

The Global Health CHRONICLES

MALARIA CONTROL: CDC BEGINNINGS

Name: Bishop, Linton, MD and June Bishop

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Summary of Interview:

Dr. Linton Bishop, one of the founders of the Department of Cardiology at Emory University recounts his years as a child when he assisted his physician father on his rounds in rural Georgia. He describes experiences with diseases including malaria, rabies, meningitis, polio, and others. His perspective on the establishment of CDC in Atlanta is that of an academic from the neighboring school of medicine. He also recounts how the Emory community worked with and supported CDC throughout the years.

Notable Quotations from Interview:

On CDC and general medicine practice in Georgia: *“When we started [practicing medicine], the CDC did a lot of good things, particularly...with malaria and with the tetanus and the mad dog disease, rabies.”*

Shortage of medications during World War II and shortly afterwards: *“There was a shortage of penicillin and a number of things. In fact, we tried some things like collecting urine [of people on penicillin] and distill the penicillin out and try to use it again.”*

On Dr. Paul Beeson of CDC: *“And in fact, Dr. Paul Beeson at Grady found out about transferring yellow fever or hepatitis from one person to another with blood transfusions. That was back when he worked for the CDC.”*

On early ‘Rabies Houses’: *“There was one story I never read about and never heard except by mother and granddaddy. They had houses; when people were bitten by a rabid dog, these people go lock themselves up, and they had a place to get food and water to them, and that was all, because they were so dangerous.”*

Key Terms in Interview:

B12 Navy Program; ASTP Army program; Emory; malaria; patent medicines; quinine; tonics; CDC; Georgia Public Health Department; tetanus; rabies; rabies houses; meningitis; antibiotics; Yellow fever immunizations; blood transfusions; typhoid; diarrhea; polio; Academy of Medicine; Salk vaccine; Sabin vaccine; trichinosis; penicillin

Key People Mentioned in Interview:

Beesen, Dr. Paul
Bloom, Walt
Bohanan, Ms.
Brandon, Morris
Candler, Walter
Finland, Dr. Alex
Hatcher, Dr. Charlie
Herndon, Garland
Meaders, Dr. Pat
Roosevelt, Eleanor
Roosevelt, President Franklin Delano
Stead, Eugene
Woodruff, Mr. Robert



Dr. Linton and June Bishop

http://www.genetics.uga.edu/gift_bishop_fellowship.html

MALARIA CONTROL: CDC BEGINNINGS INTERVIEW

As we mentioned when we were talking earlier, this project is called Project Genesis and the events related to the beginnings of CDC in the time period between 1941 and 1951. It also has to do with the malaria control in war areas.

June: Well, I was totally unaware of any of the CDC beginnings. I hope he'll be able to conjure up some memories of that. But I, of course, was around Emory and was involved with him after 1948 and heard things through him but I didn't really know anything about the beginning of the CDC. I didn't even remember when it came to Emory. It's just sort of always been there.

It was about that time when it came. So, let's back up a little bit and you can tell us about what your life was like in the '40s, what Atlanta was like and how things have changed. Try to give us a picture of what that period was like, what the political and medical talk was, and how people were feeling about the war and about malaria. What can you remember about that time? It sounds like you would have been in college, Linton.

Linton: Well, I was in college when the war started in I guess '41 it was. And we were immediately taken into the service. I was in the B12 program which meant that the Navy had set up this program to secure the doctors in the future, and the ASTP was the Army doing the same thing. So we had an Army and a Navy unit at Emory. Now, I do remember some things about malaria. The medicines in Georgia, what we call them, the—I was telling you the other day—patent medicines had quinine in them and they took it out, and they had a resurgence of malaria in Georgia. So they had to put the quinine back into patent medicines.

June: What sort of patent medicines are you talking about? Something people took I gather frequently, or was widely taken.

Linton: Tonics is what they called it.

June: What?

Linton: Tonics.

June: Oh, tonics, yeah.

They had it in tonic water?

June: Well, it still is in tonic water. That's what it is, quinine water. But these were patent medicine tonics that people used to take tonics frequently. That was in the days when they didn't have much else for people to take in lieu of vitamins or—and they also had a lot of alcohol in them which made them very popular.

