had been brought up that way. So, I was really feeling bad, and I told the teacher, "Well, how much is this going to cost me?" And I was crying because my ear hurt so darn much. And, oh,... "You don't have to pay for it," the teacher said. That part was good, but later on I got hurting so bad that the teacher could see that there was something the matter and she asked me what was the matter, and I told her so she sent me home. But, I'm still a bit deaf in that ear.

Ida Rose: Probably broke your ear drum.

Tracy: Let me tell you another thing about sports. Football! I was really, Oh boy, too little to play football. It took big bruisers to play football. But some of these big, mean, dumb, country kids were always out to take a little guy and crush him, you know.

Ida Rose: Crunch!

Tracy: So, they decided to let me carry the ball this day.

Ida Rose: That's how he learned how to run so fast! (laughter)

Tracy: They let me carry the ball, you know. To be the big quarterback hero. I knew what they had in mind. They were just going to murder me. So, you know what I did? I took that ball, and I dodged every guy mat came after me and I made a touchdown, and so they figured, Ah, you know, it's just luck. So, they're going to let me carry the ball again. This time they are really going to mash me. And I missed every player and made a touchdown the second time. And then they wouldn't let me play quarterback anymore. (more laughter)

Sherlene: I bet they hated you!

Tracy: Two touchdowns in a row.

Let me tell you another thing about my athletic prowess. This Alma Slater was quite a bit older than I was, but he wasn't too smart a kid and we were in the same grade. There were a lot of dumb kids who were two or three grades behind. He started telling me one day how he run a race. He says, "Now I want to tell you how you win a race." We were out in a field down near the pea vinery, and he said, "Now, what you do is ... you start out going slow, you know, and you go just like this, and then you get about two thirds the distance and then you let it all out. Then you really run, and that's the way you win is by going slow at first, and then you go fast at the end.

He said, "Now I'll show you. We'll run this race. We'll run from here to that telephone pole." I says, "O.K." So, he says, "Ready, Set, Go!" So I light out just as fast as I could run, and right from the very start, and I kept up the speed all the way 'till I got to the telephone pole. He started out slow, you know, showing me how to run this race. And here I was gaining on him all the time. He knew he was going to win, because he was doing this right, and when he got about half way there, I was already at the telephone pole. (laughter) One of the funniest things I ever did in my life! I knew he was all wet. That might be fine if you were going to run for a mile, but we were only going to run for a couple of hundred feet. (more laughter)

There was another thing where I was pretty sharp, too. These big country bruisers are always proud of their brawn. They had what they called "girl's bats" in those days, and "men's bats." I was such a little kid I could hardly lift a man's bat. A little handle and this great big thing on the end. But this was the way you hit home runs. You took this, big, huge, heavy bat and you hit the ball with that, and that's the way you hit home runs. They always called me a sissy because I would go over and pick up the light-weight girl's bat I could hit a home-run with those. But, you know - it's the power of kinetic energy. The major league baseball.... I discovered this on my own, as a young kid. But within the past twenty years or so, major league guys have found that you want to use a light bat. See, your kinetic energy is one-half the mass times the velocity squared.

David: You-------- and you square it!

Tracy: Sure! So, the faster you can swing the bat, you gain by the square. See! But, the heavier the bat, you only gain to the first power by the mass. Now, I didn't know this, but I discovered it, as a practical matter. Just as a kid, out in Marriott. So, those big old country bruisers were all wrong, again. The light-weight bat was the one to be using.

Ida Rose: They used to do this all the time. They would get this one bat, and they would heft it, and when the batter would come up, they would go lift another, and heft it and put it up here, and go like this, you know, and finally he would choose his bat and go up to the plate ....

Tracy: I was pretty good at broad-jumping. When we had contests around, I would always run and do the broad-jump. I really got... I was thinking I was pretty good. I sure was good in Marriott, anyway. They had a county-wide field day, one day, at Lorin Farr Park. Remember that's where they had the races, and the end-of-the-year field day and what-not.

Ida Rose: Everything was at Lorin Farr ... That was the big ...

Tracy: And they entered me in the board jump from Marriott and in the races, because I was the fastest runner. And, golly, I ended up last. (laughter)

Ida Rose: Those kids were even faster.

Tracy: Well, I was pretty good in Marriott, but there were some other guys from North Ogden, and Harrisville, and Plain City, that were a lot faster than I was. That was a real shock to me, because I thought that I ought I'd place up there with them somewhere, but I was last.

Ida Rose: Those are good stories.

Sherlene: Tell about the time in high school, when that lady didn't know your name and you won that math contest.

Tracy: Oh, that was Mr. Petersen. I was just quiet. I never raised my hand in any class. They knew me in Marriott, because the classes were so small, but when I was in a history class at high school, one of fifty kids, I never raised my hand to answer a question. I'd just sit there and mind my own business. And, somehow toward the end of the class, one day, this Mr. Peterson, who was a very socialistic, liberal type, pointed his finger back at me and says, "You there, somebody, you did some lousy score on the last examination and you ought to do something" ... anyway, he scolded me, you know. And it was obvious to me that he didn't know what my name was. But I didn't help him out, I just sat ...

Ida Rose: Didn't you go up afterward and tell him.

Tracy: No. Uh, uh!

Ida Rose: What did you get in the course, "A"?

Tracy: I don't think I got an "A". I probably got a "B".

Sherlene: Well, that's not the story.

Ida Rose: Oh, you are referring to that time he took the test and ran the highest

Tracy: Oh, that was in the fourth grade.

Ida Rose: He was a really tiny guy, then.

Tracy: That was in Miss Stallings class, again. They gave a county-wide intelligence test. This would have been in 1928 or 1929, and, you know, we used to wear overalls and a blue shirt of somekind to school. We didn't wear any pants in those days. And barefooted, most of the time. I don't know if our mother let us go to school barefooted, or not, but at home, we were always bare footed. But I was real scrawny and skinny and unhealthy looking. They gave this county-wide intelligence test in the fourth grade and I was at the median thirteenth grade level in all subjects, the whole darn works. And I was in the fourth grade. Nine years old. Eight years old!

Sherlene: You mean they had thirteen grades in those days.

Tracy: Well, they rated it that way. I don't know. Anyway, I really rated high. The highest in the county. And so the superintendent of the county schools and some of his cohorts came out to see what this weird creature was like. This smartest kid in the county who took this test. And they got out there, and they could hardly believe it. The dumb scrawny looking farm kid. And, golly, they got me and they quizzed me, and they didn't tell me very much about the test, but they were so concerned about my health. "What does your mother feed you? Don't you get eggs and milk? Anyway, they talked to my parents and told them they had to do something about me because I was wasting away.

Sherlene: Well, do you think you were really undernourished?

Tracy: Yeah! But, I don't know why.

Ida Rose: He can remember times when all they would have for supper was stale bread and water.

Tracy: Yeah, I can remember many a supper where you would just heat hot water on the stove. You put in a level teaspoon full of butter, some salt and pepper, and then you toast your bread. Then you pour that on your bread. That was supper!

Ida Rose: We used to do the same thing, but we would have milk. We called it, "Milk Toast."

Tracy: Well, we had "milk toast" too, but....

Sherlene: Just because you didn't have the money to buy the stuff!

Tracy: Well, Depression, no jobs, no

Sherlene: But on the farm ...

Ida Rose: But my mother didn't have milk. She went out and got free skim milk.

Tracy: I don't know. We had a cow at times, but maybe the cow was ... You know, you have to dry them out at times — it may not have been fresh.

Ida Rose: Fresh, they call it. It wouldn't have it when it was having a calf. It would be fresh when it gives milk, see. And then when it would come in again, the calf would be real rich.

Tracy: I don't think my dad was a good farmer. That wasn't really his trade. I don't think he wanted to be on the farm, really.

David: I don't think he really had a trade until he was about...

Sherlene: His trade was writing letters ...

Ida Rose: Yeah, to the senators. [Which he did plenty of, telling them what was wrong with the country and they better get back to the Constitution or the country would fall apart, with anarchy and all kinds of problems.]

Nancy: You never did tell us how Miss Stallings got you interested in G.E.

Tracy: Oh, that was fourth grade again. No. She asked everyone in the class. There were probably only 8 or 9 of us in the fourth grade, what we were going to do when we grew up. I said, "I am going to be an engineer and work for General Electric." So, I had decided that pretty early.

Ida Rose: But what made you think that?

Tracy: I had been reading books all about Edison and Ford, they were my big heroes, and Edison was the beginning of the General Electric Company.

Sherlene: Oh, well I have this story. Maybe I have it twisted through the years. I thought , when I was a little girl in New York, you told me that you were sitting on the junk heap and you would find all these neat G.E. things.

Ida Rose: No. That was your own .... This is the story he has told me a lot.

Sherlene: I guess I heard it wrong.

Tracy: See, Edison originally had his machine works at 1 River Road, Schenectady. You know, out there on the Mohawk River where the main General Electric works is today. And some high powered financial men bought Edison out, to start the General Electric Company. Edison went on to East Orange, New Jersey, later on.

Sherlene: And he was sort of a hero to you, huh?

Tracy: Yeah, a real big hero ... he and Henry Ford. But I had read about Steinmetz and all the other famous G.E. guys.

Ida Rose: Where did you get all these books?

Tracy: The library. Ogden City Library. Twenty-sixth street and Washington Avenue.

Sherlene: How did you get out to the library?

Tracy: Walked. Five miles!

Ida Rose: They didn't always live in Marriott, you know.

Tracy: No. I didn't get to the library until we had been in Marriott.

Ida Rose: Really! We used to go to the library every week.

Tracy: It was nothing to walk 5 miles back in those days.

Ida Rose: I think we would go before we would go to the show. We would go get a whole bunch of books. I was always reading a book. I think I read in the children's library... I think I read everything in the library by the time I was in the seventh grade, when I decided that it was time for me to move upstairs.

Sherlene: Well, we're about to the end of the tape. Do we have time for one more question?

Ida Rose: You just have time to say, "Amen." You can have the other half of my tape, dear.

Sherlene: We've got two more tapes. This is really good, though.

Tracy: Hey, let me help you make that a better X-Rated deal! One thing they used to do to me was really embarrassing, but those country kids ... you can't believe what they would do! A favorite past-time of theirs was, particularly if the teacher wasn't around. Like the teachers had a day off, or something. They would hawl me out behind the school, stretch me out, pull my pants down, and spit on me, and invite the girls to come and spit on me, too. And some of them would, (groans)

Ida Rose: The girls would!

Tracy: Yeah! That probably happened to me a half-a-dozen times while I was in Marriott.

Ida Rose: No wonder you had the shakes at night. Once in awhile. My word!

Tracy: Country kids. Well, maybe kids in general are that way. But, I somehow, had the feeling that those mean old country kids ... They used to steal my bicycle. They used to break my bicycle, they tried to drown us. I became so afraid ... and they would try to get me in fist-fights with big guys and I was just little, and I would climb up every night. There would be times I would climb up a pipe in a shaft in the school. It was the only place I could hide, and I would hang up there on that pipe for half-an-hour until the big bullies went home. Then I would sneak home through the fields.

Sherlene: Did you tell your mother about these things.

Tracy: I don't think so.

Sherlene: She would have just....

Ida Rose: You know, you don't tell your mother about some of these things. I had trouble with a teacher in the fourth grade. And I never told my mother. I had night-mares over that teacher. When a teacher gets on to a kid, I think it makes it.... It's exaggerated, I'm sure in the child's mind, but it was just...

Tracy: I never did win a fight. I might have won once. I always used to get Irvin Stanger, who weighed a lot more than ....

End of Tape, 1,2

H. Tracy Hall Oral History, Tape 3

This is Sherlene Hall Bartholomew, and Mom and Dad Hall, and Charlotte are visiting us. We are sitting here waiting for Ginger to have her baby and in the meantime, I've got them cornered to give their oral history. And I have a whole list of questions ...

Tracy: About 150, to be exact.

Sherlene: Two years ago we got through some of them out west and we are looking for that tape now, but in the meantime we are going to pick up from where we began two years ago — or where we ended two years ago, and I think we're on question number 14: What did you like to do with your sprare time when you were a child?

Tracy: By the way, the date is August 7, 1977, a Sunday afternoon, and we've just finished a fine dinner that Sherlene prepared, and we are home from Sacrament meeting, and what-not. It's about 25 minutes after 4. What was your question again, Sherlene?

Sherlene: What did you like to do with your spare time when you were a child?

Tracy: Well, it depends on how young I was. When I was really young, my parents said my favorite past-time was climbing over the fence they built around the yard to keep me in. Or running a block and a half down to Washington Avenue in Ogden, Utah, to see the street cars go by. I don't remember that part. They said another thing I liked to do when I was very young was play in the water and squirt the hose around.

Sherlene: That's where Daniel gets it from!

Tracy: Every kid likes to do that. When I was older I had the wander lust. I liked to explore the countryside. I may already have said this. Too bad, we can't find that other tape. In Marriott, I ranged far and wide for about 5 miles around where we lived on west 12th Street. Well, we lived near west 12th Street. The street we were on was the next block north. I guess that was a long block north of 12th Street. We lived about one mile from the comer on which the INternal Revenue Service building begins. The Marriott Ward used to be on that comer. I knew almost everything that existed within a 5 mile radius of my home. Swamps, ditches, canals and creeks.

Sherlene: It was a wonder you didn't get drowned!

Tracy: Fields, junk yards, all kinds of things. They used to have some trouble with gambling back during my yough, probably when I was around 8 or 9 or 10, and the sheriff would get the illegal pin-ball machines ... it was pin-ball machine gambling that would return money when you put the pin-ball holes in the right place. But they would take these things down clear to the bottom of West 12th Street. That road used to end at a bridge across the Weber River near where the Weber and the Ogden Rivers join, and I found out thsat they were smashing these machines up and just leaving them there. And they had all kinds of magnets and coils and lights and... so I could get neat junk out of those machines for my scientific experiments.

Sherlene: And you haven't ever quit from collecting junk for his neat scientific experiments.

Ida Rose: He's got a personal junk-yard now.

Tracy: Well, they say that my ... I think it was my great-grandfather Hall. I don't know which one. Probably the first Henry C. before my grandfather ... Was it Henry C. Jr., my own grandfather?

Ida Rose: Yes.

Tracy: You sure?

Ida Rose: He was the one who took the junk and started out...

Tracy: Any way he started out ... I suppose to go from Ohio to Iowa, and he had a wagon and a mule and his new bride and he would buy junk as he went along the way and sell it to people further along. So you see I am just a junk man by inheritance.

Ida Rose: Blame it on your progenitors, (laughter)

Tracy: Did you ask what else I liked to do when I was young?

Sherlene: Yes. What did you do in your spare time?

Tracy: I loved baseball. I may have mentioned that, already, too. It was my favorite game. I think I told you how the kids used to hold me when ... We'd march out. Things were formal in those days. For recess you would line up and march out of school ... to a record they played. A Victorala, you know. Well, they didn't have electronic amplifiers. And you would do the same to come back in when recess was over. You would do the same in the morning and for lunch, and what'not. All those periods. And so we would march out of school and we'd play "work-up" and the first one to run from the sidewalk where we were marched out after the principal blew the whistle when we were dismissed, then you would be the first one up to bat. I was a lot smaller than most of the kids, but I was very fast. And I was usually the first one up to bat. Even the 8th and 9th graders ... that school, the Marriott School, ended at the 9th grade. So they delegated a couple of big strong guys to hold me as soon as the principal blew the whistle, so I couldn't run out and and be the first one up to bat. But I loved baseball and about... that was in the days before Softball was invented. We used hard ball. I have had bad hearing ever since I was young, rather bad, in my right ear on account of playing baseball. One day I was out in right field, as viewed from where the umpire is. I don't know Why I have forgotten how you designate right field .... anyway, that part of the field, and the short-stop in front of me, a boy whose name was Hipwell, I forget his first name. Clyde Hipwell. This long fly ball was knocked way out there in that field near a fence. It was a long hard hit ball and he was in front of me, and he says, "I've got it! I've got it!" you know, and he held up his mit to get it. And it was such a long fly ball that he chickened out at the last minute to catch it... afraid that it would sting his hand or something. And he suddenly ducked, like that. In the meantime, I just turned my head because he was going to catch it. And the ball came and hit me right square in the right ear.

Ida Rose: Uh! Oh, I bet that hurt!

Tracy: And in those days you didn't get doctors for simple little things like having your ear bashed in. And that ear began to ache something fierce. Infection built up in it, and I had quite a bit of trouble with that ear. We had a play practice. The schools used to put on little dramatic things. They had one really dramatic production a year.

Ida Rose: At the end of the year.

Tracy: At the end of the year. Near the end of the school year. And I had a small part in the play, and so we went to the ward. The school building was just a 4 room schoolhouse. Upstairs, downstairs, hallway. And the church which was not too far away. Maybe a block away was where you put on your dramatic productions. I can remembe that Marriott Ward. It had a stage. It had a very heavy roll-up curtain. It sort of rolled up from the bottom. And stage lights. And I was there practicing the play. And that pain got so unbrearable, I went crying to my teacher, and she told me to go home. Then my mom and dad put warm oil in it and things like that. I lost some hearing in that ear.

Sherlene: I didn't even know that during all these years.

Tracy: Just recently, I lost hearing in this one. I really lost it in this one. I had a huge blow-out in my high-pressure machine about two weeks ago. The loudest one that I have ever heard in my 25 years of... Oh, yeah, it hit the wall. I was behind the shield, but a really huge blow-out. I saw the fire come out. It would have been at least 4 to 5 feet sheet of fire. I've seen that before, in the early days of high-pressure. I saw that fire and that noise was just like it hit the wall and was focused right in that ear. It almost knocked me off my chair. And that ear rang for 3 or 4 days.

Ida Rose: Oh, my. The doctor told him to come down and see him, but he never did.

Tracy: Yeah, I've never gone down to see how much hearing I've lost. But I'm getting pretty deaf, now that I have had those two accidents. Well, back to where we were. Things I like to do. I was good at baseball, so I liked that. I also liked basketball. I was not so good at that, but I liked to play basketball. We played football.

Ida Rose: Your radios.

Tracy: I think one of her questions later will lead me into that. Lets see. What else ... I liked riding my bicycle. I like to be on the go. I was just a natural go, go, go kid. I would get on the bicycle and I would ride the 5 miles to town. I would ride over to Wilson Lane, all through Slaterville.

Ida Rose: And you didn't have ? for your mother.

Tracy: Yeah.

Sherlene: Gee, your mother must have been very, you know ... trusted you, or something.

Tracy: Very trusting and tolerant of what I did.

Ida Rose: How old were you when you were galavantin' all around like that?

Tracy: I think I started when I was about eight. Seven, maybe. I loved swimming. We had a swimming hole on our own property. All the neighborhood kids swam in the swimming hole at the end of our 5 acre farm. It was at the north end.

Ida Rose: That's where they held you under the water.

Sherlene: OK! Thanks. Who were your neighbors? What do you remember about them?

Tracy: Well, our house was on the north side of the street. Almost direcdy across was a Stanger family. Earl Stanger, was the father's name. There was a daughter and a son that

I remembered. The son's name was Irving Stanger. The parents were not active in church, as I remember it. But they sent their kids. I had a fair amount of trouble with the Stanger boy. He was younger, but he was a husky, heavy kid. And he was somewhat of a bully. And he gave me a bad time on a number of occasions.

{Donald remembers an incident with this boy, who, as indicated, was often in trouble over one thing or another. One morning at school, Irving and his father appeared along with the school principal, in the classroom door where Donald was a second grader in the room among First, Third, and Fourth graders. The teacher was summoned and outside the door in the hallway could be heard a conversation of some kind. A little while later, Irving and his father and the teacher returned to the classroom. In front of the classroom, living's father began to trounce his boy, and beat up on him fairly well. Giving him a bloody nose. The father then demanded that Irving apologize to the class and to the teacher for certain problems he had created So Irving sputtered his apologies, while wiping his bloody nose with his sleeve amid his sobs and gasping for breath because of the injuries inflicted upon him. After the apologies, Mr. Stanger ordered Irving to promise that he would never again cause any more problems at school for anybody.

All the students in the room were so startled at the incident, that most had slumped down in their desks, half trying to hide, out of fear, wondering if they might be next to suffer Mr. Stanger's wrath, afraid that they, themselves, might get a beating of some kind. The end result was a new resolve on the part of everyone to behave themselves at school, or they might be next in what had just happened. There was a noted improvement in living's behavior after that, because he wasn't going to do anything to bring his dad down on him again like that.]

Tracy: To the east of us ... This is farming country, the houses weren't all that close together, was a Dana family. A red-headed boy named Max Dana showed up at the school, one day, as a new student, and I sort of fell in with him right off. He seemed to be a kid I liked. The Dana family was not active in the church. The father smoked, and they had quite a few kids. The father.... I know my parents were concerned with our associating with that family so much, and I used to defend them once in awhile. I remember specifically one time talking about them, and I says, "Oh, but, Sunday, I was over to Dana's and the father was reading the Bible, which he was. Most of the kids were pretty rough in their talk, but many of those farm kids were. Most all of them swore all the time. Probably like the bad-news bears, which I didn't see, but they used all those words that you've said they used. Bad news bears.

Sherlene: What's bad news bears?

Ida Rose: It's a movie.

Tracy: It's too bad that that film might have been quite realistic from what I saw when I was growing up. Especially out in that farming country. The kids were quite tough, and I don't know that their parents knew they did. I'm sure I took up some of that swearing, but I tried to not do it. You know how peer pressure was. I don't think I really — on occasion I may have done it, but not much.

Sherlene: I never heard you swear the whole time you were raising me. I can say that.

Tracy: The only swearing habit I can remember during the Navy days, I did pick up using "Damn" and "Hell" once in awhile And it's hard to quit that when you get used to it. Like, I knew a couple of general board members who couldn't quit using those 2 words. They

use them to this day. Inapropriate. You know, not every other word, like lots of people do. But not appropriate.

Ida Rose: I heard somebody say that if people swore it was a sign that they were so limited, they didn't have any ...

Tracy: Well, some farmers were great swearers. Even a member of the bishopric, when he would get mad at his horses and team... Boy, you can't imagine what swear words would come out. I can remember that. A member of my bishopric.

Then we used to have an old Dutch brother who was a nice old man. His wife was even nicer. I think their name was Hansen. That's not a Dutch name is it?

Ida Rose: It was probably Sweedish or Danish.

Tracy: Well, no, they were dutch, and they had come from Holland, and man, he'd get his team, and he would start in dutch. You knew he was swearing from the way he did. But, many farmers seemed to be that way.

Well, let's see, what were we talking about? Oh, our neighbors. OK. The Slater's lived sort of across from the Dana's. They were to the east of us. And the Slater's had a large family. I think about 12 children. Some of the kids my age ... there was an Alma Slater, a litde older. There was a Marcia Slater, who played the piano in church for us. She was a nice girl. Just a bit older. She died. I think it was Marcia who died. Or was it Eleanor? I think it was Elinor. She was the one who died in her teen-age years. Just a litde younger than I was Blanche Slater, and then Marjorie Slater. That was the last one I remember, although they may have had some younger ones after that after we moved from Marriott.

We went to Marriott in about 1927 ... and left in 1933. The next house east of Slater's was Ritchie's. He was the bishop of the ward. A very fine man. I remember him as being older than my parents. He would speak softly. He was kindly. He was just the kind of a man you would expect a good bishop to be. You know. Kind, gentle, a gentleman, softspoken and nice.

Sherlene: Just like you!

Tracy: And he had a very large family. He had at least a dozen kids. His mother lived in a litde house next to his house. The Ritchie's must have been fairly well to do. I think his father ... I mink his name was James Ritchie, and I think his father's name was James Ritchie. And his father, I mink, would have been a counselor in the Bishopric with my grandfather, Helon Henry Tracy. No. James Ritchie was the Bishop. My grandfather, Helon Henry Tracy was a counselor to this James Ritchie. And I mink my grandfather got a little bit disturbed because this Ritchie was a sheep man and he would take off all summer long with his sheep and leave the ward with my grandpa. But that Ritchie family was a good ... they were a really good family. But I started to say, there home and their farm was neater and nicer and larger. Seemed to be equipped with good implements and whatnot as mough they had a little more money. Oh, they never made any show of that. I remember their farm as being a well-kept, nice farm and most farms ... of course, those were depression years ... were run down, poor equipment, and things like that.

We had a horse when we first went on the farm. His name was Nig. (laughter) Well, that was just his name, when we got him. He was a white horse. I used to like to ride him. I didn't like horse riding too much, because I would get a pain in my side when I would ride a horse. The galloping action would always give me a terrific pain in my side.

So I didn't enjoy horse riding too much on that account. But for just going generally around the farm, I liked that. We got rid of that horse. I think we probably only had him our first year on the farm. I don't know why we got rid of him. He stepped on my toe once. Barefoot.

Our neighbors going across the street west from us was another Stanger family. I forget his name. Some of the boys were Gene Stanger. There may have been an Earl. There was a girl Claunda, who now, I believe, calls herself Connie. Claunda Stanger worked at Internal Revenue Service with my brother Donald's wife, Louise. There was a .... Claunda had an older sister whose name does not come to me right now, who was really nice young woman that I remember, because she was a nice girl.

Further to the west of them were the Marriotts. The famous Marriotts, who went to Washington and made it good in the hot-dog stand business and expanded it into Hot Shoppes and hotels and all the rest. They lived there. But J. Willare Marriott, who was the man who apparently, you know, he and his wife, sort of got started and did most of it. I think he may have left Marriott just about the time we moved to Marriott in 1927. I think that's about the time he went off to Washington, D.C.

On the other side of the street was a house below us on the same side, on the north side of the street, whose name sort of escapes me. I remember them because they had an Essex automobile. A breautiful touring car that they had purchased, just brand new. That had all the chrome and extra spare tires and just an expenseive car for that day. I can't think of their name.

Then came the pea vinery on the corner, which is quite a stink in the winter time ... sumer time, during pea harvest time. 'Cause they stacked all the pea vines out in a huge stack and it fermented, and the cows ate that. It was good for the cows, apparently, although I think it was a little bit alcoholic. But the stench of the old pea vinery that used to dot the country-side was really something when the wind was blowing the wrong way.

Below them was a family named Amidan. And I can remember they had some girls. But that's all.

Sherlene: You should have remembered those girls.

Tracy: Then it was just fields below that. That's the end of the street on which we lived. It came to some fields and a big swamp. Mom and I went out there a few years ago, just to see what was in that part of the country. And there are houses everywhere now on the land we used to own. It has become a suburban area. Has a dozen or more homes.

Shirlene: All built up then. That's too bad. What about early church activity?

Tracy: Well, I usually had a church job. I can remember being in little church productions. My mother was in the Primary. I can remember having parts in Primary plays. I guess they used to have an annual Primary night just like they do today. I can remember memorizing little parts and wearing high hats, like I was a missionary, or something in ancient days. In older days. We were always active in church. Sometimes we had an old Ford truck to drive in. Sometimes we had to walk to church, which was about a mile or a mile and a half away. But our family was always active in church, as far as meeting attendance was concerned. I don't remember too much what my father did in the church in Marriott.

My father at times rode a bicycle the 5 miles into town to work when he was working, I believe, for Nelson-Ricks Creamery. We had a couple of Model T Fords. One was a truck. Neither one of them very good. Not at the same time. I remember sort of a touring car. A Ford that did not have a top on it. We had a cow in the early days. I had a hard time milking it. My hands weren't strong and I remember my dad getting provoked at me because I couldn't ever seem to milk the cow. I could just not squeez the cow hard enough to get the milk to come out. Later on, I think we bought our milk from other farmers who had milk cows.

Our farm house was an old adobe hosue, which had been plastered over. There was obviously an older section and a newer section to the house. The house was sort of in the shape of a "T". It had a porch along the front. It was a very run-down house. We had usually only the kitchen stove for heat, but I can remember my father doing some remodeling, laying some bricks on an old section of the house, which was really run down with the roof caved in and what-not, he fixed that into a new kitchen. We had a pump in the kitchen. Wells in those days were driven by hand with a sledge hammer. The pipe probably only went down about 20 feet So we did have a pump inside the house. And a basin. No running water like modern day. You would heat the water on the stove in a tea kettle and pans. Wash your face in a basin. Out-door toilet quite a way from where the pump was, so it wouldn't contaminate the water. So in the winter time you would have to run outdoors and go to the "John." No toilet paper. We used old newspaper, old Sears-Roebuck catalogs. My daddy, when I was young, taught me how to crumple it up while you were sitting there to get it so it would be softer and softer. Well, that's the practical things you have to consider in those days.

Our house had a slanting floor in the living room. When Grandmother Tracy lived with us, she lived in a sort of a front bedroom. Then there was kind of a living room. Behind that sort of a kitchen area. And a storage area where my mom had her canned fruit. No basement. And then there were 2 bedrooms, and we had to go through the first bedroom to get to the second one. I can remember how wonderful it was one winter when my father got a pot-bellied stove in the fartherest bedroom. So that we had that pot-bellied stove to keep warm by in addition to the kitchen stove to keep warm by. See, before that, you would just get into your night clothes and run into the bedroom and get under the cold sheets to try to stay warm.

It was a really old house. As I remember it, my father paid $1600 for this 5 acre farm and home. And it proved to be too much money. He couldn't keep up the payments. They got into a little bit of trouble. They sold the farm. They got tricked in the sale of the farm. Didn't end up with any cash. And we moved into a home at 664 30th Street, which was in a brick-yard. We seemed to like brick-yards. Your mother grew up in a brick-yard and we grew up in one half a mile north of her brickyard. The clay in the hills around there was the reason the brick-yards were around there. But this old brick-yard home, my father paid $8.00 a month rent for. In the beginning days, later on, the rent was raised to $12.00. It was an old frame house. The worse looking building in our ward. But that's what we lived in when we were kids, because we were rather poor.

Sherlene: What was Christmas like in your home?

Tracy: Well, Christmas is something all kids look forward to. I think some of our Christmases were very bleak. Because, one Christmas we were ... I was alloted, and maybe my younger brothers were not alloted that much. I was alloted fifteen cent expenditure for Christmas. And I bought a coping saw. A coping saw was ... they now call them jig saws. You know, it had a wooden handle and it had a frame that's a "U"

shape like that and it has a little tiny blade across it. I wanted a blade so you could cut out things in wood, you know, make circles and curves and things with this wooden saw.

Shirlene: How old were you then?

Tracy: I was nine. I was nine years old. Fourth grade. I remember that very much. How much I wanted that coping saw. And I could get it for my fifteen cent limit in those days.

Shirlene: Well, then, what happened? Your parents gave you the money and you went out and got your own?

Tracy: No. They got me .... you know, I had to pick something that wouldn't cost more than fifteen cents.

Shirlene: And then they'd get it.

Tracy: And then they got that.

Shirlene: What about family traditions? Did you decorate a tree, or did your mom make certain kinds of food at Christmas or what... what did you go through? What were the Christmas traditions?

Tracy: Well, when I was real young I don't think we had any Christmases. I don't think they could afford ... What I mean, I don't remember Christmas trees and things like that. They were too poor to have them. Later on at 30th Street I know we had Christmas trees. We may have had them on the farm, but I certainly don't remember it. If we did .... lean remember popcorn strings on Christmas trees, and perhaps we had one on the farm in Marriott. Maybe we had one every year, for all I know. I don't know! I don't remember any big trees. Certainly until 30th Street, when we did have a big tree in the comer. But I was teenage then. I don't remember that tree until I was perhaps seventeen. I think we hung up stockings or something like that, and I know that we had a few things like oranges and little candy and peanuts in the stocking.

Shirlene: What Thanksgiving traditions?

Tracy: No traditions that I can recall. Other than we did have a Thanksgiving dinner. As a rule.

Shirlene: Did you have a turkey for Thanksgiving?

Tracy: I can't remember that. I don't know.

Shirlene: You can't remember what you ate. Did you have a favorite uncle or relative?

Tracy: Well, in a way. We had a few uncles in Marriott. Maybe I should take that back. My uncle Helon lived in Marriott. My grandfather's oldest son. My mother's oldest brother. Uncle Helon, he was a counselor in the Bishopric. We had uncles .... we had cousins. They were old peopole and we used to think of them as uncles. You see, my mother was 3rd from the bottom in a line of 14 children, and so the older brothers and sisters had children who were almost as old as my mother, see, so I would think they were an uncle, but they were cousins. And I can remember one of these cousins who was a Butler, his wife was Mary Butler, she's the one who gave me piano lessons briefly when I was in Marriott. I think she would have given them to me longer. It's probably my lack of practice and interest that didn't keep me coming longer. But I remember that at least during

part of the school year she gave me some lessons for free. 'Cause my mother thought I had some talent there that ought to be developed. That was aunt Mary. I can't think of her husband's name. And there children. I think there was a Carl Butler. They still play with those children sometimes. My aunt Mary had a son Henry, who was a policeman in Ogden. A detective in Ogden and what-not. They had kids that I used to play with. They lived on what was called Brooms Bench, which was about a mile, maybe a mile and a half, maybe even two miles due east of where we lived. These areas are not there anymore. They were taken over by the Utah General Depot during World War II. I fact, most of Marriott disappeared during World War II when the war effort decided to locate war facilities there, huge storage facilities. Later on the Internal Revenue Service came in. There is so little left of Marriott and also of Slaterville, which was a little bit west and north of Marriott, that those two areas are joined together now and they have a chapel that is Slatervlille-Marriott chapel.

I had an aunt Jane, who lived on Broom's Bench. This is a higher bench than the flat-lands of Marriott, where we lived. Who was my grandmother Emma Burdett Tracy's sister, who was also a wife of Helon Henry. They had kids that I saw a little bit of.

Shirlene: Also was a wife. Was he a polygamist, then?

Tracy: Oh, yes. My grandfather had 3 wives.

Shirlene: Did you know all the 3 wives right then?

Tracy: No. I knew the 2 wives. I can remember aunt Jane's funeral when she died.

Uncle Aaron lived in Ogden. Didn't see too much of him, but some. Most of the uncles and aunts lived up in Idaho. In 1927 or thereabouts there was a Tracy family reunion in Idaho Falls. We went up there on the train. I can remember that. I must have been around 6 or 7 years old. It may have been before 1927. I don't believe we lived in Marriott when we went up to that reunion. But maybe we moved to Marriott in the fall of the year. We stayed up there with Uncle Harold. He was kind of a favorite uncle.

Shirlene: Who, uncle Harold?

Tracy: Uncle Harold. He was a sort of

Shirlene: Now what was his name?

Tracy: Harold Tracy. He was a younger brother. In fact, he was the baby in the family. I believe. He had kids that we liked to play with, but we didn't see much of those. He was the joker type of an uncle. He would come and tell jokes and, you know, real friendly type of uncle. He had his problems. He used to smoke and a few other things. He went on a mission to the Southern States. He could tell good stories about that. I think he got over these problems. I know he did later on. But he was a fun uncle.

Then there was Uncle Sam and Aunt Vilate on the Hall side. My only living uncle, see, because Ralph Hall had died in the war and my grandmother Hall and grandpa Hall lived in the same house. I would ride my bicycle over there on occasions to see them.

Shirlene: Did Helon Henry Tracy with his two wives ... was he a polygamist when you were a child?

Tracy: Well, he had died. He died when he was 49, as I remember. [His actual age was 44 years when he died.] So I never saw him. In fact, my mother hardly knew him. He died when my mother was a young child, six or seven years old.

Sherlene: But you knew the two wives.

Tracy: Yes.

Sherlene: Did they get along very well?

Tracy: Yeah, presumably. But, of course ... when I was a youngster, my grandmother Tracy was living with me, and Aunt Jane, as we called the other wife, lived on Broom's Bench with her son Tom Tracy. Tom Tracy and his family, when I was young, they had problems of not going to church, and things like that. I think some of the kids turned out OK.

There were some other relaltives there on Broom's Bench that lived near the home. The home that my grandfather Helon Henry Tracy built was still in existence when I was a kid, but no one was living in it. And I remember it as a home that ... see, my grandfather was a carpenter, as well as a schoolteacher. I remember the home had a nice porch. And as I remember it, it had graceful posts and filigrees and things like that. But for some reason the home was not being used.

My uncle Helon built a home of his own on my grandfather Tracy's land. There on Broom's bench in the Marriott area.

Shirlene: Tell us how the Depression affected your life and that of your family. And were you aware that it was a depression at all or ...

Tracy: Yeah, I was aware that it was a depression, but, you know, it didn't affect my life. I knew we were poor and didn't have what other people had at all, but it never bugged me. And I can remember my father telling me to never be jealous or never feel bad about people who had money. That was wrong.

Sherlene: I just remember a story about when you had to sell the farm. I think Uncle Donald wrote it. Well, those were trying ... I'm sure, you know, parents ... parents would try and take care of the children without letting the children know what dire straights they were in. To the extent they could, I'm sure. But I am sure that those were extremely trying times for my mother and father. It probably kept them on edge an awful lot.

I can remember a few quarrels between my mother and father during that time when they were moving from the farm back into the city, and I'm sure the tensions were over my dad not having a job, you know, and the depression situation .... with no money, and no food. I know we didn't have food. There were times when our supper was hot water with a little square of butter, salted and peppered, and bread. That was supper! Lots of times! And we weren't alone in that. There were other people that that would have been supper for.

Shirlene: Did you have any milk? You didn't have a cow or anything?

