

SUMMARY

Beatrice Krauss was born in Honolulu August 2, 1903. Her parents were Frederick George Thomas and Elizabeth Mary Krauss, first generation Americans of German descent. Her parents moved to Hawaii from San Francisco in 1907 and 1908 respectively. Her family spent only a few years in Hawaii before moving to the United States.

ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW VI

with

Beatrice Krauss (BK)

April 26, 1994

Manoa, Oahu

by

Lila Gardner (LG)

In this interview, Mrs. Krauss discusses in detail the years from 1912 to 1927 when she lived in Hawaii. She was born in Honolulu and grew up in the city. She attended the University of Hawaii and worked for the Bishop Museum. She also worked for the Hawaiian Archives and the University of Hawaii. She is still interested in the history of Hawaii and the museum.

Tapes 4 & 5 (partial)

INTERVIEW

LG: This is April 26, 1994 and we're up at Bea's, Bea Krauss and I'm Lila Gardner and we're going to be talking about some of the highlights in Bea's life today.

BK: I suppose the first highlight is when we went to Maui because it was going away from an established home into a new adventure that we didn't know anything about. And then again ten years later, when we came back here must have been a highlight. And then I suppose the next highlight would have been graduating from high school and college. And then the next one, the trip to Europe.

LG: Okay, that's one we have not even talked at all about.

BK: Oh. A trip to Europe and a year there, a year abroad. And then, let's see, and then during my forty-two years (at Pineapple Research Institute) was of course trips all over the world on scientific leaves. Then a highlight would have been when I retired and went to work at the university. And then the next highlight would have been leaving the university and going to the Lyon Arboretum. And then I suppose several highlights would have been several awards I won. And another one, my honorary doctor's degree, would be one of those. And of course, highlights, the death of members of my family. I guess that's pretty much it. They're only highlights because they were different from the everyday living. That would be about it.

LG: That's eleven, eleven items.

BK: I guess that would be about it.

LG: So shall we discuss some of these in some detail?

BK: Well it's up to you.

- LG: I think that's a good idea. We did discuss a little bit (about) the Maui experience. We have some of that.
- BK: Do you want to do that?
- LG: Let's start, let's just go down the line. I made a list of all the items.
- BK: What is the first thing?
- LG: The first one that you mentioned is going to Maui, to the homestead, that whole experience.
- BK: Do you want me to go into that?
- LG: Yes, I think you should. Go into that with as much detail and picture as you want to paint.
- BK: All right. If I'm giving too much detail just tell me.
- LG: No, no, we want detail. That's very important.
- BK: Well, these were homesteads opened by the Territorial Government. And it was not under the federal Homestead Act, which all the homesteads on the mainland were, through a homestead act, but this was territorial. The stipulation: any eleven white men, isn't that awful? Well, of course they had the Hawaiian homesteads. For any eleven white men who petitioned for a piece of land, the territorial government would assign a piece of land. It was under this declaration that these were opened. Now I don't know what other similar lands were opened. I only know about the Haiku-Kuiaha lands that were opened.
- LG: Haiku, let me get the spelling of that, H-a-i-k-u, and then what's the other part?
- BK: Kuiaha, K-u-i-a-h-a, Kuiaha Homesteads. And that was land that had belonged to the Haleakala Ranch, owned by the

Baldwins. And the government condemned the land, which is within the domain, you know, the government can condemn any land for homesteads. And I think there were about fifty homesteads, each of fifty acres, in this area. And they were assigned by lottery. And I thought the interesting thing is that each person in the end thought they had gotten the best.

LG: That's interesting...

BK: There could have been a lot of people that could have felt they didn't get as good a one as the one next door. Well, I thought ours was really ideal because it was a peninsula between two gulches with a stream in each.

LG: How wonderful. How did your father pick that piece?

BK: No, I said it was by lottery.

LG: Oh it was by lot, I'm sorry I missed that, so it's drawing by lottery.

BK: Yes, I should say it was drawing by lottery. Now unfortunately I never got my father to sit down and explain the whole process, how he heard about it, what he went through. The first consciousness I had of it, we were living in that little restored barn in back. [In Manoa] My father drove in with a farm wagon with two Percheron horses hitched to it. He drove in. And of course, we ran out. Whether he wanted it a surprise and didn't tell us, my mother certainly knew. There was nothing here but bushes, driving down in front of the house. But before that he had erected a big tent, tremendous, almost like a circus tent. He put up a tent and we thought it was a lovely place for us to play in (laughs) which we did, but it was to live in while he built the house up on Maui on the homestead. So he must have said, "No this isn't for you to play in. I'm going to take it up to Maui."

Well, anyway my first awareness was of this tent, and then he drove in and he said these horses and the tent were going to

Maui. Now I don't remember anything in between. My father left. He went up there, cleared a little land, took some of the employees that had worked with him at the university up to help him. I remember there was a Portuguese by the name of Rezentes, and then he got a Japanese on Maui and they cleared enough land for him to erect the tent and then he cleared some more land and built a house. It was a simple house but it was certainly adequate. Now the next thing I know, I finish my third grade. He must have gone up very soon, after the first of the year, to accomplish what he did because the understanding was that as soon as school was out we would go up. Now there were four of us children: one was three years old, the others were eight, eleven and fourteen. And we went up on the "overnight", this is the first time I'm on a ship, overnight passage to Kahului where my father met us with the farm wagon. Now I don't remember what we took with us, if everything had been sent ahead, but I can just see my poor mother with these four kids on a ship. That's another thing I wish I had discussed with her. And we had to drive, let's see at that time there was not a bridge at Maliko Gulch so we had to go way up. Let's see it must have been easily ten to fifteen miles that we drove to get to the farm. He had built this house, and it consisted of four bedrooms. Oh and my grandfather who had been living in a separate house in Manoa went along with us.

LG: He went with you all.

BK: Yes, with us, the second group. And my father had built a little house for grandfather.

LG: A big responsibility and a lot of work, I'll bet.

BK: But my father was a worker. He would have worked as long as it was light, you know from early morning to dark. And the days are short then too. But he had good workers. Then we were there. And of course it was a pure adventure for us kids because here, although it wasn't very urbanized up Manoa yet, there it was real, real country. We were on fifty acres you

know, and two gulches and streams to explore. And of course we had the whole summer to get adjusted. And the homesteaders had gotten the DOE to build a little red school house on the hill to take care of all the homestead kids. And that's where we started in September. All right. Now my youngest brother was too young to go to school yet. He wasn't six yet. He stayed home one year, but then in the end he insisted on going and I think he went up there at four or five.

LG: So they took him at that early age.

BK: He wasn't going to be left home so we took him. We had a marvelous teacher, one teacher, five grades.

LG: One teacher.

BK: And she was from Punahou. Now in those days Punahou was even more exclusive than, high-hat than it is now. She must have had an adventurous spirit to leave the comfort and the salary and everything of Punahou, to go and teach a five class school in the sticks.

LG: Do you remember her name by any chance?

BK: Yes, Elizabeth Turner. She was a Mrs. but had been widowed. It was a one room school house with a porch and a closet. (laughs) I remember the closet because one time I did something (said something naughty) and (laughs) I had my mouth washed out with soap and I was put in the closet.

LG: What do you think that you did?

BK: Oh I know what I did.

LG: Well talk about it, what did you do.

BK: All right. Well, let's go to the teaching first (laughter).

LG: We'll have to come back to that.

- BK: All right. She taught by phonetics.
- LG: Okay. What happened to Elizabeth Turner? Do you know what happened to her?
- BK: She eventually came back to Honolulu, up in Manoa Valley.
- LG: I just wonder why, you know that's a good question, is her adventurous spirit and why she went over there. That's kind of interesting.
- BK: You know these things of recalling and getting oral histories is something very recent.
- LG: Oh Yes, and people didn't care so much.
- BK: Just think of her adventures and her past life; her adventures would have been a book in itself.
- LG: I guess. And then well, five grades, teaching five grades.
- BK: And you know I think today when you see the discipline or lack of discipline in schools, she had absolute discipline in there. While one grade was reciting, another would be studying and another might be illustrating the lesson for the day or something. That's when I got into trouble because (laughs) I wasn't so disciplined one day. Anyway she taught us, except my sister who went to Maui High and Grammar School. When we went to Maui I went into the fourth grade, my brother Fred into the first and my little brother Noel tagged along. So if I was in the fourth grade, my sister Dorothea would have been in the seventh, so she had to go on the school train down to Hamakua Poko where I went later. For the sixth grade on, then you went down to Hamakua Poko on the school train, which I did in two more years and my brother in four or five more years. Well anyway let's go back to the little red school house. Well we were all homestead kids there and they were all the way from the first grade through the fifth grade.

- LG: Okay, first through fifth.
- BK: And all in one room.
- LG: About how many kids do you remember?
- BK: Let's see one, two, three, I'm counting rows. Well, I would say almost forty, almost up to forty.
- LG: Almost to forty.
- BK: Yes, and she taught all subjects. Now I don't know about here, today; do they have different teachers in the fifth grade already for different subjects, or does that come later?
- LG: I think it varies with schools.
- BK: Yes, all right. Well anyway she taught everything. And boy were we taught! And for reading she did phonetics. And she'd take wrapping paper, I can still see it. There was a stand and she had wrapping paper about six feet by four feet wide tacked to this stand and then she'd have, you know how they have the base words, "ade", and then the letters, like "m" in front, and she'd have us practice. And then we did a lot of reading and I remember we always had to illustrate our reading.
- LG: So what about the wrapping paper? She had...
- BK: She used it like a blackboard.
- LG: Okay, she used it like a blackboard or something to put information on right?
- BK: Anything, and I can see these. You know I'd love to have a set of those now. They should be in a museum. You know, she'd have like "a-s-e", and then you'd have "base" and "case" and everything like that. And we had spelling and of course everything, arithmetic, spelling, history, geography and so forth

and she taught it all. And then we would have recess and then after school we would have to beat erasers, clean the blackboard, sweep and every so often, wash windows. No janitors in those days. The kids were the janitors. We had a nice big school yard and we played the usual games at recess. Now in the morning, we had to line up. And I have a feeling that was to pledge allegiance or something because there was a flag. (Laughs) Isn't it funny what you remember? All I remember in those lines was that we had to keep....But we (laughs), this is an awful thing, we used to pull nits off our hair (laughter). We all had head lice.

