

HARNEY COUNTY HISTORY PROJECT

AV-Oral History #231 - Sides A & B

Subject: Chuck Walker

Place: Hines City Hall, Hines, Oregon

Date: June 29, 1988

Interviewers: Dorothea Purdy & Barbara Lofgren

DOROTHEA PURDY: This is Dorothea Purdy and Barbara Lofgren and we're out at the Hines City Hall, and we're talking with Chuck, or Charles Walker who is Mayor. And the date is June 29, 1988, in Hines Oregon. Chuck is the Mayor of Hines. Okay Chuck, or Charles, how do you want to be called?

CHUCK WALKER: Chuck, I guess, yeah.

DOROTHEA: Chuck, that sounds good to me too. We're going to let you do most of the talking here, and we'll interrupt a little bit and ask you some questions.

CHUCK: Okay, you just throw the questions at me. Now you'll probably want to start with why I'm here, huh?

DOROTHEA: Right.

CHUCK: Okay. We've got to go back to ---

DOROTHEA: Who you are.

CHUCK: All right. Charles I. Walker. Probably go back to even before September of '29, when I came here.

DOROTHEA: In 19 ---

CHUCK: In 1929.

DOROTHEA: '29.

CHUCK: I was born with the Edward Hines Lumber Company on June 18, 1917, in Winton, Minnesota. My father worked for the Edward Hines Lumber Company in Winton, Minnesota, in that year. He also was the treasurer for the city and --- A funny thing years later I was to get a copy of my birth certificate, and it was signed by my dad.

DOROTHEA: (Note: Chuck's father and mother are I. J. and Elma Walker.)

CHUCK: --- with the Edward Hines Lumber Company to Virginia, Minnesota. And in 1923, the Virginia Raney Lake Lumber Company cut out their timber in Virginia, and our family moved from Minnesota to the West. We won't go into that, because we were so many places. We were in Montana, and Canada, and back to Portland.

Well in 1928, when Edward Hines Lumber Company bought the Herrick contract for the timber here in Harney County and Grant County, and decided to build a mill here, my father who had worked for them many years before decided to come back to the Edward Hines Lumber Company. So in the early part of 1929, when the mill was under construction here, my father came back to Hines, Oregon, to enter under the construction with the Edward Hines Lumber Company. In fact that was the Battey and Kip were the construction people. Hines hadn't cut any lumber yet. Battey ---

DOROTHEA: What was it now?

CHUCK: Battey and Kip. Battey and Kip were the contractors.

B A T T E Y and K I P of Chicago, Illinois. They were the construction people of the mill. And my dad worked for the construction. Now at that time, there was no houses built in Hines.

We lived in Portland. My mother was the woman's wearing apparel buyer for Olds and Kings Store in Portland.

DOROTHEA: And how do you spell that?

CHUCK: Olds, O L D S and K I N G of Portland, Oregon. And we lived on Grand

Avenue. And I went to the elementary school in Portland.

Well in 1929, when my father came over to work here, we decided to move to Burns with him. (Cough) Excuse me. So we came to Burns in September of 1929, prior to the time there was any houses built. Stafford, Derbes and Roy was under the --- was building the houses in Hines at that time, along with the Kip construction of the sawmill.

Okay. When we came to Burns, I shall never forget that. We stopped out there by the mill, and it was about five o'clock. We were riding in a Model-A Ford; my mother was driving. My brother and I were in the car. And the mill let out, and we wondered how in the world we were ever going to get a hold of my dad, because everybody just scattered in those days. Well, we came to Burns, and I'll never forget --- we spent our first night in the hotel across from the Ford Garage. There was no, there was no ---

DOROTHEA: What was the name of that hotel?

CHUCK: That was the Whittier --- no, it's the --- what is the name of that hotel now. Burns ---

LADY: Did you want coffee?

CHUCK: Yeah, black.

LADY: Okay.

CHUCK: Stop this thing for a minute, will you. Go ahead, stop it and we'll go ---

Okay, anyhow first night we spent in that hotel, because there was no motel or ---

DOROTHEA: We'll look up the name of that.

CHUCK: --- yeah, there was no motels or anything like that in those days. Okay. Then after we got here, then in September 1929, the first place we lived in was down there across from the laundry. Mrs. Cazajou, and I can't spell that name, but her house sets right next to Wally Welcomes. Wally lives on the other side of the street. Her house was divided into apartments, and her own, she lived in one half, and we rented the other half

downstairs.

Okay. And I went to the Burns Elementary School at that time, it's Slater now, because the Hines School was not built yet at this time, or was the homes.

DOROTHEA: Do you remember who the principal was at that time?

CHUCK: Yes sir, B. B. Sutton. Great Scot. Now everybody knows B. B. Sutton. A fantastic principal. And Mrs. --- gosh, I can't think of the name of my teacher right now. Yes, I can. Mrs. Shaw was my sixth grade teacher.

DOROTHEA: Is that Ruth Shaw?

CHUCK: Yeah, Ruth Shaw. Uh huh.

DOROTHEA: She taught me in my sixth grade.

CHUCK: Yeah, she was a dandy.

DOROTHEA: No, let's see, Mrs. Stallard taught me, well she was my fifth grade teacher.

CHUCK: Yeah. And I can't remember the fifth grade teacher, but I went to the fifth and sixth grade there in Burns, while construction was going on in Hines.

And then in 1930, in the summer of 1930, we moved out to Hines when the houses were ready. First we lived on Roanoke Avenue, North Roanoke Avenue. In fact, today I live within two blocks of where I lived fifty some years ago. So, isn't that something?

BARBARA LOFGREN: That's unusual.

CHUCK: Yeah. Be as it may, anyhow, and I went to the Hines Grade School. The Hines Grade School started in the year 1931, for the full year. It finished out the last year of 1930, but in 1931, was the first full year of education in the Hines Elementary School. And the principal at that time was R. H. Anderson. And he is also the eighth grade teacher.

BARBARA: Did it just go through grade eight?

CHUCK: Yes, just through grade eight.

BARBARA: And then they went to Burns Union High School?

CHUCK: High school, right, right. But they had all eight grades there in the --- and I think, I look back here years later, and at that time, in 1932, we had 87 students in all grades, in the grade school. So there wasn't much of a crowd. The old building incidentally cost \$35,000, to build the Hines Grade School, the original building, which is the center construction of it now.

BARBARA: That's --- it's in the same location ---

CHUCK: Same location, you bet.

BARBARA: --- that they started at?

CHUCK: The playground was down below where it is now, except that it wasn't that far away. But be as it may, Mr. Anderson was the principal of the, of the Hines Grade School. When I came out from Burns, I was able to skip the seventh grade, and I went right into the eighth grade. I was behind a year coming from Canada back to the United States, and the United States to Canada. They set me back one year. Education in Canada was one year ahead. Anyhow I caught up to my age, my age bracket. And I graduated in 1932 from the Hines Grade School, to the Burns Union High School. And then I spent four years in the Burns Union High School. Graduated from there in 1936. Then during the time of high school, I --- not much going on then when you're going to school. But we played football, and basketball, and baseball locally here. American Legion Baseball. And then went to college, Oregon State College for about a year.

Then came back and went to work in the mill again in 1937. And in 1940, I joined the service, Uncle Sam's Air Corp. At that time it was the Air Corp. And spent from there until 1945, the fall of '45 in the Air Force. They changed its name then. And came back to Burns then in December of 1945, and went to work at the Edward Hines Lumber Company.

I was fortunate when I --- all the time I was gone, I had gone to work in the mill in 1936, after I got out of high school, and so I had a little seniority at the mill. So when I came back to the mill, instead of going back to work in the shipping, where I had left to go into the service, I had a chance to go into the office and work in the sales department. Bill Hamilton, who was the --- who had the job before me, had just left the office. The opening was there, and Mr. A. R. Dewey hired me into the sales office. I spent from that time from 1946 until 1981, in the sales department. I ---

BARBARA: So you never worked in the woods actually ---

CHUCK: Never worked in the woods, no I worked all ---

BARBARA: --- in the mill part itself, only in the office.

CHUCK: --- right. No, just in shipping. I worked all the way from the dry sorter through the mill, prior to the war days. But then after that when I came back and went to work in the office, I never worked in the mill after that. However, in my position as the sales manager in later years, I had an occasion to go to the woods and I made tours through the mill daily. So I got a chance to visit all the mill and all the people.

