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## Everett Marshall, Oral History Interview, 1998

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EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY  
HISTORY

INTERVIEW  
WITH  
EVERETT MARSHALL

LNS: I see. And then what happened? How did he differ from Munson in his style of administration?

EM: I don't know how. He delegated authority more. He didn't go out and tell them how to move the sidewalk here and there.

LNS: Like Munson did. It seems to me that they were still under the State Board of Education.

EM: That's correct.

LNS: And it seemed like every decision, when I'm reading the history of the university, when I'm looking at the Board minutes that the State Board, it seemed that every decision they had to take to the State Board.

EM: That's right. Like if the President wanted a day off it went to the State Board. If he was going to take a vacation period, it was approved by the State Board. Do you remember this at all?

EM: Oh yes.

LNS: Is this a correct interpretation that the State Board was involved in the minutia of the University?

EM: You know what, the State did you notice in that when you were reading it about what our total budget for the Eastern Michigan, no Michigan State Normal College in 1940 was, total budget for all the faculty and everything. Do you know what it was?

LNS: What was it?

EM: \$243,000. Before the Depression, their Department Heads were getting \$4,000 a year. Some professors were getting close to that. They were all cut back in the top professors got \$2,400, the other people got \$1,800 but every woman on the faculty, no matter how long she's been there, \$1,800 when I came there. And I came there at \$2,000. I was overpaid. But then in 1941 the year increased my salary to \$2,4 something \$2,470.

LNS: And when they, when you were here, did they get involved in the in your work too. Did they interfere with your work a lot?

EM: What was that?

LNS: Elliott or Munson, did they get, did they interfere?

EM: Whereas when I wanted to make an exception to the rules, I went to Mr. Munson. I had to go to him. When Mr. Elliott said use your judgement, so I used my judgement.

LNS: So it was a lot better to work for Elliott than Munson?

EM: I didn't have any trouble with either one of them. For example, I think I mentioned this at the meeting last Thursday when students coming back who had left for the service, had left without withdrawing and they were all getting. I mentioned that so Elliott told me to use my judgement so I went and talked about this fellow in Albion who had made an agreement with and Elliott said well use your judgement.

LNS: In my book that would make him a better person to work, easier to work.

EM: Well it was easier to work.

LNS: What was his contributions Elliott's to the growth of the school?

EM: Well he was part of our new buildings. I don't remember which ones now. But he tried, he did well.

LNS: Near the end of his term, the Board decides to fire him.

EM: Who?

LNS: State Board.

EM: They didn't fire him, he had to retire, age.

LNS: They fired him. They told him he had to go. And

EM: Well, they couldn't because he had to retire. He was 70 years old.

LNS: Elliott?

EM: Yes.

LNS: What was the retirement age?

EM: 70.

LNS: 70. Well the minutes state that he had to, that they sort of canned him, and then when the new Board came on, the State Board was replaced by the Board of Regents they went and extended his contract for another year.

EM: That's news to me.

LNS: Yeah. So they gave him another years life, if you will. When I read the old records and all that stuff, they were sort of unkind to him in his last years, so I don't know. The school was in some difficulty or if things were, if he had lost it or he just...

EM: Well. They had what did they call them at the time? They would call them Deans at the time, but they became Vice Presidents. William, oh what was his name?

LNS: Lawrence?

EM: William Lawrence.

LNS: He was the Dean of Students or Vice President?

EM: Well he had charge of the student activities, yeah he was Dean of the Students. So you heard of \_\_\_\_\_?

LNS: Yeah, history professor.

EM: Well he was he became the Academic Dean, Dean of Administration they called it back in 1940.

LNS: So he became that under?

EM: Under Munson.

LNS: Under Munson.

EM: See, what happened, a man by the name of Hoover, a very fine fellow had a heart attack and died in June of 1940, 1940, yes. And President Munson then made this fellow that Dean. Well this fellow had it in his office I don't know how to explain it in the building now, they don't, they're all changed so much. But, anyway the man by the name of Whitehouse had the one room there for students with irregular programs, I told you that. And I could go over it for him in '42 and then I had a lot of with the president of course, and also with the Dean of Administration. Well this fellow was exactly ten years older than I was except that his birthday was in March and mine was in July, and he had to retire.

LNS: By the way, what date's your birthday?

EM: July.

LNS: July what?

EM: July 10<sup>th</sup>.

LNS: July 10th.

