

**Interview With**  
**George E. Brady**  
**10-16-1968**

These reminiscences are a transcription of a taped interview with Mr. George E. Brady on October 16, 1968. This historical record was made possible through the generous gift of Floyd L. and Mary Dietrich Haight Memorial Trust Fund as a contribution to the Historical Records of the Dearborn Historical Commission.

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Mr. Baut: October the 16<sup>th</sup>, 1968 and across the table from me is George E. Brady and Mr. Brady has consented to come down and talk to us about his experiences especially his early life, his life in Valley Farm and more or less a general autobiography of his life. And first of all George I would like to start off with the very beginning. What was your birthdate?

Mr. Brady: January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1898.

Mr. Baut: And where were you born?

Mr. Brady: I was born in Trillick, Tyrone County, Ireland.

Mr. Baut: Whereabouts is that near? What part of town there? That's Northern Ireland, isn't it?

Mr. Brady: That's true. It was near Belfast.

Mr. Baut: And as far as your early life in Ireland, what was it like?

Mr. Brady: Well, of course, my father was a businessman in this particular town and they had a variety of business activities. He has a livery stable and a bakery and a traveling salesman at that time could stop at his building in his, what we call now, a motel. We had rooms there for travelling men and if they had to go to a nearby town, they would get a horse and carriage to go to the next town and they'd return to Trillick in the evening to stop at Brady's Hotel.

Mr. Baut: Well, George, how about your father came over to this country when? He came over and went back, did he not?

Mr. Brady: That is true. The Bradys had been in Detroit they had first been in Toronto and London, Canada, and then they came to Detroit. That would be my grandfather and in this city, Detroit, they had their bakery and then, of course, my father, as I understand, in the year 1888 returned to Ireland.

Mr. Baut: And then what occurred in Ireland approximately at that time when he returned to Trillick?

Mr. Brady: He set up his business, or course, and then approximately in 1896 he married my mother who was a who was Margaret Tloff (sp?) and they stayed in Ireland and until we had I had 4 brothers and 1 sister and in the year 1907 my father returned with us to Detroit.

Mr. Baut: Well, what was life like over there in Trillick, George, that you recall? Of course, you were about 7 years old when you came into this country. You went to school there. What was the what was school like?

Mr. Brady: Well, in Ireland you start school about 4 ½ years and you would attend the town school which I call very efficient because they had two teachers- the master and his helper, a teacher, usually a female and it ended up by being... The master married his helper and so it became a family affair. The education in the school was very, very efficient and the children got along well. Memorized almost all their lessons similar to what we did here in the States 60 years ago.

Mr. Baut: Well, why did your father come over to this country the second time? What was he was he doing pretty well over in Trillick?

Mr. Brady: Yes, my father did well in Ireland but he realized that with his young family he would come to the States because the opportunities were greater here.

Mr. Baut: And what about you were talking about the we were talking earlier, of course, and we were talking especially about the water situation as far as your home was concerned and the town.

Mr. Brady: Oh, in these little towns over there the town pump was a favorite place to get your fresh, pure water and Trillick had two up and we went to the well to get our water. My father, however, haven't had experience in this country wanted wash water and as we sometimes say

mill water for the washing and cleaning around the house he devised a tank using the rain water off the various buildings and we got along very well and it saved the help from running to the well for all their water.

Mr. Baut: Were there any other inventions your father used that he learned from this country on his first visit here that he used aside from the rain barrels? That's kind of a curve ball.

Mr. Brady: No, no that's good. You see I'm child seven, and now wait just one second. All right. Usually in Ireland they have the two-wheel carts almost for everything but my father had an idea of using 4 wheels similar to what we used on our wagons in the United States and he had carriages with four wheels.

Mr. Baut: Well, George, you came over here at the age of 7. That would put it probably around 1905, now where did you settle? Did you come right to Detroit or did you settle any place?

Mr. Brady: Yes, we came directly to Detroit. We stayed a week in Windsor and then we came across when we got our records all up to date and satisfied with immigration.

Mr. Baut: Where did you land in this country, I mean as far as this on this side of the pond so to speak, do you recall?

Mr. Brady: Yes, we immediately went to 1186 Michigan Avenue and

Mr. Baut: That's the old numbering system, isn't it?

Mr. Brady: That's right, the old numbering system and then we lived on Vinewood Avenue near Michigan Avenue which was a very nice neighborhood.

Mr. Baut: Yes it was and where did you land as far as in Canada is concerned aside from Windsor? Did you land in Montreal or Quebec or do you recall?

Mr. Brady: We landed in Quebec and everything amazed us. I saw the first colored man in Canada and then, of course, we took the Canadian Pacific which was a long train ride to Windsor.

Mr. Baut: Do you recall the ship you came over on at all?

Mr. Brady: It was one of the Carpathia, as I recall. It was a ship in the anchor line. I do remember also the fact that the ship couldn't come in to the port and we had to take a smaller boat out to the ship in the bay. We picked up some English people and Scotch people who made the trip across the ocean with us.

Mr. Baut: What port did you sail from, do you recall?

Mr. Brady: I think it was Belfast.

Mr. Baut: Well, George, you were finally docked in Detroit. Now how did you get to Valley Farm? Under what circumstances did you come to Valley Farm?

Mr. Brady: Well, my father had a sickness which caused his death and we lived quite some time and, as I recall now, we went to the Protestant Orphan's Home in 1909 and my brother, one of my brothers, and myself.

Mr. Baut: And what brother was this?

Mr. Brady: That was Louis and we made ourselves perfectly at home and we were noticed by the officials there at the home and could our load and whatever work was to be done. It was drawn to and end in the early fall. That's better...

Mr. Baut: What did you do during the summer at the Protestant Home, George?

Mr. Brady: Well, J. L. Hudson, Mr. Hudson himself had given us some lake property near the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club on Lake St. Clair for camping for two summers. Then Mr. Hudson had sold the property and

we were without any camping sight for 1910 or perhaps it was '11 but Mr. Ford and others were contacted and Mr. Ford offered his Gulley Farm property for his summer camp and, of course, the home was gladly accepted.

Mr. Baut: Now what about Mr. Barth, George, how did he fit into the picture here?

Mr. Brady: Well, Mr. Barth was the superintendent at the home, the orphans' home and he came with over a hundred children to the Gulley Farm and we boys, we older boys, put up the tents for the summer. It was a beautiful site looking down from the upper grounds into the valley and see all those tents. Half of the tents were for the girls and half for the boys and, of course, we used the Valley Farm, which is now Valley Farm, we used the house and basement for locker rooms and wash rooms.

Mr. Baut: All right, what happened after that summer was over, what happened as far as this farm was concerned which actually was known as Gulley House at the time, Gulley Farm. What did you do then, George?

