

INTERVIEW LOG SHEET

PIRSA Oral History Programme –State Library reference no. for Somerville Collection OH 675/11.

An interview conducted by Bernard O’Neil with John Feagan of The Elms, Walkley Heights, South Australia on 24 February 2004 in regards to the history of the Department of Agriculture.

Time	Subject	Proper names
Tape 1, Side A		
0:30	Irish background; schooling; death of father; move to Sydney, c. 1935; born 11.4.1927; university scholarship; sports interests (cricket, Rugby Union); boyhood escapades; siblings; mentor at university	Inneskillen, Ireland; Ashford, NSW; Queensland; Mr Darcy; Mr Feagan; Sydney; Mrs Feagan; North Sydney Boys High School (Falcon St); Bill O’Reilly; Don Bradman; Ashford; Jim Vincent
11:25	Family farm; interest in agriculture; university bursary; research fellowship in microbiology; laboratory experiment	NSW Milk Board; Bob Morton; Adelaide University; Sydney University
18:30	Methylene blue test for milk; obtaining employment, 1951	Victoria; School of Dairy Technology; Werribee; Graham Itzerott; Sydney
22:00	Marriage; rowing career; international competition	North Shore Rowing Club; Waverton; Professor Cotton; Sydney; Werribee
25:45	Masters degree	Victoria; Sydney
28:00	Dye-marking antibiotics work	Werribee; Vincent
30:00	Teaching and research in dairy microbiology	Werribee; Werribee Hospital; Gilbert Chandler; Dandenong Community Hospital
Tape 1, Side B		
0:05	Milk contamination scare; dye-marking milk for antibiotics	Chandler; Melbourne; Melbourne University; Commonwealth Serum Laboratories (CSL); Europe
6:00	Joining Department of Agriculture, 1965; national committee for mastitis control; dairy dyes	SA; ‘Brick’ Smith; NT; Pat Harvey; CSL
9:20	Interest in research – microbiology of cheese, publications, overseas, awards, quantitative protein genetics inheritance; dairy research funds	Des Dawson; School of Dairy Technology; Oliver St John Kent; Charles Dickens; Vincent; Society of Dairy Technology; Northfield; Lindsay Bailey; John Radcliffe; Alan Hehir; Brian White; Dean Brown
18:20	Building research team; Dairy Research Committee; cadets; research techniques	Radcliffe; Adelaide University; Vincent; Koch’s Postulates; Robert Koch; Werribee
25:25	Diploma of Business Management – public administration, history of government, Public Service strike	Melbourne; Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology; Jan McMahon; Public Service Board (PSB)/Commission; Brown; Werribee; Hospital Committee
30:00	Public Service union activities; interest in politics; declined to stand for election; family interest in politics	Victoria; Peter Barrow; Public Service Association (PSA); ALP (Australian Labor Party); DLP (Democratic Labor Party); Country (National) Party; Gough Whitlam; Liberal Party
Tape 2, Side A		
0:18	Interview and appointment to Department of Agriculture, 1965 – Principal Dairy Research Officer	Northfield; Itzerott; Werribee; PSB; Marshall Irving; Geoff Strickland
4:30	Option to undertake a PhD scuttled	America; Australian Dairy Board; Prof. Ed Collins; Davis University
7:00	Letter of appointment; facility integrating dairy manufacture and production research	PSB; Itzerott; Werribee
10:40	Daughter’s schooling; accommodation in Adelaide	Werribee; Geelong; Windsor Gardens; Sweden; wife, Heather; Itzerott; West Beach; Northfield
14:10	Work situation at Northfield; research programs – mastitis, milk composition; recombined dairy milk products; National Mastitis Program	Itzerott; Northfield; Victoria; Sydney; Radcliffe; Oregon; Hehir; Bailey; White; Kiel University; Asia; CSIRO

