

MW: Now you were telling me about this church office, that it was back in the back there. Who is this Miss Morris?

EG: She was the registrar.

MW: Was she a member of Calvary Temple?

EG: No, she was an acquaintance of Bro. Ness or Bro. Beatty. I think she came from Minnesota. She taught English, too. She did the office work.

Sister Christensen was a jewel. I have nothing but the warmest, happiest memories of her.

MW: What was her work?

EG: She used to say she thought she was more of an employment director more than anything else. She helped us so much in finding work, and of course, the depression was on, and it meant so much to us to get work.

MW: Was it mostly housework? Or what kind of work?

EG: Most generally housework. Some lived in houses as a maid, however, in my case, the first year I lived with Bro. and Sister _____. From then on Bladys Buck and Verna Pennington and I rented a little cottage just across the street from the Green Lake library and worked out afternoons from there.

MW: Before they widened out the building (Hollywood Temple) what rooms did they use for classes?

Eg: The lower auditorium, the main auditorium, and the prayer room.

MW: If you were telling someone about the school, what do you remember the most?

EG: Oh, I think it was just (I don't mean to be sacrilegious when I say this), it was really fun because our finances were so extremely limited, that it always seemed, in my case anyway, that just when the extremity would present itself, the Lord would undertake. You mentioned the depression days. It just came to my memory how I would work in the afternoon in homes and I did like to iron. I would take in shirts from the boys at 10¢ a shirt--washing, ironing, and delivery most always.

MW: Everyone seems to mention the famous "Fridays". Could tell me about this?

EG: We always in working out, that was the day no one went to work. The boys usually did yard work or window-washing. On Friday we had classes in the morning, and Sister Christensen was so faithful and she had fixed a nice lunch, when you think of it, and she was assisted by students. One of the faithful ones was Evelyn Johnson Jorgenson.

MW: Was it a lunch or a meal?

EG: It was a real meal. It was really nice. We worked so hard during the week, and living in homes some were really unhappy. School was out and usually I had to hurry to get to 80th to where I worked. On Fridays it was time for fellowship, missionary bands, in the afternoons there was prayer or shapping, just kind of Bro. Ness required that you have Fridays off. That first year we all traveled together and visited the churches of the area and had out outstation work.

EG: We didn't have books. We had mimeographed notes. It really took a lot of grace because we literally just rubbed elbows in that office--all those different desks in there, plus a mimeograph machine. I arrived here a few weeks before school started and so I didn't have employment yet, and so I was put to work, in the office. It was really lots of fun the way we ran off those lesson sheets off the mimeograph, and the phone was ringing, ~~xxxxxxx~~ and running to meet new students and

The students came from distances, not just the Seattle area.

I'm sure the recruitment came through pastors.

MW: What sorts of activities did you have those Friday evenings?

Eg: We went to different outstations. We went to churches to promote the school. Brother Ness always went with us, and most all the teachers did also. We went to places like Weller Street Mission, Union Gospel Mission.

MW: Brother Ness was a very daring man, wasn't he?

EG: Very. And I think that was what was part of the schooling, to observe how bold and daring Bro. Ness was. I certainly don't want to minimize Bro. Beatty in any way. Sometimes, you know, it takes the ripping of one to take the mending of the second. Bro. Beatty was a dear. You missed a lot by not knowing him. I have been quite retiring in many ways, but Bro. Beatty was one that just took all the . . . something that a person had to just keep from putting your arms around him and just loving him, because he was so sweet. He was really like a father to all of us.

We would tithe. Even though our work was small we felt we should tithe from even the very smallest amount, and so we would tithe to help. It went into a student fund; I think it would underwrite our Friday lunches and our going out on Friday nights.

MW: Did you all wear uniforms every day?

EG: No, we wore regular clothes every day but Friday. Navy blue, a particular pattern; the collar and cuffs were not quite as uniform as the pattern.

MW: Did you have any kind of a library at all at first?

EG: No. We started collecting, but it was just in bookcases. We never had to write papers or do any research.

Our living conditions were kind of bad, because we all lived out. It was really rough. I know Bro. Ness--how sweet he was--I don't think we give him enough credit for all the lovely things he did. I had such a time right at first to find employment. I remember I got into one home--of course coming from my own home, and the first time away from home -- but they wouldn't let me eat with them, and she'd fix my plate, and my! she didn't give me as much to eat as the little children. I've never been much of a eater, but I'm telling you I was just about starved. (She recounted other happenings in this home.) Well, I was just extremely unhappy, and who was it came to move me but Brother Ness and his car. I think I moved about three times--it just was bad circumstances. He would move us, move, move us. Who would move your suitcases and stuff? Bro. Ness. The president of the school and pastor of Hollywood Temple.

MW: Did most of the students make Hollywood Temple their home?

EG: Most of them. Very few didn't. Of course --

MW: Were you required to make it your church home?

EG: Yes. In those early days, about the only churches there were were Fremont and Bro. Offiler's downtown.

MW: Did he do that to protect you? If a person wanted to go to Fremont, could he?

