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Contact:

Special Collections, University of Delaware Library
181 South College Avenue
Newark, DE 19717-5267
302.831.2229 / 302.831.1046 (fax)
<http://www.lib.udel.edu/ud/spec>
askspecref@winsor.lib.udel.edu

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Interview with Ilse Zeise, German immigrant, in Ardentown, Delaware, February 5, 1974, by Steven Schoenherr.

Q O.K. Why don't we just start by...you could just tell me your name and address...for the record.

A Ilse Zeise, 2316 Orchard Lane, Ardentown, Delaware.

Q Can you tell me then first of all about your life in the old country...where you were born.

A In Leipzig, in the kingdom of Saxony at that time.

Q When was this?

A In 1898. And I came over here...I think probably the only one that didn't want to come over here to make money or something like that...my mother married Pastor Doerr from St. Stephen's Lutheran Church here in Wilmington. He came to Germany--my mother's brother had been here...supposed to learn the leather business...Grandfather was in the leather business...but I don't think he did much business. But Pastor Doerr met him and liked him very much and when Pastor Doerr got from his church a trip to Germany, he visited my uncle in that house there. And we lived in that house at that time.

Q Which house was this?

A It was originally Grandfather's house but he wasn't alive anymore, he was dead.

Q Where is that?

A Leipzig.

Q The house in Leipzig...

A Yeah, it's a suburb, Leuch (sp?) is a suburb. But you see after the First World War, space for renting was so little and small that anybody that had a house was allowed to rent one room per person and only one room for meals, you know, big home getting together...but since that house had 27 rooms, you can imagine we landed with quite a few people that moved in, you know...rented. And it wasn't as nice as it used to be, but it still was a very nice...beautiful garden and the lake back there and hothouse and an orchard with beautiful fruits and things like that. I was in Germany pretty much spoiled, you know. We grew up under good financial conditions, you know. My father had two factories, but he died already in 1914. Then we had a summer home in Bad Berghel (sp?) near Weimar. And my grandfather took me out of school when Father died. I was only 14 years old and I was heartbroken. My teacher came and tried to persuade him. He said, "Cooking and knitting, that's all a woman needs," you know...rather old-fashioned. So Mother said, all of a sudden, "Let's go to

Bad Berghel," to our summer home, you know. "I want to get away." Since Father just had died, she wanted to get away. And she said, "I take Ilse along because she...if you take her out of school she really doesn't have to stay here." So we went and we were in Bad Berghel one or two days, Mother said, "Do you know why we are here?" I said, "I thought you wanted to relax." She said, "No. Tomorrow we go to Weimar and I put you in school again." So I went to Weimar and went to the Sophiege (sp?) there--the Grand Duchess of Sophie had donated that, you know...it was very good--like the good schools in Leipzig...Saxony had the best schools in Germany at that time. Outstanding...of course the Prussians always claimed we needed one year longer than they did. We went 13 years to high school or gymnasium, you know, and they only went 12. But when I went to Weimar, that was Prussian system, I did practically one or two years nothing at all because I was so far ahead...in comparison to the Saxon system, you know. And I went there for three years and then the war broke out, you know, and I bicycled for a while...that was up the hill, down the hill...but then because they had discontinued the little train that went to where my uncle and aunt lived...and then we went back to Leipzig...that's where I finished. It was a good thing.

Q Was there fighting in this Weimar area?

A No. Inside of Germany we didn't have...only at the borders, you know, or where the Rhine went and up at East Prussia, these things had wars...but I mean not in our surroundings. There were of course after the war some revolutions, you know, that workmen and what did they call that--Arbeiter und Soldaten... that's the Workman and Soldier Council or something like that, and it was pretty dangerous there for a few days.

Q So you and your mother then moved back to Leipzig?

A Yeah...we only had gone there, you know, for a kind of vacation, or so she says, then she wanted to put me in the school. And Grandfather said, "If you are such a stubborn mule that you really want to continue to study, it's all right with me." And after the war, he said, "I repeat again, I'm glad you were so stubborn because you are the only one of my granddaughters that can make a decent...." But I had finished chemistry then, you know, "that can make a decent living." The others, you know, they just were knitting and cooking, they couldn't do anything much. And I loved it. I always loved...I started in gymnasium chemistry and I loved it. And so I was very glad I could go. I was considering a little bit medicine, but I'm glad I didn't do that, that was too early for women at that time...you know, the medical study. Now my university is called Karl Marx University....

Q What was it called back when you went?

A Just University of Leipzig...or Leipzig University. Didn't have any such outstanding names like Karl Marx.

Q When did you finish the university then?

A You mean what year? It was '22...or '21. '21. You see, I took first only the inorganic examination because...no it must have been '24 because it was after the...Germany had gone bankrupt you know, declared bankruptcy, and Mother lost all her...she had only mortgages and stocks and bonds, you know, no houses or anything, nothing tangible. So my sister said she was born to higher things than work, so she looked at me and said, "You have to support us." So I asked and I got a very good job offered in the city of Eilenburg, and I asked the university and they said that was perfectly all right under the circumstances, and then six months later I did the organic examination because I changed jobs then. It was really pretty hard. One thing always amused me. My uncle had said when he was here, "Ach. Americans put their women on a pedestal and admire them--they don't have anything to do." When my mother was here about six or eight weeks or so, she wrote, "I never have scrubbed a floor in my life, but I did it now." And I had a very good last job in Germany, that's the reason I kind of hesitated to go with my sister...she was engaged and I was engaged and she declared that she was older and she didn't have to go over here. And that kind of tempted me. I thought it would be nice, you know. But the main thing is I wanted to save...Mother wrote, "I'm so homesick, and if not one of you is coming over, I am coming back,"...and I wanted to save the poor Pastor some embarrassing experience that he would lose his wife....And so we came over, my fiancé and I, on the boat. While we were on the boat, Pastor Doerr died, and so he couldn't marry us. And that was a great handicap because he could have helped us a lot, the getting in here and everything. And so Mother took us in her house and we came.

Q When did you first want to come to America?

A I never wanted to.

Q You never wanted to.

A No, I never considered it. I was perfectly happy in Germany, and liked my work, you know, and had a good position and things like that. No, I only came to help Mother out, you know. And then I thought it was interesting. I thought only temporarily, you know, and I'm still here--that was in 1926.

Q '26 is when you came over.

A Yeah. Now we arrived around Christmas, about the 18th or 19th of December. And on the first of January...now at first I was told by DuPont and everybody that women were not taken and they didn't need a chemist or anything like that because they go from the laboratory scale to the pilot plant scale and no woman can use any tools, you know. And so I said, "What am I going to do now?" I thought it over...and then I heard that Hercules was

starting a patent department, and I thought they needed translations, you know. So I went up there and with my school English I sold myself to Hercules. They were very much surprised at what I had been paid in Germany. I had a very good position. That was a Nobel concern, you know, and that was a crystalline factory, that was very close...well, fairly close, not too close--I swang myself on the bus in the morning and went to work, you know. And I started here with \$100 and a very unfortunate gentleman, who told me after a few months, he said, "If you think you'll ever get a raise, you won't, because I can't get one for myself, why should I get you one?" He was very encouraging. But I learned a lot from him. He was....