LG: Oh that's pretty funny. Put them on your hand?

BK: No, you know they lay eggs on the ...

LG: Oh, head lice. Oh sure, Yes.

BK: I think they call I don't know if the lice or the eggs are called nits.

LG: Nits, that's right, that's right, nits.

BK: But we used to do it back in those days. I don't know, it was a great pleasure to squash them (laughter). And anyway I remember, as a result every Saturday morning my mother would give all of us kerosene shampoos against head lice.

LG: Oh yes, isn't that interesting.

BK: And boy did it sting then. It was just a regular procedure. The trouble is kids, when they talk to each other have to get their heads together. (laughter) And that's the way they passed them on to one another. I hear they even have head lice today.

LG: Oh sure they do. I think some of my kids had head lice as they were like in elementary schools especially. It's still a problem.

BK: All right. Now it would rain a lot in Haiku so we all had to have a full set of clothes at school to change into when we got soaked on the way to school.

LG: At school. Sure and you'd catch cold if you didn't. So you took a set of clothes to school?

BK: Yes they were there all the time, until you know we had to take them home to be washed. So we could change. And of course we had an outdoors toilet, one for boys and one for girls.

LG: What did you use for toilet paper? I'm just curious. (Laughter)

BK: Sears Roebuck catalogs. Montgomery Ward or Sear Roebuck catalogs. And that would hang on a string on the side. And of course there were small holes and bigger holes, just like we had at home.

[Phone rings, tape turned off. Rest of tape 4 is blank, continued on tape 5. Side A, April 26, 1994.]

LG: All right, we're back in business Bea. [Refers to tape recorder problem.]

BK: And I think I was saying that we had a nice big yard, school yard, and played the usual games.

LG: I want you talk a little about school games, in detail so we can think about some of those things.

BK: All right, well of course, with mixed groups like that sometimes we didn't include the little kids, but for the most part the older kids were too rough, because by that time you see, the oldest kids in the fifth grade would have been ten and eleven, wouldn't they? And the others would be first graders, six years old. So sometimes the older ones would lower themselves to play ring around the rosy or catch or something

like that. We had swings, but no other play-yard equipment like they do today, you know like the slides and things like that. We had see-saws, I remember that because all you had to do is have a barrel and a plank.

LG: Uh huh, that's right.

BK: We of course took our lunch, everybody took a bag lunch because there was no cafeteria there.

LG: What kind of things would you have in your lunch? What would be typical? Would your mother make the lunch?

BK: Well, or we were supposed to.

LG: You made your lunch.

BK: Yes. We had to get up early because school started I think seven thirty or eight, seven thirty, I think. So of course either my sister or I would take turns and make lunch for the two younger kids. We'd have a sandwich and an apple or an orange or a banana. That was what it would be. And we'd sit around on the lawn afterwards eating. And as a whole, being a small school we were pretty cohesive and yet there were cliques formed as there are in every school. And there were trees so we could sit under trees. We sat on the lawn because I don't think there were any benches there, as there would be today. And of course if it was raining, which it did a lot, we would eat at our desks.

LG: Was there the feeling that everybody was pretty much about the same economically?

BK: Oh yes, yes, we were. The people who took out homesteads were certainly not all people that should have been farming. Some were businessmen. My father had been a professor. One was a singing teacher. Let's see, I'm thinking back, the Livingstons. And one was an engineer, and actually none of them had been farmers.

LG: Isn't that interesting.

BK: I would just love to have all the stories just about the homesteaders because what motivated people to take up homesteads. Maybe city people thinking of the country as being romantic. Maybe having had this desire all along. because what happened you know, half of them left after the first harvest . I'll come to that afterward. They got some local people to help them, you know, actually do it. The stipulations were, and I think these are mainland homestead rules, you got your land and for six years you paid no taxes, but during those six years you had to build a dwelling, a family dwelling, well, a dwelling because some of them were bachelors. You had to plant so many trees, and you had to clear so many acres of land and have them planted. That had to be done in the six years. Then at the end of six years, then you what they called "proved up". And then you paid for the land and you then started paying taxes on it. And of course this was low tax because it was farming. Now you won't believe it when I tell you what my father paid per acre: twelve dollars.

LG: Per acre?!

BK: That land is appraised at \$35,000 an acre now. My father had built the dwelling house before the rest of the family moved, and he planted the trees and planted crops.

It was decided that the best crop for these homesteaders was pineapple so everybody put in pineapples. My father did too, but the reason he had gone up there was that he wanted to demonstrate that a diversified agricultural farm could exist here in Hawaii. So he grew a certain amount of pineapples but with his pineapples he did experiments with other crops. And after he was there just a few years, our homestead was made a demonstration farm under the extension division of the U.S., no, Hawaii Agricultural Experiment Station, which by that time had moved up to the university from Pensacola Street. You know I told you before, my father had worked there. Let me tell

about pineapples. It takes eighteen months for pineapples from the time you plant till you harvest your fruit. In the first year of homesteading, it started to rain, and it rained solid for six months. Everybody had been sweating and working hard, weeding, fertilizing, everything. They were waiting for their first crop, their first cash. Well, first of all this is awful weather to get good pineapples, but the worst came when they had to haul them to Haiku Fruit and Packing Company Cannery where individual Japanese pineapple growers were already delivering their fruit. We had a mile and a half to go. You know what these big farm wagons look like, flat. The pineapples were packed in lug boxes that took fifty pounds of fruit, and that was usually about twelve fruits, per box. The roads got so bad that all my father could haul with two people assisting him were only two boxes, instead of maybe twenty or twenty-four boxes..

LG: It takes a long time to haul it too, doesn't it?

BK: Well sure. Pick them, put them in the lug boxes, put the lug boxes on the wagon, drive, unpack them. All right. Well you know how long it would take. For three months you harvest some pineapples everyday. Well, at the end of that period, half the homesteaders left. They gave up. Nothing would stop my father. Well, as a result - and this is one of the funny stories - as a result the homesteaders were so mad at the State because the roads had such deep ruts. In the old days we used to have what we called congressional junket trips. The congressmen would make any excuse they could to come down here from Washington to investigate something.

LG: Oh, from way up, you mean like from Congress or something?

BK: This is Congress, I'm talking about Congress. Yes, I'm talking about senators and representatives. We had a Congressional delegate who was Prince Kuhio, David [Jonah] Kuhio, at that time we called him Prince Cupid. Actually he was a prince. And he appealed for road repair. So on the next junket trip that came was headed by Uncle Joe, and Uncle Joe was Joe Cannon.

He was head of the House. What is the head of the House of Representatives called?

LG: Chairman? [Speaker]

BK: It isn't chairman. There's always a representative that is head of the House. Well, he was Speaker for I don't know how many years. And he came down with a delegation.

LG: Uncle Joe Cannon. I'm just not familiar with that name but.

BK: Oh well, you're too young. He was in there and he was famous. So luckily he was coming down on a junket trip and they had him come to Maui. Now the following was all planned. The ladies prepared a beautiful lunch over at the Haiku Cannery. It was the representatives that came down to investigate. So the homesteaders were to take these people on a tour. So what way do you take a tour, you take a farm wagon and put chairs on it. And the younger homesteaders were to take them through the homestead. My sister was helping my mother with all the women making the lunch. But I was designated to take care of small kids whose fathers were driving or talking or entertaining and the mothers who were making the lunch. So all I could do was see the procession go by because I brought all the kids down to my house and I felt neglected because I couldn't be in the middle of things. So anyway at least I saw them going by. What happened was these men were instructed that when they got to the worst ruts, to whip their horses and go lickety-split through the ruts. (I got this second-hand.) They hadn't gone through more than two or three ruts when Uncle Joe threw his hands up and said, "Stop, stop. Take me back to the cannery, I'll give you anything you want." (laughter) And they got appropriation to put a surface on the roads.

LG: To go back to so many homesteaders giving up, well it sounds like some of the other folks that went to homestead weren't really well equipped to farm.

BK: They weren't. Actually there was evidently no screening

whatsoever. They were glad to get homesteaders, and so...

LG: And they weren't necessarily looking for somebody who'd succeed. They didn't seem to know who would succeed and who wouldn't.

BK: Well, there was probably an outcry where, you know, there were two big agricultural industries here: sugar and pineapple. And people asked how about little farmers: because there were little farms all over, including Hawaiians who had their piece of land. The opening of these Haiku/Ranch lots presented a chance for others to have other farms. All right. People said to my father, "Why did you go when you had a comfortable job teaching at the University?" I always heard him say, "Well you know people would say, Krauss, I don't think you should be teaching agriculture. What do you know (about it)? Did you get raised on a farm?" And he said this rankled him and so he said now he had a chance to demonstrate and he sure did. Well, besides having the pineapples, which was a paying crop, to keep us going, he grew everything else and demonstrated you could grow everything in Hawaii. And we had dairy cows, and my mother used to get up at four o'clock and milk the cows -- I think we had up to ten Jersey cows -- all by hand of course. And my job at the milk end was to wash the milk bottles. We didn't have any sterilizer, we sterilized equipment in the sun. We used to have racks on the side of the barn with pegs and after I scrubbed the bottles I'd put them on the pegs in the sun and they'd become sterilized that way.

LG: That's a very good idea. No hot water right, unless you put it on the fire, I guess.

BK: In what?

LG: Hot water.