Mr. Brady: Well, when the camping season was drawing to an end in the early fall the home had taken on additional boys and so we were looking for some place to continue in an institution or school and learning about this situation Mr. & Mrs. Ford offered Valley Farm which was Gulley House at that time for about 14 boys. Now these boys, the 10 original boys were Jerome Hayden, Daniel Lawler, George Brady, Jessie Bollinger, Lewis F. Brady

Mr. Baut: Was that your brother, George?

Mr. Brady: Yes, that was my brother two years younger, Walter Fink, Leslie Harris, Morris J. Smith and his brother, Herbert, and then John

Grease.

Mr. Baut: Now what was the purpose of the farm, I mean as far as the boys being at Gulley Farm. What was the what conditions were there as far as the boys were concerned as far as their background?

Mr. Brady: Well, the boys were very much interested in school work and every one of them seemed to me to be very intelligent as you will hear later.

Mr. Baut: Well, what about the family background as far as the boys were concerned? What was their background? For example, your own background as far as

Mr. Brady: Well, all the boys that came there never knew too much about their previous life except that they were orphans or as we sometimes say half orphans having one parent still living but the boys seemed to like the orphan home and for that reason they did well. They took active part in all the activities there and they were so happy that they could go to the public schools and keep up their life in that respect and so they made the most out of their education. Now I might say here that there were some boys added shortly after fall. Robert Collins and his brother Earl Collins, Dan Callahan, Dee Callahan and Irving Stillson (?) and later on other boys arrived and we had 20 boys at the farm.

Mr. Baut: Well, how old were the majority of these boys that were at Valley Farm?

Mr. Brady: I would say they were about 12 years old.

Mr. Baut: What was the reason as far as why didn't they go back to the Protestant Home like yourself for example?

Mr. Baut: Well, naturally the home is for a younger children from 6

to 12 and then the Board who are composed of business people and especially women of the Grosse Pointe and East Detroit section would work out places where the boys would go so that they might continue their education.

Mr. Baut: In other words Valley Farm picked off picked up where the many of these other homes left off. Well

Mr. Brady: When we arrived at the Valley Farm we took up our home there. It was known as a non-profit organization and some of the officials were Mr. Bryant, Mr. Roy Bryant and August Barth, Mr. Liebold, Dr. H. L. Burdeno- famous doctor in Dearborn at that time and Mr. Ford himself and as I understand it funds for the home, of course, were provided by Mr. & Mrs. Ford. While Valley Farm was operating, somewhat similar to most boys' good schools of that period, it also carried out many of the ideas of Mr. Ford who said on many occasions, I heard it from his own lips, that he wanted the Farm to provide a real American home and not just an institution. One of the first things which greatly pleased the boys was the practice of having all of them eat their meals with the superintendent and even the cook came in from the kitchen and sat with us and this meant that it was just a family dinner. The boys who for as long as they could remember had eaten with other children in the orphanage. This was a real treat out here at the Farm. Some people would ask about the religious the religion of the boys. In order that the boys might have outside companionship as well as gain an education those under the eighth grade attended the nearby Jim Daly School while the older boys attended Dearborn High. The high school boys made their own choice of subjects and were allowed to take part in

athletic and social events of the school. Most of them usually received excellent marks. When the boys had difficulty in a subject, he was helped by his schoolmates in the spirit of fellowship which permeated the entire group. Religion, too, played an important part in the lives of the boys at Valley Farm. Most of them were from good homes and as a result the boys had good religious backgrounds. On Sunday the boys dressed in their best clothes and went to the church of their fathers. Most of the boys attended the First Presbyterian Church. Yes, I attended the First Presbyterian Church. It was much, much smaller than the one of present day.

Mr. Baut: Where was it at that time, George, do you recall?

Mr. Brady: Mason and yes, Garrison; Mason and Garrison right near the school. The old Dearborn High School is right across the street on a very nice piece of property. After church the boys were served a typical roast beef dinner and then spend the rest of the afternoon playing games, visiting neighborhood friends, reading or studying. I don't mind even going in the warm weather for a swim in the Rouge River which at that time was easily done. During certain seasons of the year, the boys visited the homes of their parents.

Mr. Baut: Did you go back home at all, George? Did you go back? To visit your mother?

Mr. Brady: Yes, I visited my mother who still was living on Vinewood and I was only by walking up as far as the Retreat I could go all the way to Vinewood Avenue and West Grand Blvd for 10c so naturally I walked as far as the Retreat and I would do this probably once a month and then we would be home about 10 o'clock in the evening.

Mr. Baut: It was just for the day it wasn't for a weekend or any... I see. Well, you had quite a bit of acreage out here, George. What did you do with as far as the rest of the land was concerned?

Mr. Brady: Well, the boys were divided into each boy had a particular job. For example my job was taking care of the horses and cows and I was the overseer in the poultry division. It seemed that I was considered one of the best farmers but I had help by other boys who were very food and one of the things that had to be done twice a day, of course, was milk the cows and they were kept right across Gulley Road at the acreage that Mr. Parker, real good farmer, took care of. Now in the growing season we boys would grow farm vegetables and we would grow all the vegetables necessary for the household and more almost than we needed because I remember summertimes taking melons, sweet corn, cucumbers and other things to the Free Press so that the boys at the Free Press Fresh Air Camp could have some of our vegetables as we had too many.

Mr. Baut: Well, I suppose you would, of course, you provided your own food right there on the farm. How about the meat situation and how did you provide for that?

Mr. Brady: Well, of course, we had

Mr. Baut: Well, you had your livestock there on your own farm but did you use that?

Mr. Brady: No, we did not do any of the butchering although some of the livestock after they had pastured and been well fed went down to some of Mr. Ford's other farms where they would continue to feed them and get them ready for market. A lot of our supplies were supplied from

wholesale sources but milk and butter, eggs, and, of course, we had poultry to eat. We didn't have roast beef every Sunday, we had some older poultry that I had picked for the dinner table.

Mr. Baut: Did you have to have names for the for some of the live stock especially those that you attended.

Mr. Brady: We had a name for we had five cows to supply the milk and of course, I milked two of them and other boys milked the others. Yes we had names for them but I just can't remember at this time. However, the horses that we used on the farm for cultivating and hauling in hay and other crops was one of the first teams that Mr. Ford bought and of course, one had passed on and we still had old Jerry who even at that time was 30 years old and he was, old Jerry was my favorite horse and many a day I spent cultivating the corn and other crops with Jerry. He was a real per to all the boys.

Mr. Baut: And he could still do his share of a day's work?

Mr. Brady: Yes he could. He could do a good day's work of course we didn't try to run him much but driving him to Dearborn for hardware items or other things that feed that we needed to get occasionally was quite an experience because Jerry never got so he liked interurban cars and it took me holding the reins pretty tightly and turning Jerry's head so he didn't see the fast interurban approaching but we got along well.

Mr. Baut: Did you take him into Detroit or just into Dearborn?

Mr. Brady: No, we never took him into Detroit. That was quite a distance for him at that age but we did to Inkster, the Blacksmith's Shop in Inkster and the Blacksmith's Shop in Dearborn.

