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UA1B2/1/6 Oral History

Paula Trafton
Western Kentucky University

Gertrude Bale
Western Kentucky University

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Western Kentucky University
UA1B University Wide Committees / Events
Series 2/1 Anniversaries Western Kentucky University
Item 6 Gertrude Bale Interview

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Biographical/Historical Note:

Records regarding anniversaries celebrated by the university includes founders day, 75th and centennial celebrations.

Description: Interview conducted by Paula Trafton with Gertrude Bale, retired music education teacher.

Dates: May 26, 2006

Formats: 1 audiotape, 1 wav file, 1 mp3 file

Subject Analytics:

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09/16/2013

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| Tape 1 | 1 | 00:00:09 | <p><i>PT: Today is Friday May 26th, 2006. This is Paula Trafton instructor in the History Department at Western Kentucky University in Bowling Green, Kentucky. Today I will be interviewing Gertrude Bale of the Music Department as part of an oral history project for Western's 2006 centennial celebration. This project focuses on those persons who have a special knowledge of the growth and changes Western Kentucky has experienced since the 1930's. And Miss Bale and I are sitting in her home in the Bowling Green Retirement Village and we're just about to start this interview.</i></p> |
| Tape 1 | 1 | 00:00:58 | <p><i>GB: Do you want to know where I was born?</i></p> <p><i>PT: Yes, I sure do.</i></p> <p><i>GB: I was born in Ruthven, Iowa</i></p> <p><i>PT: In Iowa.</i></p> <p><i>GB: Yes, February 3rd, 1910.</i></p> |
| Tape 1 | 1 | 00:01:08 | <p><i>PT: Okay. And what brought you to Western.</i></p> <p><i>GB: That's a long story.</i></p> <p><i>PT: That's okay. We like long stories.</i></p> <p><i>GB: Well, let's see I went to school Morningside College in Sioux City, Iowa when I graduated from high school. I didn't graduate from Ruthven. My father was a banker and we moved to a small town about thirty miles from Sioux City and I graduated from this small Smithland Consolidated School in 1927. And I went to Morningside College because they had a very good music school. And I didn't graduate there. First I taught, I mean I went to school for three years and got a certificate to teach music. Music education was my major.</i></p> <p><i>PT: Okay.</i></p> <p><i>GB: Piano was my minor. And then I taught school for a while. I started teaching in 1921[sic] and then I went back, did some work at summer school and I went back to the college in 1937. And I got my Bachelor School of Music degree in 1927, '37, 1937. And then I taught some more and I taught in Iowa until 1938 to 1948.</i></p> <p><i>[moving mic around]</i></p> <p><i>I taught in schools in Iowa and then in 1948 I went to Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois. I was accepted there. And in order to go to school there I went straight through from summer. I started in the summer of 1948 and then when the fall semester came I got a job as a counselor in one of the upper class houses and that way, that took care of my room and board and I was able to go on to school then.</i></p> <p><i>PT: Okay.</i></p> <p><i>GB: So, and I got my masters' degree in 1949 at Northwestern. And I knew I wanted to teach in a college after I'd taught seventeen years in elementary and high school. And so how I happened to come here? There happened to be a job at Western and I was fortunate enough to, I'd never been to Kentucky before, before I came here. So I came to Western to teach at Western Kentucky. It wasn't a university then. It was Western Kentucky College in 1949. That's when I came.</i></p> |
| Tape 1 | 1 | 00:04:58 | <p><i>PT: And you came to teach what classes?</i></p> <p><i>GB: I taught, I taught music education. The first year I taught entirely in the college. I was Mrs. Travelstead, Nell Gooch Travelstead, I think you've probably heard of her. Well, she was on a year's leave of absence and so I took her place there until she came back. And then they evidently liked me enough that they kept me on. And then I taught the elementary music in the Training School and had student teachers, you know, looked after, because most of the student teachers at that time in 1950, '51, they had to do their student teaching at the Training School and College High and so that's what I did. That's how I, they kept me here. And then I taught the college classes on Saturday. The music education classes on Saturday.</i></p> |
| Tape 1 | 1 | 00:06:25 | <p>6:25</p> <p><i>PT: Why did they have them on Saturday?</i></p> <p><i>GB: Because Mrs. Travelstead was teaching until she retired. After she retired, then I taught the regular college classes plus still teaching at the Training School. And I had, at first I just</i></p> |

