

YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY

ORAL HISTORY PROGRAM

American Bicentennial

Personal Experience

O.H. 1344

EDWARD J. HULME

Interviewed

by

Joseph P. Alessi

on

November 2, 1990

## EDWARD JOSEPH HULME

Edward Joseph Hulme was born on September 11, 1922 in Youngstown, Ohio, the son of Daniel J. Hulme and Ellen Canavan Hulme. Mr. Hulme grew up on the North Side of Youngstown and attended St. Ann's Elementary School and Hayes Junior High School. He graduated from the Rayen School in 1939. Following his graduation, he began classes at Ohio State University. However, Mr. Hulme's education would be postponed due to World War II. Mr. Hulme entered the United States Army and after his training became an instructor at the Army Airborne (Parachute) School. Additionally, Mr. Hulme attended Officer Candidate School (OCS) and became an officer. After his discharge, Mr. Hulme completed his education at Ohio State University and graduated in December of 1947. Mr. Hulme was recalled to duty during the Korean Conflict. During the conflict, he resumed his duties as an instructor at the Army Airborne School. Mr. Hulme was honorably discharged in April of 1952.

Mr. Hulme held various jobs throughout his career. The majority of these jobs dealt with fund raising campaigns for non-profit organizations. Some of these organizations included the United Way and the Youngstown Bicentennial Committee. Currently, Mr. Hulme is employed with Chamber of Commerce. As a result of his diligent work, Mr. Hulme has been awarded numerous

honors, such as Youngstown Area Junior Chamber of Commerce Man of the Year, The Frank Purnell Award, a member of the Curbstone Coaches for Track (1988), and President of the Rotary Club of Youngstown (1968-69). Additionally, while attending Ohio State he lettered in both track and cross country. Mr. Hulme belongs to a variety of organizations, including the Rotary Club, Treasurer of the Youngstown Playground Association, and the President of the Boys Club. Also, Mr. Hulme is an active member of his church, St. Columbas Cathedral.

Mr. Hulme resides at 420 Crandall Avenue in Youngstown, Ohio with his wife, Helen. He married his wife on August 20, 1949. Mr. Hulme has six children; two daughters, Anne and Mary, and four sons, Edward Junior, Thomas, Geoffrey, and John who is deceased. Mr. Hulme is still active and enjoys tennis and the Boys and Girls Club.

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INTERVIEWEE: EDWARD J. HULME

INTERVIEWER: Joseph P. Alessi

SUBJECT: Army, World War II, Youngstown, Bicentennial

DATE: November 2, 1990

A: This is an interview with Edward J. Hulme for the Youngstown State University Oral History Program, on the American Bicentennial, by Joseph Alessi, at 420 Crandall Avenue, Youngstown, Ohio, on November 2, 1990, at 10:00 a.m.

Good afternoon Mr. Hulme. Before I start with the actual questions on the committee itself, I would like to first get some background information on you. First of all, when and where were you born?

H: I was born on September 11, 1922 in Yougnstown, Ohio.

A: Can you tell me something about your childhood when you were growing up? Hobbies, sports, school?

H: I was always interested in sports. I went to Hayes junior high school and St. Ann's elementary school-1466 W. Federal Street (now Martin Luther King Blvd), then the Rayen School. I was on the track team for two years and ran the mile. I played tennis a lot at Wick Park and I was an officer in my class at the Rayen School and had an interest in activities, which I have kept throughout my life.

A: Which Rayen school did you go to, the Rayen school on Wick Avenue or the Rayen school up here on the North side?

