

*Date of T.V. Program
Spring, 1976*

Q

ACHE TELEVISION INTERVIEW PROGRAM
OF
DR. EVA B. DYKES

OAKWOOD COLLEGE
ARCHIVES

I = INTERVIEWER
A = ANSWER

INTRODUCTION - THE HOST OF THE PROGRAM WILL GIVE INTRODUCTORY REMARKS TO INCLUDE THE INTERVIEWEE'S FULL NAME, EVA BEATRICE DYKES; PRESENT RESIDENCE, OAKWOOD COLLEGE, HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA; WHERE SHE WAS BORN, WASHINGTON, D. C., AND HER OCCUPATION AS A TEACHER. PERSONS WHO WILL INTERVIEW WILL BE IDENTIFIED BY THE HOST.

I: I UNDERSTAND THAT YOU RECEIVED YOUR EARLY TRAINING IN GRADES 1 - 4 AT THE HOWARD UNIVERSITY TRAINING SCHOOL; GRADES 5 - 8 IN LUCRETIA MOTT SCHOOL IN WASHINGTON, D. C. THEN AT M STREET HIGH SCHOOL, LATER KNOWN AS DUNBAR HIGH SCHOOL; AND THEN YOU RECEIVED THE BACHELOR OF ARTS AT HOWARD UNIVERSITY, SUMMA CUM LAUDE.

A: YES, THIS IS CORRECT.

I: WHY WERE YOU CALLED BY DEAN COOK OF THE BUSINESS COLLEGE OF HOWARD "A DAUGHTER OF HOWARD."

A: MY MOTHER ATTENDED HOWARD BUT WAS FORCED TO LEAVE BECAUSE OF ILLNESS. HOWEVER, BEFORE I WAS BORN, THREE UNCLAS AND MY FATHER, JAMES DYKES, ATTENDED THE COLLEGE. AND LATER MY SISTER FLORENCE, NOW DECEASED, GRADUATED FROM THE COMMERCIAL COLLEGE OF HOWARD.

I: DID YOU RECEIVE ANY HONORS AT HOWARD?

A: I RECEIVED AN ALUMNI AWARD FROM THE AKA SORORITY OF HOWARD.

I: WHERE DID YOU STUDY AFTER THIS?

A: I STUDIED AT RADCLIFFE COLLEGE IN CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS.

I: WHO WAS INSTRUMENTAL IN CAUSING YOU TO CHOOSE RADCLIFFE COLLEGE?

A: MY UNCLE, DR. JAMES HOWARD.

I: IF YOU ALREADY HAD A B.A. FROM HOWARD, WHY DID YOU DECIDE TO GET ANOTHER B.A. FROM RADCLIFFE?