DOROTHEA: Did you ever work or run on the railroad?

CHUCK: No. Never, that's one job I never, I never, no. Never even got to ride on the railroad. I rode on the tracks in the car one time up the track to Seneca, which was interesting. But I never did work on, or ride on the rails. But I knew all the personnel of the rail.

BARBARA: Well going back just a minute ---

CHUCK: Yeah.

BARBARA: --- why did Edward Hines decide to come to Oregon to invest in a mill? There was a mill here prior to them going into

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CHUCK: All right. Yeah, all right. This huge forest that was up north of us, the Malheur Forest, was out, went out for bid in 1923. The first successful bidder of that timber was a Fred Herrick. Now Fred Herrick was from Idaho, and he also had mills in the south, and in Utah. So he was a pretty big- sized lumberman to start with. But he bid the timber and --- up in the Malheur Forest and was a successful bidder. Hines did not bid on the timber. At this time, in the late '20's he was still cutting lumber in Minnesota, and Mississippi, and Michigan and Wisconsin. So he had mills going at this time.

All right, Herrick when he bought the timber, he came here to Burns. The first thing he did was to extend the railroad from Crane to Burns. That was necessary to get any supplies here. Prior to that time, there was no railroad into Burns. So the first job he did was to get the railroad extended into Burns. Herrick was the one that did that.

DOROTHEA: And that's spelled H E R R I C K.

CHUCK: Right. Uh huh. Okay, he got the railroad to Burns and started work on the construction of the mill. The timber contract called for a beginning time to start producing lumber. The reason the mill was built here, was in the timber contract that the government put out, it had to be manufactured, the lumber had to be manufactured within the radius of five miles of the county seat of Burns, Oregon, or Harney County.

Well Burns being the county seat, and the radius of five miles, Herrick went around looking for places to build a mill. He went south into, oh down there by Clemens --- not Clemens, its Drinkwater's, position south of Burns, correction, that's north of Burns. Then he came back and looked south of Burns, around where, where do you call it, that was the Voegtly addition. But all these people, when they came to look for locations to build a mill, had an occasion to raise the price of their acreage. Thinking they're going to sell the whole works at one time.

Well, Herrick didn't go for that, neither south or north of Burns, but he came out

here three miles south of Burns where there was several springs. Warm water springs, and so forth. Now the man that owned this land at that time was Barnes. Barnes was the guy that went and surveyed all the timber and found out what a lush forest we had there, as far as ponderosa pine was. And he was the one that persuaded the government to put bids out for that huge forest. So Barnes owned the land south of Burns here, where Herrick would like to have built the mill. And so Herrick and Barnes got together and bought the land where the mill now sits. And from a man by the name of Barnes. Now, all right. Then Herrick started construction of the mill and the railroad into Burns, and along about this time, in 1928 and '29, the depression was coming on. Hard times was not here yet. They didn't, you didn't feel it so much in Harney County, as you did feel it --- the dollars weren't there. You didn't have any money, and you weren't able to borrow money. So Herrick ended up in 1928, with his money pretty well spent.

The people in Grant County were anxious to have the mill going and selling their timber. So they're beginning to get anxious for the mill to be built, and cut timber. Barnes didn't have the mill built. All he had was the railroad built. He was still building the railroad to Seneca up into the woods to haul logs down. But no mill was built. So they got to complaining, and they finally went to Washington, D.C. and had a big hearing. The people of Grant County and Harney County complained that no timber was being cut.

How can he satisfy the government on the contract that says we should be cutting timber, and not cutting timber? Well after a big battle, the government said that Herrick had showed cause enough to try to get the mill going; they felt sorry for the man because there was no money. And hard times were coming, and he could not borrow it. The government suggested that he get a helper or buyer and be cutting timber by --- I think it was December of 1930, or lose the contract. No, December of 1928, or lose the contract. Well, he lost the contract, because he couldn't fulfill it. Couldn't build a mill, run out of



money, and people were garnishing for their money.

So the government decided then that Mr. Barnes who had persuaded them the first time to get the timber up for sale, came back and got the timber and went to Washington, D.C. and talked to the head forester in Washington, D.C. to re-advertise the timber for sale. This time though, he did it on a little more trick. He went by Minneapolis, Minnesota, and talked to the people that had mills in Bend that was --- oh gosh, what --- anyhow Shevlin Hix, yeah, went by and talked to them, and Brooks Scanlon. He talked to Dr. Brooks who owned the Brooks Scanlon Mill to see if they couldn't get them interested in bidding on this timber.

And he also went by Chicago, Illinois and talked to Mr. Hines. The first time he had talked to Mr. Hines, the first time in 1923, Mr. Hines was not interested in buying government timber. He had his mills in Minnesota, and Wisconsin, and Mississippi, and so he was, and he didn't want to buy and cut forest service timber.

So he was discouraged in 1923, or Mr. Barnes was, because Hines would not even talk to him. But now in 1928, he was able to talk to Mr. Hines, and Mr. Edward Hines then was somewhat interested in the fact that his mills was cutting out in Minnesota and Mississippi, and he had all his yards in Chicago, and he was going to have to go and find another place to cut timber to supply his yards. So he was given a copy of the prospectus to bid on. And low and behold in 1928, when they opened the bids in Portland, Oregon, Edward Hines Lumber Company was the high bidder of \$2.80 per thousand board feet of the timber, and was awarded the timber contract for the Malheur Forest.

All right, then we had --- Mr. Hines then came to Burns. When he came to Burns, Mr. Herrick was still here. Mr. Herrick was still under the hope that he could still buy timber. He had bought some private timber. He still wanted to cut timber in Harney

County. He still wanted to build a mill in Harney County. He built the railroad to Burns; he was building the railroad to Seneca. He wasn't about to give up.

But Mr. Hines came to Burns in 1928, with --- he was the new bidder, the new owner of the big forest in Seneca. They came and looked over the properties of what Herrick had done. They looked the rail over from Burns to Seneca, what he had done. It wasn't done yet. And they looked over the mill site. And he offered Mr. Herrick to buy him out, and Mr. Herrick says no.

So right off the bat then the Hines Company bought the land east of the mill site now, and also made arrangements to survey a new line to Seneca. They bought the timber. So they were going to survey a new line into Seneca, other than what the O.N.& W. is now, and build another railroad in there to start contract, and start building the mill. You see Hines also had a year to cut, and to cut timber too. In other words to manufacture boards. He was given --- the forest service said you will produce lumber by December the 30th, or else you will lose your contract. So that was in 1928. So they got right to work.

Mr. Hines got right to work. He got Battey and Kip of Chicago for the construction engineers. He came to Burns and made a visit with the Chamber of Commerce, and he told them that I'm going to build a mill, and a railroad, and I'm not going to have time to build houses. You take care of that, because we have to have places for our mill people to live, who will be arriving here in a little over a year.

BARBARA: Did the men come from Chicago, and his other mills?

CHUCK: Yes, yes.

BARBARA: Or a lot from locally?

CHUCK: No, no.

BARBARA: Mostly out of town?

CHUCK: No, at that time, at that time in Harney County there was no lumbermen as such, in any volume. You had a few mills that were cutting lumber, green lumber up in the woods, but small operations. So there was no mill people here. But Mr. Hines was lucky, because he had two mills that were shutting down. And he had all the personnel he needed in those for woods, for mill, everything.

BARBARA: So the families came out, not just the men.

CHUCK: Families came out, yeah. So when he made his statement to the Chamber of Commerce, I'm not going to build any houses, you build the houses, I'm going to take care of the mill and the railroad.

He came back in about a --- two or three months later, and not a house had been built. All we were doing in Burns was waiting for the people to come. We weren't excited about --- he made the statement that if they built the town; Burns at that time was around 1200 people, that eventually it would be 5,000 people. But we couldn't get --- well mainly, mainly if you look back into the thing, the reason for this when they started, when Herrick started the mill, Burns had to go out and bond to do sewer line work, and water line work for the two and three hundred thousand dollars. So Burns could not get any more money to do any more bonding to do any more building. So they were pretty well strapped with what they had there to finish just their own town.

So be as it may, when Hines came up the second time, and nothing was being done in house construction, he got a hold of the Stafford, Derbes and Roy. Now Stafford, Derbes and Roy were construction engineers in home building, particularly around mill sites. They had been in Kelso, Washington. They had been in Longview; they had been in the South. So they were acquainted with the Edward Hines Company. And so Hines told them what he wanted. He ordered a hundred and fifty houses for his employees.