Linton: Yeah. That was one of the main ingredients. And the CDC worked hand in hand with the Georgia Public Health Department and they did a great job in stamping out malaria in Georgia, and they did a great job with tetanus and also with rabies. I remember in my dad's practice they had to cut the heads off the dogs and send them into examination for rabies. When I first started just before I went to Boston, I went and looked after the practice because my dad was sick and I'd send material off on a train and the name of the train was 'the Shoo Fly'. And would get the report back the next day after that. I remember one little Afro American child that I had to call on, his name was *[deleted]*, with meningitis and I did a [spinal] tap in our home and looked at it myself and I thought it was influenza meningitis and got the report the next day; I was right. We had just begun to get some antibiotics and the child lived.

So you made the correct diagnosis.

June: Honey, tell the rest of that story, though, that's too good.

Linton: I went by to see his daddy who was a great friend of my daddy's when I was down visiting.

June: Many years later.

Linton: Many years later. I had been out hunting birds and his daddy said, "You got anybody to clean your birds?"

I said, "No sir."

He said, "You remember that little black boy you saved 30 or 40 years ago?"

I say, “Yep.”

He said, “Yonder he comes.” Says, “Come here boy and clean these birds for this doctor who saved your life.”

Linton: And he did. But he was left with deaf and neurological things that often happen with meningitis now and in those times particularly. When we started, the CDC did a lot of good things, particularly as you say, with malaria and with the tetanus and the mad dog disease, rabies.

June: Would that have been after '47 or about that time?

Linton: Just about that time, June. It was after '47 a lot of that was done because I used their facilities for a number of things. I started out right about...in the country seeing all these people. They [CDC] gave the answers to so many things for us.

June: So when you speak of sending off samples of blood or spinal fluid or whatever on the train, you were sending them up to Emory?

Linton: No, sent them up to the CDC.

June: And that's where they sent the report back. That's interesting. I didn't know that.

Why do they call the train “The Shoo Fly?”

Linton: You know, the train ran from Macon to Valdosta. Every afternoon and every morning it went down, I guess maybe in the afternoon, it came back in the morning. Of course, at that time we still had a lot of gnats and flying insects, and I guess the name came from all the bugs they had.



Shoo Fly Express Train

<http://www.etsy.com/listing/83247141/train-depot-and-vintage-steam-locomotive>

Oh, that got stuck on the grill.

Linton: But then over all that time they used all these things and a lot of great stories. In fact, there was one story I never read about and never heard except by mother and granddaddy. They had houses; when people were bitten by a rabid dog, these people go lock themselves up, and they had a place to get food and water to them, and that was all. Because they were so dangerous.

June: They isolated themselves?

Linton: Yeah. Well, the community isolated them.

June: How horrible. Would they just die?

Linton: Yeah. Stayed in the mad dog house until they died.

June: That's terrible. We don't realize how lucky we are that they have eradicated so many of these terrible things.

What kind of malaria precautions do you remember being taken when you were growing up?

Linton: Yeah, the water drainage and putting oil on standing water and—

June: Which we need to do now with the West Nile Virus. We need to be getting rid of the standing water.

Linton: Yeah, very much.

June: But I don't think we ever took any—or I certainly never heard of anybody taking any personal precautions against malaria. I mean we didn't take any kind of medicine or spray ourselves with mosquito repellent. You'd take your chances.

Linton: You use these nets at night to sleep under.

June: Did you? I never did. I didn't do that.

Linton: Well, you were in north Georgia. Very little malaria up there.

June: It did make a difference? Being further north?

Linton: Oh sure, yeah.

June: I never thought of that.

So your family slept under nets because you were in the area where malaria was more prevalent, Linton?

Linton: Yeah, that's right.

Interesting. How about yellow fever?

Linton: Never saw yellow fever. The first we saw it was when the Army or the government injected something to prevent yellow fever and it had the virus in it, so that gave everybody yellow fever and had a good number of deaths from it.

June: From the immunization?

Linton: Yeah because they had the yellow fever virus in the medicine they gave.

June: But that's fairly common with a lot of vaccines, isn't it, except that you just can't have too much. I thought a lot of vaccines, immunization was done by giving you a small dose of whatever the disease was.

Linton: Not yellow fever or hepatitis.

June: Oh, really? It wasn't supposed to be in there?

