

Dartmouth College Oral History Project
The War Years at Dartmouth
Interview with Paul '45 and Laura Caravatt
By Mary Donin
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LAURA CARAVATT: I came here in the fall of '41 just before the war started. And I didn't meet him until probably '45. So I was here a long time. And I worked at the hospital. It was then called Mary Hitchcock Hospital.

DONIN: Mm-hmm.

LAURA: In the bookkeeping office. Hanover changed a lot after the war started when they had officers' training. And every morning when I walked to work, there'd be a whole platoon of officers going down the street.

DONIN: Amazing.

LAURA: Marching. And sometimes the one leading them, when they got along where I was, he'd say, "Eyes right!" And the boys and I'd say hi.
[Laughter]

DONIN: That must have been intimidating.

LAURA: That was fun.

DONIN: Yes. Where did you live? I mean as a single woman back in those days, where did you live?

LAURA: There were places. I lived with two other girls in a house down on—I've forgotten the name of the street; it's just a little bit south. And she had several bedrooms. She was like an older lady, and she had three or four bedrooms. So three of us girls had the bedrooms. And then I think we had some kitchen facilities, too. But of course I got my main meal at the hospital.

DONIN: Oh, they fed you during the day?

LAURA: That's right. They always had big dinners.

DONIN: Mm-hmm.

LAURA: At noon. And so I really just—we could get our own breakfast and some little thing at night.

DONIN: And some of the men I've interviewed said that they actually worked like busing trays and stuff.

LAURA: Yes, they did.

DONIN: In exchange for food.

LAURA: They did. That's right. Always students waited on us at the hospital. And they did the trays and whatever. In fact I was very, very thin in those days. And I remember I used to sit sometimes with the registered nurses, and they were always on a diet. And they wouldn't eat their potatoes, so I would say, "Oh, I'll eat the potatoes." [Laughs] I used to have like two or three dinners.

DONIN: Fantastic. Was there rationing going on by then?

LAURA: Yes, there was rationing going on. In those times, too, lots of the food at the hospital was given in exchange for the bill. Like a farmer could donate many bushels of apples for his bill.

DONIN: Oh, yes.

LAURA: But there was great rationing of sugar and, let's see what else. It was sugar. We had little books, coupons.

DONIN: In fact I have a couple of those books over there.

LAURA: Oh, you have a couple of them. Yes.

DONIN: Yes, I'll show you them. There was other stuff besides sugar that was being rationed, right?

LAURA: Oh, meat definitely.

DONIN: Oh, really?

LAURA: Yes.

DONIN: Uh-huh. And you had to—you were allocated just a certain amount, I guess, of meat. Do you recognize these books, these ration books?

LAURA: Oh, yes. Ration books, yes. That's it.

DONIN: These look like gas.

LAURA: Oh, yes, gas, too. Mm-hmm.

DONIN: And how did they keep track?

LAURA: Well, you would give one of your tickets for whatever you got. When you were out of tickets, you were out of luck, I guess. [Laughs]

DONIN: Oh, here are the tickets, these little war—these little tickets?

LAURA: Oh, yes, here they are. That's right. In fact, when I was married, all of my friends at the hospital gave me their tickets for the wedding cake.

DONIN: Oh...!

LAURA: So you could get enough sugar to make a wedding cake.

DONIN: And what was available in terms of shopping? Was there a store where you could go on Main Street?

LAURA: For clothes you needed like socks or something, underwear or something, I think it was Ward's was the name of the store on Main Street.

DONIN: Was there a food shop there as well?

LAURA: I think so. It's funny I don't remember.

DONIN: Somebody talks about a greengrocer by the name of—oh, it began with T, I think.

LAURA: Oh, Tansi's.

DONIN: Tansi's!

LAURA: Oh, yes, that was really...they mostly sold beer.

PAUL CARAVATT: No, they were a greengrocer.

LAURA: They were a grocer, okay.

PAUL: But all the fraternities bought their beer through them.

LAURA: From Tansi. That's right.

DONIN: Uh huh.

PAUL: So everybody knew where it was that you went to pick up the keg of beer.

DONIN: At Tansi's.

PAUL: Yes.

DONIN: Yes.

LAURA: And of course for a nice coat there was the big store.

DONIN: Champion's?

LAURA: Campion's, that's right.

DONIN: It's still going strong.

LAURA: It's still going, that's right.

DONIN: So how was it living in a town like this, being a single woman, surrounded by—

LAURA: Men.

DONIN: [Laughs] Yes.

LAURA: I remember when I first came here, practically the first day, that I walked from where I lived to the hospital, and I stopped in I think it was—the Green something.

DONIN: The Green Lantern?

LAURA: The Green Lantern. No, that wasn't it. Anyway, one of these places on Main Street where everybody gathered and had breakfast and stuff. And I walked in there, and there wasn't one other girl in there. And I thought, oh, my gosh. [Laughs] Still, I kept my cool and got my breakfast and whatnot. But that took a little getting used to.

DONIN: I should think so.

LAURA: Yes. And the kids, of course, were always, you know, trying to make moves and that sort of thing.

DONIN: Yes.

LAURA: And wanted to meet you and all that sort of thing.

DONIN: Well, what did you do for social life? I mean did you hang out with nurses?

LAURA: Well, actually...let's see. There was a sort of like a canteen or something during the war.

PAUL: USO?

LAURA: A USO, right. Something like that. They would come to the hospital and ask for girls to go to—they used to have dances at the hotel in White River Junction, I believe.

DONIN: The Coolidge.

LAURA: The Coolidge, yes. And someone sponsored that. And so girls from the hospital would go to dance with the boys.

DONIN: Now those boys, though, that were there, they weren't necessarily Dartmouth boys.

LAURA: No, these were Naval officers at that time, mostly Naval officers. That's when they were here first. So they were a little older.

DONIN: How did you get around in those days? Nobody had a car, did they?

LAURA: No, that's right. Well, one of the girls.... Well, later, very shortly, I stayed with the three girls, and then I got an apartment down at Kaplan Apartments, which is down on West Wheelock Street.

DONIN: Oh.

LAURA: So one of the girls, another girl that worked at the hospital, she had a car. So a few people did have cars. But generally I walked to work, so that was quite a little hike from the bottom of West Wheelock Street up to—

DONIN: Up to Mary Hitchcock. Right.

LAURA: Yes, up to Mary Hitchcock. But that was good for me. [Laughs]

DONIN: Right. That was your exercise.

LAURA: Right.

DONIN: Did you participate... I mean I know a lot of stuff was cut back during the war—but did you participate in any way in Dartmouth, sort of cultural activities, whether it's going to the Nugget Theater or something in Webster Hall?

LAURA: Yes, I went to the plays and all sorts of things like that. And I was very active in the White Church.

