

The University of Arizona, College of Agriculture and  
the Arizona Historical Society Oral History Programs

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Office of Resident Instruction

Dewhirst: March 30, 1993. I am Leonard W. Dewhirst, representing the University of Arizona, College of Agriculture. Today I am in the company of Darrel S. Metcalfe for the purpose of recording Dr. Metcalfe's recollections of his experiences in higher education with primary emphasis on those occurring while at the University of Arizona. We are in Dr. Metcalfe's home at 5811 E. 9th St., Tucson, Arizona. Dr. Metcalfe, am I correct in stating that it is your intention to give this tape and the typed transcript resulting from this interview to the Arizona Historical Society?

Metcalfe: Yes.

Dewhirst: Okay, good. Okay, let's go on then to some questions. Dr. Metcalfe, you and I have completed the biographical data questionnaire and it is not my intent to go over that information but it would be helpful for this record for you to tell me briefly about your, first of all, family background.

Metcalfe: I was raised on an 80 acre dairy farm in Porcupine, Wisconsin.

Dewhirst: Porcupine?

Metcalfe: Porcupine.

Dewhirst: Okay.

Metcalfe: I have often wondered why it was called Porcupine. It was because years ago a very large

porcupine was found along that creek. It's a very long, narrow valley somewhat isolated by the high hills on either side and Porcupine, at one time, was on the map and even had a U.S. Post Office. It was a small village, and we were within walking distance from the village. It had a general store, a grade school, a village blacksmith, a Latter Day Saints Church, a cemetery, about six or seven houses and a campground, but there isn't anything left except a service station and the cemetery. All the rest is gone so there is no village anymore.

Dewhirst: You were born in, what was the name of the town, Arkansaw, Wisconsin?

Metcalfe: Arkansaw, spelled A-R-K-A-N-S-A-W, is in Pepin County. Its not far from Eau Claire and Menomonie.

Dewhirst: How how did it happen that you went to college?

Metcalfe: I got a high school degree at Arkansaw, a very small high school. I believe the total enrollment was 63 students and 13 in the senior class and I wanted to go to the University of Wisconsin but there weren't any funds available so my family and I decided I would go to River Falls State Teachers College. It was 65 miles away. Since I had been in 4-H and FFA, my father gave me three head of cattle. I sold them and I paid my tuition and books at River Falls and I roomed with other students. I lived in a widow's home and helped the Vice President by doing work for him and widow women in the area, doing yard work and so forth, and in a year I graduated with a teacher's certificate.

Dewhirst: Then, later, did you teach?

Metcalfe: I taught five years, grade school. It was called the Big Arkansaw Grade School.

Dewhirst: Yes.

Metcalfe: Had 35 to 40 students, they were German Catholic students, and very excellent students. I was glad to get a job and very lucky to have \$75 a month for five years, but I wasn't going very far. I thought I should go to college so I wrote the University of Wisconsin and they said I would be admitted. I told them I had to work half-time, that I could be in school part-time and they wrote back and said, "You can go full-time. We just happen to have a Sears Roebuck scholarship which we will give you." Sears Roebuck Company was always very considerate.

Later when I became a member of the faculty at Iowa State and also at the University of Arizona, I became a member of the National Scholarship Committee. By the way, the Sears Roebuck Scholarship was related to their program. They also said that not only would they give me a scholarship but I could stay in the Babcock House. It was a house for about 40 men. We did all the work, we bought the groceries and hired a cook and we divided all the expenses. I stayed there two years. One year I peeled potatoes and the second year I cleaned rooms. Then, after about two years I got a job and rented an apartment with Dr. Dale Smith and the Spitzer brothers. Also, I helped teach a lab in Agronomy 1 at the University so in four years I graduated.

Dewhirst: I didn't have it in here and I had forgotten that you got a Masters degree from Kansas State College.

Metcalfe: This is very interesting. My advisor and my Agronomy Department Head called me in and said, "Now, we have too few students doing graduate work, too few men in Agriculture, so will you please . . . we suggest that you do graduate work. If you do, we will find you

a job. Come back and tell us at the end of the week," so I thought it over, went back and told them, "Yes, I would do graduate work." They said, "We want you to go to Kansas State, they only give Masters there, they don't give any Doctors degrees, therefore your Masters degree would be much stronger at Kansas State," so they got me an Assistantship at that time, in 1940.

Dewhirst: Yes.

Metcalf: Finished in 1942 with a Masters degree in Agriculture.

Dewhirst: Agronomy?

Metcalf: Agronomy, yes.

Dewhirst: Is that when you met Harold Myers, by any chance?

Metcalf: I met him at Kansas State and had him for an instructor in Soils.

Dewhirst: Okay.

Metcalf: And he said, "Well, someday I hope you will be on my staff."

Dewhirst: What were the circumstances that caused you to become an employee of Iowa State? Well, first of all . . . I guess I probably also have forgotten the fact that you were in the Service for quite a period to time.

Metcalf: Yes. See, in May of 1942 I got a Masters degree at Kansas State and also got married that same month. My draft board was in Wisconsin and they had delayed my going in the Army so that I could get my degree.

Dewhirst: Yes.

Metcalf: So, in July, 1942 I was drafted, went to Fort Riley and signed up. Was sent directly to

Camp Adair in Oregon. Camp Adair was near Oregon State College, Corvallis. It was called "Swamp Adair" because there was so much rain. I was at Camp Adair until the middle of July, 1944. I left Medford, Oregon to go overseas, went first to Hawaii, then to Leyte Gulf. When the Leyte invasion was over and it appeared to be safe, we prepared for the invasion of Okinawa.

Dewhirst: Yes. You did go to Okinawa, did you not?

Metcalf: Went to Okinawa and after Okinawa we were sent back to the Philippines, to the Island of Mindoro for rest and preparation for the invasion of Japan.

Dewhirst: Yes.

Metcalf: When the war was over we were sent back to the United States.

Dewhirst: Okay. Then what were the circumstances that caused you to become an employee of Iowa State University?