Tracy: Well, we didn't have a cow at that point. School teachers and others were always concerned about my health. I was a real skinny run-down looking kid when I was young. They were afraid that I was not getting enough eggs, citrus fruit, milk, and what-not. It was probably true.

Shirlene: But your mom knew about nutrition. Was it a matter of education, or .....I guess it was a combination of things. Did she think that was a well-balanced meal?

Tracy: I doubt it. I'm sure .... they wouldn't know about nutrition like they do today, but I'm sure they knew enough to feed you vegetables and milk and bread and .... but if you don't have it to feed, what are you going to do?

Shirlene: What can you do? How about your clothing. What kind of clothing did you wear during that time?

Tracy: Well, the average farm kid wore a pair of overalls that had straps coming over the shoulders that were made by J.C. Penny, and cost maybe 39 cents. No shirt, no underclothing, barefooted. That's how you went around all the time.

Shirlene: So, that's the only thing you had on!

Tracy: Yeah, all the time.

Shirlene: Is that what the other kids wore, too?

Tracy: In the main. Yeah. Farm kids usually wore just that.

Shirlene: So you went to school that way.

Tracy: No. When you went to school, you had a shirt, and the overalls ... or overhalls, as we used to say. And stockings and shoes. But just running around the farm and at home, just a pair of overalls, was usually all you wore.

Shirlene: That made the laundry easier. Not so much to launder.

Tracy: In the wintertime, I'm sure we wore more than that. But in the summertime, just running around the fields, and swimming, that's what you wore. We may have worn underclothes. My mother was fussier about some of those kinds of things than other kids. We may have had underclothes besides those things.

Shirlene: What kind of wages ... did you work during the Depression? Were you old enough then to get jobs?

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Shirlene: Did you feel that this was good for you?

Tracy: Oh, yeah, sure! I loaned my father $20.00 once, that I had forgotten about. So, I know that at one time I had $20.00 that I had saved up. But during depression .... I forgot that I even had the $20.00, but later on when I started college my father came forth with $20.00. I didn't have any money to start Weber College. And I tried to turn it down. I figured I could get by, because I had managed to get a janitorial job at the college. But my mom and dad insisted that I take it. They told me that they were just repaying $20.00 that I had loaned to my father years before when he borrowed the only $20.00 that I had saved up to go to Nevada to look for a job. To look for work, so I know that during those youthful years I got up to $20.00 at one point. That was a lot of money when you were 12 years old.

Shirlene: I'll say! Did you always pay your tithing on that?

Tracy: Oh, yeah. Always!

Shirlene: Did you have any special goals when you were saving mat money? What were you saving it for at that age, or did you need to spend it all for necessities?

Tracy: Before that, I saved money ... I became very interested in radio, and I learned from other older boys in the neighborhood, and from magazines, and books that I would get from books that I got from the Library, that there was such a thing as a crystal radio. That's the earliest thing that I can remember deliberately saving money for. Was to get my own crystal radio. And I built one, and it worked. And the first radio in the Howard Hall household was my crystal radio, with earphones, and the coil I had wrapped around a Calumet Baking Powder can for an inductor on the radio.

Shirlene: What kinds of jobs did your father try to get during that time.

Tracy: Well, he worked for awhile for this Nelson-Ricks Creamery. I don't know what other kinds of jobs he had. I think he tried selling and other things. He had been an insurance salesman early in his marriage. See, he quit the railroad where he had terrific seniority, because he went to work on the railroad when he was eleven years old. But he quit the railroad because the environment wasn't good, and he would have to work on Sunday. After he joined the church, he didn't want to be on the railroad. But he never really did have a good job after that. He would have had an excellent job, you see, as a railroad man. So he sacrificed in that respect, and caused his family to sacrifice, but nobodv obiected to that, we were always proud our dad quit the railroad.

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One of her grandsons became a salesman in some store that sold radios, and he got this radio for her for, as I remember, for something like $30.00. It was supposed to have been a $50.00 radio. But as the years went by, I sort of inherited that radio, and I took it all apart. Knew all about it. It's too bad that it still isn't around. It was that kind that was in a metal cabinet, oh, about 2 feet long and ten inches wide and ten inches high, with little rubber feet. A metal lid came off the top. The speaker was separate and a cord ran from this main control over to the speaker, which sat on kind of a little pedestal ....

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I can remember the tubes. It had one tube called the detector tube.. I can remember what that looked like. It was unsilvered. At least you could look inside and see the works that were inside the tube. But the rest of them were all silvered inside, and I gather that they used that to get the last traces of gas out. And they were sort of straight sided, sloping outward, like an ice-cream cone, but not as extreme, and rounded over the top.

Then there was one box that always intrigued me. There was a metal box within the box, at the back, maybe ten inches long, two inches wide, and there was stuff in there that was filled with tar, and it always bugged me that I couldn't see what was in that part and I couldn't figure out how it worked.

Shirlene: What about TV?

Tracy: Well, television came much later. I first heard of television in Schenectady, when I was working for G.E. and I may have seen it there.

Shirlene: Was it that late?

Tracy: Oh, yes. Television is an out-growth of World War n radar. Now I saw plenty of radar during World War II, because I trained in the field of electronics radar. Became an ensign and took some special courses in it at MJT, Harvard, Bowdin College at Brunswick, Maine, and Honolulu Naval Base. And I was pretty good at up-to-date modem electronics. When you go back to the year 1945,1 knew it quite well. So much has happened since then that I am out of it But TV was an outgrowth of all that .... World War II experience in Radar. And I probably saw it at General Electric somewhere or other. There was a station , probably one of the early TV stations right there in Schenectady that would broadcast a few hours a day.

Shirlene: How about cars?

Tracy: Well, cars go way back, of course. I can remember Model T Fords. One car I especially remember. When my grandmother was dying, Ed Rich, Jr. who was a famous doctor ... delivered all of my mothers boys ... named Ed. Rich. He had a son, Edward Junior Rich, and his father was getting old and he would come out on house calls. In those days, a doctor would drive five miles out to Marriott to make a house call. It wasn't like today. So, when my grandmother was dying, he came out to attend to her, and he had one of the early V8 Fords. There was a Model T Ford, they had the Model A, which was a 4 cylinder with a gear-shift. And then they had the Model B, which was a very brief thing. The Model A's and the Model B's only lasted about 4 years. And then Henry Ford came out with a V8. The first V8 automobiles in the low-price range. Big Lincolns and Cadillacs, I think had V8 engines, but Henry Ford pioneered the V8 engine for passenger cars which became the standard. Chevrolet was a long time in coming to the V8, but finally all automobiles came to V8.

He had one of these V8's that was red, and it was a coupe, and it had a grill that was sort of a V, but slanting like that (indicated with hand gestures). ... and the chrome! Oh, it was just beautiful. Just beautiful! The latest thing that only a doctor could afford. A young doctor, I guess. And I thought that was so neat. I can remember that car. By that time, I was very car conscious, and I would ride into town on my bicycle and later on, when we moved into town, my friend Lane Compton and I would go see all the new cars. You know, a new model would come out every year. We would go see the Chevrolets and the Fords and the Dodges, and all of them.

I was always a Ford fan Some of my friends ... Chevrolet was the best automobile, and I just couldn't understand that. We would argue which was the best automobile. But I was a Ford fan on account of Henry Ford was one of my heroes, see. There was a period when Fords definitely were not as good as Chevrolet's, and others, but I held out. I wouldn't give in. Fords were the best.

Shirlene: Faithful, there! What about telephones? Do you remember any of the other scientific wonders?

Tracy: Well, yeah, we had a telephone when we lived on the corner of 16th and Jefferson Avenue in Ogden. So that was before I was seven or eight years old. And I don't quite remember the reason we had that telephone. I can remember my mother lifting me up to that telephone to talk to my grandfather Hall once. So, I must have been fairly young. Four or five. My dad had that telephone because of his job. And I don't remember what his job was that required a telephone.

Shirlene: Why was your grandmother dying? What do you remember about her death?

Tracy: Well, just old age. She was 83. She had been an invalid for a long time. I do not know the exact cause of my grandmother's ... Emma Tracy's death. Causes incident to old age, I guess. She had rheumatism very severely. That was the old-fashioned name for what we call arthritis, nowadays. They had rheumatism in their day. It was very painful. Very agravating. I think it was more severe in their day than in our day, because of their diet and nutrition. They didn't know the things we know nowdays.

Shirlene: What did they do for the funeral? What was a funeral like in those days?

Tracy: They used to sit with the dead in those days. I know that the viewing was at my uncle Helon Henry's house. They sometimes used to bring the casket to the home. And then they would have a wake. Not like some wakes you hear about, but, at least, somebody would always sit up with the dead person until they were buried. I can remember that.

Shirlene: What was the reason for the wake?

Tracy: I don't know. They don't do that anymore.

Shirlene: Some people do.

Tracy: They still do it? Well, out in the west they don't do it nowadays. I can remember that my uncle Helon ... I'm sorry, my Uncle Aaron talked at her funeral. My uncle Aaron was probably the only educated Tracy in those days. He had a master's degree which he had obtained by correspondence course.

Shirlene: Was he the one that was president of Weber?

Tracy: President of Weber College. He brought a stenographer to take down the proceedings of the funeral. I can remember that because of this old-fashioned stenotype machine. Remember those ... Maybe they still have them, I don't know. Just a few keys on there. It's a short-hand, you know. But he brought this secretary, which I guess he had at Weber College, and she typed on this stenotype machine the proceedings of that funeral. I don't know where that record is. I'd never even thought of that until just now. Somewhere there should be a typed record of the funeral of my grandmother Tracy. And it is probably in the effects of Aaron Tracy. His widow, Aunt Ethel, Ethel Marriott Tracy, probably has those somewhere.

Shirlene: Now what was your grandmother's name?

Tracy: Emma Marie Burdett Tracy.

Shirlene: I can't remember if you told us about her or not on your first tape.

Tracy: Well, I don't know. She was a woman that looks ... you've seen the picture of her and all of her children at the family picture taken at the Tracy reunion in Idaho Falls around 1927. We have that picture. You probably have a copy of it. She looks just like she does in that picture. She, no doubt, was a very good-looking woman when she was young. She still looked quite good up until around age 75 or so. She braided her hair and usually put it up on her head like many older women did in that day. You know, wrapped it into something on the back of your head. So her hair was usually tight, braided, and in that roll or that bun or whatever you would call that kind of a hair-do. She would mend our clothes. She would mend our stockings and sew patches on our clothes, to try to do something for her board and keep. But that's all she was up to. She couldn't walk.

My father was very patient with her, he would carry her around to where she had to be in her rocking chair. They didn't have wheel chairs in those days. She sat in a rocking chair. She would have to be lifted into the rocking chair. Lifted out of her bed. I was never too observant on this, but I know that she had to be taken to the bathroom, you know. Put on a bed-pan like a hospital bed-pan. I know we had that at the house for her.

Her kids would come to see her once in awhile. I think Uncle Harold was as frequent a visitor as any. He would come in with a ten dollar bill, give it to Grandma and say, "Now, Mother, do not pay any tithing on that. I have already paid tithing on that!" and he would give her a lecture on that, every time. But she would pay her tithing on it every time.

Shirlene: Now is this the one that always wanted to listen to KSL?

Tracy: Yeah. I have the impression that her children did not help her much. This occasional ten dollars was once a year maybe, or twice a year, at most, from Uncle Harold was about it. My parents provided for her upkeep in the main. I can remember hearing my mother complaining a little on occasion about the fact that nobody else ever helped. I think in particular the oldest son who owed money. You know, it's sort of the story of Grandfather Langford. The kids see money there, and they come after it. So, I don't know. I remember that my Uncle Helon was supposed to pay my grandmother's funeral expenses because he had owed for the farm. He took over my grandfather Tracy's farm, see, and what I gather from hearing my parents talking, he never paid for it.

Sherlene: Well, that's too bad!

Tracy: A thing that often happens in families. He was supposed to pay the funeral expenses. I don't think he ever completed the job and my mom and dad ended up doing it. I don't know how much of this kind of stuff anybody should ever put in. You know ... I have no grievances against any of my people or any of them, but you know these things do go on.

Sherlene: Well, you might as well be realistic. Get the whole story. It gives some insights in the family.

Tracy: We could edit it out.

Sherlene: And it says something about your parents, that they took care of her ... under very trying circumstances, and they were obviously having a very hard time.

Tracy: Well, my grandma Tracy lived with us when we were on 16th Street. I can remember her clear back to then. When I was four or five years old, she lived with us at Jefferson Avenue and 16th Street in Ogden. She was somewhat stern. Seemed that way, because I was a kid. She would be telling me not to do things. Maybe she wasn't stern.

I can remember... Kids had greater freedom then. Fireworks were legal and I was playing with some fire-crackers when I was 5 or 6 years old, and I guess my parents knew it. But just using fire-crakcers was nevr enough for me. I had taken a pipe and put it in our sand or dirt in the back yard and I would set a fire-cracker in there and light it and bash it with a coal shovel. We used to have a little coal shovel that was about 4 inches by seven inches for shoveling coal into the stove ... and knock the fire-cracker down to the bottom with that as soon as I had lit it, and then put a rock in as fast as I could. So I had a cannon, see,

Sherlene: If I had been her, I would have been stern, too!

Tracy: I can remember my grandmother out the window, the back window one day, scolding me for that. It was dangerous! But I never got a kick out of just shooting off a firecracker. I wanted to make a cannon, or put it inside a Raleigh tobacco can and blow up the can and stuff like that Get something out of your firecracker.

Sherlene: High pressure already then!

Tracy: Oh, yeah. Yeah.

Sherlene: In your blood! Was she .... It's just that my mom was telling me about some relative in there who thought that children were terrible. Who had a very stem idea, puritanistic approach to sex and marriage and having a family, and she thought it was terrible to have children.

Tracy: I have the impression that was my grandmother Hall, but she had had 5 kids herself. But, I have a distinct impression ... probably a correct impression that after she had these kids she somehow had a change of heart, that people should not be having kids. And, ah ... but I don't know. See, my Uncle Sam... my dad's brother and Aunt Vilate never had any children. I don't know why they didn't. But I have this impression that they didn't have them, because they agreed with Grandmother that they shouldn't have kids. My grandmother Hall. But that could be all wrong. But I sure do have that impression from hearing my parents talk. Or, maybe they just couldn't have kids. I don't really know. But I heard that kind of talk. Maybe that kind of talk was erroneous. Presumptuous.

Shirlene: I've only heard that once, but I thought I'd ask you

Tracy: Well, no,I heard that from my parents, I'm sure. They didn't have kids simply because they didn't want to. I don't know that that's the truth. My grandmother Hall, yeah, she was a stern woman. More stem than my grandmother Tracy. But she looked stern. She had a stem appearance.

Shirlene: She looked very dominating. Very hauty looking or something.

Tracy: Well, I don't know. I liked to go to my grandmother Hall's. She had deep, really deep set eyes. And a rather stem appearance. That was ... Woodcox, would have been her name. Mary Ann Woodcox Hall. I liked to go to her house. She always had cookies, but Grandfather Hall smoked a pipe and he drank his liquor and their house always had that odor of tobacco. And I never did like that even as a kid. To go in her house and have that odor of... she had a clean house. She was a good housekeeper and she always had cookies around and something like that.

Shirlene: What do you remember about your grandfather, besides that he smoked and drank?

Tracy: Well, my grandfather Hall always looked neat. It was hard to talk to him. I tried when I was in my teenage years. I rode up there on my bicycle and sat out on a chair on the porch with him and try to talk to him, but he was a quiet man, and, you know, I was not an aggressive type individual myself, and so, we just sort of sit there with each other. When I would ask him questions, his answers would be brief. But we really didn't go into anything. I was very interested in trains, railroading, and things like that. I'm sure I asked him those kinds of questions, because he was an old railroad man. And I didn't really learn anything.

Shirlene: Was that how Grandpa Hall got started on his railroading? Was this his father?

Tracy: Yeah. That was my dad's father. But, when I was growing up, my grandfather Hall was only with the railroad indirectly. He was in the transfer business. And that was a business apparently financed by my father. My father did not get married until he was 32 and he went to work when he was eleven. And his mother took all his money. He kept living with his mother until he was 32 years old. And he contributed to the household. The whole works! They took all his money. Really! And my dad, I remember, told us

Shirlene: Was that tradition in general?

Tracy: Yes. In general that was the tradition in those days. I can remember my dad talking about how bad he felt one time when he took his paycheck and bought a bottle of soda pop for himself and for his friend. That came out of his paycheck before he took it home to his mother. And his mother scolded him about it. So, as I understand it, that money of my father's was what set my grandfather Hall up in the transfer and storage business. And my dad was a kind of a partner. I don't know what kind of a parnter in that business. And the business was located on lower 25th Street on the south side. I would judge, one and a half blocks east of Wall Avenue. It wouldn't be there any longer today.

My grandfather Hall had trucks for transfering baggage and moving household goods there mainly in the moving and storage business. I can remember him having Dodge trucks. One of the early trucks they had was a Ford. As a matter of fact, my father claims that my grandfather Hall ... It was called City Transfer and Storage, was the name of the

company ... had the first trucks for the transfer business in Ogden. See they used horses pulling wagons. If it wasn't the first that they had, it was the first large trucks. They bought the largest trucks available as soon as trucks were available, to operate in the transfer business.

But, my dad used to drive all over. He would carry ... even in that day of dirt roads, and what-not, he would take household furniture clear into Wyoming. Clear into Idaho. Places like that on his truck. And I can remember interesting stories he told. I think we've got him on tape on some of these things. Of the troubles he would have when the truck was broken down. On his long trips and days when there weren't garages, gas stations and things like that. Behind my grandfather Hall's home, which was on Binford Avenue, slightly east of Wall Avenue in Ogden, on the north side of the street. He had barms behind his home where he kept his horses. Stables, you know, before the day of trucks. They had transfer business with horses.

Now I don't know at what point my dad was in the railroad business and in the transfer business. I don't know the sequence of things on that. But, I gather he may have been in the railroad and then the transfer business and then back on the railroad again, so maybe he didn't have a continuous wage from age eleven on. But the time he married my mother, he was a brakeman on the railroad. You work your way up from this, that ... I don't know how it goes. Brakeman, fireman, engineer. My dad had been all of these. Engineer was the top post. And my dad was fireman on the railroad back in the days when you shoveled coal, and it was hotter than blazes. And there you were just constantly shoveling coal into the boiler.

Shirlene: I wonder if that's what affected his heart later on.

Tracy: I don't know. Dad was a strong vigorous man. Pretty much. He had a mild heart attack at 65, but he lived, to what ... 85? He was strong. My father was a small man, but very strong.

Shirlene: Well, he used to move furniture and cary it around ...

Tracy: He claimed that he could lift a whole piano all by himself. And take it upstairs. I don't know whether he could do it, but he claimed he done it.

Shirlene: Well, he wouldn't lie!

Tracy: Well, he was a very strong man! I can rember when he was 65 he could do one-handed chin-ups.

Sherlene: What happened to that ferris wheel he made that was in your shop?

Tracy: Well, if you want any of that stuff ... David has thrown it around, and I haven't straightened it up. Some of it's still there.

Shirlene: I should have had you bring that with you in the car for me. I've been going to bring that every time.

Tracy: Well, it's just kicking around the shop getting ruined. Some of it may be missing because David's not too sentimental, and ... David is not a collector. David is not a junk man like I am. Anything not in current use, David would be inclined to throw it away.

Sherlene: I was a dummy. I should have had you bring that with you out here for me. I'll have to talk to David. Tell him to keep that around. I was very sentimental about that. The only reason I didn't get it back here was because we couldn't fit it in our car.

Tracy: I know .. Oh, I've seen the ferris wheel, but it's out stacked in the junk. You know it's not being protected. It's just getting shop-worn, so to speak, 'cause it thrown around here and there as you move stuff around.

Sherlene: I'll come and get that. He did tell me I could have that. It's on tape! OK. What were your biggest fears as a child? Can you remember any? Besides those bratty kids ...

Tracy: I can remember being afraid of the dark at some time when I was young. And I remember being afraid of lightning. I heard wild stories about lightning from my grandmother. I can remember them talking about what to do to be safe in a thunderstorm. Don't be in front of a window. Be inside. Put tea cups under the legs of your chairs and sit on the chair. All kinds of stuff like that. Somehow I developed quite a fear of lightning. That's when I was, oh, six or seven or eight, something like that.

Shirlene: When do you think you first had a testimony of the Gospel?

Tracy: I couldn't tell you that. It just developed slowly and stayed. I always believed the church was true as long as I can remember.

Sherlene: You never had any doubts or questions?

Tracy: Oh, I had doubts and questions when I was a teenager on occasion, but, not... I don't know if I can even say that, honestly, because I always defended the church. I never, even with my friends, who had doubts. I don't think I could say that I really did have doubts, all I could say is I may have had my spiritual highs and lows, but not really doubts. I was very valiant as a youth. Teenager. Very, very valient. Never questioning. Always defending.

Shirlene: Did your parents ... What was your family routine as far as the gospel was concerned? Did you have daily scripture reading? Did you have family home evenings back then?

Tracy: Well, I know there was something like family home evening, but I don't remember the term. But, yes, I can remember Book of Mormon reading around the stove. Particularly in die winter time. At the kitchen stove in Marriott, I can remember Book of Mormon reading. We had family scripture reading. I can remember that definitely. At a young age.

Shirlene: Did you have family prayer? Did you kneel down ...

Tracy: Yes. Always had family prayer. Yes.

Shirlene: Did you have 2 Sunday meetings like we do now? One in the morning, and evening service in the evening.

Tracy: Yes.

Shirlene: Was Fast Sunday like it is now.

Tracy: No. In rural areas, Sacrament Meeting was late. I imagine our Sacrament Meetings came at 7:00 or 7:30 P.M. After the cows were milked. I don't remember when Fast Meeting was in Marriott. I just don't. Whether it was afternoon or whether it was the same time as Sacrament Meeting. I don't know. Sunday School and Priesthood in the morning. Sacrament Meeting in the evening. I can remember having cleaning assignments at the church when I was young. Our whole family sweeping, mopping, cleaning.

Shirlene: What were your useful hobbies? I know you liked radios and junk yards.

Tracy: I liked radio and junk yards. Oh, I made whistles. There is a way you can make a whistle out of a willow by skinning a whole cylindrical piece off die willow and cutting out a notch in the wood beneath and cutting a hole in that and making a whistle tike the kids were just playing, you know. We used to make those. Swimming was fun. I'm thinking of Marriott days now, which were my youthful years where I was real conscious -- that's age seven through around twelve, thirteen, fourteen, something like that.

Shirlene: What was your idea of a fun date when you were in your teens? Were you still in Marriott when you were a teenager?

Tracy: We left Marriott when I was ... around Christmas time, when I was in the 9th Grade. Marriott school house 9th graders were sent to Wilson Lane that year. We caught the school bus to go to Wilson Lane. And then we moved to 664 30th Street setting, and I rode with schoolteachers who lived not too far away out to Wilson Lane to School, and continued to finish my 9th Grade at Wilson Lane. Oh, I noticed girls fairly early. One reason I think I noticed girls early was the Marriott kids were rough, tough, farm kids. And I was a gentle person.

Shirlene: And the girls were a litde nicer.

Tracy: Girls were gentler. I can remember the first girl where I, you know, I had some feelings that girls were nice, was a little black-eyed girl whose name was Powell. I don't remember her first name. I was in the fourth grade. She was in the third grade. And I can remember playing jacks with her on the schoolhouse steps. And the boys, you know, "Oh, you big sissy!" But if you ask me about a girl where I had some feelings that "Here's something nice," it would have been that little girl when I was only 9 years old.

Later on at Marriott school there was an age when the boys had girl friends. I don't know what age that was. I couldn't have been more than twelve. And they sort of assigned you a girl friend in a way.

Shirlene: What, the tougher boys?

Tracy: Yeah, I had ... Let's see! How did that work? I'm not sure. There was a Hales family in the ward. And there was a girl named Rolene Hales that I sort of had a crush on. I don't know. Maybe I was thirteen, fourteen. But, some of the other boys wanted her. And they says, "She's not your girl. Irma Carter is your girl.

Shirlene: And you didn't like Irma Carter?

Tracy: Not as much as Rolene Hales girl. But, to tell you the truth, a girl I liked better than either one, was a girl who was older than I, whose name was Wanda Hales, a sister of Rolene. She was a nicer girl. And more mature and she was a nice girl. She was somebody elses girl friend. I think Alma Slater, or someone else, had his eye on her. When we moved into the city, 664 30th Street, I had learned that the Hales had moved to

the top of 30th Street in those days. Up the hill, which was Harrison Avenue and 30th Street. They lived on the corner. It would have been the southwest corner of the street. And I can remember riding my bicycle up there and talking to her a couple of times, but no more than that.

Now, in the case of Irma Carter, I may have even ridden my bicycle out to Marriott to see her on occasion. I guess there was a time when I decided she was OK. I can.. in those days you go up to somebody's and you wouldn't knock, you would just call ~ if your friend in there was LeRoy, you would just go up to the house and call, "LeRoy!" You wouldn't knock and say, "Is LeRoy there?" You would just holler. That was the thing. I just did what the other kids did. That's what you did. And so ... you didn't call for girls, though. I was too bashful to knock on the door. I would just call for LeRoy, you know, and then hope that this ... what did I say her name was? Carter. (Wanda, someone asked) No, it was, anyway, the Carter girl, whatever her name was.

Later on this Carter girl became a... you know these theaters that have the glassed in cage that have the tickets ... she was a ticket gal in there and I saw her a few times and said hello and talked to her a little bit. It was the last I ever knew concerning her. She had a sister Stella Carter that was my age. This girl was a year or two younger. Stella was a nice girl. She was not as pretty as the younger girl. But she was a nice girl and I know, one time, I don't know how it was, I was in the fifth grade. She was in the fifth grade too. For some reason or other I got kissed on the cheek by her.

Shirlene: By Stella.

Tracy; Yeah, by Stella. That seemed like it was nice. I don't even remember the situation.

Sherlene: Your first kiss! (laughter)

Tracy: I can't tell you when my first kiss was. I don't think. Oh, later girl friends, when I got up to be a teenager where, you know, your passions and emotions were starting to run strong - maybe fifteen years old, maybe sixteen — No sir! No sir! Fifteen years old. I got a real crush on a girl in our neighborhood whose name was KatherirftleMik. She was Dutch. Dutch father and mother. He was later the Bishop. Bishop deMik. And I had a real crush on her. My friend Lane Compton and I sort of decided to pick out a couple of girl friends, you know, and he picked out a girl — what was her name? — and I picked out KatherinedeMik. And I really had a crush on her. I can remember going to a football game, or something, and holding her hand. Oh, boy! Wow! I didn't know such feelings could exist, you know!

I think I got a kiss out of her once. So I probably kissed a girl by the time I was fifteen.

Shelene: Oh, dad!

Tracy: Terrible! I'm not sure on that. I think I did. But then she jilted me, you know. Oh, what agony! I can remember praying that Heavenly Father would make her like me ... and all kinds of silly things. Desperate love! But by the time I was doing that ... I think I was, maybe ... I don't know. I was in high school, maybe seventeen.

I saw her when Mom and I went up to our ward and went out on a canning project, and Katheriitfwas there. She was married. She married a fellow named ... Can't think of his name. But then at the chorus reunion a year ago. You know, the 18th Ward Boys Chorus reunion, we saw her and her husband. She sent one of her sons. They have lived in California most of their life. The husband has been in the Navy. Norman Chatfield was

the boy. They sent a son ... they had a son going on a mission and he stopped off in Provo for some reason, and Katherin has him look us up. He was really a fine boy. We were really impressed with her kid. That's the only kid I've ever seen of hers. Wis that $Afl#boy who stopped at our house for a day or two.

Oh, I don't know. There were other girl friends. I was in love with teachers. The way you are with teachers. From time to time. I really was probably in love with my 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade teacher, Beulah Stallings. She was really wonderful to me.

Shirlene: She taught you three years?

Tracy: Yeah, all in the same room. Three classes in the same room. Good set up. I like it that way. She is probably dead by now. I Seen her once.

Sherlene: What's her name again?

Tracy: Beulah Stallings. She was not married yet. I don't know her married name. She was from Eden, Utah, or Huntsville, or somewhere up in that part of the world, as I remember it. She married the sherrifjj' One of the sherrifs, or maybe the sherrif ... I don't know if it was of Weber County, or what. I have heard his name, but I can't remember it. I went to see her once after we were married and after I was working at G.E. I don't know whether I had made diamonds yet, or not. I don't thinkj had. She gave me a picture or two of days in Marriott that I was very happy to get#ffiat time.

She said, this Stella Carter that I mentioned before, who married some band leader, you know, some musician, back in the days when we had bands. Had got copies of every picture this teacher ever had and had a very fine collection of Marriott days. And if I wanted certain pictures to look up this Stella Carter. I have never done that. But, of course, I don't know her married name, except she married a musician in a band, a fairly famous one.

Sherlene: You don't know her married name. So it would be hard to track her down then. Could you still get in touch with this Stallings.

Tracy: I doubt that she is still living. She might be, but I kinda doubt that she would be.

Shirlene: It would be interesting to have those pictures. I'm curious about those myself.

Tracy: I was in love with our chorus leader, Ena Barnes, as were a lot of the other boys.

Shirlene: I heard about her. (laughter)

Tracy: I was terribly in love with her. She was ten years older than me. She never did get married.

Shirlene: She is the one that had that long hair. Clear downthe front of her dress.

Tracy: Yeah. Oh, then there was an era in there, sort of after I finally began to realize, that you can't be in love with a lady who is ten years older than you. And the boys were ... Oh, this was during the time when the boys were going around with all the girls and they were sitting in cars and hugging and kissing and what-not. I got in on that kind of business. I guess some people escaped that, but in my day, I don't know a single boy that escaped that kind of thing.

Shirlene: Oh, what business, I missed it because of Daniel?

Tracy: Oh, just going with the fast girls who hug and kiss. Oh, May Ritchie — I shouldn't name these girls off. I guess was sort of that way. There was a Ruth Nye ... there was a Sims girl, and there was a ... I think most of these girls turned out all right. I know they did. I know some of them. As a matter of fact, I can't say any of them turned out bad. They were just fairly free with hugging and kissing.

Shirlene: Not more than that.

Tracy: Not to my knowledge. Except in a few ... Well, these girls that I'm talking about. No more than that, that I ever knew. Very free with hugging and kissing. And I got mixed up with some of that. With some of the girls. I couldn't tell you how many. Maybe 2 or 3 of them. One kiss out of 2 or 3 of those kind of girls.

Shirlene: I'm shocked!

Tracy: I wasn't bold like my other friends. And then after that kind of business, that was when I started going with Mom, I guess. I really never had many girls, you know,#br one that I would have wanted to marry. Like Katherin deMik, I would have wanted to marry her. I would have thought of marriage in terms of Ena Barnes and Mother. Probably those are the only ones, you know. I ever though of. As someone that I would like to marry.

Shirlene: For that many years, that's pretty good, Dad! I don't know how this one got in there, it doesn't really fit in, but what chores did you dislike or like the most?

Tracy: Well, in those days, you had coal and wood for heating and cooking. I had to chop wood, and bring in wood. The same with coal. I didn't like those too well. We had to hoe ... Hoeing! Rather a hard job for kids. Hoeing in the hot sun for 8 hours. That's a hard job. But I did it. Picking beans is hard, but I did that. Picking cherries, thinning beets, topping beets,...

Shirlene: Did you do jobs like dishes?

Tracy: Not too much. Apparently I was not a good dishwasher. I can remember my mom always scolding me for being ... she would say, "I might as well do them myself!" or something like that. I don't k^w^ Anyway, it comes out that I didn't do too well. I can remember dusting. Dusting the piano and chairs and things like that. I don't think I did too much dish washing. I did some dish drying.

Shirlene: You've always been so orderly and so systematic in all these neat little piles. Everything just where it belongs. Were you that way when you were a kid?

Tracy: More so then than now.

Shirlene: Oh, really! Right from the start

Tracy: Oh, yeah, I would have my little box and everything all organized in my boxes and I would really get mad when my brothers would mess up my orders of things.

Shirlene: And you were the oldest, weren't you?

Tracy: Yeah. I was very possessive of what was mine, and I was very orderly. Because I took good care of my things. You know, my brothers wouldn't. I didn't like them using them. They wouldn't put them back ... and they would break them and stuff.

Shirlene: Did you ... what were your sleeping quarters like?

Tracy: In those days you would sleep with a brother. You wouldn't have an individual bed. I slept with my brother Eugene all of my growing up years. And Wendell slept with Donald.

Sherlene: Were you all in the same bedroom?

Tracy: All in the same bedroom.

Shirlene: There were 5 boys in the same bedroom?

Tracy: Oh, the youngest boy may have been with my parents. Delbert, the youngest, was probably in the bedroom with my parents. At least when we were young.

Shirlene: How well did you get along with 5 brothers?

Tracy: Fairly well. Gene and I had problems sometimes. We were quite different in our interests. But no ... I think as a general rule, that we got along well.

Shirlene: You sure did ... From our observations later on you seemed like a very pleasant family.

Tracy: You see, there are no tempers in our family. No tempers. I could have been much more of a brother to Gene than I was, I think At least, at times, I can remember in my life, I wanted to be out ranging the countryside ... Gene was a reader. He would stay home and read the Junior Classics and things like that.

Shirlene: How did you learn to play the piano?

Tracy: I guess I fiddled with it a little bit and then my Aunt Mary [Mary Butler] graciously offered to give me the lessons. Which I flunked out on. Then during our years as Explorers — Vanguards, they used to call them in the MIA when I was in high school. Probably a junior in high school, a man came into the ward whose name was Salter. As our Explorer leader along with another fellow, whose name I have forgotten. I can see his face, but can't remember his name. This man was a musician. He had drums. He played the drums and he played the piano. Exploring in those days was somewhat like it is now. You know, "What do you Explorers want to do? Don't you want to do something ... " You know, you have exploring posts that sort of get together and build boats and do something. Well, we had enough guys playing instruments that we decided that we wanted to play in an orchestra. Our own orchestra. And he^ffoyed in dance bands in California. And so that's how our dance band got started. Which we perpetuated beyo«d after he left. So, he sort of showed me the ropes of learning to play chords, and gave me a few of his books to look at. I bought some of my own and I became a self-taught piano player.

Shirlene: You were pretty good back then, weren't you?

Tracy: I was quite a good piano player years ago. I gave up piano playing when I quit the band because of problems ... I think, probably somewhat personality problems. I was the natural leader, apparendy. I was always the president of the class, this, that, and the

other. And I was leader of the band. Salter used to take us out. He had a great big Packard. Packard was better than Cadillac in those days. He had this wonderful Packard automobile. And he would take us around. We played at Ogden High School and places like that. But, as Salter moved on and went back to California, or wherever he went. This Salter was having some trouble. I don't know if he was having a divorce, or what-not ... and they smoked too, and they went out with girls who smoked.

You know I always wondered what happened to Salter. He was in the optometry business, too. Fixing eyes and all that. He was a guy with lots of talent. But he just had trouble with some bad habits. I wondered what happened to him. And two or three years ago, I read his obituary in the Provo newspaper. He was living right there in Provo.

Sherlene: And you didn't even know it until it was too late.?

Tracy: And I didn't even know it until he was dead. Because I would have sure gone to see him, you know. I understand that he wasn't active in the church, but still, you know, he did a lot for me, and I wanted to thank him now that I had grown up and had enough sense to do it. I probably didn't when I was young.

Shirlene: But he probably read about your activities in the Provo paper. Didn't he know you were in town? It makes you wonder.

Tracy: He couldn't have missed, but he probably felt bashful about approaching me, I guess. It's really a shame. But, anyway, he loaned us his drums and all kinds of things. We had silly instruments in our first band. The standard band in those days had piano, base fiddles, saxophones, trumpets, trombones, and saxophones doubled on clarinets. We had a guy who played the clarinet. A guy who played mandolin, a few other strange things, you know. But we had a band anyway with all those fellows,

End of Tape, side 4

H. Tracy Hall oral history, Tape side 5

Sherlene: H. Tracy Hall is continuing his oral history and he is talking about this band belonged to in his youth.

Tracy: Let's see, what were we talking about? The band? This band was a fairly successful thing. The first dance that we played at was in Ogden High School, and our physics department teacher engaged us to play that night. Our repertoire was pretty small. I know we had to go around about six times and our music wasn't very good, I must admit.

Sherlene: I bet you must have sounded good. Didn't you make some records?

Tracy: I think they made some records after I quit, but not before. We played probably at every ward there was in Weber County. Ward dances were popular in those days. We played often at Weber College and Ogden High School. We once played a dance clear out at Camp Williams, an army faculty near the Point of the Mountain. Across the valley west of the Point of the Mountain. We played in Arco, Idaho, once. We made usually, I think, about a dollar to a dollar and a half a night over a period of a couple of years, perhaps. I don't think while I was in the band we ever made more than a dollar and a half apiece a night. We carried a lot of equipment around. We purchased our own amplifier.

Let's see if I can remember some of the people in the band. I played piano and was the leader. There was Jack Barrett, who originally played guitar, but realizing that wasn't as important an instrument as a string base, he purchased a string base and learned to play it very well. He played in the commercial orchestras for years after that to earn extra money. Prentice Agee, who was a very good musician, played trumpet Lane Compton played trumpet. I can't seem to think of the name of the fellow who played drums, with Larry Salerno, I believe, he played trombone. A couple of guys from North Ogden area playing saxophone and another fellow played saxophone. We wouldn't always use the full band. Though we did have a full band of drums, base, piano, three Saxes, a couple of trumpets and a couple of trombones. And even larger bands in some incidences.