Stafford, Derbes and Roy then started looking for property to build a town site in.

They had the same luck as the --- as Herrick did trying to buy the land north and south of Burns. It was supposed to be there. Burns and Hines at one time were supposed to be together. But Herrick could not find land in Burns that he could afford. So all he did, he went up to the Courthouse and bought this two thousand acres out here, north of the mill site to build his own, separate entirely from the two towns.

Now I have a map that shows that the two towns at one time were all considered together. The streets were all intermingled. The parks were intermingled and everything. But there back again I say the depression was coming on. People didn't realize this. They had big ideas to build here, but the money wasn't there. The money absolutely dried up. There was no money. That depression, we didn't have --- what do you call it now, that you go get food stamps, or anything like that. You had a dollar, or you didn't have nothing.

But be as it may, Stafford, Derbes and Roy came out and bought two thousand acres, and designed the city. This city was designed with parks in a circle, and built in the middle of the two thousand acres. Now the reason he did that, he didn't want to have people coming up next to the city and building a farmyard or something. So he built this town right in the middle of the two thousand acres, and put a moratorium on all the building around it.

BARBARA: So the construction company bought the land then to ---

CHUCK: Yes, yeah, Stafford, Derbes and Roy ---

DOROTHEA: And that's what this Stafford, Derbes and Roy ---

CHUCK: Stafford, Derbes and Roy bought all this land, and they owned the town.

BARBARA: I see. Were they a Portland Company?

CHUCK: No, from out of the South, Mississippi or something. They --- their main office, when --- during the construction it was in Portland. But they were out of the South. Mr.

Derbes lived in Mississippi, or Louisiana or one or the other. And so did Roy.

But be as it may --- all right, they came here and they started the town. They dug the well, they planned the streets, platted the streets, built the homes, and the company bought it--- well the company now didn't buy --- the employees could buy them. You could come out and buy a house in those days for only eight or nine hundred dollars. And so when they got it all through, Stafford, Derbes and Roy spent a couple of million dollars here just to form the city.

Now they were all through building, and the mill was just about ready to go, and they wanted to leave town. But how can you leave town, all your assets are involved in the town. I own all those houses, I own all the streets, I own all the water works. So it was offered to the City of Burns to purchase that, so they could own the town. Burns didn't, couldn't get enough money together to buy the City of Hines. So in December of 1930, Hines incorporated unto themselves. They incorporated the city under their own council, and so they were able to go out and borrow money and buy the water works from Stafford, Derbes and Roy. And the town, you might say. Stafford, Derbes and Roy sold the water works to the City of Hines; I think it was a \$150,000. And in the sale, they also gave them the streets. They gave them the fire hydrants, and all that. They also gave them the --- they didn't give them the store buildings, that's still maintained under the Stafford, Derbes and Roy. The homes still owned by Stafford, Derbes and Roy, and they would sell them. When they left here, they left a person here to sell the houses. Hines did not own the houses.

Anyhow, the city was incorporated then, and went out and bonded themselves for a little over \$200,000, and bought the water works from Stafford, Derbes and Roy. Plus the streets and sidewalk around here. The parks were included in that sale too.

Okay then, now then we got another city. The first council meeting they had was in

December of 1930, and C. J. Pettibone, who was the manager of the mill at that time, was made mayor of the city.

DOROTHEA: Pettibone is P E T T I ---

CHUCK: Yes, uh huh, same as the street. And the six council people. And all those people worked in the city, or worked at the mill. All right, where are we at now? We're at 1930, and the mill is working. The mill incidentally started cutting lumber in January 1930. Yes.

BARBARA: It was just straight boards at that time?

CHUCK: Ah ---

BARBARA: Or did they do other kinds of ---

CHUCK: No, I'll tell you why it wasn't straight boards. When they made the mill, when they made the mill down here, you never shipped straight boards. The type of sales that our company went for were retail yards. Now about --- we loaded a load of lumber in boxcars in those days. The salesmen would go out and sell. When you sell a load of lumber to a retail yard, you would sell them some 1 x 12, four sides. That's boards. You would sell them some six-quarter selects for stepping. You would sell them some molding. You would sell them some lathe. You would sell them some shiplaps, some center matching, pattern. So the car could have eight or nine different items. And all of that was produced right here. And you had six planers and two molders to do all this work with.

But we made, we would load all kinds of --- the board mills are what you've got today. This was kind of a specialty mill, in the fact that everything was kiln dried. You see you didn't --- prior to 1930; the kiln drying was done mostly by smoke, not by steam. This sporty --- the dry kilns that they made here were the most modern, in fact the whole mill was listed as the most modern in the world at the time it was started.

Another unique thing that had, when the log came in the mill, we used to say that when that log comes in the mill, the lumber never sees daylight again until you take it out of the boxcar.

BARBARA: Wasn't it unusual to be in an enclosed ---

CHUCK: In, yes.

BARBARA: --- a lumberyard at that time?

CHUCK: Yes, yes, very few mills had storage in areas that the lumber was never out in the weather.

BARBARA: And wasn't it also one of the largest mills covered in those days ---

CHUCK: Yes, it was the largest covered mill in the United States.

BARBARA: Uh huh.

CHUCK: The only one larger than this one now was the one --- well at that time was Weyerhaeuser in Klamath Falls. And then a Potlatch up in Idaho. But this was the largest one at that time. But we are still the only one that was able to say that a log comes into the mill, that board never sees daylight again until you take it out of the boxcar. Which is very important to ponderosa pine. Because it colors with sunlight.

BARBARA: I see.

CHUCK: So it was the most modern mill in the world, and we had six brand new planers down there to do all this work with. It was fantastic. Well kiln dried lumber in those days was a new, well the market didn't change after it was dried and put into a different patterns and so forth. So it was a fantastic mill. And the --- like I say, it was a specialty mill.

BARBARA: So were your markets mostly back east then?

CHUCK: Yes, yes. Our ---

BARBARA: With Hines?

CHUCK: Yes, starting out from about Utah, East, and to the North. Not so much to the South. Our --- one of our, now this is, this is right down my alley here. One of the ideas that we had there, we weren't too much for industrial accounts, because if an industrial account had trouble paying the bill, or went out of business you lost a big volume of business. Our main customer was the small, small town retail account owned by a family. The family had --- the son came up that took over the business, and so there was repeat business year after year, after year. And while they only bought maybe two or three car loads of lumber, maybe six in the whole years time, ain't that much. They bought them over, and over, and over, and we had lots of the, them.

BARBARA: They were guaranteed sales.

CHUCK: Yeah, yeah, and yeah. That's another one, our sales --- that was, we had one of the most fantastic sales crews I ever saw in my life. We had our own sales force. And Mr. Hines, he had some foresight here. Our salesmen would travel out into their territories. But their territories were such that they didn't have to spend overnight away from home. He made them such that they could go out and back and be home every night with their families.

BARBARA: Made for happy ---

CHUCK: Made, yes ---

BARBARA: --- happy salespeople.

CHUCK: Made a happy salesman. And what they did, the salesmen would go out to sell this lumber. They were also responsible for any collections. In other words, if this salesman sold a retail yard a carload of lumber last month, and we haven't got the check yet, when he went out to solicit an order, he got the check or found out why. So the salesman, along with being a salesman, was also a solicitor. But it worked out good, because we never had any problems. And another thing they did, the salesmen reported



daily to the main office. Now what they would report, this retail yard has got a full supply of one by twelve boards. But next month they plan on building a new school here, and they'll probably need more lumber. It kept --- the main office in Chicago had their finger on all of the states that we had salesmen in, what was going on in the lumber business, which was fantastic. Now what they would do then, they would alert the Chicago --- the main office would alert our mill out here, oh we're going to have a big run of twelve inch boards in say, next month. Get your inventories up to snuff.

BARBARA: So they could gear up for that.

CHUCK: Yeah, we'd gear up. Then we would cut boards here that were shipped the next week. We didn't keep inventory, they moved out pretty fast. Pretty quickly. But it was a fantastic situation where you had salesmen that were acquainted with the ---incidentally, what we did with these salesmen in later years they would come out here and study at the mill for about oh, nine or ten months at the mill before they even went back east to sell the lumber.

BARBARA: Is that right?