DONIN: Oh.

LAURA: And the minister there was Chet Fisk at the time, and he was a wonderful, wonderful minister. And he had dances every, I don't know, Friday night I guess it was. So that's where most of the socializing was, was at the White Church. So you met a lot of people there.

DONIN: Did Dartmouth boys go to those dances?

LAURA: Yes, they did. Mm-hmm.

DONIN: Ah-hah.

- LAURA: And then let me see, there were other things. I remember there was a doctor's daughter—and what was her name? Anyway, two or three of us started this young businesswomen's organization or something. We used to have meetings. I've forgotten who she was. And things like that. And of course we went to all—I always loved the singing, so I never missed a glee club concert.
- DONIN: Mm-hmm. And those were held here in Webster Hall?
- LAURA: Yes. I think so. I don't remember for sure where they were held. Oh, well, and in the summer they were held out in front of Dartmouth Hall.
- DONIN: Oh, nice! Oh, that must have been beautiful.
- LAURA: That was beautiful. That was really lovely.
- DONIN: Did you—I don't know, were fraternities still functioning at that point?
- LAURA: Yes, they were.
- DONIN: Did you go into fraternities?
- LAURA: Yes. Mm-hmm. I had a friend down at the Chi Phi house, which is in that little book. It sort of somehow or another I met him, and he kind of took me under his wing as a sister and to be sure that whenever I went there to a party, he would be sure that I wasn't with the wrong kind of people and whatever. He was really wonderful. And according to that book, it seems that we gave a lot of parties that I'd forgotten about. [Laughter] Anyway, he really looked after me.
- DONIN: Mm-hmm.
- LAURA: Which was nice. And then there were parties at the Phi Gam house.
- DONIN: But you must have made friends and seen some of these guys go off to war then.
- LAURA: Oh, yes, yes. Definitely. In fact I saw them all go off to war. I mean Monty and Harry Schoenhaupt and all the people that I used to chum around with. Yes, they all went off. They all went off. And then some came back, you know, for a visit; they wore their uniforms and whatever.
- DONIN: Mm-hmm. Did Dartmouth...did it change a lot when the V-12 arrived in '43? I mean did the feeling on the campus change a lot, do you think?
- LAURA: The V-12, yes, I think it did change. Those were the regular Navy people, not the officers. And I think there was a change. Girls I knew were not

quite so happy [laughs] with those kids as they were with the officers. We thought we were pretty good when we were dating them.

DONIN: Right, right. Because they were too young or they were not—

LAURA: Well, they were about our age.

DONIN: Right. But not as smooth.

LAURA: No, no, that's right. That's right.

DONIN: So they weren't as attractive to you.

LAURA: No, not as.... No.

DONIN: As the officers.

LAURA: That's true. [Laughs]

DONIN: Right. And did most of your friends, did they, the friends that you had, they were all employed—the women friends that you had—they were all employed by some aspect of Dartmouth?

LAURA: Of the hospital.

DONIN: Oh, of the hospital.

LAURA: Or Dartmouth. Either the college or the hospital. Like I knew a lot of lab technicians and let's see what. The secretary to the superintendent of nurses. And all the office personnel, of course, I knew at the hospital.

DONIN: Mm-hmm. Did you become friendly or were you conscious that there were a lot of faculty children that were sort of your age?

LAURA: Yes. Like I said, that one girl, I think—

DONIN: Oh, the doctor's daughter?

LAURA: Yes. Right.

DONIN: Right.

PAUL: How about Neidlinger's daughter?

LAURA: Right. That's right. Oh, and, see, they were mostly doctors' daughters that I— Jane Gile and there were a lot of—I was friendly with quite a few people that worked, the children whose fathers were either at the hospital—mostly at the hospital.

DONIN: Now were you aware that there were any women in the military here, whether they were acting as administrative types or nurses?

LAURA: No, I don't remember any. No.

DONIN: Mm-hmm.

LAURA: No, they didn't—I don't think they did any nurses' training here. It was all men.

DONIN: Mm-hmm. So let's get to the chapter where you meet Mr. Caravatt.

LAURA: Yes. Well, that was....

PAUL: Well, that's a long ways.

LAURA: A long ways. [Laughs] Let's see, where did I meet—I met you in church, of course. That was interesting. There used to be an old gentleman who was the curator of rare books at the library, Harold Rugg, and his portrait hangs in the end of the library. And Harold Rugg and I went to the same academy.

DONIN: Amazing.

LAURA: He was from Proctorsville, and I was from Ludlow, which is right nearby. So he took in.... The reason he knew all that was that when I joined the church here, then he was, I think, one of the trustees or something of the church.

PAUL: Elder.

LAURA: Well, he was the elder of your fraternity—but of the church, yes. And so he sort of took a special interest in me because I was, you know, where I was from. So when I went to church on Sunday, he was an usher. And he would place some nice boy somewhere near me. [Laughs] And he placed Paul. And he was an elder in Paul's fraternity, which was Theta Psi. So he placed Paul in back of me. And evidently told—said something, that he should speak to me or something. And so anyway, that's how I met him was in church.

PAUL: It wasn't easy. [Laughter] She didn't the first time I spoke.

LAURA: Oh, well, anyway.... So that was our connection. Oh, and Harold Rugg also used to give little tea parties. And he lived upstairs over Howe Library, which was the library over on that street.

DONIN: Mm-hmm.

LAURA: And he had a little apartment up there. And he and another old professor used to have these tea parties. And he would invite me. Sometimes I was the only one, person, invited. It was kind of weird, these two old guys and a 19-year-old. [Laughter]

DONIN: That is a little weird.

LAURA: I know. I know. But they were very nice, and we would sit and talk about things, whatever. Oh, and then he had a most wonderful collection of Bennington ware. First, I guess, he lived down on Main Street; that's where he had the Bennington ware. He took and showed me this wonderful collection he had of, I guess, it was Parion ware, which is a very fine type of Bennington ware. And I really should have shown more interest in it because he was an old bachelor. I don't know I guess I probably didn't. I think Baker Library has it now. Better they have it anyway. [Laughter] So I was—Harold was a very dear old gentleman. And it was nice to know people like that.

DONIN: So approximately when did you meet Paul?

LAURA: About 1945 I would say.

PAUL: It was right after the war.

LAURA: Yes.

PAUL: I got out...

LAURA: Let me see. When they had the real end of the war, the dances they had, and V-J Day.

DONIN: Right.

PAUL: We met before that.

LAURA: Yes, right.

PAUL: I got out of the Army early because of an injury.

LAURA: That's right.

PAUL: I was in the hospital quite a while. And then they decided that they should discharge me instead. I had a bad wound in the back. And so I came back to school then.

DONIN: Mm-hmm.