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| | | | <p><i>taught the grade school in music because that was my favorite. I liked teaching elementary school music. I had taught, I had had work teaching high school in Iowa and I really wasn't interested in doing that. At that time Dr. [Craddock] Jagers was head of the Training School and they needed somebody to teach, to take over from the music in high school and I said, "Dr. Jagers, I don't want to teach, I don't want to direct a mixed chorus." I didn't want to work with boys in high school at that particular time. And he said, "Well, how about doing girls?" and I said, "Alright." I'd do the girls. So I did the girls chorus and I guess I was pretty good because my girls groups, chorus, my triple trio, my sextet, my trio, they all got superiors at the music contest. The state music contest for several years did that. And I continued and I had student teachers every time, you know every year student teachers that was one of my jobs to see that they got trained. So I did that and I kept doing the girls chorus until they closed College High. I don't remember just exactly what year that was. [University High and the Training School closed in 1970] [It] was after they opened up the lab school. That isn't what it is now because they closed the lab school too. So that's what I did. I did teach some piano.</i></p> |
| Tape 1 | 1 | 00:09:10 | <p><i>PT: Now how come you didn't like teaching boys?</i></p> <p><i>GB: Well, I don't know. I did boys in Iowa, but I just didn't want all that extra work</i></p> <p><i>PT: Yes.</i></p> <p><i>GB: I was content to do the girls and do a good job. But I was more interested in doing some other things.</i></p> |
| Tape 1 | 1 | 00:09:38 | <p><i>PT: So you played the piano as well.</i></p> <p><i>GB: Yes, I played the piano.</i></p> |
| Tape 1 | 1 | 00:09:42 | <p><i>PT: Okay. Now, what buildings were you in when you were at Western? You were in?</i></p> <p><i>GB: What did you say?</i></p> <p><i>PT: What buildings were you in?</i></p> <p><i>GB: Oh the old Music Building.</i></p> <p><i>PT: Was it old when you were there? Was it old or was it . . . ?</i></p> <p><i>GB: Well, it wasn't new. It was, oh I can't explain it was on Normal.</i></p> <p><i>PT: Okay.</i></p> <p><i>GB: Normal Boulevard. It wasn't big like the Fine Arts Building. And on the other side of the library there was a swimming pool. They had a swimming pool down there.</i></p> <p><i>PT: Yes. Did you ever go in the pool?</i></p> <p><i>GB: No, I didn't. I didn't. I wasn't a swimmer. I went down sometimes and watched.</i></p> <p><i>PT: Okay.</i></p> <p><i>GB: Some of my friends went swimming.</i></p> |
| Tape 1 | 1 | 00:10:49 | <p><i>GB: Well, let's see now, what else can I tell you? Well after they closed College High, of course I didn't do any more chorus work. I just worked with the elementary school and the lab school which is next to McNeill you know across there on University Boulevard. I don't know what it is now, but it's something else. [Jones-Jagers School]</i></p> <p><i>PT: Yes.</i></p> <p><i>GB: It was a nice school and it was really nice when you had, when you taught classes and had your college class come and observe you teaching a class.</i></p> <p><i>PT: Yes.</i></p> <p><i>GB: That was nice because they had the separate room for observers. They could watch and hear what was going on without the kids being bothered with them. And I enjoyed that. It was a lot, it was nice. I enjoyed the work very much.</i></p> |
| Tape 1 | 1 | 00:11:59 | <p><i>PT: It was a circular building.</i></p> <p><i>GB: Yes, it was. It was built especially for that purpose you know. And then they closed College High. A lot of people hated that because it was such a good school. Of course all teachers were master teachers. And then I taught, I taught music education classes. I had two usually two each semester besides I think I usually taught the Saturday class too.</i></p> |