EM: And he had to retire eleven years before I did because he was born in March- and I was within ten days of being 71 when I retired.

LNS: Now you knew, during the period of Munson and Elliott there were some characters on the campus, Bingo Brown was the name.

EM: Oh yes, Dean Brown.

LNS: Did you know him at all?

EM: Yes, I knew him.

LNS: What's your opinion of him?

EM: Well he was an athlete, and he was as far as the men were concerned he was a god. Bingo could do no wrong. And he meant well. He did. But he could hardly talk, he could hardly speak. He had a lung condition, I don't know.

LNS: Emphysema?

EM: Something, I don't know what he had. Anyway, when he'd go to talk to fellows you could hear it boom it out, you could hear him a half a mile.

LNS: Oh this was even when he was a younger guy then?

EM: Even I heard him make speeches when he was you thought he was about ready to kick the bucket, and here he'd.

LNS: Oh, I didn't realize that. I went to one program where someone played a tape of his athlete thing, and this poor guy in the audience thought that he was in the room, and he had long been deceased. But, he used to start his speeches by "Men of Ypsilanti". I heard that one time. But was he a good guy? Was he positive?

EM: Oh yeah, he was a very good guy. And the men all thought he was wonderful.

LNS: What was his key to success do you think?

EM: What's that?

LNS: Why was he so popular? What did he do that made him so popular?

EM: Because he always took the men sparring.

LNS: So he was then the advocate then for.

EM: Yes.

LNS: Anybody else that you can think of during those two administrative eras the Munson – Elliott Era that climbs to mind, leaps to your thought? How about Lloyd Olds, was he?

EM: Well Lloyd Olds was Track Coach. He had a, he was a very successful track coach, and his teams won a lot of national records and when he was promoted to, what's the word?

LNS: Athletic Director?

EM: No, something like, yes. He, George Marshall became Track Coach. And he was very successful too. But George, see Lloyd never smoked and George was a chain-smoker.

LNS: Oh really?

EM: Oh yeah. And it killed him. The last two or three years of his life he never went anywhere without his tank that he had to push. And his wife was a Field Marshall she worked in that...did you know her? She works in the statistics some office of the athletics, I can't remember anyhow.

LNS: This is long before my time, of course.

EM: What's that?

LNS: This is before my time at Eastern.

EM: I didn't remember what time she retired.

LNS: Who else, any other faculty members come to mind during that period that were really noteworthy?

EM: What year did you come?

LNS: I came in '75. So we've got a long time to go yet.

EM: '75. Well now Brickley was here when you came.

LNS: Brickley hired me.

EM: Who was ahead of him?

LNS: Sponberg.

EM: Wasn't there a gap in there?

LNS: Well there was a little gap with Gilden serving as interim President.

EM: I didn't realize Sponberg was there that long. He came in '65. But he must've been there close to ten years, nine years.

LNS: He came in.

LNS: Elliott was, the Board of Education was written out of the act by the Constitutional Convention of '63 or '4. And then the new Board came into being in 1964 and they appointed Elliott to serve out one more year while they searched for a new president, and Sponberg was the new president.

EM: Yes.

LNS: Elliott said goodbye.

EM: Well I know Elliott had to retire anyhow because of age.

LNS: Yeah.

EM: Did it say anything in there about Jim Greene?

LNS: No, but his name comes up in some things. He was the Shirley Greene's, he eventually became her husband right?

EM: He was her husband at the time.

LNS: No he was not her husband.

EM: Not Shirley Greene. The other Greene. She lives here now. His first wife lives here.

LNS: Oh I see. Oh OK.

EM: I didn't Shirley Greene I remember now. He just walked out on his first wife.

LNS: He was the... was he Dean of the Faculty or something at one point or Vice President?

EM: Well, he was, Elliott made him his right hand man, and Jim Greene, well he had enough wrath to take care of two or three people. For example, I'd be having an interview in my office, and he'd burst right in. He'd never would knock or anything. Would just come right in.

LNS: What was his role? He was the, like the Assistant to the President?

EM: Well, he took a lot of the grief off of the president's shoulders.

LNS: But did he have a title?

EM: Yeah, I think he was Assistant to the President or something like that?

LNS: He was a historian too?

EM: He was in the History Department, when he was demoted. I don't know what he did, but he crossed one of the Board Members, one of the old Board Members and so they...

LNS: The Board of Education members.