Linton: That's right. And in fact, Dr. Paul Beeson* at Grady found out about transferring yellow fever or hepatitis from one person to another with blood transfusions. That was back when he worked for the CDC.



Paul Beeson, M.D.

Paul Beeson was born in Livingston, Montana on October 18, 1908 and graduated from McGill University in Montreal, Canada in 1932. He was recruited by Dr. Stead to come to Emory as the "infectious diseases man" in 1942 and he became the only physician in the southeastern United States who had a special expertise in infectious diseases. His contributions to medicine were many, but noteworthy was the fact that he first recognized and described post-transfusion hepatitis while working at Grady. He also began his study of infective endocarditis and was the first person to administer penicillin at Grady when the drug became available in 1943. Dr. Beeson became the Chair of the Department of Medicine in 1944 and remained in that post until 1952 when he left Emory to become Chairman of the Department of Medicine at Yale. <http://medicine.emory.edu/about/history.cfm>

What was his name?

Linton: Paul Beeson.

June: Dr. Paul Beeson, one of the great giants of medicine that Emory let get away.

So he discovered that yellow fever could be contracted through blood transfusions?

June: And hepatitis.

Linton: That's right. It was hepatitis that he discovered, but they would all turn yellow and it was probably a different virus. Probably yellow fever.

Where did he end up going?

Linton: He left and went to Great Britain.

June: No, he went from here to Yale and then later he was the first American to ever be given a professorship at Oxford. He was Professor of Medicine at Magdalen College.

Linton: The Nuffield Professor.

June: The Nuffield Professor, yeah. We talked to his wife a couple of weeks ago. We still keep in touch with her. He died. But she lives up in New Hampshire. Wonderful lady.

Linton: I'll never forget, I was an intern at Boston City hospital. We rotated through and I was on Infectious Disease and was looking after a baby and the baby got this high fever spiking every other day and I recognized it was probably malaria, and checked his blood and it was. His daddy was from Italy and had been there before the war and he gave a transfusion to the baby and I'm trying to think the name of the man that was such a great person in Infectious Disease. In fact, I gave some money to his library. He's a little fellow and he always had tall shoes. That's right, about that size.

June: I can't think of the name either. I know who you're talking about.

Linton: You never knew him.

June: No, but I've heard you talk about him.

Linton: But he was head of the 4th Medical Service which I was on and they couldn't find out what was wrong with this baby.

June: But the daddy had given the child malaria with the blood transfusion?

Linton: That's right. But I came in and he told all these boys all over the country, he said, "You had to get this cracker up here to show you what was wrong with this baby."

June: That was a very great victory for you.

Sounds like you had very good clinical judgment.

June: Dr. Finland. Alex Finland.

Linton: That's right.

June: I knew I'd think of him eventually.

Wow, but you never even met him.

June: No, but I've heard the stories for 61 years.

Linton: He used to take us out to the local beer joints. He was a bachelor, and we always had a good time with him.

So he was based in Boston and he was an Infectious Disease specialist.

Linton: Yeah, that's right.

June: Harvard Professor.

Interesting. Now let's talk about how things were in the medical community during the war [WW II] in Atlanta. Was there talk about malaria becoming more prevalent because of the war? What do you remember about that time that were issues in health care?

Linton: I remember malaria and remember my daddy talking about the spiking of fever which is classical in malaria and was able to make a diagnosis without this, but he sent blood off to CDC or the—I can't remember if it was at the Georgia Health Department, and they would come back and see malaria bugs.

June: But I was part of the community; you were really in the medical school. Those years you were in medical school you were not really a part of the community or did you have much sense of being—

Linton: Grady is about as much community as you can be.

June: Well, that's true, I guess you're right about that. Was there much concern among the general population or even the medical population about the potential increase of malaria?

Linton: No.

June: I never heard that but I wouldn't have heard it.

Linton: But there was an increase in it and they found out it was probably because quinine had been taken out of the patent medicines.

So that was about the same time.

Linton: Yeah.

You [Dr. Bishop] were in the Emory medical community and your father was in a small [town] practice and was a physician as well. Was his father also a doctor?

Linton: No, just my dad.

What was the town where he was?

Linton: Unadilla.

Unadilla. That's quite a bit farther south.

