



## **Citation for this collection:**

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## Mr. George Worrilow

[0:00:00]

Mr. Worrilow:

Fine. In answer to your question about my experiences in Delaware, it might be helpful if I were to begin with a bit of the preface. First of all, I am a native for Cecil County, Maryland which means actually that in all my lifetime although I'm not a Delawarean, I've only gotten 15 miles away from home. In Cecil County, Maryland, I was interested and active in 4H Club work. I happened to be lucky enough to be on the first dairy cow judging team that went to England representing the United States and competed against the young farmers clubs in the country.

This was just when I graduated from high school and in 1922 and this was quite an experience mainly due to the fact that I was a farm boy and about as far as I'd ever been living my home at that time was Wilmington but everything worked out well. And we had managed to defeat the English boys on their own ground, judging different breeds of cattle and all sorts, all varieties of livestock. And as a result of this rather than come to the University of Delaware where most of my friends and neighbors enrolled, I was offered a scholarship to University of Maryland due mainly to my 4H Club record.

Not only that, I didn't have any money to attend the University of Delaware, and back in those days each United States Senator had a scholarship which you competed for by examination and it provided for room and board for four years at the University of Maryland. And I was rocking up to win the Millard Tydings' Senatorial Scholarship and really attended the Maryland on that basis. Then too, 4H Club work seemed to pretty much influence and determine what I intended to do once I was through college.

I had great admiration and respect for the county agent in my own county and I always felt that I wanted to be involved in 4H or in cooperative extension work. And so when I finished at University of Maryland, I worked for a dairy company in a laboratory for about three months, I guess. And I couldn't stand the inside laboratory work, so they then transferred me to the country and looking after their milk producers relations and three country plants. But even so, when the opportunity came in September 1927 to come to Delaware while my initial appointment was for nine months, I didn't hesitate to change. And I came to Delaware and I asked an assistant county agent and I did 4H Club work

when I was in New Castle County. And this indeed that did proof to be my niche in life I guess because I was never discourage.

[0:05:05]

Mr. Worrilow:

I like working with young people and I worked with for several years as a county and 4-H agent. And then for a while I was the state 4H club leader charged of all the 4-H club work in the state and work with the local leaders and I stressed here the importance of local leadership in this program. These were non-paid volunteers most of them were parents of 4-H club members. And it was a bit like scouting, I think, in a way most of us found ourselves involved in scouting for a while, particularly while our sons or daughters were members. And this is really what happened in 4-H club work, although, a lot of them carried on along past that stage.

Again, the opportunity came out to the--to accept the position of county agent. And by that time, I felt as though I might like to work with adults and get this experience. And I did. Of course, I've been around the university for several years then and I remember exactly how the interview was conducted for the county agent's job. I met the dean in the hall and he commented to me he said "You just got here; you'd like to be county agent." "And I said yes, Dave McCue?" He says right though he said "you'll start to work on that job first of the month" so that salary or nothing else was mentioned and I worked to Newcastle County again after having work in the state for I guess oh, six or eight years. And there are of course, always, having been interested and trained really technically in dairy husbandry, the opportunity to accept the position as state dairy specialist came along. And in that way I would be doing work with all dairymen in the state, and I did this for several years.

Now, then I think that's enough of what I did. Certainly spend a few minutes talking about the changes in agriculture over those years. When I first started in 1927. He dealt mostly with individual farmers and their families. We've really only worked those farmers to call these farmers for the bogs and help and who were more or less enrollees in the various programs conducted by the collaborative extension service.

For example, when I was there we had our demonstration, worked with corporate and 4-H club and the county agent or the agriculture program. It made little effort than it seemed to me, and as I look back, I'm pretty certain this was the case that we helped people who were the more successful farmers and maybe needed help the least.

[0:10:02]

Mr. Worrilow:

On the other hand, *[inaudible]* [0:10:05] the working capital to expand their operation and adopt new ideas and new technologies. I felt -- asked myself then that they should make more of an effort. And we did, as far as farm credit or as far as credit is concerned helped the less fortunate farmers. Even in those days we did have part time farmers in the state. We had good many of them in this town, which meant that they had one foot on the farm, and one foot in an industry. And they would look upon the day. I suppose at moonlight. And they were usually into cash crops, such corns, soybeans which sell at the plant in the harvest with very little attention given to the crops that are going to be gone season.

And that practice continued up until -- or still continues now to an extent but not as much as it used to because many of these farmers or part-time farmers were close to the cities or in the developing suburban areas. And they finally, made very well financially government and real estate business and selling off at farms most of that were housing developments other uses. So if the transition had some effect upon Ag cost extension programs in that the number of farmers in the state was constantly being reduced for this reason. And on the other hand, the better farmers and more current farmers often bought this neighbor's land and the end of that were pure farmers but with about the same acreage of land and may more.

