SM: This is an interview with Mrs. Suzie Peltason, wife of Chancellor Jack W. Peltason, on July 17, 1990 in HOB-360. Now, Suzie, the first question, what were the responsibilities of a chancellor when you were at Illinois?

SP: Well, this job, you'd say, is always anything you make of it. Since there is no job specification, you know, you can't say, but I think it's always the same. It's a public relations job. It's to make the different constituencies of a . . . to develop a warm climate within the universities, and then make the community outside have a good feeling about the university.

SM: Well, it's pretty much of a partnership, isn't it?

SP: It's just to support . . .

SM: You're working and supporting Jack.

SP: Yes, and I felt that I'm working for . . . It's both my pleasure and my job, I think, to promote UCI, and in that case Illinois, because I believe in the mission of both of them.

SM: Do you have any memories or experiences that you can think of that you had at Urbana?

SP: Well, they were wonderful memories overall. I have to say that the most stunning one was a bad memory, because it comes,
obviously, since we were there in the late sixties and the time of unrest.

SM: Student unrest.

SP: The most dramatic episode was the time when the students were mad about something—maybe about Nixon going into Cambodia or one of the many things that they got mad about—and called up, decided to take it out on Jack, called me one day and said.

It was very realistic. I can't believe now that I fell for it, but, anyway, that our son who was then at Harvard had been in an automobile accident and was taken in and was in the hospital unconscious. And I said, "Will he survive?" They said that this was a doctor at the Harvard Medical Center calling, or one of the interns. They said that they were doing tests on him, and I said, "Will he survive?" And this very convincing young man who had given his name and his job there said, "We don't know yet. There are many internal injuries and they're doing tests." And I said, "Well, we'll be there. We'll get the first plane we can." And he said, "No, because if we need to do surgery we'll need your permission, and if you're in the air in an airplane we wouldn't be able to get your permission."

SM: That was fast thinking.

SP: So, you know, "please be near a phone." And I was not thinking clearly, I guess, and at the time I said, "Well, one of us will come then, and the other one will stay here to give the
permission." I was thinking I would start. And I called Jack. He was in some kind of crisis meeting at the university and I called, and he, of course, left the meeting and came home. And our friend started making plans to drive us to Chicago and get a plane. And about two hours after the first call,. . . somehow it never occurred to either one of us to call Timmy in his dorm. I mean, we just believed him. It was very convincing.

SM: Yes.

SP: And he did have a car there and it's always a parent's worst fear, of course, an automobile accident.

SM: Oh, yes, yes, indeed.

SP: I asked also whether he had been alone in the car and they said yes, he was. He had a girlfriend who is now his wife, Jan, and I wondered whether they were both hurt, and they said no, he'd been alone in the car and had been brought in. He had ID that showed he was a Harvard student and had been brought into the Harvard Hospital. (Or, they don't have a hospital, 'their medical thing.) We had not thought to call him. I was thinking that I would try to get Jan or get someone to get there to the hospital in case he woke up.

SM: Yes.

SP: But anyway, a couple of hours later, there was another phone call and they said, "We just wanted to let you know that was a prank." And so some other student had gotten . . .
SM: That's sick.

SP: Apparently, this student had gone and said, "Oh, well, I . . ." We don't know the reason, whether they were just mad or whether they just wanted Jack near a phone at a certain time because they had some other demands to make.

SM: That is sick.

SP: But that, I died a thousand deaths and so did Jack. And then I kept thinking, you know, one of us could have had a heart attack in that length of time. (chuckling)

SM: That's sick.

SP: But when they said it was a prank, we ran to the phone and called. Tim was sitting right at his desk working, right next to a telephone. If I had thought to call in the first place, to call one of his roommates . . .

SM: But why should you? It sounded realistic.

SP: Yes. It would never have occurred to me to call him. If it had occurred to me to try to get one of his roommates, which I probably would have done before we took the plane out, I don't know. But anyway, that was the worst. Jill was just five years old when we went back, and I remember we moved her. Her bedroom was at the front of the house there, and we had so many demonstrations and there was so much rock throwing on the campus, that we moved her bedroom to the back of the house. There were worries.