BK: Yes, well, we had hot water but that was all heated on a wood fire. Now I also had to separate the milk to get cream because my father had some demand for cream. All right this was

obtained with a separator which consisted of a tall cylinder made up of overlapping, about twenty overlapping half cylinders, and what happens, the milk goes over the cylinders and cream, which is lighter, would go off and it would come out of one spout and skim milk out of the other spout and then I put the cream into little bottles. Now my father was very public minded and he found out that at the nearest school, the Haiku School, the kids had no milk, so every morning he delivered a little bottle of milk, (this was whole milk), for the kids, for nothing. And then he sold cream, and the skim milk we made into cottage cheese. We put it in big pans like this and let, I think the term is clabber, that is thickened and from that we made cottage cheese. Then we had so much milk, more milk than we sold, we would also put the whole milk in big pans and the cream would rise to the top and then we'd skim that off and I had to make butter. We made our own butter. We took the skimmed cream and put it in a, it was a big glass jar with a paddle.

LG: Uh huh, I've seen that.

BK: You've seen them, and turn the paddle until we made butter, so we made all our own butter, we made our own cheese you see.

LG: So you made your cheese also?

BK: Uh huh, that is simple, cottage cheese which is made by hanging clabbered milk in cheesecloth and letting it hang over the sink and the whey comes out, w-h-e-y comes out and that's discarded and it leaves the dried curd. But for another kind of hard cheese you take that curd and put it [in] another cheese cloth and it's placed on an inclined board and you put a weight on top of it and it makes a very simple white cheese.

LG: So it's like farmer's cheese?

BK: Farmer's cheese, yes. And then we had our own butter, then we had our own whole milk, our own cream. That was from the cows. Then we had chickens and of course we had eggs and

chickens to eat. And then my father had a little side business. See every phase of his farming he tried to make it be something that people could earn money. So he had his milk route, then with the chickens he caponized chickens and so, you know that process, don't you?

LG: Well, somewhat.

BK: Yes, (laughter) you de-sex them. (laughter) You de-sex a male.

LG: Odd you should bring this up because this weekend I cooked a couple of those.(laughter) And I thought how weird.

BK: Yes, it's a very simple operation but it makes nice fat, young roosters and he had a nice trade with the hotel, Wailuku Hotel, for that. He would take down once a week. And that was another income you see. He was trying to demonstrate everything, so that one could have a second income.

LG: He probably kept records of these businesses.

BK: Oh yes. I wish I had them.

LG: And talk, did he talk to people?

BK: Oh yes, he was very gregarious and people would come all the time to see it and he go out and give demonstrations. Then we had pigs. We had Berkshire.

LG: That's a type of pig?

BK: Pig yes, it's a black pig and it's good for pork and things like that. He had pedigreed pigs (laughs). Everything was pedigreed. You know pedigreed for heavy production, quantity and quality. He used his swine to make breeding stock to sell so that was an income. Then for ourselves we had fresh pork and he had a smoke house. He made bacon and ham. Again, another source of income.

LG: A smoke house.

BK: Smoked ham and bacon. All right so there's the pigs, the cows and the chickens. All right, now then we go to the plant crops. Then he grew corn for certified seeds. He grew a whole lot of crops for certified seeds which meant he could sell them, you see, for seeds. And he sold seeds all over the world, I mean in tropical countries, because they were certified. (Laughs) How many nights did I sit at a table and sort out seeds. And he had a lovely logo. It was a "old Deere farm plow". I have that still.

LG: Oh, I'd like to see that sometime if you can...

BK: Yes, it was an old plow I mean. And then he grew a whole slew of corn, soybeans, and a whole lot of things.

LG: When you helped him with those at night, how were you instructed to sort them?

BK: He would show us and then we'd do it.

LG: The whole family.

BK: We had an immense, long rectangle table. I would say it was twelve or fifteen feet and about five feet [wide] because we were a big family. My father picked up people constantly to bring them home to dinner. The homesteaders always entertained the bachelors and the teachers at Thanksgiving, Easter, Christmas, so we never had a holiday that we didn't have at least fifteen up to twenty people. This is true I think in farm communities all over the United States. It was no different with us. Then the young corn, from that which was to be sold as certified seed, we'd eat as table corn. Otherwise you can break a tooth on such corn when it's mature. We had asparagus, I remember I used to have to cut the spears every morning after they came out of the ground, and rhubarb -- you name it. We had all kinds of fruit trees, except the temperate zone trees. We had all kinds of citrus. We had bananas, one

kind that was Bluefield. Well you know, all the tropical fruits, all the tropical vegetables, plus whatever else could be grown. Of course all the pineapples we wanted to eat since we were growing them for commercial sale. My father showed you could live comfortably on a diversified agriculture farm, but also if you wanted a little more money you should have something like the pineapples. So that was it.

Then beginning with the sixth grade, I'm talking about myself, but each child, in turn went to Hamakua Poko where the Maui High and Grammar School or DOE school was. Now we could have gone to grammar school there but we instead were all going to the homestead school. Well, of course I was still in grammar school when I went to sixth, seventh and eighth grades at Maui High and Grammar. You see that was grammar, one to eight was grammar. And then I went into high school, in the same building. And that was a two story building. And to get there we went on a school train. We were upcountry kids and we went on the upcountry train, and kids from Wailuku, Kahului, Puunene and Paia came on the lower country train. There was one very rich family whom our upcountry train specifically stopped for. We had to get on at the railroad station but it used to stop for them.

LG: Well, that's interesting isn't it.

BK: Well, they had to send those children to the public school because there were no private schools on Maui. And of course the public schools then were as good as private school.

LG: I bet they were good.

BK: Oh, they were good. Four years of Latin in a public school.

LG: I was going to ask you if they taught Latin. Yes, that's amazing isn't it?

BK: And four years of math and four years of everything. So then we went on the school train and then it would take us down and

then in the afternoon bring us back. And then of course we had to work, do things on the farm.

LG: So when you get back from school, it'd be what, three o'clock or earlier?

BK: No, at least three or three thirty. I think our school day was longer than it is today. I'm not sure but it seems to me.... We could have a snack and there was always a whole bunch of bananas like this hanging on the back porch. And actually I got so that, I guess I ate so many, years later when I was an adult I couldn't eat any bananas because I was tired [of them]. Now I love them again. All right, and then we'd have our tasks because there were the chickens to be fed, the pigs to be fed and then we'd always have a little runt that had to be nursed. We took it in the house and put it in a box with rags and it had to be fed with a milk bottle.

LG: That's a pig?

BK: Yes, the runt. Yes, a mother pig would have a litter of about anywhere from six to ten and there always seemed to be a little one. I was assigned to take care of the baby. And we had a wood stove of course and our water for our baths was heated on that, and for dishes.

LG: How did you take baths? Tell me about the baths.

BK: Galvanized, you've seen those.

LG: I don't know. A tub?

BK: It's a round galvanized tub like that. It's put in the kitchen.

LG: You stand up, do you stand up?

BK: Up and sit down, but I'll tell you one thing. That was a traditional thing and happened but my mother said, "If I'm going to Maui and go through the kind of life there, I'm going to insist

on one thing; a modern bathroom." So we did have a regular tub as well as a galvanized tub and a toilet. But we kids because there were five of us, were supposed to use an outhouse. And at night we could use the toilet inside. And we had a septic tank. You know what a septic tank is?

LG: Sure.

BK: All right. So all our sewage was in a septic tank. All our water was from tanks. So we had a big tank which was filled with water brought from a spring upcountry from us, and from rainfall. No, no, we had rain water, excuse me, we had no running water. Our house was built with corrugated iron roofing. Rain water ran down the corrugated roof. The water for home use ran into the tank. The farm buildings had their own two tanks and there the rain came from their roofs. We had stables, we had a tool house, we had a big building where the second story was the smoke house. And all those had corrugated roofs and we'd collect water from them. We were never without water because Haiku was a rainy area. So my mother did have a pipe come into the house from the tank. In other words we didn't go out to pump water. We didn't have, what do you call it?

LG: Like a well.

BK: Ground water. And my mother had some pipes run into the bathroom and into the kitchen.

LG: So the bathroom was a separate room itself in the house?

BK: Yes.

LG: That must have been a pretty modern kind of concept or something.

BK: Well it was, but we still had "Chick Sales", you know they used to call those things, "Chick Sales", the outdoor toilet.

LG: "Chick Sales"? Is that what that is?

BK: Yes, "Chick Sales". I don't know where it came, if he made the first one. You usually had a new moon cut out of the door.

LG: There's kind of humor in that, isn't there, with the new moon?

BK: And then all our clothes were ordered through Montgomery Ward or Sears Roebuck catalogs, as well as our shoes. Remember we had one Model T Ford after another because they kept wearing out. And we had four Percherons: King, Queen, Prince and I forget the fourth name; a big mule called Maude; and about four small mules. You see everything was done with mule or horsepower. No engines or you know, mechanized plows. You hitched the plow or the harrow or cultivator or anything else onto the horse. My father, he had this one Portuguese man and several Japanese. He had a Japanese national and he built a house for him and the laborer got a picture bride, a regular picture bride. And (laughs) my mother used to--- we did all our own work, but just to help out the new bride she used to have her come once in a while. And she [the new bride] said, in her broken English when she started to work, that she was as mad as a hatter because the groom had sent his picture, showing the good side of his face (laughs). And when she got here she found that he was cock-eyed in the other eye. (Laughter)

LG: He only sent half a picture (laughs).

BK: I shouldn't laugh.

LG: No, that is funny.

BK: It was in the profile, I mean, I shouldn't laugh.

LG: No, but probably in those days that was a pretty funny thing.

BK: It wasn't funny. She was mad. I mean it was funny for us.

LG: To the kids.

BK: Yes, to us kids, because we burst out laughing when my mother told us. She said, "Well you know it wasn't funny for her," Masayo or whatever her name was.

LG: But you remember when she first arrived?