Like I said, I made all the bookings and arrangements for the band. I paid for a telephone in our own home. Our parents couldn't afford a phone. Just to have it for this purpose. When I graduated from high school, Ogden High School ... I was a good student. I was one of the better students, but I was naive and didn't know about scholarships and things like that. And I never applied for a scholarship. But since my friends were going to Weber College, I wanted to go to, but didn't have any money. So I had to work. I applied for a job.

They had what they called, the NYA, as I remember it. Some program for youth to help them work their way through school. If you were an office worker, or something along that line, you got paid twenty cents an hour. For janitorial work you got paid fifteen cents an hour. I would work from 4:00 A.M to approximately 6:30 or 7:00 A.M. every morning ... and the band business was pretty good. Sometimes we would play as many as 3 times a week to make three or four dollars. But on occasion I wouldn't get back until 1:30 or sometimes even 2:00 o'clock in the morning and then have to be to work at 4:00, which was really quite hard on my health during that year. I became ill later in the year and missed a couple of weeks of school and got a "D" grade in mathematics because I never told the teacher I was ill. The only "D" I ever got in my life. And it was really just because I was out of it on account of illness, but I was bashful. I never gave the teacher any reason for being absent or asking to let me make up tests or anything.

Anyway, a thing was happening with the band. Prentice Agee was really a much better musician than I. And I think there was a little rivalry there. I think he resented my being the leader of the band. Some of the guys had started to smoke and they were drinking a little. And I didn't like that aspect of it And the other aspect was that all that lack of sleep was killing me, so I gave up the band. The band continued. Prentice was its leader. They got a piano player who was better than I, and actually had some rather important engagements. They played in the Hotel Utah. They played on some radio stations. And I think actually made a couple of recordings at one time of the band, which was called "The High Hatters."

The band was important in a practical way. It was earnings for me. And to have a job in those days was very difficult. A job where you could earn one dollar. I got mixed up here on what I said. There were very few instances when we made as much as three dollars a night. I don't think we ever made four while I was in the band. And there may have been only once or twice that we made $3.00. Usually we would make a dollar or a dollar and a half. You see, that was, counting the time you were on the job ... a dance usually lasted three hours. That was fifty cents an hour. And a fifty cents an hour job in those days was a hard thing to come by. You compare the fifty cents an hour there vs fifteen cents an hour at the school was ...

Ida Rose: Didn't they pay twenty-five?

Tracy: No. You always contended that, dear, but I earned the money and I remember that it was fifteen cents an hour.

Ida Rose: I got paid twenty-five cents an hour.

Tracy: Well, you came along two years later than I did. The wages had gone up. [Which was a fact, because that is what Wendell was paid when he later joined the program.] Let's see. What else do we need to say about the band? I had become a pretty good piano player by then pretty much on my own. I didn't do much with piano from then on. I would play in church here and there, occasionally. I played in church as a youth. I played the organ, the Hammond organ, in Priesthood meetings for quite a long time in the Ogden 18th Ward.

Sherlene: You accompanied our family orchestra!

Tracy: Then over the years I lost whatever I ever learned about playing the piano. It’s difficult for me to get through a hard hymn nowadays.

Sherlene: I can remember when you used to play the jazz. Wasn't that on Binford Avenue in Schenectady? Wasn't there a piano downstairs or something?

Tracy: Yeah. I don't think we had a piano there.

Sherlene: Somewhere you used to play real jazzy tunes.

Tracy: That would not have been until we had a piano again in our home. At our current home, 1711 North Lambert Lane.

Ida Rose: Yes, but we had a piano in Binford Road.

Tracy: In Schenectady?

Ida Rose: Yes.

Tracy: OK. I guess that's right. We did buy an old piano because you could buy them cheap. That's right. We did. Did we ever have one at Vly Road, in our first home.

Ida Rose: Yes.

Tracy: We had a piano there?

Ida Rose: I don't know about Bedford, dear, I'm sorry. I guess it was Vly Road.

Tracy: Yeah. I guess that's right. I can remember buying a cheap piano.

Sherlene: You used to play the music and we could dance around to it, and we were in a silly mood and you'd play all those funny old numbers and that was fun.

Tracy: Yeah. That may be true.

Sherlene: And you wrote Mom, after you were married, love songs while you were in the Navy.

Tracy: I used to make arrangements. But not much of that has survived. I think I wrote one love song for Mom.

Sherlene: When did you decide to become a scientist someday?

Tracy: When I was in the fourth grade, when I was nine. The teacher asked us what we were going to do when we grew up, and I said I was going to be an engineer and work for General Electric.

Sherlene: And that happened!

Tracy: And that happened!

Sherlene: When did you first start fiddling with photography?

Tracy: Oh, very, very young. When we were in Marriott. I would bring these books home from the library and read about photography and I couldn't ever get the chemicals. These strange chemicals that you had to have to do things. I had purchased a very cheap camera. Fifteen cents, twenty-five cents, something like that. I had taken a few pictures. Some of these pictures may still be in existence. It's too bad all of them aren't. I think only one or two still exist. I had pictures of our home in Marriott, and I know of no other pictures. Pictures of my younger brothers. And I took quite a few pictures around there. I think there is only one. One of my brother Wendell kicking a football, something like that, that I know exists today. [There is also one of Donald with the chicken coop in the background from where he supposedly - according to Wendell — pushed him off the roof, with the result that Wendell carries a horse-shoe scar to this day on the top of his head when he landed on a piece of glass below.]

But I wanted to develop my own, so the only people I knew who might have chemicals ... I guess my parents had told me, were druggists. So I would go to drug stores and ask them for these chemicals and ... "No, No, we don't have those chemicals." I finally went to a drug store where a druggist was enough of a chemist that he recognized that they were photographic chemicals and he says, "Oh, those are old-fashioned chemicals. You

don't use those anymore." He says, "I think you can go to a certain photo store and they can actually give you the modern-day chemicals, sell them to you."

I don't know whether I was able to follow through on that, on the farm. They may have been too expensive for me to buy. But when we moved from the farm to 664 30th Street, then I had built a dark-room out of what wood I could find lying around and cardboard, which I nailed. And I made a dark-room in the basement. That's where I did a lot of photography when I was a kid. I did quite a bit of photography and my own developing. I developed pictures for others to earn a little money. Although I didn't charge enough that it ever amounted to anything.

[Donald remembers Mom consulting with the other brothers about the fact that there was never any money for anything, but would we mind if she were to give Tracy a few cents — she always wanted to treat everybody equally — to help him buy the developing trays and other things needed for him to do his own pictures. The brothers readily agreed to this, and didn't feel one bit slighted, because they were always excited about the "magic" that Tracy was creating in his many endeavors, and they were just glad to do anything that might be helpful to him in his efforts! Both Donald and Wendell later learned from Tracy how to develop film and to print pictures and to do their own "magic" as they learned something of the miracles of chemistry.]

Later on because of that experience. It was very difficult to find jobs. About the only thing you could get was cherry picking in the summertime out in North Ogden, or bean picking in some places. It was hard to even earn seventy-five cents a day at those jobs. We used to have seminars, so to speak, on how to get a job, because it was depression days and it was so hard to get a job. But ... Dorothy West, who used to play the piano in the Boy's Chorus, that Ena Barnes led, had a father who was quite a buddy with a photographer. This photographer's name was Checketts. I'll have to back-track just a little. I don't know how I got this job. I think that Bishop Grant Lofgreen may have helped me.

The first photographer I worked for. I think was a place called Shiplers. That may have been the name of the man. And he had a brother, a young brother who was working and helping him, but he didn't really need any help, but the Bishop talked him into hiring me. So, I did some photography work there. That was on the west side of Washington Avenue, I think between 24th and 25th Street. And as I remember it, it was not just a photography place. It may have been a jewelry store plus a photography place in the back.

The man who ran this place was sort of a news photographer and he would go out to take pictures of big events, and I remember he took his camera and took a picture of a Union Pacific railroad wreck. It got off the tracks on a curve in Nevada on a bend of a big river, and many people were killed in that. And he flew an airplane out there ... He had somebody fly him, got those pictures and brought them back dead tired and wanted me to develop them and I was afraid I would ruin them for that cause. Besides I had never developed that particular type. They were what we call... Oh, I forget what you called them, but they were not rolls of film, they were plates. Yeah, you know. Single sheets of film in a holder, and I had never handled those and didn't know how to take them out or anything. And I remember him being a bit aggravated with me that I couldn't do that. He was dead tired from having been up a couple of nights, or something. So he had to do them himself. But just a short time after that, he was flying up in Idaho somewhere. I suppose taking pictures again on something and his plane crashed and he was killed. And I didn't have a job after that.

But then, later, I got on at this Checkett's place. Now these Checkett's guys ... You can like people for the good things, and they did have some good things. Checketts and his brother-in-law and Dorothy West's dad, who was an inactive church member, and other cronies, used this photography place, which was on the east side of Washington Avenue over a store, and I have forgotten the exact location. I think it was between about 23rd and 24th Street. [It was between 24th and 25th Street. Rushmer Optometry occupied the bottom part of the store.]

It was a back alley and the thing bordered on this back alley and at the back you had to go up the stairs. But Checketts was a commercial photographer and also developed films for drug-stores around town and I became very proficient in all aspects of that. He would even let me take commercial pictures with his 8 x 10 commercial camera. People of today wouldn't believe it, but we actually took pictures on a film that was 8 inches by 10 inches. I haven't seen an 8" x 10" camera for years. A sheet of film in those days cost fifteen cents.

Ida Rose: For an 8 x 10?

Tracy: Uh huh. Just a sheet of film. These were reprobates, these guys. They drank, they smoked, they told dirty stories all day long. Took dirty pictures, and were unfaithful to their wives, and all kinds of things. Everything went on in that place. But it was a job, and I stuck with it I later on, I got my brother Wendell a job there and he wanted to know that I was doing getting him a job at a place like that after he saw it, but he had to stay with the job, too. You had to take whatever job you could get. [Donald, at about the same time, got a job cutting the grass and taking care of Checketts yard in the 1100 block of Capitol Street.

But Checketts learned I was responsible. And he gave me full responsibility of that place on many occasions. He would sometimes be out on 25th Street with the prostitutes down there and the other things that went on and he would get so drunk, he would forget to come back for an assignment. I remember one time he had an assignment to take a picture of Washington Jr. High School graduating class. And they kept calling and calling for Checketts. His first name was Denton. Denton Checketts. And he was not there, and they said, "We've got all these kids here on stage all lined up to take a picture and we have been waiting for half-an-hour!" Well, I said that I would keep trying to get him. So he had those kids for a full hour on the stage and I finally decided that I would never locate Denton, and if I did locate him, he would be too drunk to take a picture. And I hadn't ever used his powder flash equipment before. I guess I may have seen him use it. I knew how it worked. You know, they have flash bulbs nowdays. But back in that day you had magnesium metal plus an oxident, potassium nitrate, or something like that. And an electric wire running through it. You pressed the button and the electric wire heated up and there would be a flash and big smoke.

Voices: Yeah, we've seen those pictures.]

Tracy: Come to think of it, I decided that I couldn't use that. Anyway, I decided I would hire a Taxi. I didn't have any transportation. And so I called the Taxi and went out there with 2 big flood-lights that he had. Hardly sufficient to illuminate that crowd. I took two pictures, and when Denton got back later on, much later that day. I had the pictures all developed and made the first prints and ... Man, you would have thought I was the most wonderful guy on earth. "You saved my life!" he said. "You preserved my reputation!" And so on and so forth.

Ida Rose: Did it work out?

Tracy: Oh, yeah. They displayed those pictures for a long time at the drug-store on the southeast corner of 28th Street and Washington Avenue. I've forgotten the name of that drug-store [Leinhardt Drug] ... the Washington High School graduating class.

Sherlene: Well, did you get a raise for...

Tracy: No. No. Let me tell you some other interesting things about this Denton. He was ... the way some people live! He had equipment that he would let me borrow. Like if he had a movie camera, he would let me borrow, which was nice, because I could hardly afford film, but I did take some pictures with that. As a matter of fact, I bought 100 feet or 500 feet of black and white film one time. I was going to develop my own because I couldn't afford the developing, so I built my own system to do this, but they got ruined. My system really didn't work as well as it should have. We have those black and white films today. Three or four of them, and there are things on there we are glad to see, but the quality is real bad. The film stuck together when I was trying to develop it, and I couldn't get it unstuck. It got all mottled and messed up. I never did finish using that full 500 feet of film. Another thing that may have kept me from it was the fact that Checketts would keep taking his camera and other things that he needed in his day-to-day business down to a pawn shop and put them in hawk. You know how pawn shops work. He takes these in, and maybe on a $100 camera they will loan him $25.00. And then he has six weeks or some specified time to come and pay that back plus a terrific amount of interest or else they keep the camera and sell it.

I used to frequent these pawn shops on 25th Street. I bought a couple of good cameras down there when I was a kid. But one .. sometimes the goods are stolen. I bought a movie camera down there one time and it turned out to be a stolen camera. The cops came after me and I was really scared. You know, that I would be liable, but I, of course, didn't know that it was stolen. And I did get my money back. I paid $11.00 for that, which was a lot of money to me back in those days.

Anyway, I would want to use some of Denton's equipment, and he would say, "Oh, yeah, you go down and get it out of hawk, and you can use it." So I would do that, but when I ended up working for Denton, and went to the University of Utah ... In order for me to have a job, I had to keep getting his equipment out of hawk. We couldn't take the pictures. He'd hawk anything to go buy some booze* or go with the girls, or some darn thing. And so, to keep myself in a job, I'd go down and get our equipment out of hawk so that we could do the days pictures.

Sherlene: And you were spending all your salary on that.

Tracy: And I made twelve dollars a week. OK. Comes time to go away to school at the University of Utah. See, I laid out a year and worked for Checketts

Ida Rose: That's the year we went together.

Tracy: ....and that's when I earned money to go to school.

Sherlene: That's when you were dating Mom!

Tracy: And I ended up with enough money to go to school. Well, he owed me $22.50 at that time and I never got it. I'd go back. You know, I would come home from school with week-ends off and I would go down to see Denton, "Denton, when are you going to pay me?" "Oh, I don't have the money. I can't pay you." So one day I went down, and I

forget how I worded this. He was usually fairly drunk ... sometimes it was funny. But anyway, he sorted indicated like he was finally going to pay me. I was poor! I was a kid going to school and that $22.50 was a lot of money! I was so disappointed, that it turned out that what he wanted me to do was to pull the adhesive tape off of his back. He had gone swimming and he dived in the pool and he hit the diving board with his back. But the way he talked to me ... Oh, he was finally going to pay me! And that's the last I ever saw him. He died drunk in the gutter later on, I learned. He had, you know ... he was a drunk and all that, but in a way, he had his good features. He recognized my quality and he would tell me. That I was good. I had ability .. I

Ida Rose: He encouraged you.

Tracy: Yeah. He would tell me my good qualities. Of course, it was good for him, because I would work harder, you know.

Sherlene: That's because you kept him in business.

Tracy: They had dirty pictures in there. People in those days would take pictures of their naked girl friends, their wives, or what-not, and they knew Denton would develop them. They would come to him.

Sherlene: So they would come to him.

Tracy: And Denton would keep a copy. Everything that ever come through with naked women on. People's negatives, he would keep a copy. In those days it was illegal to develop such material.

Ida Rose: Was it?

Tracy: Oh, yeah. It was illegal to develop such material.

Sherlene: Didn't you have a hard time keeping your thoughts clean in that adverse atmosphere?

Tracy: Oh, yes, it was probably an adverse atmosphere for me. I'm sure. I survived it, but it was probably bad. I don't know. What do you do when you want to go to school and earn money and there aren't any jobs during the Depression, you know ... Boy, you are glad to have a job!

Sherlene: So Depressions are ... Depressions in more .. I mean just a sign that people are anxious to find any work that ..

Tracy: Well, there are good and there are bad.

Ida Rose: I hope we never have another depression. We're going to have inflation and...

Tracy: Let me tell you one thing I did one day that was a real kick. They would come there and drink their booze. They all shared the same whisky bottle. I would be in the back working and ... I guess drinking ... where did they get their booze? I guess you could buy the booze. There was some illegality about it, because they would come back to the dark-room to drink it. Maybe they didn't want a customer to walk in. No! Anyway, They would all drink out of the same whisky bottle and tell their dirty stories and conquering of woman, and what-not. One day I noticed back there ... I don't know why I did it, but I noticed this guy drink the last of that whiskey bottle. So I got this neat idea.

I took the whiskey bottle and I took it over to the tap and put about that much (indicating with hands) water in the bottom of it. (laughter)

Some of those guys ... Oh, they were the dirtiest, crudest guys that ever lived, I'm sure. There must have been guys cruder than them, though, but at least these guys worked for a living. Oh, let me tell you some other things about ...

Ida Rose: Go on and finish the water thing.

Tracy: OK. One of these cronies, he comes back there. He sees this whisky bottle. He thinks there is whisky in it, so he swigs away, taking a few swallows before he realizes what he is drinking is not what he is expecting. He throws the whisky bottle down and lets out an oath, "Who poisoned the whiskey!" I couldn't stay around. I sneaked out and I laughed and I laughed and I laughed. It took him a little longer for him, though, to catch on that it wasn't whisky, because he was just guzzling this stuff.

Sherlene: Didn't he get mad at you?

Tracy: They didn't know how it happened. I had sneaked up front away from where they were.

Ida Rose: It wasn't by you, where that was, Oh!

Tracy: Well, it was back in where the dark-room was. I had just sneaked out past them. They were all having a drunken good time. Denton and his brother-in-law had jobs on the railroad. They were freight-car checkers. They could check all of the freight cars in half-an-hour. They got paid for an eight hour day. So, what they would do, is they would take turns checking out for each other. There was a whole gang of them. A lot of these cronies were freight checkers on the railroad. A real plush job, you know. They probably paid money to get that kind of a job. So, one guy would stay on and punch everybody out. But they could complete the work in half-an-hour. But they got paid for eight. So that is why he could run the photo studio. Most of all, he would just go to work for an .... sometimes they may have had to stay there for a couple of hours at most. Then they would go carouse on 25th Street, or whatever else they wanted to do. This, that, and the other. Then come to the photo studio. They had two jobs, see, one of them a goof-off gold-brick job, with high pay at the railroad, where the railroad wasn't getting their true money's worth.

Sherlene: And then there were people who didn't have enough to feed their starving families! Didn't have any jobs!

Tracy: I learned an awful lot about photography there. I used his big camera to take a couple of pictures. In my book, I have a picture of Weber College that's an 8 x 10.

Ida Rose: What camera did you use to take a picture of the chorus from time to time?

Tracy: I used an 8 x 10 to take some of those pictures. Denton wasn't as well equipped as he could have been. His floodlights weren't big enough and he didn't have modern flash business that he could have had. Taking pictures was always hard, because, ... well, that's another thing I forgot to tell you. My light was so small out at the Washington School, that I had to take .... the time to take a picture was several seconds, and as I remember it, I took two pictures. And there was a fuzzy kid in each of the pictures, somebody who had moved during the 3 seconds or so that I had to expose it They had this huge gathering, you see, on the stage, with several hundred kids, with two little dinky floodlights clear down where I was.

Ida Rose: That was really good figuring, though!

Tracy: But it was the same problem when I would try to take a picture of the chorus. Some of those pictures aren't too good.

Sherlene: What are some of your memories or church leaders while you were growing up? Who was the prophet you remember best?

Tracy: President Grant. He was for most of my life. He became president around World War I. I was born in 1919. I don't remember when President Grant died, 1948, maybe, something like that. [May 14, 1945.] And I have shaken hands with President Grant on at least one occasion. And I have a book from the whole First Presidency. President Grant and his counselors David O. McKay and J. Reuben Clark. A little book by Jordan, called ... something about truth ..

Sherlene: How did you get that?

Tracy: Well, our chorus ... Ena had the idea of our whole chorus could be sent on a mission, all at once. She thinks that Grant Lofgreen loused that dream of hers up. Called on a mission to sing, and proselyte, you know. The whole works of us. I don't know what her scheme was to do it, but somehow Grant Lofgreen prematurely ... I don't really know, this is just supposition, had us up there to visit the First Presidency. All of us. And they must have talked about this possibility. So we sang for the First Presidency. Went back in and sang for some of the other church leaders. We were in the First Presidency's office. Twenty or twenty-four of us. A big group of boys for that day and age, and we shook hands and talked with all the church leaders and they presented each one of us with a book with all their signatures in it. And I have it to this day. That would have been about 1938.

Ena used to take us to conference at times in Salt Lake. A couple of occasions, anyway. She'd try to get cars rounded up and take all the boys to General Conference.

Sherlene: How come she only taught boys?

Ida Rose: She was good with boys. They found out she could control them, and they liked her. They kept her on. They just kept going, giving her class after class after class. She just grew them up.

Tracy: She was given a Sunday School teaching assignment when I first went there. No, I can remember one other teacher. At thirteen or fourteen, she became my Sunday School teacher. She stayed our Sunday School teacher. They just passed her with the kids until we were twenty years old.

End of tape, side 5.

Turn the tape over. It's still the 7th of August 1974. We are at Sherlene's and Dan's at White Plains, New York. What were we talking about, Sherlene?

Sherlene: Do you remember .... Dan, can you be quiet, we are on tape again ... Grandma and Grandpa Hall telling stories about church leaders?

Tracy: Well, yes, I can remember some. I can remember, let's see. President McKay remembered my mother on account of some situation where my mother was trying to

extricate her younger sister from a problem. I think my Aunt Blanch had run away from home, got married. I think there was an annulment. Something like that. She had a child -- twins, maybe, I've forgotten. I remember we used to have pictures of these kids around the house. They died as I remember it. But there was some problem there, and my mother became involved with President McKay to straighten that up. And years later President McKay still remembered my mom from that situation.

Sherlene: And what was her impression of him?

Tracy: Oh, wonderful man. Yeah. I know they talked about church leaders, but I don't recall at this point any specific incident except that. My mother took me to conference when I was a young baby. She tells me that I was a babe in arms, and she was in the Tabernacle at General Conference. So I went to Conference at an early age.

Sherlene: Are there some pioneer stories that Grandma and Grandpa passed down that might not be in other histories that you could tell now?

Tracy: Well, none specific. I think most of our people walked across the plains. They were with wagons, but they walked. I'm pretty sure that my grandmother Tracy walked all the way. ... That would have been my ... Well, let me see. I shouldn't say that about my grandmother Tracy. She was a Burdett. I'm not quite sure how she did come across the plains. It would have been Helon Henry Tracy, himself, that probably walked all the way across the plains. [He was too young to walk, being a year old, and still a babe in arms.] His brothers and sisters. I'm not sure of that even, though. I hadn't better make any specific statements on this, because Nancy Naomi Alexander Tracy says that her husband was a good provider, and I know he had wagons and what-not. They may have had a chance to do some riding across the plains.

Sherlene: What did Grandma Hall have to say about polygamy? Did she like it?

Tracy: She was for it. She never said anything against polygamy. I don't know whether she was for it for herself, but when the people would raise the question as to how their families got along with polygamy, she was always positive, and got along OK.

Sherlene: Did she tell any stories about polygamy and her family and history?

Tracy: Only about her husband having to go to jail for it and things like that.

Sherlene: Oh, when I said, Grandma Hall right now, you were talking about your grandma Hall.

Tracy: I was talking about my grandmother Tracy.

Sherlene: Your grandmother Tracy. I was talking about your mother.

Tracy: My mother.

Sherlene: Did she hear of anything or...

Tracy: I don't remember anything that we don't have written down, you know, like Helon Henry Tracy's diary. It's a prison diary, which I have been going to type for the past fifteen years. In fact, I may have it typed. I just haven't done anything with it And there is Nancy Naomi Alexander Tracy's so-called diary, which is just a little brief history of her life.

Sherlene: While we're talking, can you think of any additional details about any of these ancestors? Any stories ... bring them up again? OK. How did you meet mother?

Tracy: Well, the girls in your own ward don't look too good to you for some strange reason and you like to go out to other wards and do a little ward-hopping when you get to be 18 and 19 and 20. I had seen mother [Ida Rose] at the 9th Ward. Some of us boys would go to a dance over there, when they would have a dance in their ward. Stand around most of the time too bashful to ask anybody to dance. But, I had noticed mother, and then, one time, my best friend Lane Compton, who lived on 30th Street when I first lived on 30th Street, he later moved to Jefferson Avenue near 28th Street, his father's name was George Compton. Lane and I were buddies all those early years. We were walking down Washington Avenue on the east side of the street. I think it was near the Ben Lomond Hotel and Ida Rose Langford came by. I didn't know her name. But I said to Lane, I says, "See that girl. I'm going to get a date with her." So I learned her name. I don't remember the details of how I learned her name, and where she lived. Got her telephone number and called her up for a date. She couldn't go. I don't remember the reason why. But I got a date for ..

Sherlene: Did she know who you were?

Tracy: Oh, I think so. I think she knew who I was. I'm sure she knew who I was. I got a date for a little later on. I don't remember our first date. Mom would remember it. But I saw other girls just a little bit in between there from the time we got married. Not much. But, I guess we went together for almost two years. And were finally married.

Sherlene: Tell us about your courtship. How did you propose to her?

Tracy: Mother told you that the other night. Didn't she put that on a tape or not?

Sherlene: Nope! It wasn't on tape.

Tracy: That wasn't on tape. Hmm! I thought we were taping that. Well, I had about $53.00, something like that. And decided that it was about time to get engaged and get married. I was approaching 22 years of age, and Mom was about a year and a half younger. So I went down ... I was going to say Zales, but I believe it was Anderson's Jewelers, where Jack Jeffs, who was a member of our Bishopric in those days, worked. Later on Jack Jeffs went to Provo and worked for Zales, and I bought Mom a one third carat engagement ring to replace her earlier engagement ring which had somehow been lost. So, both of Mom's engagement rings I purchased from Jack Jeffs. Anyway, I purchased a ring. I think about a quarter carat diamond for $50.00. When I went home that night, at the supper table everyone in the family seemed to sense something was up, and my parents teased me about getting engaged or something. I didn't tell them .... I guess I did. I guess I finally confessed and showed them the ring. So, I called her up and said something about not having enough money to do too much, but let's go to a show, and I don't think we ever went to the show, but I walked her up to Lester Park, which is across the street, east of the Moench Building at the old Weber College. And we sat down under a tree and I probably hugged her and kissed her a little bit and then pulled out this ring, and asked her if she would marry me. I can't remember the words. But...

Sherlene: You mean you didn't get on your knees!

Tracy: No. I think we both just sort of sat there. And you better get the story from her. Women remember these things better. Anyway there wasn't too much light where we were

sitting, so we had to run over under an arc light to look at a ring. She said,"Yes!" And this was, I think, about the 18th of July of 1941. And we were married in the Salt Lake Temple on the 24th of September of 1941. At the temple ... I was working at Sperry Mills. My friend Frank Davis was the Elder's Quorum president in the ward those days, and Lane Compton and I were his counselors. Frank had worked at Sperry Mill in their chemical laboratory. Frank was good at electronics and electrical stuff. He had been doing some electrical things for them. Frank got me a job there. A really good paying job for those days. It was fifty cents an hour. I worked as a chemist determining protein content, and moisture content. Ash content in flours and grains, and all the dirty jobs around there. I remember really one bad job of mixing the concentrated sodium hydroxide solutions. Boy, when your mixing that, the alkali spatters out ... try to ruin my lungs from breathing that stuff. I had to transfer the sulfuric acid around. Those were some tasks that were not very good. But for fifty cents an hour — that was a really high paying job in those days.

Anyway, you needed money so bad, and you couldn't get off work in those days like you do now. You kept your nose to the grindstone and except for the very gravest of emergencies I normally would have worked to 5:00 o'clock. But I got off work at 4:00 o'clock. Ran home. Rode my bike, or something, as fast as I could. Rudeen Allred, who had recently been married, and his new bride agreed to take us to the temple. My father had to work. He was working in those days at Hill Field [Ogden Arsenal, west of Hill Field] as a railroad engineer or fireman on the railroad within the Hill Field complex, and he couldn't go on account of work. My mother went. Ida Rose's parents couldn't go at that time, because the father was inactive. And the mother could have got a Temple Recommend to go, but decided not to go because her husband couldn't. So that was the wedding party. My mother, Rudeen Allred and his wife, I think her name was Irene, and Mom.

We were married at an evening session. It took a long time. We got out about eleven o'clock. In those days, you didn't plan much ahead, I guess, youth doesn't often, anyway. Oh, we had planned ahead enough to have an apartment to live in while we were going to school. I was a senior that year at the University of Utah. But we couldn't be in that apartment for three days, so we stopped at the Mission Motor Lodge, which is near a warm springs swim place ... I guess it's still there on the south [north] outskirts of Salt Lake City. It used to be the end of the streetcar line. They dropped us off there. Not having much money, I tried to beat him down on the price, and I think I succeeded by about fifty cents. As I remember it, we staid there for something like $3.00 a night ... Maybe $2.50 a night ... for 3 nights.

For our honeymoon, we went to the Utah State Fair, which was there.

Sherlene: Boy, that sounds really great, Dad!

Tracy: Well, we didn't have any money. We did have $300.00, but I had to have that to go to school.

Sherlene: For our honeymoon, we just drove back east, (laughter)

Tracy: Then we moved into Lucy VanCott's apartment on a street there ... I think the street was University Avenue for fifteen dollars a month rent, for a sitting room and an outdoor sleeping porch, which was a little bit cool in the winter time. But, that's where we started our married life.

Sherlene: Who was with you in the temple?

Tracy: Well, I've told you that. Rudeen Allred, his wife, and my mother.

Sherlene: How come grandpa wasn't there?

Tracy: Well, he had to work. You couldn't really get away. In those days you just didn't (get off work). You had to work. You just didn't get off for something like that.

Sherlene: What was your reception like?

Tracy: The reception. I forgot. That's right, we had a reception ... it was held in the Ninth Ward, which was Ida Rose's ward. And put on by her parents mainly. And my parents did a few things. My father was not to the reception either. He had to work for that. My brother Eugene was my best man. We had a picture taken by my friend Darrell Reader at the reception, and as I remember it, Joyce Hall, not yet married to my brother Gene was in the line. I think Bailey, Barbara Bailey, who is now married to Ray Beiling, who was Moms best girl ... What is the opposite of best man? And her parents and my mother, and maybe a few others were in the line. We have a picture of that. It was a dance. That's the way they all were in that day. Many people brought us gifts. We had so many gifts. We had to lug all that stuff down to Salt Lake City later on.

I remember ... you know nowadays, when the wedding is over, the bride and the groom skip out, and other people handle that stuff, but we had to help get all those presents out of there on the way in Grandpa Langford's truck. It was a nice reception. All my friends came and many people were there.

Sherlene: What did Mother look like?

Tracy: Beautiful! She was thin, skinny, probably didn't weigh 125 pounds.

Sherlene: Tell us about the first years of your married life, while you were in school.

Tracy: Well, when Dr. Walter D. Bonner, who was chairman of the chemistry department found out that I was married, he right off gave me a good job. A part-time job. So I'd have enough money. In addition to that I continued to go weekends ... I would hitchhike to Ogden. We usually went by train in those days. You would take the Bamberger Railroad which ran between Ogden and Salt Lake. But that would shoot all my week-end earnings to ride that, so I would hitch-hike up to Ogden, work the night shift. Usually Saturday night, and then sleep at my mother's, and then somehow hitch-hike back to Salt Lake. I don't remember the details of that. I may have gone to church in Ogden. I've forgotten. I think I would go to church in Ogden with my parents, and then hitch-hike back to Salt Lake Sunday evenings. And I kept that up for almost all that year.

Mother got a job working in Woolworths. She had worked at Woolworths in Ogden in the food area. I think she got a job clerking in Woolworths. Paid about twelve dollars a week. When it came June of that year. Time to graduate, we started looking at our financial situation. And I had made so much more money, just working part-time than Mom was able to make in the five and dime store, I said, "I think we can make it by just me earning the living, why don't you quit?" She went and got on the telephone at the neighbor's and called them up and told them she wasn't coming back to work, and that was the end of that

Sherlene: She didn't take much persuading.

Tracy: Mom had a miscarriage while we were still at VanCotts. It could have been a baby to precede you, Sherlene. But she had a miscarriage. The one and only miscarriage she had.

Sherlene: How far along was she?

Tracy: I don't remember. Six weeks, or something like that But, she got really sick one evening. You know, was sort of .... Oh, I don't know how to say it. Almost out of her mind, you know, with pain, and there was nothing I could do to console her. She was too hot. She was too cold. I would try to comfort her and nothing I could do, you know ... and it went on for so long, I decided we needed to get a doctor, so I awakened Miss VanCott, she never did get married. She was dean of women there. Spinster. She said, "She's pregnant, she's had a miscarriage or something." And we didn't... Oh, no, she didn't have a miscarriage or anything. But the next day we decided we better get up to Ogden and get her to a doctor.

Sherlene: You mean you didn't even know if she was pregnant?

Tracy: No! And so we took her to a doctor up in Ogden and he just went to work in the doctor's office right there and ... she was having a miscarriage, and he took that scalpel thing and cleaned her womb all out, you know. You go to a hospital for that nowadays. They did it right there in the doctor's office. When she got out of there she was a new woman and felt perfectly OK. Even after all the trauma of that. She never had another miscarriage.

She went to the doctor for an examination before we were married as you do, you know, and she had a tipped uterus. And the doctor told her she'd have trouble with miscarrying. She would have trouble having babies to full term. But after that first one, she didn't. She did OK.

Sherlene: She had seven children! Do you have any other memories of your first years of your marriage?

Tracy: Oh, I guess there are lots of things. You could go on forever. Really. The important things to talk about ... I buckled down and did better in school after we were married. I was taking too many week-ends to run up to Ogden during the previous year, you know, to see Ida Rose. To see Ida Rose Langford. I'd go almost every week-end. So, once married, I had more time for study, and got more accomplished. That year, I took some of my hardest courses. I was taking electricity magnetism in physics — modem physics, and advanced mathematics of one kind or another, and some of the very difficult courses. I remember this electricity and magnetism course being a particularly difficult one for me. It's a good thing I was married, because I did have more time to buckle down and get that one out of the way.

Sherlene: Where did you live? What was your apartment like?

Tracy: Well, this apartment,as I mentioned, had a sitting room. You shared the kitchen with all kinds of other students ... and the bathroom. A very narrow little tiny living, sitting room, If you want to call it that. And a sleeping porch, just screened in. We slept there winter and summer. That first winter was just freezing out there.

Sherlene: Can you remember what your rent was?

Tracy: Yeah, fifteen dollars a month. Maybe eighteen. It might have been eighteen dollars a month. Mom wanted to move into something that cost $45.00 a month. We had a little friction in those days. I wanted to live just as cheap as you possibly can, and Mom always felt we could live it up a little bit. It's always been that way. (laughter)

Sherlene: Familiar old story. Any specific memories about the birth of Sherlene, Tracy, and David?

Tracy: Oh, yeah. With you, I can't remember. Mom would remember those details better, but I know that ... I can remember getting a taxicab and taking Mom to the LDS Hospital and waiting around outside for hours. I may have gone back to home or school. I don't remember how long it took for you to be born. But you were finally born and you were our pride and joy. We took lots of pictures of you. I can still remember Mom. Young, pretty, skinny ... skinny like Charlotte still is. And you. She was a good mother.

Tracy, Jr. I don't know the details of that. Because you see, I was in the Navy and I was back in Boston, and there was a certain time I could be home, and we thought Tracy might be born just about the time I got home, but he beat me by early morning, as I remember. I got there at maybe ten in the morning and he was born about four in the morning. He was born at Hill Field, where it was cheap because I was in the Navy. You could go to military installations. So, he was born there, and David was born about the time I was getting ... when was David born?

Sherlene: I can remember that I was staying with Grandma Langford when David was born. I don't know if she had all of us, but I know she had me.

Tracy: Seems to me we went to the LDS Hospital. I was going to get a Taxi and pick him up, then Henry Eyring offered to go in his car when we picked Mom up. And I can remember carrying Mom into the car from the wheelchair. In those days, they kept women for I think it was two weeks in hospitals.

Sherlene: Sounds great!

Tracy: They wouldn't let them do a thing. They didn't make them get up and exercise.

Sherlene: They thought it was bad for them.

Tracy: Yeah. And it was bad for them. And it cost more money. Of course, hospital costs weren't bad in those days. You could have a baby for $35.00. Thirty-five dollars is all the doctor would charge. Hospital was probably about the same. Thirty-five dollars. Fifty dollars. But, I think we lived in Stadium Village when David was born. Could that be? Yeah, I think Henry Eyring brought him home. We had three kids.

Sherlene: I can remember looking at David, and I expected this beautiful little baby, because that's what mother said about him over the phone. And he had that clear, fair skin. It was almost transparent and I could see all the little blue blood veins.

Tracy: Yeah, that's right. David was that way.

Sherlene: And I thought that looked kind of funny!

Tracy: Yeah, he was a translucent baby. I remember that too. I think David is still a little bit that way.