SM: Did you ever get a window broken?
SP: Not at the house. At Jack's office many, many times. I mean, they were all smashed. They finally just put board in and just boarded them up.

SM: That's sick.

SP: But those were hard times. But, actually, over the ten years he was Chancellor there, most of our memories are very good ones.

SM: Yes. Well, turning now then to Irvine, the question four I have: What is the role of a Chancellor's wife in nonacademic groups? Like theater groups, hospital support, art galleries, all those things. Now, for instance, you're a member of Town and Gown, right?

SP: Yes.

SM: You go to that. And I think you're a member of the Friends of the Library, and that's a very good organization. What about anything else?

SP: Oh, yes.

SM: Are you involved with the hospital at Hoag?

SP: Not Hoag, our hospital, UCIMC.

SM: UCIMC.

SP: I'm on the board of the UCIMC auxiliary.

SM: Well, tell me, Suzie, we go over there all the time because our doctors are there. And there's a big steel structure going up, about three stories, called a cancer research . . .
SP: Yes, the cancer center.
SM: That's big, isn't?
(tape is turned off)
SP: Yes, that's exciting about the . . . Well, the Walt Henry [Dean of UC Medical School] vision for both UCIMC and for the medical school are very exciting.
SM: It is.
SP: The hospital there will always be a part of the medical . . . I think that has been determined. There was a long, painful battle about that and the die has been cast. But I think that there will be--I hope someday--on the campus centers for specific things, a psychiatric center and probably the cancer center, and it will be for the research, the worst cases. I mean, the most problematical cases, the most complicated cases.
SM: Or serious.
SP: The most serious cases, in each of the diseases, really, because there will be a close connection that way with the research going on in science in the university.
SM: It's interesting, Suzie. In interviewing Dean Bostick and the next dean was Van den Noort, I interviewed him, and Dan Aldrich I've interviewed twice, and the present Vice Chancellor of Research and Dean of Graduate . . .
SP: Paul Sypherd.
SM: Paul, yes, I know very well, because he's extremely good, and I have put him on a lot of important committees when I was Chair of the Academic Senate because he was so good and very confident.

SP: He's an Illinois person, too. (chuckling)

SM: Pardon?

SP: He's from Illinois, too. There's a lot of Illinois people here.

SM: Well, he's absolutely . . .

SP: Yes, he's top-rate.

SM: I have a great regard for him. Well, I've interviewed him. And the answer is the same, as regards some form of hospital on the campus, dealing with special cases and extreme cases.

SP: Yes, yes. I think it's probably the way for us to go.

SM: That's the way to go.

SP: Because of combining the research in our science . . .

SM: Right, right.

SP: We have not only the Beckman Laser Institute, we have lasers, of course, in many, many departments, and many of them can be used for medical reasons and many others.

SM: Yes. Well, it's very exciting, and I'm glad that the new Dean of the Medical School has got all of these plans. Now, question six, are there any Chancellors' wives groups? I mean, when the Chancellors meet, or say at the Regents
meeting, do the Chancellors' wives meet, too? Do they have any group together, or not?

SP: Yes. We now, you know, have our own title. I have a university ID and I am an Associate of the Chancellor, appointed by the Board of Regents, with calling cards and a library card, not money. Fortunately, there is a classification for paid volunteers or something like that, and under that . . .

SM: You're an unpaid volunteer.

SP: And I'm an unpaid volunteer.

SM: (chuckling) Good.

SP: Under that, I mean, you can have ID. And in that classification, I think probably we will also get annuities. TIA has come up with a new system of annuities that can be purchased for the wife of the Chancellor or President, that she will carry in her own right. There had been a question in the later years, particularly the last twenty years, many divorces, when women who have worked very hard for a university for ten or fifteen years, and then is divorced and has nothing to show. I mean, she didn't have time for a career, so she has no kind of background.

SM: Nothing, yes.

SP: And she's out without any . . . There's been an interruption. She has nothing to show to get any other job.