Mr. Baut: Who was the blacksmith here in Dearborn?

Mr. Brady: Twork.

Mr. Baut: That would be Lester Twork's, probably his father.

Mr. Brady: Yes, father. He was a good blacksmith and he did wagon work. Put tires on wagon wheels. He was very popular and very nice to talk to.

Mr. Baut: Well, what else did you grow on your farm here, George?

Mr. Brady: Well, between the Valley Farm and Mr. Parker's 80 acres, we grew hay and grain and corn. We always left some rows of corn for the birds... and what's the other bird? Pheasant. Mr. Ford thought it was a good idea because he liked to see the pheasants having corn in the field so the pheasants could eat most of the winter.

Mr. Baut: Well I guess he was quite a nature lover himself and did Mr. Ford ever come out any other time?

Mr. Brady: Yes, I, Mr. Ford used to come out to see how things were growing. He would drive through the Farm, and stop and talk with us and I have the thoughts of seeing Mr. Ford one day actually get up on the a load of hay and throw some hay off. The men were haying that day and the boys were helping, of course, and enjoyed the whole scene.

Mr. Baut: Did Mr. Ford ever send out any of his mechanized equipment to help you fellows at all or was this all done...

Mr. Brady: This was all done mostly by us but we could we had the privilege of getting additional equipment or machinery from the bigger farms to the East to the east of the old City of Dearborn.

Mr. Baut: And what was usually on the evening table, on the dinner table as far as food is concerned, George?

Mr. Brady: Well, our meals were wholesome and well cooked. There was plenty of everything such as bread, fresh milk, homemade butter,

good pieces of meat and lots of vegetables.

Mr. Baut: You make me hungry but as far as your bread is concerned, did you ever bake it?

Mr. Brady: Yes, the cook usually we had a man and his wife acted as the cooks and every woman loves to bake bread especially if she has hungry boys around and for that reason why we would get homemade bread probably twice a week and the quantities of our meals were not limited. If you wanted second helpings as long as you cleaned your plate everybody was happy that you would ask for seconds.

Mr. Baut: Was the wheat at all grown on the farm at all or did you got this already prepared?

Mr. Brady: Yes we got that prepared although occasionally some of the other farms might send certain grains up flour and other things that would come in from other farms even sometimes meat.

Mr. Baut: Was the whole 80 acres of Valley Farms used for farming or did you have some woods or forests or

Mr. Brady: We did not have too many forests or woods but the valley which you may see to this day was used for grazing and many times some of the other farms would send over send up to our farm 20 steers to be fed, to be grazed on this property and fed grains to bring them along and then later they'd be finished up down at the other farms.

Mr. Baut: What were some of your activities there at the farm, George?

Mr. Brady: Well, the one that stands out in my mind was when we had plant orchards. We had an expert from the nursery come and the trees were purchased and the boys dug the holes. Of course, that's important too because they have to be dug right and they had to be 100% in line.

Mr. Baut: What kind of trees what kind of orchards were these?

Mr. Brady: These were strictly apple orchards and 3 or 4 varieties and that was really one of the big activities we did that early in the Spring and I don't think out of the thousands of trees thousands that we planted I don't think we ever lost over 1 or 2 and we had a special place where we had some of those growing at the same time and it was very easy for us when we found a dead tree in the first few years of it's growth to move it over and put it right in there so that there was no dead spaces in our orchards and they grew until they actually produced.

Mr. Baut: How long did it take for an apple tree from the time its planted to produce fruit?

Mr. Brady: Well, the orchard was laid out so that we had trees that reached bearing much sooner like the yellow transparent trees were planted every fourth one and then after they started to get old, we were able to take them right out and that left 50 square feet between all trees but at first, of course, it was 25 square feet.

Mr. Baut: Approximately how many acres were turned over to orchards?

Mr. Brady: Over 80 acres in two sections. One orchard was right to the west of Valley Farm itself, Valley House and then the other section was at the corner of Gulley and Michigan that would be in the northwest section in there. The orchard ran all the way from Gulley to Jim Daly School.

Mr. Baut: Are any of the trees still standing?

Mr. Brady: No, no. As the property they stayed there for some 40 years but now that is property, business property and for that reason the trees are all gone with the exception of some that are still growing up on the hill. That would be up Gulley Road pass the valley and they're

many beautiful homes in there but some of the trees are still there. The people haven't seen it fit to cut them down and if they're sprayed they'd still be producing.

Mr. Baut: An apple tree will produce even after 40 or 50 years if it's properly taken care of?

Mr. Brady: That is right. I have seen trees 60 and even 70 years old and pear trees almost last for generations. Some of the pear trees that the early French people planted out in the Grosse Pointe section are still out there and producing. That is true. Even some 15 years ago I even got picked a bushel off one of these trees that was all ageless.

Mr. Baut: Well, George, I suppose it wasn't all work and no play, you know. I imagine you fellows to work off even more excess energy you did have a few moments for recreation. What were how did you spend some of this time?

Mr. Brady: Well, the boys also were pretty good athletes and so in the summer we organized it was very easy to do the boys were there and making them practice enough for at certain positions why we had a very good baseball team. I was the catcher and Jesse Bollinger was well not a big man he was a very excellent pitcher, good control and he could throw very good curves which was for a boy was very good in baseball and he had a good strike out average and then we had a speed ball pitcher by the name of Stiltson, Irv Stiltson, but he was inclined to be more wild than Jesse so he just got the first call but many times I put Stiltson in when we needed hard, fast ones. Now the Smith boys played in field in the field and we were a pretty good scoring team. We played a team from up Inkster way, we played some farm teams from up towards Warren, we played Dearborn boys frequently and we had a very good average. I remember one time after winning a ball game some of the Dearborn boys had the they challenged us to a foot race and so the boys agreed that I should run and Dan Lawler should be the other one and they picked two

And we went out on Michigan Avenue and laid out a 100-yard dash and ran on the cement road. Of course, traffic wasn't anything like it is today and who do you think won?

Mr. Baut: Well, did you have a manager for your baseball team?

Mr. Brady: No, the boys handled that although Mr. Barth was interested and he acted an made decisions when they necessary and then after Mr. Barth left, Mr. Roy Bryant acted as the director of the institution and he loved to play every Saturday afternoon because he liked baseball so much and we were practicing, he played right with us.

Mr. Baut: Well, what about what did you practice did you have any

Mr. Brady: We laid, yes, that was another project that we actually laid out a baseball diamond and we had the natural sights of the valley as the background for example the ball after it passed the catcher wouldn't go very far before it hit the sides of the hill and we got a book that told the exact dimensions and we got the mower down there and mowed the grass and we laid out the bases, pitching mound, pitching mound wasn't as high as in the American League but it was a mound and so other teams liked to come down because our field was quite good.

Mr. Baut: Did you have any kind of bleachers or anything set up for

Mr. Brady: We didn't need any of that because it was easy to sit on the banks. You could get any height on the bank you wanted to sit and you could see the game the same as downtown at the Tigers Field.