Linton: Yeah. His uncle was a doctor in Ashford, Georgia.

June: And Ashford is even further south. It's below Unadilla.

It's interesting that you collaborated on some things like that. That must have been fun for him to work with you.

Linton: Yeah.

You mentioned rabies. Was there any concern about typhoid during that time?

Linton: Oh yeah, there was a lot of typhoid and they realized that it came from diarrhea. A lot of typhoid deaths.

June: I never think of typhoid. All of these things you're talking about, by the time I was aware of any of this they had the vaccines. But did they develop the vaccine for typhoid? When was that?

Linton: About this time.

June: About the '40s, late '40s?

Linton: Yeah.

June: Must have been a lot going on in medicine then.

Linton: The typhoid vaccine was not as effective as we'd hoped it would be but most everybody got it; school kids and everything.

June: They did do a mass immunization against typhoid.

Linton: Of the kids, yeah.

June: I thought that I remembered that we got those for kids.

Now, getting back to CDC being located here, I'm wondering what was thought in the Emory community about that. When you found out the CDC was going to be located and based in Atlanta—

Linton: Were we excited? Yes.

So everyone was happy about that?

Linton: Well, yes all of us, at least the young medical students and the young doctors were. I can't tell you about the reaction of the older doctors. But they helped us get started with some of the polio projects. We lined them up all around the Academy of Medicine and I happened to be President of the Medical Society and I'd gotten the syringes and the medicine and the people all for free, and we gave them for I think it was 25 cents a shot. And we'd line people up for several blocks coming in to take the polio. Now, that was the Salk vaccine, the first one.

The killed virus.

Linton: Yeah.

People were very happy to get that vaccine. Did Emory and CDC collaborate in getting the people vaccinated for polio at that time?

Linton: Well, yeah, this was actually the Medical Society.

June: I think this was purely a Medical Society effort that did that big vaccination that they had. Largely his project as a matter of fact. I've forgotten who you got to give you the syringes. I guess it was the company that made them.

Linton: No. The company that made them was here in Atlanta and it was Morris Brandon or one of his brothers, I can't remember, that gave us the syringes.

They were the glass syringes?

Linton: Yeah, that's right. We'd line them up and we had, oh 20 or 30 doctors and nurses giving folks as they go through, and we gave a lot of them. And later did the same thing with the under-the-tongue—

Sabin vaccine?

Linton: Yeah. But then Dr. Hatcher had a lot to do with moving the whole CDC into Atlanta and I think he gave some property.

It was quite a time.

June: I had no idea that all this was going on in medicine in those days because I was in college.

So many things were happening. Blood transfusions were fairly new and the vaccines were being developed. And you were right in the thick of it.

Linton: Right in the middle of it.

Were you the head of the Georgia Medical Association during that mass polio vaccination?

June: No, the Atlanta Fulton County.

Linton: We did it through the Medical Society.

June: Fulton County Medical Society, not for whole Georgia.

And were you primarily at Grady during those years?

Linton: Yes.

June: Well, he was on the volunteer faculty making rounds at Grady for three months every year but he was in private practice, and they practiced in those days in all the hospitals. He was going to about four different hospitals seeing patients when he first started. But he did make rounds at Grady for three months every year.

Linton: But this was earlier than that, June, what you're talking about.

June: Well, when you were doing the polio thing, honey, you were in private practice because that's when you were president of the medical society.

Linton: That's right, yeah.

June: That was in the '60s wasn't it?

Linton: And we did a lot of work with TB, with polio and we learned something about trichinosis. There were a lot of Germans that came into the area, June, around Sandy Springs and they ate raw pork and we had a lot of trichinosis from that.

How did you treat that?

Linton: There wasn't much treatment for it symptomatically.

June: Did that kill people or just make you really sick?

Linton: Made them terribly sick. All these little bugs got in your muscles and they hurt everywhere, badly. But before they came here the Germans and the Jewish people avoided sick pigs and didn't eat them, you know.

June: Well, the Jews don't eat pork period, do they?

Linton: The Jews did, and that's probably one of the reasons.

June: Yeah, they probably knew that it was apt to make you sick. Smart enough to leave that alone.

You mentioned Charlie Hatcher earlier and his effort to get CDC located here [in Atlanta]?