BK: Oh yes, oh there was a lot of "to do". And I think she was terribly disappointed because I guess he didn't say that he was a farm laborer. My father treated his men as equals. And of course my father built a nice little house for them, but, say if she had lived in Tokyo, she might have lived in a elegant home.

LG: Sure, you don't know.

BK: Well then they had their little boy, and I hope I have the picture still, it would be an antique. They put him on a nice red pillow and took him to a formal Japanese photographer. He must have been a year old because he could sit up. Probably on his year birthday. And you know they put a bowl on, to show where to cut his hair, and he has a little jacket on. Now his naval and his penis were showing. He's sitting there as proud as a little Buddha. I suppose, you know, to glorify his masculinity. That's all I can think of.

LG: I have no idea.

BK: No, and you see these are things you could learn...

LG: It would be interesting to know what the custom was there.

BK: And, of course, it was presented to us with a great deal of pride.

LG: Probably the male child.

BK: The Japanese began to celebrate Christmas, although they were not Christian. Masayo would give us---well, my mother was awfully good to her and the baby and my father was good to the

man. They were almost like family friends, members of the family. They would give us some vases which we thought were absolutely horrible, but as antiques if we still had them we could probably get a thousand dollars a piece. They were blue with sort of spun glass all over them. So we had a big sideboard like that, much longer and cupboards on it. We always kept them under there unless we knew either one of them were coming. It was just they looked garish to us. And of course my father was out there plowing and digging and everything and, oh boy, I have to find some of those pictures, talk about model farm, everything was just so beautiful.

LG: Maybe we should just stop about here.

BK: Remember my mother had a rather large kitchen and a wood stove, so my father would of course---we had a great, goodness sake, it must have been four by four, no five by five by five wood box. And my father always saw that that was full of split wood, plus a little side box of splintling to start your fire.

LG: So your dad did that job.

BK: Yes, he did that job.

LG: And your brothers, did they help him with that job?

BK: Well, they would help him but they had a lot of other tasks too and remember they were younger than I was. Now my sister and I were supposed to help in the house and the boys outside, but when it came time to harvest pineapples the girls went out too, loading them into lug boxes. And also we would have to feed the chickens so the boys did the harder things, take the mules out to graze or the cows to graze. The animals were also kept in paddocks. We had goats too, I should I say. Yes we had goats, so we had goat milk and goat cheese too. And these were the Toggenbergs and they had dewlaps here, hanging down.

LG: Uh huh, I've seen those.

BK: (Laughs) We were awful. They were pets, all animals were pets, but we used to go and pull these dewlaps and say "baaaa". (laughter). There was a two story house, the milk house was in the downstairs area and upstairs was the smokehouse. And there was a foot-wide board, awning, all around between the two stories, and those little baby goats used to go and run around on that and we used to stand there petrified they'd fall off. (laughs) They'd just race around and they never fell. Well, anyway I'm getting away from food but you see....

Oh, I must tell you about meat. Cup Choy was a butcher and he was up in Makawao which was about six miles away. Every Saturday morning he would come on mule back with two gunny sacks, one hanging on either side of the mule. In these he had sirloin and tenderloin steaks; stew meat; roasts; everything in these bags, and you paid the same price for all of it. (Laughter) So my mother would buy a limited amount. Remember we have no refrigeration. What we had was a cooler. A cooler is sort of a room built out from the kitchen, all screened so the air comes through and no flies can get into it. So you couldn't keep anything perishable. We didn't have an ice box, no ice. So you couldn't keep things very long, but she'd get a roast, this is Saturday morning, a roast for Sunday. She'd get some stew meat and then of course that tenderloin steak intrigued her. That had the same price as the stew meat. You see she'd cook the roast and that would keep the meat for several days. She'd make up a pot of stew and maybe if it was early enough, we'd have it for Saturday evening. Now Saturday and Sunday we had off, kids had off. So we would have things like stew with lots of vegetables from the garden, great big pot of stew. We would have rice which we would have to buy at the store. But we had our own potatoes, both sweet and white, and my mother made bread of course, so we had to buy flour. That's one of the few things we bought. And I should say during the war, you couldn't buy white flour. So the government nutritionist sent out these recipes for all these substitutes. (Laughter).

LG: For flour?

BK: They were cornmeal and rye and My mother bravely made bread using these substitutes and we called them cement bricks, so she gave up making them. She said, "If they'd only let me have a little white flour." And we kids would say "No more cement bricks." And she said, "So, we'll have to eat more potatoes." (laughter) And then we had bread, and we made our own butter as I said. My mother made her own jam and preserves. So let's say for breakfast we always had oatmeal, a big bowl of oatmeal and our own bananas sliced on it and our own milk and cream, and our own papaya or grapefruit or whatever. So our breakfast was always fruit, plus cereal, plus toast and for us a glass of milk, and coffee for my father and mother. Then lunch of course at school we'd have our school lunch. My mother and father would have a light lunch. And our big meal was at night and that would be some kind of meat and as I said potatoes and vegetables. And as dessert, either fruit or puddings. Then our big meal at noon on Sunday. We all went to church on Sundays. That meant we'd get back so late from church that my mother usually had it prepared ahead of time. Now the stove was stocked with wood and lit in the morning because we also made our hot water there, you know for bathing or for whatever. And clothes washing was in these galvanized tubs, they're about this high, about fifteen inches high and about four to five feet in diameter and that's where clothes were washed with the wash board.

LG: I have seen that.

BK: Clothes lines were out behind the house so they didn't show. And so I'm sure we ate well because look at those wonderful fresh vegetables, just picked you know.

LG: Right, and things were nutritious.

BK: Nutritious and ...

LG: Didn't have a lot of stuff added to them or anything just perfectly...

BK: No pesticides, no insecticides. My father would say, "Hey there are beetles on the beans, kids, go out and pick them off."
(laughter)

LG: Which makes a lot of sense when you think about it.

BK: Well sure. You never thought of pollution in those days. We didn't drink water at table because my mother and father said it takes up room that should be occupied by solid food. So we'd have our milk. I think my mother and father drank a little wine or beer. And my mother made wonderful pies and pastries and cookies. So we always had something like that for sweets. Now very strangely, and I don't know when it started, even today, our big meal on Sunday is at noon and for evening we have scrambled eggs, toast and tomato salad.

LG: Oh, interesting.

BK: I don't know how or when it started but it goes back as far as I can remember. We could have snacks in between but not too near dinner time. "You mustn't spoil your dinner."

End of Side A. Start Side B, tape 5

BK: As it worked out, one child would set the table and another one would clear the table. Another one would wash the dishes and the fourth child dried. And this was constantly changing. The one who dried dishes always thought he or she was at a disadvantage because he or she was the last one in the kitchen. But my parents were fair. Each task was a week at a time.

LG: So, it was rotated.

BK: Rotated, the four tasks. And oh, the other thing; Saturday morning there were special things. Now over our table we had what was called an incandescent lamp. It had a mantle that burned. Did you know those?

LG: I've seen those. In Micronesia we had something like that, those

little mantles.

BK: Yes, wonderful light. It was over the table and could be pulled up and down. That was also the table we sat around and studied, and also sorted [seeds]. Now otherwise we had lamps with kerosene and chimneys, and a wick.

LG: So everybody sort of had their own kind of thing?

BK: Well, in the kitchen we also had a pull-down, just a regular kerosene lamp. All the lamps were lined up at one end of the kitchen; you picked one up as you went to bed at night. It was my job, because I could make my fingers very slender, to clean out the chimneys and oh did I hate to do this because of the soot on the inside of the chimney.. I also had to see that the wick was trimmed, and there was enough kerosene. That was one of my first Saturday morning tasks. And also to see that the kerosene didn't run out during the week. And also the lanterns because if my father had to go out to the barn during the night, which he often did, he had to have a lantern. You know what a lantern is?

LG: That was a different type of lamp.

BK: Well it's all enclosed.

LG: You hold it in your hand?

BK: Yes, it's a kerosene tank at the bottom and a glass globe that encloses it entirely and then it has a handle to carry it. That's called a lantern. You see you can't take a lamp outside because the chimney is open at the top and it would blow out so you had the lanterns. And I had to take care of the lanterns too. We didn't use candles. My mother thought they were too dangerous even with a chimney, so we had the regular kerosene lamps.

My mother was a good cook. And she taught us all cooking. Then by the time we were twelve, my sister first and then I in three years, we could cook a whole meal.

LG: By twelve [years].

BK: From twelve on, no, I would say ten. And my mother made all our clothes. We were allowed a few store clothes. Those were sent for. And we learned to sew right away. We had to do all the mending. Boy! in those days you mended. You had to wear stockings and you mended stockings, over an egg.

LG: Over a chicken egg?

BK: No, it's called an egg, it's wooden, with a handle. You put it inside the part of the stocking to be mended as you weave back and forth with a special thread.

LG: And we're talking about what kind of stockings? Are those like...

BK: Cotton stockings.

LG: You didn't just toss them out when you got a hole in it, right?

BK: Oh no, and then there were Papa's socks, and the boys's socks.

So there were a lot of things to do. And house to clean. We had no servants in the house, except my mother would bring this woman (Masayo) in once in a while, to teach her, you know, "haole ways". And also to give her a little cash. But otherwise, with a mother and two girls, it would have been thought terrible to have servants. You did, of course, if you were wealthy but we weren't wealthy. So much for the meals. And then it was nice, homesteaders often on Saturday nights would have three or four families for potluck.

LG: So was there any kind of entertainment when they would get together.

BK: Oh, all right, now I should go back to the school house. That was our community center. We had all kinds of community

parties there. As well as a fair, agricultural fair once a year, where the women displayed cooked materials and the men showed their vegetables and things, and it was a gala day. No ferris wheel and all that kind of thing but lots of fun; games, tug-of-war and things like that, and then in the evening a supper.

LG: And music, did you have music?