Tape 2, Side B		
0:05	Work at Northfield; [national] Dairy Research Committee work; [Department's] Principal Research Officers Committee; regionalization; Research Centres Branch	Northfield; Brown; Irving; Young Liberals; Don Dunstan; Labor Party; Liberal Party; Mr Chamberlain; Turretfield; Kybybolite; Struan; Minnipa; Loxton; Tom Miller; Reg French
13:40	Working relationship with Chief Research Officer; field officers' experiments and research results	Northfield; New Zealand; Itzerott; Radcliffe; Roseworthy; Struan; Kybybolite; Irving
19:25	Inspection tours; pasture research criticized; experiments	Itzerott; South East; Radcliffe; Sydney University; Werribee; Struan
26:40	Publishing research; funds from Commonwealth Extension Services Grant, Dairy Board; cadets becoming permanent officers	<i>Journals of Agriculture, Dairy Research, Dairy Science, Pasture Research, Animal Husbandry Research</i> ; England; America; International Research Foundation; Reading; Callaghan; Strickland; Irving; Roseworthy; Itzerott; Miller; Dunstan; PSB
Tape 3, Side A		
0:30	Milk marketing; dairy quotas; Ministers	Victoria; Australian Dairy Produce Board; Ted Chapman; PSA
5:20	Table margarine quotas; dairy blends	Tom Casey; Europe
7:55	Politics and administration of agriculture; marketing	Egg Board
15:05	Regulated markets; marketing boards; Westminster system; export abattoirs	Chapman; Kangaroo Island
17:35	Separation of personal and professional views	
20:35	Westminster system; dairy quotas; political party policies	Chapman; Casey; [Bud] Abbott
29:10	Soliciting and giving advice	Egg Board; Farmers Federation
Tape 3, Side B		
0:05	Decision making; Kangaroo Island abattoirs	Chapman; Egg Board
3:50	Director-General's management style; selection of Director-General	Jim McColl; John Radcliffe; Peter Trumble; Brian Chatterton; PSB; Irving; Victoria
9:25	Relationship with Director-General; regionalisation; research policy; decentralization; Callaghan Report; Public Service inefficiencies	McColl; Itzerott; Adelaide; Mt Gambier; Callaghan; Brown
19:00	Regionalisation; veterinarians	Northfield; South East; IMVS; John Holmden; Nigel Thompson
24:35	Embracing regionalisation	Callaghan; Stuart Pell; Northfield; Parafield; South East; Arthur Tideman
27:45	Generational attitudes in the Department	
29:00	Monarto; decentralisation; PSA on the Monarto Committee	Monarto; Dunstan; Whitlam; Iris Stevens
Tape 4, Side A		
0:05	Work on the Monarto Relocation Committee; moving the Department	Monarto; Stevens; Whitlam; Pak Poys; McColl; Northfield; Heather Feagan
10:30	Brian Chatterton as Minister of Agriculture; sacking the Director-General	Chatterton; Lynne Chatterton (née Arnold); David Tonkin; John Bannon; McColl
16:00	Ministers of Agriculture; seconded to the PSA as president; promotion to Director of Animal Services; PSA matters	Frank Blevins; PSA; Jim Otte; Chatterton; Chapman; Tonkin; McColl; Bannon; Jenny Russell; Mike Rann
20:10	Public Service review 1985; Department of Chemistry; Forensic Science Laboratory; working for the PSA	Bannon; Bruce Guerin; Cathy Branson; PSB; Bill Cossey; Divett Pl; Dunstan
Tape 4, Side B		
0:05	Secretarial assistance; transport; relations with Premiers	Gilbert St; Head Office, Grenfell St; Dunstan; Bannon; State Bank
4:05	Philosophy of government assistance to agriculture	SARDI
7:50	Economics of agriculture	Milton Friedman
12:20	Retirement, 1987; egg prices; new Director-General; Savings & Loans Board; resignation from ALP; Retired Officers Group; retirement function and video	Egg Board; Heather Feagan; Kym Mayes; Radcliffe; Harvey; Savings & Loans Credit Union; Cossey; John Ceroutis; Greg Connor; ALP; Ralph Clarke; Tim Kucheil