Q What was his name...do you remember?

A Symmes. He threw me out of Hercules later. He started the patent department and his secretary was a very good friend of mine....from the beginning...and I learned all kinds of...you know I only knew English and French besides my German well, you know. So one day he just threw a Swedish patent on my desk. He said, "Translate that." And I looked at it and realized that all these Nordic languages are rightly based on German construction and all that, you know. So it wasn't as difficult as I thought it was. Prepositions always caused me trouble. Now I had to learn a lot, you know, the first year or two, and things like that...but that fellow was one of those that can't look you straight in the eyes, always looks a little bit shifty-eyes...and everybody in the company said to me, "Ilse, how can you get along with him?" Nobody could get along with him. And there was another one, he was even worse. He bossed everybody. And these two had been in other plants of Hercules and nobody wanted them anymore and they didn't want to fire them, so they brought them to the home office in the library division and they put me together with these two specimens, and that was too bad because I lost...after 17 years he threw me out. He had been the head of the patent department and they demoted him because they realized that his personality was...he wasn't fair, you know. If he didn't like anybody, a good chemist just didn't get his patent application and things like that, and after a while the higher-ups realized this and so he was demoted and Dr. Halibar (sp?) came in and took over.

Q Dr. who?

A Halibar.

Q How do you spell that?

A I don't know...and he always...that Symmes had sent a circular through the company when he had been demoted, you know, not to send any work directly to me anymore, that it had to go over his desk. So Dr. Halibar came down, he said, "Johnny, if you want to do that and everybody wants to cooperate, all right. I for one am not going to follow that because Mrs. Zeise has worked for us for close to 17 years and we never have had any

reason to be suspicious or anything like that." So he was the only one...so Symmes went up to the president and told him that I didn't have the interest of the company at heart because I was a danger to the company. I often have been wondering why I was a danger. It was so unfair. But he said he didn't have anything...he said all year round now, his office here, my office right next to it, connected you know, and he naturally had to become inferior, you know...he loves his job and didn't have any work. And he really was brilliant man...but his personality was against it. So...when Leipzig was bombed, my home town, he came and put the newspaper on my desk, "You will realize at last what happens when you get involved with Americans," as if I had started the whole war, you know. What else? He had a son and he had a girl friend...and so the sister of that girl had worked for Hercules in the international department, and she was fired...so Symmes claimed her. He wanted her. She had been one month in France and one month in Germany and she could do translating for Hercules! So I did the translation and she put her name under it. That went on for months and months and months. It was miserable. But I had a sick husband and a son to raise, you know, and I just couldn't give up. So that went on...and I got so disgusted. Then on my vacation he gave her an article to translate on her own, you know, and she mixed up manganese and magnesium and he got very disgusted. When I came back, she said, "He fired me." I said, "Why?" "Because I made that mistake." But then he had hired her again as soon as I came back, because the situation was that...so...but then she finally got married or something and that cleared that. And then I had an operation, and when I came back from there I couldn't sit too well. I asked him if I could just come half a day, you know. And he said, "You don't have to worry about that, I'm sure." And he looked at me and said, "Your services are no longer demanded or wished here in this company." I said, "For heavens sakes, why?" "Why you know, you are enemy alien, the F.B.I. is on your trail all the time." I said the F.B.I. examined any foreigner, you know, that opposes the United States, and, "Well, if you know that, are you surprised then?" I said, "I am surprised. Because what is the reason that you kick me out here?" "Oh, I don't have to tell you anything about that." It took me four or five months before I finally found out...he never gave me any answer when I asked him...he had told somebody that-- what did I want to say, now--he had...that the girls in the lab--for you see I belonged to the laboratory division--objected very much against my constant pro-German remarks. And you know I was on very good terms with the girls, and I went to Mrs.-- the chief librarian...don't ask me about too many names, I'm now at that age where I can't remember--so she said, "Ilse, let them have a hearing. We all will be there and tell them that that's now true. We never made a remark like that." And I thought it was very nice so I went upstairs, that fellow that was over the library, you know, the last stage, even over Symmes. So he said, "You don't want them to do that." I said, "Why not?" He said, "Mr. Symmes is their boss now. They would lose their jobs too if they would defend you after he wants to

get rid of you." So I said of course I don't want to endanger these girls' jobs, because I liked them all very much. They were disappointed, they really wanted to come, you know. And that was the reason, the pro-German remarks, and they enjoyed it so much, you know, when I talked about Germany, you know, the differences between the two countries and things like that. I was on very very good terms with them. So I took my stuff and one of the vice presidents, Nixon, took me to the car the day when I was kicked out, and his daughter--I had been playing golf with her all the time--she wrote me a beautiful letter. She said, "Ilse, if anybody ever could say once that you had said something against the United States or done anything that would be a danger to the country...that is ridiculous." I appreciated it very much because she really was a nice kid. And that was nice of him, too, when he took me down...but you know what disappointed me, that there was not one person that had some decision to make and had power that would at least investigate me and ask what was going on. Then I got a letter from the unemployment compensation office that I was not entitled to unemployment because Mr. Symmes had declared that they had to fire you. So I went to Judge Herlihy, you know, who was...

Q Judge who?

A Herlihy...he is not judge anymore. He had been a very good friend--belonged to the church of my stepfather, you know, and had taken care of my mother's will and all that kind of stuff and helped me a great deal with my son when he was in trouble. So he said, "Ilse, we can't let that go. I'm going to do something." So he went to the legal department of Hercules and asked how that whole situation was. "Mrs. Zeise has been fired?" They didn't even know that I didn't work there anymore. That was just a little scope (?) that that guy had worked out for himself, you know...wanted to get even with the world more than anything else, because he knew exactly what I stood for. I had taught his girl French and the boy German...very often ate dinner there at their house. We invited them over to our house--they were just around the corner from us--that was still on Monroe Street, we lived. And I liked his children very much and he had a very nice wife. And he was very nice too at that time. As I say, I learned an awful lot from him. He was translating a German explosives book--he was an explosive man. So I helped him with that occasionally. And we really got along very well. But then...first of all his daughter died. That was something that did something to his mind. And...well, there I was. I don't know...it took me a little while to get used to the idea. I had served 17 years for a very low salary, \$100 you know, and...

Q You made \$100 a week...or how much?

A A month.

Q \$100 a month?