Mr. Baut: Who else did you play besides Dearborn High? Did you play any other teams?

Mr. Brady: Yes, we played farmer group of farm boys that lived on Gulley Road up near Warren and we played a team from Inkster, older

fellows. We didn't mind how old the team was as long as they had a d... and then there was some boys that we played from Hans Station (?) and so we had enough games there of course if you have 5 different groups you can double up and that gives you 10 games which was about what we played.

Mr. Baut: Did you ever walk off with the all five games? I mean winning all five games at all do you recall?

Mr. Brady: We won more than we lost by far and that's all we wanted a good afternoon and comparing our hitting with the farm boys and so forth but our pitchers, we had two good pitchers that took care of us pretty well. Occasionally we would come down to the school grounds the high school grounds in Dearborn and I remember well playing some teams there especially Dearborn boys and our pitchers really won the game for us.

Mr. Baut: What about high school, George? Did you play any baseball while you were in high school?

Mr. Brady: Yes. When we when I came to Dearborn High I was a good runner and jumper and so I was on their team and I was too light for football but they needed players so I got into the games on account of my speed mostly not on account of my weight.

Mr. Baut: Well, George, believe it or not our time has just about run out on this side of the tape and we're going to continue this interview at some other time and we'll use the other side. Thank you very much, George, and it's certainly been a pleasure sharing your experiences with us.

Mr. Baut: Well, here we are back again with Mr. George E. Brady and this is October the 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1968, a week later from what we taped on the other side of this interview and we're going to continue right where we left off, George, and that was with sports and I'm going to swing right on into football. What did Valley Farm have as far as football is concerned?

Mr. Brady: Well, the boys were athletic as I have stated and they wanted a football team and we were bale to pick up some shoes and an outfit, no fancy head gears like they have now and we had two balls and so we went down into the valley where rough football field was

Mr. Baut: Where did you have this football field?

Mr. Brady: In the Valley and it was laid out according to proper instructions, directions, and we practiced, running with the ball, kicking and all the fundamentals that we knew of. Then when we saw we were quite good we invited a team from Dearborn, Town of Dearborn, and we picked up the cook of Valley Farm who was to be the referee and of course, they brought some older boys along and we played our football game and it was good. I remember I when I was only a flyweight about 120 lbs. I did carry the ball and due to my speed, I made some fairly good runs and of course, we had heavier boys like Lawler and Stiltson and they hit the line hard for the gain through the line.

Mr. Baut: What about how did you come out as far as in a season is concerned in football?

Mr. Brady: Well, we played approximately five games which is considered adequate and I would say that we won at least four of the five games.

Mr. Baut: Were these the flying wedge days or what have you?

Mr. Brady: Yes. Some of the boys had seen amateur teams around play

and one time we were taken to see some of the earlier U of M games and all of our knowledge came from those visits.

Mr. Baut: Well, you had a pretty good collegiate football at that time and now what other sport did you participate in? How about basketball, George, did you have any basketball at all?

Mr. Brady: No, we never had any basketball at Valley Farm, however, in about 1912 the Methodist Church here in Dearborn built a gym, of course, they used the gym on Sundays as Sunday schoolrooms. They needed the room anyway so they had built this gym and they allowed any boy from Dearborn or around to go down there to practice and play with the other fellows. I remember that I took quite an interest in basketball because I found out I could shoot fairly well with a few instructions and I remember one particular day playing with Wagners and Bollinger and Forrester and Gregory and some of the other boys and it was fun. We never had at least I never took part in any games as such or a member of a team but that was the beginning of basketball in Dearborn.

Mr. Baut: It was there at the Methodist Church gymnasium.

Mr. Brady: Yes.

Mr. Baut: Well, that was quite a unique thing for a church to do, wasn't it?

Mr. Brady: But in those days that was the only place that basketball was played really was in church gyms or basements and at YMCA's. That's really where the game got its start and got popular.

Mr. Baut: Well, we've taken care of the summer sports, the autumn sports, now what about winter sports? Did you have any kind of winter sports such as hockey or anything like that you played?

Mr. Brady: Not hockey, however, we had ice skates, hockey hats and

good warm clothing and we skated on the Rouge River near the Farm and we would come to Dearborn to the Twin Lakes and because they were many, many boys and girls skating there and even adults and they had a nice place and fire to get warm if you became chilly and I remember coming down here a number of times various years and driving old Jerry at the spring wagon taking the boys down here for the evening and back home again later.

Mr. Baut: And who was left to put Jerry away?

Mr. Brady: That happened to be my job after skating all evening I had to take Jerry approximately a half mile over to the farm barns located just across Gulley Road and while the boys were usually in bed by the time I got back that was just extra exercise for me.

Mr. Baut: How long did it take you to put old Jerry away?

Mr. Brady: Well, after the boys jumped off the wagon I it would take about 10, 15 minutes to get to the farm and another 10 minutes to put Jerry away in either straw for his bedding and unharness him and get back. It would be the best part of that, half and hour.

Mr. Baut: What about recreation aside from sports during the summer. What did you do?

Mr. Brady: There were a number of special trips that I remember well and because they were so much enjoyment. I remember going to Bob-Lo a beautiful trip up the Detroit River to near the entrance to Lake Erie. Mr. Roy Bryant went that particular time to chaperone us and make sure we had a good time. We all had our own spending money and we could have a choice as to what we would eat while we were on the island and the boat trip there and back and then ride back to the farm on the interurban. Really was a day and that was greatly enjoyed

talked about for many, many weeks after. Another time in the fall when the State Fair was going we went to the Fair and we spent the entire day which would be 10, 11 hours and saw all the animals, poultry and we took in the events that were most educational. Of course we enjoyed seeing some of the side shows and events in the grandstand but we really cared a lot about this particular trip.

Mr. Baut: George, when did Mr. Ford buy Gulley Farm?

Mr. Brady: Mr. Ford bought Gulley Farm in 1908.

Mr. Baut: And of course it had been in the Gulley family for a good many years previous. What year was the house itself built?

Mr. Brady: According to my best information it was erected in the year 1859 by the Gulleys.

Mr. Baut: Well, there has to be a bone of contention one says 1861 now what would make the difference as far as

Mr. Brady: Well, in those days large homes such as the size of Valley Farm took a period of two to three years. The first year they would build it and rough it in and let it stand over the winter and then they'd come back the next year early in the spring and start constructing it further and sometimes they would finish and sometimes not finish so the building would take at least two and possibly three years before it was first class for occupancy.

Mr. Baut: Well, the Woodworth House was built somewhat the same way.

Mr. Brady: That's right and we even know the family that built the Woodworth house which was would probably be the same year, same general time and that took three years, according to Miss Eleanor Woodworth who I had talked with on the same thing.

Mr. Baut: So in 1908 Mr. Ford bought the farm. What you found there

were some barns on the property and one of these barns was devoted to onions, was it not?

