

Aug. 19, 1971

H-64-18

02-00-64-18

Interview w/
Lola Tilly

00-40

Intro. Goes back to January 1929. Teaching @ U. of Minnesota.

Bunnell wrote letter to that U. for 2 Home Ec. teachers.

" interviewed her. She was fascinated by his account of the University. She said she couldn't stay but one yr.

Bunnell returned to U of M in March, wired her a contract. She decided to give it a try.

040-71

She took two weeks to get there. Arrived on a Sunday night. Went to Nordale Hotel and to dorms. Bunnell was waiting @ Hotel when they returned. Sent her in morning to take them to university. Brought Eileen Sewell(?) w/ her, who was working on her Master's degree.

Narrow rd. through place big w/ a turnaround so cars could wait to get past. Only 2 or three

(66) "I thought 'what am I getting into?'. It was the most godforsaken country I'd ever seen, there were only two or three houses between Parkbanks and the University."

071-80

Rms in Hotel were \$45.00/month - ate most meals @ the Model Cafe across the street. That old road served for passenger cars though there was no bus then.

~~The~~ Road on the "Bill Car" to University. 15¢/trip

With coupons it was 25¢ round trip.

Took a bus. Paul Grimonds(?) bus / broken down half the time - quite an innovation.

80-86

Sometimes road would wash out. Prof Chase stood there and carried the women across the washout to where there was a bus. Began in 1931. ~~She~~

86-92

She never expected blacktopped rds in Alaska. - one of the finer things to ever happen.

92-102

At that time there was only the old Main building where the Bunnell Bldg stands now and 2 frame dorms. Men and Women. President's house was at the corner as your turn into where Cullen Bldg. is.

102-116

Well travelled faculty. Basters & Potos taught in Syria, Ryan taught in the Philippines. She had just recently travelled in Europe. Impressed by hospitality in town. 4 Churches - Catholic Episcopal, Christian Science, Presbyterian. She attended the latter. Young founded in 1902, now in Alaska land.

116-131

A Bunnell anecdote - tourist offered him a tip. He did everything. Dug the vegetables for the Home-ec class from the garden (near where Bunnell is).

131-162

He could visualize the building of the U. Had high standards and aided the students financially. Set up as study hall. Bunnell was on the job 24 hrs. day. Knew everything.

162-201

Bunnell was pleased w/ equipment. It was pretty good. Worked out a good program. An old VC range and Hobart Thurin. A Had Ranges - Keregas ^{same} ranges. A coal stove. Had no refrigerator. A cooler. Used the fire escape as their freezer, Before Berkeley foods came out. Set up classes to the individual needs of the students

201-210

210-218

No budget for the dept. until late 50s

236-236

Dr. Bammel was aghast @ the objective test and the cost involved in copying them. Dept. on 3rd floor then
Explains archaic phone system.

236-281

Camp Cookery Course. Minnie ~~came~~ came in for Thining Short Course after took the course. Explains anecdote of ~~travels~~ Minnie asking her how to cook biscuits w/ no utensils. "Just wanted to know if you knew" said the coursdough when she finished explaining correctly.

281-305

Another story about an old timer living in a shack above food service on the hill who would take leftovers and leave them outside to freeze.

305-339

Campus activities. Canes and such. Mentions the corsages that were the first to be flown in for Junior prom. Lola did the make up in the plays! Used to be a student taxi - often would run to Model Cafes for sandwiches.

340-379

Bammel used to hand-address the "Collegian". Tells of Bammel's great "detective" work. Bammel didn't miss a thing.

380-402

Tells of Ben Eick's heroic trips to help to save the crew of a Russian ship caught in ice off Russian Coast. Also his demise during one of those trips.

402-409

Then took fruit as a token of appreciation rather than flowers in those days.

409-440

Otto Geist. He worked w/ Geist on the story and research on his artifacts. "Eskimo Hood Habor, Eskimo Homes, and Eskimo Childrens Toys, Eskimo Clothing." - articles she wrote. Published in Journal of the Economics.

400-460

She also published a list of books on Alaska in ~~Alaska~~ Journal of Home Economics for the convention in Seattle.

460-530

Bunnell stays. Hated flying. Did not even want his faculty flying. Did not approve.

530-587

Bunnell went back to Wash. to get funds from Smith-Teever funds to set up Coop Extension service, claiming all of Alaska was a Rural area. Bunnell felt that U of A should do as other universities - formal commencement. Waited and hoped to be accredited (1935).

587-612

First concrete building was the gym, now the old museum. Back in the '30s. Last commencement was in 1963, when Dr. Pelly retired - held in the gym - top floor of Cullen.

SIDE B

00-004

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004-018

She retired in 1963. College became a university in 1935.

018-035

Bunnell had very strong objections to his faculty being married. She was married in 1937. Thought she would be through @ the U. She wanted Bunnell to be the first to know. Write him @ the Legislature.

035-056

He liked knowing about secrets - never said a thing about it. Bunnell recalled her in WW II. Worked for extension service for the rest of the yr. 1942. Fall 1943 went back to head of Home Ec. Great pressure to close U. They took over main building and Voss hall. Lower floor of Voss Bldg. Held for U.

8-073

Girls moved back to Old Club dorm. - 9 women.
Night classes, short courses. Liz Bradford was
student body pres. (1943).

Thibody had a hospital in Kears Hall, had barracks &
dining room on top floor of Main.

073-090

Bunnel very interested in Home Ec. department. Crippen
built in late '50's.

090-140

Blueprints for Home ec. department (1949)

She spent all her extra hours going through catalogs for furnishings.
In 1960^{3?} moved into new department. Same yr. Shurland moved
Arthur next door Home Ec. 1953 - Accreditation Comm. visits
university again. Need a nursery school and Home Mgt
house.

140-164

Nursery School and Home Mgt. House. Talks about childhood
ed, daycare centers and nursery schools.

165-172.

Dr. Wood & her retirement. She feels good about seeing
many former students on the streets and around the towns
of Alaska.

172-201

"However, when I speak of the old days I would not
wish the old days on anyone because I'm just thrilled
to death to be part of history in the making and to see
our great University."

Dr. Bunnel had the vision. Was good to have Dr. Moore
and Dr. Katz say or say innovators. Dr. Wood came
next. She has served under all four presidents.

201-213

She went back to school in the summer to update her
teaching degree. Loves sub-teaching - teaching grandchildren
of former students.

273-275

When Dr. Wood came, she knew she would be retiring in 2 yrs. There was no tenure then. Anecdote about Dr. Wood and her conversation w/ him about tenure.

Retired in 1963- Prof Emeritus and hon. doctorate degree awarded then.

She was Senior member of faculty for many yrs, both in age and years of service. Young faculty is typical of UofA. She had a very wonderful time here.

275-345

Bill has always said Prof Emeritus means being 'out of a job and damn well deserving to.'

Bill and Zola ~~seemed~~ reminiscing.