

[Autobiography]

Interview [3rd?]

Ragsdale, Katherine

5/11/36 cl-297 words

MAY 18 1936 AUTOBIOGRAPHY

In the town of [?], Arizona on March 11, 1911, at eleven o'clock an eleven pound baby girl, looking very much like her father was born to [Marie?] I. and tho'mas H. Ragsdale. They named me Katherine.

For three months we lived in Hisbee, and moved to Cincinnati, Ohio, where my father started in business with his brother. After living there some little time we moved to Artesia, New Mexico but it was only a short time until we moved to El Paso, Texas and my father opened a dry-goods store. Here we lived for several years and then moved back to Artesia.

It was here that I, now seven years of age, started to school, attending for three consecutive years, being neither absent nor tardy.

Our next move was to Roswell, New Mexico and I attended school there for three years. Again we moved, this time going to Douglas, Arizona, where I finished the seventh grade. It was here that I became interested in [? music?]. I had been singing in public since I was three years old, and playing the piano since I was seven, but here I enjoyed it more because the people of Douglas gave so many operettas and they always asked me to be in them. C18 — N. Mex.

Library of Congress

From Douglas, Arizona we moved to Nogales, Arizona only to move again in a few months to Artesia, New Mexico. Here I finished high school. During my senior I studied voice culture, and won several voice and piano contests. After graduation, I entered the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music, Cincinnati Ohio, and studied voice with the famous [Welsh?] Tenor, Dan Beddos. Here I won the honor of being the first first year voice pupil to sing in the quartette in the [?] Presbyterian Church.

2

Being unable to return to the Conservatory I moved to Oklahoma City, Oklahoma and worked in the [?] and stationery departments of a large department store. On December 20, 1934 I returned to Artesia, and worked in an office and then later had a part-time work in a department store, and in the month of April I started to work for the [???], in the [?] [?], for Eddy County.