A Um hmm. Then towards the end through these adjustments for living costs or whatever we called that, I got a little bit more, you know. But I mean that was not by merit that I got that, it was just everybody else got it. And of course then during that time there were no raises or things...but he had in 17 years plenty of time to give me a raise, but he...as he told me in the beginning, he couldn't get one for himself and he didn't think of giving me one. But I learned a lot, so I never have held it against him.

Q But you couldn't get your job back, then?

A They have tried to ^{contact} me sometimes, but I didn't want to go in a company that hadn't trusted me. That had hurt me so much. I knew 100%, you know, that I hadn't done anything wrong to the company. On the contrary I worked my head off, you know, to work as fast and much that I got a lot of work done and things like that. And everybody knew it. But nobody helped me and would have said--except Dr. Halibar again. Then when I went out there, of course I had to make money, you know, because the family had to be supported. So I met the Director of Research in Marcus Hook, that rayon company--I don't know what their official title is. I had met him at Hercules once, and he said, "I understand Mrs. Zeise that your talents are all idle now." I said, "Yes, I didn't have any choice." He said, "How about doing our translation." I said, "You're joking." I really thought he was joking, you know. So after a while there came a long request for translation, and I thought, "Now if I can do it for one, I'll try it for others too." I went then to the University of Delaware and met John Munroe's--at that time not yet--wife. (You know they are twins; they both had scholarships from some kind of a liquor firm--I don't know just what.) And they told me, "Anything in translations we need we send to DuPont and DuPont does it free of charge for us." So I went to DuPont and they took me and I got an awful lot of work from DuPont. That was wonderful. I made about three times as much money than when I was employed with Hercules.

Q Now when did you start working for DuPont--what year, do you remember?

A No, that's hard to say. I started with Hercules--when did I say--in '27, the 4th of January, '27, and that was after 17 years...that would be 1924--wouldn't it?

Q Well, 17 years after 1927 would be 1944.

A No, 17 years after 1917--I started with Hercules. We came in 1916.

Q Oh, you came in 1916 to the United States?

A Yeah, at Christmas. I hope I don't get these figures wrong--my old brain doesn't go...

Q That's all right. And then the year after that, then you started at Hercules--1917.

A Yeah. As I said, it was only about two weeks that I was in the country, that's when I started with Hercules. And that was the 4th of January because it was 19...when did they throw me out, I don't know, it was exactly 17 years.

Q So that'd be '34, 1934 is when you lost your job at Hercules. Is that right?

A No, I think it was later. But I don't know when it was.

Q During World War II did you work at Hercules?

A Yeah. That was the reason he accused me of being a danger to the company. I wanted to go to President Higgins, you know, but he wasn't in town. And I went to another one--his wife was in the same church as we were, but he never stuck his neck out for anybody to help or something like that.

Q Had the war started?

A It must have, otherwise they wouldn't have been so...

Q Otherwise he wouldn't have acted the way he did.

A Yeah, I mean they wouldn't have been suspicious or anything--they wouldn't have cared if there wasn't a war going on, you know, from Germany against the United States or something. By the way, were you in that war right at the beginning?

Q No, no...I wasn't born 'til 1945.

A Now you see that is a funny thing, too. They probably knew from the very beginning that they would go in. I have never occupied myself...I spent the First World War in Germany and starved and starved and starved and when the Americans complained about they can't get this and can't get this, I thought, "They really have it wonderful, they never have starved in their lives." When I had that first position, you know, when you're there by yourself it was difficult. Now you got a pound and a quarter meat a week, two pounds of bread...and then a piece of butter as we get in restaurants here, you know, for the whole week. And when you are by yourself--when you have a family you can take all the meat stamps together, and make a roast at least, but I was there all by my little self and I could not make out. It ended so that I left there because I had stomach trouble--we call it a foreign stomach...you know, there was not enough fat to keep the stomach up.

Q You left where? You left Germany?

A No. Left Eilenburg, where I was working...the city of Eilenburg...that was that job that I had gotten, you know,

to support the family. And so I went back. My grandfather insisted that I would come home because he didn't want me to get sick. So I got then a job in Germany in a metal factory in the laboratory and it had quite a few different branches, you know, that made it interesting. And then the last one was a glycerine factory, dynamite.

Q A dynamite factory?

A Dynamite glycerine they called it. That was manufactured there. And we got from the soap factories, you know, the lye and things like that and there's glycerine in there, you know, and that would separate and all that had to be analyzed in the laboratory--how many percent were in there, whether it was worthwhile to process it any further, or something like that. I had a wonderful job. I was in charge of the laboratory and that's the reason that I was very disappointed that the pay was so low here, you know, but somehow it worked out. And Mother was with us. She did some of the housework, you know, that I didn't have to do everything. But I always have worked pretty hard in this country. And I still do, and I am glad because that's the nice part, that's what I have to thank Symmes that I'm still working for Hercules because they have the feeling...you know, after a few weeks or so he dropped dead in front of the Hercules Building with a brain tumor. Now you see, he wasn't normal anymore. And they all thought he was funny and they knew that then, but nobody ever spoke up for me. And that other fellow that was with us, Mr. Cole was his name, he had come from the South somewhere from a laboratory and they put him in the library division too. So when Symmes was the head of the laboratory, he yelled at him, "You stay in your room. You disturb everybody. You never work with things like that." And he was a rather temperamental guy; he took it very much to his heart and he yelled back and he got a stroke there in the library. So they came in and carried him out, and he died the next day. And his wife sued Symmes for having killed her husband. So he told me that once, in a big moment, and he said, "Ha, ha, ha! I had the whole legal department of Hercules on my side!" She couldn't do a thing. That was it. And then when I went up to talk about me, I said, "Now I tell you one thing, I'm not going to die like Mr. Cole did." So and then when Herlihy found out that the legal department hadn't known about my having been dismissed in the first place, they said to me I wasn't entitled to unemployment compensation, you know, and then Herlihy took me to the F.B.I. because Symmes had said, "You know the F.B.I. is constantly on your tail." I said, "I know we have been investigated because we are from Germany and in industry for the country, but that didn't disturb us because we don't have anything to hide." So the F.B.I. said, "A man like that man Symmes uses our name to get his advantages to work...and we'll watch him very severely. He won't have a chance to do anymore harm anymore." And then a little bit later when I was still there, an F.B.I. man came in, and he said to me, "Mrs. Zeise,