Linton: He came back to Emory as a cardiac surgeon and he was a very talented administrator so he would move quickly up in scale and he took on several projects of this sort and did a good job.

June: Well, they didn't even have cardiac surgeons in those days. Wasn't he just a thoracic surgeon?

Linton: He was the first one.

June: He was trained as a cardiac? I didn't know that.

He worked at Emory but he was interested in getting the communicable disease center located here?

Linton: Yeah, he did so many things for Emory in this way, but that's one of the big ones.

June: He will be delighted to talk to you and tell you all about what he did.

I would love to talk to him.

June: He's married....

He still lives on Lullwater I think you said.

June: Yeah.

I'll look him up.

June: We see him occasionally. Not often.

So his motivation, do you think, was that having CDC here would help Emory?

Linton: Yeah, and he was a—shall we say—a self motivated man. He liked to get everything he could for himself.

June: But I'm sure that he realized that this would be a big advantage for Emory to have that here and provide opportunities for collaboration, I'm sure, and research projects and that kind of thing; I would imagine, I don't of course know anything about it really.

Linton: Well, you're right. They brought a lot of first class societies in teaching the medical school as well as work in the CDC.

Did you know any of the Woodruffs?

Linton: Yeah.

The Woodruffs donated the land for CDC.

Linton: Mr. Woodruff, yeah. He was the one that took Coca-Cola and put it on the map. And he had a real interest in medicine and helped with the medical school and so many things.

He did a lot of donating to Emory as well.

June: Oh my, yes.

What was his interest in medicine do you think? Where did that come from?

Linton: Interest in medicine? You know, I don't know. I've often wondered about that. But he started the medical school. For many years it ran a deficit every year and he had to make it up and he had the money to do it. But he decided we needed a better idea so he really urged them to start the Emory Clinic which the idea was that these doctors would make their own living and donate enough of their earnings to keep the deficit down.

So that was his idea, the Emory Clinic. And did it work?

Linton: Yeah. It worked almost too well.

June: It kind of got to be the tail wagging the dog.

Did you know him [Robert Woodruff] or had you met him?

Linton: I knew him and met him but not very well.

June: But you did know well Garland Herndon who became his personal physician and really close confidant, and you knew Garland well. Garland Herndon died several years ago; a long time ago actually. But he was Mr. Woodruff's personal physician and very close to him. I mean he lived, I think, two doors from him and was sort of his boy Friday. And his daughter, Garland's daughter, Pat Meaders, is a doctor now and Pat is connected to Emory, isn't she?

Linton: Yeah. She worked with me about six months.

June: But she would have a lot of information about Mr. Woodruff; personal-type stuff.

I will see if I can look her up, too.

June: Pat Herndon-Meaders. I think it's M-e-a-d-e-r-s.

What field is she in?

June: Is Pat an internist, honey? I can't remember. Did she go into internal medicine?

Linton: Yeah.

June: I think she did. She's been very active in some things that have to do with cancer I know because she was chairman one year of that big cancer luncheon that they have every year at Saks but I'm not sure what that connection is.

Linton: We're leaving out another man at Emory who was very influential was Eugene Stead who was a Professor of Medicine and was a very bright fellow who took these ideas, so many of them, and put them together.

An idea person who got them going.

Linton: Yeah.



Eugene A. Stead, Jr., M.D.

Eugene Stead was born in Decatur, Georgia on October 6, 1908 and graduated from Emory University School of Medicine in 1932. He arranged the department's teaching program at Grady and centered clinical teaching on the patient. In his book "E.A. Stead Jr." he writes: "We would teach from the patients and attach knowledge already acquired to the particular patient the student was caring for. The student would re-investigate those phases of the basic sciences, which applied to the same patient. The patient would be the stimulus for learning, because this stimulus would last as long as the student practiced medicine. The student learned to work for the fun of learning and to give his patients good care." It should also be noted that the first diagnostic use of the cardiac catheter took place in Stead's cardiac catheterization laboratory at Grady. Dr. Stead left Emory to become Chairman of the Department of Medicine at Duke University on January 1st, 1947. During his tenure at Emory, he

recruited a group of brilliant teachers and investigators. One of them, Dr. Paul Beeson, would become the new Chairman of the Department. <http://medicine.emory.edu/about/history.cfm>

June: And he went from here to Duke where he stayed. He ended his career at Duke.

