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4-30-1980

## Interview with Dorothy Rauch

Dorothy Rauch

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**LOUISE PETTUS ARCHIVES AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS  
ORAL HISTORY PROJECT**

**Interview #036  
RAUCH, Dorothy**

**RAUCH, Dorothy**

English and Psychology major

*At Winthrop:* 1932-1936

*Interviewed:* April 30, 1980

*Interviewer:* Jeff Clark

*Index by:* Michelle Dubert-Bellrichard

*Length:* 00:34:11

Abstract: In her April 30, 1980 interview with Jeff Clark, Dorothy Rauch recalls growing up on campus and attending Winthrop during the Great Depression. In particular, Rauch shares what it was like as a Day Student and the changes she witnessed on campus. This interview was conducted for inclusion into the Louise Pettus Archives and Special Collections Oral History Program.

Keywords: Director of Alumni Affairs, Chapel, Drinking Regulations, Winthrop Training School, Salary Cuts, Winthrop Presidents, Tillman, Byrnes, Town Girl

**Interview Session (April 30, 1980): Digital File**

**Time      Keywords**

00:00:00 [no question] DR started in Training School. Finished Training School in 1932 and went to Winthrop. Had two sisters who went through the Training School and went to Winthrop. An older brother grew up on campus – played on the grounds. Rock Hill and Winthrop were smaller at that time. DR knew all the professors – at least by site.

00:02:05 *Question:* What was student life like? *Answer:* DR didn't live in dorms. Town students/Day students had a Town Girls Club. DR was interested in Drama. At dances there were mostly girls there. Men were not invited to all dances. DR talks about traditions that no longer exist – May Day, Daisy Chain, etc. There were no Sororities or Fraternities on campus then. There were social clubs but nationally recognized. The Drama Department has a national fraternity for students with dramatic interest.

00:05:55 *Question:* What was your reaction to going to college during the Depression? *Answer:* DR didn't witness the panic. DR says she didn't realize how serious the Depression was. Town Girls didn't have to buy the full uniform – just had to wear navy and white. Every girl on campus also had to wear a uniform coat.

- 00:07:25 *Question:* Did you eat in the cafeteria? *Answer:* Only ate there one or two times. Usually went home to eat.
- 00:08:23 *Question:* What were classes like? *Answer:* Didn't major in drama. English and Psychology major. DR speculates that courses may be harder now than they were in the 1930s. Professors would come to DR's home to visit. DR grew up knowing Dr. Roberts.
- 00:09:55 *Question:* Required to go to chapel? *Answer:* Day students were required to go, but they didn't have chapel every day. Day students went to chapel twice a week.
- 00:10:44 *Question:* Feelings about going to chapel? *Answer:* DR didn't want to have to do it. Sometimes chapel had interesting events planned. Chapel was no more than 45 minutes. Students learned about rules and regulations at chapel. DR says students today are more sophisticated about what they know and what they can do. DR talks about alcohol rule on campus.
- 00:14:40 *Question:* What was a typical day like? *Answer:* Lived on the corner of the campus. DR's life was organized around the morning bell and chimes. No classes started before 8:30. There were no classes in the evening. At 1:10 all students sat down to eat – town students had the hour to go home to get lunch. DR knew she had to leave home at a certain time to get to school on time.
- 00:16:30 *Question:* Great change from Training School to Winthrop? *Answer:* A gradual change. Training School students could use Winthrop facilities.
- 00:17:35 *Question:* Artist Series? *Answer:* DR liked them. DR starts listing artists who came to Winthrop. DR considers this series top quality.
- 00:19:05 *Question:* Did the students appreciate the Artist Series? *Answer:* Maybe they didn't, but attendance was good. Rock Hill community members attended these events too. There was a point where attendance dropped off.
- 00:20:45 *Question:* Did you feel any effects of the Depression at school? *Answer:* DR couldn't tell because it was gradual. DR recalls state salaries being cut. "Everybody was poor in those days."
- 00:22:15 *Question:* What was the typical course like? *Answer:* DR was not a student who studied all the time. DR thinks it should have been easier back then because professors didn't need as much training back then.
- 00:24:15 *Question:* What plays were you involved in? *Answer:* Florence Nims was the drama

teacher. There wasn't a Drama Department then – part of the English Department.

00:25:50 *Question:* Any productions you were in? *Answer:* Can't remember.

00:26:12 *Question:* Did you ever consider going anywhere else? *Answer:* Didn't consider it, because DR never wanted to go away to school. DR had a romantic interest to keep her here. DR didn't want to live in the dorms. DR enjoyed the freedom she experienced as a town girl.

00:28:10 [no question] DR recalls seeing D.B. Johnson walking around campus every day. DR's friends were afraid of D.B. DR would tag along with D.B. Johnson.

00:29:05 *Question:* Any experiences that stand out? *Answer:* DR went to almost every recital.

00:31:05 *Question:* You saw Byrnes built? *Answer:* Yes. DR watched Winthrop grow up. DR's brother worked on the auditorium. DR remembers seeing the Little Chapel moved here. Tillman building was the Science Building. Sims.

00:34:11 *End of interview*