

INTERVIEW WITH MRS. MILDRED TOBIAS

August 17, 1983. "Loved the Home," only happy memories; Mrs. Tobias also stated she hated going to religious services, remembered chapel right next to Uncle Harry's apartment. She remembered with distaste the fact that Mr. Lashman's funeral was held in the Lashman apartment in the Home. She was reluctant to use the front stairs for weeks afterward because the coffin had been carried up and down those steps.

Mrs. Tobias did not have fond memories of Mr. Voelmer, who preceded Mr. Lashman. She knew he was very hard on the boys. She herself did not have difficulties because she was always a compliant child. It was not until Mr. Voelmer left that the children were able to shop for new clothing. She recalls "going down to the basement" to get used clothing that was donated and stored there during Mr. Voelmer's regime.

Mrs. Tobias also made a joking reference to the bedbugs they used to have at the Home.

While she did not explain, Mrs. Tobias said that she thought it was not a good idea for a single man to be in charge of the Home. She thought they should only have employed married men.

Mrs. Tobias became tearful as she recalled leaving the Home when she was 16 years old. "It was hard to have to go out to get a job and earn a living." The Home advertised for a "nice Jewish home" for her. She began to board there and got impetigo, she is sure from sitting in their bathtub. She got a job in the office at Newman School and worked there five years. Weekends she continued to spend visiting her friends at the Home, explaining that she was lonely.