- A: BECAUSE OF THE FACT THAT HOWARD AT THAT TIME DID NOT HAVE THE STANDING IT HAS NOW; AND BECAUSE OF THE FACT THAT THE REGISTRAR AT RADCLIFFE WOULD ADMIT ME ONLY AS AN UNCLASSIFIED STUDENT, MY UNCLE THOUGHT IT MIGHT BE BETTER TO RECEIVE A B.A. FROM RADCLIFFE, A RECOGNIZED INSTITUTION.
- I: WHAT DEGREES DID YOU RECEIVE AT RADCLIFFE?
- A: I RECEIVED A B.A. MAGNA CUM LAUDE, AN M.A. AND A PH.D.
- I: DID YOU RECEIVE ANY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM RADCLIFFE?
- A: YES, I RECEIVED FIVE SCHOLARSHIPS OF \$500 EACH. THIS MONEY, COMBINED WITH THE FINANCIAL AID OF MY UNCLE, DR. JAMES HOWARD, ENABLED ME TO FINISH MY EDUCATION AT RADCLIFFE.
- I: THIS WAS A REMARKABLE ACHIEVEMENT TO RECEIVE YOUR B.A., M.A., AND PH.D FROM RADCLIFFE; ONE OF THE NATION'S EXCLUSIVE IVY LEAGUE COLLEGES. WHEN DID YOU COMPLETE YOUR DOCTORATE?
- A: THE DOCTORATE WAS CONFERRED IN JUNE, 1921. I COMPLETED THE REQUIREMENTS IN MARCH OF 1921.
- I: YOU WERE THE FIRST BLACK WOMAN IN THE UNITED STATES TO FINISH THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DOCTORATE, AND THE FIRST BLACK WOMAN TO RECEIVE THE DEGREE IN ENGLISH. YOU WERE ONE OF THE FIRST THREE NEGRO WOMEN AWARDED THE PH.D. IN 1921, WERE YOU NOT?
- A: YES, THE OTHER RECIPIENTS WERE GEORGIANA SIMPSON FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO AND SADIE ALEXANDER FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA.
- I: I UNDERSTAND THAT YOU ARE A MEMBER OF PHI BETA KAPPA.
- A: YES, THE IOTA CHAPTER.
- I: ALSO, I UNDERSTAND THAT THE TITLE OF YOUR DISSERTATION WAS POPE AND HIS INFLUENCE IN AMERICA FROM 1715 - 1850. NOW, LET US LOOK AT YOUR TEACHING EXPERIENCE. YOU TAUGHT ENGLISH AND LATIN ONE YEAR AT WALDEN UNIVERSITY IN NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE, WHICH NO LONGER EXISTS; 8 YEARS AT DUNBAR HIGH SCHOOL IN WASHINGTON, D. C.; 14 YEARS AT HOWARD UNIVERSITY, WASHINGTON, D.C., AND 24 YEARS AT OAKWOOD COLLEGE, HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA. IN 1968 YOU RETIRED, AND IN 1970 YOU WERE CALLED BACK TO OAKWOOD BY DR. FRANK HALE, PRESIDENT OF OAKWOOD AT THAT TIME, TO ASSIST IN THE ENGLISH DEPARTMENT. YOU TAUGHT TWO YEARS AS PART TIME TEACHER FROM 1973-1975, MAKING A TOTAL OF FIFTY-ONE YEARS. AND NOW YOU ARE PROFESSOR EMERITUS.

A: YES, THIS IS CORRECT.

I: IN CONJUNCTION WITH YOUR TEACHING, YOU HAVE DONE SOME WRITING. FOR INSTANCE, YOU HAVE WRITTEN ARTICLES FOR SUCH PERIODICALS AS THE NEGRO HISTORY BULLETIN; THE JOURNAL OF NEGRO HISTORY; THREE ADVENTIST PERIODICALS: THE YOUTH INSTRUCTOR NOW KNOWN AS INSIGHT; THE REVIEW AND HERALD, AND CURRENTLY THE MESSAGE MAGAZINE. YOU HAVE WRITTEN A BOOK, THE NEGRO IN ENGLISH ROMANTIC THOUGHT; AND YOU CO-EDITED READINGS FOR NEGRO SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES AND A MANUAL OF ENGLISH FOR FRESHMAN ENGLISH. HOW DID YOU HAPPEN TO WRITE THE NEGRO IN ENGLISH ROMANTIC THOUGHT?

A: WHEN I WAS TEACHING A SURVEY COURSE IN ENGLISH LITERATURE AT HOWARD UNIVERSITY, I NOTICED THAT FREEDOM WAS THE WATCHWORD OF SUCH ROMANTIC WRITERS LIKE SOUTHEY, COLERIDGE, WORDSWORTH, AND OTHERS. I WAS INTRIGUED BY THEIR INTEREST IN FREEDOM AND ESPECIALLY THE FREEDOM OF THE NEGRO; THIS FACT INSPIRED ME TO WRITE THE BOOK.

I: WHAT WERE SOME OF THE COURSES YOU TAUGHT AT OAKWOOD?

A: I TAUGHT ENGLISH COMPOSITION, REMEDIAL ENGLISH, JOURNALISM, ENGLISH LITERATURE, WORLD LITERATURE, AND PERIOD COURSES SUCH AS THE MIDDLE ENGLISH PERIOD, THE ELIZABETHAN PERIOD, THE ROMANTIC PERIOD, THE VICTORIAN PERIOD AND THE MODERN PERIOD. I MAY INCLUDE HERE A COURSE IN MILTON, WHICH COMPRISED THE PURITAN PERIOD.