Sherlene: He was a beautiful baby! When I look at some of his baby pictures, but I can just remember that impression when he first came back. How did World War II affect your life? Under what circumstances did you first learn of the bombing of Pearl Harbor?

Tracy: Well, I was studying this electricity and magnetism book that I had just mentioned in our little apartment there in Lucy VanCott's. Mother was playing checkers, or some other game, with some of the single men there, which she often did while I was studying. (Ponders a moment, then asks of Ida Rose) What game were you playing with those boys when I was studying when we heard of the bombing?

Ida Rose: We were putting a puzzle together.

Tracy: It was a puzzle you were putting together. OK! And I don't know whether I was listening to the radio. I think I was listening to the radio while I was studying. Yeah, I used to build radios when I was a kid. So we had a radio. Old beat up radio that I was listening to while I was studying. And just suddenly there on the 7th of December 1941. Yeah, we had only been married 3 months. "The Japanese have bombed Pearl Harbor!" And you heard it too, about the same time and came in to tell me, but I had already knew it because I was listening to the radio.

Ida Rose: Somebody came running into the room and said, "The Japs have bombed Pearl Harbor!" And I said, "Where's Pearl Harbor?" And they said, "Hawaii!" And I said, "Oh, they wouldn't dare!"

Tracy: There had been trouble brewing between ... Of course, the Germans, you know, had already been fighting Great Britain and there had been some trouble between the Japanese and the U.S.A. We didn't pay that much attention in those days.

Ida Rose: I didn't even know there was any problem.

Tracy: But, that's the news we got. Yeah, we were scared because we knew what that meant. Young men going in the service.

Ida Rose: My mother had told me that. And I wondered if I ought to marry Tracy or not .... and I was really surprised when she said, "Yes, I think you should get married. You might just as well have a little bit of happiness. There's a war coming.

Sherlene: So she knew that, huh?

Ida Rose: And I didn't pay much attention to it even then because ... I didn't know. I knew that the Germans were fighting over in Germany, and I knew that there was a World War going on, but it just didn't touch us. It hadn't even occurred to me.

Sherlene: So then what happened?

Tracy: Well, we had to get a classification. A draft classification right away, and, of course, at first they weren't taking marrieds. So I was deferred for awhile on account of being married. And then you came along and that added to the deferment

Sherlene: That's why you had me!

Tracy: So if you had kids, that helped a little. But then, eventually, everybody was going into the wars. You finally knew they were going to get you. And rather than be drafted, I enlisted. But they would have had me anyway in a few months. And the reason I enlisted

was that I didn't want to be in the Army. If I was going to be anyplace, I wanted to be in the Navy. And I had heard that you could get ... I wanted to do something technical. I just didn't want to be a guy shooting a gun and that sort of thing. And I had heard that there might be the possibility of getting into electronics, if you were in the Navy. So, I enlisted in the Navy ... You didn't know for sure who they would take. Because on some days they would put you in the Army. Some days they would put you in the Marines. Some days in the Air Force. Some days in the Army. No choice!

Ida Rose: They just had to fill quotas.

Tracy: But, you know, a lot of scuttlebut goes around, and we got that on this day, they were definitely going to be taking you in the Navy. So I definitely got in the Navy. I applied to be an officer. You see, I had a Master's Degree in chemistry, and with a bachelor's degree you were eligible automatically to become an officer. I was working at the Bureau of Mines

End of tape, side 6
. They had just cut my father's mouth to pieces, and he went

H. Tracy Hall oral history, Tape 7,8

Tracy Halls are visiting with us in White Plains, New York. Today is August 8, 1977, and I, Sherlene Bartholemeu, am continuing with a list of questions to Dad, H. Tracy Hall. Continue telling things about how you enlisted during World War n.

Tracy: Well, I knew it was in the day that they were taking people into the Navy. We lived in Stadium Village. It was about March of 1944, and I knew that I would be drafted shortly, so I went up to Fort Douglas, where they were inducting people, it was kind of miserable, the way they herd you around like sheep, in the armed services. And I did get enlisted in the Navy. I think I already told ... maybe I've omitted this part. I tried to get a commision, which I was eligible for, but I could not pass the physical examination. You could automatically be an Ensign if you had a college degree, if you could pass the physical. But, the physical exam for an enlisted man was not as tough as the physical exam for officers. I had tried for a long time to pass the physical examination there in Salt Lake City, but failing that, I went up and got in just as an enlisted man in the Navy. Seaman first class.

Sherlene: How did you fail?

Tracy: My blood pressure was too high. It was 140 over 80,1 think, and in those days they believed it should be your age plus 100, and since I was only about 24 or 25, they didn't want to see a blood-pressure reading over 125 and mine was 140 over 80. So, I became seamon first class and a short while after that I had to get on a troop train and head for Waukeegan, Illinois, area. This was my first trip out of the state of Utah. No, I had been to Idaho as a young kid, I guess. Anyway, it was the first time I had been any distance from home. It was a lonely feeling to be leaving home and be on a troop train full of guys who smoked and swore and were telling stories, and were just not your kind of people. But it was somewhat of an adventure to be in other places. The final destination was called Navy Boot Camp for six weeks at Great Lakes, Illinois. They had a huge barracks area there for a training center.

We were put in these barracks and I had to sleep on the third high bunk. I was up there so high I was scaired I was going to fall off overnight And the guy in the bunk below me puffed his pipe all night long. It was miserable. Then, the next day they stripped us of everything. They made us put everything we had. Any pills, medicines, everything in a box and shipped at our expense back to our wives and family, or whatever. In other words, they stripped us right down to the way we were when we were born. And then they completely clothed us in the new Navy clothing and started us out by putting on their heavy winter underwear and everything else and then marching us for a couple of miles. It was really awfully hot, but I must say, I did feel, as we marched along, some feeling of pride at being called to serve my country, which I felt very strongly about, although no one wants to get sent off to war, I did march along with that definite feeling. Pride in my heart for my country and willingness to serve it

I was in training there for six weeks. It was rather miserable training. Absolute authority from a military organization is always somewhat hard to take because sometimes it's unreasonable, but you have to do it anyway. When I went through the initial medical screening, and by the way, it was cold weather there and we stood around in those unheated buildings with cold floors, just shivering with goose pimples all over for hours in long lines waiting for doctors to inspect you and psychologists, to get your shots and what-not. They would shoot you in the right arm and left arm at the same time - a whole array of shots. You know, I remember just when it came my turn to stand there and get

shot in both arms. I watched them jab a needle into one of the arms of the guy ahead of me and the needle went in his arm, through his flesh, and out his arm, and as they squeezed it to inject the stuff in his arm, it just dripped right on the floor.

During that initial screening, a psychologist talked to me, looked at my record and he said, "You got a master's degree in chemistry?" I said, "Yes!" and he said, "What the blank you doing in the Navy here as an enlilsted man?" He said you could either be staying out by aiding the war effort somewhere as a chemist, or at least you ought to have a commission. "How come you didn't apply for a commission?" So I told him my story of flunking the physical exam. So he said, "Well, we'll fix it up so you will have opportunity to apply for a commission while you are here." Well, I had managed to get in the radar electronics school while I was an enlisted man and that's what I wanted. I had mixed feelings about applying to be an officer, because most officers were being sent into LST boats - landing - I forget the designation. It runs through my mind it was LST boats, anyway, they were the boats that landed on the beaches in the Pacific Ocean in the war against the Japanese. I didn't know that I wanted to be in that end of things. But, I applied, filled out all the forms, and went up for the physical exam for officers and flunked it right off again for the same reasons.

The young physician who gave the exam told me to come back as often as I liked and repeat that examination, and if there was ever a day when my blood pressure would meet the requirements of the Navy, then he would sign me up. So, I went back a couple of times a week for quite awhile and it was always the same story. I didn't pass. So finally this young medical officer took all my papers and put them in a big envelope and said, "I'm sending you up to the chief medical authority on the base with these papers." So I went up to the chief medical man with the papers and told him why I was there. He looked at my records, saw that I had a master's degree in chemistry. He said a few swear words -- the blankety blank Navy doesn't know what they're doing. Crossed out my high blood pressure reading and wrote in a normal blood pressure reading and then within a few days I was wearing a different uniform and now was an Ensign in the United States Navy.

I had to wait there to be assigned to a billet in the Navy, and I had the opportunity to have Ida Rose leave Sherlene, who was our only child at that time, with her mother and come and visit me for a week. When you are an officer you could live off base, but you were the only one who received any payment and no payments for your wife, or transportation, but Ida Rose came back and it was reajly a great reunion to see your wife at that time.
Now, I may be a little bit mixed up in the sequence of events here, I'm not quite sure. We did get to go home after our six weeks boot training, for a few days. That was the idea in those years. You could go home. I didn't get the one week leave or whatever it was, two week leave in full because our train was held up on the ... there were floods on the big rivers, the Misssissipi and Missouri, I forget which one. Our train was held up for 48 hours, so we just stood there in the hot sweltering heat and waited for them to be able to go across the river. So I lost a couple of days. Later on I learned that those who had lost ... many of the people, troops, Navy, what-not, had gone to see a local navy officer somewhere and told him about the loss of two days, and got an additional couple of days leave, but I wasn't smart enough to have done that.

Well, at one point Ida Rose came back for a week. We rented a room in a home there in Waukeegan or nearby. Then she had to go back home. I was sent to a new boot camp. An officer's boot camp at upper New York State on... was it Lake George? The camp was called Camp McDonald. I have forgotten what lake that is on. You could look across the lake into Vermont state. It's a good thing you are getting this recorded, Sherlene. I am forgetting a lot of things in my past. But that was, I think, a month or two at Camp

McDonald. This was near Plattsburg, New York. I was there during the winter months. Cold! Oh, it was cold! The lakes would freeze over. Bitter cold in mat area.

But after that experience there and having to go through boot camp all over again, so to speak, I was sent to a naval training station near Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Between there and Miami, and that place was called Hollywood, Florida. There was the Hollywood Beach Hotel there that had been taken over completely by the Navy. Ida Rose was able to go with me. I guess I went home after the Camp McDonald experience. Yeah, I'm sure I did. We got on the train and went all the way to Florida. We were being trained there in navigation and other things of that nature to be on these landing boats. To be the skipper on these landing boats. The beaches were there. It was the first time I had seen the Atlantic Ocean. I remember what a thrill it was when I first saw the Atlantic Ocean. Apartments were always rather expensive and very poor quality. I had to live at the base. I could go home weekends. Ida Rose and Sherlene lived in the apartment. But they spent their days on the beach there and Sherlene would run up and down the sand and play in the water and do all kinds of interesting things. Very pleasant swimming in the water there. Sometimes there would be shark scares. There was a Portuguese man-of-war floating about. You had to look out for.

Now, as we got our training there .. I noticed as I was rounding a corner in a building one day, a notice that there was an opening for three officers to go to officers radar school at Bowdin College in Brunswick, Main. There was an examination to be given on a certain date. So I quickly signed up for the examination, took the oral interview, and then took the exam. There were somewhere around thirty or forty men at that examination. Most of them were graduate electrical engineers. But the men who were selected were all chemists. Two chemical engineers and myself as a chemist. Now the reason we were selected was because of the nature of the exam. It was not an examination in your knowledge of electrical entineering, but rather an examination of your knowledge in mathematics and physical science in general. I think there were physics and the 3 of us did better on that examination than did the electrical engineers.

Well, I might say just a little bit more about life there. It was extremely pleasant at that resort hotel with its nice beaches and what-not We took all kinds of pictures of our only child then who was Sherlene. She just roamed the beach, sort of freely, and- had a good time with all the sailors and everybody else, and actually got to be ~ I don't know how old she would have been then, maybe only one and a half years old. But the commandant's daughter took a liking to Sherlene and Sherlene was up with this daughter and the chief Navy man who was in charge of the whole affair and all over the place. She would walk into the secret ... you know lots of secrets that they would teach you about Navy ships and planes and warfare and what-not in general, and she would just go in those - of course, she was too little to be a spy or anything, but I can remember how amused they were at her going in to those places where these confidential movies and what-not were being shown ~ secret Navy stuff.

We left Florida on a train and went to Brunswick, Maine. I think it was in December, maybe it was January or February. Anyway it was winter time. When we arrived at Brunswick, Maine, it was just extreme contrast of warm Hollywood, Florida. The snow was deep, up to the eaves, the temperature was extremely low. It was very difficult to find a place to live. And we lived in a very low quality apartment. In which we couldn't do our own cooking. And so it was difficult for us to eat. We hated to eat out. There was only one very poor place to eat out in town that we could possibly afford. And my wife, Ida Rose, still remembers how much she hated the clam chowder soup that we used to eat very often there because it was cheap.

The training there was very good. It was the kind of thing that I had always wanted. I had always been interested in electronics and had studied some at the university in the area and here I was studying the very latest in electronics all at Navy expense. I believe that school lasted for four months and we became acquainted with some of the other officers and their wives, and, a Jack and Dorothy Wydick, who had a son named Charles Michael, a young son about the age of our Sherlene. Dorothy and Ida Rose went to Boston, because we were going to be transferred to MJT radar school, which was held in what was called the Harbor Building. Dorothy, or Dottie, and Ida Rose went to Bostom, the Cambridge area to try to find a place to live. They rented a home in Cambridge, I've forgotten the name of the avenue it was on. Not too far from Harvard University. It was the home of an architect who taught at Harvard who was on leave. The house cost something like $100.00 a month. We could not afford it as a single family. That's why we went in together. So two families lived in the same house. That is the only way we could have our families with us and afford to be there. By the way, my pay when I was an enlisted man, was $80.00 a month. Which was not very much money. I was working at the Bureau of Mines and making about $1800.00 a year, which you see is a lot more than $80.00 times 12 is $960.00 a year. It was only half as much to live on.

Sherlene: What was the name of that street, again, that you lived on at Harvard?

Tracy: I've forgotten. I don't know what the name of the street was.

Sherlene: Mom told me once and I went there.

Tracy: Trowbridge. Trowbridge Street. Mom and I have been back and walked by that house on one occasion a number of years ago.

Sherlene: I went to see it, too, when I was in Boston.

Tracy: I forget the address. It's probably on old letters that are still hanging around. But it was rather enjoyable there in Boston. And now we really got into all the modem electronics. Microwaves, wave guides, coaxial cables, cathode ray tubes with their displays of the information. We learned all that technology, which was confidential and secret, navy stuff not generally available to the public. And much of this had been developed right there at MJT. It was called the radiation laboratory. It was all very interesting and very exciting.

By the way, I saw my first radar while I was an officer in training down at Hollywood Beach. Part of the training was to send us to the Bahamas on submarine chasing boats. Now, what the navy had done ... They had condemned all large boats that any wealthy people owned. Any kind of a fishing boat or a yacht or what-not, the navy had taken them all over. And had made them into really rather crude submarine chasing boats. We had 55 gallon drums filled with dynamite and a depth charge sensing device so that when it reached a certain depth it would shoot it off, and so we practiced with these boats. Rolling these things off the rear of the ship. There were submarine scares in that area, because submarines had been sighted in the vicinity of the Hollywood Beach Hotel on occasion. And so there was the possibility that you could encounter real German submarines - U Boats on the way to the Bahamas.

But I got sea-sick and so did most others get sea-sick. These smaller craft would just roll and pitch and drive you out of your mind. Being sea-sick is about as sick as you can possibly be. I finally got over that though, and then saw these beautiful blue waters in the Bahamas. Had a brief shore leave. I don't believe we were in the Bahamas more than a few hours. Threw coins into the very blue and beautiful waters while the native boys

around would dive and pick up these coins. But, most of us got so sick we couldn't use the navigation that we had been taught. The navigation by the moon and the stars and the sun. I can only remember two guys. One really athletic ... really good kid, I can't remember what his name was, managed not to get sea-sick and he would take care of the navigational chores. But when it came night they would turn on the radar, which I didn't even know existed, and here on the radar we could see our whole stream of ten of these boats following the leader on die way to the Bahamas.

Now they had an experienced chief and maybe a couple of crew members in charge of these boats. But tiiey turned over to us, you know, so we could learn how to be the man who ran the boats. In addition to learning the radar at the MIT radar school ... and by the way, they really poured it on. You had four hours of lecture five days a week, and in the afternoon you had four hours of laboratory. And then every Saturday morning, you had a four hour examination. And this intensive training went on for four and a half months. Now the competition there was fierce. We may have ... the three of us who were not electrical engineers, may have passed that examination ahead of these guys. But these guys knew their electrical engineering. They knew about all the complications of impedence, admittance, inductance, and capacitance. Now I knew these things in a general way, but I did not know them in a mathematical way. And we had to get slide rules that were electronic slide rules, and learn how to calculate this stuff. Which is ratiier complicated. And I learned to do it, but not rapidly. The electrical engineers knew how to do it rapidly.

I got out of die school with what I think was a C+ grade. By the way, you got credit at MTT for this. It was the kind of a course that was better than any college course I had ever had in its intensity and the depth you went into it. I felt very good to have gotten a C+ competing against bachelor's and master's degrees and electrical engineers who were at leat 99% of the people who were taking tiiis course. My problem was diat this course at MIT started off assuming mat you already had a bachelor's in electrical engineering and that's what made it so hard to keep up. It was just a matter of not enough time in the day to learn to be an electical engineer. Learn what an electrical engineer already knew, and in addition take tins advanced stuff diat was being taught on die presumption that you already had a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering. Somewhere I have a certificate saying I completed that school.

We also went for training for, I think, one month, or one and one half months at a time, to die underwater sound laboratory at Harvard University. This was die place where diey developed the sonar equipment. And diat was amazing and very interesting stuff. Now after I finished tiiis, I applied for additional training on top of tiiis, which was given at the Honolulu Navy Base, and so I spent, I think, two months — two and a half months, something like diat in Honolulu, Hawaii, learning other kinds of radar. It turned out not to be additional training in the theory, but it was more practical training. We had been learning all me navy radar. Now they wanted to teach us specific radar that applied to aircraft and army radar and otiier branches. In particularly, the aircraft radar, so that we would be qualified to service any kind of radar we might come up against.

Well, while we were in Boston, Ida Rose was pregnant with Tracy, Jr., and she left two weeks or a montii before I left. I had to stay to complete the training. I came home die morning that Tracy, Jr., was born, but something like ... I mink Tracy, Jr., was born early in the morning, maybe four to six AM, and I got home maybe at ten or twelve noon. So I just missed the birth. Well, I had some leave there and men went on to Honolulu. Now, when I was completed witii mat training ...

Sherlene: You are supposed to tell of some of your emotions at having a son bom. (laugher) I'm not jealous!

Tracy: Finally getting a son now. Let's see. I hope I'm getting this sequence correct. I guess I got leave after I was through with .... Well, I wanted to mention that the war ended while I was at Boston.

Sherlene: Oh, somewhere I heard that it ended while you were out on a boat. You were on your way to another war or something.

Tracy: Well, let me think. Now, the Germans had to surrender at one point. Now where did that occur? Oh, there is one other interesting thing I should mention. I heard of thre atomic bomb going off at radar school, Harbor Building. And that's the first I knew of the atomic bomb. But, as I heard of that, I immediately came to my senses. I had just not put two and two together, as scientists could have done who had any incling of this. Because I remembered them talking in my modern physics classes after I heard that that bomb went off. Oh, yeah, they had conducted these experiments on neutrons and what-not. I should have know that there was something like this in the wind. And another thing immediately came to my mind. When you were working in science during the war, they figured they needed scientists, and most scientists ... most of my friends, for instance, the guys I went to work with at General Electric Company. They hadn't been in the war. They had been employed as scientists with their bachelor's degrees and master's degrees. As a matter of fact, many of them went to school and got their degrees while they were working for a company during the war. They weren't in the army or navy with as much training as I was.

Now, I was working for the Bureau of Mines in Salt Lake City, and they had given me deferments for awhile, but apparently felt that there work wasn't critical enough to the national defense that I should be deferred any longer. But, I had received job offers. The big companies like Westinghouse and General Electric were around trying to get scientists into things that were closely associated with defense. And Westinghouse had approached me one time, and wanted me to come east to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, or somewhere in that area, and were willing to pay all my expenses to get me there and talk to me. And I said, "Well, tell me what the job's about right here, so I know whether or not I have any interest." And they never would. It was a very top-secret type of thing that you would be involved with. And, of course, that would have been working in this area with the atom bomb. I just wasn't smart enough to have recognized that. I could have been out of the war and perhaps been further along and gone to graduate school like

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On first hearing that this atom bomb had been dropped, and of its destructive power, I immediately, in my mind, had an understanding of what that was all about. I've often wondered how come I was so naive as to not have recognized that before, and perhaps not taken that job at Westinghouse. And other opportunities that I am certain were available if I had had the right contacts, or if people, teachers, and others, had been on their toes and been directing me. Perhaps they were. I think there people who encouraged me to take that job at Westinghouse, but I wanted to stay there in Zion. I didn't have any desire to trapse off to Pennsylvania.

Well, somewhere along the line, the war with the Germans ended, and I'm wondering if that didn't happen when we were in Brunswick, Maine. I'm pretty sure that ... I remember Roosevelt died and Truman came into power as President while we were at Brunswick, Maine. And I guess it was Truman who decided to drop the bomb. Anyway, I've lost track of where the war with Germany ended [May 8, 1945], but with the

Japanese, that ended while I was there in the Boston area. [Atomic bombs were dropped on Japan on August 6 and August 9, 1945. Formal papers were signed ending the war, September 2, 1945.}

Well, Mom was home so she didn't get to see tfiis part, but I went out on the streets with everybody else and the streets of Boston, Cambridge, everywhere, just everyone, there were no one in their houses. Everybody was outside. Whistles and sirens and lights, fireworks and firecrackers, and just one big mass demonstration of, you know, gratitude, I guess. The war was finally over, and, you know, we were blacked out. When it comes to lights at night, they were afraid bombers at might reach the United States, and the lights were out at night. And there were other security measures; but, now the lights were back on an everybody was really whooping it up. That went on all night long. I didn't stay up all night, but I probably staid up until past midnight on that thing before I went to bed. So, I saw that experience that went on in all big cities. I heard the same thing. Just everybody out in the streets whooping it up. The war was over!

I, of course, was extremely grateful that the war was over along with everybody else. To know that any big terrible war had finally ended would make your heart full of gratitude and, looking forward to being out of it and being back to normal life, back to school and so on.

Well, after the additional training at Honolulu Naval Base, I was assigned to my first ship. It was an electronics ship, a communications ship. In the old days of the navy I understand that the captain of die fleet, or the commander of the fleet was on the battleship. But here at least at the end of World War II, the bigwigs, the big commanding top people were called AGC ships. The AGC ship ... I was on AGC 14. It had all the radar gear, all the communications. It only had light defense — just small guns and it was intended that this ship be protected by the larger ships in the fleet and the fleet's aircraft. This was the ship that was loaded from stem to stern with all of the detection equipment and all of the communications equipment. Now this ship actually staid in the San Francisco harbor for ... oh, I don't know how long - a couple of months, something like that, and I was the chief radar officer aboard that ship. I had a couple of enlisted men who worked for me to keep the radar gear in shape.

Now this ship was scheduled to go to the Far East. Now the war was over they were de-enlisting people, so to speak. You could get out of the navy and there was a point system for getting out. If you had a lot of kids, that was a lot of points to get you out. The years of service you had — this, that and the other, all counted towards how soon you would get out. I was close enough to having enough points to get out, but they decided to release me from the AGC because if I had gone to the Orient I could have been there maybe another six months or so, way past my due time to get out. Now the navy didn't have to let you out if they felt they needed you, you couldn't.

I was in pretty good graces with the captain on the AGC. The full brass, you know, the commander of the fleet wasn't on that ship. A lesser man commander, as I remember it, was in charge of the ship because it was just sitting there in the harbor at that point The war was over. Once the war was over the navy fell apart, so to speak. The stiff firm discipline and ship-shape sort of things just went by the board. I know shore leave was frequent and the guys would go ashore and they would bring girls back and take them down in all the secret radar areas, and all the other navy secrets were laid open because nobody seemed to care. The war was over and discipline and... oh, morals and everything else, which had already pretty much gone to pot all in the world, just all the more so.

I would maintain the navy discipline, myself. I would salute the commander when I was supposed to. I don't know. I just felt there was no reason to start acting like a slob, and the commander seemed to appreciate that. I was one of the ... well, I really never saw anybody else take care of those things the way they are supposed to on the ship. I would wear my navy hat when I was supposed to, and wear the clothing I was supposed to, and I think the commander noticed that and liked that. When I had an opportunity to go on leave, he let me go a litde bit early, so I could catch a train.

That was an experience! I waited... you couldn't get a reservation on a train in those days, anyway, and with the war over and troops being transported home, it was almost impossible to get on a train. I went, purchased a ticket at the nearest place. I think it was ... I can't think of the name of the place. It was a place where Sperry Mills had headquarters. I worked for Sperry Mills in Ogden, and we were sort of a satellite of this place near San Francisco on the Oakland side, I believe, where they had grain facilities. Where grain could be brought from ships or loaded on ships. Anyway, I waited while train after train went by. I tell you, trains would go by four or five every hour. Always filled. No room, no room! And some of the trains that came by were troop trains where there really was room, but the conductors wouldn't let me aboard.

Well, finally as I saw this, a lot of these really weren't regular trains and I had a ticket, but you were supposed to have some kind of troop train ticket to be on these trains, and they weren't completely filled .. I finally just sort of, you know, told the guy, "Man, this is the hundredth train that has gone by, I've been waiting all night. I've got to get on this train." So he let me get on and I walked through the train and there were lots of ... it was army, there was no navy on there, but there were army officers and lots of empty bunks ... well, I was too non-pushy in those days, so I went to a baggage area and I just flopped out on top of the baggage and slept what I could till the next morning. Then one of the army guys came by and said, "Did you sleep up here all night?" And I said, Yes." He said, "Well, we could have given you a good bed back there in the officers section of the train." Anyway, it was good to get home again.

After leaving that ship I was assigned to the Oakland Navy Depot as officer in charge of electron tube storage. I never believed that the world could manufacture as many electron tubes as they had stored there. There was really not much to do, and that warehouse was so mixed up! They had given me the assignment to straighten out all the tubes and get everything organized. It had got all mixed up. I don't know whether that had happened during the rush of the war or what-not, but they just had millions and millions of dollars worth of tubes there, and I was just appalled at the way the regular navy help and the civilian help that they had there treated things. The war was over, they were getting then-pay. Nobody did anything but sit around and play cards, drink coffee, and tell dirty jokes. They didn't care about those electron tubes. They would take their fork-lift and they would just run into a batch of tubes that maybe cost a couple of hundred thousand dollars and break them all up and nobody gave a darn.

Anyway, there was so much time on my hands, and I knew I was going to go back to school when I got out, that I got out my physical chemistry book and I just studied my physical chemistry book all day long. As much as I could stand. Learned it backwards and forwards. And that time was very well spent to have done that Well, I finally was released from the navy, I mink in April of 1946. I had been in the service just about two years. Maybe one month longer, one mondi shorter. I was eligible to become a Lieutenant, Junior Grade. You see early in the war you advanced rapidly in rank no matter where you were, and that was proper that that should be so, but I got in the war late, was not out in active areas of combat, and was advanced very slowly. But the war was over

and I didn't care and I never did to to pick up my Leiutenant J.G. grade rank which I was eligible for.

I was mustered out of the service, as I remember it, either at the naval depot in Clearfield. That was the placy. There was a naval depot storage area in Clearfield, Utah, and was mustered out of the service at that point. Now one advantage of being in the war was that you were now eligible for the G.I. Bill of Rights, and that paid something like $100 a month to you while you were going to school, and without that I never would have been able to continue school. Now my former teachers at the University of Utah, where I had obtained both my master's and bachelor's degrees, principally Walter D. Bonner and Victor G. Beard, had sent a lot of their students to Purdue University, and they thought that's where I should go, and there was a specific man there in physical chemistry that they thought I ought to go there for and work for. I've forgotten that man's name. I believe it was ... I.. nope, I've forgotten it.

Well, so I made all the arrangements to go to Purdue University and was accepted there as a student. I was told to come out alone and that later on I would be able to bring my wife in about a month. They were building housing for students and their wives. Well, I took that risk and went out. When I got out there and surveyed the situation ... they hadn't even started to build the accomodations that were supposed to be available for teaching assistants and their wives — I was going mere as a teaching assistant — They hadn't even started to build them yet, and I could not find a thing in town anywhere that we could have possibly afforded. Furthermore, there was no place for you to work as a graduate student. I had a room all to myself for my master's degree research at the University of Utah. They didn't have a place for a student to hang his hat. At Purdue in those days all Freshmen had to take chemistry. They had that rule — every entering Freshman had to take chemistry and there were thousands of Freshman students. And so, I recognized that the incoming students were just slave labor. We had to work for a couple of years as a student before they would even let us start on our PhD, and I already had my master's degree and this was disheartening.

I took their various entrance examinations. I did very well on everything, particularly physical chemistry, and that was as a result of studying my Getman and Daniels until I knew it backwards and forwards, but I didn't do too well in organic chemistry. And on that account I had to take their own special Purdue organic chemistry course, which would slow you down some, too. Well, after six weeks of this, I was really getting discouraged. I wanted to get out of there, but, a Dr. Haas, I forget his first name, was chairman of the department and he wasn't going to let any of those graduate teaching assistants go. He had to have them to teach those Freshman classes. There was supposed to be a new chemistry building constructed, but at this time they just had an old chemistry area which was too small for what they needed. Well, Haas threatened to blackmail me if I should leave. He said, "I'll fix it so you can never be a member of The American Chemical Society, and never get enrolled at any other school," and so on and so forth.
I was kind of desperate and I had been sick with the flu there and, you know, when your family is away, that didn't feel too good. There was no church there and I couldn't locate any other Latter-day Saints in the area.

Sherlene: And Mom was getting very restless!

Tracy: Yea, and so I decided, to heck with them, I'm going home anyway. I called Dr. Bonner meantime to see what I should do, and he called Yale University and he said he could fix it up so that I could go to Yale University and work for Hamad. I considered that some, but I didn't think that that was what I really ought to do. Now there was another.. by the way, the physical chemistry teacher that I was supposed to work for there, didn't

ever come back. He had been out working on the Atomic bomb during the war and he didn't come back to Purdue. My teachers at Utah should have determined that that was the fact before sending me out there.

But, there was a new young physical chemistry teacher there who was fresh out of school with no reputation yet, and I talked to him about my problems and he says, "What you ought to do is to go back to school at the University of Utah. A man by the name of Henry Eyring has just gone back there. He is a world famous chemist and if you went back there, you could probably work for him. And if I were you," he says, "I shouldn't say this to you because we need people here at Purdue, but," he says, "there is really no one here who has die reputation that is anywhere near this man," you know. With this other guy not coming back, and he just being a young man just starting there. He says, "there is really nothing for you here at Purdue. I would just go back there."

So, I took that advice. Went back to the University of Utah and became Henry Eyring's first student. At least his first student to graduate under Henry Eyring at the University of Utah. I got my degree there in 1948 at the end fo the summer term. I was the 4th PhD to graduate from the University of Utah. They had a medical school and were graduating lots of.. for the time, lots of people in medicine at that August commencement. But I was the only PhD to graduate at that August commencement. And I can still hear the applause and how good that felt. There were so many medicals, it was commonplace, and they had already been doing that and they got just ordinary applause, but as the only PhD ... this hood was put on me by Henry Erying, who was dean of the graduate school, and by A. Ray Olpin, who was the president of the University. And I have been very great friends with these two for a long time. Since graduating there. And, also, of Carl Christensen, who was the director of research at the Unviersity of Utah for many years. Came about the same time as Eyring.

During the period between the time I was released from the service and waiting for school to start in the Fall, I had worked again at the U.S Bureau of Mines and made a little bit of money during the summer. As a matter of fact they would have taken me back full-time, but I figured that I was better to go on and get my PhD. We had considered quitting .. we had lots of temptations. We were young and poor and hardly enough to make ends meet. In the last quarter of my senior year in chemistry, I was tempted by offers from Sperry Flour Mills. I've forgotten the name of the boss there in the lab there in Ogden, but he wanted me to go on full-time there. With what seemed like a tremendous amount of money and all kinds of opportunity. I said to him, "Yeah, but I just don't want to do these routine analyses all day, I want to do some research." "Oh, you can have all kinds of opportunity to do that on the side when there is free time." .. and what not, which really wasn't the case.

But, Ida Rose and I went to talk to Dr. Bonner about this temptation. I don't remember the words he said, but just instantly we knew we shouldn't do that thing, and I'm certainly glad he saved us from that. Because with my powerful interest in science, I would have never... I wouldn't have belonged to the club of the PhD's and I would never have been able to do what I have been able to do.

Well, after receiving that degree, I started looking for a job. That's not the way you ought to do it, you ought to be looking long before you get your degree. We sent out postcards to various big companies, including the General Electric Company that I always wanted to work for, asking if they had any employment opportunities. Well, the General Electric people said they didn't have any. But DuPont, Eastman, and some other companies answered the post-cards. Sent me forms to fill out. All we were requesting on the post cards was, "Send us some application forms." We wanted to save money on

postage. We didn't have much money. But I learned later on at General Electric Company that they just assumed that I was a no-good hillbilly because I had sent in this post card and was advised at the time I quit General Electric, they were talking to Glen Giddings, who was the personnel officer. He wanted to give me this advice, "If you ever apply for a job again. Never send in a post card. You know, that's just not done." And, of course, he was correct, but, you know, if you're a poor boy from the country, you don't know all the rules of etiquette, and, after all, other companies had answered my post card.

Well, I went out on a recruiting trip, these companies all offering to pay my way. And I decided to call the General Electric Company or write to them, I've forgetten which, and tell them that I was coming on this trip, and couldn't I, just please, stop off in Schenectady since it was on the way, and talk to them. Well, they reluctantly agreed to let me do that, but didn't offer me any funds for paying part of the trip. The other companies, we prorated the cost of that trip among all those companies.

Most of the companies were surprised to learn that I had already graduated. Because, as I say, I was kind of dumb. I should have been out looking for a job before I had actually arrived at the graduation point. But I waited until I had my degree in hand and then started to look for a job. There were job opportunities right there at the Bureau of Mines. I could have gone to work at the Bureau of Mines. I went on this trip and they seemed to like me quite well at Eastman Kodak Company. When I arrived at Boundbrook, New Jersey, I went to see an old teacher of mine .. a former teacher of mine ... Wangsgard — Alton Wangsgard, who had taught math to me in the ninth grade at Lewis Junior High School in Ogden. He had a PhD at that time, but couldn't get a job with his PhD in physics so he took a schoolteaching job. Of course, he knew his stuff in mathematics, and most of the gradeschool teachers that I had met prior to that time ... I knew more about mathematics than they knew. So, I always liked him, because he had all this firm solid knowledge and could teach us the real genuine stuff first hand. He worked for that time at Union Carbide, as I remember, and he had me interview there for a job. I remember I wore a hat in those days. To look like a proper young man, you wore a hat. And I left my hat at Wangsgards and they came chasing me and just caught me at the train before I took off. To give me my hat back.

In those days, I also stopped off in that same general area because I knew of the famous Harvey Fletcher, director of physical research at the Bell Telephone Laboratories, and I went to Sunday School class there, I think, at Shorthills, New Jersey area where he was teacher of the Gospel Doctrine class, to make sure I could see this great man. I don't know if I had nerve enough to go up and shake his hand, or not, but at least, you know, I got to see him.

Sherlene: Later you got to be very good friends with him, didn't you?

Tracy: Yes, I did. At DuPont, I interviewed in Wilmington, and I interviewed in three other locations. They sent me down south to a place where they made paint and a place where they made textile stuff. There were three or four locations DuPont sent me to. Now, I was very well liked. They let it be known at every place. They really liked me and wanted to hire me. And later on were disappointed when I turned down their job offer. I could have worked at any of those places. They all wanted me.

Well, when I was back home in Salt Lake City, and we lived at this time in our lives ... I guess we were living in Stadium Village. I've forgotten the address. Anyway, it was housing that had been moved in. Housing that they had kept the Japanese in out in the desert areas of Utah in this temporary housing during the war, when they thought the Japanese might turn traitor. They moved that housing in to near the university and young

couples got to live in that at a reasonable rent. Which made life very enjoyable, and some of the happiest times of our life were there. We seemed to get along very well on our hundred dollars a month, plus a little extra that I would earn here and there ... and then with all these other young people.

Sherlene: I can remember you making us toys by hand when we were little kids. You made me a little paper umbrella that went up and down and you made me a little rocking...

Tracy: I made little chairs, too. Four little chairs for all the kids. And, I guess, a little rocking cradle. Yeah, that's right.

Well, I got offers from everyone. All at about the same amount of money, somewhere around $5900.00 a year. But no offer from General Electric. I kept putting these other companies off waiting for an offer from General Electric Company. And probably if I hadn't got an offer from General Electric Company, I may have gone to work at the Bureau of Mines in Salt Lake City. I'm glad that didn't happen that way. Well, I called or wrote letters to this Glen Giddings who was in charge of personnel at General Electric. Well, they had to keep waiting and keep waiting. Giddings didn't have results yet.