BK: Oh yes, there were people that played ukelele or guitar or something like that. Oh yes, always music. In fact we had a piano in the school room and even Mrs. Turner taught us some songs. And there was talent among the children. There was this famous, well, not famous but I mean he sang in the Central Union choir here and he used to sing for us, he and his brother. Those were the Livingstons. No, that wasn't at school but at homestead galas. And then there was some kind of women's club formed and every once in a while they'd bring cookies to school for us at lunch time. There was a real nice community spirit. Everybody helping everybody else. I remember my mother was especially renowned for her lemon meringue pies. We were going next door to the Welles one Saturday night and my mother knew there were going to be a lot of people there, so she made two big pies. The Welles place was within walking distance so we carried them up and took them into the kitchen. Later Mrs. Wells came out, one pie in each hand like this, and said, "Oh look what Elizabeth Krauss made (laughs) for us tonight." All the guests were happy because they knew her [pies] were good (laughs). As she showed them off they slipped out of her hands and fell upside down in front of everybody; everybody gasped and my poor mother who had slaved, making them in a wood oven, you know, getting the temperature right without a thermostat. I heard a little gasp from her but she was such a good sport, she said, "Well...." she made some funny remark. And poor Mrs. Wells, she was ready to weep. My mother and father and several others went out and got a dust pan and scraped the remains into the dust pan. We had no dessert. My mother said, "Well, give it to the chickens. They'll love it." (laughs) There was a lot of those kind of potluck suppers in the

community. We didn't call it "potluck" and I didn't know that term until I came back here, [Oahu], where in later years we had a lot of potluck suppers.

LG: Wonder what they called it in those days?

BK: I wonder too. Well, probably they didn't call it anything then. Mrs. Wells would say, "Come Saturday night for supper", and my mother would say, "What can I bring?" And she would always say: "Pies". When we had Thanksgiving dinners, in those days, my mother would cook the whole dinner. And of course we raised turkeys and chickens, so we had those. We didn't have cranberry sauce in those [days] so we made roselle jam which is even better than cranberry. Roselle is a hibiscus; it has a seed pod and carpels. I mean the calyx thickens and it's red and it makes delicious sauce. We had a traditional Thanksgiving dinner or a traditional Christmas dinner. My father would always make place cards with drawings of turkeys for Thanksgiving. He was really an artist.

LG: I think so.

BK: It was a shame that he never went on to be an artist. We would have fifteen to twenty people at Thanksgiving he had lovely little turkeys for each one of us, or Christmas...

LG: So there'd be some art work on place cards with your name or something?

BK: Yes, my mother would just get him these pieces of cardboard she'd saved.

And then we all loved music. There were no radios, of course, at that time. My father saw this ad for I think it was Stewart phonograph. And it was the simplest type of phonograph. There was just the machinery and a turntable. He sent for it and it came by mail. I remember I was with my father that day when he went to get mail. It was on a Saturday and here was this package from Stewart's. We met some friends on the way. My

father who could talk and talk, kept talking to our friend and here I was, like this, not saying a word, because we were taught not to say a word, or make any noise. Finally I just couldn't keep still because I was so anxious to hear music. Then finally my father says, "Well, you know it's been very interesting to talk to you Mr. Dole (or whatever), but I think this package has a phonograph and Beatrice has been waiting for it so long that I think maybe we better go." I just smiled all over but I hadn't said a word, I didn't make a sound because that's the way we were raised. All the kids got around my mother as she unpacked it. My father had sent for some records, classic music and he put one of these records on and turned the handle. It must have sounded awful, like tin or something you know but we were so enthralled.

LG: I would think so.

BK: He would send for operatic arias. Popular music he got was Vienna waltzes, so when we'd done our lessons or maybe half an hour after dinner, we could have half an hour of music and then we had to study. But Saturday nights and Sundays we could have more music. That's all the music we had.

LG: You couldn't turn on a radio or television.

BK: No radios or television,

LG: Yes, right. How about your grandfather? Was he living at that time?

BK: He was living yes, and I should say that he had a house of his own and he raised chickens. He sold eggs and dressed chickens too. He supported himself. Every evening, we'd go over to his little cottage. We'd always go over to say good night to him every night. On Saturdays and Sundays, he would tell us stories of the Black Forest, all the folk tales. You see he was born in Germany.

LG: Right, I remember you mentioned that on one of the others.

[Other tapes]

BK: He had a nice beard. He just had a little cottage. It just had a front room which was his living room and bedroom. We still have the little cottage.

LG: Up there, on Maui?

BK: A nephew of mine is living in it now, but we used to keep it as a summer home. It had a single room with a bathroom and a kitchen. No I guess we put in the bathroom later. He must have had a "Chick Sales" too. And he had all these chickens. And we would have him over of course either Saturday nights or Sunday for the main dinner.

LG: Bea, I need to stop.

End of Beatrice Krauss VI, April 26, 1994, Tape 5.

ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW VII

with

Beatrice Krauss (BK)

May 18, 1994

Manoa, Oahu

by

Lila Gardner (LG)

Tapes 5 & 6 (Partial)

SUMMARY

Beatrice Krauss was born in Honolulu August 4, 1903. Her parents were Frederick George Krauss and Elizabeth Hilmer Krauss, first generation Americans of German descent. Her parents moved to Hawaii from San Francisco in 1901 and 1902 respectively. Her family eventually settled on Parker Place in the College Hills tract where Miss Krauss still resides today.

Miss Krauss was educated at Punahou School and on Maui, returning to graduate with her class from Punahou. She continued at the University of Hawaii, receiving her degree and going to work for the Pineapple Research Institute where she remained for forty-two years. After her years at the Pineapple Research Institute she taught ethnobotany at the University of Hawaii for six years and then, at the invitation of the director, moved to the Lyon Arboretum where she worked as a full time volunteer from 1974 until 1992. She is still associated with the Botany Department at the university and the arboretum.

In this interview Miss Krauss discusses her father's first sabbatical in 1927 when she accompanied him, her mother, sister and a family friend from Hawaii around the world. They were away from Hawaii for fifteen months. Her father's purpose was to go to a conference in Germany and to work with other geneticists there. Their route took them first to Japan, China and Singapore. There the family separated with Miss Krauss continuing with her father and the rest of the women going on directly to Europe. Miss Krauss and her father traveled to then Malaya [Malaysia], Siam [Thailand], Burma [Myanmar] and India, then on to Baghdad and Palestine and finally to Germany where the family was reunited. In Europe they traveled to France, England and Ireland before sailing home to the United States, landing in New York. They obtained a car and toured the United States ending up on the West Coast where they sailed home to Honolulu.

INTERVIEW

LG: We're here at Bea's house and we're discussing sort of a guideline for our interviews.

BK: Did you give the date?

LG: Yes, today is May the 18th, 1994. (Laughs)

BK: I noticed you always did it before.

LG: That's good. Thank you Bea. My mind has been kind of scattered, a little bit. You know how that gets?

BK: Oh Yes, I'm in that state often.

LG: Okay, we have discussed some things on this list. Bea has developed a list of the highlights of her life. We've talked at some length on being a homesteader in Maui, and then the other aspects of her list are: return from and readjustment to life here after that experience; graduating from high school, college; trip to Europe and year abroad; sabbaticals. Those two I thought we'd talk about today, the trip to Europe and the sabbaticals, because we had made on another tape the sabbaticals but that was lost and so I want to go over some of that cause I thought that was very interesting. And then the retirement and starting a second career at the university, leaving the university and going to work at Lyon Arboretum, awards, getting honorary doctorate degree, and death of the members of family. And the other thing I have here Bea, which I want you to think a little bit about, is something I made up. It's a time line, one is national events, I want to know your perspective in those national events.

BK: In other words, First World War and things like that, statehood?

LG: Yes, I want you to help me develop that. Things that popped into my mind was the Great Depression and what it was like up in

Manoa during that period; Pearl Harbor, where you were and what happened and you know...

BK: During the war years?

LG: the context of that, during the war years; Hiroshima, your attitudes and thoughts and all that; and then any others that you'd come up with. So that's a section that's sort of global history. Then there's the Manoa history. And I looked up- they had mentioned the flood of 1923- so I thought we should discuss that a little bit, and other storms that were important up here that you recall. I'm going to leave this with you so you can look over it and make notes. 1940s, the Manoa Stream was over the bridge or something, in the forties; and changes in Manoa such as transportation, telephone lines, use of TV and then other kinds of electronics that...

BK: Cutting up of the big lots.

LG: Cutting up of the big lots, yes.

BK: And changing servants' quarters in the backyard to rental units.

LG: That's interesting.

BK: Yes, I think that's very interesting. Because every house was built with a servant's quarters.

LG: Okay.

BK: That was interesting because it only had a bedroom and a bath because they would cook their food and eat over in the master's house.

LG: So it's like a change of--- a social change.

BK: And then so when they made it into a rental unit they had to add a kitchen. But, oh those were in great demand because they were in the back garden, quiet, especially young university

professors, single professors or lecturers, and students.

LG: And there were three other things during wartime: the Martial Law, I wanted you to talk about that and you know give me some depth on that; the Jamieson case and the Massie case; and anything else of that type of thing. I'm going to give these to you and we'll talk about Europe and the sabbaticals today.

BK: Yes, I remember those pretty well.

LG: So we want to discuss your trip to Europe, that was the first time that you went to Europe.

BK: Yes, in fact I went around the world and saw our capital only after I'd seen all the capitals of Europe, which was kind of interesting. Well, the university professors, as professors in most universities, get the seventh year off as a sabbatical, a year at half pay or half a year at full pay. And my father chose, in fact it was his first sabbatic because the sabbatic had just been started seven years before. I mean these were the first people getting sabbaticals.

LG: So it was a whole new idea, for the University of Hawaii?