Thaddens

you are from Ardentown?" "Yeah." He said, "Do you know Mr. Victor Thazeus (sp?) (that's the neighbor over there, he just died, you know, about five or six days ago)." And I said, "Yes, I know him." His son and my son were very good friends. So he said, "Is he a Communist?" I said, "Victor is one day a Royalist, the next day a Democrat, the third day a Republican, and he even admired Hitler." But I said, "He is not a Communist, at least not always. It might be passing stages." So he says to me, "My admiration, Mrs. Zeise." I said, "Why?" He said, "We know what he has done to you." And he wrote an article in the Sunday paper. He used to work for Hercules before I came here, in the Twenty-Five, in the issues of the paper that they had at that time, you know, the company weekly, and so he said one day, "My genius is too great to be nailed down to regular hours." And he left Hercules and didn't work for them anymore, in fact hardly wrote--he wrote a few biographies, his wife had to do all that. And then his wife ran away with another man in the family and they unfortunately had a combined checking account or whatever, and she took all the money, you know. So he wanted to prove that--she had had a hard time, they had two kids--he wanted to prove he still can get jobs, you know, well he came to Hercules and they were nice enough to take him into the advertising department again. But I don't know, I couldn't swear to it how long he was there, but it was about a month or at the most two, and he hardly ever came in and when he came in he was either drunk or fell asleep or things like that, so they fired him. So when that happened, he wrote in the Sunday paper--at that time they had a Sunday paper in Wilmington--a big article about two Nazis were his neighbors, they didn't do anything but speak German--you see Mother didn't know English very well so we mostly spoke German in the house, you know, because she lived with us, and their son has been over at our house and he said he wanted Hitler to win and all that kind of foolishness, you know, and that went on and on. And so Hercules wrote him never to attempt anything like that again because it could be very dangerous for him. And so at that time they were still on my side. And that had started an awful--in fact that was the reason that...that was before Symmes fired me. That was the reason that Symmes thought, "Oh, patriotism. I can take that and make something out of that." And that's when he picked up the idea...of course everybody too...the kids in school threw stones at my son--in the Arden school--and spit at him, and said, "All Germans are cheats," and he was the leader of them all before. He was always the best one in the school. That's also a dangerous thing, you know, because these parents, the mothers and fathers, were always jealous and that was terrible. The Boy Scout leader, Ingo made his--Ingo is my son's name--he made his-- what is the highest...

We?

Q You said his name is what again?

A Ingo. There is an historical sequence of books--Gustav Freytag is the one that wrote them, and the first volume is called Ingo and Ingerband (sp?) and I always liked that Ingo in there

so much I said, "If I ever get a son, I'll name him that," so I did. So he had made his Eagle Scout...yeah, he became an Eagle Scout, I think, when he was 14...so they really cherished him very much as a scout. So that scoutmaster came over, he said, "Else, you have to move." I said, "Move? Why?" He said, "Now if Ingo as much as sneezes on the wrong side of the street, these mothers will make some crime out of it." I said, "We have never run away from our difficulties. I stay here." So he said, "I'm sorry." But I had to take my son out of school because...there were six grades in one class. Ingo was officially in the second class but the teacher had skipped him because he worked so fast and she said, "When he's finished, he starts nonsense. May I take him a class higher?" I said sure. So the sixth graders--three of the oldest boys, at least four years older than Ingo--were waiting in back of a hedge, took him, tore all his clothes off, hit him--and he's a fighter, he fought back--and he came home, he had a cut and the nose was bleeding, the lip was broken, he had no clothes and all torn down, you know, and was bruises and bleeding all over. And then I realized he couldn't stay here in school anymore. I took him then to--I don't know what the name of that school was... close to Alfred I. DuPont High School...there's a lower school there...he went there...he had to go in by bus then. He said it was so nice...they all went over--bicycled or walked over to school, you know, because it was so close, and the dog always came along with him, Smudgey. So Smudgey was sitting outside until intermission came and then they all...all the kids did that... that was so nice about the Arden's village, you know, and when he went in there, he said, "Mother, today we had a cat in our room. You should have seen these people. They took sticks and brooms and ran after the cat and beat it!" And then he said, "When we had a cat at our bookshelf in Arden, the teacher said, 'Look isn't that a cute picture?' as the cat sit there," you know, he was used to an entirely different atmosphere. Arden was basically very very nice...but not after that war started. They all got hateful. And my husband looked like a regular Prussian officer, you know...shoulders like that and if you know what Bismark and Hindenburg, the kind of necks they had, that's the kind of neck he had .

Q Where did you meet your husband?

A In the country club...Academic Sport Club...we both were...now he was...he studied in Dresden. I studied in Leipzig. But he had belonged to that Academic Sport Club in Leipzig before he went to Dresden, before he started studying.

Q Was he a chemist also?

A No...he's dead. He studied mechanical engineering...in Dresden, you know....So...now here it was very difficult when we came over here. The first five years it was wonderful. There was a gang of six German engineers that worked for DuPont. We were always together with them...went every weekend to the shore and had a lot of good times. We were always making wine, too,

one had his father send some yeast over from Germany...and we had a wonderful time. But then the bank rush came and all five or six of these fellows were thrown out from DuPont, you know. Well, they were Germans, and probably the war issue, too. And so they all went back to...one went to France and another one to England and then the others went to Germany back again. And since I had my job, we didn't go back to Germany. My husband said once, "I wish we didn't have your damn job, then we could go." I said to go and prepare everything and I'd come then afterwards, you know, when we know where to go and that you have work and things like that. But he didn't want to do that. So it was just very very...you see, everything went wrong. He had gone to the Drexel Institute twice a week to learn better the technical English language for his work. And then of course you know we had the metric system and you have the other system and all that. And it did him a lot of good, and I enjoyed very much helping him that way and I typed everything that he had to do. And then in '32 he got his diploma and there were no jobs for engineers, you know. That was really sad. And we had sacrificed all the money we got from Germany for our wedding... on the wedding trip...we had stopped in Philadelphia and had paid everything for the school and things like that.

Q When were you married?

A In '27.

Q That's the year after you came here.

A One year after we came here. And it was...you know, you wanted to have jobs and things like that...it wasn't too bad because I especially had a steady job....But we lived with Mother but we paid our living, you know..the rent and for food and things like that because I didn't want her to...she took us in first, probably for two or three weeks free of charge because we didn't have any money when we came. Then unfortunately...my husband and my mother, they loved each other very much in Germany, but I don't know happened...Mother took complete possession of my son when he was born. And of course Mother had money...not very much, but enough to live without having to work and things like that. And so she bought all kinds of stuff for the kid and things like that. And living then with my husband practically completely...when he didn't have a job he got a terrible skin disease, itching 365 days a year...and then when he had a job-- he worked for DuPont for a while as a draftsman...the neighbors complained, they thought it was contagious, you know. When he itched at night he scratched and then he looked very unappetizing...and so he always lost his jobs through that. It was terrible.

Q Did he ever go to a doctor?

A Yes. It runs somewhat in the family in Germany. Dr. Geiveson (sp?) was in Germany, he was really the authority on skin

trouble, you know....so he went there--while he was studying he had a bad spell--so he went there for a few weeks and the doctor...he looked always like a newborn babe when he came out--the skin in perfect condition. But the doctor said, "I don't guarantee that it will last forever." I think nerves had a lot to do with it. Now here, you know, we had to battle and struggle and get adjusted to everything, that's not too easy, you know. Of course Mother always said, "In our family there never was anybody that had to be supported by his wife,"--and that was so unfair. He was so uncomfortable he didn't know what to do. Of course he went to Dr. King, I think was his name.