I: I NOTE THAT YOU HAVE RECEIVED CERTAIN HONORS IN BOTH SECULAR AND RELIGIOUS EDUCATION, BOTH AS A STUDENT AND A TEACHER. FOR EXAMPLE, YOU RECEIVED AN ALUMNI AWARD FOR YOUR WORK AS A STUDENT WHEN YOU GRADUATED FROM HOWARD UNIVERSITY. BY UNANIMOUS VOTE OF THE HOWARD UNIVERSITY FACULTY YOU WERE SELECTED AS THE BEST ALL AROUND TEACHER OF THE FACULTY.

IN MARCH, 1945, ON CHARTER DAY YOU WERE A RECIPIENT OF THE ANNUAL ALUMNI AWARD CONFERRED BY THE TRUSTEES OF HOWARD UNIVERSITY FOR DISTINGUISHED POST-GRADUATE ACHIEVEMENT IN EDUCATION. YOU ALSO WERE THE RECIPIENT OF A PLAQUE FROM THE CHICAGO CHAPTER OF THE OAKWOOD ALUMNI ASSOCIATION FOR DISTINGUISHED TEACHING.

THE COLLEGE LIBRARY AT OAKWOOD WAS NAMED IN YOUR HONOR ALSO.

A: YOU ARE CORRECT. WHEN I LEARNED OF THESE HONORS, I WAS VERY MUCH SURPRISED.

I: YOU ALSO RECEIVED A CITATION OF EXCELLENCE IN THE FIELD OF EDUCATION FROM THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS FOR YOUR ACCOMPLISHMENT IN THE AREA OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION. WHAT PART DID YOU PLAY IN THE FIRST FULL ACCREDITATION OF OAKWOOD COLLEGE?

A: I WAS CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE WHICH WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF EVERY OAKWOOD WORKER FINALLY EFFECTED THE ACCREDITATION THAT OAKWOOD RECEIVED IN 1958.

I: I HAVE KNOWN YOU AS A MUSICIAN BOTH AS SOLO PIANIST AND AS ACCOMPANIST FOR MANY NOTED ARTISTS LIKE LILLIAN EVANTI, ONE OF THE FIRST BLACK WOMEN TO RECEIVE INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION AS A SINGER IN THE OPERATIC AREA. WILL YOU ADD TO THIS LIST?

A: YES. AMONG SOME OF THE FAMOUS BLACKS I HAVE ACCOMPANIED I MAY MENTION ONLY A FEW - WESLEY HOWARD, LOUIA JONES, AND CLARENCE CAMERON WHITE, NOTED VIOLINISTS. THE LATTER WAS ALSO A NOTED COMPOSER.
(NOTE - DR. DYKES MIGHT PLAY A PIANO SELECTION HERE)

I: WHO WERE SOME OF THE WELL-KNOWN STUDENTS YOU HAVE TAUGHT?

A: I TAUGHT WILLIAM HASTIE, GOVERNOR OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS; CHARLES DREW, PIONEER IN THE BLOOD PLASMA AREA; AND OTHER FAMOUS BLACKS. I ALSO TAUGHT MANY OF THE PRESIDENTS AND OFFICERS IN THE REGIONAL CONFERENCES OF THE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS. THE CURRENT PRESIDENT OF OAKWOOD COLLEGE WAS ONE OF MY FORMER STUDENTS, UNDER WHOSE PRESIDENCY THE ENROLLMENT HAS INCREASED SIGNIFICANTLY.

I: MISS DYKES, WHAT IS YOUR BASIC PHILOSOPHY OF LIFE THAT HAS ENABLED YOU TO MAKE SUCH AN OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION TO BLACK CULTURE AND ACHIEVEMENT?

A: I WAS TAUGHT FROM A CHILD TO DO MY BEST IN ANY UNDERTAKING WHETHER I LIKED IT OR NOT. THE SATISFACTION OF DOING MY BEST BRINGS A GREATER REWARD THAN THE ACTUAL ACCOMPLISHMENT OF MY AIM.

CONCLUSION: THE HOST OF THE PROGRAM WOULD MAKE THE CLOSING REMARKS.

INTERVIEW OF DR. EVA B. DYKES FOR ACHE TELEVISION PROGRAM

I: INTERVIEWER

D: EVA BEATRICE DYKES

DATE: NOVEMBER 20, 1975

I: PLEASE STATE YOUR FULL NAME.