Metcalf: Well, I got home, got released from the Army in Denver and they said, "We'll get you home for Christmas because you haven't been home for a long time." I thought they wouldn't do it but they did. So I want you to know that I got in Manhattan, Kansas at 5:30 a.m. December 25, 1945 --Christmas Day--and I hadn't seen Lucille for eighteen months. I left her and our older son, Dean, in the hospital in Medford, Oregon. He was about seven days old. In late December, 1945 I planned to visit my parents in northern Wisconsin and Professor H. D. Hughes, one of the Profs in the Agronomy Department at Iowa State called and said, "On your way to your parents in Wisconsin will you stop and see me?" So I did and he offered me a job and Lucille said, "What are you going to do?"

I said, "I will teach." So he offered me an instructorship. I took so many units a quarter, they're on the quarter system, and got my Doctor's degree also.

Dewhirst: And you got your Doctor's degree in 1950?

Metcalfe: Yes. I also was placed on part-time research.

Dewhirst: Yes.

Metcalfe: It had been years since I taught, it was hard.

Dewhirst: Yes. Okay, lets go on. How long were you at Iowa State and what were the positions you held while you were there?

Metcalfe: I was at Iowa State from 1946 to 1958.

Dewhirst: Twelve years.

Metcalfe: And they were in Agronomy. By the way they were very kind. They had me become a member of several organizations, the best organizations; the honor society, Phi Kappa Phi and Gamma Sigma Delta, and I was elected to Cardinal Key, an honorary.

Dewhirst: Yes.

Metcalfe: We didn't have any text books for so many students so I worked with H. D. Hughes on his first textbook of Production, McMillan and Company in 1930. The book was out of date so he and I rewrote the textbook and also he, Maurice Heath and I wrote the textbook Forages, Iowa State University Press. Both of those books were translated into Spanish.

Dewhirst: Yes.

Metcalfe: And I was in the Agronomy Department until, in fact all the time I was there, but in 1956

the President called me over and said, "Would you please be Assistant Director of Student Affairs as we need to fill the position immediately?"

Dewhirst: Yes.

Metcalfe: Director of Student Affairs took care of the religious activities the fraternities and so forth.

Dewhirst: Okay.

Metcalfe: And I liked it there but I didn't want to become a Director or Dean of Men, I wanted to go back to Agriculture and knew it was almost impossible going back to the Agronomy Department at Iowa State when I had once left.

Dewhirst: What do you consider were your great, major accomplishments while at Iowa State College?

Metcalfe: Well, I worked very closely with students. I improved my teaching and also did research on forage crops.

Dewhirst: And your two books.

Metcalfe: And the two books and the American Society of Agronomy and so forth. I worked with students in many different organizations, fraternities and other organizations.

Dewhirst: Okay, lets go on then to the time here at the University of Arizona. What were the circumstances that caused you to leave Iowa State and come to the University of Arizona?

Metcalfe: Was very difficult for me to leave Iowa State. I knew that Dr. Myers was Dean down here. He contacted me.

Dewhirst: He had come here in 1956.

Metcalfe: Right. And he called and asked that I come and look at the job. My friends at Iowa State told me, they said, "Well, its an unknown institution out in the West. It doesn't amount to anything. We don't think you should go." They were very serious, and they said, "Here is Iowa State, it has prestige, University of Arizona has none, we don't think you should go." And they jokingly said, "All that is out there are Indians and Cowboys." But, because of Harold Myers and others whom I knew, I thought I would come and look it over.

Dewhirst: Okay.

Metcalfe: And so I came here and Vice President Nugent picked me up at night and put me in the Pioneer Hotel and said, "Next morning you come out and somebody from the University of Arizona campus will pick you up and take you there." You probably heard this . . .

Dewhirst: No.

Metcalfe: I came out the front door and I was grabbed by two policemen and put in jail.

Dewhirst: I had not heard this.

Metcalfe: Its a true story. I tried to fight back but it didn't do me any good and finally the individual from the University came and said, "He doesn't know, he isn't from Arizona, he's from Iowa. He doesn't know this is Rodeo Week. He doesn't know he needs to have western garb on so release him." I was already thinking, "Well, this is sort of Cowboys and Indians."

I got to Campus and surprisingly I saw several men there who joined the University of Arizona faculty from Iowa State. I saw Sol Resnick. I hadn't seen him since 1940 at the University of Wisconsin. There were a lot of friends here already and a year later Dr.

Hilton, Iowa State, came here to give a talk and to visit and referred to Iowa State here as Ames Upon the Santa Cruz because we had so many faculty from Iowa State. I spent a couple of days here visiting all of the faculty members and also President Harvill was very supportive of Harold Myers.

Dewhirst: Yes.

Metcalfe: And others on Campus were supportive too. I still didn't decide to come and I went back home. Harold Myers called me couple times and so finally in May I decided to come here and then Harold Myers said, "Well, you can't come down now you have to wait till July 1," so I said I would wait till July 1. Interestingly, President Hilton said, "Well, you can't take a vacation this year, we'll give you extra pay. We'll give you thirteen months. Will that pay for your transportation and moving your furniture and so forth? I said, "Yes." So I left Iowa State, and felt badly about it because I liked Iowa State but I was better off being back into agriculture.

Dewhirst: Yes.

Metcalfe: So I came here July 1, 1958.

Dewhirst: What was the relationship between your arrival on Campus and that of Dr. Frevert because you both came from Iowa State didn't you?

Metcalfe: Yes. The first of July Harold Myers called and said they had three new men; Frevert, he was Head of Research, J.W. Pou, Head of Extension, and myself. The faculty stood around laughing and said, "The Changing of the Guard." I should tell you about the first meeting, we walked in the Dean's office, the three of us, and in a few words Harold Myers

said, "I've been doing all this work for the last year and a half, now its your job. Goodbye."

Dewhirst: Laughter!

Metcalfe: Took at least most of ten minutes.

Dewhirst: Yes.

Metcalfe: Those were his words.

Dewhirst: Yes. What would you consider were the most important and/or memorable things that occurred during that first year?