Mr. Brady: Yes, it was a large barn two stories high two floors and it must have been at least 120 feet long and probably 50 to 60 feet wide. This was used as a drying barn for the onions which were raised on the Valley Farm. Of course, it was called Gulley Farm at that time and specialized in onions which in ordinary years went to Detroit and the various markets there but during a number of years during the Civil War he supplied the Army with onions and potatoes.

Mr. Baut: I suppose you had an opportunity of seeing Mr. Ford on various occasions especially special occasions such as Christmas, did you not, George?

Mr. Brady: Yes I did. I remember Mr. Ford, Mrs. Ford, and their son, Edsel, visiting Valley Farm at the Christmas season and in fact on Christmas Day and I enjoyed being at the table when Mr. & Mrs. Ford would be talking and of course, we were all on our best behavior but Mr. Ford was a natural type man and he passed many little joke which we all enjoyed laughing at. Then after dinner we would go into the sitting room where we all were in front of the big fireplace with a lovely warm wood burning in there and send out a great heat and Mr. Ford would sit there really reclining and resting and Mrs. Ford was busy talking about some of the books she had read and asked and we boys if we had read some of the books that she had sent previous. Edsel was there and we all enjoyed it and they stayed the full afternoon not having to go back to the home on Edison Avenue until around 6 o'clock and they even drove their Ford car which was unusual at that time because many people put up their cars for the winter and of course Mr.

Ford having all the faith and confidence in the Model T drove it out there and he had a way of not having any trouble.

Mr. Baut: Well you of course as you say Edsel used to accompany you and I believe you boys called him by his first name.

Mr. Brady: And at the same Christmas party Mrs. Ford talked to me and said that she had a coat that Edsel had grown out of an overcoat and would I be happy to get it. And I said, oh, would I: So in a few days she sent the man with Edsel's coat so I wore to school, I wore it on Sunday, I wore it around and the boys nicknamed it "Edsel's Coat".

Mr. Baut: Well, it kept you warm for several winters and George, we paid a visit out to the Gulley House there or Valley Farm as you remember it and we noticed in the back an outline of a gable that looked like there was a structure that extended back of the house proper. Now do you know anything about that what may have been there?

Mr. Brady: Yes I remember that well. That was a building oh about 45 feet long and 30 feet wide which we used as a laundry. Now you see during week the boys had their regular the days of the week the boys had their regular work such as cleaning and waxing the dormitory and taking care of the lockers and shower rooms and then we had two boys that worked on the boiler taking care of the furnace and furnishing the hot water for the entire house and in caring for other important duties. However, on Saturday morning, starting at 8 o'clock 6 or 7 boys were assigned to do the weekly wash in this particular building that you mentioned. All boys learned to operate the machinery as it was the regular professional Troy laundry machine. It's not the type of household washers you have today and dryers and we learned how to do everything. The big thing that really bothered us a little was ironing

because it had to be kept at the right heat and not too warm or we would singe the clothing and then we usually ironed all sheets and pillow cases and shirts.

Mr. Baut: This was a mangle, was it? Probably a liquid gas operated machine.

Mr. Brady: That's exactly it and it took one or two boys that had more skill than some of the rest of us.

Mr. Baut: Can you tell me anything about the basement under this structure that extended beyond the Gulley Home proper. There was a basement under there. What was in there, do you know, George?

Mr. Brady: Yes, when the furnace was put in they ran a long hallway under this building that you mentioned to where they kept the furnace where they had the furnace and in that way if anything ever happened to the furnace, it would be easier to close off the furnace and there would be no explosion on the proper, building proper. Just nothing but steam pipes went from the furnace room up into the main structure and that's what you no doubt saw.

Mr. Baut: Well, who took care of the furnace?

Mr. Brady: Well, later on he happened to be the man that became a policeman in Detroit, a lieutenant, and he was a strong, husky boy with quite a lot of natural skill.

Mr. Baut: Do you recall his name?

Mr. Brady: Lawler.

Mr. Baut: Oh, I see.

Mr. Brady: Daniel Lawler. He had a brother there too.

Mr. Baut: Well, he's come up into this conversation before. Who do you think put up that structure- the laundry room and the you have any idea?

Mr. Brady: Yes. When they decided to have a laundry so that all the weekly wash could be taken care of that building was constructed and machinery was installed.

Mr. Baut: Then Mr. Ford more than likely was the one.

Mr. Brady: It was Mr. Ford that had it done.

Mr. Baut: George, what about Ford Trade School? Can you tell me anything about that?

Mr. Brady: Well, Mr. Ford no doubt had the Trade School idea in his mind for quite some time and he conceived a plan whereby the boys of Valley Farm and others like them in the plat could learn a trade or profession while at the same time earning funds for their support through the fruits of their work and some boys, of course, could actually live at home in and around Detroit and in that way they would be some help to their mother because it was usually the father who was dead and so Mr. Ford new these boys personally from meeting them over the years and so he took six Valley Farm boys to be the first students of the Henry Ford Trade School which opened its doors October 25, 1916 that's just within a few days of when he started.

Mr. Baut: And do you have do you recall any of the fellows that were

Mr. Brady: Well, first I want to say in one room of the Highland Park Plant is where he got one instructor and six machines of various types, a lathe, a mill and a planer and some other machinery with the idea of adding more as time went on. New let me try to remember the boys that went at that time were: Dan Callahan and Robert Collins and his brother Earl (e), Walter Fink, Herbert Fink and another boy by the name of Herbert Wade and Stanley Waski – those were the first boys.

Mr. Baut: But I don't see one name in there and that was George E. Brady. Where did George Brady go?

Mr. Brady: Well, they knew at that time that I was interested in doing work in the office and so I was interested in art work and a little bit of writing and advertising so that's exactly where they assigned me to go to Highland Park and work in the advertising department which was only a stones throw from where my friends were working in the Trade School and I would see them, oh, once or so every week and we still kept our relationship one with the other.

Mr. Baut: The Ford Trade School then began out at Highland Park is that correct?

Mr. Brady: That is correct.

Mr. Baut: Now in your what about your education? How did you were you able to what about your education, did you

Mr. Brady: Yes, I had been in high school at Dearborn High and then I went to the advertising department to work I enrolled immediately in the Highland Park High School evening course because it was very handy to where I we were all living with my mother and so I started to work towards my diploma. When I finished that I Highland Park had started a Junior College so I took courses in that and most of the students at that time didn't attend the evening course so it was and my hours were good, I'd be home and finished with supper at 5:30 and it was easy to be to school at 6.

Mr. Baut: Well, what did you take up at Highland Park Junior College?

Mr. Brady: I took a business course. Shorthand and typewriting and bookkeeping and English and other subjects closely allied.

Mr. Baut: Well, what were you planning on going into. Sounds like you were planning on going into something else other than advertising here the way

Mr. Brady: Well, at that time the Ford Motor Company had a magazine which is still in existence called "The Dearborn Times" and I did work on the Dearborn Times along with my, not Dearborn Times, Ford Times. I did work on that magazine preparing articles and acted as a copy man and I thought that I'd be an illustrator and a writer on the paper with my training.