BK: Yes, here. And so he decided to take the full year. And he was teaching genetics and what he wanted to do was to go to Germany and study under two of the outstanding European or world known geneticists. And so he had told my sister and myself--- now my two brothers were still in school. I had finished one year of work after graduation from college. My sister had finished three years of college. No, she had been out of college and had been working three years, and I had been working one year. My brother was in college on the Mainland and my younger brother, who is sick now, was parceled out to a neighbor because he would be having his last year of high school. And these were good friends and we knew he'd be happy there.

LG: Sure. And that made a lot of sense because that was no time to

take him to Europe.

BK: For his last year you know, with all his school mates and wanting to graduate with your class. So you see we left in June and came back the following September, so you see he had the summer, he worked that summer and then during the school year he went to school and then the next summer he worked again from the Alexanders' place, next door, where he was staying.

LG: So he stayed with the Alexanders?

BK: Alexanders. All right, so my father in planning the trip decided we'd go around the world. I only realized after we took the trip how much work he must have put into planning it. He was the first one out of Honolulu who planned an independent trip around the world. All others were cruises set up. And he knew exactly where he wanted to go and I remember he worked with a Theodore Davies travel agent. Well, we started from here on the NYK Japanese liner, called Korea Maru.

LG: Korea Maru?

BK: Korea Maru, all NYK ships have Maru as part of their name; I think it means ship. We took nine days to Yokohama and on board most fortunately was a young Japanese geneticist who'd been studying in the United States and in Europe, and became one of the outstanding geneticists in the world eventually; his name was Kihara. And so of course my father had a marvelous time. They were together. My father was quite a bit older than he. And of course what was nice is Kihara made all the contacts my father needed in Japan. We stayed two weeks in Japan, traveling all around and then we sailed from Kobe to Hong Kong. And there we knew a man who was teaching at Ling Nang University up in Canton- was then called Canton - and that was up the Canton River almost, well an overnight journey, and my father wanted to visit him because he was a friend. At that time it was almost all staffed by Americans.

LG: At that university?

BK: At that university. It was an American Christian college and it had very high standards. I mean a lot of Chinese all over the United States, in fact the world, had their training there. You know Lee Doo [Lee Wai Doo] who's on the council? His mother was a graduate from there. My father telephoned him to say we were coming.

LG: Bea, what year is this? I'm just curious.

BK: Oh, 1927, June 1927. We stayed in Hong Kong a week and went up to the Peak and saw all the sights. Then we went on to Shanghai, and in Shanghai.... Shanghai was a beautiful city then. It had what they called a bund, a circular road that opened right on the ocean. When I went back to China, Shanghai, six years ago, they built all along the ocean side and cut out the whole view of the ocean. All the embassies had their beautiful embassy along this bund.

All right, and then he contacted this professor up at Ling Nang and he said, "It's pretty tense because tomorrow, or the day after, it will be the one-year anniversary of the revolt of the students." (In 1926 there was a great revolt of students in Shanghai.) But he says, "If you want to, come on up on the night boat (this is on the Pearl River) to Canton and you can stay with me." We went on a river boat and all the steerage passengers were behind bars because what might happen, pirates would go on board and in the middle of a trip, overpower the crew to steal bullion and money and all kinds of things which were on board. Bars of gold.

The campus is beautiful and I remember it was on a canal and the campus had one solid line of lychee trees all along the canal. It was beautiful. Lychee is a beautiful tree. All right. And he took us through Canton and there was a lot of anti-British feeling then and (laughs) on the street, these are little narrow streets; and all these vendors along you know where they cook things right on the streets; little kids running around

with their split pants you know; and these horrible posters showing these awful looking people, who were Great Britain, eating up Chinese and all the blood dripping down. And this friend said, "Just stay near me because there is this anti-British feeling (I forgot what the British had done) and you're white so they'll take you for British." We were walking along and all of a sudden a rotten banana hit my sister in the back and my sister who was combative (laughs) was going to turn around and hit the person. I took her by the arm and I dragged her along and I said, "Don't create an incident. That's all they want." So we went on and we went to a lot of little shops and things.

LG: She was older than you, right.

BK: Three years older.

[A visitor arrives at Bea's]

BK: The captain [of the Pearl River boat] took my father into his office and there were millions of guns on all of his four walls, and that bothered my father because he was a pacifist. And the captain said you had to be prepared for an attack. But they had put these bars up and that was pretty safe. So we went up the river and the next day we met him and this man took us around the college and so forth. And then we came back to Shanghai. Oh I forgot to tell you, a young Japanese girl who was the daughter of Dr. Katsuki, a Japanese physician here, and was a very good pianist, wanted to go to Germany to study. So he had asked if she could come with us. So she was traveling with us.

LG: She was traveling around the world with you to get to Germany.

BK: Yes, and she stayed with us the year we were in Germany. We went on the same boat to Singapore, and then at Singapore we split up. My mother and sister and Toki went on, and they, on their boat, stopped at Ceylon, Suez and got off in Italy.

LG: Toki is the girl?

BK: Toki is this Japanese girl.

LG: Katsuki.

BK: Katsuki. And that's very interesting because her father was practicing medicine here when the Kingdom was changed to a territory and he got American citizenship automatically. And he lived to be 101. Even up to that date he used to walk to Waikiki every day, from Keeaumoku Street, and eat lunch and walk back. Even after he was a 100. He was a remarkable man. He had three sons who all got to be doctors and this daughter who married a haole and that made him so mad he went to Japan so he wouldn't be here for the marriage. He did not believe in out-marriages.

LG: Toki, this is the daughter that was the pianist. Wow, so let's get back to your trip.

BK: This is of course long before she's married. All right. So then at Singapore we split and my mother and the two girls went on. My father and I went up the Malaya Peninsula all through Malaysia to what was then Siam [Thailand] and Burma [Myanmar]. Then we went to Calcutta. This was on an old P & O boat, Pacific Oceanic boat, and we got off at Calcutta and he had heard about this sort of a hospice. They were a religious group who took in people, and it was a marvelous woman, whose husband had died, and had all these children, and she was raising them and would take in guests to help pay and it was really charming, that place. The only thing is we had to sit around and have prayers every morning before we could eat. But I mean otherwise they did nothing to foist their religion on us.

LG: This was in Calcutta?

BK: Yes.

LG: Bea, now wasn't it a little bit dangerous at that time for your mother to set off by herself. I mean to go...

BK: Well, she was going to be on a ship the whole way.

LG: Just the straight passage sort of.

BK: I often meant to ask her if it wasn't a responsibility, especially with two young girls. The girls were both, one was twenty and the other was twenty-three.

LG: So they could manage themselves. So it's three women traveling really. But I was just thinking, 1927...

BK: Well yes, and my mother was a timid person but although she was timid she had great strength of character, so I don't think, if she was faced with anything, that she wouldn't have found a way out. She was that kind of person because she met obstacles and tragedies in her life and was able to bear them. All right. So then we go from Calcutta and we made a side trip up to Darjeeling and that's in the foothills of the Himalayas. Of course what we wanted to see was Mt. Everest. You change from a regular railroad to a very narrow gauge one and before we got to Darjeeling there had been a landslide so the train couldn't go any further, so we had to walk about five miles into Darjeeling. We had a charming little hotel. And then early the next morning.... My father knows everything of what to do, you know.

LG: You hadn't ever left Manoa before, I mean...

BK: No, and I mean to know all these.... He must have read night after night after night. He knew all these places to go to, how to get to them. And then he said, "I came here because I want to see Mt. Everest and I want you to see it." So we had to get a guide to go to Tiger Hill. That's where you go and it's about a seven mile walk to the top of Tiger Hill. And were we fortunate when we went back a few tourists said they'd been waiting a week and the Himalayas were always overcast. Well, we started while it was still dark. What do you call those men, sarups? [Sherpas]

LG: That may well be the name. I'm not certain but that sounds familiar.

BK: You know those, they're Tibetan and that northern Indian group. You know the ones, the people that climb Mt.. Everest for hire. And so up there we met the most charming Scotsman. You know they don't want to be called Scotch man. It's Scotsman. And he was delightful and here as the sun came up, the clouds went apart and here was Mt.. Everest. Of course it isn't as spectacular as you think it is because all the peaks along it are very high. But there's big valleys in front so you look from Tiger Hill and I don't know how many hundreds of miles you're looking across. You see, Darjeeling is in the foothills of the Himalayas. And so then he walked down with us and my father invited him to breakfast and he was very delightful.

Then we went by train across India and we went third class which no white people ever did in those days. What it was is at night you didn't take off your clothes. A carriage would have two hard benches on each side and you'd just lie on that, and I used my purse as a pillow because whenever you start at a station a hand would come through the window. We had been warned. And during the day it was very interesting because being third class we had the poorer class of Indians and did we hear stories about the British. Oh and they saw we were sympathetic, we didn't damn the British but at least we were sympathetic to what they had to put up with. And one of the first places we stopped at was Pusa. You say Pusa to even English people who have lived in India and they don't know where it was. Pusa used to be what they called a cavalry station and the British cavalry would stop by there to change their horses. But by the time we got there it was a big demonstration farm, experimental farm, tremendous thing, run by the British with minor Indian officials. All right. We were given a guest house. (Pusa was completely destroyed by an earthquake years later. - B.K.)

LG: So you stopped off there.

BK: Yes, we stayed over a week there.

LG: Your dad knew this already, probably.

BK: Yes. One of his main reasons to go to India was to find the original plants of what is called Pigeon Pea. He worked a lot with Pigeon Pea and to him it was a wonder plant cause you know that's the one that Puerto Ricans eat. And the Indian dal, have you heard of dal?

LG: Sure. I've eaten a lot of dal.

BK: It's made out of Pigeon Pea. And by grazing cattle on stands of Pigeon Pea, on Maui, when we were there, he found that it made better beef, so he wanted to get some more varieties. So that's why we went to Pusa and he wanted to see a lot of crops that grow here [Hawaii], how they were growing there. Well they put us up in a guest house. It was a very nice guest house and they gave us a cook and a house boy. And the first day we were there, the head man, British, gave us a tour all around and then they said they would turn us over to a superintendent, an Indian. So the second day then the Indian came to take us around. And we finished around noon and so my father said, "Come on in and have lunch with us."