I need to tell a little other background there. The man who spent the most time with me when I interviewed at General Electric was a fairly young man, probably only four or five years older than I, by the name of William Cass. Bill Cass. But he was very friendly. He was friendly to everybody. He was just a really nice guy. A nice type of person. He was very friendly to me and told me ... frankly, he liked me and he wished that they would hire me. He says, "As a matter of fact, I want to tell you," he says. "They don't want to hire you." He says, "The chairman of chemistry, a guy by the name of Abraham Lincoln Marshall, and others who had looked at me didn't want to hire me." He says, "Perhaps, one of the reaons they didn't want to was that they didn't like Henry Eyring too well. Now I had good recommendations from Henry Eyring, and besides that, they had hired one of Henry Eyring's students one time, and he just turned out to be no good to them. They figured Henry was too theoretical and that they needed guys with more practical training. It was obvious to Cass that I had the practical training. I had gone through the hoops with all of Henry Eyring's theoretical stuff, but I had a practical part to my thesis and I was a practical man. He says that if I really wanted to be hired, he could talk them into hiring me. So, he wanted to know what my wishes were under the circumstances he told me about. I told him I wanted to be hired.

Well, I waited and waited and waited and finally, a phone call came to me when I was in the library at the University of Utah studying, and this phone call was from Glen Giddings, and he made me an offer of $6200.00 a year, which was actually more than others had offered me. Well, I talked to my friends Carl Christensen and Henry Eyring, I had an offer from the U.S. Bureau of Mines, which was quite a bit less than that. I think probably $2000.00 less, only around $4200.00, or something. I had always preferred to work in Utah, and was somewhat torn between my desires to work for the General Electric Company, which was an offshoot of Edison, one of my heroes, and staying there in Zion, where I had an opportunity to work for the Bureau of Mines. Eyring's and Carl Christensen's advice was to take the job and go east.

So, we did. We had an old car. An old Plymouth that had been in a wreck and leaned to one side, the inside of the car...

End of tape, side 8.
definitely in my notebook as my idea.

Tracy: Today is August 8,1977, we're at the home of Sherlene and Daniel Bartholomeu on Green Ridge Avenue in White Plains, New York, continuing on with the oral History of H. Tracy Hall, who is speaking:

I was talking about our old Plymouth automobile, it was an old 1938 four door sedan, gray in color. I purchased it from my brother Eugene. He and his wife Joyce Hansen were also living in Stadium Village at this point, and Gene was going to Pharmacy school. .... have a hard time remembering who was in Stadium Village at the same time we were. There was George R. Hill there, who was superintendant of a junior Sunday School. I've forgotten what the arrangment was. This was the beginnings of student wards. Here was this huge development put in place by the University of Utah. I guess it was the first time there had ever been married students on campus, and here was this University Ward, which was the richest ward in the area, in those days. What are you going to do with all these students who are now in your ward boundaries? I remember hearing some of the brethren complain quite a bit about these students, who don't have any money, who want to come here and be in our ward. Now there was a .... I don't recall that there was a separate student ward organization in those days. It was the beginnings of such things. There was a special Sunday School for the kids from up there, a junior Sunday School, and George Hill was the superintendant of that, and Ida Rose was the Junior Sunday School coordinator. So George R. Hill, who was the son of the General Superintendant of the Sunday School under President David O. McKay. We have known George and his wife Melba for many years.

One thing I can remember at that ward ... This may have been in the years when I was a student by myself, unmarried, you see, after graduating from Weber College in ... I guess it would have been in June of 1939,1 worked for this Denton Checketts to earn enough money to go down to the University of Utah. Now some of my friends had already gone on there because they could afford to do that, and I couldn't. At Weber College, I and some of my friends, including Lane Compton and Darrell Reader and Vern Stromberg and others, took their engineering course, their sort of pre-engineering course. The reason for this was that you got to take more science that way. So, I registered as though I was going into chemical engineering. And so did some of my friends. It also got us out of a lot of the kind of courses we didn't like too much. Some of the history, perhaps, and the general arts, and sociology, and what-not. But, taking an engineering course, you got to take neat things like geology, mechanical drawing, and drafting. Learn how to survey, take science up to your ears of everything available in physics and chemistry.

But, anyway, I graduated from there in what would have had to be June of 1939. Then worked for a year and went back to school then as a student at the University of Utah, where I found out they had no chemical engineering and the only thing I could do would be to take chemistry and then I had to go back and pick up all those liberal arts things. Including a foreign language, German, which I did, and which I liked. But, some of the sociology things and the health courses and other things, I didn't appreciate too much. It set me back a little bit, but I made it all up by going to school summers and what-not. I don't know that I went summer. I certainly didn't that year. Later on when I was married, I went to school constantly, summer and everything. I guess I didn't the following summer.

Anyway, I lived over on one of the Avenues. I think it was Oak Street, with a family. A friend, Jack Barrett, who couldn't find work in Ogden, came down and lived with me there later on. Just a sleeping room with a hot-plate so that you could warm up some soup. And Jack Barrett was down there working for an electric sign company. The rent was about $15.00 a month, as I remember it. And I think that when we were together, she let

us split it, which was only $7.50 a month, or perhaps $8.00 or $9.00 a month for each of the two of us. We had to sleep in the same bed.

Anyway, during that year, the Elder's Quorum teacher was a very wonderful teacher. His name was Nibley ... now let me see which Nibley, I've got to get him picked out. I can't think of his name, but he wrote a book, one of them which I have on Brigham Young. He was kind of a hftorian. He may have been an assistant church historian, or something like that, for all I know. But, his knowledge of church history was phenomenal. And he was the Elder's Quorum teacher, and it was really a pleasure to have him as a teacher. Now I cannot remember who the Elder's Quorum teacher may have been when we lived in Stadium Village, which would have been .. oh, six years later. I know that this man who was an uncle of Hugh Nibley of B YU and Reed Nibley, the concert pianist at the B YU. He may still have been teaching that, as it runs through my mind he taught that Elder's Quorum class in the Univeristy Ward for years.

Beyond that I don't remember a great deal about church organization there. I don't even remember holding any church jobs while I was in Stadium Village. And that may have been true of a number of people there. I just don't know. It seems to me, though, that now that I reflect on that situation a little bit, we did have our own separate branch, and that Reed Burnett, who we knew later on in Schenectady. Because they went to Schenectady as an electrical engineer, or as a mechanical engineer, and Verna May his wife. I think that Reed was the Branch President there in the University Ward area.

As I remember those years at Stadium Village, it was study, study, study. Mom knew lots of people and Mom will talk about people to this day, and I can't remember them to save my neck. But those were years that required a very great deal of study because a background in chemistry that probably wasn't as good as if you had been at some other universities, and Henry Eyring and other new people were bringing in material that was very advanced and took'an awful lot of work and effort to do that and take care of your family as much as you could, so our social life and church life during Stadium Village deals, about all I can remember, is that they were enoyable. Let me ask Mom, she just walked in.

When we first went to Stadium Village, did we right off have a branch orgranization for Stadium Village or were we with the University Ward and it gradually ...

Ida Rose: No. No. It was always a branch. We were never connected with the University. Now stay here for a minute. I get mixed up, I guess, because when I was there alone, before I was married, I get those days at University Ward confused with ..

Ida Rose: Oh, you mean when we were at Stadium Village.

Tracy: Stadium Village.

Ida Rose: Oh, I was thinking of Schenectady.

Tracy: Stadium Village. Was Reed Burnett the Branch President there in Stadium Village?

Ida Rose: Yes, and that was after they cut us off the University Ward

Tracy: That was later wasn't it?

Ida Rose: The University Branch was connected.. while we were at Lucy's, we were always with the University. That's where we went. We went to the University Branch

while we were at Lucy's, but when they organized the Stadium Village Branch. I think for a little while we went to the University, the student branch. But then there were so many of us with so many kids they organized a separate branch and they put us in the University Ward, but we were a separate branch, and they didn't like us there, because we had so many kids.

Tracy: There was one other reason .. One other thing, too, that just comes to my mind, as I try to search it for these years ago. I was the organist for the YMMIA and the YWMIA when Victor Beard was the Young Men's President in a...

Ida Rose: That was before the war

Tracy: In another ward. Not the University Ward.
Ida Rose: That was while we were down on 309 13th East moved from Lucy Van Cott's.
... when we caaae-baek. That was after
Sherlene was born.

Tracy: And I don't remember the exact circumstances there. I don't know that we went to church there. He just had me special coming over for MIA because he couldn't get anybody ... I've forgotten. And I don't remember anybody else ..

Ida Rose: I think that was the ward we were in because the

Tracy: I don't think I can remember having had a church job during the two years we were at Stadium Village. Is that right?

Ida Rose: You had one. Was I even a home teacher?

Ida Rose: I don't even remember you being a home teacher.

Tracy: I don't either.

Ida Rose: There were so many students, and I, I... I don't think they had organized the home teachers. They just operated differently. No, I don't think you had a church job.

Tracy: I don't remember one.

Ida Rose: I was just going over that on our tape and I decided the same thing.

Tracy: Well, anyway,...

Ida Rose: You had to take care of the kids. When a woman had a church job, it was the Sunday School, and then they left the man free for Sunday School. Were you teaching ... No, you weren't teaching nights. You were teaching in the department during those years.

Tracy: Well, getting back to our trip to Schenectady, we had bought this old car, which didn't work too well, but, oh, we enjoyed that car after we bought that from my brother Eugene. [The accident that the car had been involved in left the hood pointing off toward the left, so that drivers coming toward it had the fearful feeling for a moment that the car was headed directly toward them, and some even veered away in an effort to avoid a collision. Although the car was headed straight down the street, the impression it gave was otherwise.] It was the first car we had in our marriage, and we traveled places we had never seen before in our life on Saturdays. Up the canyons and around Salt Lake and exploring places we had never been. All close to home there in the Salt Lake City area.

Sherlene: And you did all the driving, because I can remember you teaching Mom how to drive.

Ida Rose: Oh, I should have put that on my tape. That was something else.

Tracy: Well, we decided to go to Schenectady, and my mother who lived in Ogden up on (there followed some discussion on which street. It was 2530 Fowler Avenue) near the Catholic School that used to be in Ogden there, for girls. And it was across the street from David J. Wilson, who was a political figure. [Not across the street, but in the neighborhood.] Anyway, my mother held sort of an open house there and invited my Uncle Aaron to come over. We learned from Uncle Aaron that his daugter June was living in Schenectady. I remember that was an enjoyable time there.

We sent our physical belongings on ahead via a van and headed for Schenectady in this car. Now we didn't have much money. We had three children, Sherlene, Tracy, and David. And we tried to sleep in the car, and that didn't work out too well. We staid in motels, the cheapest ones we could find. I was willing to sleep out on the ground on a blanket or a mattress, but Mom didn't like me out there. She was afraid the snakes or something would eat me up. But, we expected the east to be quite a bit like the west. That you could stop at motels, but we learned that you couldn't. There were guest cabins here and there. The last night we were out we staid in Pennsylvania at some kind of a guest cabin without any heat, and it was really cold. This was October..

Ida Rose: Remember the one that we staid in, that was a white house, and it had of cement upstairs

Tracy: Oh, yeah, Bowling Green, Iowa, or some place like that. It was a bowling green.

Ida Rose: That was not bad!

Tracy: Yeah, and it was inexpensive! Well, we finally made it back to Schenectady. Came in on Route 7, which was all lighted up with the new sodium vapor lamps. Yellow, which General Electric and others had built, and it seemed like it was lighted up for miles with those lamps. That was something new for us to see. But, we came into Schenectady. I think we arrived in the daytime, and we were really disappointed. This was the back door to coming in on Schenectady. At least it was in those days! And it was a dirty industrial town with litter and paper and junk all over the place, and we were really disappointed coming in and seeing Schenectady from this point of view.

I left the kids in the car and went inside. I'm sure-looking bedraggled and maybe a little unshaven-and I didn't have very good clothes in those days, none of us did, and I remember.. Oh, we went in to see this lady who had the assignment of finding places for people to live. Housing was just almost impossible in those daysf[7] But, I could tell from the way she looked at me, "Oh, what's this they've hired? Somebody from the backwoods?' but she was nice, and she arranged for us to stay with another family. Do you remember the name of the family we staid with? Anyway, we staid with this family for a few days. Very nice. He was an employee .. Was his name Zabriskie? It might have been Zabriskie.

Zabriskie was at Hoyt, I think, S.K.

Ida Rose: I don't remember that.

Tracy: Anyway, the few days we staid there we couldn't find anything except a house. Very tiny and very poorly constructed with a very poor arrangment of the interior. Not

even a place to put a kitchen table. The chimney was in the way. Our household goods arrived. They said it was going to cost us $300.00. It cost us $600.00 which was terrible. We had to put those goods in this house. Because arrangements had been made that we could somehow purchase this in a kind of a not too clear-cut deal. We got to investigating the developer and other things later on, and we really hadn't signed any papers that committed us, we just felt kinda morally obligated to move into that place. But as we looked at that place and the price, which I've forgotten, but which seemed horendous, it was for the day, I'm sure, a terrible price. And the smallness of the facility, we decided we just couldn't go through with that.

Ida Rose: Was that inColdbrook?

Tracy: No, that wasn't in Coldbrook! Anyway we succeeded in backing out of that deal. I don't know what we did with our furniture.

Ida Rose: I don't either!

Tracy: Anyway, not having any place to go and searching the countryside, we finally moved in with an LDS family. Sterling and Helen Barton, who were very kind to us. They had a big family themselves -- three kids or so in a small home. And we lived with them for six weeks, sharing household expenses, before we were able to locate anything. And then we located a house at 40\Bedford Road, which was a big house, adequate for our family, and we paid something like a hundred dollars a month .. later on we found out it was against the .. they still had war rules on housing, you couldn't charge beyond a certain amount and the legal amount they could charge was only $60.00, and when we found that out, we got it changed to the $60.00. But at the $60.00 level these people couldn't make their payments on this house. They had recendy bought it from somebody and then moved out to start with. And so they were forced to sell the house and eventually we had to leave.

But in the meantime, a newly converted church member, Bill Hefferman, whose wife was Ann Hefferman, who was a building contractor, had agreed to build us a house for $11,600.00, in Colony on^ly Road. We later sold the house for $18,000, seven years after first coming to Schenectady. We lived in the house on^ly Road for about six years. Well, we had to get out of this house, though, and the one on Fly Road wasn't going to be built for awhile. And we managed to get into a government housing project called The Marion Avenue Housing Project, in the Schenectady area, and we lived there for awhile.

Now our Schenectady experiences were some of the greatest times of our life. Our early married years with the growing children and with other people in the same situation and it would take about ten or fifteen tapes to tell you all that I remember about Schenectady. But, let's just say a few things that happened. We found out that we didn't know where the church would be or anything. We just took off assuming that anywhere you went you could find a place to go to church. It turned out to be somewhere around twenty families in the area who were church members. Most of them young men, either electrical or mechanical engineers, recendy graduated from college who had gone back to work for the General Electric Company.

The president of the branch was Jack Hopper. He had a large family. His wife's name was Olga. We met in the local YMCA. There had been one of William Z. Terry's sons, Lee Terry. This William Z. Terry was my bishop when we were in the 18th Ward in Ogden, Utah. I haven't said too much about our 18th Ward days. There is much that could be said about that. This Ike Terry apparendy wasn't too active in the church when he went away from home. In fact Jack says he can remember the days when he and Ike Terry

used to drink beer down at some club. But Ike Terry was a very energetic man. He had done great things for General Electric. I had heard even before I went to Schenectady about this great man Ike Terry, who our bishop had told us about. Bishop Grant Lofgreen had told us about Ike Terry.

Apparently Ike Terry had gone as a young engineer to Schenectady and they sent him to the Phillipines to fix some generators that wouldn't work. After they had sent them clear to the Phillipines, these generators wouldn't work, and Ike Terry figured out what was the matter with them and made them work, and this sent him on his career with General Electric and he held several high positions in the General Electric Company before his retirement. But, he had moved from Schenectady by the time we went there. He apparently was active in civic affairs, and was active in the Young Men's Christian organization and as long as we purchased memberships in the YMCA we could hold church there, and we did. We had to clean up the cigarette butts and what-not before we could hold church each Sunday morning.

Following the war there was a great reorganization going on in companies, great expansion, trying to get in gear again to make automobiles and refrigerators and everything else. There had been quite a lot of scientific progress during the war. People in business had seen what science could do for the war effort and recognized that science could do a lot for just business effort. So General Electric, IBM, — all the big companies were building brand new research labs and hiring hundreds and hundreds of PhD's and lots of engineers to work in developmental labs in various engineering things. So we were caught up with this in Schenectady where there was the central research laboratory for the company.

The company had smaller laboratores at Pittsfield, and other places for certain specialized things, but they were more the developmental labs. We were the prestigious General Electric Research Laboratory. We first were in Building 37, which was down near what they called, "The Works," where most of the manufacturing went on. We were down there when they were building a new huge big laboratory at what was called The Knolls. The Knolls was on the bank of the Mohawk River. The laboratory was located on a former estate and they used to say that the man made the money for this huge estate by selling pink pills for pale people. One of those like Liddy E. Pinkham's special compounds, sort of things. Sell the public nothing ... something that costs nothing for lots of money and get rich. To one side of us there was already located General Electric's Nuclear Engineering Laboratory where they were, I think, working in those days primarily on nuclear reactors for submarines. Well, after a year at the research laboratory in Building 37, we moved up to the Knolls and I was there for the remainder of my time at the G.E. Company.

I was at first put in a laboratory with Bill'Cass and Edward L. Brady. Later on, in the move to the Knolls, Bill Cass was moved to a different location and Edward Brady and I shared the lab for awhile until later on when I started to work on the diamond synthesis business, I shared a lab with Robert Wentorff. Now, in the days I was at Building 37,1 was slow in getting underway on some kind of a project We were told that we were hired ... this is an academic atmosphere around here. Work on what you want to work on, but it really wasn't that way. They wouldn't let you do it. I wanted to work on an academic problem relating to inorganic polymers, inorganic materials as an outgrouth of part of my thesis at the University of Utah that had to do with the nature of chromic salts in water solution. But, the company didn't want any of that, and as time went on it turned out their greatest interest was in a chloral floral carbon polymer.

Teflon had been invented by the DuPont people by this time and was coming on the market in various forms. General Electric always had an interest in insulative coatings for

wires for motors and all kinds of applications. And, of course, any new polymer that came along they would investigate it for possible use in this way. They were very interested in a plymer trade-named Kel F, I think invented at the Kellog Company. And, as I remember Kel F, it had, if you consider two carbon atoms hooked together, on one carbon atom would be two chlorines and on the other carbon atom there would be one flourine and one chlorine and this p— would be the molimer and if this would polimerize you'd end up with a polimer that was called Kel F.

There was a lot of work going on trying coating on wire, and they didn't know too much of its physical properties. So they wanted to know some things about this from a physical chemical standpoint. I had been trained in the field of polymers, so I was sent to a school down at Brooklyn. I forget what University was down there where I spent a week learning things about physical chemistry of polymers and how you can measure things by tight scattering, determine elecrical weight by light scattering, learn some things from viscosity measurements andthe other kinds of things they do with polymers. So, I was assigned to build a light scattering apparatus. Well, there were no good solvents for any of these polymers. There were no solvents whatever for the material called "Teflon." One solvent, and I have forgotten ... there's a scientific paper of mine that I was very proud of back in those days because the paper, which was on the soluability of the polytrifloralchloralethyleen in various solvents. It was reviewed by the man who, the chemist in the United States, Hildebrand, the famous Hildebrand, who wrote a book or two on solvents. He reviewed the paper and he wrote me a very nice letter complimenting me. Usually, reviewers just review the paper and they are not known. You never know who they are. It's all annonymous, but he wrote a letter complimenting me on a nice piece of research I had done, which built my ego immensely.

Anyway, there was one solvent that was known for this material. I got the idea if you would go that if you would go to a slightly higher pressure with certain solvents

End of tape, side 9.

I found that you could seal solid Kel F in a glass tube with carbon tetrachloride and then heat it up. Now at the higher temperature and the higher pressure that's in the tube, I could completely dissolve the Kel F. So this was a new solvent I had found, but you had to do it under a slightly elevated pressure and a higher temperature. I think I found some other solvents, also. Well, having found this I conducted light scattering expreriments and got estimated molecular weights from these. And I had to have elevated pressure and temperature for these light scattering experiments. This made the experiments extremely difficult to do, but I did build a light scattering machine.

It took a long time to build the thing. I was not much of a pusher at getting the shop to push along and I think the company was a little bit discouraged with my slowness on it. But I did come out with, really, the only physical chemical stuff that they ever had on that Kel F polymer. My colleagues would tell me that this was just a pet project that some of the bosses of Kel F was doomed to ever be of any use to them. And this proved to be true. They spent an awful lot of money, and had spent many years before I ever came to General Electric working on this thing. All the money went down the drain as it often does on research projects.

I don't know that I recorded the date that I started to work for the General Electric Company. It was the 8th of October, 1948. The company would size up all its new employees. We had the title of research associate. It was the only title that they had for their scientists. ... was research associate in those days. Everyone was a research associate. The director of the laboratory was Chauncey Guy Suits. He had been a protege

of Coolege, who had been one of the former directors. He was a rather pleasant fellow anc fairly young. I liked him, although I had cause later on not to like him. I don't believe I was treated fairly at all in the synthesis of diamond business. That's recorded elsewhere.

The head of the chemistry section in which I was located was Abraham Lincoln Marshall. There was an analytical section, analytical and physical section under Liebhofsky. I can't seem to think of Liebhofsky's first name. He was from Texas. He knew Eyring because he had gone to school at the same time as Eyring up in Madison, Wisconsin. No, I can't think of Liebhofsky's first name. Herman! Herman Liebhofsky. He was always giving up smoking, but the guys used to say he just did it so he would have an excuse to borrow cigarettes from other people, which he was always doing - because he had given up smoking. When he had to have one, he didn't have one of his own so he borrowed it. I liked Herman. He was an interesting character.

There was a mechanical investigations department within the chemistry section, which was a little unusual. It was an outgrouth of the wartime problems on jet engines and combustion in jet engines, and Tony Nerad was in charge of that section. There was no one definitely over the organic section. The rightful guy to have been over the organic chemistry would have been Bill Cass, but when they formed a very definite department, it was given to a fellow named Elliott. And many of us were surprised at this thinking that Bill Cass was the person. As a matter of fact we thought that Bill Cass was the logical choice to someday be the vice president of research and succeed Chauncey Suits. Guy Suits. He went by Guy. But, after I had left General Electric, Cass also left because he hadn't been given his just due. I know he worked for Arthur D. Litde Company. I met him there one time when I visted Arthur D. Litde. He and his wife had a barbecue chicken dinner for me. I've lost track of Cass since then. I don't know where he is or what he's doing. Cass was a very likeable guy who really tried to do right by everybody.

Raymond Fuas, a Jewish man, professor at Yale University, a physical chemist, a famous one, I think he had worked for General Electric at one time. At any rate, he was a consultant for General Electric while I was there and he would make a visit to G.E. once a month. He would talk to me a lot and I got to like him. I was asked to do some viscosity studies. I have an early paper on that. I did it with Zamane and Ed Brady and I've forgotten the details of that. I wrote these papers and as, I remember it, I did most of the work on this particular project with Zamane and Ed. But there is a paper there. Now, I think that that is the major work I had done concerned with this Kel F business and that sort of thing.

By the time the fall of 1951 had come along, which means that I would have been there three years, I hadn't received much in the way of raises. However, there was one interesting thing. You are not supposed to talk about what you make in a company or a university or anything else, but they do, and I learned that these young fellows straight out of college had received $5900.00 a year salaries. I also found that I could hold my own and was just as knowledgeable, had just as good a background in science as the guys from Harvard, Yale, MIT, and the other places. Which was very comforting and reassuring, because I had worried about this when I had gone away to General Electric. Most companies were doing their hiring from the premier universities - Princeton, Yale, Harvard, MIT, Cal Tech, etc., but I could hold my own with them. No problem. Furthermore, I was being paid $6200.00. They were being paid $5900.00. Now these fellows were a little younger than I. I had been married longer, had more kids, and I had wartime service. Most of them had not had the wartime service. This may have been a factor in the reason I had received higher pay.

I mentioned that the company tend to size up its new people. Abe Marshall, boss of the chemistry section, would make it a point to take each new guy in his Lincoln Continental to some meeting someplace. During the course of this meeting size a guy up. And I was sized up. And you were sized up for the possibilities of using you as leaders in the company in administrative positions. Now Abe Marshall before the days of Thruways, the New York Thruway was being slowly built at that time. There were stretches of it that may have even been open. There were routes like Route 20, and what-not, but Abe Marshall always traveled the back roads and he drove at tremendous velocities. He had all these neat instruments on his Lincoln Continental. He'd have an outdoor temperature thermometer, indoor temperature, humidity indicator and a compass and all the other things. But he would go 75 miles an hour on roads that were good for forty maybe. He'd give us instructions on how to at a meeting learn all you can from your competition, but don't give away any General Electric secrets, and those kinds of things. The early meetings I went to were in the field of high polymers. He was trying to get me oriented in that direction because a great deal of General Electric's interest was in the high polymer plastics area. The other guys were getting raises right along and I wasn't getting any. They weren't liking me too well.

Now, I think it was the fall of 1951, the company decided to start this diamond synthesis project. About 30 of the chemists were called into a meeting. Liebhofsky told us there was going to be this big secret project to make diamonds and they needed a couple of chemists to work on the thing. I was the only one who volunteered, so I got the job. The diamond story is told elsewhere on a tape that lasts at least an hour, perhaps 2 hours. I don't believe it's been typed up yet, but at least there is a reel of tape at home somewhere, in our home in Provo on this subject, so I won't say anything about that. But this diamond project was, of course, the most interesting project that I had while I was at the General Electric Company.

Back to the church in Schenectady. I was right away made the Sunday School Superintendant while we were still in the YMCA building, which was close to downtown Schenectady. Well, it was actually in downtown Schenectady. Later on in the branch, I don't know all the jobs that I held, but specifically, I was district councilman for a long time. That's like a high councilman. We were not in a stake. It was a branch. Our territory extended from the Canadian border on the north all the way up and down the Hudson River to West Point on the south. We were responsible for all the Latter-day Saints in that area.

There was a kind of a branch for cadets at West Point, and we had to take our turn at going down there and holding meetings. We put many many miles on our automobiles in those days running around looking up members and visiting and preaching and so forth at the branches. We had a branch in Gloversville, and very small branches in other places like, I believe, Hudson Falls, you could hardly call it a branch, just a very few people. There was something at Kingston, Poukeepsie, Crown Point. At Crown Point there was the Merrill family. Leo Merrill who later on went to school and eventually worked his way out to BYU, got his PhD and he has been working with me at BYU in high pressure for a long long time. He now .. I'm officially the director of the data center, but he runs it. His father still lives up in Crown Point, New York.

We had many interesting experiences. The New York Thruway in those days .. and it may still be the same. It was designed to be a thruway that went through the countryside. It didn't come close to the towns. And then there would be a long exit, several miles long to go from the thruway to a town. The thruway exits were about 20 miles apart on an average. We were driving late at night after being out working at one of these branches and missed a turn, you would have to go 20 miles down to the next turn and then come 20

miles back. A total 40 miles distance. So this happened on several occasions. We'd go in the Catskill Mountains and look for people. I remember some woman who was a Latter-day Saint down there who wanted to divorce her husband and I was assigned to that case. We worked and worked with that. John Clegg and his present wife, who was just your friend at that time, Helen Brown, I believe was her name, before she was married. I remember we were all in my car working with that lady trying to convince her not to divorce her husband. I don't know whatever happened.

I recall one time getting word that there was a Latter-day Saint family living way up north toward Plattsburg. There is a branch at Plattsburg nowdays, but there wasn't in our day. There wasn't a church near Plattsburg. A a matter of fact, I ought to mention that during my navy career, we had great difficulty going to church. Many people in the service had automobiles. We never had an automobile. There was nowhere we knew to go to church when we were in Hollywood, Florida. There was no place to go to church when I was in Plattsburg, New York. No place close in the Great Lakes area. However, we usually got off weekends and I'd go clear down to Chicago and go to the North Shore Ward. Of course, when I was on this ship sitting in San Franciso Bay, I always had weekend leave, and I would usually go look up my friend Frank Davis who lived in that area. He'd moved down there to work for Itel McCollough, who invented the first truly good high-powered electron tubes. And he lives in that area to this day. I'd go visit him and go to church where he went to church.

When we were in Boston in Cambridge area, we went to church there at the Cambridge Branch, which in those days met in an old home, a large home, and there was an older home that was the mission home right next door. In Brunswick, Maine, there was no place where we could go to church. There may have been something at Portland, Maine, but we had no transportation or way to get there. The Latter-day Saint servicemen I knew who were in the navy on the ships with me were non-existant, except for my first assignment at boot camp. There was no one in my company who was a Latter-day Saint, but there was a Ken Porter, who now works at the B YU in the Alumni development fund-raising area. He was in another camp there who was a Latter-day Saint.

In Honolulu, Hawaii, there were no Latter-day Saints in any of the outfits I was in, but, of course, I had weekend leave and I would go to the branch there in Honolulu, Hawaii. I might tell you one interesting experience while I'm back-tracking. I had one jeep ride during the war in Honolulu. By the way, Honolulu wasn't very well developed in those days. There were dirt roads around the island to a great extent. Open air meat markets -flies all over the meat — and everybody going around barefooted without shirts. Particularly all the native people. But I got to take this jeep ride with some guys up to a high spot. I think I know where that high spot is. I forget what they call it. It's where the wind blows hard.

That jeep ride was so hard and then the navy arranged for a bus ride clear around the island that you could pay $1.50 or something and go around the island. I went on that one day. We came around to one place to where ... We hadn't been seeing anything on the bus ride. Just a little bit of the ocean and the volcanic rocks and the trees, and then suddenly out of nowhere as we came around a bend, here is this lovely beautiful building. And everybody looked out the window, "What's that? Wat's that? Hey, a club, maybe we can get some beer?" And, of course, I recognized it. It did take me maybe 10 or 15 seconds to recognize it. It was our Hawaiian Temple. Just out in the jungle in those days. No paved roads, no nothing. And then they were told by the driver, "Oh, we're stopping here. This is the Mormon Temple. You can't go inside, but you can go over and look around." "Ahhhh ... " everybody thought, but when they got over there and started to look at it and walk around, they changed their minds. It was just a very beautiful place,

you know, and, of course, they had questions about what went on in there, "What's this all about?"

8 minutes of tape too faint and uninteligible

I did almost of the grocery buying in Schenectady. Mother didn't seem to mind being out there in the woods with the children and just enjoying it there. Satisfied with just going in to church on Sunday and Relief Society whenever and wherever that was held. But I would stop on the way home from work and pick up the groceries. There was a general store at the foot of Bly Road. I call the foot its junction with the Troy Road. Now we were up at a fairly high elevation, probably 250 - 300 feet above sea level and we'd go up the road and turn a corner toward the Mohawk River and get on the high rise of the hill where there were some old expensive estates and then down the hill toward the Mohawk River, take the back road, I'd cross the Troy Road and take the back roads past some radio station towers on the way up to the Knolls. A seven mile route.

There was a general store at the bottom and I had the name of that store on the tip of my mind. It's gone now, we passed this in Schenectady last year and it was no longer there. The general store and post office, and as I remember it, we were Box,.. was it 117 Bly Road? Anyway, things were more expensive in that store. We would just buy things that we needed awfully bad and didn't want to take time to go to a big store. We bought at the AT&T mainly down, I think, on the Troy Road towards town. I'd buy the groceries. Bring them home.

There was an unfinished basement in our house there and we had an oil furnace and we had a septic tank which did not drain too well. It gave us some problems. We had two septic tanks in series, and a drain field. One time we had a truck bringing in some sand to put over those septic tanks. The truck was too heavy and broke through. We had to get a winch and hook it on a tree to pull the truck out. And then I had to lift off the pieces of the broken lid. I put on my .. essentially swimming trunks and tennis shoes and got down in the sewer in that septic tank to get all those broken pieces of caved-in material out and then I restored the septic tank. Built a new lid and put it back in operation. Probably the messiest and dirtiest job I ever had to do in my life. Actually get down in the sewer stuff in that septic tank to get it cleaned out so that I could fix things. Get the broken sides and the broken lid and what-not out of the thing.

The only firearm I have ever owned, to this point in my life, was a 22 rifle, that I bought from a fellow who joined the church there, who also worked in Liebhofsky's analytical laboratory. I can't seem to remember the name of that fellow. But, he sold me a 22 rifle. I got it to try and shoot some of the things that kept us from having a vegetable garden. The rabbits and crows. And one day I took that 22 and crept as quietly as I could when I knew the crows were out, about 6:00 o'clock in the morning to my front door, and those crows, they seemed to have a sixth sense. They know when you are around. Time and time again I would go to the front door with that gun to try and take a shot at the guardian crow at the top of one of the high trees and they'd sound the signal and fly away. But I managed to get there quietly enough one day that he didn't. I pointed my 22 at him - it was only a single shot. I shot one shot and I killed that crow.

Now there was an ad running in those days in one of the scientific magazines that there was some guy who would take (another period of silence on the tape) the main feathers from the tip of each wing, and you would get paid twenty-five cents a feather. So, I took those out of the crow and shipped them off to the guy at this company, and sure enough he sent me twenty-five cents. Two dollars and half for those feathers. The rabbits were bad. They would eat most everything that we would plant in the garden.

Some of the sad things that happened in Schenectady. Ann Hefferman died. Her husband had a hard time with the Word of Wisdom and other things and was kind of a trial to Ann. He was an interesting, very likeable guy, but he just had a hard time with the Word of Wisdom. He had joined the church and came into the church all the way

End of tape, side 10.

just felt there was no reason to start acting like a slob, and the commander seemed to appreciate that. I was one of

H.Tracy Hall oral history tape, sides 11,12

Ann and Bill Heffernan had two adopted children, Scott, I believe, was die name of one of diem, and he has made it through the world and done very well, educated, and all kinds of things. In fact, I think there was an article about him in the Improvement Era, or Ensign, or something one time. The little girl was not too alert mentally. I think her name was Deborah. I'm not sure. I don't know whatever happened to her.

Anyway, we were having a fireside one night at someones home. I think it was at the home of Ashworth's. Clint Asworth and her wife who used to sing so beautifully, what was her name?

Ida Rose: Rachel.

Tracy: Rachel Ashworth. I think that's where that fireside was. I had invited Frances Bundy, one of my colleagues there at General Electric. He was interested in sail plaining, gliders. To come and tell about sad plaining, hoping to get him a little interested in the church. And while he was about in the middle of his talk word came to us diat Ann Heffernan had died. His wife had suddenly died. And so we rushed out there. Mother was in the Relief Society, and I think she went out with someone else who was in the Relief Society, and .... really quite a shocking experience. She was such a fine woman. As a note of interest, one of Ann Heffernan's best friends was Elaine Maddock, wife of Russell Maddock, who was a counselor to me along with a fellow named Christensen, I've forgotten his first name, when I became the Sunday School Superintentant on first going to Schenectady.

RusseU is now still working for General Electric down in Roanoke, Virginia area, and he has been a stake president down there for a long time.

Ida Rose: I saw them when I went to die temple.

Tracy: Anyway, Elaine was the closest of any of the women to Ann, and Elaine had a vision - a revelation one night. Ann appeared to her and asked Ann to go do her temple work immediately. You know, you usually wait for a year after someone dies. She, on account of Bdl's Word of Wisdom problem .. he'd talk about going to the temple, but it would never happen. Well, she took this to president Taylor. President Taylor, I've forgotten his first name. He was die mission president of the Eastern States the latter part of die time, at least the latter part of the time we were in Schenectady. And he consulted witii church authorities on the basis of tiiis very special thing that had happened. Her temple work was done as soon as tiiey went on vacationto Salt Lake City, tiiey did Ann's temple work.

Bill got a housekeeper who we believe was his mistress and sort of went his way. Didn't see much more of the church after that time. BUI later on died. I don't know when he died. But he did die somewhere along there. Another sad tiling... diere was a young couple in our ward, Junius Aldrodge, we called him Hap, and Velma Aldridge. Velma Aldridge had taken some dance and she was teaching Sherlene and some of our other kids to dance on occasions. Is that right?

Ida Rose: Yes, and she was also our Primary leader. That's how I remember her.

Tracy: Oh, she was the kids Primary leader. A fine young couple. All kinds of promise, and Hap was one of these young men who looked like die ideal young American man. You know, handsome, vigorous, muscular and tall. He had been in die service somehow

with the National Guard or something, and it would have been around 1951 or perhaps 1952 and he was called back into the reserve. The Korean War had started and he was a jet pilot. And before he had to go in the service ... of course, he was going to go in the service somewhere in the east and she was going to go back home. She was from Tustin, California, as I remembered, somewhere in that area. Although at times I guess they lived in Arizona, and I think that Hap was ... yeah, I know that Hap was from somewhere in Arizona. Probably from the Tempe area. Tempe area. Phoenix.

We held a party for the ward for them the night before he had to leave. We had a good time and the last ones ... well, perhaps I shouldn't, they weren't the last ones, I don't know. Anyway, at one point Hap and Velma left and I remember Hap, he had a hat on and stood on our front porch of this red house with its red shutters and he gave the very famous McArthur salute which MacArthur gave when he was forced to leave the Phillipines. He said, "I shall return!" or "I will return!" One or the other, and a certain salute with the hat somehow ... anyway, he gave that. But the sad thing was that Hap Aldridge did not return. Some months later his jet plane disintegrated over some swamps down in the southern part of the country, Georgia, South Caroline, North Carolina, somewhere. And they never were able to find his full remains.