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| Tape 1 | 1 | 00:12:50 | <p>PT: Did you teach any music appreciation classes?</p> <p>GB: I didn't. I taught music appreciation in my classes.</p> <p>PT: Oh.</p> <p>GB: I always had, always had a little part of music appreciation. I did that with my elementary kids too. I had a list of composers that I had them look up and we, they gave reports on them. And then I would play their music. The music that I thought that they would enjoy, not just any piece. And I think the kids did get quite a bit out of that because they probably wouldn't have heard some of the music. Although all those kids, a good many of the kids who went to the Training School or College High, their parents were professors at Western. The professors' children had first choice. You know, they had to line, they had to register to come to that school. When I came here I thought it was so funny. People who wanted to get their children into the Training Schools would line up. They would sit out there all night long so they could get in. You know the first one to get their children into the Training School. So that was the kind of school it was.</p> <p>PT: It was good.</p> |
| Tape 1 | 1 | 00:14:34 | <p>GB: Now, what else do you want? Let's see I retired in 1965, 1975.</p> <p>PT: Nice. So you began here, teaching here in 1949 . . .</p> <p>GB: Yes.</p> <p>PT: . . . and you stayed all the way to 1975.</p> <p>GB: That's right.</p> |
| Tape 1 | 1 | 00:14:50 | <p>PT: What kind of changes do you recall?</p> <p>GB: Oh, there've been a lot of building changes you know.</p> <p>PT: A lot of buildings.</p> <p>GB: Well the Training School was closed. And the grade school, the elementary school went to the lab school. And the College High children had to go to either to one of the schools either Bowling Green High or one of the county schools, because they closed College High.</p> <p>PT: So they tore those buildings down that were there?</p> <p>GB: No the old Training School is still there on the corner . . .</p> <p>PT: Okay.</p> <p>GB: . . . of College, oh what is that?</p> <p>PT: State Street.</p> <p>GB: Well it's on State Street.</p> <p>PT: State Street.</p> <p>GB: Yes. State Street you know the road that goes through the campus.</p> <p>PT: So the Science and Technology Building. Is that what it is?</p> <p>GB: I guess that's what it's called now. I haven't been in it much since. It's still the same thing. They haven't done much to it.</p> <p>PT: No they haven't.</p> <p>GB: They, first they talked about tearing it down. And I'll tell you the ones who went there to school had a fit. Didn't want that and so they've kept it.</p> <p>PT: Yes.</p> <p>GB: I don't know whether that was the reason, but they did a lot, a lot of important people went to school there.</p> <p>PT: Yes.</p> <p>GB: For instance, John Minton the judge, you know, and a lot of doctors and attorneys and so on and bankers.</p> |
| Tape 1 | 1 | 00:16:39 | <p>PT: Now was the Thompson Complex there when you were here? I mean when, Thompson</p> |