Metcalfe: Well, I knew Harold Myers from the past, how he operated. He called me in and told me about Resident Instruction at the University of Arizona. I was in my office and one of the students came in and said, "There is an old man down in the lobby, I think you should go and see him." It was Forbes, Dr. Forbes. They later named the building after him. What was Forbes there for? He came to find his picture. It was on the wall. There were three pictures, pictures of Forbes and two other men. I knew he always wanted to come over here and look at the pictures in the lobby. The University wanted them for their files. I asked that they take the three pictures but give me a small picture of the three of them to hang in the lobby.

Dewhirst: Yes.

Metcalfe: Then, I didn't realize that Harold Myers was so much aware that we were the Land-Grant Institution. Arizona State University caused us some problems so I went up there to work with them.

Dewhirst: Yes.

Metcalfe: Now, I'll tell you about our Resident Instruction.

Harold Myers said enrollment was too low in agriculture at the University of Arizona.

Dewhirst: Let's pause for just a minute here.

Metcalfe: Harold Myers knew about teaching in every department in the College of Agriculture. I didn't realize that the College had been very highly criticized. It was attracting too few students. They had too few alums. They were critical about the courses. We had to offer more courses and organize new departments, new curricula, do something about it. Harold Myers said, "We've got to have more students." He said, "We've got to recruit better. First of all why don't you visit the high schools on a personal basis?" I thought, "Well, this might help it a little." At Homecoming last year an alum of ours said he decided, like others, to come to the University of Arizona because I had talked to him in high school years before."

Dewhirst: If I recall correctly, there is a note somewhere that you visited every high school in Arizona.

Metcalfe: I did, alone or with a group from the University. Also, we recruited County Agents. I asked each County Agent to have a person from the County be responsible for recruiting. They got the catalog, all the career papers, everything about the University. I became acquainted with the County Agents that way because later on I became Acting Director of the Cooperative State Extension Service for two years.

The members of the Extension Service out in the County helped a lot when I became

Acting Director so Harold Myers was very definite about being busy on the high school recruiting. I had a problem, I went to an FFA luncheon. Harold Myers would write everybody who got an award. He had about thirty-five or forty letters out and I had two. Right afterwards when he got done I had a student say, "Well, Harold Myers thinks more of us than you do." So, we got together and we had an agreement that the secretaries would take my letters first and Harold's last.

Dewhirst: How much did the enrollment increase during that period of time? Pretty remarkable wasn't it?

Metcalf: Pretty remarkable! Everybody worked on it. I suggested more counseling and teaching and we did. They tell me in the hundred years, the Centennial Year, there were more alums the last 25 years than in all the 75 years before that so the alums were very happy

and so was President Harvill and others too, that we changed our courses and departments.

Dewhirst: I'm not sure in what period of time you established curriculum committees but I think you established those, did you not?

Metcalfe: I think very soon after I came we established those.

Dewhirst: And what were some of the specific curricula that were initiated during your tenure?

Metcalfe: Well, there were so many and everybody liked changes. For example, we had the Department of Plant Breeding, Department of Agronomy, Department of Horticulture that they changed to Plant Sciences. We had the School of Renewable Natural Resources, Nutrition and Food Sciences, and Home Economics. By the way Harold Myers always said "Now don't forget Home Economics, they need the most help." We could go on and on about the different departments working together to take parts of one department and another department and so forth.

I thought I would say something about how we decided the majors. For example, one day Harold Myers was out in the State and he heard that the other institution was going to have a Department of Landscape Architecture. He came back and said, "Well, if they have a department, we've got to have a major right now and that's in Landscape Architecture, we already have the courses!" So, we got the Committee together, we got that new department and I said, "I don't have any space, I will talk to one of the Vice Presidents," and he said, "There's nobody in Herring Hall, finders keepers. That will be Landscape Architecture," and I said, "No, I don't have any money to fix up Herring Hall."

He said, "I got \$800 you can use," and then we'll take the classroom."

Dewhirst: Was this Nugent?

Metcalf: No, it was another man, Houston.

Dewhirst: Yes. Okay.

Metcalf: Anyway, we took the building and a room on the second floor of the old Ag Building, divided it in half, had an outside door, and we had half of that for Landscape Architecture.

Another big problem was Race Track Management. A member of the Racing Commission in California and one in Arizona went to Harold Myers and said, "I think there should be a course in Race Track Industry in Arizona." Well, I talked to the students and faculty. We talked a long time and I went to several Race Track Industry National meetings in the United States and everybody felt that eventually we should have a program. By the way, the wives of Race Track Managers were the ones that usually favored the program. We put it as an option in Animal Science. We felt if the Race Track Industry majors didn't get a job they always could get one through Animal Science and its still there.

Dewhirst: Yes.

Metcalf: So we developed a program with our Curriculum Committee and I took the okay to the President's Committee. President Schaefer was in favor of it and everybody voted for the Race Track Industry Program except the College of Business. They wanted the major in their College. By the way that was the first venture anywhere available at that time.

Dewhirst: Yes and its been remarkably successful. I think it would be fair to say that the Race Track Industry Program would not be at this institution if it wasn't for your interest and guidance

in the thing.

Metcalfe: Well, maybe that, but it really helped to have the faculty and teachers. Everybody was very helpful, but I think it was interesting to be the first one anywhere and it is still successful now.

Dewhirst: What, if any difficulties, did you encounter regarding the desires of the Curriculum Committee that differed from what you and/or the Administration of the College felt was appropriate? Was there any conflict between what the Curriculum Committee wanted and what the Administration of the College felt was right?

Metcalfe: Well, quite often the members of the Curriculum Committee belonged to a certain department. They didn't want their Department changed at all but most of the time they were very helpful. I thought they were very cooperative.

Dewhirst: Okay.

Metcalfe: They were excellent and Myers wanted us to stress always that progress was being made.

Dewhirst: What was the relationship between the College Curriculum Committee and that of the School of Home Economics?

