The minutes of the Board of Trustees for the 25th of October, 1944 state rather casually that Miss Edna Ellen Bell, became the professor and director of the School of Occupational Therapy at the College of Puget Sound. This announcement was preceded by several years of study and also months of careful analysis and planning.

With the possible return of the GI's when many of them were injured or wounded, there was felt to be a great need for a School of Occupational Therapy in this area. Mrs. Marjorie Mann who was professor of physical education for women at the College of Puget Sound came to me one day and said that she felt that we ought to have a school of Occupational Therapy at the College of Puget Sound. She said she had done certain inquiry and research and found that the Washington State Tuberculosis Association under the leadership of Mrs. Besthida B. Buchanan was very much interested in the possibility of a school being established in this area. As a follow up, I went with Mrs. Mann to talk with Mrs. Buchanan, whose office was in Seattle and she was very genuinely interested in establishing a School in a private college or university where there could be freedom as to the philosophy of teaching Occupational Therapy and also training students for that profession.

After a good many months of negotiation, she said that her Board of Directors would help subsidize the starting of such a school. I wanted to be sure that it was the kind of program
that would fit in with the philosophy of the College of Puget Sound, I went on a trip visiting various schools of Occupational Therapy. The most outstanding one at that time was called Milwaukee-Downer's School. I saw the school and it was a very fine addition to a college although it had a very practical application. The philosophy back of it was that those people who were injured or wounded would be treated by occupational therapists and they in turn would be able to readjust and rebuild muscles that were injured or atrophied.

When I returned from the trip, again we talked with Mrs. Buchanan and Mrs. Mann and there was a genuine offer in behalf of the Washington State Tuberculosis Association to give a grant in the amount of $10,000 to purchase necessary equipment and other things necessary to start the school. They also gave $10,000 a year for five years for a total of $60,000 at the end of which time there would not be any subsidy and we would work it into our budget.

It was a very popular school and Ms. Ellen Bell was an outstanding administrator and also an outstanding occupational therapist. She lived in Portland and was very happy for the position in the School and we were very happy to have her.

The school prospered and was very fine in enrollment. Our graduates were accepted for what was technically called an affiliation for six months of special training in the various categories of need and our students affiliated in the various