SM: Yes.
SP: And this annuity is to be carried in the wife's name. But, yes, there is much more interest in the spouse groups, and I brought along a bibliography that you asked for. There's a very active group at the Land Grant Association, National Association for State Universities and Land Grant Colleges.

SM: Oh, yes.

SP: And a few years ago, in 1986 . . .

SM: Can I have that for your file?

SP: Yes. In 1986, they asked me to prepare a bibliography of material about the spouse of the Chancellor, and there is that one.

SM: Well, great.

SP: I think, at that time, the most . . . This one that David Riesman had done, "Some Observations on the President's Spouse, Hazards and Opportunities," . . .

SM: Can I have that or do you want this back?

SP: Yes, you can have that.

SM: Oh, good.

SP: You're not going to want it permanently.

SM: Oh, yes, I've got a file, see. I've got a file.

SP: But there is an increasing amount of material about this. There is much distinction between the role and the job, the role of the President's spouse, which other people can't fulfill, the job which anyone could fulfill. I mean, the job of having parties could be taken over by any events
coordinator, is the name for it now, but social secretary. They could run parties, but showing up and representing the Chancellor, really could only be done by the Chancellor's wife in that same way, or husband, in our cases.

SM: That's very clear, right.

SP: Of the UC system now, one of the male spouses--Harold Schrayer at Riverside--has chosen to be an Associate of the Chancellor. Stan Johnson, Barbara Ewing's husband at Santa Barbara, does not do it. He works clear across the United States. And the nicest thing about this job is that you can choose not to do it. In other words, you can send a clear signal to the university community, I'm a doctor or a lawyer or I don't want to do that, I'm bringing up my children; or, for any reason, you could say, "I don't want this job. I don't want to be the Associate of the Chancellor." You have to apply for the job and be appointed to it by the Regents.

SM: That's very good. Well, you know, I left Rutgers, of course, in 1960, but I've followed everything carefully and read alumni magazines and follow all my friends who are in the department, and the successor to Mason Gross, whose name is Bloustein. But his wife just said, "I can't participate in any of it. I'm a doctor." She's a pediatrician.

SP: Yes.

SM: And what was her name? What's the matter with me? Well, it will come back. But, anyhow, she simply said no.
SP: It happens more now. There are more career women now, more who decide . . . Now, Mrs. Hatcher, at the University of Michigan--her husband became President probably in the late forties or early fifties--had been a schoolteacher. And the assumption then was that she would give up being a schoolteacher, just stop doing that, and she wanted to stop doing it. She wanted to be with her children. She had four little children and decided that she had proved she could do it and she wanted to take on this other role. But for a long time, you didn't really have a free choice. I mean, they interviewed for the President's job and they just expected that someone would come along with him that would run the house and have parties be a gracious hostess and entertain the students, and it was expected for years. And it is not taken for granted anymore, in the larger places.

SM: (inaudible) that's very good. Now, question eight: Are you serving on any nonacademic committees? You mentioned the one, the hospital guild.

SP: Well, I'm on probably twelve or fifteen boards and I have spent all of my time . . .

SM: Interfaith?

SP: I'm not on the Interfaith Board, I'm on the Canterbury Irvine Foundation Board.

SM: Oh, yes.
SP: I'm vice president of that one. I consider myself a member of all the support groups. I mean, I'm on the board of the UCI Arboretum, and I wrote down . . . I don't know, I don't think I could remember the names of the boards I'm on.

SM: Did you give them to me?

SP: Or I'm interested in. My other one outside is the Southern California Child Health Network. I'm an advisor to that board, and that's the only that's not . . . All the other UCI, Town and Gown, Friends of the Arboretum, Canterbury Irvine, the Daniel G. Aldrich Society and the Chancellors .

SM: What's that? Daniel G. Aldrich?

SP: Yes, that's the donors (inaudible).

SM: What's it called, association or . . . ?

SP: It's like the Chancellor's Club.

SM: Oh, yes.

SP: It's just the people who give a little bit more. Medical Faculty Wives Board, I was ex officio, and that is now defunct, and I'm active on the Faculty Associates Board. I attend all their meetings. The Interfaith Women's Associates, Medical Auxiliary Board, Gallery Affiliates, Theater Guild, Council Support Group, President's Research Associates.