Metcalfe: Well, we had to be awfully careful to include Home Economics in all of our decisions and Ruth Hall was Head of Home Economics at the time. She was very cooperative but one must remember they had little space on the top floor of the Old Ag Building, south end, and that there was some conflict but very little because of Ruth Hall. In the College of Education, I took Ruth Hall over there and met with the Dean. There were problems but

minor I think.

Dewhirst: Okay. Do you remember an incident that occurred at one of the training sessions for advisors in which Ruth Hall, who was . . . what was it . . . Director of the School Economics . . .

Metcalfe: Director.

Dewhirst: Yes. Who, when she was so excited that their enrollment was greater than that in the College of Agriculture, what she said?

Metcalfe: I don't remember that.

Dewhirst: She stood up and said, "We have outstripped the men," or something of that sort, and it wasn't intentional at all.

Metcalfe: Myers always felt that Home Economics needed some leadership and we all worked hard for Home Economics.

Dewhirst: Yes. You're noted as one who felt very close to students, to the students in the College of Agriculture. To what do you attribute this sense of responsibility?

Metcalfe: I think in those days the students were closer to their instructors and counselors and they would come in, close the door and tell their whole story. They usually tell the parents and one-on-one you always tell the instructor. Soon they come and tell you some stories about instructors so after you talk to the instructor you realize who was wrong and one thing about it---its confidential.

An interesting story -- at the dedication of the other building a farmer, who was Chinese, came in one day and said, "I'm in love with this Japanese girl, my friends won't

let me marry her because I'm Chinese." So, it took him a long time to decide that he would and he did, they were married. I think at that time they were very personal with the instructors.

Dewhirst: Yes. What did you do to provide student input into administrative activities under your supervision? I'm really thinking of students on the Curriculum Committee. Students . . . you had a Student-Faculty Relations Committee, those were your attempts to get student input, were they not?

Metcalf: Yes, the students were very helpful.

Dewhirst: Did you initiate the Student Faculty or Faculty/Student Relations Committee to select the Outstanding Faculty of the Year?

Metcalf: Perhaps so, but I don't remember.

Dewhirst: I think you did.

Metcalf: Everybody was cooperative about it.

Dewhirst: Yes.

Metcalf: By the way, I must tell you a story about Forbes. Myers suggested that I get to know him well. So I went to visit him one night. There was somebody playing the piano. I waited almost ten minutes and finally he came. He was just finishing a classic and he couldn't quit. By the way, many men stayed at his house. His house was near the underpass. There are a lot of stories about him. One story is that he saw a young man who stayed at his house and he said, 'Young man, you never did pick up your jacket, its still where you left it, in the woodshed.' That was twenty-five years before or something like that.

Dewhirst: Isn't that amazing?

Metcalfe: Oh yes.

Dewhirst: What is your relationship today with former students? How would you characterize it?

Metcalfe: Well, its good. Last year at Homecoming I sat on the northwest corner on the outside. Many students came up. I couldn't even keep up with them there were so many. They're coming back to Homecoming now. They don't wait for the twenty-five or thirty, or even every four years, they start coming back to Homecoming now. They are all very kind concerning everybody in the College.

Dewhirst: You know, I really think that people I visited with across the State, more people have asked about you and have fond memories about you than any other member of the College.

Metcalfe: I don't know about that. Dr. Pacheco just came as President of the University and after I met him he said, "What College are you from," and I said, "The College of Agriculture." He said, "Oh, I know that's got the best teachers, always so kind to the students, and has strong student loyalties." It made me very happy to hear President Pacheco say that.

Dewhirst: There is no question in my mind that the greatest College at the University of Arizona, in terms of counseling students, was the College of Agriculture.

Metcalfe: Yes, but don't you think that Myers also stressed extension and research? Wherever we went we talked about those efforts.

Dewhirst: It was a team effort.

Metcalfe: A team effort.

Dewhirst: Yes. Let me go on to physical improvements, the capital improvements, that occurred during the time you were at the University. I am not going to touch on all of them but why was the Home Economics Building finished first.

Metcalfe: Well, let's discuss the Old Ag Building. When I came to the Old Ag Building, Harold Myers said, "We've got to fix this up." Home Economics was on the top floor of the south end. The Old Ag Building was finished in 1915. I don't think anything had been done to it at all since that time. There was no air conditioning, only a few offices had air conditioners. First of all, we had to have air conditioning. Then the greenhouses on the east end of two wings of the building were removed and the classroom building torn down.

Dewhirst: Oh, that's the ones that were . . . yes, on the east end of the two wings of the Forbes Building.

Metcalfe: Yes.

Dewhirst: Okay.

Metcalfe: And there also was a problem in that many people wanted to take the lobby of the Ag Building and make offices out of it. We decided not to but instead we would use that as a lobby and also leave the stair cases. They decided to leave Administration in the northwest corner of the third floor. The reason why was they wanted us to see the beautiful steps they have. There was quite a discussion as to whether or not we would have carpeting in those main offices. We finally got the carpeting.

By the way the ground floor of the Old Ag Building itself was the northwest corner. It was quite improved, they improved this.

Dewhirst: There, at one time I recall, was a big lecture hall in it, northwest corner of the first floor, was it not?

Not the underground but the ground level. At one time there was a big lecture hall in there and you divided that, as I recall.

Metcalfe: Half of it was Landscape Architecture.

Dewhirst: That's where you put part of Landscape Architecture?

Metcalfe: By the way, you remember the classroom building between the two columns off the patio? They had lectures inside and outside of the classroom building. It was in need of much repair so instead they tore it down.

Dewhirst: Yes.

Metcalfe: The story goes that they tied Forbes in bed that day. That was his famous building. They didn't want to have him see them tear it down.

Dewhirst: Let's go back to the Home Economics Building. Why was it finished first?