Q I'll turn over this tape here.

A ...I was right away told never to get pregnant again. I wanted to have six sons...according to the kaisers. I was very sorry about that. I was glad it was a boy because I thought if I had one dainty little girl I wouldn't have known what to do with her. We were always in athletics over there. And it is a good combination...we had friends in Cologne--he was the head of the Cologne University--and when Mother went over here I went for my vacation there. And they had a big celebration--some anniversary and things like that. He was very rich...but he always did his own grass cutting and worked in the yard and things like that. And I said one day...."Why do you do that?" He said, "Ise, don't forget, a combination of physical and mental exercises is the best one in life." And I always have thought of that. And with me it came naturally. I liked both very much. I like to study you know, and I also like to be... I always was in school...

Q What kind of sports did you do...or what kind of exercise?

A In the summertime we played hockey--field hockey, you know... tennis...and I was on the track team. When my youngest granddaughter called me up a year or so ago, "I won the 100-yard dash!" I said, "Isn't that funny because we were always running the 100-meter." She is splendid, that little girl. She is blond and blue-eyed like her father and the mother is half-Italian. The other one has black curls and real dark black beautiful eyes. They're both good looking things, and all "A's"--both of them, all "A's". They are so interesting; I enjoy them tremendously. I've taken them for quite a few years now, always for two weeks, to Steuden Harbor (sp?) in summer, you know, the end of June, as soon as they were out of school, and we had a wonderful time. They are just as crazy about the ocean as I am, you know. They swim well and we played beach tennis at the beach and a cute thing happened. I played against the older one, against Kim, and she came bang, a sharp shot, and I returned it, but I fell down and I hurt my knee. I said, "Ouch! My knee!" So Lisa, the little one, came over and said, "Grandmother, forget about the knee--you got the point." It didn't matter to her, you know. She always wants to win...and she has won...wonderful racer--she took part in a 450-yard race. I said...well, that's entirely different, it's not like 100-yard because in 100-yard you give

all your energy and it's all right. But there you have to distribute--start fast, but then slow down and save for the end. So that was in Maryland...she won that against kids that were two years older, boys and girls older than she was. She is excellent--very very proportionately built and ambitious. The older one is not so ambitious and she's more interested in boys. But I'm going to take them to Germany in December. I want to introduce them to my country because my son has suffered under his German...

(Tape was interrupted and stopped here by visitor, picks up in mid-conversation below.)

...always going around in the different homes, you know and things like that.

Q You mean people who live in this area?

A Well, no, some north....most of the husbands are Ph.D's--I'm the only one who has to work for a living. They all have plenty of money. But it's an awfully nice gang. It's good for me. I always ask the first thing when a new one comes in, "What does your husband do?" Then I put him down for either plastics or whatever the subject is. You see whenever I have any questions in my translations, which sometimes happens because with all these new plastics, especially, all these new expressions and that, you know...textiles is another difficult thing...but I usually nail one of each....and they are so nice to help.

Q Do you meet these girls at work, is this it, through their husbands, or...

A No.

Q How do you meet them? How did you get together?

A Well, this one here, she was in the store here in Arden with her mother, and they spoke German so I talked to them. So they invited me to lunch and then we decided it would be kind of nice to come together, and so they have all friends and so they got together then. It's a nice bunch; I really enjoy it very much and another nice thing is they all cook deliciously. I never eat anything before I go to these...because you get herring salad, you know, and get all these delicatessen...I am a very poor--I'm not interested in cooking at all. When I invite somebody I order at the Arden store. Frederick has to make a steak or something like that. Everybody is always impressed by my wonderful cooking, but he really is the one that does it. No, you can't do anything. I have just...now in the first place we had in Germany always servants, you know, so there was no reason for us to ever cook anything. Mother didn't do very much either. And then I was always studying or something like that, didn't have so much time. And then between studying and exercise, you know, this was in...that Academic Sport Club was beautiful. They have...

up there that middle picture is the ski cottage of the Academic Sport Club in Erzgebirge, in the mountains up in...and we would go up there in winter...that was wonderful. There was a big lamp, you know, oil lamp, and you sat around on benches, in the middle was a great big round table, and when we came in from skiing we had all wet socks and there was a big round thing over the stove where we would hang all these socks up there, you know. So one of the fellows started a big pot of hot cocoa and stirred and stirred and stirred and all of a sudden it went "splish"...I said, "What was that?" "Oh, just a stocking fell in." But nobody stopped drinking just because that stocking had been in there. Oh, those were wonderful years. And I am so glad that my granddaughters both are very athletic. They water ski, my son has a boat. That contributes a great deal because you meet nice people all the time and have the exercise and you stay healthy and all that. That is very nice. I have so many nice memories. I still correspond with one of my old boy friends there. I really am so happy that my son sees to it that...it's funny, first you start to teach your son swimming, tennis, golf, and then one day he does everything much better than you do. Now he's doing the same thing with the granddaughters. Until 1972 I still was in good shape, but since '73 when all these accidents came...I hardly played any golf last summer at all. So I bowled in winter and things like that, and I taught them bowling and things like that. "Of course then you will be all right again, they can't get you down. Watch us, next year we are playing golf together again," they say--they are so consoling. I celebrated New Year's Eve with them here in my house. That was funny. The oldest one called up, "Grossmutter, could we come out?" (Grossmutter, you know, that is the temporized form of Grandma in German--Grossmutter would be fine but they say "mutte"--so all my son's friends call me Mutte--nobody calls me Mrs. Zeise, thank goodness, I wouldn't like that. So she said, "Can we come out to your house?" I said, "I thought you had to go to your Uncle Jim's to take care of his baby,"--that's my son's best friend, he's a radiologist, "Uncle Jim." So I said, "You're not going out?" "Uncle Jim went out to get firewood for the fire that they had let go out...in the fireplace, and so he hurt his back so badly that he decided not to go to the New Year's party." They had the whole gang out there. They live in Glen Farms and that is a beautiful place. They all stick together. Every Friday and Saturday and Sunday they are together. And so Jim didn't go and the kids didn't have to go babysit. "May we come out?" I said, "Sure."

Q Well, can you tell me how you feel about the United States now that you've lived here most of your life--and your life has been very difficult, from what you've said.