EM: Yeah, the Board of Education. And one of the last things they did was to fire him.

LNS: Oh really? So he went back to teaching history.

EM: See he was a librarian before that. I don't where you got the history teacher. I guess they just made it up for him. Cause he was a Librarian at Northern Illinois University. My hometown.

LNS: Yeah.

EM: When he came here in the 50's.

LNS: I see. And he came here. How about A. P. Marshall? Was he here when you were here during the Elliott regime or did he emerge later?

EM: A. P. Marshall came much later.

LNS: Ok let's leave him out for a minute. Who else was, any other Are notable faculty, or things that went on during that time? You hired George Linn, was he with you at that point?

EM: George Linn came to my department in the summer of, well in '58. Because he was teaching at Higgins School and he was working on his Ph.D. And I think he got it in, I think 1940. I mean, '50. Wait a minute, that wouldn't be right, '60. 1960.

LNS: So he came in under the Elliott regime and Paul too?

EM: Paul \_\_\_\_\_ came later, he was a little bit later, not much. He was a student in the 50's, he spent some time in, what was that war in Korea.

LNS: That was the one in the 50's.

EM: Yeah the one that started in the early 50's I think. But he was in that war but then Paul \_\_\_\_\_ was and then he came back and went to school. He was a brilliant student and he in charge of the Kappa Delta Pi, he was a secretary or treasurer or something, secretary. And he did a wonderful job on that. Well I was the sponsor for Kappa Delta Pi at that time and that's where I got to know him.

LNS: I see.

EM: But he did a lot. He was very interested in the students.

LNS: So the Elliott regime is over and the Sponberg regime begins.

Em: In '65.

LNS: In 65. And you were still the Registrar at that point.

EM: That's when they made my title change to Dean of Academic Records and Teacher Certification.

LNS: OK. And you became, now did that include the Registrar's function?

EM: No, I never registered anybody.

LNS: You never were the Registrar? Who was the Registrar?

EM: Well they did that. Ursula Christian. Ultimately not me.

LNS: Before her?

EM: Before that...

LNS: Now Stanley was the Registrar right?

EM: Now Stanley's title was that but Munson changed that in the 1930's.

LNS: I see.

EM: Up until 1934, '35 Stanley did register people. I suppose I didn't even have the charge over deciding who would register or where they would register or anything. That was this fellows office. Dean of Academic Record, Dean of Registration.

LNS: Oh I see. Now we got Sponberg period. Do you remember the Sponberg period at all?

EM: Oh yes very well.

LNS: How would you characterize Sponberg?

EM: Sponberg was a really outstanding person and I don't know if it hadn't been for some dirty politics he would've been here longer and he wouldn't have died so soon.

LNS: What was the dirty politics?

EM: Well I don't know. He, there was certain business such as travel for the teams still on there was one group wanted it and they were charging and their bid was higher than another bid and so he took the ones the bid as he should've done. Well it made, some of this is hearsay so, I can't but you know Foster Fletcher. Anybody that doesn't.

LNS: Peter Fletcher or Foster Fletcher?

EM: Peter Fletcher. Foster Fletcher was his father.

LNS: Right.

EM: And there was a man on the Board who had been named Board of one of the Board of Control or Board of Regents. What's his name. Some kind of school in Wayne.

LNS: Tim Dyer.

EM: Tim Dyer. Well the two of them big Democrat and a big Republican got together and they made life so miserable for Sponberg that he, it practically killed him. You've heard that before.

LNS: Yep. You mean that they sort of eased him out.

EM: Yes. Just antagonment, you know, doing things like that.

LNS: Just chipped away and chipped away.

EM: Chipping away. He had practically a nervous breakdown you know before he.

LNS: He also drank a lot didn't he?

EM: Well he didn't until that happened.

LNS: You feel that they precipitated it?

EM: I do. Very definitely do.

LNS: And so a lot of people and so the reputation seems that the school is getting out of hand a little bit but they started picking away on. Was Tim Dyer was pretty good at that, wasn't he?

EM: Well he and.

LNS: Peter.

EM: Peter Fletcher. See Fletcher was the one that had the money end of it involved and Tim Dyer well, I don't know what the two of them did but.

LNS: Do you have any thoughts or why they disliked him so much?

EM: Well it's because of the money.

LNS: Well there must've been something more than that. Sponberg was pretty important in the city.