SM: Is that Theater Guild our theater here, or is it the one that's just being built?

SP: Yes, yes, this is UCI theater.
SM: It's our own theater down here?

SP: It supports the Drama Department of UCI. They will, they hope, have many of their productions in the Irvine Theater, but this one is . . .

SM: (inaudible)

SP: Theater Guild, Bob Cohen runs it. Friends of the Library, Thesaurus Linguae Graecae, MRES, you know, there are a lot of them. And I'm on boards, but I'm not an active member of most. I mean, I'm active in the sense that I attend all the board meetings, but they're very generous to me. They don't ask me to do anything, if it involves . . . Sometimes, if each member of the board is taking ten names to call for something, I do that.

SM: Yes.

SP: But I don't take on any . . . They don't ask me to and I don't do it. I would not have the time to give an appropriate amount of time to run any one big project.

SM: Yes.

SP: But I try to keep in touch with all of them, and I think of my own job as being a liaison job, trying to let one know what the other one is doing and trying to let people know what . . . A lot of people don't even . . . I mean, I have had friends on one board that don't even know we have an arboretum and they don't know about the seed bank, the gene bank for the seeds.
SM: What's that bank, for seeds?

SP: Yes, for endangered species, particularly from South Africa. Harold Koopowitz is the one who knows a lot about this and there are a lot of endangered plants, particularly in South Africa.

SM: Yes, I know. Now, question nine, Suzie, Sally and I greatly appreciated those two big parties you gave. I suppose you give a fair number of these, do you?

SP: Yes, there are a lot of those.

SM: They're wonderful.

SP: But since we don't have a Chancellor's House, it's a lot harder.

SM: You do it at the University Club.

SP: It's a lot harder. We do them all over the place. We do them at the Alumni House and at the University Club, but it would be better for the . . .

SM: What's happened to the Chancellor's House? What's happened to the Galaxy House?

SP: It's being rented now and the money put into this kitty. We're planning the new one.

SM: Oh, I read that in the paper.

SP: I have a meeting tomorrow morning with the architect.

SM: Some endangered species of birds were nesting up on the site.

SP: The California gnat-catcher.

SM: Yes. (laughter)
SP: Yes, Jack was accosted at graduation by someone walking out of there. "Are you the Chancellor? Well, how dare you move those gnat-catchers out up there!" (chuckling) Our view is that they'll have to share. We'll share with them if they'll share with us. That is the site that Perleira had selected originally, but it's the site where the Chancellor's House ought to be. It's at the top of University Hills. And now that University Hills is built up to that point, this is the time to do that.

SM: Good.

SP: We were hired with that understanding.

SM: I see. Now, what about your staff, Suzie? Joan, I know, Joan Chantiles. Do you have anybody else? Just Joan?

SP: No, and I'm just about to lose Joan, I'm sorry to say.

SM: Uh-oh.

SP: Joan is wonderful. She is my third. So I'm about to have my fourth. I had Linda Wallace.

SM: Yes, right.

SP: And Linda is now in Sacramento. And then I had Judy Talley, and Judy was so wonderful they took her to the President's office when that opened, and now she's gone up . . . Ron Brady offered her a job to go with him on up to Oakland, and she did. Her whole family moved up.

SM: Who was that?

SP: Judy Talley. She was my second.
SM: Yes, but who, Brady?

SP: Yes, he's Vice President. He's the Vice President.

SM: Oh, Finance, yes. Oh, boy.

SP: In the Central Administration.

SM: So now you're going to get your fourth.

SP: And then I've got Joan Chantiles who has been wonderful, and she has gotten a job as . . . The job for me is kind of a dead end for these people. It's not a dead end. They make a lot of other contacts, and each of them who has gone on has gotten other better jobs because of this job. Joan has a job as personal executive assistant to John Miltner in Advancement. So I'm happy to say that she'll still be working with me and with my new person. So I'm just starting the search. It'll be posted next Monday, the search, and I'll go through the things.

SM: Good.