PAUL: And I was in the hospital there because there still was some work to be done. And as I said, there was this wound in the back. The packing had to

be changed. Laura was not a nurse. But, you know, she would come around. And if she had a lot of slips to be filed or anything, she was a friend of the students. I mean she'd just ask for help. So we'd help her. And then the nurse.... So I still had that packing when we started talking.

DONIN: Mm-hmm.

PAUL: But she liked my roommate.

DONIN: Mmmm.

PAUL: So I.... Although I'd known her in church, and we were good friends, but she wasn't particularly anxious to go out with me. [Laughter] So she liked my roommate. Terrific guy. Vic Liota. So he asked—I said to Vic, "Why don't you ask her out, and then I'll go?" So she lived down the bottom of the street, whatever that is.

DONIN: Down at the bottom of Main Street?

LAURA: West Wheelock Street.

PAUL: West Wheelock. The White Apartments down there.

DONIN: Yes, yes.

PAUL: So I used to, when I was—once in a while I would sneak down and see, you know, what was going on down there. Look from the trees to see who was going out with her. [Laughter] So Vic told her that—asked her out for a date. And then I went down and told Laura that Vic was ill, and he couldn't go.

DONIN: Oh, ho ho.

PAUL: Now, in no way is she ever going to hurt anybody. So it was obvious she didn't like it. But she went.

DONIN: Oh....

PAUL: Well, she found out that I was a very good dancer.

DONIN: Oh...!

LAURA: At that time they had at C&G house, which was up on the corner of Main and Wheelock....

DONIN: It still is.

LAURA: That's right. They had dances there. So... I mean anybody could go in there anytime, and they were playing records and stuff. So come to find

out he was a very good dancer. And of course that was number one in my book at that time. [Laughs]

DONIN: Amazing. That's great.

LAURA: So....

PAUL: So then once I got to know her and I was back from the war— I had been on the *Daily Dartmouth* and the humor magazine and editor of the alumni magazine before the war. And when I came back, they were all gone. I mean they were just closed down temporarily. So I liked the idea of the humor magazine. So I started that up again with another man by the name of, who lives here, Clint Gardner, the editor. And we needed a secretary. And so she became my secretary—or our secretary.

LAURA: That was after we were married.

PAUL: That was what, dear?

LAURA: After we were married.

PAUL: Oh, it was after we were married?

LAURA: Oh, yes.

PAUL: Oh, well, all right. So we went out together, you know, dating around here and all that sort of thing. And I was quite fond of her. And so I was having a long discussion with my father. And he said, "Well, if you really want to marry this girl, I tell you there's only one thing that's ever going to make it happen." He said, "You've got to go buy a ring and show it to her. And she's such a kind person and everything like that, she won't know how to say no." So I showed her the ring, and we got married. [Laughter]

DONIN: Fantastic. So this was before you graduated or after?

PAUL: After the war. I came back after the war.

DONIN: Right.

LAURA: Now wait a minute before you guys here.... No, this was after you graduated.

PAUL: Oh, it was after I graduated?

LAURA: Yes, we were not married when you graduated, I believe. But then we got married right after that.

PAUL: She worked with me in the *Jack-O*, the humor magazine. That's right, and we weren't married. But she worked. So then we did get married. And just

a couple of little funny things I remember. My fraternity—we invited as a class, as a group, I mean. And there was a bowl for the fraternity downstairs. You know things were rationed, but there was a bowl. So the fraternity could all be down there and drank as much they wanted. Where we had the regular reception up in what was it?

LAURA: It was at the Outing Club.

PAUL: The Outing Club.

DONIN: Oh, so the wedding was here.

PAUL & LAURA: Yes, yes.

DONIN: Oh, wonderful.

LAURA: That's where all my friends were.

DONIN: Uh-huh.

LAURA: And my church and everything.

PAUL: So then we, on our honeymoon, my father rented a car for us.

DONIN: Oh....

PAUL: And we went up to Canada. Had our honeymoon in Canada. And while we were there, every morning they would bring in a cake or something for some young couple. So I asked them one time, why they never.... They said, you know we debated about you. And he said, "We thought maybe you were newlyweds, but you didn't—you wouldn't act like newlyweds, so we didn't...." [Laughter] So anyway....

DONIN: Did you finally get the cake?

PAUL: No, no. [Laughter]

DONIN: Oh, what a shame.

PAUL: So then we came back here.

DONIN: So how long were you here together married, as marrieds?

LAURA: One year.

DONIN: One year.

PAUL: Yes, I graduated and was at Tuck School.

LAURA: He was a year at Tuck School.

DONIN: Mm-hmm. Where did you live after you got back here?

LAURA: In my little apartment down there.

DONIN: Oh, nice.

PAUL: We had an awful lot of Spanish rice made in a pot. Oh, she was a good cook.

DONIN: You knew how to cook?

LAURA: Not much.

PAUL: Oh, yes, you did.

LAURA: I didn't cook much.

PAUL: But there were a lot of things you couldn't get.

LAURA: Oh, yes, right.

DONIN: Right. Because things were still rationed at that point.

PAUL: Yes.

DONIN: Yes, yes. Were you eligible to eat at any of the dining halls at Tuck? Was there at dining hall at Tuck? Maybe not.

LAURA: I don't think so.

PAUL: I don't think so. Now that you mention it, I don't think so. I remember eating there afterwards when I came back to reunions. But it was not because I was married. I don't think we ate at Tuck.

DONIN: Now, did you keep your job, Laura, after you were married?

LAURA: No, that's when I stopped working. Because that summer— We got married in June, and then that summer we went to your place down in Connecticut. And so that's when we came back to school. That's when I worked at the *Jack-O-Lantern*.

PAUL: Oh, yes. And then when I graduated, we had a wonderful experience because Laura was working with me on getting advertising for the *Jack-O*. And she wrote a letter and brought some good advertisers in. And one of the letters she wrote was to the Dairy Association, which made Cow Care bag balm and bag balm teat dilators.

DONIN: Wow!

PAUL: But they were coming out with— But she got them because the cream, the bag balm cream.

LAURA: No, that's when they out with the suntan lotion.

PAUL: I know. I'm just saying. But the bag balm cream, they did have because cows had sunburn, did have a burn resistant in it. And so they brought out Velo Suntan Lotion.

LAURA: Right.

PAUL: And they bought us a house trailer, and we covered every state this side of the Mississippi.

LAURA: That was interesting.

DONIN: Selling this stuff?

PAUL: Yes. Well, yes.

LAURA: Selling to drugstores and feed stores.

PAUL: It was a combined thing. The suntan lotion, we worked the first summer on suntan lotion. And they were going to go to Florida next, but they didn't think they'd earned enough in New England. So they asked me to go to work as a missionary salesman on the regular products.