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| | | | <p><i>Complex where they have biology . . . ?</i></p> <p><i>GB: Oh it was built while I was here. It wasn't there when I first came. They did all, they did, what did they call it? It's the little log house. Well, I don't know. It's a small, I don't know what it's called, I've forgotten. I can't remember all of them.</i></p> <p><i>PT: So was the planetarium built during the time that you were at Western?</i></p> <p><i>GB: No, it came after I came here.</i></p> <p><i>PT: After you came here.</i></p> <p><i>GB: And the mathematics science building that came after I came here.</i></p> |
| Tape 1 | 1 | 00:17:32 | <p><i>PT: How about Cherry Hall?</i></p> <p><i>GB: Cherry Hall was here. Cherry Hall and of course, where the library is, was the old gymnasium.</i></p> <p><i>PT: Yes.</i></p> <p><i>GB: That's where they had the basketball games and stuff.</i></p> <p><i>PT: Did you used to go to those games?</i></p> <p><i>GB: What?</i></p> <p><i>PT: Did you used to go to the basketball games?</i></p> <p><i>GB: Did I? Yes, I did when I first came because I could walk, you know. It was safe to walk back in those days.</i></p> |
| Tape 1 | 1 | 00:18:03 | <p><i>PT: Where did you live then? Very close to campus then?</i></p> <p><i>GB: I lived on Twelfth Street.</i></p> <p><i>PT: Twelfth.</i></p> <p><i>GB: I lived when I came I had just a room in a home for a couple three years. And then my father passed away and my mother was living by herself in Iowa. And it got so she couldn't stay by herself and so she came down here to live. I knew she was going to come down. I had to start getting an apartment. So I lived on College Street most of time, several apartments, yes, on College Street until I came out here.</i></p> <p><i>PT: Okay. So you lived on College Street all the way until you came to this retirement home.</i></p> <p><i>GB: Yes.</i></p> <p><i>PT: Okay. Do you remember the address of where you were on College Street or just did you move around?</i></p> <p><i>GB: Oh, well for about thirty years I lived at Carriage Hill apartment.</i></p> <p><i>PT: You did?</i></p> <p><i>GB: That was 1225 I think.</i></p> <p><i>PT: Yes.</i></p> <p><i>GB: College Street.</i></p> <p><i>PT: And so your mother stayed with you then?</i></p> <p><i>GB: My mother stayed until she passed away in 1960.</i></p> <p><i>PT: Okay.</i></p> |
| Tape 1 | 1 | 00:19:28 | <p><i>PT: Did you have to go to Chapel while you were . . . ?</i></p> <p><i>GB: No.</i></p> <p><i>PT: Nobody told you, you had to go to Chapel.</i></p> <p><i>GB: No, I don't even remember ever going.</i></p> <p><i>PT: Ah, okay.</i></p> <p><i>GB: I was teaching at the Training School and we didn't go.</i></p> |

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| | | | <p>PT: Okay, okay. So they didn't force you to go and do that. What did you think . . . ?</p> <p>GB: I think that was before my time.</p> <p>PT: Okay.</p> <p>GB: They did that because I don't think. I don't think they even had it after I came here. If they did, I didn't know about it.</p> |
| Tape 1 | 1 | 00:19:59 | <p>PT: How about the Music Building?</p> <p>GB: The old Music Building?</p> <p>PT: The old Music Building. Do you have any memories of that?</p> <p>GB: I remember they had termites in it. Well it wasn't, oh it was alright. Yes, I used, I see I taught piano on the side. I always had a bunch of piano students. A lot of them from the Training School took piano from me. And I had one or two college students that took from me through the years, but I wasn't hired to teach piano.</p> <p>PT: Oh, you were just hired to do music education.</p> <p>GB: Yes. And I, so when my piano students had to give a recital we gave it in the old Music Building. [phone rings] Excuse me.</p> |
| Tape 1 | 1 | 00:21:03 | <p>PT: We were talking about the Music Building and your memories of the building and you said that it had termites.</p> <p>GB: Yes, it did have some. I think we even had a fire one time. I don't remember much about it. I can't remember back that far.</p> |
| Tape 1 | 1 | 00:21:20 | <p>PT: When I talked to Dwight Pounds, he said that there was a fire.</p> <p>GB: Yes.</p> <p>PT: He said that for a long time after that they could smell the smoke.</p> <p>GB: Yes that's right. It was hard to get rid of.</p> <p>PT: But you . . .</p> <p>GB: That's about all I can remember.</p> <p>PT: But you did piano, taught piano in the Music Building?</p> <p>GB: Well I usually taught piano at the Training School.</p> <p>PT: Okay.</p> <p>GB: After school you know. The kids would come and take their lessons at the Training School because most of them were Training School kids.</p> |
| Tape 1 | 1 | 00:21:54 | <p>PT: So you didn't come up to campus, on the campus very much, then once you started at the Training School? So were you in the Fine Arts Building once they built that?</p> <p>GB: Oh I guess I didn't come up on. I had to, we had to give a Christmas program and it always had to be given at Van Meter. That was a job.</p> <p>PT: Was it?</p> <p>GB: Yes. Well, all I did, I never gave very elaborate programs. One year I couldn't do it now you know on account of the ACLU or whatever they're called, American Civil Liberties Union.</p> <p>PT: Yes.</p> <p>GB: They wouldn't let you teach Christmas carols.</p> <p>PT: Yes.</p> <p>GB: One year we'd do a Christmas carols, with the Christmas carols we do it using the Bible verses, using the Bible. And one year, the next year we'd do it with folk carols from different countries.</p> <p>PT: Oh, okay.</p> <p>GB: So the children learned an awful lot of Christmas carols. And I can't imagine doing</p> |