CHUCK: And, in the meantime they were working in the mill. When they were working, they'd say the planer mill is behind on pattern, they can't do any pattern for a week, they knew what you were talking about. So they would come out here and work for about eight or nine months before they went on the road selling lumber. Knew the condition. Now go back to the office. And they went and visited other mills too. But they knew the size. This was the biggest producer of our business.

BARBARA: Well did Hines come out here then, when he started the mill?

CHUCK: Just, well no ---

BARBARA: Or other members of his family?

CHUCK: --- no, Mr. Hines, Mr. Hines used to make a trip at least, at least four trips a year

to the mill. And when he made a trip to the mill, Edward Hines --- to the mill, Charles Hines came with him or Ralph Hines in later years, or Howard. But ---

BARBARA: So no member of the family ever lived here?

CHUCK: No, no. Mrs. Hines never did live here. No, but all the --- but he made, he made a regular trip out to the mill oh, four or five times per year, which was wonderful. Because, and another thing that he did that we don't do to this day, or him or his sons, Charles did this, and Ralph did this and Howell did this. When they visited the mill, they talked to everybody in the mill.

BARBARA: They just didn't stay in the office?

CHUCK: Just stop and talk. They would visit with everybody. In the woods they'd visit, everybody they went to, they visited.

DOROTHEA: Well I understand, or read somewhere where Mrs. Hines more or less constructed the plans for all of the houses in Hines.

CHUCK: When they designed the houses, when Stafford, Derbes and Roy were going to build the houses one thing that she told Stafford, Derbes and Roy was that she did not want this to look like any other mill town. Virginia, Minnesota, now was a big Tom Raney Lake Lumber Company. And it was a huge town. And he --- where the workers lived every house was exactly the same. They were wood construction. The only difference, one would have a porch, and one wouldn't have a porch. One would have a screen door, and the other would not. She said we --- and I don't want any two houses painted the same color together. Consequently, that's why every house, next door to each other in Hines is designed differently. You can find the same house design across town, or another block. But they aren't designed the same, or they aren't painted the same.

BARBARA: How many styles did they have, do you remember?

CHUCK: Oh, I don't remember how many they did. But they ---

BARBARA: But there were a number of them.

CHUCK: Oh yeah. And she was really adamant about that, which is great. Because she said I don't want it to look like a mill town. DOROTHEA: Which is really nice, because nobody likes their house looking like everybody else's.

CHUCK: Oh yeah, oh yeah. Yeah, that's true. And you look at your TV programs you can see in a big, particularly steel mill towns everything is the same. Well, you go into Chicago and see that. All of them are the same in the block. But she did a great job. And the parks were great. See, in --- it's hard to visualize but back in the '29's and '30, you had no TV, and your radio wasn't that good. So the parks were well used at night. People would go, particularly the kids. When you start out, there wasn't any lawns at all in Hines, or trees or nothing. So we spent most of our time in the parks here. They were green, and they were great. So it was --- and people would come down and visit in the parks.

They had --- one more I've got to throw in here, I don't --- this came on to me later. When they started the mill in 1930, like I say Mr. Hines started the mill, he had Virginia and Mississippi were both shut down at this time. Those people then came out here to Hines to go to work. Well they came by car, and they came by train. That's about the only two ways they got in here. The O.N.& W. Railroad and the Union Pacific came right into Burns. Or you came by car.

And I --- you know, something I can remember today, of all the families that came out here, it was husbands and wives and their children, and uncles and aunts, but there was no grandmas or grandpas came.

BARBARA: It was mostly younger people.

CHUCK: All young people. They was all young people. I can't, I can't --- but it is a fact. Because I knew darn near everybody that came here. And I can't ever remember a

grandma or grandpa come. They came out in later years. I think probably that was because back in Minnesota now, well now my grandparents live there, and my uncle live there now. They bought those homes, and they --- and Virginia, Minnesota for instance, Raney Lake, all the homes in this, in the mill town there, are steam heated from the mill. They bought the homes, and so the grandparents stayed there.

BARBARA: Uh huh.

CHUCK: They had a beautiful home, and it was steam heated and no problem, and so they stayed in the ---

BARBARA: They didn't want to give up something ---

CHUCK: Yeah, yeah, to come out here and go to work again.

DOROTHEA: Was this quite a experience for your parents to come out, and to a country that they didn't know anything about?

CHUCK: Yeah, yes, yes. Yes it was. Particularly --- well now Virginia, Minnesota, that town was all paved streets, two parks, south side park, north side park, schools. You could go clear through junior high school there, or junior college there, free, because of the taxes from the mines and the mills.

BARBARA: Uh huh.

CHUCK: So, it was a little let down when they came. The only thing that was great, every house, every house in Hines was brand new, and every house was plastered. Every house, every house had plastered walls, ceilings. Of course that was nth in building in those days, a plastered wall and no wallpaper.

BARBARA: So it made the women happy.

CHUCK: Yeah, yeah. And they all had built in kitchens, ironing boards, and the water tanks and inside rest rooms, bathrooms, were all in them. And it was, the homes were built great.

BARBARA: First class then.

CHUCK: First class. And that probably helped more than anything, and of course a new mill that helped. And people, they didn't --- imagine, see they'd moved two, two or three thousand miles away. They were here at the end of the road is where they were. So they pretty near all of them stayed. Some people didn't stay. But most of them stayed.

The mill in those days, things weren't too good. The depression, nobody can realize the depression unless they lived in it. You would work, your parent would work probably one or two days per week. Your dad would probably get twenty dollars, that was to live on. Now what the mill did, what Hines Company did, they didn't charge rent for your home when you weren't working. The mill furnished the power; they'd give you a special rate on power.

One thing that saved us, everybody, we had our own doctor. The mill had its own doctor, Dr. Grounds.

DOROTHEA: Grounds.

CHUCK: Grounds, G R O U N D S, was the Hines doctor. He came from Minnesota, he was the --- he worked for the company back in Minnesota. So when we started the mill here, he was just like an employee of the mill. And he made home calls. But that was his job to doctor the employees of the mill. Dr. Smith still doctored for the other residents. But Dr. Grounds was the mill doctor. And your cost there was minimal; maybe fifty cents a month took care of everything except operations.

So we could live, we didn't take much to live. Everybody had gardens, and the mill furnished wood. Everything was wood stoves, wood cooking, wood furnace. There was no electric refrigerators, electric stoves, or electric coolers and stuff like that at this time. So that probably saved a lot of money for the people to live with.

BARBARA: Well, what kind of wages, did they have to start out with at the mill?

CHUCK: The wages, well I went to work in 1936, and I got thirty-five cents an hour, for ten hours, and overtime. And you know, but that was it, thirty-five cents an hour.

BARBARA: Uh huh.

CHUCK: Which was pretty good wages in those days. The more skilled workers got up to around sixty, seventy cents, and seventy-five cents, under a dollar.

BARBARA: Uh huh.

CHUCK: But ---

BARBARA: And the woods people, what kind of wages did they ---CHUCK: That was about the same. Now they were about ---

BARBARA: They were the same.

CHUCK: Well they were about like the high pay mill employees. But, due to the fact that we had our own doctor, there were no medical expenses. Due to the fact that they owned the --- they furnished the power, they gave us a real reduced rate in power, helped then due to the fact that we cooked with wood and heated with wood at minimal cost. And in other words, a truckload of wood was maybe three dollars or something like that.

BARBARA: So food and clothing was then the major expense.

CHUCK: But --- all you bought --- yeah, food and clothing. Hamburger was three pounds for a quarter, and stuff like that, you know. But, that was the way we went on for years, up until about 1938, '37, along in there, until prosperity finally came back to where you got more money. Now, where are we at?

BARBARA: You say you came with your family. You have brothers and sisters?

CHUCK: Yes, just one brother. My brother James and I, and my mother came here in 1929. My dad was already here.

BARBARA: And did he work for the mill too? Was he older or younger?

CHUCK: No, no he was seven years younger than I. And he --- in later years, he passed

away in 1949 with polio. But he was, he worked in the mill a little bit in the summers. But mostly in his time he was in college. During the war he was in the infantry, and fought in the Omaha Beachhead, and the Battle of the Bulge.

BARBARA: I was going to ask you, did you meet your wife in Burns?

CHUCK: My wife and I --- I knew my wife when she was eight years old. (Laughter) She lived in Hines, and I knew her when she was eight years old.