D: MY FULL NAME IS EVA BEATRICE DYKES.

I: DR. DYKES, WHERE DO YOU LIVE?

D: AT OAKWOOD COLLEGE IN HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA.

I: WHERE WERE YOU BORN?

D: IN WASHINGTON, D. C.

I: WHAT IS YOUR OCCUPATION?

D: TEACHING.

I: WHAT SCHOOLS HAVE YOU ATTENDED?

D: I FIRST WENT TO THE TEACHER-TRAINING SCHOOL AT HOWARD UNIVERSITY AS A FIRST-GRADE PUPIL. I RECEIVED MY TRAINING IN GRADES FIVE THROUGH EIGHT AT THE LUCRETIA MOTT SCHOOL IN WASHINGTON, D. C. THEN I WENT TO M STREET HIGH SCHOOL, LATER KNOWN AS DUNBAR HIGH SCHOOL. THEN I WENT TO HOWARD UNIVERSITY WHERE I RECEIVED A B. A. DEGREE.

I: DID YOU RECEIVE ANY HONORS AT HOWARD UNIVERSITY?

D: I GRADUATED FROM HOWARD UNIVERSITY SUMMA CUM LAUDE.

I: WHERE DID YOU STUDY AFTER THIS?

D: I RECEIVED A SECOND B.A.; A M.A.; AND A PH.D. FROM RADCLIFFE COLLEGE.

I: DID YOU RECEIVE ANY HONORS FROM THIS COLLEGE?

D: I GRADUATED MAGNA CUM LAUDE.

I: IT WAS A REMARKABLE ACCOMPLISHMENT TO FINISH THREE DEGREES FROM RADCLIFFE COLLEGE, ONE OF THE NATION'S EXCLUSIVE IVY LEAGUE INSTITUTIONS. WHAT YEAR DID YOU COMPLETE YOUR DOCTORATE?

D: THE DOCTORATE WAS CONFERRED IN 1921. IN MARCH OF 1921, I COMPLETED THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE PH.D. DEGREE.

I: YOU WERE THE FIRST BLACK WOMAN IN THE UNITED STATES TO FINISH THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DOCTORATE, BUT YOU WERE ONE OF THREE FIRST NEGRO WOMEN AWARDED THE PH.D. IN 1921, WERE YOU NOT?

D: YES. I MAY SAY THAT I WAS THE FIRST BLACK WOMAN TO RECEIVE THE DOCTORATE IN ENGLISH. THE OTHER RECIPIENTS OF THE DOCTORATE WERE GEORGIANNA SIMPSON FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO, AND SADIE TANNER MOSSELL ALEXANDER FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA.

ALTHOUGH, I WAS THE FIRST TO COMPLETE MY WORK FOR THE PH.D. DEGREE IN CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS AT RADCLIFFE, I HAPPENED TO BE THE LAST TO RECEIVE THE DEGREE BECAUSE COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES WERE HELD LATER AT RADCLIFFE THAN THE EXERCISES FOR THE OTHER TWO COLLEGES WHERE THE OTHER TWO WOMEN ATTENDED.

I: WHAT PARTICULAR SUBJECTS WERE YOU STUDYING?

D: AMONG SOME OF THE COURSES TAKEN WERE ENGLISH, LATIN, GERMAN AND GREEK.

I: WHAT IS THE TITLE OF YOUR DOCTORAL DISSERTATION?

D: POPE AND HIS INFLUENCE IN AMERICA FROM 1715 - 1850.

I: YOUR VOLUMINOUS DISSERTATION CONCERNING ALEXANDER POPE, THE FAMOUS ENGLISH POET, COVERS 655 PAGES AND IS DATED 1920, IS IT NOT?

D: YES.

I: THE DISSERTATION PREFACE INDICATES THAT FOR THE PREPARATION OF YOUR RESEARCH WORK, YOU UTILIZED INFORMATION FROM THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS AND VARIOUS PUBLIC LIBRARIES, COLLEGE LIBRARIES, AND HISTORICAL SOCIETIES. HAVE YOU WRITTEN ANY OTHER BOOKS?