Mr. Baut: Did you come acquainted with any of the executives or who were some of the executives out there, George?

Mr. Brady: Oh, In the administration, of course I knew Mr. Ford had his office in there and Simeon Smith, Liebold, Frank Campsall, Mr. White of the accounting department, Mr. Craig also of that department and Hawkins, Eddie Hawkins was the advertising manager, Mr. James Couzens who later was commissioner of the police of the City of Detroit. I knew him well because I did errands for him and then, of course, my boss, Charles Brownell was one of the best advertising men in the country. So I was well acquainted with Who's Who.

Mr. Baut: What about Mr. Henry Bennett? I don't here his name mentioned.

Mr. Brady: Well, Mr. Bennett at that time was something like I was, just starting out and Mr. Ford had picked him up in New York, as I understand it and brought him to the Highland Park Plant and he was interested in photography and things of that nature so they put him in the photographic department.

Mr. Baut: Well, did you become acquainted with him?

Mr. Brady: Yes, I, of course, he was young then too and although older

than I but I met him and especially we had the Ford Motor Company had a weekly something like the Passe Weekly that they got out every week to go to dealers and cities and towns. It was an advertising idea and they used main office there especially we younger fellows to see as a guinea pig to see the picture every week and who do you think was running the picture every week at noon half an hour at noon but Mr. Harry Bennett. He wasn't Mr. then we just called him Harry. Later on of course when I too went to the Tractor and Truck experimental engineering at Dearborn and the engineering laboratory building at Dearborn of course I got better acquainted with Mr. Bennett because he was growing with the company quite rapidly.

Mr. Baut: Well, then he was out here at the Rouge when you came out, is that correct?

Mr. Brady: Yes, he was sent when they started the Rouge Plant the one of the first young men they sent out there to the service division that's the watchmen and men of that nature. Bennett was sent with some control over that particular division and that's how he grew and they were building Eagle boats then.

Mr. Baut: Oh year, that'd be about 1918 or so?

Mr. Brady: That was correct, -- During the first World War.

Mr. Baut: Well, when did you come out to the Rouge Plant from Highland Park?

Mr. Brady: Well, I didn't come directly to the Rouge Plant. They needed a man of my particular type that had all around training- office training and some mechanical training and so I was transferred to the Engineering building and that was 1924.

Mr. Baut: Oh, I see. Well, by this time, of course, you were quite a you were quite a young man and I doubt if you were out there at Valley Farm by this time. When did you leave Valley Farm?

Mr. Brady: I think that it was in 1914 or 15 along in there and my training and my work had been in Highland Park Ford Plant but I had a wonderful opportunity for learning in the plant and outside and I managed to keep my contacts. I might say that one of the young ladies I worked with in the advertising department was a Miss Copy (?) who later on married Mr. Dallinger in the whole farm system and she was well known to Mr. Radford.

Mr. Baut: Oh yes, we've interviewed Mr. Radford, yes.

Mr. Brady: Well, she finally got a very good job in and around the farms with her husband, Ray, Ray Dallinger.

Mr. Baut: Well, George, before we part from your home here, Valley Farm, when did it cease to become a home for boys?

Mr. Brady: The latter part of October, 1916, although everything was left for some future use.

Mr. Baut: Do you have any idea how long the home stayed dormant before it was reopened?

Mr. Brady: Well, 16 to about 18. Yes I do I happen to know that. In 1918 Valley Farm was made into a home or shall I say a hospital for girls under the guidance of Women's Hospital of Detroit. Mrs. Ford was very active in this bringing this about.

Mr. Baut: And this was in existence for a good many years I believe.

Mr. Brady: Well,

Mr. Baut: Fine. It was used for as far as a home for girls it was used how long, George?

Mr. Brady: For 32 years. That would make it 1950.

Mr. Baut: Well, George, you started in the advertising department at Ford Motor Company in 1914 now where did you go from here?

Mr. Brady: Well, I worked in the advertising department until 1919 when I thought in order to get farther ahead with the Ford Motor Company, I also would go out and take some of their apprentice training and so I went out into the shops and into the toolrooms where I learned a trade.

Mr. Baut: What trade was this?

Mr. Brady: It was toolmaking. It was a quicker trade a quicker and shorter term than what would have been in the Trade School. It was quicker and they really gave it to us in a much shorter time. So after that training I was just finishing when one of the superintendents asked me to also take what they call the Ford.

Mr. Baut: Go ahead George. What was it that you had to take they wanted you to take?

Mr. Brady: After I finished this toolmaking course, they asked me to take a dealer's training course and I at one time thought that I would like to work in the dealership and for that reason I took this course which was only about 8 or 10 weeks and I finished and I thought I was very well along and one of the labor superintendents at Fords asked me how I would like to be a foreman and it was immediate so I jumped at the opportunity to become a Ford foreman and I became a foreman.

Mr. Baut: What department?

Mr. Brady: It I can't remember the number of that department but they went by numbers in those days. It was where we made small parts for assembling and I stayed on that department for quite a few years when

the same superintendent said, "I want to get you in gearing". That they needed men to run departments in gearing because there was a great shortage of men of that kind so he said I'm sending you up to the gear department, that's a training that was a training department so that you could not only make production gears but you could make any kind of gear and you had to figure your own gears and set up your own machines to cut them and so I took that course and I was in that department for two years and I was just about ready to go out into the gearing department and become a foreman when this opportunity to go to Dearborn Tractor & Truck division when that came along and they wanted a man in a hurry.

Mr. Baut: This was in 1924 then.

Mr. Brady: Right. So I had just been married about a year and it would be a wonderful opportunity to go back to my old hometown so to speak and so I went I got transferred to the Engineering building and I moved out into the town.

Mr. Baut: So that's how you came back to Dearborn?

Mr. Brady: That's how I returned to Dearborn.

Mr. Baut: Well, then you remained in the Truck & Tractor division for how long?

Mr. Brady: Until... I remained in that department until the bank holiday.

Mr. Baut: That would be about 1932, 33. 31 I see.

Mr. Brady: I think it was 31 and of course the plant was very slow and some of the engineers were spreading out into the factory and they asked requested that I go back to the Rouge Plant until such a time as things picked up in the engineering department and when they would have me return

and but I did not return due to the fact that I became a foreman after a short time at the Rouge Plant.

Mr. Baut: Was the Truck & Tractor division at the Rouge or was it in

Mr. Brady: No, it had gone to England. We did the engineering for England. We were making the Fordson Tractor over there. Of course, we did make the new tractor as we know it today and that was made at Highland Park. They had room at Highland Park and so they started the Tractor Plant over there. The tractor that we know today.

Mr. Baut: Well then, you were a foreman there for how long?

Mr. Brady: Well I stayed at the Rouge Plant and working for the superintendent and had many, many jobs all quite responsible jobs until I decided to change work entirely.