SP: But, yes, that's a big help. I don't think I could do it. At Illinois, I never had a social secretary. That ten years, I didn't have a secretary. But it was such a big operation at Illinois, that I had one whole office. We had one man who was an aide to us, and he had a whole group of secretaries, and I could call any one of them. I mean, they all kept the records for me. And when I wanted a party or invitations, I just called them.
SM: I was thinking, Suzie, of someone who would be very good, who is at our church. It's Judy Turberg. And she does a lot of the ... Oh, what's it called? The dinners and things like that (inaudible). She got a job, I don't know where it is, I think it's in Santa Ana, and I told her she really ought to think about the university. So she's now receiving the weekly job listings. But she's so gracious and so efficient. Her mother is a nurse and retired and they live only a few blocks from church, so they're over there a fair bit.

SP: Yes, she a lovely person. Well, maybe she'll see that posting and apply.

SM: Well, I might tell her to look for it and see if it fits what she wants.

SP: It should appear next Monday. You put it in, it takes a week. We put it in yesterday.

SM: Well, I'll give her a buzz. She mightn't be interested, but if she is, you'll like her. She's very nice. Now, how about that pictorial history? I'm very interested. Frank McGee, he called up and I invited him to lunch. We had a very nice luncheon at the club and he's had the experience that you need, you know. He's a sort of an editor.

SP: Yes, I'm delighted he's doing it.

SM: And tell me. I may call him up again and chat with him because my book will, of course, have some illustrations. But it's wonderful to have a pictorial. I've been looking at
pictorial. When I went to talk to . . . Did you know that I went to Calgary at the University of Calgary, Canada?

SP: No.

SM: They want to have a history of Calgary, but they want a hurried-up history. It's their twenty-fifth anniversary next year. They separated from their campus at the town of Edmonton.

SP: Yes.

SM: Which is, I think, an hour's flight from Calgary. And that's where the university started and it broke off twenty-five years ago. It's about our size, it's about 15,000 or 16,000 students, lovely buildings, interesting. So I gave two lectures, one to one group and one to another group. Well, what was it? They did opt to have someone do a history; but they couldn't get anything done that quickly, so they opted for what you are doing. They're going to have a pictorial history with very little words. And that was a disappointment to the History Department because they wanted . . . If they gave a lot of help to one person and reduced the person's teaching load and so on, they might have got the book out, you know, pretty soon.

SP: Yes. Well, some of those are really hack jobs and some are nice. The one that they showed me . . . I talked to a lot of people when I was trying to get this started. It took me five years, really, to finally get the support for it to do
it. And when I went to the Alumni Association, I asked them if they would market it and they said they would be delighted to market it for me. But then they had gotten a promotion from a company that just goes . . . They send a photographer out and, in a period of three or four or five days, they just take a lot of shots of the campus. And they showed me the one of Berkeley. Then they go back and they do up the book and they do it, and you just have to guarantee to sell a certain number of copies, or to take 20,000 copies or something. You have to take them whether you sell them or not. Hopefully, you sell them at the beginning.

But then they publish the book and they do everything else. And they give you a little tiny section at the back of sort of fuzzy sepia tone photos, where you can put old pictures in and a little bit of the history. And you can put just captions on certain things, but you can put very little . . . It's not at all what I had in mind. And they showed me the Berkeley book like this. And the photography, some of the photography was lovely, but they were all shots within that one week, of how the campus looked right then.

SM: Yes, I've seen that.

SP: My idea was . . . I didn't want that. In the first place, I don't want only a pictorial history. I wanted good pictures, and so I wanted to use the Ansel Adams ones. Those
would be the main ones at the beginning, the Ansel Adams collection.

SM: That was my question: What about the Ansel Adams?

SP: And then Beth Koch, who was a photographer here in Orange County you may have known . . .

SM: Yes, I know Beth.

SP: And Beth took pictures of us and the Aldrich family back in the sixties when we were . . . I talked to Beth about it, the very first person when I got back. I said to Beth, "I'd really like to do this," and Beth had such a good eye. She died of cancer just about six months ago.

SM: Yes, that's sad. You know, she took my picture, that picture that appears in all the public relations.