- H: I went to Rayen school on Benita Avenue, which by coincidence was formally opened the day that I was born, which was Monday, September 11, 1922. The school should have been opened several days earlier as normal students go back to school the day after Labor Day, but it wasn't finished so they waited till Monday, September 11, 1922.
- A: When you said that you lived in Youngstown which side of town did you grow up in?
- H: I always lived on the North side.
- A: What types of employment have you engaged in or participated in throughout your life?
- H: I have worked at one time or another in several things. My first job out of college was in 1947. I worked with the Huffman Brothers Lumber Company on West Federal Street. I worked at the Municipal Court for a year and a half as Chief Deputy of the Municipal Court. In 1954 I went to the Youngstown Chamber of Commerce. I stayed there until 1965 and I went with Servonmotin Corp. We were in the food and vending business up until the time of the Bicentennial. During the Bicentennial I was the executive director of the Mahoning Youngstown Bicentennial Commission and then I was into fund raising. I was the first development director at St. Elizabeth's Hospital Medical Center for seven years. And from 1983 to 1990 I was the campaign director for the Youngstown Area United Way.
- A: Now you said that you graduated from college in 1947 and you were born in 1922. During that time, the Depression, were you a member of the Armed Services? Did you participate in the war?
- H: I was in the United States Army Parachute Troops from 1943-1946. I was also in the Korean Conflict, Parachute officer from 1950-1952. So, yes I was in the service, twice, World War II and in the Korean Conflict.
- A: Can you tell me a little bit about that?
- H: World War II, I was chosen to be an instructor at Fort Benning, Georgia and I probably trained about 90% of all the jumpers in the U.S. Army Parachute troops in World War II. A lot of famous people, - President Roosevelt, Winston Churchill, visited Fort Bennin, because our training center the Paratroops were somewhat of a showcase for the U.S. Army and everybody would come down there. The top military officials showed them how we taught people and sometimes even put them up in a plane. I have made twenty-eight parachute jumps.

A: Now you said that you got out of the service, you went to college, got out of college and then went back to the service and this time you mentioned that you were an officer. Were you an officer in both wars?

H: Yes.

A: How did you receive your rank?

H: I went to officer training school at Fort Campbell, Kentucky.

A: Did you ask to rejoin the Army or did they call you back up?

H: When Korean started I was in the inactive Reserves and I was called back on January 1, 1954.

A: Did you see much action in both wars?

H: No, if you recall I mentioned that I trained troopers in World War II. I had quite a background in the lumber business and graphics. So, when I went to Fort Campbell, Kentucky for the Korean Conflict they assigned me to run the training aids section, which I was in charge of the weapons and all of the posters and things that were used by the officers in charge for training the troops.

A: What were the 1970's like for you? What was the whole era like?

H: The 1970's, as I recall, started out fine with the re-election of Richard Nixon. Then he got involved with Watergate. The war was winding down in Vietnam and so there was always a long backlash after the war more than anything other than the Civil War. Mr. Johnson decided not to run again. Then after Watergate, for about two years, this country was completely engrossed with Watergate, and important as that was it took the focus completely away from some things that were happening, such as, inflation. I happened to be going through a year-end income statement recently and within two or three years basically on the same job my income went up 50% in about two and half years doing the same thing. Just no emphasis on controlling inflation until the 1990 Federal Reserve of Washington and there was no great effort to keep that from happening because obviously there was a 15% inflation rate inside of six years. Why things that costed \$1.00 costed \$2.00 and if you were retired why you had \$600.00 a month for your retirement when you only had \$300.00, which would pay the gas and the electric and you had to be careful. That is what I remember most. In 1974 Mr. Clingan

Jackson came to me and we set up the Youngstown - Mahoning Bicentennial Commission.

A: Describe your personality.

H: By nature as a youth I was very shy and I had a man tell me one time that if I wanted to get along in good times and bad I should learn how to be a salesman. I always had a nice smile. I learned a long time ago to have animation in your face like Mickey Mouse. I tried to be very compassionate and very sincere and treat the janitor with the same respect that you would treat the President of the United States. I considered that an asset.

A: How did you become involved with the Bicentennial? You mentioned that Mr. Jackson contacted you, where did it go from there?

H: He had been asked by the county commissioners and the Mayor to form the Youngstown Mahoning County Bicentennial. Chester Amedia told Mr. Jackson that he should interview Ed Hulme because he had had a lot of background in Rotary and the Chamber of Commerce and other things. So, I knew Mr. Jackson because of some work that I had done at the Chamber of Commerce and we had a series of meetings. He asked me and I was free at that time. I was not working and so it was fate that it worked out that way. I worked with him to raise the money for the commission. The fact is that I worked for him for twenty months from 1974 till August 1976.