Metcalfe: Harold Myers stated he had money for construction for another building. He came in, he said, "The money is for the Ag Science Building but we're not going to give it to them first. We're going to give it to Home Economics because I can't get the money for Home Economics. They don't have room enough for a good program and so forth. This is the reason we will take the money and build a new Home Economics Building." So they tore down the old dormitory and build it there. Its architecture was very innovative in those days and the new building, Home Economics, had to have the School of Nursing and also the Dean of Medicine in there for a while. Harold Myers made the decision that Home

Economics was first. Then he said, "I can always get money for Ag Science." So then afterwards he got money for the Shantz Building.

Dewhirst: I think that's an important point, that he really made a strong effort to accommodate and provide for the School of Home Economics.

Metcalfe: Sure did.

Dewhirst: Yes, okay.

Metcalfe: By the way, the Shantz Building was new and also innovative. It was located where the greenhouses were. The building was actually two buildings, the one outside was for the labs and the one inside was for research labs and offices.

Dewhirst: And offices?

Metcalfe: And offices, and there was a connection between the two. That was something new, no builder had done that before.

Dewhirst: Let me go to the Ag Sciences Building. Its now called the Shantz Building. What were the circumstances surrounding the Ag Sciences Building and how it came to be built? How was the money obtained?

Metcalfe: As I recall the Administration obtained the money from the Legislature same as they did for Home Economics but I'm not sure. We had greenhouses there at one time and tore them down, built shops. After that we had room for different departments. They were crammed. Without adequate space in the Old Ag Building they built the Ag Sciences Building.

Dewhirst: Its my understanding, you correct me here, that originally the Ag Sciences Building was

meant to house the Plant Sciences Program rather than Animal Sciences and why did that change?

Metcalfe: I don't know. I'm not sure. There was a big discussion that I was aware of but I think they felt that Animal Sciences had no place themselves, and of course Dr. Bruce Taylor, Department Head at that time, was a very strong Department Head.

Dewhirst: Okay. Another part of it may have been the man who was Head of what became Ag Biochemistry, can't think of his name right now, was able to get money from National Institutes of Health or somebody for . . .

Metcalfe: Art Kemmerer.

Dewhirst: Kemmerer, for part of that building.

Metcalfe: It was at that time controversial, very controversial.

Dewhirst: Yes. What other buildings were completed or occupied during your tenure on the main campus?

Metcalfe: I don't know but there are a lot of new buildings.

Dewhirst: We obtained part of Biological Sciences East, did we not?

Metcalfe: Yes.

Dewhirst: And part of, I guess probably part of the Old Administration Building?

Metcalfe: Yes. Just east of the Old Ag Building there was a parking lot and that became a Chemistry Building. Much to my surprise when I came to park in that lot, here was Bryan (retired) who had gone through all the Plant Science to see who was there.

Dewhirst: Prof Bryan, yes.

Metcalfe: By the way, when I first came to the University of Arizona Professors Pistor and Stanley asked me down to have a cup of coffee and told me all about the State, about the University and about the College. Bryan and Presley, of course also asked me out for coffee and told me the same thing.

Dewhirst: Did the two stories . . .

Metcalfe: The stories were about the same.

Dewhirst: About the same.

Metcalfe: Stories that you don't repeat.

Dewhirst: Yes. What was your relationship with Dean Harold E. Myers?

Metcalfe: Well, I think it was good but Harold was, of course, a dynamic figure. He was "on the go" all the time, quick and so forth, and he would check on me. In other words, he might say "hello" and by the time I said "hello, how are you," or something, he was already gone. At that time we had to work on Saturday mornings so he came in one Saturday and said, "I don't have time to go to all the departments in the College, will you just go in and see if they are here this morning?" That was Harold Myers of course.

Dewhirst: Yes.

Metcalfe: He knew many people in the State. He knew the Legislature and he knew how to deal with them. He was on the CAP Committee. He was a very energetic person.

Dewhirst: Yes. How do you rate Dean Myers with regard to other Deans that you have known? Is that a fair question?

Metcalfe: Well, its typical because after all he was in a different situation where he had modernized the College of Agriculture. He came in 1956 and remained to 1973 I think.

Dewhirst: 1973 or 1974?

Metcalfe: I think so. He was certainly a strong Dean but at the time it was a difficult situation.

Dewhirst: Well, he was the right man for that time.

Metcalfe: That's right.

Dewhirst: Probably.

Metcalfe: And there were some things that had personal problems and everything but . . .

Dewhirst: I want to go on to another question and this may be a controversial question for you because it touches on this one individual. How was your relationship with Gerald Stairs?

Metcalfe: My relationship was very good. There were times when we got into discussions about teaching etc. I didn't know till afterwards that my position was being protected also, by somebody in the President's Office. They told him when they hired him that I should be kept, I didn't know that. I guess its true. I understand I was criticized but he kept me.

Dewhirst: Yes.

Metcalfe: I talked back to him and he accepted it, he was very fine. He was interested in students also. I had letters on my desk addressed to him. I knew they weren't for me and I took them to him.

Dewhirst: With regard to Gerald Stairs, do you believe the rumors about his womanizing?

Metcalfe: To some extent. I was sure there were problems. For example, there are those in the main office who thought that I believed it so I got letters addressed to him on my desk

which I knew didn't belong to me so I very carefully put them out on his desk. Evidently he had problems in our own College. I was aware of this, some of them didn't think so but I was certainly aware.

Dewhirst: Okay. Let's go on now, leave that. What were the circumstances of you being named to the position of Acting Dean and later Dean?

Metcalfe: Well, I was going to retire at age 65 but I stayed on till I was 69 years old. Dr. Schaefer called me over and said, "You take over until this College settles down." I said, "At this time?" and he said, "Yes. Well," he said, "Everybody is unhappy and fighting and everything else unsettled. If you'll do that we'll accept that. As you know we're having trouble with Dean Stairs and evidently the Agricultural interest of the State are putting pressure on me (meaning Schaefer) to do something about it."

Dewhirst: Okay.

Metcalfe: I agreed that I would take over just a short time.

Dewhirst: You were Acting Dean and then later named Dean.

Metcalfe: They hadn't found anybody yet.

Dewhirst: Okay. So, it simply was a matter of correcting this situation is what it really amounted to.