EM: Well, he, for example, he had the student's welfare at heart. More than one Sunday he would call me at home and say I have a problem here with a student can you come down to the office.

LNS: On a Sunday?

EM: Sunday. Now can you imagine a president doing that?

LNS: What kind of problems did he have?

EM: Well this one for example, you probably heard of the riots of '68.

LNS: Uh-huh.

EM: Were you around Michigan at that time?

LNS: No. These were the war riots?

EM: I don't know what started it or that it was because of Vietnam or what but anyway.

LNS: Well there were two series one was the war demonstrations and then there was the era where African-American students took over Pierce Hall or something.

Em: Well yeah that was part of it. But anyway in I would guess it would be in May or June of '68 one Monday morning I came to Pierce Hall and the doors were all locked with a chain and a key on it. They didn't realize that that back stairway entered into the Records office was a way to get down. So somebody came got down in there and opened one of the other doors. Anyhow that spoiled that. I remember seeing them march down Forest Avenue there and they marched toward the president's home and there were a couple of policemen down there so I turned around and marched toward Welch Hall of course the sheriffs department was there. Then they hauled a lot of them off to the hooscow.

LNS: This was the war demonstrators?

EM: I don't know what they were demonstrating for. And they wanted to run the place.

LNS: I see.

EM: They wanted

LNS: They wanted to take over the school. What was your assessment of Sponberg? A lot of buildings went on during his term.

EM: I don't know, but I thought he did a very good job and I don't he often commented he wished he had my willpower about drinking. But I don't know.

LNS: There's no question that he was a heavy drinker.

EM: I don't know whether he was a heavy drinker all the time or not.

LNS: But near the end, he was.

EM: But he was a submariner. And I suppose anybody being in a submarine could eat and survive it could be most anything.

LNS: When you look back, what was his legacy?

EM: Well he certainly did a lot to improve the campus, I mean the university as a whole and the buildings and he tried to get things going in spite of some of the opposition that he had.

LNS: As Sponberg leaves, do you remember any of the people that came during the Sponberg administration, any faculty or any staff?

EM: I don't think.

LNS: Well you know Ray LeBounty?

EM: Of course, LeBounty was a student here in the 40's. He came back from service and then he was into he went back into the Industrial Arts department. I remember when they tore down old Pierce in the fall of '48, old Pierce stood where what's now in the area of \_\_\_\_\_ park and some of the bricks came down and one of them went through a window in the basement of what's called the Administration Building. What do they call it now?

LNS: Welch Hall.

EM: What's that?

LNS: Pierce Hall or Welch Hall?

EM: Neither one of them. The one on Cross Street.

LNS: Boone?

EM: Boone.

LNS: Oh yeah, that wasn't the College of Ed. Building.

EM: The basement was the Industrial Arts. The ground floor was where the Dean of Women, the Dean of Men and the Dean of Administration were. And then the second floor was our department.

LNS: And where was the president's office in those days?

EM: The president's office was in the corner of this building, Boone Hall, the corner would be the southeast corner.

LNS: OK. That's the corner that the current Dean is in.

EM: Yes that's where it is. That's it.

LNS: And so during the Sponberg Era there's a lot of changes, there's a lot of growth, the school starts to increase in size. You must've been pretty busy.

EM: And they also changed that. And of course the Federal Law about having access to the building and all those ramps had to be built.

LNS: Handicap accessibility. Now it makes it easy for you to take your little electric chair right along on campus right now.

EM: But you should've seen how it was in Boone Hall before.

LNS: Totally inaccessible.

EM: You either had to go up about six or seven steps on the outside to get in, oh boy.

LNS: That's a big change. What else changed? You saw a large number of students records started become computerized during your.

EM: Well in about 1951 or '52, we went to we changed to McBee. Do you know what McBee is? It's a punch card thing but you do it by hand.

LNS: Key sort.

EM: It looks like an ice pick.

LNS: Key sort. You put the key in you pull it out, the card.

EM: You start and go through it and certain hole and certain hole and just keep on and you sort them that way. That's the way. Anyhow, we went to that. And we bought the old records files from Michigan State where you had those little strips. Do you still have any of those now? They were here when you came?

LNS: No when I came it was pretty much computerized.

EM: But we had all those strips. You know what I'm talking about. We put them in.

LNS: Punch cards you had. Magnetic strips?

EM: They weren't magnetic. You had.

LNS: They had numbers on them.