A: You mentioned the County Commissioners, can you recall who those individuals were?

H: Jack Hunter was the Mayor, perhaps it was John Palermo. It was Tom Bonett, perhaps it was Thomas Carney. The history probably tells who they were in this book that we have.

A: Were you just jumping on the band wagon or was this a professional move for you or what was it for you?

H: President Harry Truman, said that, "those who would make history must know history" and as a kid I was very much interested in patriotism. My father was into politics so I, at times, would go with him the day of election and watch what went on and put up signs and my father and Congressman John Cooper were friends...And I always liked history, our economics, in contrast to science and math and I liked to travel to Washington and New York. So, my interest in something that I would like to do an anniversary of the Republic was deep seeded.

A: Where you involved with the Septennial at all?

H: The Sesquicentennial was the one-hundred and fiftieth year anniversary of Ohio becoming a state. That was in 1953. We had a modest parade. Jaycees ran a Miss Ohio Sesquicentennial Contest. This was a Mahoning County contest. I remember that clearly because I took the girls from our county down to Columbus who finished second in the contest. There weren't nearly the activities that the Bicentennial had.

A: What do you recall about the first committee meeting?

H: We needed to get a balance of people here and we needed to get people who were committed to do some work. We needed to get youths as well as older folks. We needed both men and women.

I think that one of the key things that led to our plans and, I am sure led to our success, happened very early, if not at the first meeting, certainly we were talking about it. I give a lot of credit to Mr. Jackson for this. He said, "We will operate for the next twenty months and then it is over." It is like a birthday or an anniversary that you planned for to a certain date and even though that anniversary is a whole year, the day of the anniversary the parties were held and that is it because then it is over. This was a good observation so we pointed toward July 4, 1976.

The other things that I thought were very important in our success were that we decided on five things. One that we would have a brilliant opening, which we had in Canfield, which was a county seat before it was moved to downtown Youngstown. Two that we would write a history of Youngstown and Mahoning County. Three that we would have a glorious parade. Four that we would have a Bicentennial ball. And finally, after one-hundred and ninety years we would have some monument to the founders of this community-James Hillman, John Young, and Daniel Shehy.

Mr. Jackson said several times, "because we have twenty months we had better stick to these five things and get them done." The advice was so good because every time that I would go to our office, which was located downtown over McCrory's store, someone would come in with another idea, something else to start. I always remembered that when the Fourth of July came along in 1976, that Cleveland, who had raised a lot more money obviously than we had, was broke. They had spent their money on different things and they didn't even had a parade on the Fourth of July. We had money left over-\$10,000- and we gave it to the Arms Museum, which is the historical society. They used it to clear the

building.

A: Do you recall how the committee was formed? How it was organized?

H: We asked people to serve on it and had meetings at the office and tried to break it down into different things. Patty Alessi was in charge of the Bicentennial ball, Chester Amedia was in charge of the parade, Howard Aley was asked to write the book, I was asked to sell it, and others were in charge of the opening out in Canfield dedication of the Founders Monument Common-Federal Plaza West Spring thumb, which is where the three founders met in 1796.

A: Now, what role did you play in the committee? What was Ed Hulme's job?

H: I was the executive director. I was paid and I was at work everyday with Mrs. Linda Goldie. We would set up committee meetings and contact the committee members. When we had these five major events we had to coordinate all of these things. We wrote all of the news releases that appeared in the paper and on television, and radio. I was responsible, along with Mr. Jackson, for arranging...It had to be close to raising about one-hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars. When we printed the history, since it was not meant to be a best-seller, the printer wanted his money completely up front. It was going to cost us \$18.00 per copy to get the book printed and we thought that was high, as far as people who would buy it. So, we set a price at \$12.00. So every book we sold we were subsidizing \$6.00. Further we used the money for the monument from Bertolini Brothers, bought the flag pole there, and paid the gas and electric for the building and supplies. We had assess to like typewriter and furniture. Together with Mr. Jackson we did raise some money and we had \$10,000 left over.