Metcalfe: Right.

Dewhirst: Okay. Detail for me the circumstances surrounding your notification of Bartley P. Cardon being named Dean and your giving up that position.

Metcalfe: Well, at my age I wanted to retire and you were with me when I heard about Dr. Bart

Cardon. It didn't effect me. I didn't like it because I thought they should wait till January 1st instead of December 1st. I told Dr. Schaefer when I got back, I said, "I wish they'd waited till the end of the year," and he made a remark about the Aggies who forced him to do it. He took me out for coffee.

Dewhirst: To make it so people who read this will understand it. We were at the Land-Grant Meetings in Atlanta, Georgia. You and I roomed together and you received a call from President Schaefer that Bartley Cardon was being named Dean, I think that day, wasn't it?

Metcalfe: Yes.

Dewhirst: And that's the first you knew?

Metcalfe: That's right.

Dewhirst: And, so your concern was that probably they should have waited until January 1st and I would agree with that.

Metcalfe: Well, I shouldn't say this--some of the Agriculture leaders in the State asked me my age and if I would stay on and so forth, but they did not tell me about Bart Cardon. They should have told me that. They realized that, and they felt badly about it but there was no situation involved with that at all.

Dewhirst: I recall that you stated on several occasions that the instructional program was always the last to be brought into the, maybe not always but frequently, was last to be brought into decisions. Is that correct?

Metcalfe: In what, for what?

Dewhirst: Well, that decisions were made by the Dean and Director of the Agriculture Experiment Station and Cooperative

Extension, and frequently Instruction was brought in later.

Metcalfe: Well, I don't think I felt this way.

Dewhirst: Okay.

Metcalfe: I felt I was part of the team.

Dewhirst: That's my error.

Metcalfe: I worked with Extension and Experiment Station a lot.

Dewhirst: Yes.

Metcalfe: Harold Myers spoke not for Resident Instruction but he spoke for the other two all the time.

Dewhirst: Yes. Let's go on to another point. Tell me something about your activities at the regional level and national level related to your position in the instructional program.

Metcalfe: Well, I have a whole list of them. I was very active in the American Society of Agronomy and at one time was named Fellow of the Year. I was very active in the National Association of State Universities of Land Grant Colleges and also in the non-land grant colleges, so all of those.

Dewhirst: Yes.

Metcalfe: I also received an Agronomic Service Award several times.

Dewhirst: I'm going to get to that.

Metcalfe: So, I thought that Iowa State and University of Arizona were very helpful to me, I will

always be grateful. I was able to do things with the other universities. One thing about it, I worked closely too, with the Negro institutions. I think I was very happy when I was asked to talk to one of these Southern Universities. The Dean of the Ag College said, "Well, you sit with these students so long, how can we talk about anything?" Well, the students were very happy to be getting a B.S. degree. These students thought the only job they could get would be in extension, or probably selling newspapers. I told them that would change, that US AID was hiring more, that they would get graduate work in other institutions as well. They were very understanding.

Dewhirst: Yes. You were very active in Resident Instruction, what do they call it, Council on . . . RICOP. What does that stand for? Resident Instruction Council . . .

Metcalf: Resident Instruction Council on Policies and Procedures.

Dewhirst: Okay. You were on that Council for several periods of time were you not?

Metcalf: Yes, and I went to a meeting of OECD (Organization for Economic Cooperative Development) in Paris representing the United States. The Prime Minister, the official, thought the United States was a singular state. I talked to representatives from countries in Europe and one from Japan for three different years (1963-1965). We talked about all the changes and professional courses etc. in Agriculture.

Dewhirst: Okay.

Metcalf: It was a very important meeting. I was also a delegate for two years to the National Academy of Sciences for New Crops for Arid Lands in Egypt representing the United States.

Dewhirst: Yes.

Metcalfe: And I represented the United States at the Institute for International Education (IIE) in Somalia.

Dewhirst: My next question had to do with international programs during your tenure and this could take up hours as far as that's concerned as each of these others could. How did you happen to get into the work on international programs? For example, and I think when I came here in 1957, or shortly thereafter, there was a program in Iraq. Were you involved in that at all?

Metcalfe: No I wasn't involved in Iraq. The Board of Regents had signed a contract with the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the U.S. Department of State about working with a small Ag College near Baghdad. I was told, when I came in 1958, that the contract wasn't going to last much longer because of problems in Iraq and also the Regents were unhappy so nobody would say anything about it.

Dewhirst: I'm not sure where this tape recorder was at the time when it went off but you had finished talking about Iraq and I asked you what your first involvement in international work was and you started to talk about Iowa State.

Metcalfe: At Iowa State, I represented the University with the Cadets, the Naval Cadets.

Dewhirst: What was that word?

Metcalfe: Naval Cadets.

Dewhirst: Okay.

Metcalfe: The Navy.

Dewhirst: Okay.

Metcalfe: And I flew down to Rio de Janeiro, I stayed there a couple days. I flew over into Chile and joined the Cadets in Chile on the USS Boston and sailed up the West coast for a few days.

In the early 1960s Harold Myers and President Harvill decided that we should again be engaged in international work. It was suggested that a Committee go to Brazil. All the relations were held with USAID, United States Agency for International Development. Three of us went down to study agriculture all over Brazil and the possibility of having a contract with the University of Recife or the University of Ceara. I was Chairman of the group.

Dewhirst: That's C-E-A-R-A?

Metcalfe: Yes, in Fortaleza. They asked Jimmye Hillman to go. Jimmye Hillman was Head of Ag Economics and he had relatives there. His wife's family had moved there, to Brazil, sometime during the Civil War. Let's see, what's the other man, other man that was to . . . Head of Watershed Management at one time.

Dewhirst: That was Head of Watershed Management? Oh, Ehrenreich?

Metcalfe: No.

Dewhirst: Humphrey?

Metcalfe: No, before that.

Dewhirst: Oh, a Scotsman. I can't think of his name.

Metcalfe: McComb, Andy McComb. Andy McComb had had some experience.