How do you spell his last name?

Linton: S-t-e-a-d. And he left Emory and went to Duke as a Professor and built Duke, too; the first [medical] school.

But it was Mr. Woodruff's idea to start Emory Clinic and he also donated land for CDC.

Linton: Yeah. The Woodruffs and the Coca-Cola people owned all that land, you know where the President's home is.

June: Well, the President's home was Walter Candler's house.

Linton: But there was some of that area was converted, part of that area is part of CDC now.

June: Honey, that area up there on Clifton where the CDC is on the other side of the road from the President's house, all of that was residential land when I was coming along because my school principal, Mrs. Bohanan, lived right there in a little white house. That was all residential property.

Linton: Well, we were buying up all that land we could from way back there.

June: I just don't remember when it started to convert from residential homes to—

Linton: Well, I was on the board and we were trying to buy everything around.

June: That was years later. Years later. And she's talking about 1947. That was when you were in—

Linton: That wasn't so many years.

(Laughter)

June: It was a long time ago. But I'm sure the part about his making it available to Emory is correct because I'm sure that would have been the easy way for them to get that land.

June: Nobody had any air conditioning in those days. No, she asked if there was any shortage of equipment or supplies that was caused by the war.

Linton: Oh yeah, there was a shortage of penicillin and a number of things. In fact, we tried some things like collecting urine [of people on penicillin] and distill the penicillin out and try to use it again.

June: Did she hear you say that? Look at Karen, honey.

That's amazing.

Linton: Trying to distill the penicillin out of urine?

Yes.

Linton: And use it again.

Yes. Did you really do that?

Linton: Yeah.

June: Any old port in the storm as they say.

Linton: These were kids with the bacterial meningitis. No, bacterial endocarditis. Infection of the heart valve. It was just a terrible disease and penicillin though would really help it.

So you did whatever you had to do to get the penicillin.

Linton: Yeah, whenever you could get it.

What do you remember about the VA Hospital?

Linton: I remember the VA Hospital was originally in Brookhaven.

June: I'd forgotten that the VA was out there at Brookhaven.

Linton: Don't you know it was 48?

June: Yeah, I do remember 48 yeah. Don't know where it got that name. Hospital 48 was the name.

Linton: Somewhere from World War I, and I've forgotten.

So that was what the VA Hospital was called? Hospital 48?

June: Yeah.

I wonder why.

June: No idea. Never thought about it.

Did you work with any of the people at CDC or did you get to know any of them in those early days?

Linton: Oh yeah. I really can't remember, who was that fellow that moved to Jacksonville, June, that we got the first dog from?

June: Oh, that puppy Grady? You mean the dog we named Grady?

Linton: No, this was—

June: Oh, the Dachshund?

Linton: Dachshund. I can't think.

June: I keep wanting to say Walt Bloom but that was when you got that car.

Linton: Was on the medical school faculty.

June: Yeah. No, I can't remember who you're talking about that we got the dog from.

Linton: But the VA Hospital was along where that funeral home is.

June: Oh, you mean in Brookhaven?

Linton: Yeah.

June: Yeah, but she asked you earlier though if you remembered when it moved down to Clairmont, but that's been—I think of that as very recent but I guess it was probably 30 years ago.

Yeah, it was probably a newer building.

I was going to show you some of the pictures from these older publications—this is from '43 and '44. They are about malaria control in war areas and it describes their work. You were talking earlier about the drainage projects and how they [would try to eliminate standing water] from state to state.

June: See, I guess because I was in north Georgia, I was never aware that malaria was such a problem in Georgia.

I expect they sent people to north Georgia to get away from malaria infected areas.

June: Well, I guess we just didn't have much of it up here. Oh, yeah, in Charleston they all went up to the mountains in the summer to get away from the mosquitoes.

Do you remember when DDT came around, was discovered?

June: I remember hearing about it but I have no idea when it was. I was not as aware of that really either, not being in a farming community I guess.

Remember the mosquito trucks coming down the streets?

June: Oh, is that what they sprayed for the mosquitoes? Oh yeah, when we were—years when we went to Sea Island in the summer they had the fogger come by every evening up and down fogging the streets. Was that DDT?