We also did something that is on file. We arranged for Randy Gerber, to make a film. We had decided on this early on. It was like \$7,500. And when I say early on everything in the film was photographed when it happened. When we were in Canfield, it was photographed that day, and there was music there provided by the Canfield band. That is the music that you hear on the film. When we dedicated the monument the Rayen School Band played, we had the ball. Everything was when it happened. So, it wasn't recreated.

A: Mr. Jackson and Mrs. Alessi both commented or made the statement that, "we got our moneys worth." How much money were you paid and why would they say something like that?

H: I was paid \$18,000 each year and the office was open from 8:00 to 5:00, on Saturdays and sometimes on Sundays. Every objective that we had set we accomplished including having some money left over, which we gave to the historical society. So, I surmise that that is what they meant. There hadn't been a history of Youngstown written in fifty-eight years. I think that is was in 1915 that Joseph G. Butler, of Butler Institute wrote the book. There was never a monument to our founders. Some of the fringe benefits that the community got were dedicated on October 5, 1974, the Federal Plaza,- that they redesigned to make it a plaza. The result was that we now have a place in downtown Youngstown for concerts or ethnic groups that have their celebrations. We even put a stockade similar to colonial days on the plaza and the kids had fun. I mentioned that we emphasized five projects. We did other things too that added some fun. It was a great and glorious twenty month period.

A: Now with all of this excitement going on for the two hundred year anniversary, how much or to what extent was the community involved? Was there a bit of spirit?

H: Youngstown, Ohio and its surrounding townships is known across the country for its nationalities. They are all here. It gave each one of these groups a chance to do their thing and to have their day. It has been called the melting pot. Well, it all melted together during that time. I think there were very few groups that I know of...Perhaps the English were about the only ones that didn't have a day on the plaza, or two or three days and I guess that their opinion was that they were always here from the beginning with George Washington, Madison, Adams, and of course the Indians.

A: Now you said before that in the 1970's it was a turbulent time plate with Watergate and then the end of the Vietnam conflict, what effect did that type of demoralization cause the Bicentennial or didn't it have an effect on it at all?

H: The Bicentennial was the most uplifting thing because it was all positive. It was a celebration. It was something consistent. We had the plaza to work with. We had a good committee with people in the right spirit. Ironically, too, it was a year before the Black Monday when Sheet & Tube in September 1977 said that they were going to close the mill. So, a lot of people were working and it was up to God to let it happen and it did.

A: So, what effect did the Bicentennial have on the 1970's as a whole?

- H: People have to have a heritage to understand their heritage. They have to have something to understand their country and the Bicentennial was a very positive thing. It gave all of us an opportunity to live as one under freedom, to know that regardless of what happens in this country, with freedom, we are doing things that may not be in the best interest; at least we can make the change. This is 1990 and we have a huge debt and we have other things that we are looking into, but we do have a free system here and we can do something about it. Another thing I mentioned "if you want to make history, you have to know history." If I recall there has been very few if any Republics or Democracies that have ever lived more than two hundred years. If that is true, we are fighting against history. Things such as the national debt situation are critical. Americans needed to take part and they did then. They were interested in their country and our community and they did then. Besides having fun it was a great historic event.
- A: Now you mentioned that "it was everybody's time or every ethnic groups to have their day," did this cause any conflicts?
- H: It was the opposite. The Romanians, Welsh, Irish, Hungarians, Italians all had their day. Some of these have even been carried on. For example, the Italians still have the Italian Fest, the Germans still have their German Fest, the Spanish have something. No, it them a chance to come down with their costumes and their delicassies of food, and what ever they were proud of. And they did come down. Anyone who works in town comes during their lunch hour and enjoys it.
- A: Now with all of these separate interest groups like the Yugoslavians, they wanted their thing to be the greatest thing, the Italians and their thing; did it ever conflict with the committee overall, the major committee?
- H: No, it actually blended in. If you recall we wanted to have a big parade and we wanted to have a grand opening. We wanted to have a ball and whatever they did so that when we had the ball they would have a good time as far as the Bicentennial, so they got costumes and came out to Idora Park and enjoyed the evening. We just had a glorious night.
- A: Now you mentioned that the committee had five projects, can you enlighten me on these projects?
- H: We had in Canfield, the opening on the Canfield Courthouse steps, which was the first courthouse in Mahoning