A You see, the trouble is, I came from a very spoiled surrounding and have been struggling for the pennies ever since I came here, you know, because my husband was always sick and he needed a lot of ointments and things like that. I like the United States. It's funny, when I'm in Germany I defend the United States against the Germans and when I'm over here I defend Germany against the Americans. But I'm very satisfied. I love my home. As I said,

that was just a very simple thing...I have built that upstairs thing all on my own money, another bathroom put in, you know, and there are two rooms up there, and a file room where I put all the chemical abstracts and stuff like that. And I like it very much. In fact, I could go to Germany and marry. I had the shingles in '71 and one of my German cousins was down in Tenerife and she wrote when I wrote her that and she said, "Pack your suitcase; come down. There's an extra room--bed--in my apartment and you can come down and that will do wonders for you." And I did and in about two or three weeks I was healed. Wonderful! And I met a couple there--the woman had T.B.--you know an awful lot of people with T.B. go down to Tenerife...the air is...you know that's next to Africa, these islands...

Q That's a group of islands?

A Um hmm. It belongs to Spain, these islands. It's near... here's Africa and here's the Atlantic Ocean and they sit here. So I went there and we had a wonderful time...all Germans...these frigaten kapitans (sp?), all these high officers in the Kaiser's navy, you know, they all had wonderful...they still get these Kaiser pensions, you know, that are from...

Q Even today?

A Yeah. I don't know how West Germany does that. They really are remarkable. And so we had good meals together and of course wine--oh, that wine down there is beautiful. That's all Spanish. And Saturdays was dancing all the time...I had a wonderful time. And swimming of course. That's the main thing for me anymore. So that one fellow of the frigaten kapitan, he and I were the only ones that always went in--the other ones thought it was a little bit too cold. And then not only...they have a great big swimming pool, I mean cement and all that, but you can also go out in the real ocean, but that's dangerous--that's all volcanic rock underneath. You have to study that at low tide, you know, that you don't harm yourself too much. I scratched myself just a little bit. But one day I almost didn't come in. You know, when these waves come in with you, it's wonderful. But I went out and against these big things...but I finally made it. Then I went in '72 again because I really enjoyed it, and I have friends in London, so I stop there always a week...the international cure. So that couple that was there where the wife had T.B., they went home...I think she died two months later. And he was there in '72 again and we went still swimming in the morning when nobody else came. They were all my tender age, a little bit older, a little bit younger, but I mean they were not as anxious to exercise as I was and he was. And then we debated all the time, and he said, "You know, I wish you would move to Dusseldorf about three or four houses away from me." I said, "Why?" He said, "I have to sharpen my wit--I can't keep up with you...and I have to practice a little bit more." So I said no that shouldn't be

necessary. So after a few days, he said, "I decided this way--you should move into my house." I said, "Now, what do you think I am?" He said, "That's an official proposal of marriage." I said, "I don't think would work." But it's...and he said, "I understand you love gardening. I have a house outside of the city and a big yard..." I said, "I don't cook, I don't clean, I don't sew..." And he said, "You don't need that. We can pay for that and get somebody. You don't have to...you can do whatever you please." I said, "I would miss my work very much too." "Now if that's it, I will get you a translation position somehow." And he still writes. The other day he wrote again, "Still waiting." But in my present condition I would never load myself on somebody in the present physical condition that I'm in. I'm kind of sorry, it would have been the first time in my married life that I would be carefree, you know, wouldn't have to support the family and things like that.

Q Now what happened to your first husband?

A He died. When my mother got cancer of the stomach, and she had built a house over there on my lot, a beautiful place--a Scotch stone mason built it and it's marvelous. Everybody loves it. And my son inherited it from Mother. But while she was sick, and since he doesn't like her, he always claimed she was faking that sickness because she wanted to have all my attention, you know. And so that went on--it took Mother two years before she died, you know, all that time. So my husband said, "You're married to your mother, you don't need me anymore." So he moved out. And my daughter-in-law, who doesn't believe in mothers, said, "It's your own fault. You sacrificed your marriage for your mother." I said, "What would you have done, Carol, if you'd come over to this country and your mother takes you in and you live with her and she raised your son for ten years...." You know, that was nice because I worked the whole time--I wouldn't have had a peaceful moment if I didn't think that Mother took care of Ingo, because, you know, if you hire somebody, you never know whether they look out, and besides it would have cost me a lot of money. This way I didn't have to pay anybody. And so I had then a nurse for Mother over there, so she left always Saturday--we were still working half a day Saturday--when I came home she left and came back then on Sunday night around 12:00 or 1:00 or so, you know. So I moved over with my mother overnight, you know, because in that condition she got these awful spells. It was terrible. She just starved to death before my eyes...that cancer business is awful...stomach is the worst thing...and pain! So that's why my husband claimed I was married to her. So I thought it was so disgusting, just when I needed him most, you know. So I didn't beg him to stay. Then when Mother had died, he came back. I said, "I don't want you back...at least not right away. We have to see first...." So I got more out of him than I ever did. He came every Saturday and Sunday and cut the yard and things like that, and then one day Ingo said, "Must be wonderful to have a father," and he told about a boy, and I thought, "Now, who am I to take that father away from him, since he still has one." So he moved in again. But it was

just never the same thing. He is a very masculine-looking guy, you know, and girls are just crazy about anything like that. The same thing with my son. But my daughter-in-law knows better how to cope with it. They were at some kind of a party and after a few drinks a girl came over and leaned against Ingo, and so my daughter said to her, "This happens to be mine--yours is sitting over there." I never thought of anything so plain. Of course Carol realized too that he wouldn't fall easily for that kind of...I mean they know where there's a man or not a man.... But...now, then he was very interested in music and he sang in the choir, solos and things like that...he played the violin and the viola and things like that. We had a gang of...we were seven couples together very often...and one played the piano and the man fiddled and one had the flute, and then one had a beautiful soprano voice. We sang all the old German folk songs and the Viennese waltzes, and they were wonderful evenings. But then they got a new organist in our church here--St. Stephen's at that time--no, not St. Stephen's, Zion Lutheran Church...and Kurt always sang the solos. I thought, "Now, isn't that funny." "She just likes my voice." So then she arranged that the male chorus would practice here in our house--without asking me, you know. And she took the women in hers. So she wanted to be alone with all the men. I didn't budge. I sat right here. And I said, "It would have been kind of nice to ask my permission whether you could do that." She said, "Naturally--Kurt wants it." I said, "Kurt didn't tell me either." Well, that went on for a while. So I said to her one day--always after rehearsal, "Oh, my stomach, my stomach. Oh, I have such pain. I can't possibly use the train."--she lived in Philadelphia. That meant in other words, Kurt had to drive her home. That went on for a while. I said one day, "If you want him, take him, but not at my expense. The car happens to belong to me, and the gasoline I pay for, and the oil...so if you want, you let him buy a car and then you go together." So they got married, and that was so... and Kurt of course was still here--we had a pretty good life in spite of her. So he said, when he had brought her home, "Do you know, a funny thing happened, when I go in there, her mother lived with her and she supported her mother, so that mother said, 'I am dying. I want you to swear that you'll marry my daughter because otherwise she's all by herself.'" Her mother says that, you know...like she probably was half-gone already. And Kurt said, "What could I do?" I said yes. So he said, "You are the only one who can save me from that promise because if you don't divorce me, I wouldn't have to marry her." I said, "That's the first time you have eat out what you have done. Go ahead--let's file a divorce." And so then I got my divorce and they got married. But he just died. We went to the memorial service, Ingo and I and his wife and the children. The pastor preached for almost a whole hour about him. Since he was sick all the time--whenever he left, he was always in hospitals. And so she really didn't get much fun out of him--serves her right. He had done anything that the church needed...he took care of it. And of course he still sang as long as he could sing. When he had died, two choirs from adjacent churches had asked for permission to come over and sing with their choir. And they sang the Hallelujah, you know, from the Messiah