And the guide said, "I'm not allowed to." That almost killed us. My father didn't catch on and kept urging, he thought he was being modest.

I said, "Listen Papa, he's just not allowed because he's Indian." So the man said he'd come back after lunch and take us around. Then the third day he took us out. The fourth day there was a British social thing and they invited us to it. So we went there and I don't know why those Britishers always drank whiskey in that hot climate. But they said they did it to drown their sorrows.

LG: (Laughs) They needed to drown their sorrows, that's funny.

BK: The Britishers, especially the women, drank because they were very unhappy. They sent all their children back to England to be educated. And you know to have to live there without your children is pretty hard.

LG: And knowing their children were growing up somewhere else.

BK: Yes, and not having them at their best time. And so I said to the woman sitting next to me when the servant came around, "I just can't stand whiskey." And she says, "I'll give you a little secret, always ask for lemon squash." It's like a lemon soda. So before I got away from India, I'd drunk so much lemon squash I hope I never see another glass of lemon squash in my whole life.

LG: So what was lemon squash made out of I wonder.

BK: I think it was made out of a concentrate [lemon] juice to which they add a little soda but I got to hate that more than anything. On another day one of the British people had been told to pick us up at the guest house. This man comes to pick us up at the guest house. Now the road that he would have taken was under repair so he took a bypass into an Indian's yard.

End of Side B, Tape 5, May 18, 1995
Tape 6, side A, May 18, 1995

BK: Is it on?

LG: Yes, it's on.

BK: There really wasn't a road, there were just tracks now that people had been taking. He made straight for the people sitting in the yard and they all fell back in their chairs and he laughed.

LG: But this was an Indian?

BK: Yes

LG: This was an Indian. So he was like beating up on his own people, is that what you're saying?

BK: No, no, no. It was a Britisher now that had come to get us.

LG: Oh Britisher, okay I didn't get that.

BK: Yes, Yes. Oh boy, India really got us.

LG: The social ills.

BK: Oh, it was terrible.

LG: Okay, so we can stop for a second

Pause in tape.

BK: All right. So we went from Pusa to Delhi and to the Taj Mahal.

LG: That's in Agra

BK: Agra, we went to Agra and I remember we arrived in the evening.

LG: You came by train?

BK: Oh yes, train, third class. And my father said, "Well, we'll go over first thing in the morning." "Oh," but then he said, "Let's go now because it's moonlight." So we got a carriage and we went. Nobody, nothing outside. Clippety-clap, clippety-clap for about a mile and then we get to the front gates and oh, I tell you that's the way to see the Taj Mahal the first time! Oh it was a sight like a dream! So we didn't go in that night, we just stayed around for several days and went through it later and also the fort which is across the river, and other places. And in Delhi we saw the burning of ghats. I could have done without that.

LG: Burning ghats?

BK: G-h-a-t, ghats, that's where they burn the bodies of the deceased. It's very elaborate, more elaborate the higher [the caste]. And then along side the river we'd see these bodies floating down, the Ganges. All right and then we got to, let's see the western part is Bengal? No, Bengal is a region. What is that?

LG: Bombay?

BK: Bombay. Yes, Bombay, and my father decided we were going up the Bay of Basra, get off at Basra and cross the desert to Palestine.

[A visitor comes.]

BK: Then as we were going up on this ship - this is dead summer. Wait let's see. Yes, first we went up by train, from Basra we were going to Beirut. No Beirut was on the.... What's an inland country, where there was so much fighting?

V: Afghanistan?

BK: No, no, no. You see Mesopotamia consisted of Syria and Iraq and, oh dear me, going to Baghdad. We were headed for Baghdad. Well the train had no corridors so when it was time to eat, the whole train stopped. We got out of a bunk car, we all walked down to the dining car and then the train started up. We ate and when everybody had finished eating, it stopped again and (laughs) then we went back to our cars. It was so hot. When we were in the sleeping car, we had a bucket of water with us and what we did was take towels, make them sopping wet and put them on our faces, and in five minutes they were bone dry, and we did that for fifty miles till we got to Baghdad.

V: You weren't even in the desert yet.

BK: We were in the desert. You know it was on that trip - I don't

know if he got the news in a newspaper, I'm sure there wasn't radio - that those two men were executed for having killed someone, two Italians

LG: Sacco and Venzetti.

BK: Yes, had been executed. Isn't that funny that I remember that. We got that news at that time because of course I'd been fighting for them all along. All right. We get to Baghdad and then, how my father ever found out, we went by auto caravan for two days and three nights, across the desert from Baghdad towards Beirut on the ocean side. No roads, no nothing. The caravan had to stay together. So in anticipation for this, my father got a big clay jar that perspired and that was our drinking water and some food, fruits and things like that. Well at Baghdad they told us that somewhere along the way they had a cholera epidemic and we could not go through there. We were all set to go. We started on that trip before we were intercepted. And we had to stay three days in this awful camp where the latrines were just holes in the ground, millions of flies, military men governing us and I was so mad I got a swatter and I stood beside my father all day while I swatted flies. My father immediately makes friends with the military physician in charge. The doctor was sorry he had to hold us, but he had to. And so these two men had a wonderful time while I stood there swatting flies. My father has a wonderful time with anybody. He could talk and make friends with anybody. So I had this rolled up newspaper and I'd swat all day. I was getting my revenge. (laughter) Had to sleep in a tent.

Members of the military were going to go into town, I forget what town was near. And so my father sent a letter to the American consul, in which he asked, "Can you get us out of here? If you can't, at least send some magazines." I wish I had the letter that came back from the consul because it was an official embossed thing - it said, "Sorry Krauss, can't do a thing about getting you out of here, but here are the latest magazines I have." And he had sent a whole pile.

So then finally we were let out and we finally get to Beirut. We were traveling along in Lebanon now I think, and then you go down hill rapidly to Beirut on the sea. (Laughs) We had a driver, the road went like this way and that, likety -split, and one time his steering wheel came off and I said to myself, "Good-bye we're gone." He just put it back and went on (laughter). Then my father says, "Now how are we going to get to Palestine?" Which is south of us. So he goes and hires somebody to drive us and we get into Palestine. Now in Palestine he's going to meet a famous man, Elwood Mead. Elwood Mead was famous for water conservation and things like that. And the Jewish Palestine government had asked him to come and give them some recommendations. So the idea was my father was to meet him there. The first day was Saturday and of course everybody was out for Mead but we got some of the reflected glory. These high Jewish officials were taking us around. Mead sat in front with the driver and my father and I sat in back, but these high officials crouched down on the floor because they were not to be seen on the Sabbath (laughs), in their fine suits. But you know that stay in Palestine was wonderful because we went to the old communes that were started way in the last century. You know people have gone to Palestine all these years. We saw Germans, Norwegians and everything. And they always chose a hill like this and they had their whole village there. The women stayed at home and took care of the kids and taught them and made bread and did the laundry, and the men went out and worked in the fields. You know I really saw what those communes were. And they were second or third generation already. The first of the Jewish settlers from New York were coming in. They came in with high heels and all frilled up and they were so unhappy. Well, you know they weren't there---this was just after I think Palestine had been declared independent. And there we stayed, among other places, in a Jesuit monastery. I don't know how my father found these places. They were the nicest people and we'd go out from there.

V: Was he collecting plants all along?

BK: Yes.

LG: Probably through communication or documentation through his plants or his research.

BK: Well, I don't know.

LG: He never talked about it or anything.?

BK: And I always told my sister, "Boy I got more than you got out of the trip around the world." They got to see Italy and France and all of that because we were, both groups, to meet in Berlin in time for the International Genetic Congress that my father was going to attend. So I thought this isn't going to work out with that type of people coming to inhabit Palestine. [Settlers from New York] So then of course we went to Jerusalem and all the places we got to see. I remember these monks, no, they're priests aren't they, not monks at the monastery.

V: No, they're monks.

BK: Are they? What they served for breakfast were peeled cactus fruit. Oh they were delicious. As kids we'd take a knife, because of the kukus we jabbed the fruit off the plant, held them down and then skinned them, being very careful because those fuzzy thorns are worse than the big ones. But here having them nicely sliced and served on a platter.

LG: Peeled cactus fruit.

BK: Yes.

V: Were they red?

BK: Red.

V: Just like our panini?

BK: Uh huh, I'm sure it might have easily been---we call them

panini you know.

LG: What kind of a fruit is that? Is that sweet?

BK: Oh it's, it has a crunchy, sort of crunchy taste.

V: It's something like the kiwi fruit.

BK: Yes, it is. It's a little bigger than that but the same shape, and crunchy instead of soft. It's not crunchy, it's crispy.

V: Not like an apple though.

BK: No not crispy like an apple, but it's full of little seeds which you have to keep spitting out.

LG: Okay, little seeds. And what's it high in, what kind of vitamin? Must be C or something.

BK: Well I shouldn't wonder, but they're sweet and you know in parts of Maui, the whole landscape is covered with them, especially towards Ulupalakua, upper Kula. All right and then I guess from there we went straight to Berlin because of my father's conference. My mother has cousins in Germany and they lived in Berlin in a suburb and they got us a pension. It's like a boarding house. No not a pension at first, it was two bedrooms in a house and you know, the Germans were so poor at that time people took people in. Her name was Sallow, S-a-l-l-o-w, but we always called her Frau Sorrow, behind her back of course, because she was causing us sorrow all the time. (Laughs) For instance, you know being from Hawaii, when we went to bed we threw our windows open. Three of us, that was Toki Katsuki, my sister and I had one room together, and we said, "I don't think she wants us to have the windows open here because we saw everybody with tight windows." So we assigned one of us to take turns to see the window was closed before she got up (laughs). One morning my sister who was assigned to close the window forgot to and of course the landlady was out in the garden. Ho, talk about all the German

swear words and everything else. We heard, "Don't you know the pipes freeze and then you have to have them repaired."