County. Senator Robert Taft's son was there and Fred Tronvall, who was the head of Strouss and the Chamber of Commerce. Those people spoke. Mr. Jackson spoke. We had several bands. That was the first event. Then in the meantime the County Commissioner Howard Aley, who lived in Boardman and was a long time school teacher, wrote the "Bicentennial history of Youngstown and Mahoning County." He was hard at work. We also decided that we would produce this book in Youngstown. We picked the Youngstown Printing Company so that Mr. Aley could write his copy and someone from the printing company could pick it up and proof read it daily. It was important that we got this book out before Thanksgiving of 1975. We gave talks about the history book and we suggested to many people, whose children were out of town and who would like to buy this book. So, we had to get the book out on time and we did. We sold at least thirty-five hundred copies of it. We dedicated the monument in the spring of 1976. The monument dedication was in the spring with the Rayen school band and a number of us dressed up in colonial costumes. We raised the flag on a special flagpole which, incidentally, was put into the ground-cement and flagpole-by a decendant of Daniel Shehy, one of the three founders, the workman lived over near the Pennsylvania border. The brick layers union, put the cement in front of the monument as a courtesy and the Bertolini Brothers got the marble from Vermont. At that function, we also took a lot of pictures and newspaper stories and minutes and things of that kind and we took the back off of the monument and put those in there and sealed them there with the objective of opening it again July 4, 2076. Then we worked towards a costume ball at Idora Park July 3, 1976. We had five hundred couples, everybody in costume. The mayor, all of our committee, and all of our folks at this great night, who were a delight to work with. That final weekend we had the ball and parade naturally because it was falling on a weekend. The parade was on July 5 because we couldn't work all of these things in...We couldn't have the ball on a Saturday night until two o'clock in the morning and then be up early in the morning for the parade. The parade director said that there would be fifty to sixty thousand people that would altered.

- A: At many of these events the Mahoning Valley Colonial Brigade was there, what is your opinion of the Brigade?
- H: Well, the Brigade added color to all of our concerts on the plaza, things that weren't officially Bicentennial projects. They were good concerts, parades, were an important part. The members, were headed by Joseph Alessi, members of the Brigade went to great lengths to get the proper weapons and the uniforms and they had

lots of practice, just like the troops in service. They were very loyal. Anything that we did the Brigade was there, even got a cannon. They just participated so much that I don't think that they could have cooperated anymore. They were an important part of the Bicentennial celebration.

A: Going back a few questions, do you recall what Mr. Aley was paid for his book or for writing the book?

H: Mr. Jackson made the arrangement there, but I would guess at \$5,000 but you might want to check with him.

A: What was your opinion of Mr. Jackson's leadership?

H: Mr. Jackson worked at the Vindicator. He was a man of much substance. He was a man that knew all of the Presidents, going back fifty years. He wrote about them. He was a local man. One of the things that was from an inspirational stand point to me was that everyday he would stop by the office to see what was happening and offer his help on whatever we needed to do. So, he and I had a very great relationship. We had lunch at least every two weeks and we had constant throughout communication through the whole things, which our friend Linda Goldie, who worked right with me.

A: How beneficial do you think Mr. Jackson or how important do you think Mr. Jackson is or was to our community?