BARBARA: Her family then came to work in the lumber company?

CHUCK: Yeah, her stepfather was the, was the foreman of the molding department. Jesse Estes was his name.

DOROTHEA: Jesse?

CHUCK: Yeah, Jesse Estes.

BARBARA: And your wife's name is?

CHUCK: Lorraine S., Sylvia Estes. And I knew her when she was eight years old. You see, yeah, then we --- I, of course we never, never courted during the school. I was trying to think what year

--- well anyhow I came back in 1930 --- '43, in the service. '40, yeah. And we'd been writing all the time. She was in high school. And proposed, well we got married in January of '43.

BARBARA: This was after you got back from the military then?

CHUCK: No, we was still in the military.

BARBARA: Oh, you were still in the military.

CHUCK: Then we both went off in the military.

BARBARA: I see. And how many children do you have?

CHUCK: Oh, we have six boys.

DOROTHEA: All boys.

CHUCK: All boys.

BARBARA: And can you tell us their names?

CHUCK: Charles J., and he is in California. Charles J. Walker, and he works for a Four-Square Lumber Yard there in Hayward, California. Then Robert Walker, number two, and he's a schoolteacher in Boise. And Mickey Walker ---

DOROTHEA: M I C K E Y.

CHUCK: Yeah. He is a --- oh skidder for Howden Logging. And then I got Tom in there too, Tom Walker. Tom Walker number three, Mickey is number four. Tom Walker is working in a retail yard in Boise. And then Mark Walker, he's going to Boise State University. He has about a half year left there to go.

DOROTHEA: He is number five?

CHUCK: Right, uh huh.

DOROTHEA: Okay.

CHUCK: Number six is Jim Walker. He is teaching at the high school right at the present. English classes one and two. Now then, what?

BARBARA: What kind of trees did you cut in the beginning? Were they really large? Were they large?

CHUCK: Oh, ponderosa --- the timber, oh yes. We've had, we used to cut timber in that sawmill that was oh, four and five feet in diameter.

BARBARA: Not compared to the small ones you have today?

CHUCK: No, no, no, no. Fantastic lumber.

BARBARA: Uh huh.

CHUCK: You could --- what they, well when you got a board that was over thirty inches wide and clear you called it draining board stock in those days. And select, you know. And we used to have big piles of select lumber down there in the shipping. Six square.



Thirty-five inches wide, and not a knot in them. And then of course you're down into your shop lumber. Now your shop lumber --- the lumber they produced here was in demand all over the United States. No problem selling it, because the texture of the pine here was so great. It was --- we used to remark that it was grown in high altitude, which it was, and slow growing so the growth rings on the timber was such, it made it soft textured. And of course kiln dried, everything. And it was in demand. Sales went great for many, many, many years. But it was, yeah the trees were huge in those days.

BARBARA: Uh huh.

CHUCK: And we even cut, well we even cut ten, twelve, and sixteen quarter. That's two, three, and four inch lumber, clears. That the --- well we shipped them to --- one of the big users was Dow Chemical to make bats to put chemicals in, because it did not taint the chemical, ponderosa pine didn't. But that's four inches thick, and all the way from twenty to thirty inches wide. But --- sixteen feet long, beautiful lumber.

BARBARA: About how many people were here when you first started the mill. What were the numbers to get a mill like this running?

CHUCK: It started out, it started out around oh, two hundred, two fifty, right in there. The biggest, then it got up to --- when you get to, at the end, when they finally were just through, when you had plywood in the factory and everything, it was over nine hundred. But mostly around two or three hundred people, is what we started out with, in the woods and the railroad. And they would do about a hundred million feet a month. The company had a contract with --- you see when they cut the timber in the woods, they only allowed an allowable cut of sixty million feet per --- let's see sixty million a year, yeah. No, well yeah, per year. Yeah, twelve million, yes sixty --- of the allowable cut that they could take out of the woods. So Mr. Hines had a lot of private timber that he would fill in with. But the forest service told you how much you're going to cut. You didn't clear-cut. You cut

your timber; you just took the ripe trees. That's selective logging, and left the rest of the forest to come back in later years to cut.

DOROTHEA: How did Hines acquire his private timber?

CHUCK: At the same time he let the --- at the same time he bought out the government, Malheur Forest then of course --- there was a lot of people that owned the timber up the woods. When Hines built the railroad, and he had the only way to get the lumber out, the timber out. He built the mill, that was only way to manufacture, so those people that owned the timber, it was other private owners. One outfit in California --- no in Arizona owned the timber, and one in Minnesota owned the timber, I can't think of their names right off hand. But he bought them out, he bought the private --- He ended up along with a million feet of Malheur Forest, or a hundred million feet. About twenty-five million feet of timber, private timber and everything. So he, what he did, he made the remark when he was all through with the mill and everything, and the mill was running, that his intention was to buy enough timber and to build a mill to run to keep his sons busy for their lifetime. Which is exactly what it did. Both Ralph and Charles had a job running the mill all during their lifetime. So he hit the button right on the head. And his family, he called everybody out here his family. He was quite a remarkable man, really. Everything went so smooth.

I can recall back in our days, early '30's, or in the '30's and '40's, when we were working at the mill, and you would --- our mill was not unionized in those days, we had our own local union. And our company, we were what you might consider a company family, because we came from --- well Hines from Minnesota, and we came from Hines of Mississippi to here. So the mill would say, well whatever the big three, which is Weyerhaeuser and the big three timber companies, whatever they settled for, you will get. So there was no need for us to go on strike, or for us to negotiate for wages, because we would get exactly what the big mills got. Mr. Hines was a very good friend of the

Weyerhaeuser's. In fact ---

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CHUCK: ... in '46, and went to work with the mill and then after I was appointed sales manager, then that was, that's the time where I got into reading more about the mill, the history of the mill, how the mill operated, and what --- how we, one of our sayings was that --- like our lumber when a log comes into the mill, it never sees daylight until it comes out of the boxcar at your destination. Another saying that we had, like no order is too large for us to fill, or too small for us to appreciate. And that, we use that to the nth degree. And it really worked for a good --- well it's true, that saying.

We had --- another one, another one that you don't hear about today is pool cars. What in the world is a pool car? Well you get a customer that can't use a whole carload of lumber, but he needs a half a car of lumber. And right across town, or down the track another fifty or a hundred miles is another customer, same condition, he can't use a whole carload of lumber, he don't have enough money to pay for it, but he would like to get a half a car. So you make a pool car. Half the car for this customer, half for the other one. Stopped at this town and unload part of it, goes to the next town. Anyway that you --- like there is no order too small for us to appreciate. So that was part of the business, which worked great. Because what it does, it kept us busy all the time. And filling specialty cars was our, was our payment. We liked to do that.

A lot of mills weren't interested in the pool cars, because they had gypo car loaders and stuff like that. They were interested in just throwing the lumber in the car and getting it out of the shed. Our people took time loading the cars; they did a beautiful job loading the cars. We got a lot of compliments. It was a thrill to work for the sales department because you never had complaints. Everything went great all the time.

DOROTHEA: Most of your orders were sent out then by the ---

CHUCK: Chicago, yes, yeah. They are from ---

DOROTHEA: --- to Chicago.

CHUCK: Yeah. The salesmen would go and take the order from his customers and send it to Chicago. Chicago typed it up and sent it to the mill. And then we would fill it, and the invoice, and send it back. Send the lumber back. But it was a good, good way to work things.

DOROTHEA: Did you send anything by truck at that time?

CHUCK: Very --- no, no, we did not. I don't think we had a way to load a truck. Well you see in those days you didn't have lift trucks and stuff to start with. Everything was by hand. Later on you loaded flat cars with overhead crane, which didn't work out very good, but until we got lift trucks. But everything was hand loaded in a boxcar. But I haven't heard of a pool car order for a long time. But we did a lot of that business.

BARBARA: You say that the unions were local.

CHUCK: Yeah.

BARBARA: When you ended up, was it still local unions then?

CHUCK: No, our ---

BARBARA: When did you go ---

CHUCK: --- we went --- long about 1941, '42, along in there, in order to you, for us --- of course I am gone here now. It was still local when I was here. It was called Lumberman's Industrial at that time. Whenever you wanted to sell lumber to the government or something like that, for construction of a yard, it had to have a stamp on it, manufactured by a unionized mill. So in order to get that done, and the --- people here went to a national union to get, to already get these stamps to be able to sell their products to everybody. Prior to that, we didn't have to have any stamp on our lumber.