This was in the early days of jet engines. And they had not developed the very fine high temperature alloys that they now have for turbine blades and it happened too frequently that the engines on those pioneer jet engines that were used in warfare — Korean war, would just plain fall apart. They couldn't stand the heat, couldn't stand the temperature. Didn't have the strength. They'd break. And, of course, cause the ruin of an airplane, that might be traveling near the speed of sound.

We've seen Velma occasionally, not many times, through the years. She never did remarry. We saw many missionaries who passed through the Schenectady area, particularly who lived on Bedford Road. We very well remember an Elder Hicken, who was an older Seventy sent by his ward during the Koren War period when they didn't have young men to send out. He left his family in the Heber area, and the florist business, which I believe he had, and came as a very effective missionary in the Schenectady area.

We also had an Elder Jones, Ray Jones, who was a very effective and good missionary. We saw several sisters. I've forgotten the names of some of those sisters. Sister Tanner, we remember very well. A very pretty and talented and very good missionary. Some of the missionaries were not so good. We often had dinner with the missionaries at our home on Bedford Road. This Ray Jones later on went on a second mission, I think to one of the Scandinavian countries. He never did marry. And when we moved back to Provo, we found that he was teaching dramatic arts, debate, and things along that line at Provo High School, and he still does that to this day. I think that every one of our kids have had him for a teacher in debate or dramatics, or something, and have appeared in plays — Sherlene and Tracy did, and probably some of the other kids.

He often also takes school district world-wide tours. He was one of these escorts on a European tour that Nancy went on a few years ago. Ray Jones was the one in charge of that particular European tour.

We had lots of fund-raising things to build the chapel. We had lots of bake sales. One very well remembered project was the making of Christmas tree wreaths. I think Bill Heffernan had this idea and it seemed that we made those things by the thousands. I'm sure we didn't, but it sure seemed that way. We bought all kinds of boughs and trimmings and what-not and spent no end of time making these wreaths and trying to sell them. I

think that was one of our earlier projects. I think we did this at the hornne that was rented there in the downtown part of Schenectady by Wayne Wiscomb.

There was an inter-church basketball team tournament sponsored by the YMCA, in Schenectady sometime during the earlier years that we were there. I'd guess somewhere around 1951 or so, that I can remember. Some of our guys had played on young men's teams in the Mutual back home and were pretty good. We may even had a guy or two who may have played on a high school team, but for years one of the churches there, I think the Baptist church team had won the championship and nobody could ever beat them. On learning of this, these young LDS guys decided they could probably put together a team that could beat this outfit. And so I remember Wayne Wiscomb and some of the more athletic guys were on that. I was even on the team as a substitute. I think I got to play for about a minute and a half, but didn't do any good. Didn't make a basket. I do think I got one shot at a basket. Anyway, the Latter-day Saint team did win that year, which was a real turnover for the situation. They may have played some other years. I didn't play with them. You know it wasn't hard for Latter-day Saints to put together a topnotch teams in those days with just a little bit of practice, say, like about one week before the tournament started.

One time I remember that either B YU or the University of Utah was playing in Madison Squre Garden in the National Invitation Tournament, and Wayne Wisomb promoted a scheme where half a dozen of us would get in somebody's car and go down to Madison Square Garden, leaving after work. Get there in time for the game and come back, and I don't remember who won or anything else, but I do remember, we did go down to Madikson Square Garden in New York, and that's a good 3 or 4 hours drive in those days. There were no freeways. And then see the game and come back, which was a rather grueling time, but interesting to go down and see. I wish I could say it was the B YU team and they won the tournament that year, but I have just forgotten, I don't know who won or how or what.

While they loved the beautiful trees and the flora and the fauna that grew so profusely in New York State. By the way, the trees that grew in our own back yard in the woods behind us were on land that was .. our deed on our lots went pack to the Shakers, the quaking Shakers were the people who were on that land in the area where we lived, in earlier times.

Ida Rose: That's where the berry's came from.

Tracy: Yeah, that's where the berry's came from, and we thought that maybe those blackberries were truly not wild berries, but just remnants had existed over the years from something the Shakers may have planted.

We always got our Christmas trees out of the forest behind us. We never had to buy a Christmas tree, or seldom did. The thing we missed was the coolness you could get by going into the mountains. We thought, "Oh, we'll get down there in this area in these high places in what they called mountains, but to us were mainly just hills. But it wasn't any cooler. You could find the highest place you could find on the map and go there and you would have that hot sticky humid situation that are just characteristic of summers in this part of the world. As a matter of fact, that's the way it is right her now at Sherlene's. No air conditioning, just hot, sticky, muggy weather. Eighty degrees here in the humidity feels as bad as one hundred degrees back in Provo where it is dry.

We saw many nearby places when we were in New York. Trips to Albany where we would sometimes have conference of just the small Albany branch. Troy had no branch at

that time. We would sometimes go out in the country. See the country fairs. I don't know how many times we may have got to New York City or places like that, but when it became apparent we were going to leave and go back west, we had to hurry up and see some things real fast. So we took our four oldest children. I guess Charlotte would have been the baby then, and left her with some friends, and took the four older children and went to New York City and to Washginton D.C. to see all the sights. We went to the top fo the Empire State Building. We went on the subway. We went over and climbed up into the arm of the Statue of Liberty, inside. And saw the other sights and sounds of New York City.

In Washington D.C. we, of course, saw the Washington Monument, the Jefferson Monument, and the words on the Jefferson Monument just give me a thrill every time I go in there and read the words that are written on the wall there that are due to Jefferson. Gets a lump in my throat to do that. We saw the White House and the Capitol buildings and went inside, and all the other things around there, we took the kids to see. A hurry-up job before we left the eastern parts of the country.

I had seen many of these things myself traveling to meetings for the General Electric Company. I had opportunity to do things like that. Sherlene, she wouldn't remember it, but she was at the top of the Empire State Building when she was probably about two years old. We passed through New York City on our way from Hollywood, Florida, to Brunswick, Maine, had a stop-over there between trains and we took Sherlene, who was dressed in a little, Oh, a suit that covered you all for the winter time. It was wintertime weather, with one of these hats that you could fold down behind your neck or down on top of your head with a point on it. And I can remember grabbing that whenever she'd try to get too far away from us in New York City crowds, I would just grab hold of that top part of her blue keep-warm outfit zippered up the front around her neck, went clear down to her feet. But I held her out over to where she could look down to the street below and about gave Mom fits to have Sherlene so that she could look at the "ants", what looked like ants, cars, and the people down on the street below

Sherlene: Oh, daddy, how could you do that!

Tracy: We purchased our first new car living in New York. It was a 1950 Ford 2-door sedan. And as I remember it, the color of it was green. It was a beautiful thing, we got a loan on it at a Schenectady bank. Interest rates were low in those days, on your savings account you got one and one half or two percent. We had a four and a quarter percent loan on our home mortgage and on the automobile I think it was only about a five percent. We bought this car for only $1450.00 which was a real bargain. I may be mixed up on the color of the car, because we had two cars in short succession.

In 1950 we took this Ford and went home to Utah on vacation, driving this car. We had two weeks vacation accrued time per year in those days, so you had to wait 2 years and accumulate one week, which we could do, so we would have three weeks vacation and you could go to Utah every other year and take three weeks. It would take five days to drive each way, so you didn't have too much time in Utah when you got there. Coming back from Utah we were driving late at night hoping to find an inexpensive motel and not finding any, we decided to try and sleep in the car off the road somewhere in the vicinity of Atlantic, Iowa. We had driven up and down the roads and they were narrow and muddy. They had had a big rainstorm in the area and we couldn't seem to find a place that looked like it would be suitable to try and spend the night without being molested.. somewhere off the road try and catch some sleep in the car.

We didn't find anything and decided we would head back to the highway, and heading back toward the highway, I was too far to the right hand side in some deep ruts that had

been made by a previous vehicle .. fortunately going along only about fifteen miles an hour .. very dark night and I rolled the car off the road ..

Sherlene: And Mom had told you 2 or 3 times to quit being so close to the edge of the road.

Tracy: Possiblity! And the car rolled over once and landed straddling a little tiny stream. I was so scared when that happened I had visions of rolling into a big lake or big river or something. The car was really not damaged. The kids were shaken up just a little bit. Started to cry, but really scared. When the car alighted there and I could see there was no blood, and we weren't in a lake, I just grabbed Mom and hugged her, and we hugged each other and said our prayers. Really, right then, you know, thanked the Lord for saving us.

Well, I went back to the main highway, which was I would judge about a mile from there and tried to flag cars down. Nobody wanted to stop that late at night. It was at least ten, maybe eleven o'clock at night, and I had a hard time getting anybody to stop, understandably, and finally stomebody stopped and rolled the window down an inch, and I told them of my difficulty and asked them to go call the police, and they called the police. Actually they came back with the police to see what had happened. We were really short on money and didn't know how we could hardly even stay in a motel or anything. We staid in a motel that night while we tried to decide what to do.

They came with a wrecker and pulled the car out of there. As I pointed out one of the cables snapped and one of the policemen who came out was standing too close and that cable hit him on the back of the neck and he had to go to the hospital. I never did know the full final story of that, but we took the car to a place to be fixed and I forgot how much they wanted, but it turned out it was an awful lot of money. More than I thought it should be. But, finally we talked to somebody who said, "Look, that car is driveable, just wire those two doors together that won't close, and be on your way!" So, finally that's what we did. We called Ida Rose's father, Ernest F. Langford in Ogden and got him to telegraph us a couple of hundred dollars so we could get out of there and finish our trip.

We got back to Schenectady and, you see the Korean War had broken out and cars suddenly started to get real scarce and I could not get a new car. Having this car be so new I hated to just get it fixed. It was not particularly scratched, but the body was just deformed everywhere. We just rolled slowly over this embankment over some small willows and trees and it was bent in almost anywhere you would look, but it was not scratched or mangled, but I hated the thoughts of having a new car, yoy know our first new car. I wanted to trade it in on a new one immediately. We could not do that around there. No way, but we had a friend, whose name I have forgotten, who had moved from Schenectady to Detroit. We called him on the phone to see if he could get us a car in Detroit. We found that he could. We had to sell our old car and get the cash in order to be able to buy the one which we had to pay cash for in Detroit. Someone had set us up with this deal. He was a crippled man who seemed to be honest and up-right and what-not and he had agreed to pay us a certain amount for this car and was going to meet us at the bank with a check.

We went to the bank. We waited and waited. He showed up five minutes before the bank was due to close. We had to carry on the transaction there at the bank, and then he started to try to beat us down on what he said he would give us. And we would not have had the money to go to Detroit and that was so traumatic, this guy who had agreed to do this and then try and beat us down on the price. But I could not come down on the price and so we just staid there even after the bank was closed and they were trying to throw us out I just insisted, well I had to. We would not have had enough money to have gone to

Detroit, and I had to catch the train. He knew he had us over a barrel between the bank closing and my catching my train, and he just stalled just like the unions due to the last bitter minute. Finally I got the money out of him and I got on the train and I stood up on the train all the way to Detroit. No seat. I went there over night and looked this fellow up and picked up this new car and drove it back on graveled roads through Canada, and I had to stop and sleep in the car half way on the way back.

Now this car was a different color, it was an identical model to our first one, but a different color.

Sherlene: It was white. The first one was creamish green and this one was white, the way I remember it, but maybe it was the other way around.

Tracy: It may have been the other way around. One of our cars was a pale green. A pale pastel sort of green. Yeah. And the other one I don't know. Maybe it was white, and I don't know which came first. Anyway, we kept that car. When we left Schenectady we had ... the family was getting big and a regular car wouldn't be big enough. We had to get a station wagon.

We took out our retirement benefits. We lost everything that General Electric contributed and only got what we had put in during the years which was $2200.00, went over to Albany and bought us a dark green beautiful Ford station wagon that would seat nine people and we kept this car, as I remember, for a total of eleven years. That was our major car because there were nine people in our family .. seven kids and two parents. That car cost somewhere around $3000.00 in 1955 when we bought it Later on we traded in the Ford and got a green Chrysler, which we kept for ten years. Other cars we've had. We've had a Valiant. We had a small Chevrolet We currently have a yellow Ford. We had a litde Fiat once. We've had a blue Chevrolet 3/4 ton pick-up truck since 1970, and there was a time when we had four cars. We had the truck, the Ford, a Volkswagon and the green Chrysler. But there were five drivers, so that wasn't enough! So I had to ride my bicycle, (laughter)

When I interviewed for my BYU job as Director of Research, and that's the first position I held at Brigham Young University, it sort of happened like this. I had let Henry Eyring and some others learn that I wanted to leave General Electric and the word finally reached BYU. Harvey Fletcher had retired from Bell Telephone Laboratores at 65 and had gone to teach at Columbia University. When he was seventy years old, Ernest Wilkinson invited him to come to BYU, and at BYU he served as Dean of the College of Physical Science and Engineering and also as the University's Director of Research. This was too much work and they wanted to split the job in two and have a separate Director of Research. So I received a call from Ernest Wilkinson at some point along asking me to come at the University's expense, go to conference, it was General Conference time and interview for the job.

I went out to BYU and it was a beautiful clear day, like some of those April days can be. Just a slight breeze and lovely clouds in the sky and just absolute blue, clear air and sky. And I just had to be on the campus and knew that, "Yeah, I'll go to work here!" I was making a salary of, I don't kow .. eleven, twelve, thirteen thousand ... I think, perhaps, something close to twelve thousand at General Electric. They offered me $7500 at BYU and I took it. At BYU... Nerad had told me to not take another job, to stick around, it might take him just a little while, but he could get me $20,000.00 a year. I never told him what I would make at BYU. I was afraid to tell him I was going out there for less money.

Also, they offered me the position of manager of the diamond plant they they were going to start putting together and build in Detroit Michigan. In those days business was not my interest at all. I wanted to be a pure fundamental scientist in the main, although I had a real practical bent. I sort of got this attitude from my years with Eyring when pure fundamental science was the real thing. This was hammered into the heads of the university students all over the United States during that period of time, much to the detriment, I think, of our country. The truly good scientists who bring good things to mankind, it seems to me, have a practical bent in addition to having pretty good theoretical knowledge, but it was sort of the teaching of the day ... that Ivory-towered blue-sky fundamental research was the only thing that a great scientist ought to be doing.

Anyway, at BYU, Harvey Fletcher told me I could have either job. I could be the dean or I could be the Director of Research. Well, research seemed to be closer to what I liked, so I took that particular job. It did not have the prestige that being the dean would have, but at least, it would be closer to what I loved. Being the dean would just be no end of paper work, well it turned out there became more and more paper work

End of tape side 11

... the research job. After five years I started trying to get out of the job, but I didn't get released from being Director of Research until I had been in that positon for twelve years. I was able to do a lot of good for the school in the early days. My connection with the making of diamonds made me known to people everywhere — Army, Navy, National Science Foundation. All the granting agencies. And it helped me get money for others and I went there with the title Director of Research, and this was for the entire University - not just for the Chemistry Department - and professor of Chemistry. So I was a professor, a full professor at 35 years of age, which was not bad. After I had finally talked to President Crockett, President Crockett became my boss. I reported directly to President Wilkinson in the early days, but was soon reporting to President Earl C. Crockett, who was in charge of academics.

It was very pleasing to me that Earl C. Crockett nominated me and had me give the first annual Faculty Lecture at BYU, a series which continues to this day. I had the privilege of giving the first one, and men in the administration often compliment me on that lecture as being a really top-notch, the best, many or them would say of the ones they have been to. But, also, President Crockett had me made a Distinguished Professor, a title which I hold to this day. There had been one or two other distinguished professors before me. I think the lady who was Dean of the College of Family Living for awhile. I've forgotten her name. Yes, Cutler. I believe she was a distinguished professor. What was sister Cutler's first name? I've forgotten.

Ida Rose: Virginia!

Tracy: Yeah, it might have been! And there were some others. I know Antoinne Romney was one. And Steward Grow was one. I don't know whether I was the second one or the third one. I was either the second one or the third one that the university had. Apparently the university doesn't do that anymore. I believe there have only been four. I can only think of four. Cutler, Antoinne Romney, myself, and Stewart Grow. They have either abandoned the program or think that there are not .....it's hard to believe this, that there aren't any others that they want to bestow the title on. Cutler is retired and Romney is retired, so the only active members who hold that title right now are Stewart Grow and myself.

My first office at the university was right in with Harvey Fletcher. He was in the northeast corner on the second floor of the building. After a short while they cleared the office just south of there and I had that office. As a matter of fact, they may have cleared two offices. I don't mean south, I mean west of there. I had a part-time sectretary, who worked half a day in the early days. I had so many secretaries I don't remember very many of them. Later on I had a full-time secretary.

After a year or two had gone by Harvey Fletcher didn't want the deans job, so they put on a search to find a dean and the dean they chose was Armand J. Hill. He just retired last year. But when he became the dean he didn't want me in that area and I didn't insist on staying. He took over those offices for his own operation and I moved to the engineering building, upstairs on the second floor and I guess I was there for ... Well, I don't know how many years.

Then, finally Earl Crocket felt that that was not an adequate place for a Director of Research to be. An office had been vacated, a very fine office over in the administration building on the 3rd floor where Wilkinson's and Crockett's and the rest of the offices were. An office that has a window overlooking the quadrangle to the south. The southwest offices, a big window you can see up in there. That was my office. I think Daniel Ludlow had that before I had it. So that was my office and as time went on there was more and more work to do and I asked that I have an assistant and I asked for Lane Compton. There was some change in his job situation there at the Y. My life-long friend Lane Compton had gone to work for BYU before I had, and I asked for him and he became my assistant director of research and this helped me work out of a job to have somebody in who knew the work. Then after he was well entrenched in it, then I was able to retire and he was able to take it over as acting director of research. Then a year or so later I got Leo Vernon to come and be the director of research.

It was difficult to get research going at BYU for myself and for others. It hadn't had a tradition in this area. But we struggled with it. I was not very pushy and never have been one to try and push others out to get something for myself. It's been disappointing to me as time goes on and the space that I wanted and other people, who seemed much less deserving, have pushed someone out to take over the space. But finally Billings Brown who was chairman of the Chemical Engineering Department and chemical engineering and chemistry worked together at first when I first went there, but then they were separated and I think Billings Brown may have been the first chairman after they were separated.

He had a laboratory area, not really too adequate in the old Harvey Fletcher Engineering Building. The 2 story "H" shaped structure as you look at the building from the top. And we fenced off an area with chain-link fence and started our high pressure work in there. I started to scratch for war surplus stuff and went after money here and there and that's the place we worked in for a long long time. During my last year as director of research, my patents had made a fair amount of money for the university and I had some money from the National Science Foundation that you could do what you wanted with. So, putting these monies together, I talked... after I saw others get a research facility that I thought much less deserving than our high-pressure work, I talked to the administration into building a metal building that is now known as Building B41 exclusively for high-pressure work.

I tried to take in many BYU professors throughout the years to work in high-pressure and it never stuck with very many of them. Duane Dudley who is at the BYU, he was one of my students, but he didn't stick with high-pressure research. His interests were otherwise, and, in fact, he didn't stick with research. He was more interested in administration. Billings Brown I took in and he didn't stay in the field. The students in

chemical engineering worked with me on and off throughout the years. Kent Nielsen worked with me for awhile. He was in physics, and also in religion from time to time. He didn't stay interested. I never could interest any members of the chemistry department, particularly. The first man I interested who staid with it was J. Dean Barnett, and he still works in the field of high-pressure to this day. We have worked on occasion with Smith Broadbent, who is from chemistry. He's had students we've had working. Gerald Bradshaw, we've had students of his. and Rex Goates and Bevin Ott, Tracy, Jr., and one other student of theirs worked with us in the field of high-pressure. We've had students from physics. Occasionally even a student that's worked with us from electrical engineering and from geology.

We have had a number of visiting professors. Some of some importance: The dean of science at Rice University in Houston. Margraves, John Margraves spent a summer with us. Several Europeans have spent a summer or longer. Some have spent a year with us. I have lost track of all of them. There have been a couple from France, Scotland, no end of people have visited the laboratory. They number in the hundreds. I've lost track of them long ago. I should have kept a log. There is some log, by the way, for the record. I have usually had a calendar on my desk at B YU through the years, and I have saved most of those calendars, and there will be notes on there of appointments I have had. During the years when I had secretarial help of my own, these would be in pretty good order. Where I have been keeping the record the past seven or eight years myself, it may not be at all complete.

My correspondence used to be rather great. But when I was without a secretary ... I had a secretary, a pooled secretary over in the chemstry department, but so far away and so hard to do it by telephone, I would just go type my own letters, or don't answer my letters. As a consequence through the years, my mail has gone down to about zero, which is what I wanted it to happen anyway. But, anyway, the number of visitors who have come to our laboratory have been very great.

Others that I have helped get started in high-pressure: Howard VanFleet, physics. Daniel Decker, for quite awhile John Gardiner, who has now abandoned it. Let's see, Bill Pope of chemical engineering. Duane Horton of chemical engineering, Leo Merrill, who is full time with me. We get his salary on a grant, and John Cannon, who is full time with me and we get his salary on a grant. I've had over a million and a half dollars worth of research grants. I could have got more money if I had been aggressive and gone after it. Research grants aren't what they used to be. The reports, the proposals, have to be so elaborate, and there is so much red-tape at the government end and at the B YU end, I have become very discouraged with government grants. And my plan is to retire from the B YU at the end of the next year. I've got to write a letter and tell them that I am going to do that. I'm going to go into private research on my own.

I've written something like ... my colleagues and I, somewhere around 90 papers. I have maybe 15 or so U.S. patents, and corresponding foreign patents in many countries. If you count all the foreign patents, I probably have maybe 75 patents. I have done some consulting throughout *the* years. When Tony asked me how I was going to earn a living out there. He sort of presumed I wasn't going to make as much, although I wouldn't tell it to him. I says, "Oh, I'm going to make lots of extra money consulting." He laughed and said, "You're too young. You're only 35. You can't consult at that age. You need more experience!" He proved to be absolutely wrong.

People started to come after me to give talks and consult, and, as of some time ago, when I had made a count, maybe, ten years ago or more, I had already consulted for some 50 different organizations. Either a university or a company or a government agency. And I

made pretty good money at this for awhile. I don't really like to consult. I'm not gregarious enough for the job. And it's hard for me to talk to somebody for eight hours each day for a couple of days. That's really hard on me and I've essentially given up consulting. I don't do too much of it these days. However, it was the thing that enabled us to survive. BYU salary would never have been enough for us to build a home and done the other things that we have been able to do. We were frugal with out money. Saved it and have been able to advance financially throughout the years because of the start we got in being frugal in our early years.

I know I have told the story of how my consulting fees got started. I don't know that it has been recorded, maybe I ought to tell that. General Electric wanted me to consult for them, and they came after me soon after I had arrived in Provo. I went back to Detroit, and talked with the man whose name I have forgotten, who was going to head up the diamond laboratory and pilot plant and facilites there, and, of course, we talked for a long time. I gave them many suggestions on their work, all free, they weren't paying me. I think they just paid my way there, but I wasn't getting any money for the trip. But, anyway, after talking about what might be done. We had to get down to what salary was going to be paid. Well, this was completely out of character for me, but I immediately said, "How much are you paying Bridgeman. Percy Bridgeman had been hired by G.E. as a kind of a front man. He had a nobel prize in Physics which he received in 1948. He'd always tried to make diamonds for a period of almost 50 years. Had not succeeded and G.E. thought that he would like to come and see how it was done and get him as a consultant.

He had not been a consultant for General Electric. He was a consultant for DuPont. Bridgeman was so interested that he went to duPont to get released from his consulting job there so he could consult for G.E. They released him and he came and was shown the whole thing. I showed him the belt and how it worked and the diamonds and the whole bit. Bridgeman went around shaking his head. He could see that .... well, once you see how a thing is done, it's always easy. He sees that he, himself, could have done it if he had only been smart enough. Well, the idea was that Bridgeman would write an article for Scientific American saying that, "Yes, indeed, General Electric people had made diamonds, but he would not tell how. General Electric wanted to keep it a secret."

The scientific community didn't like this too well. Vanavar Bush and others complained to Chauncey Guy Suits about saying you made diamonds and then not telling how it could be done. Well, Bridgeman did write his articles, saying that these men had, indeed ... which added some credibility. Credibility, you see, G.E. would not have. They say they made diamonds, you're supposed to tell, to be scientifically honest, how you did it. Well, this is thre second best choice. Just have a Nobel prize winning scientist attest to the fact that G.E. had made diamonds. And this he did in a Scientific American article. Well, they chocked when I told them ... when I asked them how much Bridgeman was making, and they said, "Well, we never reveal that kind of information." But I pressed them, which is unusual for me being timid and mild mannered, particularly in those days. Well, they finally said, "Well, we're paying him $250.00 a day." And like that (snap of fingers), I said, "I'll take $300.00. They chocked again and said, "We couldn't possibly make that kind of a decision. We'll have to go upstairs and talk to the vice president." They went to talk to the vice president and quickly came back and says, "OK, we'll pay you $300.00." Well, there was some more talk, and this, that, and the other, and then I went home.

They wrote up a contract. When I got the contract, it was absolutely unreasonable and wasn't what we had talked at all. They weren't going to supply any money for my research, and yet, no matter who had supplied the money, they wanted all the results of any research I did at Brigham Young University. Well, this was rediculous. I couldn't sign that kind of a contract. They weren't even going to pay anything for it, and furthermore,

they were going to limit me to something like 5 days of consulting a year, which was only $1500.00. Well, I needed that $1500.00 badly. I discussed the situaton with Harvey Fletcher, and he says, "No, he'd never sign a contract like that, it wasn't fair!" Well, the G.E. guys were mad at me because they said that there wasn't anything in that contract that I hadn't agreed to verbally before. But they were all dead wrong on that. I can't imagine a company being so stingy to a guy who had done so much for them. They ought to have offered me a $20,000.00 a year salary for life, or something like that. Then I would have gone with them.

Sherlene: Did you tell how much G.E. was making off of your

Tracy: Well, it's estimated that General Electric's sales today of diamond grit are $180,000,000.00 a year. It is their most profitable business, and it takes them into more foreign countries in the world that any other business that General Electric is in. It's a more world wide universal operation than any other business that they have.

I think I got something like $75.00 for my first consulting job ... which I had had, I guess, before I went out to General Electric. But after this I had an inkling that I did not have before that consulting was worth a fair amount of money. So that was the price I asked from then on was $300.00 a day, and people seemed to gladly pay it.

Sherlene: What happened with G.E., did they make you a new contract?

Tracy: No, no, that was just the end.

Sherlene: You never did consult for General Electric.

Tracy: No, I never consulted for General Electric. Only in an indirect way. Yeah, I went to South Africa as expert witness for a couple of weeks for a sum of about $14,000.00. General Electric at one point... not too many years ago wanted me to go to Japan as a concultant, and I asked them for $3000.00 a day, plus all expenses and they gladly agreed to pay that, but then I changed my mind. They drug on for, I think almost a year went by, and by then I decided I didn't want to go and I told them, "No!" when they finally came around to wanting me to go. But, later on I got to hearing of the fabulous consulting salaries that people get so I decided to jack mine up a little bit. General Motors came after me to be their consultant, and I asked them for $450.00 a day, which they very gladly paid.

No. I guess ... that's not how that happened. U.S. Steel at Pittsburgh wanted me to consult for them, and so I just decided ... here's a new company, I'll ask them for more and see what happens. I asked $450.00 and they gladly paid it. Then I called the General Motors people and said, "Look, I think I've done you all the good I can, and I have another offer at a consulting job I would just like to thank you for all you have done and hope I've done you some good. I would like to go consult for this other company. They says, "Oh, maybe there's no conflict. How much are they paying you?" And I said, "$450.00 a day." And they says, "Well, who is it?" And I says, "U.S. Steel." And they says, "There won't be any conflict. You can consult for us and them too. We'll pay you $450.00 a day." So, that's the way it went. But through the years I've taken anything from $50.00 a day on up to what amounted to a couple a thousand dollars a day. That's rare that you get that kind of money.

Nowadays, attorneys I use, who I think are not as unique as I am, by any means. They get $100.00 an hour and I ask $100.00 an hour nowdays, and if I don't get it. I usually don't take the job. Because if any old attorney, anywhere, is making $100.00 an hour. I figure I ought to be worth the same. It's not worth my time if they can't pay me what they

are willing to pay an attorney. So I don't do very much consulting. I do a little here and there. I'm currently consulting trying to help the high-pressure project they have going at the University of Dayton in Dayton, Ohio. That's a Catholic University. They pay me, I think, $200.00 a day which is very low price for consultant nowdays. I don't know. They caught me when I was soft. The school needed some help, so I gave it to them at that rate.

I, perhaps, didn't finish answering question 41 of Sherlene's .. 42, What was it like in the navy? I've told some of those things. Well, navy life, or any military life ... it's something that there has to be, but it tends to be bad, because morals are loose and when people are away from home and they swear and, oh, it's just war and wartime things are just generally bad kinds of things. I was able to hold up under it, and I think many Latter-day Saint men were, but there is plenty of opportunity and temptation and hard things that you have to close your ears and eyes to and hang on to the straight and narrow. I think it is better today. The church is more world-wide and it's easier to run into church members nowdays than when it was during World War II.

The life in anything like the navy. It's generally one of wait, wait, wait! I think that's why there's so much ... There is so much idle time. See, what you do in a war is you just wait, and then maybe there is some action. Maybe there's not, but it's just a waiting thing. There's so much free time, and sometime it's difficult to occupy that free time. If you're not a scholarly type, it's a heck of a thing. You've got to be off playing cards or drinking or smoking or telling stories ... and the stories, you know, are unsavory type all the time. Now I staid away from those things very well, but it's still a hard thing. If you are an officer things are the easiest. Now I only spent a couple of months or so aboard ship and it staid in San Franciso harbor all that time. But, as an Ensign, which is the lowest kind of an officer in the navy, I had my own berth, my own little room. Now the room is designed so that two men could occupy that room, but I had my room all to myself.

A navy officer was considered a gentleman in those days. I had a black man who came and shined my shoes daily. He made my bunk, he cleaned my place up. It was hard for me to get used to that. He would make sure that my clothing was washed and pressed. So, you had a personal valet, so to speak. That didn't look quite right to me. I just never ... Lots of people looked forward to that, you know, having servants. Somebody who is serving you doing these things. And the higher you go up in the navy in those days, the more of those perquisites you would have. And I guess a captain of a ship would have to be waited on hand and toe and have when he went ashore on shore 'leave fancy cars and all kinds of things. -&*<**•

I have had some interesting experiences in the navy that come to mind as I keep dipping back into things. I really think I may have told some of those things on an earlier tape. How I was in charge of the entire Pacific Fleet one night for eight hours. I think I've told that story somewhere. I was the junior officer of the day, but the main officer of the day, he just went to bed, it was during the night shift and during that night we had some drunken marines that I had to take care of that crashed on to the navy base and went through the guard gates to get in. We had a typhoon with 100 foot waves on the Pacific Ocean which I had to send out an alert to all ships at sea to beware of that.

You have a lot of responsibility. That's one thihg I can say aobut the armed services. A young man can have the most immense amount of responsibility you can imagine, and, of course, I really felt it that night. Here I had on my shoulders and the whole sleeping United States did not know that one Tracy Hall was, for practical purposes, in command of the Pacific Fleet for that night. Now, if anything serious had broken out, I was to awaken the man who really was the officer of the day, commander... somebody, you know, and

get him to solve the problems. But, he told me in no uncertain terms, you know, unless the moon came crashing into the earth, or some really super disaster, the war breaking out all over again, I was to leave him alone. It was my job until daybreak to handle that situation. This happened while I was at the navy base there in Oakland. The big navy base and storage depot in those days. I think the base is still there, but I'm not sure what the funcitons are.

Well, like I say, you can have plenty of responsibility at a very young age in the armed services, and that ... if you can survive the bad aspects of being in the armed forces, there are many good aspects that can make a man out of you and it's a good place for many young men to be. I wouldn't knock it, particulary in today's day when the church is so worldwide and you have oportunity to associate with Latter-day Saints almost any place that you might end up being with other people in the armed forces.

It looks to me Sherlene like this is just about at the end of that tape, so, by the way, I think ... you know, I've recorded some of the lessons that I used to teach my Priests, and I think I've used this event to bring home a point, and if my posterity wants to check into other oral information, I think I've got maybe twenty tapes at home, where I have given lessons to the young adult class or to the Priests class. I just took my little tiny recorder in and recorded my lessons. Primarily to help me be a better teacher. I wanted to see what I was really like as a teacher, and it did improve my teaching to hear myself give these lessons. But there are some ... I used experiences out of my everyday life all over the place in those, and I want to fish those out some day and transcribe them on to paper via typewriter.

Well, Sherlene just brought in some ice cream, and this is certainly very, very close to the end of that tape. Mother is in the next room with Charlotte and she is also telling oral history onto a tape on another little cassette recording machine.

End of tape 11,12

Now there was an ad running in those days

H. Tracy Hall oral history, tape 13,14

Today's date is August 8, 1977. We're at Sherlene and Daniel Bartholemeu's home on Green Ridge Avenue, in White Plains, New York. This is Howard Tracy Hall, Sr., doing oral history for Sherlene and the questions are being asked by my daughter Charlotte Hall. She got transferred to Sherlene Hall. Alright!

Sherlene: OK. Let's see. How far did we get?

Tracy: Why don't you start on that, "What are the goals for the rest of your life?"

Sherlene; OK then, What are your goals now for the rest of your life?

Tracy: When you get older you start worrying more about your eternal salvation, so...

Sherlene: Oh, you're going to repent, huh? (laughter)

Tracy: Yeah. But, the things you didn't consider sins when you were younger, you sort of refine yourself, or try to, anyway. You know, you become concerned, and I notice it with the other older people in our ward too, the things, I'm sure, they wouldn't even have worried about earlier, they now worry about trying to perfect themselves.

Sherlene: Oh, really. Like what?

Tracy: Oh, I don't know off hand. It's just an observation. So one thing is just to try and be more righteous and not slip. Just like some of our older church apostles and others have said, you still have to worry about slipping when you're ninety-five. So you just hope, you know, you can stay on the straight and narrow and strive harder to do it. Satan won't give up ever on you. So, one goal is to be more concerned about spiritual things and maybe let earning a living and other things ... becoming famous not be such strong goals.

There are still lots of things I would like to do, though. I wish I could get the money to be completely independent research wise. Have a good machine shop and a good research lab. I want to quit teaching, which I plan to do next year.

Ida Rose: Money isn't a bit important, (laughter)

Tracy: And spend full time on research for my regular working days.

Sherlene: How about a mission?

Tracy: Oh, I suppose that could come later on. I thought that they were going to call Mom and I on a mission when we were called in to see the stake presidency last... early last July.

Sherlene: I was there.

Tracy: When I ended up being bishop.

Sherlene: I remember that. You came home and I could tell by the look on your face that I knew exactly what had happened, but you wouldn't tell me anything.

Tracy: Well, those are my general goals. What's the next question?

Sherlene: How would you rate your general state of health during your life?

Tracy: Probably below average. I have always had health problems ever since I was a little boy. But, I can get along. I don't know how to characterize my health problems. In a way I've always caught the flu and had sore throats and that sort of thing, you know. Every year almost, several times. I had the mumps twice as an adult. Since I was 35 years of age, I've had the mumps twice.

Ida Rose: You got those from the children.

Tracy: Yeah, I know. What other diseases have I had?

Sherlene: High blood pressure.

Ida Rose: Oh, your requitsial infection.

Tracy: Oh, yes, I had a requitsial infection that almost did me in, or seemed like it was going to do me in when we first moved to Provo. Down in that little house out in Orem. I had requitsial infection which Dr. Wallace was able to analyze and give me chloralmyciten for, which is a dangerous drug to use, but I finally got over that. I sometimes wonder if I don't have a return of that disease because I have the feelings which are.. I feel like I have a fever, but I don't have a fever and things like that. It returns periodically. Those kinds of diseases are related to malarial diseases, which you never really are cured of and which you have symptoms of from time to time.

And recently I have had very serious bouts with what seemed to be viruses. The most recent one did me in for a whole three months. So I haven't had the maximum of health and strength and vigor that I would like to have, but I've done alright.

Sherlene: You still don't have high blood pressure do you.

Tracy: Last time it was measured, it was not that way. Now I have been free of high blood pressure for the past twenty years as near as I know.

Sherlene: I can remember a time when Mom said the doctor told her to get ready to be a widow. What did he tell you?

Tracy: Oh, at about age 35 or 40. Yeah, that's true!

Ida Rose: Don't plan on being anything but a widow after you're forty.

Tracy: Yeah.

Sherlene: But you got over it.

Ida Rose: Then they found out that he had (something about thyroid)

Tracy: Yeah, I have taken what they call proloid. It's a thyroid extract of some kind from animals, and I take a little of that from time to time and it seems to be healthful.

Sherlene: How about the health of your parents?

Tracy: Well, my mother had quite a bit of trouble. She had very high blood pressure from middle age on. A lot higher than mine ever was. And she lived to seventy-nine. She had

thyroid trouble ... had a thyroid operation at one time. My mother had trouble with her eyes too, and had to have these tear ducts removed in both eyes at one time.

Sherlene: I didn't know that.