H: Well, Mr. Jackson knew everybody in government. After all, this was a community celebration, He knew the commissioners, and the mayor and he could do anything civic wide and had the Chamber of Commerce and different organizations. Basically, you need the cooperation without the dominance of the various city officials. That they come and offer their presence and do as they have taken the oath to do, a service to their people of this community. Well, Mr. Jackson was in a very unique position, because he was political. He worked for the Vindicator. He knew them all and he could...In fact when they were there he could say that they were there and that they participated strongly. So, these are important things.

A: Why do you think that they picked Mr. Jackson?

H: He was at the paper for so many years. He was a former legislator in Columbus. It was to be a community event sure, but it was also a type of governmental event. All the United States of America was a governmental decision that people made through the Revolution and the Presidents and things of that kind. While a lot of other organizations developed through the years, this

in fact was the history of Youngstown and Mahoning County and I would guess that Mr. Jackson knew Mr. Butler and the editorial writer at the Vindicator whose name was George Kelly. He was a student of this community. So, these men knew this town. It was just an ideal choice.

We started with what I am very pleased to say has become a tradition in 1975 and 1976. We started the idea of a Times Square celebration on Federal Plaza. We put 1975, the numbers, on the Renaissance building and at midnight, as it happens in New York, the ball would drop. We had singing, cider, popcorn and other things for the kids. Of course, Christmas and New Year's decorations are still on the plaza so that people could enjoy them. It has become a great tradition event which sixteen years later is still held every year.

A: Now do you recall individuals in the committee that were instrumental? I mean that the Bicentennial wouldn't have went off as well if these individuals weren't there? The key people?

H: Chester Amedia, who has been active in the Army and AirForce and was the director of the Youngstown Metropolitan Housing Authority. Chester knew a lot about parades and he is a great booster so you could always count on him and of course we had five major things and he was in charge of one of the five. His attendance at the meetings was always fun. Ralston Collins, who was one of the founders of the Industrial Information Institute knew some details about Mahoning and Shenago Valley. Ralston Collins was our treasurer and he was responsible for the business side of this history of the Bicentennial and all of the checks were signed by him. Mr. Jackson had the accountability on everything that we did. We got incorporated in Columbus. All of our bills were paid regularly. Patty Alessi ran the ball, which was a great success. Just a number of people who were close as Judge Leskovyansky, had the legal work done. We had fellows such as Attorney Melnic. Jennifer Novicki had a flair for creativity and was very helpful in always being at the meetings and having ideas. She read a lot. Ed Salata was very helpful. He is a civil engineer and worked with Mayor Hunten. Obviously when we did things on the plaza we needed cooperation from the city and we got a lot of it from him. Mr. Wick, who was a member of one of Youngstown's first families, was our secretary for the Bicentennial commission. A very gracious lady. Ancestors were important in building this community. Attorney Horace Tetlow, was a county official and added a lot. Tom Barrett was always there. He was a commissioner. Walter Damon, was an architect. He was the designer of the monument that sits on Spring Common. Whenever we

needed any ideas and things of that kind he was always helpful and always complimentary in his work. Didi Dicanes at the library, who was making sure that all of this information was on file for future reference. Mr. James, and a young fellow whose name was Richard King, he was the youngest person on the commissions. Stan Kreiler. I can just go on and on. John Lowell, Al Matasy at the Union National Bank, which is now Bank One. Charles Milicous, Mr. Pagues, who was superintendent of the schools. Stephen Olenick who was the auditor. Everyone was always there when we had a meeting. It was a command performance. Everybody was there enthusiastic about what we were about to do.

A: Now in previous questions and answers you mentioned a Ms. Goldie, who is she?

H: Linda was another woman here who thought a lot about this community and loved history and wanted to do her part during this period. She was the wife of Jim Goldie, who was the secretary of the Auto Dealers Association. They lived in Liberty Township and we worked together throughout the whole time. She did the things that were in reality and had to go on paper. We would talk things over and Linda would put them on paper and make sure that they got in the right hands of these people and make people aware of the activities or anything that we were about to do.

A: What effect do you think the Bicentennial has on Youngstown's community today or what are the results of the Bicentennial today?