As a matter of fact, today in the state there's just about as much land and farms acreage as there was 40 years ago when *[inaudible]* [0:13:15]. And then changes in technology and the discovery or the experiment was that led to other development of hybrid corn and hybrid soybeans and all of that. A great acreage yields during that time so that cause the production in the state much greater than it was in those days. Back when I first came here, there were still some bartering going on within the farmer and the people or the miller or the flour man and the feed man. And instead of exchanging money, they're exchanging grain for flour and feed. And a lot of farm and all the work was done and mostly, millers made a little more money than farmers and in the long run *[inaudible]* [0:14:27].

Perhaps, at this point, it might be well if I would explain the philosophy and the organizational pattern of the collaborative extension service. They really came about in 1914 with the enactment of Federal Legislation *[inaudible]* [0:14:59] which made a grant and aid through the state to conduct this work.

[0:15:04]

Mr. Worrilow:

It was really Ag birth of the early farmers clubs in this and many other states. Well, better farmers got to gather. Well, sometimes as often as once a month and discuss those things in farming. And then too, the Ag cost experiment basis were created by federal legislation about 15 or 20 years before the advent of collaborative extension. And all of the research that they had carried out, many experimentations on the experimental clients have never been disseminated among the farmers. In other words, there was misinformation, some it good, some of it would make farming more possible.

Within the files, but there was no mechanism, no organization for getting this information transmitted transferred from the laboratory to the land, to the farmer. And so this is what really was the reason why the collaborative extension service was created. It was known as the educational arm of the random colleges, of course, the University of Delaware is a random college. And because of this it was valuable for the response, the experiment station and the collaborative extension. These said funds are in the educational funds.

Then of course, after this information was transmitted and put the factors of the researchers then have some difficulty in keeping up really with the needs of the farmer because he was very much interested in putting this new knowledge to work. And it's easy to put new knowledge to work than it is to discover new knowledge. The ratio was not one to one but it's there.

And another happening too was the fact that the research and the experiment stations have pretty much been a practical approach to the solution of problems. But as farming became more sophisticated, it wasn't enough. You have to go into the basic research and as I've indicated hybrid corn was one of the greatest. In *[inaudible]* [0:18:40] probably artificial insemination did more to improve the herds and improve milk production with cows and anything else because you had the opportunity then to quickly prove herd size and the one of the little box that caught us on dairy farm was a size that couldn't transmit production.

So the artificial insemination; it was very quickly adapted here in Delaware. If my memory serves me right, New Jersey started the first artificial breeding in this country. It was really imported from Scandinavian countries particularly Denmark. And Delaware was almost the second state to get into this. I happen to be dairy specialist at that time and knew the dairy specialist in New Jersey and what doing.

[0:20:00]

Mr. Worrilow:

And we got into this rather quickly. It is generally accepted -- widely accepted here in the state. So these are examples of the collaborative extension program and the place of the research program in underpinning the farm practices. And now, today a county agent has to know what's going on in the research field because in these days of the large farming and highly integrated vertical integration on the farms. The farmer needs the best advice -- scientific advice that he can get. And the county agent today finds himself as more of an organizer of the programs to disseminate the technical information. And then you have there highly integrated dairy farms in this state come directly to the researcher in the experiment station whether it's the area percolating diseases, appropriate feeds, dairy cattle or where it is. The farmer most likely today in these successful operations has as much and sometimes more education and technical preparation than does the county agent. So he wants to talk to PhD who knows more than he does. And this is another change that's come in this area.

Well, I've really been adjusting myself to the outcomes programs. Of course, people are the key to all of these. The acceptance of the program, how well the county agent works. I thought I have said that the specialist that works with the farm family whether with women and with the man is just as much a professor, a teacher as is the professor on the campus except he doesn't have one advantage in that his students have to attend class. They can come if they want and if they don't want it, they don't come. And more other than that the copy the professor has a something that is of interest to students, he is not very successful. He cannot go by the textbook and lecture everyone. To do you want to at least cut to off-campus professors, way long ago, way ahead of the classroom moved towards the new teaching techniques, visual aids, all these participations. This was the local leader aspect of cooperative extension work, both in a -- and all levels and that we train the leader, and he trained his neighbor because if this way you've got to spread influence without it's costing you very much. In this way, it could get one country professor could teach

hundreds of students, you using -- I expect now that you might to say that...