LAURA: Which we didn't know what that was at that point.

PAUL: Which was Cow Care bag balm and bag balm teat dilators.

DONIN: Okay.

LAURA: And I said, my gosh, he doesn't know one end of a cow from the other. How is he going to sell that?

PAUL: I want you to know that I went around as a missionary salesman and told them—they'd take me up to see a farmer, and the farmer would say, I'm having real trouble with Bessie. [Laughter] I wish you'd come and look at her. [Laughter] So I'd go up and look at her, and pat her on the udder a little bit. And I'd say, "Best thing you could do is give her half a can of Cow Care every day, and this will take... Then if she has mastitis in the udder, our plastic dilators—" Which we were the only ones that had; everyone else had stick ones, and they broke. So you'd put the dilator up, and the letters went back to the company how much the vet that was traveling with them knew, because it worked. But the wonderful part of that is, here we are—they bought us a house trailer, gave us a house trailer. And we

covered every state this side of the Mississippi, as I probably said. But it was a wonderful way for a newly married couple. You know I'd go out in the morning and make my calls and come back, and we'd have a home cooked meal waiting for me in the trailer.

LAURA: Now you're getting way away from the Dartmouth experiences you want to know about.

DONIN: That's all right. It's a great story. And you have Dartmouth to thank for that. [Laughs]

LAURA: Right.

DONIN: So let's back up, Paul—

PAUL: Mm-hmm.

DONIN: —and hear about how you first came to Dartmouth. What made you choose Dartmouth?

PAUL: Well, I chose Dartmouth primarily because my mother was from Plainfield, New Hampshire.

DONIN: Oh.

PAUL: And I had gone to Loomis prep school in Windsor. And I had a couple of other friends that were coming up here. And Dartmouth just meant a local college. We weren't from—well, my father was a pharmacist, so he'd been to college. But they, you know, it wasn't the big thing to go to an Ivy League school. I just went to Dartmouth because it was.... You know I had a wonderful time.

DONIN: So you arrived here in the fall of—

PAUL: 'Forty-one.

DONIN: 'Forty-one.

PAUL: And I remember coming back from a trip down to Smith. And as we came into the dining hall, the kids were sitting down to eat and everything. And they were singing the White Cliffs of Dover. And that's how I learned that the war was on.

DONIN: Oh....

PAUL: So I stayed 'til I think the spring. And then they wanted me to—I was interviewed for OCS—not OCS, OSS, Office of Strategic Services, which was started by a Dartmouth man.

DONIN: Oh, I didn't know that.

PAUL: Yes.

DONIN: And they had a fairly full quota, but I went through all the training. So I became a, what do you call it?

LAURA: Cryptographer.

PAUL: A cryptographer. And then I was in the headquarters company of First Battalion of 66th Division as a cryptographer. At those times, cryptography was quite a—it was not a well-known art. And we had a machine called a CM209A. And we had to go through special training and all that sort of stuff. But before I could do that, I had to go into the infantry for training. So then they transferred me, as soon as I graduated. And so I spent the war on cryptography and that sort of thing. And I got hurt in a Jeep accident. So I never did go overseas to become a hero. And then I came back here.

DONIN: So when you returned two years later or whatever it was.... What does it say? You left in, if this is right, if this is to be believed, this little sketch here that they wrote about you, I assume it's right because you probably wrote it. Let's see. You left in—I thought I wrote this down.

PAUL: 'Forty-one, wasn't it?

DONIN: You left in May of '43, and you came back—

PAUL: 'Forty-three, oh, yes, that's right.

DONIN: And you came back in March of '45.

PAUL: Yes.

DONIN: You must have seen a big change in the college.

PAUL: Oh, yes. I came back, and I was one of the earlier ones back.

DONIN: Mm-hmm.

PAUL: Because I still had this wound, and they let me go from one place in order to go to Mary Hitchcock. I mean wherever I needed. I got a medical discharge with the understanding that I would not be—but I wasn't out of the Army. If I got better, I would've stayed in. Otherwise....

LAURA: But then the war was over.

PAUL: So because I was here...the war was sort of winding down. And so I went to Mary Hitchcock and had the operation on my spine.

DONIN: Mm-hmm.

PAUL: And that, as I said, had to be left open. And that's when I, you know, met Laura, etc.

DONIN: When you first came back, where were you living?

PAUL: I was living with Mrs. Gile.

LAURA: No, no. Mrs.—oh, dear. I can't remember. That woman had the—

PAUL: Four or five students in her house.

LAURA: Yes, four or five students in her house.

PAUL: Before the war, I'd been at Gile.

LAURA: An elderly lady.

PAUL: Oh, that's why I was thinking of Gile. Because before the war, I lived at Gile.

LAURA: Yes.

DONIN: Oh, I see.

PAUL: Yes, the dormitory and then the Zeta Psi house because I became a Zete and I moved to the Zeta Psi.

DONIN: But you couldn't move back in there when you came back? There wasn't room for you?

PAUL: No.

DONIN: Uh-huh.

PAUL: And so I—

LAURA: I can't remember her name.

PAUL: I've forgotten exactly the circumstances, whether there wasn't enough room or whether it was between terms or something like that.

DONIN: Mm-hmm.

LAURA: About five guys that lived over there.

PAUL: What, dear?

LAURA: About five guys lived together wherever you lived.

PAUL: On Wheelock, wasn't it?

LAURA: No, I can't remember the name of the street. It's beyond School Street someplace.

DONIN: Oh, yes. Well, I think at that point people have observed that the college was pretty crowded because you had all these V-12 people training here.

LAURA: Yes, they had the dormitories.

DONIN: Plus a few numbers of traditional undergrads who were not going off to war for whatever reason. And then you started having guys like Paul coming back from their service.

LAURA: That's right. Mm-hmm.

DONIN: And they were short on space.

LAURA & PAUL: Yes.

LAURA: Yes, there were a lot of houses that took students in, you know, people took students in.

DONIN: Yes.

PAUL: Well, we were fortunate because we became friends with two or three married students who lived in Wigwam Village.

DONIN: Mm-hmm.

PAUL: And had cars.

DONIN: Oh....

PAUL: And so with the Benjamins, they became handy if you had a formal dance or something like that. But we saw a lot of them besides.

DONIN: I guess life was not so wonderful in Wigwam. I guess the heat was terrible.

LAURA: Yes, I don't know. I guess it wasn't.

DONIN: And the noise was terrible.

LAURA: That's right, it must have been hard. We were lucky where I still had that little apartment.

PAUL: And then when I went on to Tuck School and we were married, then I just moved into Laura's apartment.

LAURA: Yes.

DONIN: Mm-hmm. It's easy.

LAURA: Mrs. Crosby, that was the woman.

DONIN: Oh, that's the woman I lived with for....

