

DB: It was his greatest delight was to take a stranger through the dormitory when it was under construction and after words. And when I was working on the dormitory he came over and he tried to pick up go with this fellow through the dormitory I just couldn't do that. I was busy, but we started operating, we moved him in the dorm wasn't finished there were some beds in storage on campus, but they weren't ready, really but you had to have them in there to get money you had to put them in there. So we put them in the dormitory. Sand walk from the dormitory to the main administration building and pretty soon there was sand all through the dormitory.

RMM: Now that was what year, were you the head of the dormitory?

DB: I just can't seem to

RMM: was it 48, 49?

DB: No sir I just can't come up with that.

RMM: Were there any special rules that the students had to follow in the dormitory?

DB: Oh yes, at night 10:00 was closing time and in construction of the building, the dormitory there was a small meeting room, it's probably still down there, there was a fireplace in it, it was sort of planned to make it a social room for but it was in the basement, though Dr. Jake would slay you if you called it a basement, he would say it's a ground floor. But the windows were about half windows and then the floor down here. And he said that's just to bad. And I'll never forget the old carpenter/supervisor, he said "well if they are going to get out, they will get out." Anyway, he said "this half window they won't break their legs or arms." that didn't sound very well.

RMM: The other president you worked under was President Harden, Edgar Harden.

DB: Yea well Augin Johnson, was the acting President President for one year, and then Dr. Harden and then John Jamrich. But I didn't work under, I was three years under Dr. Harden.

RMM: And how did Harden compare to the other Presidents?

DB: He was a better politician. I think probably the best politician. He built more buildings and structured the buildings much better than done with Dr. Harden.

RMM: Now how did you feel about having a building named after you?

DB: Well it's kind of a, I didn't get too much out of it.

RMM: Did they tell you before hand or was it a surprise?

DB: It was some what of a surprise, I had retired and we'd been out in Arizona, and we had got home. We'd been home about 15 minutes when the phone rang. It was Dr. calling to tell me they were going to name the building after me. Well it was built in three sections the first one and then the second one and then the third one and so the finishing job. But It was, Oh I appreciated it. The total cost of the three parts was four and a half million and I noticed that the renovation was about five and a half million so the darn renovation was more than the original building. Losoluski and another fellow, the two of them came about the same time the other boy went up to Alama, I can't think of his name. but Losoluski still is the man who runs the work center.

RMM: Now he's the director of the University Center.

DB: Yes, and when they came they got me to come and talk to them about the history of the center here. Well that's a

RMM: Now were you involved in any of the planning of that building.

DB: No.

RMM: Was that built after you were gone?

DB: No, I was there when, Let's see, the last I was there was 1960, and they had finished what they though was finished. Let's see I retired in 59, we went to Arizona in the winter I think it was in the, I'm a little confused in that.

RMM: Could you comment on the athletic program, the sports program that you saw while you were there.

DB: Well, mainly we played football, basketball, and track, a little bit, But wouldn't do it, wouldn't have baseball. came from and weekend can coach and physical education man. We were going to have baseball. John Munson liked baseball. So we were going to have a baseball team. And that's when they didn't know the Upper Peninsula winters. They bought 18 new suits, made out a nice schedule played two games. That was all. But football they were playing football, played that a few years that's in that booklet I had. My back of the schedule. Track used to have two or three meets a year. My first duty was at the gate for a football game before I went to work on Monday. They had the football camp two weeks before school, and played their first game the Saturday before, and registered on Monday. And I was at the game. And for 25 years I was on the athletic committee. And I always had a job for the game. Some times I was the score keeper, some times I was the time keeper. In the winter time I always had to score the basketball

games. And I was the head score keeper at the \_\_\_\_\_ once in the spring. But the track was not very successful, it was too cold, and the weather was not very good. But we used to have a track meet with Michigan Tech. And some of the boys, once in a while the boys would go down state for some indoor track but not very much. They had, when I first went there Hedgecock was the coach, and Gladice Gray was the physical head of the girls physical ed. And that was it. We didn't have any extra coaches. Gladice Gray.

RMM: Now was she the woman that put on the \_\_\_\_\_

DB: yes, she put on the shows, they used to have physical ed demonstrations every year, the physical ed department put on a pretty good show. Hedge was there for a long, long time. And he's kind of a character.

RMM: In what way was he a character?

DB: Well he once \_\_\_\_\_ of a character, playing football, he was often demonstrating. And this one time he was against Collins, showing this boy what to do, he was going to show him how to do it. Collins was too much for him in the line. And he was kind of \_\_\_\_\_

At basketball games I tell every once and a while. He would pace up and down in front of the scoring table. And I'd say, "Hedge, go sit down, I can't see the game." Yeah, he was quite a \_\_\_\_\_, he wasn't a mean person he was just gets boys \_\_\_\_\_ many of them you got because you could get a job, Hedgecock worked at that pretty hard, and he built his house, had a house built on the west side of town about a couple miles out maybe.

RMM: Do you have some comment about your general view of Northern and your contribution to Northern.