EM: The student's numbers were all printed they were in a row and they went through the machine and then you had to take them apart and put them where they belong.

LNS: Right,

EM: That was an improvement over what we had before. You wrote it in a book.

LNS: Right. Now do you remember writing in a book? Was that there?

EM: No they had quit that. They had to write it down on their permanent record card.

LNS: I see. And so you came, you saw a lot of systems changes then.

EM: Saw what?

LNS: You saw a number of systems changes.

EM: Oh and how. Well when the record book and I suppose there were a ton of books in there big books that would be that thick and this high and we had them all had them taken to the shop where they had the.

LNS: Bindery?

EM: Could run them through a machine and put it on

LNS: Microfilm?

EM: Microfilm and they had to cut the back off of them and then they run them through. All of that could be in a couple of drawers.

LNS: Big change. What else? And then comes Brickley? Do you remember Brickley's coming?

EM: Yes.

LNS: He was controversial.

EM: Well I always got along well with him.

LNS: Faculty didn't like him because he...

EM: Well I don't know.

LNS: He came, he was imposed on them. They felt he was a political appointment.

EM: I know they thought that. Who said they weren't? Who said he wasn't? Elliott was certainly a political appointment.

LNS: So was Munson.

EM: I guess he was. Munson was at Northern and then he came down here. I was trying to think of somebody else that.

LNS: Now Ralph Gilden is the Interim President. Did you?

EM: He was for a couple of months.

LNS: Did you work closely with him at all?

EM: Well I knew Ralph was a student of mine back in the early 40's.

LNS: Any assessment on any of these people that we've been talking about? There's also Lou Proffitt was a part of the administration.

EM: Well he was brought, did Sponberg bring him in?

LNS: I think so.

EM: I can't remember whether it was Sponberg or

LNS: Sponberg.

EM: His son is the one the District, the term in office is just about run out.

LNS: Kirk Proffitt.

EM: He seems to be doing a pretty good job.

LNS: He's done an excellent job. So you saw the campus grow and develop, you saw all kinds of things. You saw lots of changes, you saw World War II give way to the Korean War and Korean War to the Vietnamese War.

EM: I think I told you there were 1,950 students when I came here in the Spring of

LNS: 1950?

EM: Nineteen hundred and fifty students.

LNS: OK.

EM: A few more women than there were men at the time. In 1939 and in 1943 in September of '43 did I mention this before, there were Five hundred and ninety one students?

LNS: You didn't mention that before.

EM: Five hundred ninety-one students, forty-one men and five hundred and fifty women. And that was the fall of '43.

LNS: And by the time of '75,

EM: '72 was the biggest one.

LNS: Yeah, '72 was a major year. And then enrollments started to slip. And the Board kept chipping away. Every Board meeting they would ask the president what's happened to enrollment, what's enrollment gonna be like? What's going on in enrollment? What are you doing to change the enrollment? And of course he said, we're working on it. And they were working on it. Now when I came, there was a threat of closing the school. Do you remember that period? The legislature had said that if enrollment didn't turn around they were thinking of closing Eastern.

EM: I don't remember that. I did too. But I didn't know anything about it. They threatened to close it in '43 too threatening to using all of the dormitories for the

LNS: Military. World War II.

EM: Yeah the military.

LNS: Yeah that was a major threat to the school's stability. But the big problem in '75 was that the enrollments had gone from twenty-two thousand in '77

or something had, not '77 in '72 they had declined to sixteen thousand or seventeen thousand or something.

EM: Is it that much?

LNS: There were big declines in enrollment. But you don't.

EM: I wonder what caused that?

LNS: Well the school lost its edge a little bit. It became very uncompetitive. Then comes Brickley. Brickley is here for a short while. Now you stayed there beyond the Brickley administration? What year did you retire?

EM: I left in the 29<sup>th</sup> of June 1979 and John Porter comes out the 1<sup>st</sup> of July.

LNS: So you were there right to the end of the Brickley administration.

EM: Well it wasn't the Brickley. Tony Evans was president for a year.

LNS: Tony Evans. Right. You were pretty good friends with Tony weren't you?

EM: Yes.

LNS: Are you still in touch with him?

EM: I get a Christmas card from him.

LNS: We all do. Yeah. Not much meat in the Christmas card though. Not much message.

EM: I had something I was looking all over for I was going to show you when you came. I had started to write a history of EMU. You didn't know that?

LNS: No.