**[0:25:00]**

Mr. Worrilow:

...in the modern educational process of they were the equivalent of the graduate student, probably, yeah, and take this place with the country classroom as the graduates then work in a own campus classroom. All of these led to a relatively inexpensive education program. It didn't cost near as much to teach them the *[inaudible]* **[0:25:40]** and it still does today to teach the country as it does on campus. And the students in the country are ready, in fact, really need this new information. And I think the University of Delaware has been very successful in the technical field now, in area of social sciences and people. Something else, the clients -- our country clients aren't as interested in the sociological aspects of agriculture as they are in the economic aspects.

And it's a little tough and they had to learn. I felt personally, sometimes *[inaudible]* **[0:26:39]** in this respect particularly my thinking of the civil rights and school integration program. It just upset me to no end that in some communities and some school district in this state, yet out leadership who assume will work fairly constantly just weren't able to accept the sociological changes as quickly as I feel that they should of. And I felt then -- although, I must admit, part of this is hindsight, maybe I read so much of the sociologic -- the sociologists know that they did, perhaps they're not much *[inaudible]* **[0:27:28]** but I have always been people oriented.

And I expect now that, fortunate as any or an applicable time to talk about the relationship with people. On my later years at the university, in all of these 25 years, maybe, I had worked in the country off the campus. I wasn't conscious at all of the brick walls that's on the university. And those early days, the administration, the university was not -- what they call it? Wasn't conscious of what they're doing in later years removal of the *[inaudible]* **[0:28:42]** providers. And I am not only talking about the other people in agriculture because you can't tell a farmer from service worker for a dog and this is fine.

But because of this circulation, I got a billion *[inaudible]* **[0:29:13]**. In the current mode; the food support, financial support for certain projects in

agriculture and for something modern in the staff. And this was perhaps my first experience with both general assemblies. And I must admit that I was pretty grim and that sort of thing.

**[0:30:00]**

Mr. Worrilow:

I know most of the people in the state, I think. And had worked with them. Politics, it's different from people. And I think they still are. So, I got this one example today we're *[inaudible]* **[0:30:30]** job to appropriation for a dough caste system. The members of the Donald Family on both sides, maybe *[inaudible]* **[0:30:40]**. I hope we can \$6, 000 back in those days. And so *[inaudible]* **[0:30:48]** is gone. Dale was going to pay us yours and then no question about it. And I have to go running to a friend of mine, who also highly post political wide system that hogged at that time. And he and Clyde was -- go over. And I sort of *[inaudible]* **[0:31:07]**. Very surprise at this. Various species girl, both *[inaudible]* **[0:31:11]**.

I set you up the start of covering that pretty well. A little bit better things do they know, third office, first amendment wasn't very *[inaudible]* **[0:31:20]**. And I said so I'm going to a meeting of the political leaders, of caucuses and *[inaudible]* **[0:31:27]**. I said I'm inquiring about this who came back and I said three hours and then you're telling me *[inaudible]* **[0:31:40]**, not even armory. They said there is no chance for that. Or at least the *[inaudible]* **[0:31:56]**. But I talked to the Governor and the *[inaudible]* **[0:32:02]** but both of them had. You know, I thought that Dr. Bill will also get fed up.

Upon example of how naïve I was and who I still am -- and this just got -- but *[inaudible]* **[0:32:27]** that of the woes of the universe, they do a girl, and it could *[inaudible]* **[0:32:37]** in a moment. Delaware is a unique space and the university is that in the many ways, you need to earn that it is really. And for a long, long time with them. And the only space in my life. Plus, I did that. January they start to buy savings, August period. So in my work during the years, I had gotten to know the urban leaders until the day, the urban situation almost as well as I have gotten to know the conflict situation. And the way he's involved in none of these things is happening in Wilmington and the municipalities one or another.



So, I think this is the reason why when we realize the populations growth in the state was like to cause *[inaudible]* **[0:34:03]** back in the university and then back at Perkin's because they were always interceded anymore. Excited, we would create the vision of -- and then a bad saying in time, he decided that I should come out of agriculture and work at a university level. And I created this position. And hey, to me, the responsibility for giving leadership. All of the off-campus programs at the university. *[inaudible]* **[0:34:57]**.

**[0:35:00]**

Mr. Worrilow:

We are prepared. It's a person before your foundation. Got sport again for six years really to gain the relevant affairs. And today, it's the version of *[inaudible]* **[0:35:22]** of the collaborative expecting service. And people are rise. They are all, much more influential in meetings where you knew you'd say people. There's social needs and problems of the city. I am convinced that the university did clear the housing problem and did it in at the beginning of it. Also included the in my assignment was watching work the general assembly of the State all in all University license and with the accepted departments of the State as well sleeping with the day of government fit those.