H: I am still downtown on a regular basis and I see people that were on the plaza sixteen years ago and they stop me on the street and they felt that this was a glorious period. This was before the demise of the steel mills. It was just a real success and everybody felt part of it and everybody was invited. It brought the ethnic groups together and that is what life is all about, people working together. I hear coaches all of the time say, "We have a good team here, and if they play as a team we will win." Youngstown was winning.

A: What was the Bicentennial to you Mr. Ed Hulme?

H: I have done a lot of things in my life. I was president of the Joyces, the Rotary Club in Youngstown, the Chesterton Club, Vice President to the Youngstown Area Chamber of Commerce, and many other things. It was such a unique thing to have been alive at the time and to have been of the age where I knew so many people because of the work that I had done at the Chamber of Commerce, I knew the people who meant a lot to this community and some of the great people such as Mr.

Jackson were still very active at the newspaper. The fact is that we did set out to do something and we did it. That is an important thing for anyone to remember: Set your priorities and then make sure that you do the things. So, today we still have events on the Plaza, we still have the monument, we still have the history which is available at the Arms Museum. The books are still there if you would want to buy them. Anyone that remembers the two hundredth birthday of this...The public, including my family and the families of others had a good time and it was a very positive thing and we have the good memories of the Bicentennial of the United States.

A: Would the Bicentennial be as effective today or would it even work in today's society?

H: Well, the United States was founded in the year 1776. I would suppose that everything has to be relative. We tend to think that of what is on the front page today, but if next summer was the two hundredth birthday of this country we would all be gearing for it. I recall that I went down to Washington D.C. because I knew that this was going to be spear-headed by the Federal Government. Guion Osborn was the head of the telephone company here and President of the Chamber of Commerce and said, "Ed, you should go to Washington to meet the Congressman and see what is happening." Well, I called Congressman Carney and I went down to Washington and he arranged for me to see the top people for the Bicentennial for the whole country and I had lunch there and met a lot of people. Again this was Watergate time, but everything would be relevant if we were doing it for today. This isn't a Bicentennial but for instance, the country was discovered by Christopher Columbus, in 1492. (five hundred years ago) Yes, I think so.

A: If you had to do it all over again would you?

H: Oh, yes. I was just fortunate that I was able to do it. If I had been in the middle of another job but it so happened that just at a very unique time and it hasn't been very often in my life since I started work in 1939 that I haven't been working. I wasn't working at that time.

A: Was this more fun to you than a job?

H: I'm perhaps a different fellow in that respect. Every job that I have had (and I have had some interesting jobs through the Chamber Commerce and running the United Way campaigns and other things). I always look at it as a game and I set the objective and I go for it. So, I'm thinking all day long how we are going to

get from here to there and I never watched the clock. So, it was a lot of fun and with the cooperation we got we started out with.

A: Now that it is all said and done how do you feel? What is the Bicentennial now to Ed Hulme?

H: I think that every person should work toward becoming a responsible, productive citizen. We have been blessed in this country to have had a free, competitive enterprise economy. We have not have a war on our shoulders since the Civil War in 1865, participated in wars, but not on our shoulders. With a free system we are the most blessed people on earth. What most other countries have been through and I just think that we ought to stand by and even though we get discouraged at times we are able to make changes and we should never take all of this for granted. The role of America with all of these power-hungry people ready to take over if we drop the ball so. I never regreted any time that I spent for the community. I learned a lot and met everybody. I think that this is a great community. Leon A. Beeghly told me one day that "the Lord blessed Youngstown" he put it between Cleveland and Pittsburgh and New York and Chicago and we have been able to build highways such as the turnpike and Interstate 80 and Route 11 and anyone who does the least bit of research knows that ever since the days of Marco Polo wherever there is good transportation there is business. It is a big country today, over two hundred and fifty million people, and we have to do the things that create a climate for people that have work so that they can keep up their standard of living. So, I would just encourage everyone to be interested in their community and to help in whatever way they can.

A: Do you have anything else to add?

H: No.

A: Well, thank you very much.

END OF INTERVIEW