Dewhirst: Andy McComb.

Metcalfe: So Andy, Jimmye Hillman and myself went there for six weeks. We visited as many Colleges of Agriculture as we could. Recife was having a big problem there. They were anxious to have us be located in Recife. They were having problems with the students and the faculty. They had a new president, acting president, so everywhere he went or wherever we went the students were with us. There was a real problem to settle between the two. We've been in a meeting when we talked to the whole group, involving the students and the faculty, they sat in different places. So, we went on to the University of Ceara and everything had changed. They were ready for us. The three of us were agreeable to have a contract in Fortaleza at the University of Ceara. I must tell you that when I walked off the airplane the Officers and the Administrators in Agriculture were all standing at the bottom of the plane, they were laughing, so I jokingly said, "What are you laughing about?" They promptly said, "Well, you look like one of us." We spent several days with them and they all truly said, "That if you have contract we don't want money, we want your know-how and also, please don't do like the other institutions in the United States have done, Don't send us Hessians."

Dewhirst: Purdue was there also.

Metcalfe: Yes and I think Ohio too. Those institutions supposedly had just hired people who didn't have other jobs, so at that time I told them at least 60 to 75 percent of our faculty would go down there but it was more like 80 percent. They asked whether Jimmye and McComb or I would go down and I said, "No," because before we left, and this is true,

Harold Myers said, "The three of you just don't get any ideas, we're building our own University of Arizona, you stay here and let the other people go down." So on the way back I said, "Put down who we should send as Chief of Party?" They all wrote down Pistor. He had experience, School Board, Department Head, right age, he speaks Spanish, not Portuguese of course, but the fact that he spoke Spanish was very helpful. Mrs. Pistor had just died, so we asked him to be Chief of Party. It was a good idea. Anyway, he was very popular. When we went down the next time we found that they had a street called "Pistor."

Dewhirst: Really? What was the name of it?

Metcalfe: A street called "Pistor Street."

Dewhirst: Pistor Street!

Metcalfe: Then on the way out to the farm they had remodeled a house out there and they started laughing when we went out there. There's a big sign "Pistor Hilton." He was very popular.

Dewhirst: Yes, yes.

Metcalfe: The project was very good, and we had some fifteen or sixteen faculty members and their families down there.

After the program was all finished and we came up for AID reviews and so forth, I was having dinner here in Tucson one night recently when an USAID official came over and said, "You folks obviously had the Brazil Project," I said, "Yes we did." He said, "I worked at AID at one time. I want you to know that it was one of the most successful projects that they ever had at USAID." It was because we got along so well down there

with the people and our own people. They didn't have problems, we didn't have to recall anyone to come back and all that. We had problems but not big problems.

Dewhirst: Yes. Basically, that still remains as a good relationship doesn't it?

Metcalfe: Absolutely!

Dewhirst: One of the few probably that AID has had. We had a number of other international projects that we were involved with as a College, do you remember some of those during the time you were . . . for example, I know North Yemen was one of those.

Metcalfe: This was with the University of Arizona, College of Agriculture and the Consortium for International Development, (CID).

Dewhirst: CID.

Metcalfe: I was a member of the Consortium representing the College of Agriculture, University of Arizona.

Dewhirst: In Yemen?

Metcalfe: Yes in Yemen too.

Dewhirst: You were also on the Board of Directors of CID, were you not, the Consortium for International Development?

Metcalfe: Yes. I don't know anything about that now, I guess they don't have CID any more, I don't know.

Dewhirst: It is still an active organization.

Metcalfe: But individuals who retired from Agriculture at the University of Arizona are no longer members of that.

Dewhirst: Say that again, I didn't understand that.

Metcalfe: Members of CID, our faculty members, no longer work with CID.

Dewhirst: Oh well . . . is Jean Kearns one of the Deputy Directors?

Metcalfe: Yes.

Dewhirst: Of CID right now?

Metcalfe: Yes.

Dewhirst: Yes we still have some activities through CID. For example, the project, the major project they have in Egypt is partly through CID.

Let's talk more about your personal involvement in specific agricultural education activities. Could you kind of delineate some of those in what you feel your contribution has been? For example, I know you were very active in Oman at the Sultan Qaboos University.

Metcalfe: Yes. Oman! I was asked to go over there to develop an Agriculture College very similar to the United States. Also, I was on the Committee with Dr. Robinson who was head of a University in North Carolina, to develop Sultan Qaboos University, the Oman University, that became a very excellent University. Carroll Hess from Kansas State University was the first Dean over there.

Dewhirst: You're a good friend of Carroll Hess?

Metcalfe: Oh yes.

Dewhirst: Okay. You were also involved, I believe, in Somalia at one time?

Metcalfe: I went over to Somalia. I went for a group out of New York.

Dewhirst: Is this the Institute for International Education?

Metcalfe: Yes, I represented that in Somalia.

Dewhirst: And Kenya too?

Metcalfe: Kenya. Well, I went over to Somalia to help students prepare to do graduate work in the United States. We had students here from Somalia in the late 1950s and early 1960s and they were all sent later to Moscow . . .

Dewhirst: Really?

Metcalfe: They were sent by Somalia and they didn't care for Moscow at all, they wanted to come back to the United States. I went to Somalia and I thought we should go over to the Secretary of Education so we went to the Secretary of Education. He said, "The Secretary of Agriculture wants to talk to you." I walked in there, the Secretary of Agriculture, Assistant Secretary and the Extension Secretary were all there. These were some of our former students, our graduates from Arizona.

Dewhirst: Isn't that amazing?

Metcalfe: Amazing, and they were very capable people. Don't know what's happened to them now, suppose they've gone to some other country, but two of them came back with fellowships, Ford Foundation fellowships. They were very, very good and then they started coming back.

Dewhirst: This was in Somalia?

Metcalfe: Somalia.

Dewhirst: Yes.