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| | | | <p><i>Christmas without carols.</i></p> <p><i>PT: No we can't imagine it.</i></p> <p><i>GB: And the teachers were very helpful because they, see I used every child. We used every child and it was a job getting them up on the platform there. But it worked out pretty well.</i></p> |
| Tape 1 | 1 | 00:23:46 | <p><i>PT: What do you remember about how the campus looked when you were here? At the bottom of the hill, near the Training School with the . . .</i></p> <p><i>GB: Well the campus was always kept, they didn't have so many buildings you know on the other side of where they have the Downing Student Center now. I think they have, I don't know, I haven't been out there much but that was all pretty green you know. And it was pretty. They kept the campus very nice. It was pretty. It was a pretty campus.</i></p> |
| Tape 1 | 1 | 00:24:28 | <p><i>PT: Do you remember Jonesville?</i></p> <p><i>GB: It was, I think it was gone by the time I came.</i></p> <p><i>PT: Okay, okay.</i></p> <p><i>GB: But I don't remember anything about it.</i></p> |
| Tape 1 | 1 | 00:24:37 | <p><i>PT: How about the agricultural center? There were some barns they said at the end of campus where the ag students were, did their things. Do you recall that?</i></p> <p><i>GB: Well, I know when I first came there were some. Some of the professors lived in small houses at the end of the campus I don't know. I never, never saw too much about that, so I don't know too much about that.</i></p> |
| Tape 1 | 1 | 00:25:06 | <p><i>PT: Now you taught all the way down at the Training School where Jones-Jaggers is now and you lived on College Street, so did you walk?</i></p> <p><i>GB: Yes, I walked up.</i></p> <p><i>PT: Every day.</i></p> <p><i>GB: Yes, every day. I didn't have a car until after my mother came to live with me. That was in 1960, no, not 1960. She came to live with me in 1952.</i></p> <p><i>PT: And so you didn't have a car all the way up to that time.</i></p> <p><i>GB: No, no, I walked.</i></p> <p><i>PT: Do you remember what kind of car it was?</i></p> <p><i>GB: Yes, the first car I had was a Ford.</i></p> <p><i>PT: A Ford. Okay.</i></p> <p><i>GB: Then I had a Plymouth. And then I had a Chrysler.</i></p> <p><i>PT: So did you ever have to park on campus at all?</i></p> <p><i>GB: Yes. When they built the lab school I had to drive. And I would, I had a class at the Music Building nearly always at 9:00. And I got up there at 7:30 there was, parking wasn't quite so bad. And I usually parked, where did I park? I guess I parked along Van Meter somewhere.</i></p> <p><i>PT: Okay.</i></p> <p><i>GB: And then walked to the . . .</i></p> <p><i>PT: Okay.</i></p> <p><i>GB: . . . to the new Ivan Wilson Building.</i></p> <p><i>PT: Okay, okay.</i></p> <p><i>GB: I had an office in that building.</i></p> |
| Tape 1 | 1 | 00:26:54 | <p><i>PT: Did you eat on campus at all while you were teaching?</i></p> <p><i>GB: The only time I ate on campus was when they had the lab school. They served meals at the lab school.</i></p> <p><i>PT: At the lab school.</i></p> |