Mr. Baut: Well, that was in probably you said you worked for Ford Motor Company for how many years?

Mr. Brady: 30, over 30.

Mr. Baut: So that would take you up around 1944, 1945 then.

Mr. Brady: That's correct.

Mr. Baut: George, did you work strictly at Ford Motor Company or did you have any other jobs outside of the Ford?

Mr. Brady: Yes, I was elected in 1929 to the Fordson Board of Education and served the board for over 18 years.

Mr. Baut: Well, how many times were you elected in that

Mr. Brady: I was elected 4 times.

Mr. Baut: And who served with you on the Board of Education?

Mr. Brady: Well, men of this caliber I served while Judge Martin although not a judge at that time he served on the Board of Education, Fred Beard, Homer Beadle, Norm Edwards, Grant Burns, Samuel Watkins,

Mr. Makimson and Calvin Frisinger and others. Fred Burka and I was on the Fordson Board of Education when it was made when we amalgamated with the West Dearborn Schools. In fact I was the last president of Fordson and the first president of the United Board of education in the city of Dearborn which I feel very proud of.

Mr. Baut: You should, you should. Now what offices did you hold on the Board of Education, George?

Mr. Brady: Well, during my tenure I held all the offices such as president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer not once but a number of times.

Mr. Baut: Well, apparently the Board of Education must've thought you were a pretty good officer if they felt that and you were a responsible man into holding these offices what are some of the accomplishments that were carried on while you were in these official capacities on the Board of Education?

Mr. Brady: Well, during the tenure we set up the orthopedic rooms in the Lowrey School and where could send all the crippled children and cardiac cases. Regular first class setup and we furnished buses to pick up the children

Mr. Baut: What were some of the other accomplishments?

Mr. Brady: Well of course, one that I smile about now because its so common but the teachers used to be paid on a 12-month ten month plan and they came back every fall after Labor Day broke. Had to borrow money immediately so we set up the 12 month plan and that was one of my ideas and we had a little criticism at first and of course shortly after the teachers were so happy about it and we enlarged a number of schools and we started the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> grades which later on became

Junior College that we now have.

Mr. Baut: Like Henry Ford Community College.

Mr. Brady: In fact that all started with our 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade beginning and of course there again the Trade School at one time when the Trade School was closing they gave machinery and money to the Community College and that's the reason it was named Henry Ford Community College but it goes back to the Board of Education setting an example for other communities by starting this 15<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> grades.

Mr. Baut: Where was this set up in what school?

Mr. Brady: It was set up in Fordson High School at first.

Mr. Baut: Approximately when was this?

Mr. Brady: Approximately 1937.

Mr. Baut: And when was Henry Ford Community College set up? Well, that was after you were out of office, wasn't it?

Mr. Brady: That's correct so I wouldn't know the time but I do know the circumstances when the Trade School was being discontinued which had functioned for a long, long time turned out thousands upon thousands of mechanics, well trained boys with machinery and tools and jigs and fixtures and certain assets at least a million dollars was turned over to the Dearborn Board of Education which was put with their funds and that is the reason why we have an outstanding Junior College in Dearborn at the present time. Oh yes, I might say they also gave us so many hundred of acres out there to build the building. Right next to the University of Michigan's project.

Mr. Baut: Ford Motor Company. George, before the big consolidation between the Fordson Board of education and the Dearborn Board of Education I believe there was another unification that took place a few

years before that. Could you tell us something about that?

Mr. Brady: Yes, I remember at District 5 was that territory between Fordson and Dearborn within the City of Dearborn and that was commonly called "The Henry Ford District." They were only one school but it was a very good school. It had swimming pools and large gym and everything else and there were five men on the board.

Mr. Baut: What school was that that was in that one District 5?

Mr. Brady: They called it the Henry Ford school and I circulated the petitions in there and the people in there were very happy to join Fordson because the children always went to Fordson for their high school so I had no trouble, we had no trouble and when the vote came why it was voted right in by both districts. The Fordson District and District 5.

Mr. Baut: I suppose that was a lot of work that had to go into this before you it wasn't just simply

Mr. Brady: Well, there wasn't a great deal of money spent on it but petitions had to be circulated and I think I circulated the most petitions and presented them. Did the necessary legal work on it and then when it came up for a vote why it carried so it became part of our Fordson School District.

Mr. Baut: Well that was in 1941. Three years later in I believe May of 1945 the big consolidation took place between Fordson and Dearborn. I was wondering you helped on that also did you not, George?

Mr. Brady: Yes, I was very much interested and the school district in old Dearborn of the Dearborn School Board went out of existence and gave us the schools out here. Fordson Board of Education accepted them and

it became part of the new united district known as Dearborn Schools and it was legalized in June, 1945. I think that was the 21<sup>st</sup>, June 21<sup>st</sup>, 1945, and from that time on the school districts began to function properly although West Dearborn needed schools badly. We had to rush the building of the Conrad Ten Eyck School, otherwise the children in that whole subdivision down there had no place to go. They had no room at other schools for them.

Mr. Baut: Well, how did they get the name Conrad Ten Eyck?

Mr. Brady: Oh, I happen to know something about the early history of Dearborn and Mr. Ten Eyck was quite a man. He ran an Inn and kind of a roadside hotel and he had some of the family that was still living around Dearborn named Gregorys and so I started to call it while it was being built the Ten Eyck School and just about that time they had taken down the Ten Eyck residence here in Dearborn. Right across from here in Dearborn on the corner of Military and Michigan was removed.

Mr. Baut: Oh yes, it was in that general vicinity. Didn't you getting back to the consolidation, George, I believe was there any kind of meetings that took place just prior to that time?

Mr. Brady: Our board had to meet after meet to make it official the consolidated official and we had to meet on a Saturday given due and timely notice to all the board members to be there and I was the chairman and the secretary and I both made sure that each one was notified so everyone was supposed to be there and we took the vote and some we had majority to accept District No. 7 schools and that made it official. It was later as I said legalized.

Mr. Baut: George, when did you step down as from the Board of Education?

Mr. Brady: At the end of my term in 1949 I was very busy and had many

activities and was going into business therefore I didn't run.

Mr. Baut: What business did you go into, George?

Mr. Brady: Well, I became special investigatory for the prosecuting attorney of Wayne County.

Mr. Baut: And how long were you in that capacity?

Mr. Brady: 3 years.

Mr. Baut: Now, George, we know that from reading few accounts here and there that you did work for the city. I believe you worked for the city when I first came here. What capacity did you work for the City of Dearborn?

Mr. Brady: I was appointed Housing Commissioner in 1949.

Mr. Baut: And what are the duties of a housing commissioner?

Mr. Brady: Well, at that time there weren't enough houses and that was during the war period.

Mr. Baut: In '49?

Mr. Brady: ... at that time were trying to get places to rent for people that were just stuck and couldn't find anything.