LAURA: Mrs. Crosby.

DONIN: Oh, great.

PAUL: Then, as I guess I mentioned, I went to Tuck School.

LAURA: Yes.

PAUL: So I had...I got two reports from Professor Feldman that my last paper that I wrote looked as if it was written with Laura's purple perfume.

LAURA: I don't know. I guess he didn't like your ink or something. [Laughter] Isn't that weird.

DONIN: Isn't that funny. So your social life, when you came back, was, I mean you met Laura. Where did you go?

LAURA: Fraternities.

PAUL: Fraternities.

LAURA: Fraternity parties usually.

DONIN: Uh-huh.

PAUL: And I was an elder—not an elder—I joined the fraternity shortly after I came back. And as one of the first two or three to come back and the fraternities sort of starting up again.

DONIN: Yes.

PAUL: We were quite involved in it. And we had many events there. Of course every fraternity had events. And we went from fraternity to fraternity. I still continued with the— Oh, I was also the writer for the AP for Vermont.

DONIN: Oh, nice.

LAURA: Dartmouth dispenser. Anything that happened in this area, primarily college. But if anything else happened, I would write that.

DONIN: What do they call you, a stringer?

PAUL: Yes, right.

DONIN: A stringer, right. Now so when you left, Paul, President [Ernest Martin] Hopkins was here.

PAUL: Mm-hmm.

DONIN: But then when you came back—he had his announced his retirement, and you were awaiting, I guess, the arrival of President [John Sloan] Dickey.

PAUL: Right.

DONIN: Uh-huh.

PAUL: I do have, which is sort of interesting to me, I do have one thing which I often wonder what's the best thing to do with it.... We had a fraternity—

LAURA: Oh, yes.

PAUL: What you call a hunt, what do you call, when you went around—

LAURA: Scavenger hunt.

PAUL: Scavenger hunt.

LAURA: Scavenger hunt. Uh-huh.

PAUL: And one of the things I had to get was an egg with Ernest M. Hopkins' signature on it.

LAURA: Signed.

DONIN: Signature?

PAUL: Signature on it. And I still have it. [Laughter]

DONIN: The egg?

PAUL: Yes.

LAURA: The egg.

DONIN: Amazing.

PAUL: Now it would seem to me in some way—

LAURA: Although I don't know where it is right now.

PAUL: I do.

LAURA: After moving, I don't know where anything is.

PAUL: It some way that's got to be a little bit valuable. I don't mean money-wise.

DONIN: Right, right.

PAUL: But it's the sort of thing....

DONIN: I think it belongs here in the Archives.

LAURA: Yes, here in the Archives. Yes. [Laughter] I remember when I used to walk to work every morning, I used to meet President Dickey going to his office. And we always said hello. [Laughs]

DONIN: So what were your impressions of both these men that you obviously both had experience with?

PAUL: They were very different in that Ernest Hopkins was a fine president, nice man, wonderful man, took a lot of interest in the students. And I don't say that in any way against Dickey.

LAURA: He was more of a worldly....

PAUL: Dickey came in, and I liked Dickey. I liked them both very much. But Dickey was interested in—and I say "but" not meaning it as a negative—but he started us on a path of becoming more aware of the rest of the world.

LAURA: The world, that's right.

DONIN: Right.

PAUL: And as a matter of fact, he and I became quite good friends, as a lot of the students working with him did. Nothing special to me. I mean just.... And he wanted me to go into international—the State Department.

DONIN: Yes, yes.

PAUL: And I from the beginning had always wanted to go into advertising. So I've often wondered since whether it wouldn't have been a pretty wonderful thing to do. But I thought both men had a genuine love for the college and for the students. And Dickey brought something new because of the

interest in international and all that. But it wasn't a reflection on Hopkins. The war was over.

LAURA: Yes. But the way the whole world looked—changing that way.

PAUL: So I have great respect for them and for the college for the way it's transformed.

DONIN: Now, were you here—you were a student here then when Dickey started his Great Issues course.

PAUL: Yes.

LAURA: That's what I was trying to think of, Great Issues, yes.

DONIN: Did you enjoy that—I guess you did that in your senior year. That was a senior year thing.

PAUL: I took it one year. I either took it one year, or I missed it and went to Tuck School.

DONIN: Oh....

PAUL: See, at that time you could go to Tuck School your senior year.

DONIN: Right, right.

PAUL: And I don't have any great memories of taking it.

DONIN: Oh, so maybe....

PAUL: But I have great memories of it. So I'm not positive. I don't know.

DONIN: Mm-hmm. I think you're right. That was.... I think Great Issues took place in your senior year. So if you were at Tuck, maybe....

LAURA: That's right, you missed it.

DONIN: Who knows? Who knows? I don't know. And how did the—we got started talking about how the campus had changed between when you left and went off to war and then when you came back. But I think we got sort of sidetracked. What were some of the changes that you saw between when you were a traditional undergrad before the war was declared....

PAUL: I would say that the traditional undergrad was that was a certain life. The war and everything else, all the things that went with it, changed, changed Dartmouth and everything else. And we came back at different times. So there was—and at different ages and having been through different

things. And I think that there was a very conscious move on the part of people in conversation and that, How do we keep the old Dartmouth?

DONIN: Mm-hmm.

PAUL: As opposed to the new. It was never an open fight or anything like that. But it obviously wasn't the Dartmouth we'd gone to in freshman year, sophomore year. And our interest was more in getting it back to that. And the new kids coming in.... There was this long transition period there because you had the veterans coming back first. Then you had the new students coming in. And there was a change in perception of the college.

LAURA: It was a more serious place after.

PAUL: More serious—very definitely more serious. Fraternity life, I can tell you, changed. It was much more of a social thing. But then it was obvious that the fraternities were doing more things like going out and helping a farmer get his crop in and doing good.

DONIN: Mm-hmm.

PAUL: And that made a meaningful change in the fraternity system. Not huge. But it made a change. And I don't remember the Zeta Psi house after the war being anywhere near as rowdy and everything else as it was before the war. Although on the other hand, they did get into trouble and get closed. So that was after I'd gone. I mean I didn't have anything to do with it.

DONIN: Right, right. Well, it must have been quite a challenge for the college to sort of mainstream all these people returning.

LAURA: I know.

DONIN: Whether you had started out as a traditional undergrad but then gone off to war and then come back. Or even I understand that there were students here in the V-12 program who didn't actually start out at Dartmouth.

LAURA: No, and they stayed here.

PAUL: That's right.

LAURA: This is the thing that got me when I was looking at that program. Let's see what was it. It was the Dartmouth...yes, I think it was this one. It said the V-12. Yes. On the list of people in this play, they starred the members of the V-12 unit. Now some of these are—James Broderick. He was in Paul's class. And his mother is the one that ran the C&G house on the dances and everything.