DB: Oh, I don't know what I really contributed, I did whatever I was asked to do. Sometimes I think I did it poorly and sometimes I think I did it alright. I was, I did have one important function, Mr. McClinock, head of industrial arts department was also the chairman of the recruiting committee and when we had this choice of teachers in rural schools, that sort of thing, we had the county \_\_\_\_\_, in the depression the years were too expensive for kids to go to a town, even Marquette. So we had what we called, what were they called, anyways if there was a qualified teacher say in Escanaba, the college would hire her and she would teach a class beginning history and the kid could live home. They had them in Escanaba, Menominee, Iron Mountain, Iron Wood, Iron River, Crystal Falls, Houghton, they ran a college for a year, the elementary courses and at first when we had this Mr. Mac. used to go to talk to them about coming to college on campus the second year. And then they get the idea of taking someone along, the high school senior class about coming to \_\_\_\_\_, well that took

, my first duty on that was Crystal Falls. While he talked to the Freshmen College group I talked to the Seniors. So he used to take me a good deal, killed two birds with one stone. Then when Mac retired I got the job and after the war our enrollment went to nothing almost, 179 students, 10 were boys and 169 were girls and Dr. came in this one morning very distressed. It was a bad enrollment, very bad, and so he suggested taking me off from teaching, I was teaching part time. Take off my teaching and go out and for students. Well, I had been doing it out in Copper County, so I did I took the rest, I did the best I could. One year I went to 52 high schools to talk to students and that sort of thing and that first year when he took me off the academic board we had a 161 students the first semester and we had 162 the second semester. So I really did the job. But it wasn't quite that bad, our normal functioning the second semester was always 5 to 10% down because in those days there weren't no money, they weren't interested in college, they would try a semester and quit. Even getting one was a filler in my gap. Then the president used to send me around, I remember the very first fall I got there in Marquette, he sent me down to Traverse City, we used to have what we called Teachers Readings, Conventions up or while the State was divided into 7 districts and the MEA was represented at each of these seven districts and he sent me down to Traverse City to get a of a Northern Graduate Teaching sort of down that way. So out of that I got going around a lot and then there were commencements in the spring. I knew a lot of the students and the students knew me and so I would give maybe anywhere between 5 or 6 or 7 commencement addresses a year in the upper peninsula or Wisconsin, furthest I ever went was I came down state to I can't remember the name but I had to leave in the afternoon to get there, but I did a lot of those tricks. There were public speaking contests in the Upper Peninsula high schools and some of the high school teachers got together and went to Mr. Munston to see if they couldn't get someone to be the manager for the Upper Peninsula debate team, well I always seemed to think Mr. Munston had a in other words you gave him an extra job he would and then I would get the job. So I became a promoter for in the Upper Peninsula. Then was an English teacher and Forrest Roberts was a speech teacher and in the spring I would promote a tournament for Upper Peninsula champion and sometimes Meyland would settle it and sometimes Roberts would settle it and sometimes I would settle it depended if you were one of the two then your alright. But I did alot of those odd jobs. When it came to managing the student housing after the war and we had our barracks out there, I was the one who ran the darn thing. I had students who could work it but I had to keep track of it.

RMM: Now were those up before the dorms were built.

DB: Yeah, now the center, where the barracks were before, the barracks were out where out near that location just east of town

RMM: Harvey

DB: Harvey, the barracks were out right along the river, I don't know how they look now but they were a miscellaneous assortment of colors out there, but.

RMM: were there any interesting stories connected to life in the barracks.

DB: well, yes. One boy from Eaton Rapids, he was the oddest duck I ever knew. I went out to the barracks one day and more parts of an automobile occupied his thing, . He had a motorcycle, he had an automobile, he had a boat. You could never tell what he was going to do, and I ran the dormitory and I ran the service and he would go out, go in the girl's dorm for dinner. He wouldn't eat there but he would go in advertise or something. I finally had to tell him not to go into the dormitory anymore, . And one time had called me, they had picked him up on the way either coming or going to the in the winter, cold. And he had a little girl in the dorm that he thought a lot of and I don't think she thought to much of him but she didn't know how to get rid of him. He was a . And he got two other , the Morris brothers were both handicapped and he was a good promoter but I didn't like what he promoted, that was a problem.

RMM: What did he have all sorts of activities that he was trying to sell things to the students?

DB: Yeah, he peddled things, Yeah. they were referring to I guess.

RMM: are there any other stories that you want to recall about your life and the students at Northern.

DB: I don't seem to think of, my head doesn't seem to work to well. Usually I tell foolish stories, this isn't anything that you will be interested in but

RMM: Oh, is this your scrap book?

DB: it's a scrap book yeah.

RMM: so you have a son?

DB: yes I have, he is retired

RMM: did you ever have a scrap book from Harry Lee, did you ever own a scrap book from Harry Lee?

DB: No

RMM: somebody said that Don Bottum had a scrap book from Harry Lee or something

DB: No, I don't think that Harry ever had one, he and I went to Neganuee for some meeting. What is that first page,

RMM: Oh this one, letter from James Appleberry

DB: he was in the \_\_\_\_\_ too, Mr. Lee and I went to Neganuee and we got out of the car and habitually he was up and going, we walked just a little ways and he said woops I got \_\_\_\_\_, he leaned up against a tree for a little while. That was in the fall, it was Christmas, the last week of the term, before vacation, I went home, I was just going in the door and the phone was ringing and I went to answer the phone and Mrs. Densmore said will you come back right away something happened to Mr. Lee. And I went back, I only lived two blocks from the college, and I went back and she said he is in there and he is dead. He was holding her coat and \_\_\_\_\_ to the floor and he's dead. And he had already to make an appointment to go to \_\_\_\_\_ during the Christmas vacation, it comes just that quick.

RMM: So did he have heart trouble?

DB: Yeah.

RMM: So you were the first Dean of Students there at Northern.

DB: Yeah.

RMM: This must be the scrap book they were referring to I guess.

DB: It might be, that I call my brag book because I write things that were pretty good.

RMM: This is quite a number of accomplishments here

DB: Class reunions are where people who have common interests get together to see who's falling apart, that \_\_\_\_\_ company man that is \_\_\_\_\_ Johnson he was Cleveland Cliffs and he was the interim president before Dr. Harden came here, but I don't think you. That's the Dr. who I can't remember the name.. If you don't mind

RMM: Now how did you feel about having a building named after you?

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