Mr. Baut: In other words there was a housing shortage.

Mr. Brady: Very, very great housing shortage and of course I spent my time helping people and some places that we had a rent for them weren't anything to speak about so we allowed we became a little liberal and allowed people to add upstairs and dormers etc. so that they could take a family in and we allowed them to have some housing in the basement. This we weren't too happy to do but the situation was bad.

Mr. Baut: And how long were you housing director, housing commissioner?

Mr. Brady: I think the Mayor needed me in other departments and so I think it was only about 2½ years and he made me director of Service and

Complaints which I spent practically the rest of my tenure working for the city in. I worked in that division and that was a great experience a job that I really loved as I was dealing with hundreds of people every day.

Mr. Baut: You got to know the people in Dearborn pretty well.

Mr. Brady: I'm very well acquainted.

Mr. Baut: And I think everybody knows you. How long did you when did you retire from the City, George?

Mr. Brady: In the City of Dearborn 1966. 1966 and I had a difficult time retiring. Every time I wrote a letter to the Mayor that I was past 65 and thought of retiring he'd say, "oh, stay six months more."

Mr. Baut: Well, of course, I suppose now that you have retired I imagine you're more busy than when you were working.

Mr. Brady: That is correct. I don't know how I ever had time to work. I'm walking down the street and meet people. I walk into the bank and someone comes up to me and said, "Oh, you're just the man I've been thinking about. I want to see how can I do this or how can I do that." And I'm continually busy. Of course, as many people know I'm in a number of fraternal societies and recently I joined the Senior Citizens Groups and I do some traveling. Every year I'm away at least three to five months. South America, Central America and my son being in Hong Kong wants me to come over in February of this year to Hong Kong.

Mr. Baut: Well, I hope you make it.

Mr. Brady: It's a long trip but he said he'll make it very interesting for me.

Mr. Baut: What business is your son in?

Mr. Brady: Well, my son for 12 years has been with CARE that's the it started out as sending packages all over the world and he had he's been

Mission Chief in a number of countries and of course, he is the Mission Chief in Hong Kong.

Mr. Baut: Do you have any other children besides him?

Mr. Brady: Yes, I have two daughters. Both of them are school teachers.

Mr. Baut: Are they around Dearborn?

Mr. Brady: However, while they were educated in Dearborn and Ann Arbor yet they teach, one teaches in Taylor and the other teaches down by District #8 I think it is down by the Veterans Bureau, the Veterans Hospital.

Mr. Baut: Well, they're still more or less they keep pretty close contact with Dad, don't they?

Mr. Brady: Oh yes, I'm invited any night I want a good supper. Either girl is so happy to have me come.

Mr. Baut: George, there's just this one last piece of string that's kind of dangling here and that's about Eleanor Woodworth. She's come up in our conversation here a time back and did you know her very well?

Mr. Brady: Yes I knew as a neighbor very well and being on the Board of Education I called to see her many times. We wanted a piece of property that she still had but she wanted to keep it until the end so we didn't press her.

Mr. Baut: When did you first become acquainted with her?

Mr. Brady: 1924. I think where my house is it was part of the Woodworth property originally and she used to come up Orchard Avenue with her walking her dogs and of course, my wife knew her and I got acquainted with her quite well, quite friendly and I have called several times to see her by her request.

Mr. Baut: Of course there is the Woodworth School and I assume that that was on former Woodworth property. How did the School Board acquire that piece of property from Miss Woodworth?

Mr. Brady: Well, they acquired that by purchase and she was willing to take to sell that it was quite a distance from her home and barns. She wanted to keep the home and the barns as near like it was when she expressed "When Pa lived". I did tell her that I'm sure the Board would go along with me in naming the school the Alfred Woodworth School and she said, "Pa would certainly like that." I know another time I was visiting her property and she said, "I want to show you something". So she brought me into the building, she had a large building where she used to keep her cows and sheep and she opened the door and we went into this big old barn and she reached up and got the three legged milking stool, a stool which all staves (?) balanced and she showed me where she used to meet milk her cow, her favorite cow although she had three cows and horses. She showed where the horses stalls were and I forgotten now what she called the milk cow.

Mr. Baut: One of the cows name was Betty.

Mr. Brady: Yes, that's right. And she talked on and showed me one of the buggies and one of the carriages that they had. They all belonged to her father originally and she showed me a wagon and spring another spring wagon and many of the things that usually are seen on the farm, All under cover and when she was speaking of her father I was tears slowly drop from her cheek.

Mr. Baut: What did she, did she do any farming at this time, George?

Mr. Brady: Yes, she farmed the last real farm crop was during the war years.

Mr. Baut: 1917, 1918.

Mr. Brady: That would probably be the last crop and she said she explained to me how she could raise the best potatoes around without weeds and without too much cultivating and it was very interesting and from that time on the only crop I could see around was the hay and we had Mr. Ternes who still had teams of horses cut it for her.

Mr. Baut: What Ternes was this?

Mr. Brady: This was Art Ternes up on Chase Road near Warren. He ran a coal and lumber yard and he as a very he'd being a pioneer out there also knew Miss Woodworth and even remembered her father. And then another year I had the school use a tractor to cut it. I think Mr. Ford sent a tractor over there one year to cut and keep it down and then it fell into disuse and the school also cut it at that time because the children were using it as a play field and also a football field.

Mr. Baut: Well, Miss Woodworth was a personal friend of Henry Ford also, wasn't she not?

Mr. Brady: Yes. While I was there one day she told me about she said to me she said, "Who do you think was here last week to see me?" And of course I kind of thought but she said I said I don't know. She said Henry. Of course Henry meant Henry the one and only Henry Ford and she said told me some little stories and interesting things about Mr. Ford- how she used to defend them when they walked to the old Miller School because Henry was a shy boy and didn't stand up for himself very well but she I did. Right away she said he was in and he kept looking at his watch and about the third time he looked at his watch he has a watch that he carried in his vest and she said now why are you looking

at your watch for? He said well he said Dallinger's out there and he's waiting for me, she said who does he work for? And she said you're not going until you I've already got the tea kettle on for a nice cup of coffee and she said when you drink the coffee why you can go and very few people could talk to Mr. Ford like that I assure you.

Mr. Baut: Well, she was probably one of the very few that could call him Henry too and get away with it.

Mr. Brady: That's exactly what she told him but we never called him Henry around the Ford plant of the Dearborn Engineering building.

Mr. Baut: George, I want to thank you for these two days that you have spent with us with the reminiscences that you've given us a terrific amount of valuable material to work with especially on Valley Farm and many other aspects of your life and I want to thank you again for coming and please feel free to stop in at any time.

Mr. Brady: I shall be happy to do that and I want to compliment you and the rest here in the Museum for the fine work you're doing, I really mean that.

Mr. Baut: Well, thank you. We appreciate it.

Mr. Brady: So I'll say goodbye and be on my way.

Mr. Baut: Fine, George, and thank you again.

April, 1971

B. Miga