SP: She was a very good photographer and she had a fine eye, and she was going to help me select the photographs, and she did some.

SM: And she did the Dan Aldrich family.

SP: Yes, she did a number. She did that one of Dan that's so good.

SM: And she did Sally and she did me. We were done in 1974.

SP: But she was going to help. And then I talked to Walter Burroughs at the beginning and a lot of people who . . . and Dan, of course, who said they'd be glad to read the manuscript for accuracy. Then, finally, it became clear that I wasn't going to be able to do this myself, and Ray Watson said
. . . I talked to Ray. He was one of the people I talked to about it, and he suggested Frank McGee, who had done the Orange County . . . a magazine that the Irvine Company produced.

SM: It was a magazine, yes.

SP: And I don't remember the name, but they showed me some copies and I thought it was well-done.

SM: Oh, yes, he's good.

SP: And so I'm delighted to turn it over to Frank, and I know it will be . . . But it won't be out until . . . There has been some misunderstanding about the date, which I'm very sorry about, because some people who went ahead and ordered it intended to use it for Christmas.

SM: Oh, I did. I sent my money in.

SP: Well, a lot of people have, and that was fine, but it should have said on that little coupon. My intention from the beginning was to try to have pictures of the whole twenty-five years.

SM: Of course.

SP: So I particularly wanted some at the end of the twenty-five years. We have this big building boom going on that included these last buildings in it, so I want the last pictures to be taken in the spring or summer of 1991. So the book won't be out until the fall or Christmas of 1991. And since they did that pre-publication promotion last year, a lot of
people—the Alumni Association said something about it was in production—assumed it was going to be out by the end of this year, 1990; and I'm sorry about that because it won't be.

SM: So it will be out about the fall of next year.

SP: It will be fall to late fall of 1991, because we'll get pictures in right up to the end of twenty-five years.

SM: Good.

SP: We'll try to have an aerial view. I hope to have it all laid out then, so that we just slot those pictures in and it goes right off to production.

SM: Just for the person who transcribes, Gary Long at Cal State Fullerton, Beth Koch is spelled K-O-C-H?

SP: Yes. She pronounces it [coke] Koch, K-O-C-H.

SM: I see. As I said, she took our pictures, and she took a lot of pictures of Irvine, a lot of pictures.

SP: Oh, she's a fine . . .

SM: And a very good eye.

SP: Yes, and a lot of L.B.J. [Lyndon Baines Johnson], the dedication, and she took many of the Indians out on the ranch land, before the first . . .

SM: That's right.

SP: And she was there, in fact, when the first earthmover came that day to dig up the ground for the campus. She happened to be there and there's that picture.
SM: Oh, yes. I've seen the picture, yes. She showed me some of her pictures. She was very proud of them.

SP: Well, justifiably. She was a marvelous photographer. And she had a very good book called The Educated Eye, a beautiful book.

SM: And she died six months ago? She wrote a book?

SP: Yes. Of all Orange County people, the Knotts' Berry Farm, Virginia Knott Bender and Marian Knott. They used her for family photographs over a period of, you know, thirty years.

SM: Who was that?


SM: Virginia Knott Bender? B-E-N-D-E-R?

SP: Yes.

SM: That's the daughter of Walter Knott?

SP: Knotts' Berry Farm, yes.

SM: The daughter of Knott?

SP: Yes. Beth was a chronicler of Orange County history.

SM: Well, I'd like to pick that up and see it. The Educated Eye, by Beth Koch.

SP: Yes, her son is now trying to sell . . . She still had some. On her death, she had some copies. I'll have to get an extra one for you if I can. She died of cancer.

SM: Well, I'd like that. I would like to have one very much. Well, so we'll look forward to that at the end of next year. Well, that's good. Now, have you any suggestions for me, any
thoughts for the UCI Historian, since you're doing the pictorial history?

SP: Not a thing. Except that I was going to ask you, and I understand it is ... where everything you have is backed up. But I see it is, if you have hard copy that someone transcribes? So you have all of the original tapes, plus transcriptions, so you can have it in case of fire or earthquake or flood or something. You have them in several different places?

SM: Yes. I've got this here. Everything goes over to Archives.