beautifully--it really was nice. And I sat with the kids and my son in the front row and Kurt's second wife was supposed to come there but she didn't show up. And then she had left a message that if anybody wanted to speak to her to come to come to her....building there. So while I was standing, and the kids with me, a fellow came to me, he said, "I thought I'd keep you company while she has discussions in there." He was from Leipzig, from my home town. His wife had gone to the Sophiege-- they're from Weimar--in that school where I had been going. That was an awfully nice family. They all spoke German fluently, that's very rare--the children especially, you know. Very nice. They promised me to visit me sometime--I hope they do it. And so three or four men came, "Ah, you are Ingo's mother!" They all thought that she was, you know. And I said, "As far as I know I am." So I know they could see it a little bit too in the looks. Now in a way, she did me a great favor. I never would have been able to go to Tenerife or something like that, you know. And I went to Germany...and the people...we all come from Leipzig in East Germany...they all went over to West Germany while the bullets were flying at night, so there was always a danger of life, you know--they couldn't take a thing over with them. And they are all prosperous now. It is wonderful.

Q In East Germany--or your friends that live in West Germany?

A West. No, relatives. No, they all went...only my sister is the only one in the family that stayed in that house. And her husband was a bank director and he didn't want to give up the house, the silver and china and things like that. And they had for twenty years not done a darn thing. I practically supported them from here--I always find somebody to support. So I didn't like him at all. He died too, nine days after my husband...that was funny. So one cousin was a prisoner of the Russians for 10 years and then they let him go for some reason. Immediately he went to West Germany and he had been the manager of some kind of a factory in Dresden--that's the reason that he had been taken prisoner...the Russians threw up to him that he had worked for Hitler, you know, because he was conducting that factory. So...and of course he was actually in a prison there, so his stomach wasn't too good and things like that. And he had been married before that and they had one son. And so they immediately went to West Germany; they did not let the son to go over from East Germany. So the mother had to go back, and finally--I don't know how they arranged it--they started in a garage, he and the wife and the son, they made some kind of plastic rings to sell for security, you know, in cars so that nothing leaks, you know. I can't think of the English term right now. So the grandmother, her mother, was cooking the dinners, the meals, you know. He has now the most modern factory in his branch in lower Bavaria, occupies 350 workmen, and everything updated. And they have a summer home on the Italian Riviera, and I have been there already three times. You drive through the Alps and it is gorgeous....the little Elm River comes alongside of you and jumps over big rocks, silvery and things like that. Oh and then now and then you see the snow-covered mountains in the back and things like that. Then in

the middle of this is a very huge hotel and that's where I always stay all night...one day is not long enough, you know, for making that trip. And I bet these people in that hotel have never heard about war or hate or nastiness. They are so sweet and friendly and everything, it really was nice. And when I go over that's what we are going to do this time with the kids. We go there and of course we can swim down there, they will be delighted, you know, with the Mediterranean. And then they want to take them to Rome and Florence and all these cities they want to see, so that really will be a good education for them. And it doesn't cost us a cent, because they all have so much money in West Germany that as soon as I want--I sometimes invite them somewhere to go and something like that and bring for the kids some-things...but I mean we don't have to if we don't want to. So I always enjoy it so much. It's so nice to have family. I don't have family here because I got along with my daughter-in-law very well as long as she needed babysitters and had three years in a row...besides the women here in the United States haven't done very well with the childbearing business. They were in Detroit and I went there for Christmas and then Ingo said, "Please stay Mutte, I have to make trips and Carol's all by herself,"...and she was due the beginning of February. And she was very narrow and they couldn't make up their mind to give her a Caesarean or something like that, you know. They measured and measured and then of course one day Kim just wanted to come, and so she had a head like that and pitch-black hair. I never had seen a pitch-black haired baby before in our family. For heavens sake, what had we married into? But she has...well, look at the picture of her here, that's the oldest one. In fact they are both pretty. That's one and here's the German specimen. Nobody believes that they are sisters, you know. Also their temperaments are entirely different...their approach to life. This one here is like Grandmother; she's not very diplomatic--she says what she thinks. But I get along with them so well. So if they get to...when they go and show them the cities I'll stay there and go swimming every day. When I go on vacation I'm tired, you know. I really have to have a rest. I'm now so overloaded with work again, except on Saturday and Sunday, I go to St. Mark's Church. He said, "It's nice to see you, Ilse." I say, "Yes, I was a little doubtful whether I would be here, because I have an awful lot of work, but then I thought I'd better go to church." He said, "You always should take the Lord first." I said, "Yes, but what would the Lord think if I don't make money and pay for your church?" So he said, "All right, do it your own way." I had the same thing in the hospital when Dr. Raney was still there. He came to the hospital and said, "Ilse, you are in here to relax, not to work,"--I was translating. And...well you see I don't make any money if I don't translate...you know, because I'm a part-time worker as they call it that works seven days a week. So I said, "All right, but do you want your bill paid?" "Continue," he said, with a sarcastic smile. So that is a disadvantage, I don't get paid for vacation, you know. And when I'm sick I don't get paid either, if I can't be there. And that of course is just the time when you need money most. But I always say...I'm paying for the kids going over, because

Rennie

I want to be able to do with them what I want to do, that Carol doesn't tell me what to do...this way she can't. I don't know, she has changed so much...I liked her a lot at the beginning. And she is charming and very sexy. I had a friend here, he said, "I think she's the sexiest little bitch I ever have met." And she makes a point of it, you know, that she would never have been able to get into that house when my grossmutter was alive, the way she dresses and everything. I always think when she sneezes or coughs that her pants will bust. But the main thing is, she's a good wife and she's a good mother. That's much more important than being a good daughter-in-law. But for a wife... no, she's too much interested in money...I don't like that. I mean, emphasizes it too much. But she always has enough for herself.

Q Do you think Americans generally are like that? Materialistic...