DONIN: Oh, yes.

LAURA: And I had no idea that he didn't start out at Dartmouth. That means that he came in here on the V-12, right?

DONIN: Amazing. Yes.

LAURA: And there were some others. Reg Pierce, who later had an inn.

DONIN: Pierce's Inn, yes.

LAURA: Yes. And there's a star there. So he came here as a V-12, not as a Dartmouth undergrad. I just happened to pick out those two names that surprised me.

DONIN: So when you came back, though, how was it? I mean was everybody welcoming to the V-12s that were now enrolled as regular students?

PAUL: I will tell you an awful story, and I'm ashamed of it. But the V-12s were having some problems. I mean they didn't feel they were being integrated.

DONIN: Mm-hmm.

PAUL: And they asked several of us to go down and talk to them and become more involved with them. And I don't know what happened, but it didn't happen. And I think they always felt it. I mean we went once or twice, but it didn't turn into the camaraderie that they had—

LAURA: But in the end it all blended because like for instance all these years your class members, we never thought of them as V-12s.

PAUL: Yes. Well, but it was an individual thing.

LAURA: Yes.

DONIN: Mm-hmm.

LAURA: Probably in the beginning it wasn't. But then after a few years you forget all that.

DONIN: Right. And it becomes less and less important as times goes on.

LAURA: That's right.

DONIN: But it must have been a real challenge for the college to have—

LAURA: Oh, it must have been.

PAUL: Oh, yes.

DONIN: —this sort of dichotomy between them.

PAUL: Well, one of the other things that did change: Before the war all of the magazines, the newspapers—I was part of the group that started the radio station.

DONIN: Oh!

PAUL: Those were all years.... What I mean by this is you started as a healer.

LAURA: Yes, right.

PAUL: Then by the time you were a senior, you might have a good position.

DONIN: Mm-hmm.

PAUL: That all changed in the sense that everything had closed down. So when it started up again, it started up a bit differently. I was running the *Jack-O*, and the college said, If you want to do it, you're going to have to be responsible for the costs.

DONIN: Oh!

PAUL: We'll help you. But we're not giving you any money. If you make any money, you can keep the money. So that was different than a four-year apprenticeship going up.

DONIN: Sure.

PAUL: We were fortunate in the sense that we did—when I say we made money, I don't mean a lot of money. But we made enough money to pay for the magazine.

DONIN: Mm-hmm. Mm-hmm.

PAUL: Anything we had extra we could have, but it was not a great deal of money. And then I was always interested in advertising and communications. So I went to Neidlinger and asked him. Told him I wanted to start a radio station. And a roommate of mine—since passed away; a terrific guy—was an engineer. And so Neidlinger said, "Well, if you can get the money, put up a radio station."

DONIN: Mm-hmm.

PAUL: So what he could do was, out of the Navy, we're talking about a wired radio station because he had to climb the poles and then enter the dorms and attach to the radiator.

DONIN: I've heard that, yes.

PAUL: Yes. So we started it that way.

DONIN: Yes.

PAUL: And I remember I was paid \$3,000 to live in New York.

LAURA: That was pretty good.

PAUL: Well, yes.

LAURA: In the summer, you mean, to go around and get money from people, was that the idea? Yes.

PAUL: Yes. I lived at Bernie's.

LAURA: And Bernice's, yes. But you went to old Dartmouth grads and asked them for the money.

PAUL: Well, I used one touch of intelligence. I said, "Well, who's going to give money for a Dartmouth radio station except a Dartmouth man."

LAURA: Of course, yes.

PAUL: A Dartmouth man then—a woman might today.

DONIN: Right.

PAUL: But a Dartmouth man. And so I got a list of the Dartmouth men from the alumni office and those that had major positions. And so I went and called on, as an example—what's the banana company? United Fruit.

DONIN: Oh, United Brands?

LAURA: Well, you mean United Fruit Company. That was—okay.

PAUL: What was the Chiquita Banana? Well, I mean that was their commercial.

LAURA: That was their—yes.

PAUL: Chiquita. Anyway, I went and called on people like that. And of course we were starting the radio station. And I said, "We'll run unlimited commercials for you."

LAURA: Yes, right.

PAUL: And I knew enough about the radio business to know I could get all the free records I wanted. I mean the stations will give them to you—I mean

the companies will give them to you. So we had United Fruit that paid for it. And two or three others like Velo Suntan Lotion Cream at the time of the— Well, you were part of getting that.

LAURA: Yes.

PAUL: And so we raised the money from that. Not big amounts of money but enough to get a radio station going.

DONIN: Well done!

PAUL: And my partner literally climbed the telephone poles and put it into the radio station.

DONIN: Yes.

PAUL: So today's radio station has very little to do with what we had.

DONIN: So the call letters starting out were WD—Dartmouth Broadcasting...?

PAUL: WDBS. WDBS.

DONIN: Uh-huh. Now it's WDCR.

PAUL: Yes, I think it is, DCR—Dartmouth College Radio.

DONIN: That's it, right. Right. Oh, that was a big undertaking.

LAURA: Mm-hmm.

DONIN: And this was after you came back?

PAUL: Yes.

DONIN: Mm-hmm. So the campus was sort of coming back to life after having been....

PAUL: It was coming back.

LAURA: That's right.

PAUL: I came in June.... I got out a touch early. But when we went to the dance—what was it, the fall of Japan or Europe?

LAURA: Oh, you mean VJ-Day, dancing in the streets?

PAUL & DONIN: Yes.

DONIN: Japan. So that must have in August.

PAUL: The college changed, looking back now, really in my opinion remarkably fast to the old Dartmouth. Of course we'd all changed.

DONIN: Of course. Absolutely.

PAUL: But I never felt any different about being back at Dartmouth.

LAURA: But everybody was different.

PAUL: I mean everybody was different. But certainly in my head it didn't lessen my interest in Dartmouth.

LAURA: Now it's certainly much more different today than it was then.

PAUL: Oh, yes.

DONIN: Do you think you became a better student after you came back?

LAURA: I think so probably.

PAUL: I would say yes in one way in particular. That is that I paid more attention to things outside of my classes because I was interested in communications. Laura and I went and heard Robert Frost. Things like that.

DONIN: Mm-hmm. Mm-hmm.

PAUL: Then I went to Tuck School. It resulted in my going to Tuck, which made a big difference.

DONIN: Sure. And you started something called the first group picture of the Veterans Club, newly formed at Dartmouth, by returned veterans of World War II.

LAURA: Let me see. I don't remember that.

DONIN: See that picture? I tried to find information about the Veterans Club in the Archives. Couldn't find anything.

PAUL: See, the ending of the war—

LAURA: Bob Rader was one of them.