EM: I would say about eighty pages type written and what I did, I went through that book of this fellow's and I found forty-some errors in dates and things that happened and I made a list of those darn things but I couldn't find them. I don't know what happened to them. When I was in the hospital, things happened.

LNS: There were a lot of errors? So you in all of this paper in this house, you don't know where it is? Somewhere though.

EM: No.

LNS: [NOT ON TAPE.]

EM: No I don't know where it is. But this fellow wrote the history you know.

LNS: Yes. Of course.

EM: And in that it claims that everybody who was faculty at the time was in there. Guess who is not?

LNS: You. Well I don't think that everybody who's on the faculty is in this book anyway.

EM: That's what the advertisement claims.

LNS: Yeah. I read that book three or four times.

EM: Anyway, the reason, but he, I worked with him for years and the only thing I can figure out, in 1957 I hadn't taken any vacation that year at all. I'd had several years I didn't do that. In 1957 I went to a meeting in Denver and I left a week or so early I was there a week and back it was about not quite three weeks. And during that time, his wife passed away.

LNS: This fellow's wife.

EM: Right. Soon after we left. Well what, he didn't hear from us and someone told me he was very upset the fact that I hadn't contacted him. Well when he took a year's leave of he took a semester's leave of absence in '67 or '68 I don't know which it was and he asked if he could put the book in my vault. So he had it in a bag and everything and he put it on the top shelf of the vault and left it there. And when he went back, he got it of course. But if he had asked me to check some things I could've checked the errors but my name didn't appear in the book. Now the only explanation I can think of is because of the fact, why would he leave it out?

LNS: Well I have no idea. But I do know one thing, writing a book it sure is easy to leave something out.

EM: I know but I worked with him for years.

LNS: Of course not. No I understand what you are saying, of course. You were a major player you had a lot of input in the organization, you were a senior member of the administration.

EM: Another interesting thing happened. They had a dinner when they announced, when they presented this book after he retired, he was dead by that time and they didn't invite me then. And I remember Dean

Drummond called me in the office and he said I'm so sorry. I didn't realize that you would be involved in this.

LNS: Do you remember Dean Drummond very well?

EM: I didn't know him too well. No. He was from Western.

LNS: He was a very stately person.

EM: Yes. He was very nice. Didn't his wife just pass away?

LNS: Yeah she just passed away.

EM: Yeah that's what I thought.

LNS: He died from Prostate Cancer.

EM: Is that right?

LNS: Yeah.

EM: According to the news I hear in the paper, it says that more men die from that than women die from breast cancer. I don't know why that's true.

LNS: So what else do you remember from school? What can you tell me that might be interesting to include other any general thoughts or anything?

EM: Could you believe that the only telephones on campus would be in Pierce Hall at that time?

LNS: Really? When you came in '38.

EM: The Head of the Chemistry Department would get a telephone call. Somebody in the office would have to go over to the building and bring him over there and he'd answer the phone and they had it in the phone booth there.

LNS: Is that right? You had to come over to Pierce Hall in 1939?

EM: It was that way Dean of Men, Dean of Women had a phone CP had a phone and the president.

LNS: You didn't have a phone?

EM: Nobody had a phone.

LNS: No. That's wild. Any other things you can remember?

EM: No.

LNS: Did you have good years? Did you enjoy being at Eastern?

EM: Well I enjoyed it. It was unique. You might as well enjoy it, if not, because you got to do something, you might as well do it, otherwise it would be pretty.

LNS: A lot of people hold you in high esteem. So you must've made some good friends at Eastern. You certainly have done some nice things for the school. Certainly influenced a number of individual students.

EM: The year 1972, I was in the office everyday, 365 days of that year.

LNS: Why?

EM: Cause there were things that I had to be doing. And my wife's gave thousands of hours of work, doing work helping me. But she didn't get paid for, didn't expect to be paid for.

LNS: When you think of the school, any particular, any big memory? What turns you on about Eastern? Why are you so loyal to Eastern?

EM: After 41 years, well I could've been dismissed if Bill Lawrence had had his way. He did everything he could to get me to leave.

LNS: What was your disagreement with him?

EM: Well when I was in when I told you I was in that three weeks time in there in '57. During that time a student came into his office about something and wanted to know when his scholarship started. He said, what's your field? He said, how come you got a scholarship for education? See a State Board Scholarship. He said, well Marshall gave it to me. So then he had staff and records office do nothing but else work through all the records to see if they could find something where I had made a mistake.