D: YES. THE NEGRO IN ENGLISH ROMANTIC THOUGHT IS THE TITLE OF ONE BOOK I HAVE WRITTEN. I HAVE CO-AUTHORED A MANUAL OF ENGLISH AND CONTRIBUTED TO THE COMPILATION OF A BOOK ON LINGUISTICS DONE BY A PROFESSOR AT INDIANA UNIVERSITY. ALSO, I WAS A CO-EDITOR OF A BOOK ENTITLED, READINGS FOR NEGRO SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES.

I: HAVE YOU WRITTEN ANY PERIODICAL ARTICLES?

D: YES. I HAVE WRITTEN ARTICLES FOR THE NEGRO HISTORY BULLETIN, JOURNAL OF NEGRO HISTORY, THE MESSAGE MAGAZINE, THE REVIEW AND HERALD AND THE YOUTH'S INSTRUCTOR. THE LAST THREE MAGAZINES ARE PERIODICALS PUBLISHED BY SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS.

I: HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN IN TEACHING SERVICE?

D: APPROXIMATELY FORTY-NINE YEARS. ONE YEAR AS TEACHER OF ENGLISH AND LATIN AT WALDEN UNIVERSITY IN NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE (INCIDENTALLY THIS SCHOOL NO LONGER EXISTS); EIGHT YEARS AS TEACHER OF ENGLISH AT DUNBAR HIGH SCHOOL IN WASHINGTON, D. C.; THIRTEEN YEARS AT HOWARD UNIVERSITY, WASHINGTON, D.C.; TWENTY-FOUR YEARS AT OAKWOOD COLLEGE, HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA. AT THE END OF THIS TIME I RETIRED AND WENT TO GORDONSVILLE, VIRGINIA TO LIVE. IN 1968 I WAS CALLED BACK TO OAKWOOD COLLEGE TO ASSIST IN THE ENGLISH DEPARTMENT. I TAUGHT THREE YEARS: TWO YEARS FULL TIME AND ONE YEAR AS A PART-TIME TEACHER.

I: ARE YOU NOW PROFESSOR EMERITUS OF THE OAKWOOD COLLEGE FACULTY?

D: YES.

I: WHO WERE YOUR PARENTS?

D: MARTHA ANN HOWARD AND JAMES STANLEY DYKES

I: WHAT WAS YOUR FATHER'S OCCUPATION?

D: MY FATHER WAS PRINCIPAL OF A SCHOOL IN HAGARSTOWN, MARYLAND, WHERE I LIVED PART OF MY EARLY CHILDHOOD DAYS. LATER HE WAS A GOVERNMENT WORKER IN WASHINGTON, D. C.

I: DID ANY OTHER MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY GRADUATE FROM HOWARD UNIVERSITY?

D: YES, MY FATHER, JAMES S. DYKES; THREE UNCLES, ~~FLODA HOWARD WHO DIED BEFORE I WAS BORN; JOHN HOWARD, AND JAMES HOWARD.~~ ^{and my sister.} MY UNCLE, JAMES HOWARD, RECEIVED HIS BACHELOR OF ARTS DEGREE, HIS M.A. FROM THE COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS, AND HIS M.D. FROM THE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE OF HOWARD. MY UNCLE JOHN HOWARD RECEIVED HIS BACHELOR'S FROM HOWARD, AND ALSO MY FATHER, JAMES DYKES. MY MOTHER ATTENDED HOWARD, BUT HAD TO DROP OUT BECAUSE OF ILL HEALTH. MY SISTER, FLORENCE, GRADUATED FROM THE COMMERCIAL COLLEGE.

I: I UNDERSTAND THAT YOUR UNCLE, JAMES HOWARD, RECEIVED HIS B.A. IN 1870 AND HIS M.D. IN 1883 FROM HOWARD UNIVERSITY. IS THIS TRUE?

D: YES.

I: WHO INFLUENCED OR INSPIRED YOU TO ACHIEVE YOUR HIGHER EDUCATION?