"But we have to have fresh air. We can't sleep in a room that has all the windows closed."

"Well you have to here. You're in Germany."

LG: So it's like it's cool, it's quite cool there.

BK: It got too much for us. Frau "Sorrow" got too much for us. Now you know they have feather beds. So my mother of course put it out on the balcony to air every morning. And of course the landlady went out in the garden in the morning and my mother got hell.

"That was an heirloom. Putting it out in the air? It might get some dust on it or something."

So my father says, "I'm tired of hearing these Frau "Sorrow" stories. So we went to a pension this time and that was nice. Yes, there were about fifteen people there (laughs). You had to pay for a hot bath.

V: Yes, they have a thing you have to drop your money in, a geison?

BK: No, they had a thing we had to sign in and I told Dorothea and Toki, "You know our record for cleanliness looks pretty bad." Because we learned how to take cold baths even though it almost killed us. All we did was put a towel on the bottom because otherwise our feet would have frozen on the bottom of the tub.(Laughter) And we sure took quick baths.

LG: So this way you saved a little money, too.

BK: Yes, because you see my father said for every dollar that my sister and I saved the year before, he would match it and that's what we had to live on. All right now my father went to work

with these famous geneticists and my sister went to work for the American Embassy and I went to the University of Berlin. Now a year before we were going to go I took a night course and all my German came back. You see we spoke nothing but German in the house till I was eight and at that time I probably would have continued except I can remember one Saturday saying to my mother, "Mama, Mary's coming over on Saturday to play with me, so please don't talk German to me." And that was the end. And so I took it [the class in German] and it all came back so I went to the university and very few women went there. And if a woman walked in, the university students showed their displeasure by going like this. [Sound of stamping feet] If they didn't like what the professor said they'd go like this. [Sound of stamping feet] If someone came in late, when a woman came in they did this. [Sound of stamping feet]

LG: That's outrageous, isn't it?

BK: So I listened in German and took notes in English. I even took exams, but my German, I'm sure they almost died with the grammar. So I took a full university course and also did some research in one of the laboratories. And then in between we traveled all over Germany. And my father and I went to Italy. Then when we were there a year...

LG: So that was by train or by car or how did you go?

BK: Train. Yes, everything was by train, third class. More fun going by third class. And then I know I was supposed to go and meet a cousin of my mother's in a town way off, so I arrived on the train and there were two little old ladies sitting. You know they have these compartments, three sit here and three sit there opposite each other. And I got on the train and these two little ladies and they kept staring at me. It made me uncomfortable. In those days I was terribly shy. And I thought why are they looking at me. And then one sort of cleared her throat and she said, "Sind zee Beatrice Krauss?" And it was the two cousins who had come all the way from their home to get on the train with me to escort me. They didn't know what I

looked like, I didn't know what they looked like. But how kind they were.

And then we went to France and we stayed in Paris for two weeks and of course my father had scientists to see and the rest of us just went sightseeing. We did everything, Eiffel Tower, you name it. And we stayed in a little hotel that didn't serve any meals but down the street, this is on the Left Bank, there was a little restaurant, run by a man and his wife. The man did the cooking and the wife waited on the tables. They had three tables and every evening we'd usually eat there. We would eat breakfast in our room. We'd eat lunch while sightseeing. And then so we had our napkin, they had a little case with all little pukas and your napkin was in. And one day my father said he wanted gefullte omelette. Well this man didn't know anything but French. Most of our conversation was by gestures and my father kept trying to explain. The chef said, "Come in the kitchen." And so my father went in the kitchen. Well it was Crepes Suzette that he wanted, only the Germans call it gefullte omelette, filled omelette or pancake. And then they'd bring the bill. It was this long with about twenty items, the napkin and all this and it would come to less than a dollar for each of us, in '27. You got something like 500 or 600 francs for a dollar. We paid less than three or four dollars for a room. And food was cheap. The next time I went to Paris on my own, which was some years later, I stayed in the old hotel and they'd fancied it up so to even afford it I had to go up in the attic. It was just an attic with a light up in the ceiling and I think I paid the equivalent of twenty-five dollars. This restaurant was no longer in existence, I looked for it. At another restaurant all I had was a little steak like this, little salad and a glass of wine and it cost me about the equivalent of twenty dollars. Then the dollar was way down. Well, anyway we had fun in Paris and then we went...

LG: Now Bea, have you finished with the conference in Germany at that time, finished even staying in Germany and were on your way back?

BK: Yes, and we went to the opera, the symphony every Sunday. And plays whenever we could.

V: What was your father doing in Germany? You were there for a year?

BK: Yes. He was working with these famous geneticists and taking some other classes and my sister worked at the embassy and I went to school. And we had some interesting trips in Germany and France too. And then we went to England and we were in London and various places. Oh no, excuse me, when we were finished in Germany we went to Ireland. We went by boat to Galway, that's on the west coast. The ships had to anchor outside of Galway and they took us to shore in whale boats. As we went ashore the whale boats would take immigrants from Ireland to go to the United States. Talk about weeping and wailing, oh my Gott im himmel, it was something. You know the folks left at home never expected to see them again. So we stayed in Galway and then we decided to go by train from Galway to Dublin, across the island. Well, when my father goes down to buy some tickets the next day, we want to go on a Sunday and the trains don't run on Sunday, or didn't then. So he says, "Well, we still want to go. What other way?" "Oh go by bus." Took us all day by bus, but on the bus there was this very pompous looking wahine, all dressed-up, fit to kill, that got on to go to church somewhere. Little while later three kids got on and they had a can and I looked at it and saw some fish in it. And a man got on with a shillelagh. Well all of a sudden there was a terrible shriek out of this woman and the driver who was also conductor stopped dead and came back. He says, "Lady what is the matter?" All she does is to point down her décolletage at a fish which had jumped out of the can. So he puts his hand down the front of her dress and pulls it out(laughing), and puts it back in the can. She gives a few more shrieks and we go on.

She was just screeching and waving her hands, and the kids were doubled up just roaring with laughter, and so were we. So we got to Dublin and we stayed around there for a while. Then

we got on a boat to go over to Scotland. Just as we went up the gangplank, my mother said, "Oh, I promised Elsie that I would bring her some Irish turf and I forgot."

I said, "Don't worry." I ran down the gangplank found a little piece of turf, dug it up and brought it back to her so she could bring Elsie back in Petaluma some Irish turf. So then we were in Scotland. Then we took the Flying Scotsman down to London and were in London and England, we went quite a bit around England. Then we sailed in a ship to New York and I see our big metropolis for the first time. And we enjoyed it there.

LG: That's your first trip to New York.

V: The Statue of Liberty and all?

BK: We saw everything there is to see in New York.

LG: So you've really been around the world and then you're coming back in through New York.

BK: Then from there we went to Washington and I see our capital after I've seen all the capitals of the rest of the world. And I said I'm not ashamed of it, it's very beautiful. The way it's laid out you know and all.

LG: This is quite a while away from Hawaii, from Manoa.

BK: Well it was June to September, June, July, August, September, that's fifteen months.

LG: Did you just close your house up or, not this house but the other?

BK: At that time we were living in that house and we rented this one. All right. My brother who I said was studying at Davis, that's my older brother that's dead, and he met us there. My father bought a Dodge and we drove across the United States. No motels and things in those days. In the East Coast people

would have a room in a house and then you'd stay where you could the rest of way across.

V: Boy that's a long trip.

BK: It is but we stopped at all the university towns and capitals on the way. So I got to see quite a bit. We got back here in September [1928].

LG: When you got back did you have any kind of letdown from all of this?

BK: Oh sure, but it was a lot to talk about. Actually it was so different from what other people were doing. People were beginning to go to Europe from here and they were doing a little traveling towards Asia, but not much. And then while it would be almost ten or fifteen years before there were actual trips planned for you. But my father did this all on his own. I don't know how he knew all these things. We went to some of the oddest places.

LG: So he was a student of geography and...

BK: Oh Yes, and he must have studied every night. He must have gotten the world map out and then from what he remembered or read, because he was a great reader, he picked these points out and...

LG: Bea, after he passed away did you ever find any documents or anything that talked about that period?

BK: He was supposed to have written a manuscript on the homestead, but we can't find it. That's always what he wanted to write up, because that was quite an original adventure too because he showed that you could live off the land.

LG: But among his papers and things you didn't find any like notes about the trip to Europe or things like that.

BK: No, I don't know if he kept a journal. I still haven't gone all through his papers yet. I know. That's my next job. Underneath here he had an office and a storage room.

LG: Well so maybe the manuscript is there somewhere.

BK: Well I hope so.

LG: How do you see yourself progressing on that, doing that. I mean I'm just curious what your plans are.

BK: When I fell the second time and had five hairline breaks...

LG: Oh, kind of slowed things.

BK: Well no. The family comes and takes over and brings this highly organized thing called Options for Elders and they decide I have to have somebody in the middle of the day. Well I couldn't stand up by myself and so I have to stand up when I feed my brother through the nose. So she would come from eleven to three and she could do the eleven and three and fix his salad. And then they got Ursula.

Another visitor arrives, so interview ends.
End of Interview May 18, 1994, Tape 6.

GLOSSARY

bund	an embankment, in India, China and Japan (The Bund was the main seaside street in Shanghai.)
dal	dry, split pigeon pea. East Indian food
gefullte	filled
geison	projection of a cornice from a wall (arch.)
ghat	A stairway descending to a river
Gott im himmel	God in heaven
haole	white person, foreigner
kuku	thorn, spine
panini	prickly pear
puka	hole, opening
Sherpa	A member of a Tibetan people living in Northern Nepal
wahine	woman