BARBARA: Did it prove to be a problem in later years, the union?

CHUCK: I don't know. You see I was union before I, well when I was down in the mill. In fact the Lumberman's Industrial Union then, the name of the local union --- to start with, my mother named that, that was her name.

BARBARA: Oh.

CHUCK: So she named that. And my dad was secretary of it for years. So we worked with the union up until the time I came back in '40. Then when I went to work in the office, I was salaried and you're not allowed then to join --- you didn't join the union. But they had their place. Like I say, to start out with, the mill for the first generation everybody was Hines. Like that was his family. He was the one that got the city going, the mill going, and kept the mill going. In fact it broke him. It took all of his capitol to once get the mill going. They never produced any lumber, money until in the late '30's. Until he could see --- all the bills paid, paid and so forth. But, everybody worked, and we had no difficulties. It was great. Well, it was great.

There was no way to go anywhere; you didn't have that extra money to go anywhere.

BARBARA: Well, what did you do for entertainment? Did you just go --- have dances?

CHUCK: There --- oh yeah, yeah, where the Antlers Club is, was, that was a dance hall. Every Saturday night you had dances. And we had local orchestras. And everybody went to the dances, everybody. But every Saturday night, they had a dance.

DOROTHEA: Did you play a lot of cards and ---

CHUCK: Yeah, lots of cards. And not too much running around in cars and stuff, because gasoline, you know was twenty-five cents a gallon. And not many people had cars. There wasn't that many cars. In fact you could walk to Burns, and hardly ever have a car go by you.

BARBARA: Oh, my.

CHUCK: I've walked --- all the time I went to high school I lived in Hines, and I walked to school to Burns, and I walked home again. We didn't have buses.

DOROTHEA: How did you come into Hines? Did you come ---

CHUCK: Same road as we --- yeah.

DOROTHEA: You're, in your own vehicle though, or did you ---

CHUCK: Oh no, we came in our own vehicle from Portland. We had a car in Portland. And we came by car from Portland to Burns, yeah.

But during all this time, things went along pretty good. A lot of sports, our football games were on Saturdays. And there was, all ... and rearing to go. So the local high school sports was done on Saturday.

BARBARA: Everyone go to the ball games then, and really support them?

CHUCK: Yeah, oh yeah, you bet. You bet. I was wondering --- you know I never thought about that until now, but that was true. We had the games on Saturdays instead of Fridays or Wednesdays, or Thursdays. I don't know when they changed. But we went to; the mill went to the ball games. The only reason it ever bothered me, because when I was salaried I used to go to the games anyhow. Had I been working in shipping, I would have missed them all. I couldn't have gone. But that was right, we --- you go back and look in the Burns Times-Herald and verify that the games played on Saturdays. But that was great.

Anyhow, all right, we came back to Burns and went to work at the mill. Then we married, no place --- houses still in those days were hard to find. We lived at home for awhile, then we went down and Roke and Mary Smith's apartment, sits down there off where the Chevrolet Garage used to be. We rented an apartment there. And then finally in 1951 we bought the home that we live in now from Bob Pagenkopf, who was

transferred to Chicago. And I was made sales manager at that time. We lived in the same house since 1951.

Then after nine years, we come along with Charles. And thank God we didn't have any children during the service, because I don't know what we would have done with them. You travel --- now there is one, in our time in the Army, whenever you transferred from one town to another, you didn't have suitcases. You had barracks bags, and stuffed all of your clothes in a barracks bag. Got to the train, and that's the way you traveled. Today you got suitcases, and traveling bags, and lunch boxes. (Laughter) But anyhow --

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BARBARA: So where all did you go while you were in the service?

CHUCK: We went, well after we were married we went --- got married in Boise. The first place we went was South Dakota, then we went to Iowa, then we went to Nebraska, to Texas, and we were discharged in Ohio, or in Iowa. So we got all over ---

BARBARA: A good share of the country.

CHUCK: Yeah, we got to see a lot of it. Texas was the hottest sun-of-a-gun of all. Oh, and California, we got --- we got them all in. We had a lot of fun. Then we came home and then started our family. With Charles, and all of those six children went to the Hines, graduated Hines Grade School, and High School.

BARBARA: Well when did they build the big smoke stack that they have out at the mill?

CHUCK: The, the middle of that is 251 feet high, that stack. And it was built during the construction of the mill in 1929. It was all done and finished in 1929.

BARBARA: That's remarkable.

CHUCK: Yeah, it's 251 feet high. Sixteen feet in diameter at the top.

BARBARA: That's a big one.

CHUCK: Yeah, oh yeah. Yeah, the base to that goes out 25 or 30 feet farther, the

concrete base, then what the bottom of the stack is. Yeah, that was quite a construction job. Built in ten-foot sections at a time. All the concrete was pulled up in the, from the inside. They had ---

BARBARA: In buckets?

CHUCK: Buckets, yeah, yeah. The sawmill is all steel sawmill, riveted together. I got a kick here, just before I retired here, when they were putting in the computers the first time. They brought these people from Chicago, or from Portland. The contractors, and they couldn't figure out how that mill was put together with no bolts. There was a lot of nuts, but no bolts. They couldn't --- it is all rivets.

BARBARA: I see.

CHUCK: Riveted on both sides. They had never seen anything like it. (Laughter) But they don't build anything like that. That was a steel built mill. So, it was a fantastic building. They had an awful time trying to tear those apart.

BARBARA: Well there is another interesting building in Hines, the old, what was going to be a hotel I understand.

CHUCK: That, that hotel ---

BARBARA: Have you got a story about that?

CHUCK: Yeah, that hotel is, started out at the same time as Stafford, Derbes and Roy did. It was financed by five; these were doctors out of Portland, to put up the finances for it. They started out in 1929, like Stafford, Derbes and Roy's houses did. They had a great idea.

It's excellent construction. Down below, they had on both sides stores, on both sides. Incidentally the name was the Ponderosa Hotel. And the, and next to the middle of it was the annex and the office, and then apartments on the two floors.

The construction was going on in 1930 when the depression hit. But at that time



the top floor was all partitioned, all the wiring was in, all the plumbing was in. The windows were there, the casings were there, the heat plant, the steam boiler was there. And they went broke. The finances finally gave out in 1930, so the building sat that way until Mr. Farmer bought it here a few years ago. He has in the interim built his own apartment downstairs in it. But the building itself stays just like it did in 1930. The --- it's a steel reinforced concrete building. They thought at one time they could knock her down like any other building, but they found out it cost more money to knock it down than it would be to leave it up.

So I had an occasion here to talk to some engineers here a few years ago, and I made the statement that it was a concrete steel reinforced building just as good today as it was in 1930. Well this engineer went over there and he came back about an hour later and he tested the concrete, and he said, "Yes," he said, "You're right." It's building is just as good now construction wise as it was in 1930.

Someday, somebody should go in there and finish that building up. Make it for apartments or low cost --- The reason it wasn't done before, Hines didn't have any sewer lines and so forth until 1955. They had drain fields.

We came back from the service Jay Dewey and I, and that was our idea to buy that thing, because we couldn't find an apartment. We were angry. Buy that and put it into apartments, and rent everybody apartments. Which would have been great. And we could have got money from the government to do it, until we went with the final papers. What about sewage? We are going to have a drain field. No you're not! There went all of our work down the tube, because you couldn't build a drain field big enough at that time to take care of the whole hotel. So that thing all fell through.

But then in 1955, there was no reason now that it couldn't be completed into apartments or --- it's an excellent building. And it's huge.

DOROTHEA: Do you ever, do you think that the construction would be ample to last as long as the building?

CHUCK: Oh yeah.

DOROTHEA: If they went in with the construction ---

CHUCK: Oh yeah, the concrete today, the concrete, in fact the floor joints, the floor joints in it are wood, 3 x 12's and 3 x 14's. They're excellent. There is no deterioration to them at all. Because the fact that they were never covered. There was no rot in them. They are still just as good now. And Mr. Farmer went in and put plywood on all the floors, and it's a good building.