D: MY UNCLE, DR. JAMES HOWARD. MY UNCLE THOUGHT IT WOULD BE GOOD FOR ME TO GET ANOTHER BACHELOR'S DEGREE FROM AN ACCREDITED SCHOOL SINCE HOWARD AT THAT TIME WAS UNACCREDITED. THEREFORE, I ENTERED RADCLIFFE AS AN UNCLASSIFIED STUDENT. I STAYED TWO YEARS AT RADCLIFFE AND RECEIVED MY BACHELOR'S IN 1917. IN 1918 I RECEIVED MY MASTER'S, AND I RECEIVED MY PH.D. IN 1921 WHILE I WAS TEACHING AT DUNBAR HIGH SCHOOL. I WAS FORTUNATE ENOUGH TO RECEIVE FIVE SCHOLARSHIPS WHILE I WAS DOING GRADUATE WORK AT RADCLIFFE.

I: WHEN DID YOU BEGIN TEACHING AT HOWARD UNIVERSITY?

D: IN 1929, WHEN I WAS INVITED BY PRESIDENT MORDECI JOHNSON TO JOIN THE FACULTY.

I: WHO WERE SOME OF THE STUDENTS YOU HAVE TAUGHT THAT HAVE ACHIEVED SUCCESS?

D: AMONG THE MANY STUDENTS, I REMEMBER CHARLES DREW, PIONEER ^{IN BLOOD} PLASMA RESEARCH AND FORMER CHIEF SURGEON AND CHIEF OF STAFF AT FREEDMEN'S HOSPITAL IN WASHINGTON, D.C. I ALSO MAY CITE WILLIAM HASTIE, WHO IN 1944 WAS APPOINTED GOVERNOR OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS. BEFORE THAT HE WAS DEAN OF THE LAW SCHOOL AT HOWARD UNIVERSITY. I ALSO RECALL CORTEZ PETERS WHO IS KNOWN AS A TYPING CHAMPION, AND JOSEPH JENKINS WHO SERVED AS A TEACHER IN THE ENGLISH DEPARTMENT AT TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE FOR SOME YEARS.

I: WHO WERE SOME OF YOUR COLLEAGUES AT HOWARD UNIVERSITY?

D: TODD DUNCAN, BARITONE SINGER; ALAIN LEROY LOCKE, THE FIRST COLORED MAN TO BE A RHODES SCHOLAR; CHARLES WESLEY, FORMER PRESIDENT OF WILBERFORCE UNIVERSITY; RALPH BUNCHE, DIPLOMAT AND U.N. MEDIATOR; ERNEST JUST, A BIOLOGIST OF UNUSUAL FAME; CAMILLE NICKERSON, CONCERT ARTIST AND TEACHER; AND LOUIA JONES, A FAMOUS VIOLINIST.

I: I UNDERSTAND YOU ARE A MUSICIAN ALSO.

D: SINCE MY EARLY DAYS I STUDIED MUSIC; BUT I NEVER RECEIVED A DEGREE IN MUSIC. IT WAS MY AVOCATION RATHER THAN VOCATION. DURING MY LIFE IN WASHINGTON, D.C., I ACCOMPANIED SOME WELL KNOWN SOLOISTS, SUCH AS LILLIAN EVANTI OF WASHINGTON, D.C.; LOUIA VAUGHAN JONES A SKILLED VIOLINIST AND OTHERS.

I: WHEN DID YOU LEAVE HOWARD UNIVERSITY TO TEACH IN ALABAMA AT OAKWOOD COLLEGE?

D: IN 1944.

I: WHAT COURSES HAVE YOU TAUGHT DURING YOUR TEACHING CAREER AT OAKWOOD COLLEGE?

D: I HAVE TAUGHT FRESHMAN COURSES IN COMPOSITION, PERIOD COURSES IN ENGLISH AND AMERICAN LITERATURE, JOURNALISM, AND METHODS IN TEACHING SECONDARY ENGLISH.

I: IN YOUR BASIC ENGLISH CLASSES, YOU STRESSED THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE "MINIMUM ESSENTIALS" AND "AUDIBILITY", DID YOU NOT?

D: YES. MY EMPHASIS ON THESE TWO POINTS WAS DUE TO THE FACT THAT IF THE REGULAR STUDENT AT EACH EDUCATIONAL LEVEL COULD MASTER THE MERE OBJECTIVES OF THE COURSE BEFORE HE IS PROMOTED TO THE NEXT LEVEL, THE WORK OF THE TEACHER AT THE NEXT LEVEL COULD BE FACILITATED AND THE STUDENT'S COMFORT BE EASED.