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| | | | <p>GB: I ate there, otherwise I didn't.</p> <p>PT: Mostly ate at home, right?</p> <p>GB: Yes, sometimes I did. I would walk home when I taught at the Training School sometimes I'd walk home at noon and walk back. That kept me in good health.</p> <p>PT: That probably is why.</p> <p>GB: Walking up and down, walking up and down the hill.</p> <p>PT: Now students complain about walking up and down the hill.</p> |
| Tape 1 | 1 | 00:27:45 | <p>GB: Well, they ought not. Then I used to walk on Saturdays to the football games.</p> <p>PT: Did you?</p> <p>GB: Yes.</p> <p>PT: When they were where the Fine Arts Center is right now or when they moved down to Smith Stadium?</p> <p>GB: No, when they're down, I ought to, let's see what is it called?</p> <p>PT: Smith Stadium.</p> <p>GB: Yes.</p> <p>PT: Yes.</p> <p>GB: Smith's Stadium.</p> <p>PT: So you used to, you liked football?</p> <p>GB: Well, I like sports. I like sports.</p> <p>PT: So you went to the basketball games when they used to be in the library?</p> <p>GB: Yes.</p> <p>PT: And do you remember what that was like?</p> <p>GB: No, I really don't. I guess it was noisy.</p> |
| Tape 1 | 1 | 00:28:30 | <p>PT: Noisy. So I was going to ask how well attended the games were.</p> <p>GB: Oh I think it was pretty well attended because Mr. Diddle was an icon here you know.</p> <p>PT: Did you recall him waving his red flag?</p> <p>GB: Yes.</p> <p>PT: Yes, the red towel.</p> <p>GB: That you couldn't miss Mr. Diddle.</p> <p>PT: And did you ever walk past his house on the campus?</p> <p>GB: Yes. Yes. I walked past. I never, never was in it, I just walked past it.</p> <p>PT: Was he ever out on the porch when you walked past?</p> <p>GB: I don't remember that.</p> <p>PT: You don't remember that.</p> <p>GB: No.</p> <p>PT: Some people have said that when they walked past that he was sitting on the porch and . . .</p> <p>GB: Oh of course I had to walk from the Training School down to the Music Building. That would be the old Music Building.</p> |
| Tape 1 | 1 | 00:29:20 | <p>29:20</p> <p>PT: And how were the students? Did the students, were they smart when you were teaching? Did you have smart students or . . . ?</p> |

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GB: Which do you mean?

PT: Yes. The Western students.

GB: Oh the Western students.

PT: Yes.

GB: Well, I had some that were really very good. And some that weren't you know. Like students that were taking the music course because it was a required for elementary school, elementary teachers who were going out. And some of them weren't so good. But I had some who were very good and they did really good work for me. And one time on Saturday I had ninety some students and of course teaching on Saturday you don't know them. I didn't know half of them. So I just had to grade them by the kind of work that they turned in. I had one fellow you knew he wasn't interested in music at all and I probably gave him a D. I'm not sure, but I don't remember what he said. He looked like he came from out in the sticks somewhere.

PT: I'm going to turn this tape over.

[End of side 1]

Tape 1 2 00:31:45

GB: See how much time we have. Oh, about ten minutes.

PT: Oh, okay.

GB: What else do you want to know?

PT: Just do you have any favorite stories about Western? Any memories that you have?

GB: Yes. When I first came, I was from Iowa, never been to Kentucky. And I tell you some of the women in my college were just wonderful to me. Miss Richards, Miss Hart [?], Gabie Robertson, let's see who else? Sybil Stonecipher they were all such wonderful teachers and they were so good to me, and made me feel right at home. And after I came here, I never wanted to leave. Never wanted to change schools, I liked it so much here. You know some people like to change, but I don't.

PT: So you just stayed around.

GB: So I just stayed. I had a lot of good friends and the Music Department was they were so good too and everything. It was a very friendly place. It didn't have so many, that makes a difference.

PT: But you had a lot . . .

GB: It was Western was only about 3,000 when I came.

PT: 3,000.

GB: 3,000 students.

PT: And now it's about 18,000 students.

GB: Yes. A lot of, I've seen it. It really has grown. Especially it's grown a lot since I retired.

Tape 1 2 00:33:39

PT: But when you retired did you, had you seen a lot of changes that occurred?

GB: Oh yes, a lot of new buildings. Of course I haven't been up there very much. And I can't, oh I used to go up to programs and so on at the Music Building and elsewhere but since I don't walk very well anymore.