Metcalfe: I had just a brief visit to Kenya. Had an interesting experience in Kenya. In the afternoon they said, "How about a tour with us on this bus to see the wild animals and so forth?" So, I said, "Yes." Well, in addition to ourselves there was a couple, a young couple from Australia and just married, who started laughing. I asked, "What are you laughing for?" They said, "Have you ever heard of Forages?" They had used this textbook. It was a required textbook in Australia.

Dewhirst: Your book?

Metcalfe: Yes, they had a lot of fun about it.

Dewhirst: Yes, okay. Let's see, how about Egypt?

Metcalfe: I was there representing the United States in the New Arid Crops Program for two years.

Dewhirst: You were a member of the National Academy of Sciences Panel to review that project, is that correct?

Metcalfe: An interesting story there. I wondered what I should do the second year for a gift for the Chairman of the group so I took a small bale of Pima cotton which Dr. Bryan had given me and I took it to the Chairman. Dr. Bryan had developed this cotton from an Egyptian cotton import years ago.

Dewhirst: Ah, yes. Some of the people that you were involved with are in very important positions in Egypt today, are they not?

Metcalfe: I think so.

Dewhirst: Yes.

Metcalfe: I regret that I haven't kept up with some of them.

Dewhirst: Yes.

Metcalfe: By the way, my first trip to Egypt they wanted to show me Sadat, his home. So, they took me by the street to show me his home. He had just been assassinated.

Dewhirst: Yes. We talked a little bit about this already. I said foreign students of the College who have gone to positions of responsibility in their own countries, you mentioned the ones in Somalia. My guess is that there are many in other countries as well, is that correct?

Metcalfe: Oh sure. I wasn't associated with everybody from Africa but its unfortunate they haven't kept up with that.

Dewhirst: Yes.

Metcalfe: I'd like to know about some of those undergraduates who were in Somalia. I understand they went to other countries and responsible positions.

Dewhirst: I know we had students at one time from a wide variety of countries. For example, I had students that came from Sudan. I remember those, and basically they were all pretty outstanding students or they wouldn't have been here to begin with.

Metcalfe: I think some of the faculty members at the University still correspond with some of those foreign students.

Dewhirst: Yes. Tell me a little bit about the Peace Corps that was and still is located on the U of A Campus and the recruiters.

Metcalfe: I was a recruiter. Anybody interested in the Peace Corps would come to me and we'd discuss it.

Dewhirst: Yes. Darrel, there is no question that we could go on for an awful long time. Are there

other important items that you think we should discuss, and if so, what would those be?

Metcalfe: I've covered lot of the problems but it was such a busy life from 1958 to 1982. There is much unaccounted for but you and I know all the developments in the College of Agriculture.

Dewhirst: Well, there is no question that your tenure which covered parts of four decades really encompassed the period of major growth and activity in the College and you were very instrumental in many, many of the changes that occurred. There is no question about it because they related to students, they related to teaching and that kind of thing.

Metcalfe: It would have been impossible hadn't it been for good Deans and good faculty members who were very helpful and very cooperative. I could never work those many hours a day and so forth hadn't it been for their cooperation.

Dewhirst: Yes. What other comments do you think would be appropriate for this type of thing, that you can think of?

Metcalfe: Well, I think as long as we have the Archives we will have some history which would otherwise have been have lost, and I said, "We have to be awfully careful we don't lose our history, individuals themselves too, many of whom are forgotten."

Dewhirst: You know, unfortunately we cannot interview Harold Myers for an oral history so the only input we got in an oral history is probably from somebody like you, or me to a certain extent, but more you, and we cannot interview Dick Frevert or any of those that have passed on.

Metcalfe: George Hull.

Dewhirst: I'm sorry.

Metcalfe: George Hull.

Dewhirst: Yes.

Metcalfe: Or Ruth Hall . . .

Dewhirst: Yes.

Metcalfe: About Ruth Hall, she came in and said she didn't feel well but the Doctor said she was alright. I said, "I'd see another Doctor." She came back, she had cancer, terminal cancer.

Dewhirst: Yes.

Metcalfe: And she called Lucille and me, and she said, "Will you please always visit, every once in a while, my husband"? So we have done that.

Dewhirst: Yes.

Metcalfe: Mrs. Frevert and Mrs. Myers, and Eddie Hall and people like that, our ages, I said I feel almost alone because all these people have gone and so when you and Phil and George visit I appreciate you folks.

Dewhirst: Well, its a labor of love.

Metcalfe: Well, it works both ways.

Dewhirst: Yes.

Metcalfe: Are you responsible for the plaque, the Lifetime Award?

Dewhirst: Well, I had a hand in it.

Metcalfe: That was an excellent plaque.

Dewhirst: It really is! It really is!

Dewhirst: Well, its very appropriate, its very appropriate and I'm pleased that you received a Lifetime Award.

One thing we didn't talk about is that you also are . . . you were made a Bobcat, an Honorary Bobcat.

Metcalfe: Students select the Honorary Bobcats.

Dewhirst: And then you were also named by the Alumni Association, U of A Alumni Association, as an Honorary Alumnus of the University of Arizona.

Metcalfe: Harold Myers and I were the only two in a hundred years that were made honorary alums of the University.

Dewhirst: 1985?

Metcalfe: I believe so.

Dewhirst: Yes. Well, I think that pretty well completes this.

Metcalfe: I want to tell you, I went to Las Vegas to the NASULGC Conference (National Association of State Universities of Land Grant Colleges). One of the speakers from the Land Grant schools said, "You won't know the University (the University of Arizona) ten or fifteen years from now," and here's all the reasons why we'd have a great University and of course it included the College of Agriculture which was rated very high, along with Cancer Research and all the others which make it a leading University. There is only one way to go in the future and that is forward.

Dewhirst: Yes.

Metcalfe: He was very kind.

Dewhirst: Yes.

Metcalf: So, I retired from a good University.

Dewhirst: Well, it is a good University, no question about it.

Metcalf: Not Cowboys and Indians!

Dewhirst: Pardon.

Metcalf: Not Cowboys and Indians!

Dewhirst: No, not Cowboys and Indians. Okay, I believe we will stop at this point.