Tracy: But, my mom worked very hard all her life. She cared for her boys and she really worked her fingers to the bone, literally, for all of us. My dad, of course, he had a mild heart attack at age 65, and I think my father, Howard Hall, had high blood pressure in his older years, but he wouldn't take the medication that the doctors offered him. He wouldn't take it.

Sherelene: Why? Did he, just kind of ...

Tracy: Oh, just felt... I don't know. But, see, he lived to 85. He lived twenty more years.

Sherlene: Maybe that's why. Those medications really kill you off. We don't really know what he died of. I think with better care from these doctors he may have lived to have been 95. I think Dr. ... a dentist decided that .. well, my dad's false teeth. He had his uppers and his lowers removed like many of that generation did. And they weren't fitting very well. And one doctor, here he was, 85 years old, decided that he needed to cut his gums away to smooth out that irregular gum line and then they could give him a set of teeth that would fit better. And I talked to them about the operation. So did my dad. "Oh, very minor, you know. We're just going to cut minor, no big deal at all. No problem!"

But, man, after they had dad in there for the longest time operating on him. I think an hour or an hour and a half, they finally let me in and I was appalled. They had just cut my father's mouth to pieces, and he went down hill after that. He couldn't stand that ordeal. And I think that's what really got him ... did him in. I was just sure my father would live to be at least 95 years old, maybe 100 years old.

Sherlene: He looked so young.

Tracy: My dad looked young and he was healthy and vigorous all his life. Exercised all his life.

Sherlene: What do you like most about your wife?

Tracy: Oh, I can name one thing! Let me tell you some of her good traits. She's not afraid of work. She takes initiative and gets things done. She is ... Everybody likes her. She has a likeable quality. Everybody in the ward or neighborhood, wherever we are, they always like Ida Rose. She talks good. She knows how to converse with people. She fills in some of my vacancies. I don't ... I'm not as gregarious as my wife. She is gregarious in a good way. She can talk with people and get along with people. I appreciate her for her efforts with the children where she was unstinting in raising her kids. That was her first order of business, and she did it. She was a beautiful young girl, but she is beautiful now, but in a different way.

Ida Rose: You don't get olderer you get betterer! (laughter)

Sherlene: Mom's sitting her with this big grin, (more laughter)

Tracy: Love is different when you get older. Isn't that right, Mom?

Ida Rose: It's better.

Tracy: It's, you know, when you're first married, it's that passionate love ... but its a milder ...

Ida Rose: More enduring.

Tracy: Yeah. More enduring. Deeper kind of a love, when you get older because you've had all these experiences together and that's what life is sort of all about. You know, living it out... experiences together. I think we have probably been a pretty good team because she compliments my dificiencies, and I hope I compliment some of hers.

Ida Rose: Certainly do!

Tracy: Let me give you some examples. Many women stay in bed, don't get up in the morning. But when the kids were growing up, boy, Mom was up in the morning, you got a good breakfast. If you weren't going to get another good meal all day long, you got a good breakfast.

Sherlene: At six o'clock every morning, on the dot!

Tracy: It was earlier than that some times.

Ida Rose: We started at five in Schenectady. Later on we got up later. But it was five for a long time in Schenectady.

Tracy: That says a lot about a woman. You know, she has that concern for her family. That you're going to get the day started off right, with the chores done.

Sherlene: Your instruments practiced.

Tracy: Your instruments practiced.

Ida Rose: Family prayer.

Tracy: Family prayers, scripture reading, and a good meal. A good breakfast. I love her for her talents. She is very talented at growing things. She has a green-house, and I'm proud of her green-house. I like her green-house! (laughter) And her orchid raising and all that stuff. She's generous. She's not stingy. You know, she gives her flowers to people. All kinds of good deeds. I can't name any one thing. There are lots ... lots of things. She ... I've probably been more reluctant than I ought to have been as a husband in washing dishes and things like that, but she lets me get by with it.

Ida Rose: When I was working and we were going to school, you always helped me. You helped me with the washing and, of course we were doing them by the hand, I'm glad you did. Besides I had eczema. But you helped me with the dishes and everything. When I got through ... Whenever I had a baby Tracy always took over and cooked and he'd take the night shift for the first week. We could set our babies bottles ... he could do that. I never nursed my children. I wasn't very good ... moo cow! (laughter)

Tracy: Go on to the next question. We'll never get through.

Sherlene: If you were to describe Mother to someone who had never met her, how would you describe her.

Tracy; You mean today? Well, I would say that nice gray-haired lady (laughter) who...

Sherlene: Who has two terrific burn marks.

Ida Rose: Yeah!

Tracy: Yeah, you didn't mention the fire. Mom tried to save the house one time when ... She had some fat on the stove that caught on fire, and she has burn marks all over her forehead

Ida Rose: And I have some distinguishing marks ..

Tracy: Yeah.

Sherlene: She really was brave. I remember that. The whole kitchen was on fire, and instead of running out of the house and calling the fire department, she tried to fight it singlehandedly. And after she had done it I remember Daddy bawling her out when he found out.

Tracy: Oh, you know, when somebody's injured you don't know how to bawl them out. I didn't at the time, but later on I told her ...

Ida Rose: Did you ? what you was looking for. Why didn't you get out of there?

Tracy: Save yourself, not the house.

Ida Rose: Oh, I was guilty. I had a guilty-conscience for my stupidity. If it had been somebody else's stupidity ?

Tracy: Well, I would describe her as being very pleasant and talkative in a nice way. In that people would really enjoy being with her and talking with her, and I would tell them some of the things she does, like raising flowers and things like that.

Sherlene: What are some of your happiest memories of life with Mother?

Tracy: Well,

Ida Rose: He has probably already covered this!

Tracy: The happiest times! Well, before any kids come along, you have happy times just because you're young and way in love, you know, and marriage is all new. That's happy. That's happy times. Then the children start coming along, and the birth of your kids is a happy time. You're always glad for the new kids. We always were. We didn't not want any of our kids. We wanted all of them. (laughter and sighs of appreciation) So births were happy times.

Ida Rose: I was only going to have five and now I have six! We just knew they weren't all here.

Tracy: But, I don't know if I can remember any specific really happy times. Family reunions have been very happy times Something that we want to continue. Family is the thing that means the most to you. Would you agree to that?

Ida Rose: Oh, yeah!

Tracy: Family, by far, is the most important thing. It's more important than your accomplishments. Or your work, or anything. It's ...

Ida Rose: The older you get, the more you realize this.

Tracy: Yeah, and what you want to see, most of all, is for your children to succeed. Particularly to be in the church. That's what brings the real happiness. Is having your kid grow up and do their duty in the church. And do what is right, because that becomes a major happiness to parents.

Ida Rose: Not just the children, you know that they'll be happy.

Tracy: Yeah, that's the greatest area of happiness, really. Our vacations were happy times All of our vacations. I wish we had taken more of them. We were conservative financially. I was a lot more conservative financially than Mom. For example, we rented a trailer a couple of times and went on trips. Maybe you remember them. And, boy, those were really fun times. Particulary that time when we went up to Washington and swam in that Clakimus Creek area, lake and ...

Sherlene: That must have been while I was on my mission. I don't remember that.

Ida Rose: We took our ..

Tracy: No, that was a rented one. We had the Fiat.. and the Ford ..

Ida Rose: At Clakimus! You're right!

Ida Rose: But when we went up to Canada, we had our own.

Tracy: Right! OK, if I was doing it over again, I would have gone in debt to have bought a house trailer to pull behind the car, and taken more trips with the kids. When we finally got to where I felt we could afford to buy a house trailer, you know, pay cash for it and all that, then the kids didn't really want to go.

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Ida Rose: They were older ...

Tracy: See, first you were older and working and gone and then ... nobody wanted to go. The trip we took with ... was it with Virginia and you and Nancy to Canada. Now, that was a happy trip. And we really enjoyed that.

Sherlene: You came and picked us up in Illinois on your way, I think.

Tracy: But that was almost the last one of a vacation. Now we did come in the house trailer to

Ida Rose: That's when goes to ... she went up to Canada for some purpose. We came back east with the trailer, too.

Tracy: That was fun, too. But, see, it wasn't with the whole tribe. While they were all tittle. If I had done that over again, I would get that vacationing equipment at an earlier date. But these outings with the kids, they were really fun. Other happy times were proud times. You know, like kids graduating from high school, and graduating from college.

Also, seeing the kids accomplish on musical instruments. You know, if I would play the piano. I can remember playing the piano while Tracy played a difficult piece on his violin. That was a happy time, and I probably did similar things with all of you. At least earlier in my life. When you were in plays and any accomplishment of your kids brought real happiness to both of us, and I'd say those were the kinds of happy times we really had.

We've had happy times together. Sometimes, we've ... you know, the kids can get to be a drain on you. I can remember taking a few trips when someone offered to tend the kids and we'd go off alone. We went to Montreal. We took two or three genealogy trips, where we left the kids with somebody else. You know, be on a second honeymoon with your wife. Those are happy times. We've had more and more chance to have those and, of course, eventually, Charlotte will get married and we'll be back alone. And I've been wondering what that's going to be like. I bet we'll feel lost in many ways. Here we are back just like we were before we had any kids.

Sherlene: Back where you were. We'll send our little chillens to spend the summer with their grandparents. ...(laughter)

Tracy: Get along with your questions, daughter.

Sherlene: OK. Hardest times?

Tracy: Hardest times! I don't know. Illnesses are hard times

Ida Rose: All those fevers and measles and mumps and chicken pox ...

Tracy: Mom has had a couple of bad operations. One when I was away in the navy when that doctor operated on you and ended up just taking your appendix out.

Ida Rose: Which didn't need to come out!

Tracy: Then she had her hysterectomy. I think that was a serious operation that could have, you know, could have gone wrong.

Ida Rose: Did you worry about me when I had those operations?

Tracy: Well, sure!

Ida Rose; I didn't worry about me! (laughter)

Tracy: I'm glad you didn't. It was sad at the death of our parents. My own mother and Ida Rose's mother. And my father... those were sad. One really sad thing was the loss of our nephew Randy. Randall Hall, my brother Eugene's son in that bad scout accident, in which 13 people, 5 of them from our Pleasant View First Ward were killed. That was a very, almost terrifying time, you know, not knowing whether Tracy and David were safe, and hearing over the radio the death of Randy. That was a sad, really sad trying unhappy experience.

Sherlene: And Donna!

Tracy: Oh, yeah! The death of Donna. David's wife of only three and a half months. That was very sad.

Ida Rose: Now, I didn't even think of die deaths.

Tracy: We've been very fortunate in not losing any of our own children, and so far, none of our grandchildren. I can't just off-hand think of any other really sad or unhappy times.

Sherlene: What would you describe as the hardest experience of your life?

Tracy: Well, one very hard experience was the General Electric experience when they were not giving me credit for the synthesis of diamond which scientists had been trying to pull off for over 150 years. Those were very trying times.

Ida Rose: I think if it hadn't been for the church, it could really have been a lot worse if it hadn't been for the faith he had.

Sherlene: What would you change if you had your life to live over?

Tracy: Well, one can sometimes get in a reflective mood and wonder how it might have been if you married somebody else, or all kinds of things, but I've never given it any, you know, serious thought. Just things passed through your head. You know, what if you'd taken this job and not that job, but, I really never dwelt on anything like that, because I don't believe it's constructive. You can't live your life over, so you just better take today and do the best with it that you can.

Scientists have minds that... creative people have minds that imagine everything almost, and that's why they're creative because they're imaginative. I've imagined what would have happened if I hadn't... What if I had gone to work for DuPont, and this, that, and the other? But, I never dwelt on it or, you know. I don't think I would really change very much. A life is filled with disappointments, happiness, experiences, troubles, a few fights with your wife and a few fights with your kids, but, that's all the experience the Lord intended for us to have. If we were just one smooth happy sailing vessel, we wouldn't be getting what the Lord wanted us to be getting here on this earth.

Sherlene: I guess you've sortof touched on this, but how do you feel about the family you raised?Tracy: Very good! We're poud of every one of them.

Sherlene: What kind of a routine did you and Mom establish when we were growing up?

Tracy: Oh, I think you grow and perfect yourself as you grow. We were inexperienced, but somehow or other it's better for inexperienced parents to raise kids than experienced ones, I guess. They've got to ... it seems ... They're programmed for it by the Lord. I'd hate to have to start raising kids over again right now. I don't think we ... I think we sort of grew into our routine. Mother was the leader of it, I would say. I give her credit for starting the early morning routine and sticking to it.

Sherlene: I guess we already talked about the scripture reading and early breakfast and the practicing of the instruments, getting the chores done before we went to cello, to violin, to piano.

Ida Rose: Later on voice lessons.

Tracy: The theory was that then the kids could play after school and they wouldn't have to do any of those things. They had already been done early morning, so they could be with their friends after school and whatever they wanted to do, they could do.

Sherlene: After raising all these children, what is your philosophy on child discipline?

Tracy: Oh, we had conflicts in our family over child discipline. I was not quite as authoritarian as Ida Rose, but, and we had disagreements. I thought she was unreasonable at times.

Ida Rose: I was.

Tracy: But in the main, I felt, you know, she was with them all day. She had the main responsibility and was taking it, so I should minimize my criticism, but I did criticize her and make her cry.

Ida Rose: But you never did it in front of the children! Never! Never!

Tracy: Yeah, I never criticized her in front of the children.

Ida Rose: Nor did he let the children know that he disagreed with me. He would get me aside and say, I think you're too rough here, and you shouldn't have done this. In fact sometimes he was very difinite. And sometimes I'd back down. And then I'd have to go tell the kids that I was wrong.

Sherlene: Gee, if we had only known that, we could have played up Dad a little bit more.

Ida Rose: It wouldn't have done you any good because we stuck together.

Sherlene: We always thought Daddy was really having a fight with you.

Tracy: He was sometimes when the kids were getting out of line. In fact, I... who was it you gave such a spanking to that they were ...

Tracy: Oh, Nancy probably got the biggest walloping of any kid when she was about sixteen years old. I really got fed up and really let her have it The last spanking of my fatherhood! (laughter)

Sherlene: In fact, mat's the only one that I've ever even heard of.

Tracy: Oh, no, I've spanked the kids. Not nearly as much as Mom, but ..

Sherlene: I don't remember ever getting spanked.

Tracy: Oh, I would .. well. I ... See ... I ... I ...My, my anger is slower than Mom's, as a rule,

Ida Rose: His boiling point doesn't boil as fast.

Tracy: And I can be pushed further before I explode. But, I will eventually explode, and have on several .. I think on most of the kids. Probably even with you, Sherlene, is that you don't remember it.

Sherlene: What is your philosophy on child discipline? Do you think they should be spanked from time to time or...

Tracy: Oh, yeah!

Sherlene: Dryker's philosophy on the natural logical consequence?

Tracy: Oh, no, I think spanking is the logical consequence of bad behavior on the part of kids. No. I believe ... I believe in the ruler.

Ida Rose: Dryker's system ... you've lost control .. and kids enjoy it. (laughter)

Sherlene: Why don't you just... This isn't one of the questions, but I'm just sort of curious. How would you, just shortly, describe each one of your kids.

Tracy: Shortly?

Sherlene: Yeah, you take each child and describe his characteristics.

Tracy: Well, everyone of them is different. And an interesting thing about kids that you soon learn is that to treat all your kids equally and even-handedly, and that's what you want to do.

Ida Rose: That's impossible!

Tracy: On the surface that's impossible, because every kid is different. And every kid has to have different treatment. Furthermore, as life progresses, the situation changes. The first kid has benefits and disadvantages and the last kid has benefits and disadvantages. You just can't get away from it. We were poor with the first kids, and when the last kids came along, we were a lot better off. So the last kids along gets the best financial deal, but they don't get the discipline, and particularly the self-discipline of the first kids. So there are advantages and disadvantages of where you stand in the family. And what a parent has to do is try to, you know, circumstances change as time progesses. Just try and make it as fair as you can, but you probably can't really make it absolutely fair. And every child needs different treatment. I don't know how to characterize my kids. I'd have to think about that quite a bit.

Sherlene: You know somebody twenty centuries from now might be

Tracy: They're all ... Well, I would say ... I would say every one of our kids were very intelligent. Not a one of our kids was dumb. They were all highly intelligent. Everyone of them... were highly intelligent. Of course, the whole pattern of the gospel is to improve yourself, and the improvement doesn't necessarily come at the same time with everybody.

Take David, for example. I've sort of had him pegged that he was maybe not one of our brighter kids, maybe the... maybe at one time I may have thought that David was the kid with the least promise in intellectual areas, but it was just that he was more of a late bloomer and things happen in peoples lives that change them. I think that Donna's death really sobered David up a lot. I don't know if you would agree with this analysis .. Well, his mission did, too. But, you see David really buckled down and studied that year between the death of Donna.A year and a half, I guess it was, before he married Karen. You know, he had to forget this horrible experience, and he did it by burying himself in work. Mainly his school work. So, of all of our kids, who has the most education now? If you had said it would be either Tracy or Sherlene, maybe you have as much as David. Let's see, David has a batchelor's degree in mechanical engineering. A master's degree in it, and a master's degree in business. And probably has had more years in college than any of the kids.

Tracy, you would characterize as very brilliant but slower. He works slowly. But... I work slowly. He's more like his dad in that respect. I'm sorry that Tracy didn't get his PhD. I think he should have gotten that so he would be a member of the PhD club. Not that he isn't just as smart as

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Saying that Tracy, Jr. didn't get his degree at Berkley. Oh, a number of reasons, just that the hippy culture that exists even with the professors, who are holding a required course in a beer hall on family evening night instead of in the regular classroom situation at the school. Tracy refused to go to that course. The only course he lacked to get his degree as far as course work was concerned. Then they have those professors down there that figure they keep the slave labor on for five years ... Tracy had done plenty of work for a thesis, but this professor Phillips, who was his major prof wanted to keep him there about five years before he let him out.

Tracy should have staid at BYU. He'd of got his PhD. He'd had a better thesis even, I think than what he ended up with at Berkley. Tracy and Betsy thought they should go to Berkley. And maybe they should, I don't know, but I wish they hadn't.

I don't know how you characterise the kids. They are all different. All have their virtues. Let's go on to another one.

Sherlene: I think we should just go down and describe their personalities.

Tracy: Personality is pretty hard to describe. Sherlene's personality is in some ways like her mothers. In that she is a good talker, and interesting and likes people and easily becomes aquainted with people. Your personalities of you and Mom are both outgoing personalities. Tracy Jr. is like me. Tracy Jr. has an introverted personality. An inward personality. He's a thinker. He's a dreamer, but a dreamer ... by a dreamer ... thinkers and scientific and creative people are dreamers. They dream. They day-dream a lot. That's the way you come up with things. You're very good at writing. Tracy Jr. is good at writing. Tracy could have been a poet. He could have been an English major. In fact, Bob Thomas wanted him to be. All of you have musical talents, personality wise, Tracy's personality ... he's a little ... I don't know how to say it. Maybe unpredictable on what you might expect him to say.

Ida Rose: He's got a subtle sense of humor.

Tracy: Yeah, he has a very subtle sense of humor. Tracy Jr. has. A very dry subtle sense of humor. My brothers are that way. Eugene and Wendell are that way. David. David is very businesslike.

Ida Rose: He gets things done real fast.

Tracy: Yeah, David works fast And he gets things done. David is ambitious. He is industrious. I don't think he is ob ... He's not at all obnoxiously ambitious. As much as I've seen of him lately. All of you seem to have a religious nature.

Let's see. We go on to Elizabeth. Elizabeth ...

Ida Rose: She's our most musical.

Tracy: She's probably the most musical. I don't know how to measure musical ability. True musical ability. I think you had some ability that even Liz wouldn't have. You have ... you could hear the piece and play it on you cello. Liz could do that, but I think your ear might have even been better than Liz's. But Liz has perfect pitch.

Ida Rose: Liz never had to be coaxed to practice.

Sherlene: Well, Liz had something artistic. A gift. She has a natural, sure she has worked at it hard, but she has a real gift... something heaven sent.

Tracy: Charlotte is our quietist child. She inherits that from her father. Because my natural tendency is to be quiet.

Ida Rose: I thought you were ?

Tracy: You know better than that! (laughter) Charlotte ...

Ida Rose: You left out Virginia.

Tracy: Oh, all right. I thought something was the matter. I was down to Charlotte already. But, I'll continue with Charlotte. Charlotte is a peace maker type. Probably more of a peacemaker than any member of the family.

Ida Rose: She is the strong silent type

Sherlene: She's the kindest.

Tracy: Yeah, she is strong, silent, kind type.

Sherlene: She never yells.

Tracy: I would rate her spirituality high. I don't know as I've seen Charlotte blow up. She may have done at sometime in her life, but I haven't seen her. I've seen Liz blow up I think it takes quite a bit to make Liz blow up. Virginia. How do you describe Virginia? Virginia is a

Sherlene: She's like her nickname, "Ginger." Lively and spicy and creative and sweet ... sweet, too.

Ida Rose: Virginia is very good with kids.

Sherlene: She's fun! She's ?

Tracy: I think Virginia has tried to follow her patriarchal blessing, and some of the other kids have, too. Her patriarchal blessing mentions something about teaching the public schools of the nation, something like that, or teaching the children of the nation. So she became a schoolteacher to try and exploit that Of course, the ones who have been on missions - Sherlene, Tracy Jr., and David. They all overlap their missions. There was a six months period when we had three missionaries out. And then Liz was the first one married. And then Virginia went on a mission and then Charlotte went on a mission, so three of our five daughters and both of our sons went on missions. And we hold the record in the ward and have for years. No other family in our ward that has sent five of their children on missions. (at that time)

Ida Rose: Especially daughters.

Tracy: And we didn't particularly encourage our daughters. We just let it happen.

Ida Rose: They all wanted... really wanted to go.

Sherlene: No, you didn't at all. In fact, you practically tried to talk us out of them.

Ida Rose: Just wanted to make sure if you wanted to go.

Sherlene: You certainly didn't apply one ounce of pressure.

Ida Rose: ? in fact, worse.

Tracy: Nancy, the youngest, is an extremely creative person in art and probably could also be in music. But she definitely has the artist likeability in the family and it's natural. We never could get her to develop it. We hope she'll still have time in mis life to get that done. But, that's her really creative thing. We're happy to see that she's turning out to be quite a good mother, I think. Don't you?

Well, that's a brief run-down on our kids. We've got to move along.

Sherlene: Hey, what do you think about politics?

Tracy: Oh, politics is for the birds. I'm very conservative in today's political arena, if you want to call it that I think the country is rapidly going to pieces. I'm particularly concerned about the national debt, which, I think, is the main cause of inflation. I'm concerned about the welfare program which I think just perpetuates itself. And never does .. it ruins people. And perpetuates the jobs of bureaucrats and politicians. And we'll probably never be able to change it on that account It turns out that politicians just seem interested only in perpetuating themselves. Hardly any of them ever want to leave their positions and their perquisites and their public ... their place in the public eye. I don't know. I worry about our country. I believe that politicians are betraying our founding fathers in the way they conduct our affairs.

Taxation is terrible. Beyond the point of no-return, almost. The government assumes that it can spend our money better than we as individuals, and that's not true.

Ida Rose: We have many good men in their trying, but it certainly is impossible to ?

Tracy: But they are certainly in the minority.

Sherlene: Why are you a republican instead of a democrat?

Ida Rose: Just for ? sake (laughter)

Tracy: Well, the main reason is that Republicans in a general way are more conservative fiscally and socially. They want less welfare, lower taxes, that kind of thing.

Sherlene: What do you think of the Watergate affair?

Tracy: Oh, it.... well, nobody in my family will agree with me on this. I'm alone. I think that Nixon was no worse than Franklin D. Roosevelt. I think he was better than Johnson, and I think he was more honest than Kennedy. And I think he was framed. I

don't approve of what any of these men do. I was deplored to hear that Nixon swore. But, it was a political thing. Y
Because you could have taken Johnson and impeached him for more reasons than you can try to impeach Nixon. And you could certainly have done it with Franklin D. Roosevelt, and many of the others. I think it ... now you asked for my point of view. I think he was framed. You could have just as well have done it with several other presidents, including Kennedy. And have just as much ground for trying to impeach him.

Sherlene: But would you characterize Nixon as ... you're speaking relatively with other presidents, say there was not that contrast with all those other presidents would you think Nixon was a good president?

Tracy: Well, I think you have to the contrast. I was disappointed in Nixon as being too liberal. I thought he would be more conservative.

Ida Rose: What did you think about the cover-up?

Tracy: I didn't think ... well, it was wrong. But I don't think it was the, you know, the crime of the century. It was described by his opponents as "The Crime of the Century!" It was not that. It was just bad ..

Sherlene: Well, what kind of a man would you want to be as president of the Unites States? Who ... would you have chosen if you could have just chosen someone?

Tracy: Oh, David O. McKay and President Kimball.

Sherlene: That's what we need, I guess. A prophet president!

Ida Rose: Joseph Kennedy I would have voted for.

Tracy: Which Kennedy? You mean David Kennedy. Yes! He would impress you as being a really good president.

Sherlene: I guess this next question has sort of been covered. What kind of a man was Truman, Eisenhower, Roosevelt, Johnson, Kennedy. Nixon. Do you have comments on any of them in retrospect.

Tracy: Yeah. Eisenhower was the best of those presidents.

Sherlene: If you were president of the United States, what are some of the changes you would like to make?

Tracy: Well, I've sort of hinted at them already. I think it is next to impossible for any president to make any changes because of the entrenched bureaucracy. But I would strive to make it so people did not become wards or slaves of the Federal Government. In a sense, those on welfare are slaves of our federal government There is no way they can have any pride of accomplishment or anything else, and yet, these people are in the system for three, even four generations and they want to continue it They're enslaved. They're trapped in that system, and, it may seem cruel, but it would have been better to let them have gone a little bit hungry, you know, and had to work for it.

The church plan is best in the welfare plan. Try as much as you possible can to have them earn as much as they receive. Just don't give it to them.. That's the biggest mistake in the whole welfare program. Also, having the welfare program administered nationally is

bad. I think private charity is the only kind of charity there should be. Government... what we really have... Socialism is a religion in a sense. It would not admit to that, but Socialism and Communism are religions. And what we have is a state religion in the United States of America. It's as far as our temporal affairs are concerned. It has taken over and is putting its nose in the business of the churches and private organizations. The government leaders would say, "Well, the church has failed, and didn't take care of the people. Well, the government has had forty years and has spent hundreds of billions of dollars, and they haven't solved a single problem. I think private charity would have done a better job.

Sherlene: No one can afford private charity anymore, because they are so busy paying taxes to fill the welfare bill.

Tracy: I believe in limited government. I would strive for limited federal government, whose primary purpose is to protect us from aggression, and to take care of a minimum number of things, and let the people truly exercise free enterprise. That's what I would be for.

Ida Rose: Tracy for governor! Tracy for...

Sherlene: I would vote for him. I can remember being in a grass-roots ... I can't even remember what it was anymore. Political situation. Town meeting, or something in Provo, where they voted you in as a

Tracy: A delegate. Delegate to the state convention. First to the county convention and next to the state convention.

Sherlene: I can remember I was very proud because there were two or three nominations and then someone nominated Daddy. And everyone was supposed to keep their head down and not look. And it was a big room. All filled with all kinds of people. In fact, we were sitting toward the very back and I peeked when they raised their hands. And I think almost everybody in the whole room voted for Daddy.

Ida Rose: They usually do it by secret ballot.

Sherlene: I saw everybody raising their hands

Tracy: It could have been done that one time. I wouldn't remember.

Sherlene: They told them to lower their eyes. They weren't supposed to look, but I peeked.

Tracy: That's the only time I've ever done that. They've asked me to do that. They get later. But I've always declined. In fact, Howard Nielsen wanted to know if I wouldn't, you know, why didn't I get into politics and try and go up ... But I don't think that's my ... I wouldn't do very well in politics.

Sherlene: At any rate, I was very proud that day when so many people voted for you. That was the next question. Have you ever considered going into politics. Have you ever considered becoming an educator, and going into administration of some kind?

Tracy: Yeah. In my mid forties I realized that many scientists have the option of becoming administrators and are frustrated to know whether to stay in the laboratory or become an administrator. I kept working towards more and more being an administrator. And I

dreamed, "Well now, should I really try to be an administrator. Should I really try to become a college president? Because, you know, it's been in the family with my Uncle Aaron and what-not. Yeah, a lot of those thoughts went through my head in mid forties. They say that's a time of re-assessment, but I decided in favor of staying in the laboratory and not becoming an administrator.

I had had some administrative job offers several times. I was asked to apply for a job as Dean of the Graduate School at the University of Missouri at Raleigh. I declined that invitation. I was invited to throw my hat in the ring for the presidency of Weber College a few years back, and I did and then after awhile I got to thinking about it, I got cold feet and withdrew my name. I was offered one time ... I've been contacted several times by that management recruiting firm, Boos, Allen, Hamilton, and I've never taken any of their offers. I was once offered the directorship of a scientific laboratory that Kennecott Copper wanted to establish. I was told we could build the lab anywhere we wanted, even out in Utah, and I could pick my own men and my own personnel. It was to be a lab of about 100 people. I declined that. They said name your own salary, and I declined that. Mom was a little disturbed that I didn't pursue that one a little further.

Kennecott finally built a laboratory in New Jersey. I think they call it the Legemont Lab. And that was the lab I had the offer on. General Electric tried to hire me back on a couple of occasions. The first one was, I suppose, maybe after I had been out in Provo for about two years.

Sherlene: What kind of a salary did they offer you?

Tracy: Well, I talked with Hal Bovenkirk, and said, "Look, I'm the kind of a guy who is probably worth a hundred thousand dollars. How about sixty-five thousand." He says, "Oh, I think they would consider that kind of salary!" That was about 1964.

Ida Rose: You work as much as ? for that! (laughter)

Tracy: A little bit more than I'm making at the BYU.

Sherlene: I have here, but you've discussed it, I think. What have you been doing at BYU in teaching and research?

Tracy: I've taught mostly freshman chemistry. I have taught special courses on high pressure about every other year for quite a number of years. When I first went to BYU there was no one there who was expert in the more advanced areas of science. Such as quantum mechanics and statistical mechanics. And I taught those courses because there was no one else to teach them. But, when, in a couple years of my being there, they had hired chemists and were expanding the department quite rapidly and got people who could handle those courses.

I've taught chemistry for chemists at times. I've taught freshman chemistry for everyone. The course I've taught the most is Chemistry 105, which is chemistry for physics people, engineers, medicine, dentisty. I've taught advanced physical chemistry once, I think, but the trouble with teaching advanced courses is that I was out of that for so long as director of research that certain people got entrenched in teaching those courses, and then when I was free from being director of research there was just not the availability. And in some respects I really didn't want to spend the time it would take to build up the particular laboratories, but, in the high-pressure area ~ chemists, physicists, chemical engineers had taken high pressure courses from me for years.

Dan: What about lecturing?

Tracy: I do a lot of lecturing. I'm called on to lecture to all kinds of classes on campus. Art classes, psychology classes, chem engineers are always having me lecture. The chemists have me lecture a few times a year.

Sherlene: What do you lecture about?

Tracy: Well, high pressure and making diamonds, but also a lot on ... creative persons can do other things besides chemistry and I get ... In art I had one crazy thing I did in art. Sort of the Hall rectangles if you want to call them that, vs the golden rectangle. I have a whole series of rectangles of interest that I have mathematically developed. And I have lectured to the audience about that. They call me over to psychology and other courses to speak on creativity and, you know, what makes ... how come people are creative and why are you creative? What do you think creativity is? Things like that

Sherlene: What do you think creativity is?

Tracy: Oh, that's an hour lecture. We can't get into that one.

Sherlene: Is that on a tape somewhere? We ought to have some of those, you know.

Tracy: I don't think so? I've lectured to the college of business. Student groups are having me lecture all the time. Here, there, and everywhere.

Dan: The year I graduated, I noticed that various graduate degrees that were being awarded in what areas and through the graduate professors. I think you were the one who had more degree. You had more students who were associated with you than anyone else.

Tracy: That could have been at times in the past, but that's been going downhill, and that's one reason I'm becoming discouraged with being at BYU. Graduate students, just nothing but downhill in the sciences and .... they just aren't any students to work with. My last student to work for a PhD was Carl Johansen, and, man, that was probably five years ago. Maybe longer than that. I've had to work with undergraduates. We've had some good ones, but we've had some poor ones. And we just can't continue that way. Let's see, I was going to say something else. What was it?

Dan: Why is it going that way? Do you see any particular kind?

Tracy: Opportunity. People are going into medicine and biochemistry, because there is no opportunity. Nobody is hiring in the other areas.

Ida Rose: Industry-is now prefers engineers ..

Tracy: Industry is hiring mainly bachelor's degrees. Physics is way down. It is hard to get a job as a physicist. Geologists have been way down. Chemistry is down, but not as much. Chemical engineers still get jobs, but not chemists. Oh, it's not quite that bad, but it's bad. To only have six people working for a PhD in a year when there are 32 professors, that's bad.

Ida Rose: I can see you have to compete with the big name schools.

Tracy: At the big name schools, one professor will have 30 students, see. also, there is ... people are arguing in the scientific magazines that most universities shouldn't be in

graduate work. There's not that many people to be trained. There's not that much need. They think there ought to be half a dozen universities .. mainly the Ivy league, Cal Tech, and a few others that produce the PhD's and the rest of them don't even try.

Dan: Have there been a drastic cut in money going into basic research?

Tracy: Yeah.

Dan: From government and private?

Tracy: Particular the dollar figure stays about the same, but inflation has cut in in half, and the overhead at the universities ... When I first started our overhead was 15%. Now it's about 80%. Look, you have a thirty thousand dollar grant and the BYU is taking 80% as overhead, you don't have a very big grant. It's cut by a factor of 3, since I first went there 22 years ago. So you've got three or four thousand dollars to play with. Nothing! You can't do anything!

There are other bad things. The Freedom of Information Act makes it so that when I write a proposal and send it in to the National Science Foundation, you know it used to be reviewed confidentially by a few people. Now, it's public property. Anybody can come in and look at that. How many scientists do you think are going to share, say their best secrets, that they want to try their best ideas. They aren't. What they do is try to put out an idea that they judge will get them the grant, but doesn't really tell them all their big ideas.

Dan: A decoy idea!

Tracy: Yeah, a decoy idea. Right! And I don't like that kind of business.

Sherlene: Tell about Jesse Evans Smith and the diamond earrings.

Tracy: Well, I don't remember the exact details of that. But she was prophet Joseph Fielding Smith's wife, and she knew there were

Ida Rose: Brother-in-law of the McConkie's.

Tracy: Right, and she was somehow aware of our diamond making business in Provo and knew that we made these black megadiamonds. And we had cut a few of these into tie tacks and things like that. And I don't know the exact details, but we got the message from Ben E. Lewis, vice president of the University, that Jesse Evans Smith wanted us to produce for her a set of these black diamonds for ear-rings. And she wanted it to be known that she had pierced ears, so they had to fit her pierced ears.

Well, it's not all that easy to produce a set of ear-rings. It's really quite a job. The diamond is hard and very difficult to lap. Before we got around to doing it, sister Jesse Evans Smith passed away, so we're sorry we hadn't somehow got the things made in spite of the obstacles and difficulty and got them off to her. If I meet her at the Pearly Gates and she wants to know where her ear-rings are.

Sherlene: Didn't she get a couple of requests? It seems like Dad didn't get around to it and then ... Didn't she finally even contact you on that?

Tracy: Well, it came from the highest authority that we ought to get something to her. But, we didn't ever get it done.

Sherlene: But you did make something. You did have something started ...

Tracy: No, we hadn't. We never did ever start it for her.

Sherlene: Oh, didn't you?

Tracy: No, we've made tie tacks. I've worn one around myself. I made one kind of a thing for Mom. And there are a few around.

Sherlene: How about the time that Indian came to see you and you put him to work carrying lumber.

Tracy: Well, .. a rather important Indain, this is over in India. An India Indian came to my lab on the 24th of July. I had forgotten that I had an appointment with him. I was down to our shop on Columbia Lane doing some work with a student that I had hired to put new doors clear across the font and make these doors insulated. And all of a sudden I get a call that here's this Indian, and he had an appointment with me. And so I told Mom ... I was rather perturbed because I had been busy and hadn't had any time to get at these doors. I said, Well, tell him in a polite way to cool his heels at the Royal University Inn and I'll take him to lunch. Well, I finally decided at 2:00 o'clock it was getting late enough that I better go take him out to lunch. So I went and picked him up and said, "Look, let's wait a little bit for lunch. I've got a student down there working and we just ran out of lumber. And I've got to see if there's someplace in this town where we can get some lumber.

Ida Rose: It was on a Saturday.

Tracy: Yea, well, it was a holiday, the 24th of July, so we chased all over town trying to find a place open where we could get some lumber. Finally I ended up clear out in Pleasant Grove. I noticed a light on in a lumber store there and a bookkeeper was there working. So I banged on the door and talked him into letting me in. So, he sold the 2 x 4's to me and then I had him help me carry out the 2 x 4's and we tied them on top of our green Chrysler and hawled them back to the shed, and I said, "Well, let's just talk here while we work." So I put him on

Sherlene: Did you have lunch in there somewhere?

Tracy: Not yet, so we... I had him hold one end of the board while I measured it and cut it off and had him there working with us. Finally it got to be time that we finally got to lunch around 5:00 o'clock or so.