Probably.

June: That was pretty scary. That wasn't very good was it?

Did you run behind the fogger trucks like we did?

June: No, I didn't do that. My children might have because this was after I was married and had children and we went down to the shore for the summer, for a month every summer.

Well, we've been talking for about an hour. That's probably enough for now.

June: I don't know that we've been a lot of help.

Oh, I'm going to come back and talk some more because I love hearing your stories.

Sarah: I like the story about Papa, when you rode the tractor when your dad was making rounds. You know that story?

June: Oh, he was—well, I don't know about a tractor, he was in his daddy's car.

Sarah: Maybe it was in a car. I don't know why I thought it was a tractor. When your dad was making rounds and you were in the car.

Linton: Oh, he was making rounds 10 or 15 miles out in the country and I used to crank the car up for him because I'd go with him, and one time I'd been playing with an airplane and I had everything pulled wide open. I cranked it up and it took off. And we took off across the cotton field. My dad and a farmer was chasing us and we got down there, it was a big ravine I was about to fall into and they were petrified. And some way I slammed it and put it in reverse. It started towards them, they started running the other way. Finally I had sense enough to turn it off.

June: How old were you then?

Linton: Oh, six or seven maybe; or five or six.

June: He also one time when he was in his daddy's car waiting for him to see a patient, he got to wondering what made that window go up and down when you turned the crank. So he took a knife and cut the upholstery to see what was back there.

Linton: Brand new car.

Sarah: Wasn't it the first car in the town or something?

Linton: No.

June: Well, there weren't many I'm sure in those days.

Linton: But anyway he asked me, says "Who cut that in my back seat?"

I said, "I did."

Says, "That's like George Washington, he wouldn't tell a lie."

June: Well, I'm sure he thought it was cute and clever because he was the baby and the only boy and he could not do anything wrong.

You were doing your own scientific experiment.

Linton: I was driving when I was oh, nine or ten years old. I drove him around through all these country roads. There weren't any other cars around.

June: No traffic problems, huh.

Linton: One day I was driving, roads were slick, wet. We started slipping and slipped in the ditch. My dad said, "Confound it, son!"

June: That was his greatest oath. The only oath he ever uttered was "confound." He was a sweet, cute man.

Linton: I used to pull on the arms and legs to get them straight when they were broken and he'd put a cast on there. No x-rays or anything.

June: Did they just do it by feel?

Linton: Yeah, by feel. You would feel.

I bet that hurt.

Linton: I'm sure it did. But I was pulling and he was plastering.

He must have enjoyed having you with him.

Linton: One of the funniest things was two friends got to fighting and just cut each other up and blood everywhere. The sheriff came and got him. Daddy used all the sewing equipment he had, so he borrowed some thread and soaked it in whiskey to sterilize it and we used that to sew him up.

June: And he'd sew awhile and then he'd let Linton sew awhile.

Linton: Yeah, he sewed until he got tired and said, do you want to sew? I said, yes sir. And I sewed, too.

So you already knew how to stitch before you got to medical school.

Linton: I used to stitch up some of the dogs I had. They would get in a fight with the wildcats and get cut up and I'd sew them up.

Wow. Well, this has been so interesting and I want to thank you both.

June: I didn't even get started telling you all the war stories so I'll let him do the talking today, but my war experiences were different. I was still in high school at Druid Hills and we spent our Saturdays—one of our friends had a big old open truck, a big farm truck, and we spent Saturday's going around collecting scrap metal for the war effort, and it was such a good wholesome—you know, everybody was pulling together. Not the way it is now with all the divisiveness and enmity and it was really a good—terrible as the war was and awful to think of all the lives lost and the pain, but for somebody in high school it was a really good time to grow up because we all had a common interest and a common effort that we were behind. Very wholesome way to spend our time.

Linton: Yes, it was. Just like when you were sick and I went over to see her, I probably was at Emory Hospital and she needed a shot of penicillin.

June: Well, you don't need to tell this.

Linton: And her mother was there and said, "Where are you going to give it to her?"

I said, "In her rump."

(Laughter)

June: Well, we were engaged.

And did you?

Linton: Yeah. And she got well.