PT: But, what groups are you involved in now? But that's how you know Sue Lynn McDaniel or you might know her as Sue Lynn Stone. What groups are you involved in now?

GB: Well, I belong to a literary club, the Sevenths Club. And I go to the State Street Methodist Church. And after I retired in 1980 or '81 I thought the church I was interested in hand bells. And the church didn't have any hand bells. So I bought the first two octaves and I started the hand bell choir at State Street United Methodist Church.

PT: You did?

GB: That was my extracurricular activity.

PT: Do they still have those hand bells?

GB: Oh, yes. They still play them. I retired from it in 1992 or 3, '92. In '92 I said I didn't want to retire but my body said it was time.

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| Tape 1 | 2 | 00:35:19 | <p><i>PT: Is that how you felt when you left Western? It was time?</i></p> <p><i>GB: Oh I was glad to retire. I was getting tired of teaching. And the kids, the kids in elementary school were getting a little harder to handle, you know back then. I guess it would be worse today. I don't know how it is, but I know it was the same way everywhere because I met we met a couple of teachers when we traveled. A couple of teachers from Kalamazoo, Michigan and they said oh it was terrible there. I know that they said they had to have policemen in the corridors to keep order. So I was glad when it was time for me to retire and I never wanted to do any teaching after that. And I retired from teaching piano later. I taught some afterwards but when I quit teaching I wanted to have time to travel.</i></p> <p><i>PT: Oh good.</i></p> <p><i>GB: And if I had piano pupils they were a lot if I wanted to travel. I'd be gone for two weeks or so.</i></p> <p><i>PT: So where have you traveled?</i></p> <p><i>GB: I've been in every state in the United States, been in Canada. And I've been to Europe about twelve or fifteen times. I've never been to China, never cared about going to China. I was supposed to go to Australia and New Zealand one time with a friend that I met at Northwestern who was teaching in Iowa and it was an Iowa teachers group and we were going to Australia, New Zealand. Then she had a heart attack so I had to cancel because I couldn't go without going with somebody. So I didn't get to go there.</i></p> |
| Tape 1 | 2 | 00:37:32 | <p><i>PT: Do you still keep up with your piano playing?</i></p> <p><i>GB: Yes, I still do some. I play for a couple of devotional they have out here one on the second Wednesday morning. That's Broadway Methodist, I'll play for them. And then our church State Street has church here on the fourth Sunday afternoon at 2:30 and I do the playing.</i></p> |
| Tape 1 | 2 | 00:38:07 | <p><i>PT: What do you think about Western now as compared to when you were, when you first came here in 1949?</i></p> <p><i>GB: Oh I don't know what to think about it. It's just grown so much. They've done an awful lot, I mean, the president of Western seems to be a go-getter. He seems to be doing pretty well. They seem to be doing well and they certainly have grown from 3,000 to 18.</i></p> <p><i>PT: Grown a lot since you've been there.</i></p> <p><i>GB: Yes.</i></p> <p><i>PT: And you say you don't get up to campus very often?</i></p> <p><i>GB: No. I haven't been up there oh I don't know when was the last time. I used to go to the things at Van Meter, but I can't, I can't do Van Meter any more.</i></p> <p><i>PT: No, the steps are . . .</i></p> <p><i>GB: I still go to symphony concerts when they aren't at Western. And I used to always go to hear Sylvia Kersenbaum.</i></p> <p><i>PT: Yes.</i></p> <p><i>GB: She's such a wonderful pianist.</i></p> <p><i>PT: Yes.</i></p> <p><i>GB: And that's about all.</i></p> |
| Tape 1 | 2 | 00:39:29 | <p>39:29</p> <p><i>PT: Do you think that Western's going to be around for another hundred years?</i></p> <p><i>GB: Oh, I expect so. Yes, I would think so. It's a good school at least in my opinion.</i></p> <p><i>PT: Well good. Well we'll take your opinion. Thank you so much Miss Bale.</i></p> <p><i>GB: You're entirely welcome. I thank you, I'm glad to do this.</i></p> <p><i>PT: Well thank you so much.</i></p> <p><i>[end of side two]</i></p> |