Ida Rose: He had to be at the airport. I think you are a little off on your time. He had to be at the airport at 5:00.

Tracy: I'm not sure. Five o'clock came

Sherlene: You had to walk up to the university somewhere in there.

Tracy: Yeah, I think he did walk up to the University somewhere in

Ida Rose: He could have walked up to the University first and save time that way.

Tracy: Oh, yeah, I guess that was it. The university was vacant that day.

Sherlene: No, he called and asked for a ride. And you told him to go ahead and walk.

Tracy: No.

Sherlene: That's the way I heard it.

End of tape, side 14

and people seemed to gladly pay it.

Sherlene: What happened with G.E., did the

H. Tracy Hall oral history, tape 15,16

I'm telling about the gentleman from India that came to visit me. I said we better go up to the school and see what you have come to see, so I took him up there and showed him a press that I had built with my own money. A 300 ton cubic press, one with square bases that were cut out of big steel plates that I had been calling the Indian press lately. Anyway I showed him that and made diamonds in it, and he saw how quickly and easily that was done. He left and .... some diamonds and he went on his way back to India. Well, I ... he left a book with me that he had written. I looked in this book afterwards and found out he was a real big shot back there in India. So, I thought, Oh, Boy, I really blew that one.

I sometimes have so many visitors come through the " Y" I get sort of ignorant to them and don't treat them .... I've tried to reform in recent years. I'm sure I've turned a lot of people off in the past, but they were coming through so constantly, I couldn't get my work done, but I decided that that's bad for the church, so I have tried to reform and I really encourage them and invite them to stay at our house and all this, that, and the other. Get David involved, take them to Temple Square, whatever I can do to try and help them live their knowledge of the chruch, which might eventually help us some and, who knows, get some converts. But anyway I figured that was the end of him. Later on they came back and wanted to buy that press. And, of course, I sold it to them in the fall of 1965, October or November.

Ida Rose and I went to India and after having shipped that press over there, and installed it and put it in operation for them.

Sherlene: Did you ever talk to him about that whole thing.

Tracy: Oh, No. No, I never brought up the subject, but the thing you have to realize here is the cast system in India which was officially abolished, but which still exists. It was very frustrating to be over there. Indian scientists do not want to do a single thing with their hands. Manual labor is almost against their religion. It's part of the cast system. Anyone who works with his hands is lower than somebody who just sits and commands and directs and tells. And when I was over there with a crescent wrench in my hand underneath the press trying to assemble it, they didn't like it. I was lousing up their system. "Oh, No! Give the wrench to this man. Tell him how to do it!" It was very frustrating.

My impression of the people who call themselves scientists in India is pretty bad because they do not want to work with their hands and you can never have good science without having .... Scientists themselves who have a theoretical knowledge also willing to do a certain amount of the manual part of science. I could give you a whole tape or two on India. Mom and I kept sort of a log and diary when we went there and it's in a book. You can read about it in that book we wrote on our trip. I think you'll find that book interesting. I forget what kind of ... I think it's a bound notebook that we both wrote in ... various impressions of our trip, and that's at home in Provo.

Sherlene: With your Books of Remembrance and that kind of record.

Tracy: It's not in that kind of record. No, it’s in just a separate bound volume that we would take turns writing in.

Sherlene: I mean, do you keep it with those kinds of records?

Tracy: Oh, it's on my bookshelf with my books in my study.

Sherlene: What are some of the most embarrassing things that have ever happened to you?

Tracy: Before we answer that question, let me tell you that ... my scientific notebooks do contain some comments from time to time that could be about our family history. I've never kept a diary continuously. Mother kept a diary during all the trauma of our General Electric experience before we left there. And you ought to know that that diary exists.

Sherlene: Oh, where is that?

Tracy: Well, it's a brown covered hardback notebook with sewn binding and everything. She kept that faithfully through that whole period, so that's a very interesting thing to look into.

Sherlene: That ought to be typed up as part of our history.

Tracy: She kept a diary there quite faithfully for a long time. It's too bad she didn't continue. But, I would say that diary covers maybe six months, which would be a good thing to know exists.

Sherlene: I'll say.

Tracy: I think it's located on her bookshelf in her study, I think.

Sherlene: What are some of the other things you have hanging around the house that we ought to know about? I know you have a drawer full of silver dollars.

Tracy: Yeah, we have currently, we have two hundred dollars worth of brand new 1963 pennies in sacks. $200,1 think. I think its fifty dollars a sack. I think we have four sacks. We probably have $100 in silver coins. You see the penny is our most valuable money right now. Intrinsic value. What it, in and of itself, is worth. The penny has the greatest worth. Isn't that something! (laughter) Isn't that something! Our lowest money has the highest intrinsic worth and maybe you have read in the newspaper occasionally how they want to change the composition of the penny so it's not so valuable.

Sherlene: Ha! That's something!

Tracy: Oh, I've tried to mark most of my slides throughout the years and many of our pictures. I've seen so many undated pictures of my mother's and former people that you don't know who the people are. The dates or anything. I have been rather faithful in dating slides and pictures that I have taken. So you'll find all that kind of stuff. OK, what was that next one? Embarrassment?

Sherlene: How about family heirlooms? Do you have some neat things stored away in your drawers that not too many people know about?

Tracy: Probably the most valuable heirloom that I would leave would be my scientific notebooks, of which there are only two. I had many scientific notebooks at General Electric, but, of course, that's their property. I've thought, on many occasions for many years, I ought to try and see if General Electric would give me copies of those, but I've never asked them.

One time Suits wrote to me and he never asked me any questions, you know, about how I felt about this thing he was writing up on the history of diamond, but he just said, "Here's the history of the diamond at General Electric." All wrong, you know, and spread over everybody, credit all over the place and not true correct at all. "But, I was interested in the history, so I gave this big speech in Rochester and here we printed umpteen thousand of these and gave them to the libraries all over the country, etc."

I wrote back to him. I wasn't nasty, I just thanked him for sending me his version of what happened and suggested that... I would think if he was really that interested in the history of diamond, that he would take the notebooks of all of those who were working on this project and contribute those notebook to the Schenectady Museum, which is a good museum, or else to the ... What's the big one in Washington? The Smithsonian Institution. And let historians decided what the true history of the synthesis of diamond was from the notebook records and not have a corporate officer of a company, who is likely to be biased, tell the people what the history was. I never heard from him. (laughter)

Sherlene: Oh, that's something! I sure hope no one has damaged those.

Tracy: Well, I worry about that. I'm sure they milk them dry because.. I know of one ... those notebooks were during my youthful really creative years, and I had just hundreds of ideas in those notebooks. I'd like to have them to work at. They've milked them dry as best they could, I'm sure. One thing Td me off because Francis Bundy patented in his name the stacking of belts, which I think they do in their plant, instead of one belt in die machine, you have two or even three belts in a machine. He patented that idea, which was definitely in my notebook as my idea. This happened .. This patent came, of course, after I left the company. In his name and not in my name.

Now I suppose it's conceivable he may have thought of it later and maybe didn't know mat ? If they did not pour over my notebooks trying to fish out all die ideas, they would be mighty dumb. I don't think the General Electric Company is that dumb. They should have known mat.

Sherlene: What are some of die most embarrassing things that have ever happened to you?

Tracy: Oh, I don't know. I don't embarrass too easily. Probably in your youth when you're a teenager you get embarrassed at things. But I couldn't name anything. Just being around girls is embarrassing when you're a bashful teenage boy. I can't really, offhand, recall any embarrassing event that would come in my mind.

Sherlene: What achievements have given you die greatest satisfaction? You really haven't told about your awards yet.

Tracy: The whole farmly has given my my greatest satisfaction. Of course, I take great pride in ... I always pray to Heavenly Father to help me in my scientific work and feel that he has, particularly in the synthesis of the diamond. And, I guess, maybe in some ways I shouldn't take all die credit that I have done. I think I haven't got enough credit because the General Electric people diluted it with taking die credit with various people. They deserve credit for developing in their processes and improving die diamond quality and in developing the different types, but they shouldn't take die credit for die first synthesis. That was me. I was the guy who did that, see. And that's the tiling. And, of course, that was the breakthrough. That was the achievement, was die initial synthesis.

Sherlene: I read in a big ad that I saw in several recent magazines. I think it was advertising tooth paste. It listed the hundred greatest, or was it twenty. I can't remember now. I think it was the hundred greatest discoveries in the past one hundred years, or something like that. One, of which, was supposed to be Crest toothpaste or something like that. But it listed synthesis of diamonds as one of them. Greatest! That was with a lot of other very impressive things. And that made me proud to see that

Tracy: Well, there are different ways you can decide which was the greatest. If you wanted to decide .... The thing about the diamond was that people worked on it for so long. People had been trying .... Oh, it depends on how you want to look at the situation, but for at least 125 years to make it. And perhaps even as long as 175 years. Science, including Nobel prize winners had been trying to do this for that long a period of time. And taking that into account, the effort that had gone into it. The guy who finally made it had really done something.

Sherlene: He should have a little more credit given to him. What was the most thrilling day of your life?

Tracy: It was thrilling to have been made bishop of our ward on July 4, 1976. That was a thrilling day. I think Mom was proud of that day too. I don't know if that was the most thrilling day, but it was the most recent thrilling day.

Sherlene: How would you describe your own personality?

Tracy: My natural tendency is to be introverted. I like to think and dream. But the dreams, you know, are not .... It's daydreaming, but it's daydreaming about scientific things. If you did this, what would happen? And I wonder how I could do that... this, that, and the other. It's hard for me to be gregarious for long periods of time. I can be friendly and get along with people, but if I'm with people too long, I have to get away. I have to get by myself. I have to have my own periods of just meditation by myself. I could not be with people perpetually. It would do me in. I'm not that gregarious. In fact, I can't spend a whole day constantly with somebody. It's hard on me. It's just because I am somewhat introverted.

Sherlene: I know! It's a miracle that you have been doing this all day. (laughter) How would you describe your own appearance?

Tracy: My own appearance? I was better looking when I was younger than I am now. Oh, I don't know about my own appearance. I was jealous of many of my boyfriends when I was younger because they were so handsome and seemed to have such a way with the girls, (more laughter)

Sherlene: I've looked at some of your early pictures, and you were handsome!

Tracy: I'm not. I tend to be thin and don't have too much trouble with my waistline. In recent years I have had to decline food. Most of my life I never had to worry about eating. I could eat all I could possibly eat. Now I do have to watch it I would like to stay around 145 pounds. My usual weight is about 155 pounds. I've gone for long periods at about 165, but that's too heavy for me. I would like to be at 145 pounds. I'm five foot ten and a half, small boned. My wrists are very small boned compared to the average man. Mine are very small.

Sherlene: I think you look young for your age. I think you're very youthful looking.

Tracy: People tell me I look young for my age. Your Mom tells me that.

Sherlene: You have very quick eyes.

Tracy: Is that right?

Sherlene: Like you notice your own eyes. Your eyes are very quick and darting, almost piercing, but in a kindly way.

Tracy: My desire as a man is to be, well, Bishops have influenced me in that way. Bishop Ritchie, in Marriott, was the kind of a man I wanted to be. I somehow pictured myself as an older man. That was my goal to be a kind, generous, soft spoken, good, grey-haired man someday. And I pictured Bishop deMik as being that way in the 18th Ward. Also, Bishop William Z. Terry.

Bishop Lofgreen was a great bishop and I liked him. He was... seemed to be the ideal of the youth. He became Bishop at twenty-six years of age. And was made the bishop simply, you know, to rev up the youth. He was the youth's kind of bishop. But, I was a serious young man. I was always serious and studious and not frivolous. And that was not my kind of a man. I preferred the old gentlemen with the wisdom and the knowledge and who looked graceful and gentle and kind. And that's what I wanted to be.

Sherlene: I think you are, Dad! I think you are.

Tracy: Well, thanks, Sherlene!

Sherlene: I know you are! What's your idea of good food?

Tracy: Oh, I love malted milks more than anything else when I was young, and I occasionally get them now and they just don't have that old appeal. It's funny. Your tastes change and things I didn't like when I was young I now like. I like this new soft yogurt. What's the name of it? Yoplait! Yoplait! That's nice. I'll eat one of those every day, if you'll buy me one.

Ida Rose: And I'll eat 4 or 5 on the day.

Sherlene: I've never even heard of it. What is it called?

Tracy: Yoplait! Y-o-p-l-a-i-t. It's French, and I think was introduced into American from Canada.

Ida Rose: But originally from France.

Tracy: And they now sell it around Provo. At die BYU and many stores.

Ida Rose: Thirty-five cents for for a little carton.

Tracy: Yeah, thirty-five cents for 6 oz. It's much better than the hard custard yogurt. This is actually runny. But it's much better flavored. I love it. That's good food, I like that. Well, I used to tell Mom after I'd been out on a trip ... we used to do a lot of traveling as Director of Research, I'll take bread and butter and beans at home over steak away any day. I like plain food. I'm not one ... too much for gourmet cooking and big steaks and stuff like that.

Sherlene: What's your idea of a good breakfast?

Tracy: A good breakfast for me is cracked wheat, glass of orange juice, a glass of milk, and toasted French muffin.

Sherlene: And what's your favorite desert?

Tracy: I like the pineapple fluff that Mom makes. That's a good desert I like fruit for desert, or cheese. These are things I wouldn't have chosen when I was younger. Let's see, what are some of the other goodie things that Mom makes? Mom, what are some of the deserts you make? I can't think of them.

Sherlene: Pineapple fluff!

Tracy: Yeah, I've already mentioned that one.

Sherlene: She makes a good banana cream pie.

Tracy: Yeah, banana cream pie and strawberry shortcake is great in season. Mom's strawberry jam is just great. Strawberry jam on whole wheat bread and butter and a glass of milk. That's a great desert! Her frozen strawberry jam.

Sherlene: OK. What's your idea of good music?

Tracy: Mozart. Most of the masters. Classical music. More modern stuff just doesn't have too much appeal to me. Occasionally I'll hear something that's OK. I like soprano singers. I disliked it when I was kids. I particularly like Joan Sutherland and I have quite a few records of hers. I like to listen to those.

Sherlene: What do you like to read?

Tracy: For reading, all my life I've read mainly scientific books. Scientific publications of one kind or another. I read the industrial scientific magazines. I read the church magazines, I read the scriptures. As far as reading a novel, that's a twice in a lifetime thing for me. I sometimes read the Reader's Digest. I read, sometimes I'll plow through a non-technical work. I like biography, particularly church biography .. church leaders. I like biography of scientists, great men of science, and I've read quite a number of those in my day. I have never read much poetry. I like history and I will read a history, particularly when it's attached to biography, if it's talking about George Washington or Thomas Jefferson or Abraham Lincoln. I've already mentioned great church leaders. I would like to read that. I have several large sets of books. In volumes that I will read on occasion. I will read church history. I would say next to science that I like biography and history the best.

Of all church jobs you have held, which did you like the most?
(Tracy is reading the questions while Sherlene has disappeared into the kitchen to take care of some of her duties there.)

Well, I think my current position as Bishop in the church. The least was when I was the high councilman and a stake clerk in the BYU Tenth Stake. At this point I might mention some of the church jobs I've held. I've been Bishop of the Pleasant View First Ward, Sharon East Stake in Provo since July 4, 1976, which is a day easy to remember. The celebration of our bicentennial. Prior to that I was young adult class teacher in the ward. I enjoyed that very much. And prior to that I was the Priests advisor and I enjoyed in

particular Sunday lessons that I gave to them. Prior to that I was in the Tenth Stake. Prior to that I think I was in the MIA somewhere. I've been in that on and off all my life. All my adult life.

In 19611 was second counselor in the Pleasant View First Ward to Bishop Lloyd Free, the first counselor was Chase Allred. Prior to that I think I was in the MIA, I've been in the MIA presidency, I've been in the Elder's presidency in the Pleasant View First Ward. I've been ... Oh, other jobs, mostly in MIA through my years. Even when I was a counselor in the Bishopric, the MIA was my responsibility. Prior to Pleasant View First Ward ... in Schenectady, I've already mentioned, I was Sunday School superintendent. And then for most of the time I was in the District Council. Going back to my youthful days, I'm sure I was Deacon's Quorum president and an officer in the other quorums through the years.

I was a counselor with my friend Lane Compton when my friend Frank ... Frank ... Our friend Frank, who got me a job at the Sperry Mills and the Bureau of Mines.

Ida Rose: Frank Davis.

Tracy: Frank Davis was the president. I was in the Elder's Quorum presidency in the Pleasant View First Ward at one point. Councilor to Harry Hodson. I've been on the stake Sunday School Board. I guess I've been on MIA boards. I think that covers most of the church positions. I've had ... I was High Councilman in the Tenth Stake. And also stake clerk in the Tenth Stake at the BYU.

Let's see, what other questions? What countries have you visited?

Well, I've been to Europe three or four times. I've been in South Africa. I've been in Asia. Japan. Experiences there would fill too many pages to cover that at this point

If you could live in any country besides the United States where would you live?, is a question Sherlene has written down here.

I don't know where I would live if I had my choice other than the United States. I would probably go to Canada as a first choice. It would be so much like the United States.

What is your hope for your children? I've covered that.

Primarily, that they live righteously and that they be successful, and that they stay close to the church. Work hard and are useful to themselves and to their own families and to their fellowmen.

What advice would you like to leave your posterity?

Well, primarily the same. Just live righteously. Stay close to the church.

Tell us about Mega and HTH Incorporated. When it started and what is happening?

Oh, that's too long a story. Mega was started when Bill Pope and Duane Horton approached me and says, "Let's each put in $20,000.00 and let's start a diamond company. Really, we didn't start a diamond company, we started... that company was first called Mega Pressure Products and Research Corporation. We were just going to do research on various things that might be made that you might be able to base a business on that required high-pressure and high-temperature. And later on I came up with the sintered diamond, got

some patents on it and started making these sintered diamonds. It's a long story, and it's very complicated.

Let's see. Tell us about some of the famous and interesting people you have met. Timpanogos Club, she mentions.

Well, I don't know who the most famous person is I have ever met. I have met quite a number of famous scientists. Famous and interesting makes two different kind of statements. Percy Bridgeman was a Nobel prize winner and I had talked with him at G.E. ? Libby, Nobel prize winner, I've had him call me on the telephone and ask me questions about high-pressure. There are several Nobel prize winners that have called me and asked me questions about high-pressure.

Fields outside of science? Oh, I've probably been able to shake hands with all the church presidents since Heber J. Grant. I have been able to converse with some of them like President Kimball and President J. Reuben Clark and others.

Politically? Well, I've talked with people like Governor Rampton of the state of Utah. I've talked with senators like Moss and, oh, other Utah senators that don't come to my mind at this time. I've never met and shaken hands or talked with a president of the United States.

The Timpanogos Club is a club formed about 1913 in Salt Lake City and to belong to that club you are supposed to be a successful business man or artist or scientist or something like that. The various university presidents in Utah have been members down through the years. I was elected by a brother who had been a missionary in South Africa many years ago. I've forgotten what his name was. I think it was one of the Cannons. He had me talk at Timp Club on diamonds. They liked me a lot and he nominated me and I was elected to membership.

Successful business men? University president's, governors of the state, some scientists and people like that are members of this club. I've been a member for almost 20 years.

Who is the most important person you have ever met?

Well, to me as a Latter-day Saint, it was probably, to say the various presidents of the church, and I wouldn't want to point one out specifically.

If you had a million dollars what would you do with it?

Well, I would quickly establish me a first-rate laboratory and expand the HTH Incorporated machine shop and just get the things that I've always wanted to have in my own personal research laboratory.

What do you think about the future of America?

Well, I hope for it, but I fear for it.

What do you think about the theory of evolution?

I stick it in the back of my mind as a possibility. I tend to not believe it, at least at this stage of my life. I think a direct creation of* things by the Lord is just as much possible as the theory of evolution. There are things that the theory of evolution "tends to explain",

quotation marks! There are things that, if you just take the biblical story which offers no explanation of how things are done, you can be worried about

One thing I've learned. Science is not all truth as it claims to be. And there are many holes in science. Many unanswered things. There are many unanswered thing about the scientific theory of evolution that tend to be neglected and overlooked.

People who propose theories in science are kind of like lawyers at a trial, they are only presenting their... they believe it first and then bring all the evidence they can to bear

end of tape 15

As I was saying there are many things in science that are unexplained. Some things that are contradictory. There are things like that in religion. Even in our religion. I just hope that someday, at least, they will be resolved.

You know there are many people who will throw out Mormonism on one ground. 'They say well, this doesn't make sense to me, and if there is just one thing wrong with your religion then that means it's not true. I've never bought that, because if you applied that to science, you wouldn't do anything in science either. So, just because there is some ... thing to us that is contradictory or unexplained, does not mean that you don't adhere to it.

I love science and I eat, sleep, and drink it, but I don't make it my religion.

Let's see, Sherlene's question number 98. If you could be twenty years old again and retain everything you have gained and done by now, what would you do with your time?

Well, I don't like to philosophize about those kinds of things. You can't really .. I don't think I would change a thing.

Tell about the Hole in the Rock accident. By that I think Sherlene means that scouting accident which occurred on June 10,1963,1 believe. Darrel Taylor was the scoutmaster in our ward. As you know, scouts and explorers have these high adventure trips that they are supposed to do one of each year and the scouts had selected for their High-adventure trip this year to go down a float trip on the Colorado River starting somewhere near Escalante . in southern Utah. I was a member of the Bishopric, second counselor to Lloyd Free, who was responsible for the Mutual Improvement Association.

Big trips like this, though, had to be approved by the Bishop and the Bishopric in general. This was approved. A firm in Salt Lake, the name of which I have forgotten, was regularly running these river trips, which were all the vogue in Utah and Idaho and other places in those days. It was a ward that had started this up in Salt Lake. The words Sacatwa runs through my mind. Sacatwa Expeditions, or something like that Anyway, they sort of semi organized into a company and sponsored these things. Well, I was scheduled to go on that trip. Our two boys were going, David and Tracy, and when we were up in Ogden visiting my brother Eugene, Ida Rose mentioned something about this trip. And later on we were called up and our nephews, Gene's sons Alan and Randy wanted to go on this trip, so they signed up for this trip also.

Quite a number of scouts and several scout leaders from our ward including the scoutmaster and two assistants. Well, now, I got a sore throat a week or so before this trip, a terrible sore throat and it just got worse and worse and worse. I went to the doctor and had my shots trying to get it cleared up, but it wouldn't clear up. The day before the trip I went to the doctor had him examine me again and asked for his advice. And he said,

"Don't go on the trip!" Well, there was only one other person free to go on the trip from the Bishopric and that was Chase Alfred, and he had to make some adjustment in his schedule to do that. So he went on the trip.

Well, when the truck and whatever else was involved to carry the gear, arrived at our ward, there were other people on the truck going on the same trip. Something that our leaders had not known about. There were people from other wards in Provo also on this trip and at least one other scoutmaster from another ward. Well, this was disappointing, but they went on the trip anyway. The truck, and I think there really only was one big truck, had all this heavy gear of these boats and all of these young men and their leaders. The truck, unfortunately, was driven by an unexperienced youth, who was twenty-one years of age. He met the legal requirements, but was just too young a man to have been driving this very heavy, probably overloaded, truck. The truck was a fairly new truck, however. Well, of course, we learned of all these happenings later. And it was a traumatic experience as we learned and listened to the radio and waited for telephone calls.

But, as they were going up a hill on dirt road towards their destination on the river, the truck had become overheated, and you know how overheated engines are ... they're kinda balky. And this young man stalled the engine. Well, with a stalled engine, when you have power brakes, the power brakes didn't work. So, he had no brakes. Instead of leaving the truck in gear, he shifted it into neutral, and he tried to start the engine. And then, of course, the truck started to roll backwards and gained momentum. A few people, well, there were some people as I understand it, who were even sleeping in the truck. But, some were standing up and managed to jump out, but most of the people in the truck .. it rolled over a cliff and the truck rolled over. It pinned our nephew Randy underneath. David. Our son David was right next to him and Randy was killed. David says that the weight of the truck on Randy and on Randy's chest, held the truck up sufficient from him. David was also pinned under the truck, but it held the weight of the truck sufficiently, that David wasn't killed.

Tracy was thrown out. Thirteen people in all were killed and many were injured seriously. Five boys from our ward were killed and our scoutmaster and our assistant scoutmaster. We heard of Randy's death over the radio, but did not know about David and Tracy and the others. Ida Rose and I as soon as we heard of the accident, we quickly went and knelt in prayer and asked the Lord to enable us to bear whatever we might have to bear, and asked for the Lord's blessings and guidance on ail of the young men, including our own, if their lives could be preserved, if that was at all possible.

We heard from David. I don't know what time, maybe nine or ten o'clock at night. We first heard this word around four o'clock in the afternoon. Four or five in the afternoon. Tracy, we could not learn of his whereabouts. David had told us that he thought Tracy was OK. The last he knew of Tracy ... the police had taken Tracy to ride in their automobile to some place to make identification of dead or locate something or other... anyway, Tracy Jr. ended up riding for hours with the police before he finally ended up at the hospital. Our boys both came home with bruises and black eyes, but... and David had a slight concussion, but we were grateful their lives were spared.

This was a very, very sad affair. There were lots of sad things from it The insurance situation. Some of the men did not have insurance because the trip was supposed to be insured, but the insurance had to be split so many ways. And there was fights and suits and problems over it. And it was a very very sad affair. We went to the funeral of Randy up in Ogden. It was held the same day as the funeral for.... I guess we went to Darrell Taylor's funeral, but the funeral for 5 boys was held together in the tabernacle in Provo at the same time as Randy's funeral, so we were not present at that.

What do you remember about the death of your parents and our grandparents?

I went to the funeral of my grandmother Tracy. My grandfather Tracy died long before I was born. I went to the funeral of my grandmother Hall and my grandfather Hall. I think my grandfather Hall died around 1936 and my grandmother, I believe, preceded him by a few years. I don't remember too much detail about any of these funerals. My own parents, my mother had, I think on account of her high blood pressure, it had affected her brain and she was becoming less mentally alert and wasn't aware of the things she was doing. I think she lost control of her urine and perhaps even her bowels toward the end. They were living in Ogden and we were living down in Provo. We'd go up there quite often and see them. My mother would wander away at night. Go walking down the street in her nightgown and my dad would have to... my dad was very kind to my mother. He took care of her, bathed her, and everything, but it got beyond my father's strength and he finally decided to put her in a rest-home. But Mom died, I think, just a couple of weeks after she was put in that rest-home. I dictated a letter to my secretary on learning of Mom's death and that letter is probably still on the recorder, you know, what do you call it? The dictaphone. I think I probably still have a dictaphone tape of that where the letters are that were sent to the kids, I don't know. Some of the kids were on missions when I wrote that letter telling them of Mother's death.

My father was living with us at the time of his death. I've already mentioned the operation which I think lead to what I considered an early death for my dad. But, Dad was going downhill so fast, he couldn't eat. He couldn't even drink any water. He was having a very difficult problem. He'd go to bed, and he would tell us that he was going to die that night. And he wanted to die, he was ready to die. He'd wake up in the morning frustrated cause he hadn't passed on to the other side. But, he got so poor .. we didn't know .. his wish was, Leave him alone, let him die. But, we wanted to take him to the hospital. So, Marty and Liz were visiting us and Marty and I got hold of Dad and very firmly just told him we were taking him to the hospital, and we just physically took him to the hospital.

And he was in the hospital. The doctors never really figured out what was wrong and I had a speaking engagement at the American Chemical Society tour of the northwest. Ida Rose and I went off on that. And we received a call from my brother Wendell on the 20th of October of 1972 that my father had passed away. That was my birthday. The 20th of October. He was being visited by our niece Bonnie Hall, who is my brother Delbert's daughter. And he passed away rapidly right there while she was visiting him in the hospital. We heard that news just before I had to give my talk. Just five minutes before I had to give my speech. We gave the speech. I staid there that night as we were tired and worn out and then early the next morning headed for home where his funeral arrangements were made. All the boys and all the daughter-in-laws were home for my father's funeral and also for my mother's funeral.

I've forgotten details of my mother's funeral. I think my Uncle Aaron spoke. Uncle Aaron died right shortly after my mother. I can remember him at the graveside. I didn't learn of Uncle Aaron's funeral, I was ... Well, I did ... I remember now, I did attend Uncle Aaron's funeral. Ernest Wilkinson was there at that funeral. Ernest Wilkinson admired Uncle Aaron. He was a student when my uncle was president of Weber College.

My father's funeral. Very nice things were said about my dad. Charles Metton gave a very inspired talk concerning my dad. I'm sure we have these funerals on tape, although I couldn't tell you where the tapes are for either my father and my mother at the present time. But they were taped and in the case of my father, I know there's more than one copy around. In the case of my mother, I don't know.

I took pictures of my mother in her coffin. It's the only ... I didn't for my dad. I don't know why, I just wanted to in the case of my mother. In general I don't like to do that.

Who are some of the people you know who you admire the very most?

Well, let's see, When you hire a man what are the first qualities you look for?

Well, ability, of course. I usually hire someone for either their technical ability in Science. I have hired lots of secretaries. Yeah, I look at their ability. How fast can you type? How accurate are you? How good is your shorthand. In science, I want to know the same kind of questions. In addition to ability, of course, I want honest people. And I want people who get along with others. Sometimes I want someone with leadership qualities. But most of the time I just want someone who can do a good job, qualified for a definite kind of a task. Like for a machinist, I like somebody that's dependable. I don't want loafers. It's difficult to find these things out, but you size a person up .. and whenever I can I hire them on a trial basis, and if they're good, I praise them and I promote them and I make good deals for them. If they're bad I don't, with the idea that they will leave. It is difficult to fire people. I don't know that I've ever directly fired anyone, but I have had them leave indirectly just by not increasing their salary and not giving them any praise because they didn't deserve it. And things like that.

Sherlene: How about when you call someone in the bishopric to a job?

Tracy: Well, same way! But, there is a great deal of inspiration in the calling of church people. I can attest to that. You use your mind. I mean you just don't say, "Heavenly Father, please tell me who ought to be in this job." Now, you may do that on occasion, but that's unusual. You look over your people, you know who they are and what they can do, and you think about it first. And you think about it, and I think most of our calls have been made with the Spirit of the Lord telling us that's what to do.

Who are some of the people you know who you admire the very most?

Well, I admire both my counselors in the bishopric. They are very fine men, We get along very well and all think alike. The current people I know. Those are the closest to me. Reese Hansen, who is an attorney, assistant dean of the law school. And William T. Wolf, whom we have known since Stadium Village days. He's a former Bishop. He was bishop of a student ward years ago, at that time. So he's already an ordained bishop, so when I leave I say, "Bill, you're an ordained bishop, anything the bishop has to do, you do!" (laughter)

I admired Wilkinson. He had his quirks, but he was a guy I could admire. Many people hated him. But I admired him ... crusty character. Tough, ornery, but he, you know, he had the right ideas. Great free enterpriser. A man who wanted you to work hard. He would really cuss you out, but he never held a grudge. Most people couldn't take his raking over the coals. Just one raking over the coals by Wilkinson and they were dead. They had to get out of BYU.

Sherlene: Did he ever rake you over the coals?

Tracy: Yeah, but not real hard. I could almost always get Wilkinson to agree with my point of view.

What are some of the happiest memories you have of experiences with your children?

Tracy: We have sort of gone over those. Summer vacation trips and things like that. Performances and their graduation. Things they do in church. The fact that they were active.

Of all the awards and recognitions you have received, which brought you the greatest satisfaction?

Well, I think being Bishop before I am through with it will bring me the greatest satisfaction. It's a recognized position. I was getting so ... you know, I think ... You don't aspire to church positions, but I think I had always hoped that someday I would have the chance of being a Bishop. You know, in those stakes that we're in, where you got stake presidents, patriarchs, mission presidents, almost general authorities running out your ears all over the place. I was called to be a counselor, you see, and having had that experience, as years went by, I, well, you know, you've had your turn. That's the best you can do. But, if your out in the mission field you get to a bishop or maybe even a stake president. But not here. And I was getting too old, because I'm the oldest Bishop in the stake. They're all younger. They usually pick bishops in their early forties. Even their late thirties nowdays. So, it was a surprise and a happy surprise and I appreciated it. And I like it. I like being Bishop. And I know you're not supposed to recognize Bishops and stake presidents, but it's one of the ordained callings in the church. You know, you're ordained a Bishop. You're not ordained to be a counselor. And I think Mom ... Mom has told me that of all the things that have happened to me, that's the one that she likes the best.

Sherlene: That was proud for all of us. We were all there. To see that happen.

Tracy: And we've just arrived at question number 104, and Sherlene ... I'm worn out and that's the end

Sherlene: Was that the end? How about that!

Tracy: There is still a little left on this tape, but I'm not going to use it up. Oh, there's about ninety cents worth of tape left, but I think that's got to be the end.

Sherlene: Well, what question? What question now, "There's got to be one more question. What question didn't I ask that I should have? A very important question that you always should ask at the end of every interview. What important question should I have asked that I didn't ask? I haven't asked what your deepest spiritual experiences have been?

Tracy: Well, I've never had an angel come and stand next to me. I've never had an open revelation, and some have had these things. I have never really aspired to it. I don't think I need it. I think it would be great to have that kind of an experience. I haven't particularly actively sought that kind of thing. The spiritual experiences that come to me, come to me when you may not be expecting it. Some situations, something develops and I get a lump in my throat and I get tears in my eyes and I feel the gospel's truth. Trace the gospels truth, you know. It's right! And that has happened hundreds of times in my life. But, I haven't seen the face of the Savior like some people say they've seen. And some people say you have to see that or you're not going to the Celestial Kingdom. And so I'm not going to the Celestial Kingdom, (laughter)

Ida Rose: Yes, you are, dear, but guide me through the door, too.

Tracy: ? happens to me, and I have spiritual highs and lows like everybody does. I try to stay on high as much as I can, but sometimes you go months with ... I don't know, you just feel a little bit negative. Not real negative .. and it's all relative, too, because I think as we grow older we are striving to perfect ourselves and we're more critical of ourselves.

But, I frankly, went through a rather long period of... I don't know what you would call it. Not being on a spiritual high in a way, being lower for no reason that I can understand. It lasted too long, but when I got back on top again was when I went into that cemetery and these guys didn't go with me, and I'm still living on that.

Sherlene: Tell about that. You wrote it the other day, but tell it!

Tracy: Well, there is essentially nothing more to tell than what I wrote in the little book, Sherlene, but... I'm sure Satan's around, you know, trying to poke you and persuade you and kick you every which way he can, so that if you're in the spiritual doldrums long enough, you know, you can probably get in trouble someway or another. So ... doesn't everybody have those? I'm not unique in that, am I?

Ida Rose: Oh, no. No!

Sherlene: Everybody does.

Tracy: I don't ... I don't doubt that ? in these low periods, you know," that sometimes ? "I wonder if this is all worthwhile." Something like that, you know .

Sherlene: Everybody hits that!

Tracy: But being a bishop tends to keep you on your toes spiritually most of the time. You see lots of depressing things. Get into impossible problems that people have that you wonder how on earth you could ever in a million years help them get out of their problems. Mom was saying the other day that we seem to have the best if not certainly one of the best wards in the church. Way up there in the top, but

Sherlene: In fact, the top, Right! You ought to tell it on the tape. Let's tell about that ward.

Tracy: I was thinking the other day, just yesterday, that our ward is the top ward as measured by ten items which the stake considers. These are statistical items, and when the general authorities come to our stake, they say we're the top stake in the church. So, I have never really thought of this before. It just suddenly hit me yesterday. That, boy, you ought to be real humble, Tracy Hall, you are the Bishop of probably what is the top ward in the whole church. And there are almost 4,000,000 members of the church. Boy, you better do your job right. 'Cause you have a real special privilege. And I have. You know, we have our problems, too, and I wonder what the problems would be like in a ward that wasn't up where ours is, sometimes. But, it's a challenge to be the bishop. I enjoy it. I enjoy it a lot. And I try to do my job. I know that in jobs as you get used to them, that you can tend to slack off. I hope I don't do that.

It's embarrassing to me to bare my testimony on a public record, and that's what they've asked me to do. I have a testimony. As I was just saying, I haven't had a translating experience. It's been a testimony that has essentially been with me all my life. It's had its highs and its lows, but it has always been there. I know the gospel is true, and I know that Joseph Smith was a prophet. The prophet of this latter-day to establish the work in this

time, and I know that our current president Kimball is the prophet And I know that Jesus is the Christ, as he claimed to be, as the true Messiah. I'm grateful and thankful to him for the great blessing he has brought to all mankind. And I just pray that I can always be worthy of that blessing and take advantage of it and be an example to others and not slip and fall between now and the time I pass away. That's a testimony that is true. I haven't really, you know, I haven't added to that. I've just stated the bare facts of it. That's what I believe. I haven't had any conflict with science and religion in my life and I've born testimony to that on many occasions when I have given talks at firesides and other places. And in church, and I say this in the name of our Lord and our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

We still got one inch of tape, Sherlene. What are you going to do with that?

Sherlene wants to know if I love my children. I love my wife and I love my children very, very much, and I just pray for the best for all of them. Tell them to keep improving. There is always room for improvement. Every day.

Sherlene: We know you love us. I just figured we might as well get it on the tape again.

Ida Rose: Well, I'm going to bed and tomorrow morning, turn it on.

Sherlene: OK. Goodnight!

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convention. First to the county convent