June and Linton Bishop 1949. Photo loaned by the Bishops.

June: I had a lot of terrible infections when I was teaching school that first year when you haven't the immunities built up, and those kids would come in with—I had a cold from November through April, I think. It was awful. And when I had polio, I was quarantined at home because they didn't have any place to put me. They had a big red sign they put on the mailbox at the foot of the hill and another one on the front door to keep people out.

Sarah: Tell your polio story about where you went and everything.

June: Oh, about Warm Springs. Well, I went to Warm Springs for about five months and had dinner with President Roosevelt and Mrs. Roosevelt for Thanksgiving; they were there. It was actually the last Thanksgiving that he was able to be there before the war, and he came and visited me in my room. It was very exciting. My mother was just thrilled beyond words because she loved him, thought he was wonderful.

What an experience. And you remember him.

June: Mm-hmm, oh yeah.

That's amazing.

June: And we need him now, don't we? Franklin. We need him to help pull us out of the doldrums again.

Linton: Well, he may have started this thing.

(Laughter)

June: That's a pretty big stretch. My daddy thought that he had horns.

Linton: He put us in debt, you see.

June: Well, that's true, he did. I'm not sure he was the first one to do that but at least he did it in a way that provided jobs and made people—things get better, I guess, thanks to the war actually. Probably the only reason it got better.

Yeah, economics change with war.

June: Yeah.

Well, I'm gonna come back and talk to you.

June: Well, we've enjoyed it. It's lots of fun to reminisce and talk about yourself.

It's been fun for us, it's been great.

Linton: Let me tell you a story about your dictating machine. We were teaching Sunday School and a bunch of little boys, how many boys?

June: I don't know but we had about four girls and about 18 boys. It was just a totally unbalanced group.

Linton: And she said she could handle them. She came in and told me in tears she couldn't handle them either. So I said I could handle them. Well, I had trouble, too. But the next Sunday I came in with a dictating machine, put it right in the middle of the circle. Said, now your parents want to know what we're talking about. So we'd talk and then I'd turn it on and let them listen to themselves talk, and you know it worked and we never had a bit of trouble again.

That was brilliant.

June: That was a brilliant stroke of genius. I have to admit it worked beautifully.

I bet they had fun with that. Great idea.

June: Actually, some of those little boys; of course they're now men with children the ages that they were then, and we had one of them not long ago emailed me and said he

remembered some of the things that we talked about in the Sunday School class and how great it was. That's really very rewarding.

Very rewarding.

Linton: Well, he was wanting to start a class himself.

June: Yeah, he was trying to organize a class with one of his children that was about that age, middle school, which is a tough age. And he was asking a couple of things about suggestions.

So you could tell him about the dictating machine.

(Laughter).

June: Well, it was fun.



Linton Bishop, MD Father of Cardiology at Crawford Long Hospital

Dr. Linton Bishop is a second-generation Emory Medical School alumnus. His father graduated in 1908 from the Atlanta College of Physicians and Surgeons, a precursor to the Emory University School of Medicine. From his father, Dr. Bishop learned compassion for his patients and equal treatment of all of his patients, regardless of socioeconomic status.

A profound experience in Dr. Bishop's career led to the creation of a cornerstone of cardiac care at Emory. Dr. Bishop was unable to adequately treat a long-time patient, Carlyle Fraser, for a heart attack, due to the limitations at the time on cardiac and medical technology.

Carlyle Fraser died in 1961, but in 1973, the Carlyle Fraser Heart Center was established at Crawford Long Hospital, as the result of a generous gift from Fraser's wife, Isabel Fraser. The Carlyle Fraser Heart Center soon became a leading center for cardiac referrals, diagnosis, treatment, and research in the Southeast, and developed a reputation nationally for excellence in cardiac care. As a result, clinicians and researchers of the highest caliber have been attracted to the Carlyle Fraser Heart Center, and have continued to uphold the standard of excellence set by Dr. Bishop.

The establishment and growth of the Carlyle Fraser Heart Center has greatly contributed to the strength of Emory's position as a leader in cardiac care.

Dr. Bishop served on the Emory Board of Trustees. He retired from Crawford Long Hospital in 1990.
<http://www.emoryhealthcare.org/heart-center-atlanta/history/linton-bishop.html>

END