A No. It depends with whom you get together. That gang that I'm playing golf with at Hercules, they're not materialistic, they are just inclined as much for fun...then afterwards we have something to eat after we come in from the golf course, you know, and things like that. Well, you see, this summer I haven't been able to do that at all, and I've been too lonely, and that's not good. You think too much about your troubles. Work is really the best thing. You have to concentrate on the work-- you can't...whether you're in pain or not you just have to continue and then after a while you forget it. They gave me anti-pain pills from all corners, and I stopped them--I don't take them anymore. I'd rather take the pain. I don't want to get used to that stuff so that you hardly can't get along without it anymore. So as I said, as soon as I can exercise again I'm not worrying. Yesterday when I worked at that car for about two hours to get the gook off, then came a fellow by and he stopped and he said, "Don't waste all that energy. Take hot water and pour it over." And I did that and I got it cleaned very much easier. But when I wanted to drive out, that water had frozen--I almost didn't get out. That's why I have parked it today selfishly this way...this morning it didn't start again--I couldn't get it started. Then I waited...when the sun came out it was better, then I could get it started. But I thought since tomorrow I have to go to another doctor again, at 11:00, I thought I'd better put the car this way in case it refuses to go. It's easier to go right on the level than having to back up from the incline, you know. No, I like the United States much. I would...as much family as I have over there...but, now if I would get married it would be a different thing. But not moving in with somebody together...and my sister would right be on me again. She's always writing. She doesn't have any money anymore because her husband is dead and things like that. I had one cousin that was a prisoner in Siberia during the...after the war, you know...after the Hitler war. So when he came back, he went through Leipzig because he grew up there too. And he said...I visited my brother-in-law and my sister, and he said, "Anybody that prefers Oriental rugs and silver and china and crystal and an electric refrigerator and things like that to a dignified life would have to pay very

dearly for it." That's exactly what happened. They were miserable towards them...and nothing to eat, you have to stand in line, in East Germany, you know. You never have what you want. I sent a package over one time...I was so busy...when you want to send used clothes, you have to have them disinfected, you know, to East Germany. And I had done that to my sister several times, but that fall I didn't have time to take out time to disinfect, and then after it's disinfected you have to take it to the--what is that department where you have to take it?--the packages they are examined then and then a doctor gives you a signification that it's disinfected and things like that, and then you have to still package you know and send it off. So I didn't have time for that so I bought all new stuff and packed it myself...no, I put on it, "No disinfection necessary since everything is brand new." So anything that comes from the United States to East Germany is like the red flag for the bull, you know. They just poked in it and they saw there were materials, you know, I had sent slacks and things like that, and they just saw it was material and no disinfection sign on that...also I had printed on every slip that you put on these packages...so they sent it back. It was \$9.00 over, postage, and \$9.00 back I had to pay. Then of course my sister wanted it, so I paid another \$9.00 over, this time wrote disinfected, although it wasn't, you know. So she writes, "And you would think after all the years you send me these packages, you would know how to send them." And that burned me up so much I have not sent a package since. That ungrateful so-and-so! You know I work hard for my money. My eyes are strained all the time, and the brain and things like that. I have to do the house, to a certain extent, too, you know, and she just thinks I roll in money. Now I have always when I got...now I get Social Security--I didn't get any Social Security from 65 to 72 because I was working...now, when you're 72 you are entitled to it, no matter what, how much you earn or something like that. I still pay about \$400 or \$500 to the Social Security each year when I pay taxes, because I'm considered self-employed, you know, and then you have to pay that. But at least I get something now from Social Security. That's a big help sometimes. But always when I have a good month for Hercules, sometimes they were real high and sometimes not so high, then I always put immediately so-and-so many dollars in the savings bank. And so when I needed the new car I got \$1,400 from that last accident, and then I paid the difference, about the same amount, you know. It's much cheaper than having to pay for the whole car. My insurance was marvelous in each of these cases. They even requested that the--State Farm--they even requested all the doctor bills, you know, and X-ray bills and things like that, because I don't get anything from Medicare at all. I'm seriously considering discontinuing it. They paid the first time when I was in the hospital. But I have five bills up there...this is another bill...and then comes the doctor's charge--grossly overcharged, don't pay it. That's how they do it with me all the time. When I didn't have a car and couldn't go...I'm going to go to them when I come back from Germany and discuss that business with

them, because if they don't want to pay...I pay more for them than I do for Blue Cross and Blue Shield, you know. I have extended Blue Cross and Blue Shield. I didn't pay anything... that wasn't all, then from the hospital comes a bill, \$890 for the hospital bill. I was only in one week. The doctor thought I should stay at least two or three or even four weeks. But after one week I was in such good shape, "If you want to go home, you can go." And I did. I think it would have been better to stay a little bit, because being by myself here, you know, running up the steps and so forth, wasn't good. But I got the bill and no subtractions for Medicare and Blue Cross and Blue Shield. When I had Dr. Raney I always got things, and "Else, you don't have to pay anything," you know, when I got the bill. So I called up, I said, "Why didn't you subtract the things I am entitled to through my insurance?" That's the first thing they want to know, you know, when you get into that hospital. "Oh, we don't do that." I said, "Then you don't get your bill paid, because I'm not paying that bill. Somebody who knows how to handle these things has to take over." So I got another bill; it was only \$72.00, and so I sent that. You shouldn't have to pay anything between Blue Cross and Medicare." So he always takes over. I'm glad he studied business administration--I'm glad somebody in the family knows something about money. So he just called up. He said, "After I talked to that female for ten minutes, she said, 'Oh, your mother doesn't have to pay anything,' and hung up." So I don't know...I have no proof of this, but I haven't paid and they haven't notified me again. But I am fond of the United States. In the first place I like that I am living close to the ocean, you know. I love the ocean--I can go there. And then that house here was very miserable--we rented it first for a few months, and then the woman who built it went bankrupt, and the single tax, you know--there's a single tax colony, you know, in Ardentown--a single tax guy that had given all the money to this woman that built these houses sent the fellow around and asked us to buy the house, you know, instead of renting it. And we had to...we paid I think \$45 rent or something like that, and all of a sudden we only had to pay \$17.00 and something per month, see, for a down-payment on the house, you know. And I thought that was wonderful. You know I would have had a big amount on a down-payment on the house, you know, if you had to...so we did it. I was pregnant when that happened. So that was our great piece of luck that we got this house that way. And I have spent really a lot of money on that house. I have a utility room downstairs now. We had the stove in the kitchen, it was a coal stove and oven. I had that torn down and had gas heat and hot water heat, you know all these radiators, put down there. And it really works well, it was wonderful. And upstairs...I work upstairs and sleep upstairs, and then I have a file room and then another bathroom put in there. That's another good thing, because everybody wants two bathrooms in their house now. And then there's another small room with a great big closet in it. And here, look at this room here. That was my son's room when he was....

END OF INTERVIEW