SP: To the Archives.

SM: And in about three weeks or maybe four, depending on the speed of everything, you will get a finished copy, and you just simply check spelling and little things that maybe I don't catch. Then you sign . . . There are two forms which we worked out, that is, the Archives and myself and the Librarian, I guess. It's a legal document. Did you know that you own half the tape? (chuckling) So you give over half that tape and I give over the other half to the Archives. So, right now, I haven't got quite . . . you're number sixty-three. I have twenty-eight up to 1974, all beginners who were there before we opened, Clark Kerr, Dean McHenry, Dan Aldrich and the Vice Chancellor, Jack, I did Jack before he left for Illinois in 1967. So I think I've got twenty-seven or twenty-nine there, and now I've completed, will complete, sixty-five,
and got permission yesterday to take three more. I'll go over budget by three interviews, which is not very much. I wanted to have eighty-five, and we budgeted—we, meaning Fullerton, Cal State Fullerton, who does an excellent job. And it's time-consuming.

SP: Yes.

SM: After this is over, it goes and gets transcribed and sent back to me. I sit down and check it against that tape. When I've finished that check, I immediately send that over to the library where it's safe and sound.

SP: Yes, good.

SM: Do you know why they keep the tape? They keep the tape because the inflection of your voice can make a sort of a different meaning that I've got on the typewritten copy.

SP: Yes, that's the interesting thing about oral history.

SM: They must own the tape and they must own the transcript. So everything has gone to UCI. And I'll show you when I turn off the machine. So Jack assigned me to do sixty-five in two years, and they're finished. I'll have it done. In fact, I'm ahead of time. I didn't have to have it done until the first of November, but I've gotten finished.

SP: What's the time? Is there a time schedule for the book itself?

SM: Well, that's one thing that Jack is marvelous about and Dan, too: No pressure put on of when it will be finished. So I'll
answer you. I'm going to work in the Archives between now, when I finish these next week or the week after, and, say, Christmastime. I'll be working in the Archives, looking at the Academic Senate reports--that's a lot of work--Dan Aldrich's correspondence. It's absolutely hopeless to expect me to even go through it all.

SP: Yes, it's an enormous mess.

SM: I've done the first four years.

SP: I just tried those photographs.

SM: An incredible amount.

SP: Yes.

SM: And all the other things I'm going to do over there. They've got a list for me to look at. And when that's done, I'll start to write.

SP: Sharon Pugsley is wonderful, I think. She's so helpful.

SM: Yes, in fact, I just called her up. I'm going to see her this afternoon. She comes over here for the tape stuff and so on, and she's very good and I'm very happy with Sharon. In fact, she was one of my interviewees.

SP: Yes. Yes, she's very knowledgeable and so helpful.

SM: So, to answer your question, I'll start to write, hopefully, in February. And I suppose it will take me about nine months to write it. It's not easy to do. Institutional history is not easy.
SP: No. Do you know Wint Solberg? Our friend Wint is an historian at Illinois. He did the Illinois history.

SM: How do you spell his name?

SP: S-O-L-B-E-R-G.

SM: What's his first name?

SP: Winton.

SM: And he's done a history?

SP: Yes, and I don't know whether it's finished now. There were two volumes of it out when we were there, I think.

SM: I'll check it out. I'll get it out right away from the library. I've got to look at a few.

SP: It'll be interesting. And that, of course, was one hundred [years] when he started. It's one hundred twenty-five years now.

SM: Yes. So I would hope to get the writing finished maybe by the end of next year. And then just how long it takes to print a book. I know illustrations are very expensive. I found that out with my book on river boats, and I was just lucky. The printer was also an artist. I mean, an artisan.

SP: They're such nice illustrations, yes.

SM: So my contract said seven illustrations and a map. Well, the map is superb on both sides, on both covers. You saw it, you know, you open it up. I don't think I've got a copy here. No, I don't. And I had seven. Well, he was so interested in all the ... I gave him a lot of interesting photographs of
early river boats and so on. So, you know what he did? He doubled up. I got two photographs to a paper. You know, to a full page.

SP: Yes.