I AGREE WITH A NOTED EDUCATOR WHO SAID THAT SOME COLLEGE GRADUATES CANNOT READ, SPEAK, AND WRITE THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE CORRECTLY. I BELIEVE THAT IF WE STRESS CLEAR AND DISTINCT SPEAKING, WE WOULD ENJOY BETTER WHAT WE HEAR.

I: MANY OF THE STUDENTS YOU HAVE TAUGHT AT OAKWOOD COLLEGE HAVE MADE OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS ALSO, HAVE THEY NOT?

D: YES. THE FORMER PRESIDENT, FRANK W. HALE WHO SERVED THE COLLEGE FROM 1966 TO 1971; TWO PRESENT ADMINISTRATORS, NAMELY, CALVIN B. ROCK, THE PRESENT PRESIDENT; EMERSON A. COOPER, THE ACADEMIC DEAN; SEVERAL FACULTY AND STAFF MEMBERS, AS WELL AS MANY RELIGIOUS LEADERS IN THE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH.

I: DR. DYKES, I UNDERSTAND THAT YOU ARE A PHI BETA KAPPA MEMBER OF THE IOTA CHAPTER AND THAT YOU HAVE RECEIVED THE FOLLOWING AWARDS: A CITATION OF EXCELLENCE IN RECOGNITION OF OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION TO THE WORLD PROGRAM OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION; THE ALUMNI AWARD FROM HOWARD UNIVERSITY FOR THE HIGHEST GRADE POINT AVERAGE ATTENDED DURING UNDERGRADUATE YEARS, BY UNANIMOUS VOTE OF HOWARD UNIVERSITY, YOU WERE SELECTED THE BEST ALL AROUND TEACHER OF

THE FACULTY, AND YOU WERE A RECIPIENT OF THE ANNUAL ALUMNI AWARD CONFERRED BY THE TRUSTEES OF HOWARD UNIVERSITY FOR DISTINGUISHED POST GRADUATE ACHIEVEMENT IN EDUCATION, AND OTHER AWARDS.

D: YES.

I: WHAT PART DID YOU PLAY IN THE FIRST FULL ACCREDITATION OF OAKWOOD COLLEGE?

D: I WAS CHAIRMAN OF THE ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE THAT WORKED FOR THE FIRST FULL ACCREDITATION THAT OAKWOOD COLLEGE RECEIVED IN 1958.

I: THE PRESENT NEW LIBRARY BUILDING AT OAKWOOD COLLEGE WAS NAMED IN YOUR HONOR AND DEDICATED IN 1973, WAS IT NOT?

D: YES.

I: WHAT IS YOUR BASIC PHILOSOPHY OF LIFE THAT HAS ENABLED YOU TO MAKE SUCH AN OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION TO BLACK CULTURE AND ACHIEVEMENT?

D: I HAVE ALWAYS BEEN TAUGHT FROM A CHILD TO DO MY BEST IN ANY UNDERTAKING WHETHER I LIKED IT OR NOT. THE MERE SATISFACTION OF DOING MY BEST BRINGS A GREATER REWARD THAN THE ACTUAL ACCOMPLISHMENT OF MY AIM.

I: ONE OF THE HIGHLIGHTS IN YOUR LIFE WAS A TRIP TO EUROPE IN 1958, WAS IT NOT?

D: YES. I HAD MANY INTERESTING EXPERIENCES BY VISITING HISTORICAL PLACES IN ENGLAND, FRANCE, ITALY, SWITZERLAND, BELGIUM, AND HOLLAND. ALSO, THIS PAST SUMMER OF 1975, I WAS PRIVILEGED TO BE A DELEGATE TO THE WORLD CONFERENCE OF THE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH WHICH WAS HELD IN VIENNA, AUSTRIA. WHILE THERE I RECEIVED THE HONOR OF BEING RECOGNIZED ALONG WITH OTHER WOMEN IN THE FIELD OF EDUCATION.

NOTE: THE MODERATOR OF THE PROGRAM WOULD CONCLUDE THE INTERVIEW WITH ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS.

DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE TO USE WITH THE INTERVIEW WILL BE THE DEGREES RECEIVED BY DR. DYKES, THE COPY OF HER DISSERTATION, AND SLIDES OF THE EVA B. DYKES LIBRARY DEDICATION PROGRAM.