And from its point of view, it's been a requirement and it so happened that I got that 72 times and always like been working with the general assembly for it that's probably 50 years. It was Senator Moore Thomas *[phonetic]* **[0:36:45]** and he was no longer lawyer on the general assembly with the great concerning some of my friends in the general assembly we have the monument it was boy has been a farmer from a lawyer he argued I don't know with the Donald family *[inaudible]* **[0:37:11]** or he meets the governor. I don't know.

I've said well, since I, you know, what I mean it had the and I knew most the guys that I have been working with them so that this was a switch places there's no question about this but it was a good on precise just would when the problems that really been in Donald family in the State not to consider I was -- I was the General County if I was to go people go governor organization and this is only government in this college the reason of all the State it was at the corner and for this kind of castle, it achieved the all type of sports and it was adapted and the son executive went into a second that I thought, you know, well, help, I've helped yes, it was bills I understand.

Yeah, and then that was and the problem on the most problem area because exactly denied that it was exactly hysteric have been able to what more a college place on this on Senator Moore Thomas and what's happened now is that Suffix County has also accepted this form of government and I think they have accepted within fast but it haven't state in the -- from the life of court and I don't even want to hold this up.

The fact that I seemed type it kind of job and this had helped in many, many ways if that certain years gotten much barriers sight listening involved, obviously said that it was in devotion has gone as a result I think of it but and if it's good into it mostly value the University. I know that there are -- so I kept probably I have *[inaudible]* **[0:39:39]** in all of those-- about that services that were gone. Of the service involving those victims and over all is everything that there wasn't a faith in it. It was basically very unpleasant that on the--but there were more important and more of power to the news...

**[0:40:00]**

Mr. Worrilow:

...of those got up in nerves going the experimenting off at about other the--probably about the *[inaudible]* **[0:40:08]** onto. So I've heard all of these job who also got to general assembly on *[inaudible]* **[0:40:20]** I've been all that up until it allow to really *[inaudible]* **[0:40:35]** was pretty hard, forgotten all on the focus and out of planet and how do I talk of I think of when you are consider then leave the other way good models are doing that across respond. And all of the -- and I've got clear, I've got a--it was all about money than it is to get *[inaudible]* **[0:41:06]** and knew the people with bones on his bone and all of those are available always the money it's top with the money it's from the job so well, I have been to the doctors University but less fortunate when I was in mini private manufacturers and I was good in diamond.

When I was growing up at university like I've got a long and long for its penalty I was growing up at *[inaudible]* **[0:41:44]** 3rd State and leave this photo pop area might as *[inaudible]* **[0:41:48]** starting from the bottom and about the early top ten all of the rest from Atlanta who have been driven had some bought both spy just fine and about 40% as a top going out loud on the building across the side of him going to his farm and put it to the farm and put this into the side of mine.

So, it's was always fine situation for the scholarship program and for all the Universities and I think all over the years it lost some--it always

destruct them in the form of outgoing build up and those are the things don't really understand but those the government by the *[inaudible]* **[0:42:45]** and the people other than that. It's been a lot of times booming a part of it as I looked up I could hardly remember *[inaudible]* **[0:43:05]** except to the most crossing member onto rather two, boom then it's gone and my first when I was like I don't know what do you call program and more property *[inaudible]* **[0:43:24]** and jump at the or you will really jump really high or still of medicine *[inaudible]* **[0:43:32]** and my job accept trying to Delaware boom to you and *[inaudible]* **[0:48:38]** or adjust and it's all provide and I expected eventually helping I don't know that it may have the *[inaudible]* **[0:43:52]** Delaware to the sound of United States.

And by this time, you can go to, you know, I will go about now about not a call center on I was talking about medical education is more important at the University on *[inaudible]* **[0:44:11]** and we all know how to learn. I think mine would took back I was going over along and definitely loads on *[inaudible]* **[0:44:26]** it's a journey it seemed well it's gone and all of those--our friends have had a billing on what road in the University. I think I even took off in the State without really *[inaudible]* **[0:44:53]** in itself upon and I moved at the...

**[0:45:50]**

Mr. Worrilow:

...very close close to the University I don't want to lose one of you certainly can pop. There is no use got popped in a way that I can boom avoid it off the--at the State and *[inaudible]* **[0:45:21]** environment I don't understand anymore that there's I know there's a bit loaded anyway and so it's all being a little bit flat almost I had attempt to that I have been listening of the only *[inaudible]* **[0:45:50]**.

**[0:45:50]**

**End of Audio**