SM: Then there were some, of course, he had to do some large cartoons and things, like drawings.

SP: Right.

SM: And so that was a full page. But it worked out that I got nineteen.

SP: I love that book. I had told you I read it. It was the same time that that series was on TV about "How the Rivers Run", or something like that, which gave it . . .


SP: That gave an extra dimension to my reading the book at the time, and I enjoyed it very much.

SM: Well, let's see. I hope to get it done by the end of . . . around about . . . Well, I should be busy and about in the middle of it by now. But Jack has been great. He has not indicated who I should interview and he's left it entirely to my choices.

SP: Well, an historian has to have his own say. I mean, he just couldn't be doing it if he . . .

SM: Well, but there are some people that he would think . . . No, he's been just great. And I have no deadline on the writing
of it. I don't write very fast, but it should be done, as I've said, by the end of next year.

SP: Well, our two books will come out about the same time. That will make a nice . . .

SM: No, no, I will finish the writing at the end of next year. Yours will come out and mine will be about six months later, depending on the printing.

SP: The production of it, yes.


SP: I think Frank said they're going to send ours abroad someplace. They seem to think they can get it done faster and cheaper.

SM: Yes, they do that in Australia.

SP: They send over for printing . . . It seems like they always send it to Korea or Japan or someplace.

SM: No, it's usually Hong Kong?

SP: Is it Hong Kong?

SM: Oxford University Press, Melbourne has all its work printed in Hong Kong. And I had a little life of the Governor [Sir George Gipps]. It's printed. It's in a series called Great Australians, and it's only thirty pages long, but it's beautifully printed and everything. And they were going to put six of those, six great Australian governors, or six great governors, and they were going to put mine and five others.
Well, do you know what happened? They were in a basement in Hong Kong and the damn thing flooded.

SP: Oh!

SM: And I never got a thing. It was to be a hardback, to be very handsome, and I just missed out. So they send them to Hong Kong.

SP: That's why there should always be two copies of everything.

SM: Yes, there should. Well, so I have two copies of these interviews.

SP: I want to show you these other things. We won't put them in the Archives, but just to show how much attention is given to this whole thing. There's that, what Sally and Ann and Vivian did for Michigan. I mean, a lot of universities are doing it themselves, just having the wives come and talk about their perspective, which is a very interesting perspective on the university. You know, their picture of students through the years, from the forties up to the eighties. There were only three presidents there in that thirty years. And this is one put out by the ASCU, Association of State Colleges and Universities, which is the smaller ones.

SM: And it's called "The Partnership Model."

SP: Which is entirely about the wife.

SM: Yes, "A Family Perspective of College Presidents."
SP: And then this is the one that was put out. Sue has one in here. This is one put out by SULGC, the Land Grant Association.

SM: Oh, yes. "The President's Spouse, Volunteer or Volunteered." (chuckling) That's great.

SP: Yes, this is one of the big resentments of women for a long time, that they were just ... that it was just assumed that they were going to take this. I mean, they were thrust into it, willy-nilly into this. And not only college presidents. That was true of corporations. I'm sure there are many women who were the wives of corporation heads who found themselves doing all kinds of things they didn't want to do.

SM: Well, the first one is "The Evolving Role of the President's Wife at the University of Michigan." And it's edited by Kathleen Koehler. Was she involved?

SP: She was in the library. That was a project of the library at the University of Michigan; the Archivists and so forth decided they wanted to do that. And then Vivian Shapiro, the President's wife, had that.

SM: Yes. Well, thank you very much, Suzie.

SP: So there's a lot of attention now to this as a role, as well as the job.

SM: The President's wife.

SP: And then there's more attention to it as a job. There are more people who say, "I don't want to do that job." You know,
the university can hire somebody to have parties and
everything, so that when the President or Chancellor says, "We
should have a party for so and so's retirement, we should have
a party for so and so's coming, we should have a party for
this donor who just gave us a million dollars," somebody else
will say, "Okay," and they'll plan that. I think it will be
different.

SM: Well, that's very interesting. Well, I'm going to thank you
very much and stop the machine.

END OF INTERVIEW