EG: Yes, yes. All we needed to do was get a permit from Bro. Beatty. Of course, a good number were from churches in town and they could go to their home church. On Monday morning we had a week-end report to make out and we had to tell where we had gone to church, how many tracts we had given out, if we taught a class and where we were on Friday night and what we did all day Saturday, and on Sunday, of course.

MW: They assumed the rest of the days you were working, but they wanted to know if you worked on Saturday, too?

Eg: That's right. Because some didn't have employment, and it made it possible to pass the employment around.

MW: What was considered satisfactory to do on Saturday if one didn't work.

EG: I don't know, because I never was questioned. Evidently I was a good girl.

MW: Were you required to go to church twice on Sunday, or was that optional?

EG: Now I don't know as to what was required. It was just naturally assumed that you did. All of life was in the church. Your social life was in the church. It was a good way for Mrs. Christensen to find out if we were employed. It also gave information as to where we were.

I think the only social outlet we really had was Green Lake, and go bicycling.

We had this little house that I spoke of, the three of us girls, and so one of us would go downtown on Saturday ~~evening~~ in the late afternoon and go to the Public Market and we would pick up things. They would just almost give them to you.

The people of Hollywood Temple were so nice, they would bring in things (used for Friday lunches, usually) and if on Sundays we didn't have outstation work, especially those of us who were from out of town, they would take us home with them. That was primarily the first year.

Brother

Sunday afternoon Peterson who used to work on Mercer Island -- Dear Sister Peterson would have cocoa and fruit and sandwiches for us when we got back. Real nice. Of course that was the days before the floating bridge, so we would ferry over and ferry back.

MW: How about in the classes? Was it mostly lecture? Did the students participate?

EG: It was mostly lecture. We took notes. If I recall correctly, it was toward the last of the year that we did get some Church History books. That was about the only book.....The notes we had were merely outlines, then the teacher would go from there.

MW: Can you think of anything else that stands out to you?

EG: Well, of course the chapel services were very high spot in our lives--in mine, anyway. We really had two sometimes. We had the first half hour in the morning. Then s when we practiced. We'd have our turn.

MW: Was this the first year only?

EG: Now, I think it went on into the second year. I can't remember about the third year for sure. The last half hour of the day was a chapel service conducted by the faculty.

We really had some wonderful times. They were not just testimonies, they were real messages. Then it go so we had to be real careful because they would tear apart the morning message in Speech class.

MW: Then you got more uneasy about it.

Eg: Yes, then you got more in the flesh! Of course, it was that first year that Bro. Swanson was taken from us. He was such a wonderful man, a wonderful superintendent. For three days, if I remember correctly, we didn't have classes. What that had to do with his going, I can't put together. We'd start to go into class, and every class session was opened with prayer, and he's start to open, and we'd just go on into prayer. We just couldn't seem to get into a class. Some of students that didn't have to work spent the whole day in the prayer room.

Miss Hammond held services for us, and that was certainly a highlight. I think they were really supposed to be with the church, but the church was so interlined with the school. The students were there for Sunday school and for church. Hollywood Temple gave a lot but I think in response that Hollywood Temple got a lot.

MW: I am curious to know how Bro. Ness was able to do all this, -- his pastoral work, etc.

EG: That brings up a thought. I remember that we students would do quite a bit of helping out in calling. It helped us and them. Sunday school campaigning.

MW: Did they do that for all the churches or just for Hollywood?

EG: Well, just for Hollywood that I knew anything about.

MW: I know that Bro. Ness was great on the practical aspect of this. He tried to get the students to do everything they could.

Eg: Right. I know, Margaret Knutson and someone else, became known as the church missionaries. They did a lot of calling.

MW: Would you say in the beginning that you didn't think of this as an academic project. The academic part was incidental? This was not the primary objective; the primary objective was always God?

EG: Oh, yes.

MW: That is, it didn't worry you too much; you didn't have any written assignments to speak of; it was more like going to a church service?

Eg: No we didn't have assignments. However, we would be assigned lessons and each day we were given a quiz. Like in Personal Evangelism, we were assigned lessons

a and the next day we would -- one would ~~pose~~ as an unbeliever and the other as a Christian, and they would try to convert them, and the other would object, and give all kinds of opposition to them. But, the spirituality ~~was~~ was what was really stressed.

MW: And when the student came, he wasn't really thinking in academic terms.

EG: I don't think so.

MW: I think it has colored the whole picture for many years. When the student came he wasn't thinking in academic terms, of achievement, outcome, etc.

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We had in mind, 99% of those who came to Bible school, felt a particular touch on their souls for the work of God, and when they were through they were qualifying themselves for the work of the Lord.

Don't you think the type of school it was at that time. . . .

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In those first two years we were just like a big family. And I think most all of us felt we were there to get to know how to present the Word of God attractively. I think that . . .

Our missionary prayer bands and our Friday chapel hour, etc. were times when he (Ness) didn't want anybody to get cold.

He was so interested he cultivated interest in others. (Ness)

MW: What was the purpose of the little mimeographed paper that was put out?

EG: Oh, just for news, more or less. It could have been to send out to the churches. But of course we got kind of a thrill out of it. ~~The xxxxxxxx~~ The students did the work on it.