PAUL: Yes, Bob Rader was a very close friend. We were the first few back.

DONIN: Yes.

PAUL: So in the first year we were back, we were sort of a new thing. But then they started and the war ended. And everybody came back.

LAURA: Alexander Unger is this guy. And Bill Pruden. Yes, you knew all those people.

PAUL: I knew all of them; that's how I knew all of those guys.

DONIN: Did you feel you were treated with, I don't know what the right word is—were you treated differently when you came back because you were a veteran?

PAUL: Yes. In one way: I mean nothing special except for the fact that there was an obvious, on the part of many of the professors, an obvious feeling that we had separated, not negatively, but they were looking to be sure that we hadn't changed so much that their course didn't have to change.

DONIN: Oh, interesting. Yes.

PAUL: And like down at Tuck, when I was at Tuck, there was a lot of talk about the new corporate management. And as a matter of fact, I started my own company for a while. And I started—I got as one of the clients, Dartmouth. And we made a thing about the Tuck School and what it meant and all that. Because people were just then starting to feel that Tuck School or graduate school was a necessity.

DONIN: Yes. Did the students on campus treat you differently, did you feel?

PAUL: In the very beginning, you know, you were the veteran returning. But then we came back, and you've always got a new class coming in.

DONIN: Sure.

PAUL: So we weren't—didn't stand out as much within six months. I mean sure we were the veterans. But nothing big was made out of it, and I don't think we ever.... We had this veterans group, but we were the first back.

DONIN: Right.

PAUL: And by the time—and you know everybody's a veteran.

DONIN: Right.

PAUL: So we weren't anything special.

DONIN: Mm-hmm.

PAUL: My father, by chance, has always been—was always very much involved. He was in the 26th Yankee Division, which is the YD Division of New

England. And he was in every battle going in World War I and all that sort of stuff. Well, the YD ran Connecticut for a number of years after the war. That didn't happen in this war. You know they all came back. You know my father—I mean the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles was a veteran. This one was a veteran. They all knew each other, and they belonged to the YD or the American Legion, and there was a camaraderie there that I don't think existed after the big war.

LAURA: I bet you don't even remember writing that. If you keep going, at the very end, you wrote it. [Laughter] You were the secretary of this group. I'd forgotten all.... I don't think that group hung together very long because I don't remember anything about it.

PAUL: Oh, this was when I became undergraduate editor of the alumni magazine—of *The Log*.

LAURA: Yes. But you should get a copy of that. I don't think you have one.

PAUL: It would be nice to have a copy. I'd love to get just---if you could make me a stat.

DONIN: Oh, yes, I'd be happy to. So what have I forgotten to ask you about? How would you characterize the overall sort of atmosphere at Dartmouth after you came back? I mean I know you've said people were more sort of serious because obviously they were all more mature since the balance of the student body were veterans at this point.

PAUL: Mm-hmm.

DONIN: Were you still being sort of pushed through in these abbreviated classes, or did the classes fall back to regular term times with the summer off?

PAUL: I would say we were pushed through. Not pushed through. But there were summertime classes which a lot of us took because we wanted to get caught up.

DONIN: Right.

PAUL: We went in the summer because, you know, we were late.

DONIN: So there was a feeling of sort of catch-up to get on with your life.

PAUL: Very definitely. But I never had the feeling—and I'm digging back 70 years, 60, maybe 70—I never had the feeling that when the veterans came back, the veterans were running the place or anything like that. I mean the college maintained a perfectly good atmosphere toward everybody. I mean you were a Dartmouth student. If you were a veteran, fine.

DONIN: And as you were saying, they were trying to restore all the organizations and traditions—

LAURA: Yes, that had been before.

DONIN: —that existed before. I mean you started in with Winter Carnival again, and Green Key.

PAUL: Yes.

LAURA: That's right.

DONIN: And Homecoming.

LAURA: Mm-hmm.

DONIN: I assume the football teams and everything got back into....

LAURA: Yes.

PAUL: I think I was quite fortunate, and some of my friends who came back with me—I mean at the same time; not with me—in that as we were the first back, we got involved in a lot of the extracurricular activities, feeling they were as much of our college life as others. And so I mean I was still writing for the alumni magazine.

DONIN: Mm-hmm.

PAUL: I worked for the Associated Press.

DONIN: Mm-hmm. And the *Jack-O-Lantern*.

PAUL: And the *Jack-O-Lantern* and all that. But I would say that my feeling.... By the time I got into Tuck School, which was just a year and a half later or two years at the most, the college was very normal to me.

DONIN: Mm-hmm. Now did you ever actually get a graduation ceremony with your Class of '45? There wasn't one.

LAURA: I don't think so.

PAUL: I don't think we did. I got my degree when Clinton came, didn't I?

LAURA: No, no. Oh—

DONIN: Yes, they did do a graduation ceremony for '45 I think in 1995.

PAUL: Right. Yes.

DONIN: Because I think there was no official ceremony in 1945.

PAUL: No, and we stood in the pouring rain. [Laughter]

DONIN: Yes, I've heard. So the Class of '45 was really finishing up at totally all different times, and it was all staggered.

PAUL: Oh, yes. Right. Yes.

DONIN: Yes. What did that do to your sort of sense of class unity?

LAURA: It's become a very united class, I think. But back then, probably a few years after the war, it wasn't particularly. But as one ages, then, you know, they're more cohesive.

PAUL: Actually the feeling of class unity was for practical reasons was restored primarily in the East at first because Harry Hampton and most of those people that are at lunch today are Easterners.

LAURA: Yes, yes.

PAUL: And, you know, I had a conference room we could meet in and all that sort of stuff. But then as we started maturing into...I mean coming back for other conventions—other reunions—then like for today we just set up the organization for the next reunion. That regular order started taking over again.

DONIN: Mm-hmm. Now did some members of your class opt to migrate to a different class because they were sort of graduating with that group? I mean if it was 1948, and they were finally finishing....

PAUL: I'm not aware of it. That doesn't mean it didn't happen.

LAURA: I think you always stayed with the class that you matriculated in.

PAUL: Yes. Now I'm almost positive Laura's right there. Because the college puts great emphasis on the class for alumni giving and everything. So I think you may have graduated in '49, but you were still the Class of '45.

LAURA: Now I don't know what happened with these V-12 people because they were just put in here. And so when the war was over and they stayed, were they freshmen, were they sophomores?

PAUL: What's that, dear?

LAURA: V-12. I don't know how they figured that.

PAUL: I don't know what happened to the V-12s.

DONIN: I think they were given—

LAURA: Maybe they gave them tests or something.

DONIN: I think they were given credit, though, for the classes that they took here.

LAURA: I see. Okay.

DONIN: And that credit could either be used at Dartmouth or taken back to their original college.