LNS: Was he that, it didn't strike me, I haven't heard anything one way or another about him, but it sound like he was just on a fishing expedition.

EM: Looks that way. Well he had a friend he wanted in the job. When I came back, graduation took place at that time, when they got their diploma they got a blank paper like they do now, and then they came around to the office records office you checked their name on it and you handed them their diploma. Well on Monday morning, he called me in and said, you

have to get the diploma back from this man, for this man. I said, why? And he said he doesn't have a C Average. I said, but he does. He said, he does not. He's two points short. I said, well I'll show you. So I got his name and I said, well here he's got a Graduate course and he's got a B in it. And I thought he was going to have apaflexy, from this day on, no Graduate courses count on grade points in the undergraduate level. And they haven't.

LNS: So he didn't like that guy either.

EM: Well he was an athlete he was nice kid, but he wasn't a smart kid.

LNS: How did he get into a graduate course?

EM: Well at that time they weren't very fussy. If you needed a course and there was a graduate course, you got it.

LNS: Well when you look back and you come to the campus today, what do you think?

EM: I don't think, I don't know. It just baffles me. All the high buildings and so on.

LNS: You've been in the new Library?

EM: No I haven't.

LNS: That's worth going into.

EM: Yeah I know. I heard it was. But you know \_\_\_\_\_ she's meant a lot to the kids. She's adopted my philosophy of going out of the way to help them.

LNS: She's a very helpful person.

EM: She's well, I guess you're supposed to go through some channels but sometimes the channels, if the person you have to go through is not around you make a decision if it's helping somebody. I don't know how you feel about going through channels.

LNS: Well you know, I've been a Vice President for a long time. The nice thing about being a Vice President is sometimes you can make things happen that other people can't make happen.

EM: If you see somebody that's doing something nice for somebody.

LNS: You don't penalize it, you reward it.

EM: That was why I was happy to change from Academic area to Student Affairs area because, he meant well but everything just had to be...

LNS: His way or the highway. Lawrence was a student affairs person though.

EM: I wasn't talking about Lawrence. I was talking about the fellow who came from Lincoln School.

LNS: Ok.

EM: He's a good friend of mine now but he used to I said you can't do that. He said I already did that.

LNS: What about Bruce Nelson.

EM: That's who I'm talking about.

LNS: That's who I thought you were talking about.

EM: Yeah Bruce, it just had to be.

LNS: He was a pretty definite guy.

EM: But he meant well.

LNS: It's getting close to lunchtime, we've been talking for a little while.

EM: In about another five or ten minutes.

LNS: We're almost concluded here. As you look back now over the institution. We were just talking about the Library and the buildings, the change in enrollment. You come back now everything is computerized to the new information systems, everything is linked together, but it's still made to work by people.

EM: Did I tell you about the first data processing thing we had?

LNS: No.

EM: I guess it must've been about in the 50's. The late 50's. We got a machine that weighed 2, 200 pounds. And they had to find out where to put it. Well they decided to put it on the Second floor of Pierce Hall facing, it would be to the Roosevelt School side.

LNS: OK.

EM: So what did they do? They had to take the front out of the entryway there. They had to build a ramp and pull the thing up there. First they had to check the building plans to see if it would hold 2, 200 pounds.

LNS: Did it hold it?

EM: It did. But imagine, that same machine today you could carry in a.

LNS: Put in a briefcase.

EM: Well, I don't know about a briefcase, but a typewriter.

LNS: I have a little laptop that's more powerful than the big machines that they used to have that ran. I mean this is a huge, powerful machine.

EM: I'm responsible for heading data processing on campus. I don't know whether that's a claim to be proud of or not. I've traveled to a lot of places. I have a state college at the time there was a Teacher's college up there \_\_\_\_\_. And I went to Northern Illinois.

LNS: You went shopping around.

EM: I drove around to different places. I had bought it in the late 50's, mid 50's maybe. We were always putting the high school record on the record cards. Do you remember that? Well I'm the one that got it off at Easter. And the reason I did I went to the annual meeting, national meeting, there was 17 of them and one of them somebody said well we're gonna need them off but they didn't do it. But the next year, I had left them off. I went to the next meeting and I thought they were going to tar and feather me. They said you can't leave those off we have to have them. I said well why? Well we always have. Well they didn't anyhow I survived.

LNS: Now we keep even less stuff.