Well there was a building like that sat vacant down in North Bend, Coos Bay, all during the war. Went broke, and there it sat with a concrete building. They came back after the war and finished it up into a hotel and it's operating today. So it's good, it's a good building. And if you notice in the darn thing, there is windows in the end, and on the sides. So you got windows, all the way down the middle are windows, and everything that you got room in there on either side would have windows. So it's well constructed, and it's a good idea. But it takes money. I imagine it would probably take a couple hundred thousand bucks. But you could, but it's a lot cheaper than building the whole thing up from the ground. But it's a good constructed building. Some day, somebody will do that for low cost housing.

BARBARA: What kind of stores did Hines have when they ---

CHUCK: The only one they had at that time was the Hines Grocery Store, and E. J. Brown was the manager of that. They called it, what did they call it, the Burns Mercantile. All the grocery and things were handled through Burns to Hines. But that was built about the time the parks were built. And Mr. Brown was the manager of that. Next door to that was a beer hall, then the dance hall. And then on the far north end of it was a furniture

store by Kanne. He started out there, K A N N E. He had his furniture store there.

Okay and that grocery store was E. J. Brown, and he used to, he used to --- well Mel Mortensen worked there for Brown, and I went to work there when I was in grade school. You go around in the morning and solicit orders, and then go out, and we delivered orders to Hines only.

BARBARA: After school?

CHUCK: No, during the summer.

BARBARA: Oh, I see.

CHUCK: I didn't, not in the school year. School time, I never worked.

BARBARA: Okay.

CHUCK: Everybody --- our schools used to go from morning to night. I don't know how you had time to do anything else.

BARBARA: From 8:30 to 4:00.

CHUCK: Yeah, that's right, yeah, yeah. There wasn't any two o'clock school was out.

BARBARA: Right.

CHUCK: But anyhow, I worked there in the summer months. The morning you go out and solicit the orders, afternoon you go out and deliver the orders. So it was a good business. And Mel Mortensen would solicit in the morning; I would deliver in the Model-A Ford truck in the afternoons. And it was a good --- that was one store we had. We had one gas station. They didn't have that many cars.

BARBARA: So clothing and things like that you had to go to Burns?

CHUCK: All in Burns, yeah. Yeah, there was no clothing stores. That was the intent, like Mr. Hines told them at the beginning of the city, that I want to build a --- just --- There was quite a bit of animosity to start with, because they thought we were going to have a business district in Hines. And that's when Mr. Hines told them no, just residential. You

keep all the businesses up there. That's why we don't have businesses out here today. The intent was just for residential, and keep all the businesses in Burns. Which made them happy at that time, and was part of lucrative years. It was good paying.

BARBARA: Did you ever go swimming out at the hot springs, or was that something that you did?

CHUCK: Oh, at Crane or here?

BARBARA: Oh, here in Hines.

CHUCK: Yes, that was, that was a Hines swimming pool they called it at that time.

BARBARA: Uh huh.

CHUCK: That was all built of wood. 1936 I think was the year that was built. What it was, well it was, they sold raffles on a car to get the money. The lumber was all run down at the mill, center match. The Hines Mill, outside millwrights had a lot to do with it. The supply of water was there. You had seven springs right in there, all putting water out with about an 84-degree temperature.

So they built the pool, that's why they built it there, right by the springs. And it was all built of wood, it lasted for many years. Fifty by a hundred. Every kid in town swam there. The water came in --- well the wood was pretty tight, until later years it got to where it was leaking quite badly. But you kept water in it summer and winter, so the boards wouldn't shrink. Well then we got a problem, when the water was going out pretty fast, of chlorinating. The state came in here to chlorinated and you had to have so much chlorination in the water. It was a fright the amount of chlorination you put in. It didn't do a damn bit of good because it flowed right out again. So then the state said, well you're going to have to destroy it. We have no regulations --- now this what, we have no regulations to govern a flow-through pool. F L O W. Flow-through. That's ridiculous! You go down there and swim the Santiam River, or the Willamette, and there is no

chlorination in there. And here we're trying to chlorinate it. And we're using spring water, the most pure that you can get. And yet you want us to chlorinate it. So that's how come it finally had its demise. The state came in and made us tear it up. It's a shame, they should have told the state to go back again. Because right now, that one we got now is a peanut compared to the other one.

BARBARA: That's too bad.

CHUCK: Yeah. That was big enough --- now there is another, my brother who was in the Army in World War II, was in Omaha Beachhead. And later years he told me that --- of course he learned to swim in that pool. Pretty near every kid in town at that age bracket did. He said that when he got off the boat to go to the beach in Omaha Beachhead, hundreds and hundreds of troops that didn't know how to swim, went right to the bottom of the ocean and drowned. But he was able, he didn't touch bottom. He was, from learning how to swim; he was able to save his life from right here at this old local swimming pool.

BARBARA: That's great.

CHUCK: So, we did teach a lot of kids how to learn to swim in those days. Mr. Anderson was the manager of the pool. Stayed there all summer long, and supervised the pool, just he and his wife. And we had one, did we, I don't think we even had one; we didn't even have a safe --- lifeguard there. Everybody took care of everybody else. Well, just all we needed was --- kept the kids from running and jumping, and fighting.

DOROTHEA: I think he did a better job at that time, than they have than managing at the pool there now.

CHUCK: Yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah. Yeah, you need an adult to run it that's got some authority.

DOROTHEA: A lot of, a lot of your things too I think is the change of the kids today.

CHUCK: True, true, true, true. True, true, I ---

DOROTHEA: Yeah, we managed ourselves a little better then.

CHUCK: Yeah. True. I don't know how, you know, I don't know how in the world you would ever face the problems. But like smoking, we spend, we spent money like it is going out of style trying to teach people, don't smoke. I'm one of those that did smoke. I never smoked until I was twenty-five years old, and I quit when I was right next to emphysema. So I know for what, but I sit and give up. There is no use trying to tell somebody don't smoke, or you're going to have emphysema. Because they're not going to quit. Now that --- when you go out and tell these kids don't run down the slide, or you're going to fall and break you neck. They're going to do it. I don't know, the only way is the mother and father to hit them right in the butt, is what it takes.

DOROTHEA: Probably. Uh huh.

CHUCK: But you can't do that anymore you see. You can't do that. So I give up trying to save anybody. (Laughter)

BARBARA: When did you retire from the mill?

CHUCK: 1981.

BARBARA: In '81.

CHUCK: Yeah.

DOROTHEA: And is that when you went in as the Mayor of Hines?

CHUCK: Oh, what I did, what I did, I sat back and all during 1980 and '81, and I see that our City of Hines made the front page of the Burns Times-Herald about five times. They were having problems with the chief of police, they quit and they were going to sue the city for \$300,000, and sue the mayor for \$50,000. And I thought, the heck with it, I got nothing to do now, and I went out and ran for mayor. And I won that election, and I've been mayor for eight years. But it's fun; it keeps you busy, you know. Something to do.

BARBARA: So is it --- excuse me ---

DOROTHEA: Who was ---

BARBARA: Is it something that you had planned on doing ---

CHUCK: No, not a, not a, not a bit until I got so upset about seeing us on the front page of the paper five times. Yes.

LADY: Do you want more coffee?

CHUCK: Yes.

DOROTHEA: Would --- who was here as mayor before you?

CHUCK: Lee Wallace.

DOROTHEA: Lee Wallace. Okay. And what --- when did they first start having city policemen and councilmen ---

CHUCK: Oh, all right, that was 19 --- 19 --- but prior --- the charter of the city calls for a marshal. So from the beginning of the city up until 1959, they had a marshal. And the marshal was elected like the rest of the, of the officers of the city. And then they got where they couldn't get anybody to run for marshal, so then they changed it to an employee type business, and a chief of police, police, excuse me. And that was the start of the police department. Prior to that we had a marshal, so --- And about ---

DOROTHEA: Do you remember the first chief of police?

CHUCK: I can't name the first one.

MARY BENITEZ: Ross Hawks.

CHUCK: Hawks.

MARY: No, excuse me; Bob Sands was the first one.

CHUCK: Bob Sands, Bob Sands was? All right. He works for our outside millwrights, or outside crew right now. Hey, Mary ---

... (Unrelated conversation)

BARBARA: When did you get your new building here in Hines?

CHUCK: I don't know, I'll have to get that year for you.