LAURA: Right, right. Okay.

PAUL: I don't know a single person that I can think of that was a V-12.

LAURA: I just named some for you.

PAUL: Who?

LAURA: Broderick and Reg Pierce....

PAUL: Oh, you did. You did. Yes. Okay. I'm wrong.

LAURA: We didn't know that, you know. I mean we were not aware.

PAUL: Once they came in, they didn't talk that they were something else.

LAURA: No.

PAUL: We became Dartmouth '45.

LAURA: That's right.

DONIN: Right. Very interesting time. So any memories of special professors or deans that you remember?

PAUL: Who was the history professor who was so great? West?

DONIN: Herb West?

PAUL: Herb West.

DONIN: Was he an English prof or history?

PAUL: History, I think.

DONIN: History? Okay.

PAUL: Wild West.

DONIN: Yes, he taught the Wild West. Right.

PAUL: And of course I took a course under, a short-term course, under Frost. I remember—if I would've had pictures or something in front of me, I'd remember them. Well, one that made a great impression on me, of course—who was the advertising guy?

DONIN: Oh, was it oratory in those days? It was called oratory, wasn't it? Communications?

PAUL: No, it was marketing.

DONIN: Oh.

PAUL: But it was advertising.

DONIN: This must have been at Tuck.

LAURA: Tuck, yes. That would be at Tuck, definitely.

PAUL: Do you think it was at Tuck?

LAURA: Oh, yes, it would be. They wouldn't teach advertising in....

PAUL: But I knew I wanted to be in advertising. I fouled up the system here on doing your....

LAURA: Doing your what?

DONIN: Okay. You said that you fouled up the system here?

PAUL: Yes. In the sense of, on your thesis. It never occurred to me, and I never asked or anything, if there was a form of the way a thesis should be done.

DONIN: Mm-hmm.

PAUL: And there was.

DONIN: Oh....

PAUL: So I met with my professor, and we agreed, because I was interested in marketing and everything, that I would go to a Boston department store, which I did, and met with the management there. And said I wanted to do my thesis on the effects of position in advertising. So they worked with me—they put an ad on special places for me. And we'd try the ad, say, on the sports page, and we'd try it somewhere else, and kept track of where the best place was.

DONIN: Oh, interesting.

PAUL: Then I took the thesis, and I turned in this thing almost as big as that poster over there, showing how it had been moved around. Well, all theses, apparently, were written basically like that.

DONIN: Oh, dear.

PAUL: So I mean I got an A. But it was...I remember being told they didn't know where the hell to put it. [Laughter]

DONIN: What did you major in?

PAUL: Marketing.

DONIN: Oh, so that was a major. Oh, good. Yes.

LAURA: But not in college.

PAUL: Oh, in college, English.

LAURA: I thought it was political science.

PAUL: What, dear?

LAURA: I thought it was political science.

PAUL: Oh, political—I'm sorry, you're right. I was an English major going in, and I took international relations under Pelenyi, whom I may have mentioned earlier. And he said he thought I'd be great for the International Department. So I did a combination poli sci and English.

DONIN: Oh. That's a good combination.

PAUL: And I think it would've been a career. In retrospect, it would've been an interesting career. Although I loved what I did.

DONIN: Mm-hmm. You're one of the lucky few that really knew what you wanted to do entering college.

PAUL: Oh, yes. Oh, I knew what I wanted to do when I left grammar school.

LAURA: For heaven's sakes. [Laughs]

DONIN: Amazing. You were lucky.

PAUL: Well, it was all due to one relative really. I had an English uncle who was the epitome with the spats. And he'd been military commander of Hamburg and walked around with this little swivel stick and all that.

DONIN: Oh, yes.

PAUL: But he was an advertising man. And so after the war, he went back into advertising. Of course we didn't see much of him, but twice a year. And he was quite a hero to me. And so I decided I wanted to be in advertising.

DONIN: Mm-hmm.

PAUL: So I did. I went to work for an Englishman named David Ogilvy.

DONIN: Oh. David Ogilvy.

PAUL: He's a very famous—Ogilvy, Benson, and Mather.

DONIN: Oh, that's what it is, yes. That's right.

PAUL: I didn't start there, but I mean....

DONIN: Okay. Let's see now. What did I forget to ask you?

PAUL: Well, one little thing you didn't ask, but it comes to my mind.

LAURA: What's that?

PAUL: It is interesting, in effect, like all parents, the effect we've had on our children and grandchildren. Because our two grandchildren by Cindy—Avery and Whitney—

LAURA: Both want to go into—

PAUL: Both want to go into advertising.

DONIN: Oh, isn't that interesting.

PAUL: And as a matter of fact, one of them now is making something like 70,000 a year, creative development in the new kind of development of—

LAURA: Done with computers.

PAUL: Computers and all that sort of thing.

DONIN: Oh, graphic design sort of thing.

LAURA: Graphics, yes.

PAUL: Yes, yes.

DONIN: Oh, yes, good for her.

PAUL: We haven't had that much influence on the others, but those two certainly have. Of course they're closer to us.

DONIN: Must be in the genes, though, for sure, I guess. Did you carry on a career after you left Dartmouth?

LAURA: After I left Dartmouth, let's see. Oh, yes. That's right. Not a career, but—

PAUL: Oh, yes, she did have a career.

LAURA: When he went to New York City in advertising, I had to go to work, too, of course. And so I worked.... Well, I was thinking of working in the garment industry. But I was offered a job at a house as a model and secretary and stuff. But my husband wouldn't let me take it.

PAUL: I knew what these buyers looked for when they came. [Laughter]

LAURA: So another job that I applied for and I got was at the Girl Scouts national headquarters. So you couldn't get in trouble there.

DONIN: Right. You were safe there.

LAURA: Right. So I worked there for several years.

DONIN: Uh-huh.

LAURA: At the Girl Scouts national headquarters.

PAUL: But she did something terrific there.

LAURA: What?

PAUL: You set up the film library.

LAURA: Oh, the film library, yes, yes. And we used to send out films to people.

PAUL: Well, it's a little bit more complicated than that.

LAURA: Right.

PAUL: I mean all the troops can draw on films on all the training and all that stuff.

DONIN: Oh, I see. Very useful.

LAURA: Yes.

DONIN: Very useful.

PAUL: Later it came in very handy when she worked with me on my company.

LAURA: And then after... Then for years I didn't work. And then after he left advertising and went into his own business, which was a videocassette business....

PAUL: We don't talk much about this side of it.

LAURA: Then I worked for him there, too.

DONIN: Uh-huh. Great. Well, your voices held up very well. And unless you have something else to say, I guess I'll turn the tape off.

PAUL: Thank you very much. I enjoyed it.

LAURA: Yes.

[End of Interview]