Now the chief of police, we've had ones in my time, Mr. Hickey was one, chief of police when I came. He passed away shortly after I came to office. And then we hired Filkins, Jim Filkins. Now Filkins had a chance to go to work down in Reno at the college, so he went to Reno to go to work. Then we hired Mr. Hickey, Frank Hickey. That was the son of the one that was a policeman when I was here. He worked with us until he had a chance to go to work for the state, or correction, the county in the sheriff's department. And then we had Mr. Hytree for a few months. And now we got a Mr. Billingsley. Mr. Billingsley is from Dundee, Oregon, and a dandy. He's going to be a good police chief for us. He's worked about fifteen years in the police work, and is an excellent police officer.

BARBARA: Do you enjoy politics?

CHUCK: Uh huh. I do. I do, mainly because; the reason I do is because I know it. I mean, you try to tell me this certain easements of the City of Hines, when did we do it. We did it clear back in 1930. Oh, no you didn't. Well then we'll go to the courthouse, and I come out right again, see. But no, it's fun because --- most of the stuff I've lived. That's what's fun, you know. You're doing a lot of work in the city that you do, you should know what you're doing.

Like when we put a pressure valve over here. On this side of Hines here, for years people were blowing their hoses up, and their refrigerators up, because the water pressure was so high.

... (Unrelated conversation)

CHUCK: Anyhow, they were blowing their water tanks up, and their heaters and stuff like that, and nobody could figure out what was wrong. Except the water that goes on this side of Hines, comes directly from the tank, and eases finally on down the hill across the highway, right over to this side of the town. And of course you're going to have a hell of a



lot of pressure. You turn on the sprinklers and it goes clear over in the neighbors yard, you know. But it was not what you need. Because everybody has to put pressure valves in their houses then. So one of the first things I did was when I came down here, was to go across the street over here by this, by the fire hall and put in a big pressure valve on the main, so that we got 95 pounds pressure over there now. What that did, it put the pressure back into that side of Hines, and helped the pressure on that side.

So some of these things that we've done, we knew about before we came here in the ... We needed more room in the garage, we went to work last year and put another sixty feet on our garage. Should have put another thirty then. But a lot of these things that you know about that you're doing now.

Then when I came to work here a lot of the streets at the edge of town they didn't have street easements. Well, so I've been working on that, for instance up in Bennett Street, only half of the street was the cities. I had to go back and get the rest of it. Now on Jones, you only had half a street; I had to go get the rest of that. So it's been fun. It's -  
--

DOROTHEA: Okay, now down on the, is it French ---

CHUCK: Yeah, Peter French.

DOROTHEA: Down here, Peter French down there, and some of the things, I understand that the new houses are being built there in just the late years, why are they just being built, rather than being older mill houses?

CHUCK: Now prior, prior to 1955 when you had, you had a moratorium on building because you had no, no sewer system here. So that's where there was no, that's why our one picture shows no houses around the circle. They had a moratorium on building because they didn't have --- they had the water, but they didn't have the sewer way, and they didn't want any more septic tanks. After 1955, when we got the sewer lines in, sewer

plant in, then they let building go out. Those plans were available. Now they weren't owned by the city, they were owned by Stafford, Derbes and Roy. He owned still a lot of lots around here at that time.

DOROTHEA: Are they still alive?

CHUCK: No. No, they're both gone now. But, let's see --- this was before, about 1946, no about 1950 they were still alive, because anybody bought property had to give them a \$25.00 price to give them clear title to the lots that they bought. And we bought six lots and --- and they got, when we get ready to get the clear title on them, we had to have the signature of Mr. Stafford, or Mr. Derbes. Well my mother was on a trip down through to Minnesota by train, and went down to Louisiana. You could make a round trip in those days, and she went down to Louisiana and stopped and seen Mr. Derbes, and he signed the title to the land, for no cost. So we got the original guy to sign it for us, for nothing. But he was still alive. But that's what --- then a ... came out, and he was one of the big builders. Oh, a lot of people built around the circle here and stuff like that. But we had, we were able, we had the water supply and we had the sewer lines, and so we could do that then.

DOROTHEA: But there are a few of the houses right on this side, and behind us that are original houses.

CHUCK: Oh yeah, pretty near all, with the exception, you know the original Ogden and, Ogden and that's about the end of it over there --- well you can look at that, there is one picture that shows --- here, see there is nothing around the circle.

DOROTHEA: Uh huh.

CHUCK: And it is still 1955. So that was the extent of it, even down on the other side of Saginaw was the end of the building down there.

BARBARA: Oh, I had in my minds eye that it was all originally around the circle.

CHUCK: Well no.

BARBARA: Is it farther ---

CHUCK: Well no, no that's about it right there.

BARBARA: Well, that's interesting. Huh.

CHUCK: Yeah.

DOROTHEA: That's an interesting picture.

CHUCK: Yeah.

DOROTHEA: One thing we would like to do Chuck with you is, we're starting a new program, and maybe we should go ahead and put this on tape, but we're going to start putting all of our interviews on video. So what we'd like to do with you is to make another, ah---

CHUCK: Yeah.

DOROTHEA: --- or interview more or less with you, but we'll take you out and we'll have you show us some of these interesting sites in Hines, and get a lot of this video, and we'll put this on video also.

CHUCK: Yeah, yeah.

DOROTHEA: Besides this being on tape.

CHUCK: Yeah, that would be a good idea. That's a good idea.

DOROTHEA: It's really going to be interesting. We're really excited about it.

CHUCK: Yeah, yeah like our Hines Grade School. When you say the middle section ---

DOROTHEA: Right.

CHUCK: --- was \$35,000. The guesthouse was built for \$35,000. Silbaugh was the builder of those two buildings incidentally. And then you can see them.

DOROTHEA: Uh huh.

CHUCK: Because right now, that's the only one that's got the wood shingles. The

gymnasium is on one side, and the other, that other wing that was built on there was \$290,000 for it. And the middle cost \$35,000. But that was for 87 students, which went to school. We had a --- we didn't have a gymnasium in those days. We had an auditorium; it only had an eight-foot ceiling on it.

DOROTHEA: But we're going to have to do a little practicing, Barbara and I --- to do this.

CHUCK: Yeah that, you know that's great. That's great, because when we talk about the hotel here ---

DOROTHEA: Right.

CHUCK: --- we could take it, and go inside. You'll be surprised, just walk in there, and go up on the first floor and look. That building is huge.

DOROTHEA: Yeah.

CHUCK: They're talking, you know, for this Friday Night thing, for a roller skating rink.

DOROTHEA: Uh huh.

CHUCK: That thing there would make a fantastic roller skating rink.

DOROTHEA: Uh huh.

CHUCK: You know, nobody would bump into anybody up there. (Laughter) It's that huge.

BARBARA: Oh, my.

CHUCK: But no, that would be a darn good idea.

BARBARA: What other civic and religious activities have you been involved in over the years?

CHUCK: Well, that --- most --- the golf course for instance down there. Now that, there's something that --- oh I know I've been a member of the golf course, let's put it that way, for over forty years. I belonged to that when we first came back from the service. Be as it may, I was --- before that golf course was there, you know, we had a golf course back in

the '30's across the highway, over where Saginaw, or I mean Christmas Valley and the houses are over there, that was a golf course at one time. That was Stafford, Derbes and Roy property too. But that, it didn't have any grass fairways, or nothing like that. They had sand and oil greens, and dirt fairways, and stuff like that.

BARBARA: A real challenge.

CHUCK: Just --- yeah. And I --- one of my first jobs was maintaining the greens there. Mixing oil and sand and keeping the greens smooth during the summer months. Fifteen dollars a month to work on the golf course, over on that side. But be as it may, and then in 1941, or '42, they built the other golf course.

Now that, incidentally that land over there, all the way down back of Frenchglen was owned by John Casey. Now John Casey was the attorney for Stafford, Derbes and Roy. When he got ready to leave Burns, and Stafford, Derbes and Roy got ready to leave Burns, they owed John Casey some money, and no money was in their pockets. So they gave John Casey land. Now that's how that land came to be John Casey's. All the way along Peter French and clear down where the golf course was, John Casey owned that. He in turn sold it to the City of Hines. First he vacated all the streets, and all the alleys, and all the buildings. He vacated that and sold it to the City of Hines for a recreational purposes only. We can't build houses, or we can't sell it for housing or anything like that. But he sold it to Hines for \$1500. So Hines owns the golf course.

BARBARA: I see.

CHUCK: But it took me many, many years before I could --- in fact I didn't realize that until I came down here in 1981, and started reading the old records here at the city hall that I knew about the golf course. Which is great. What the, what the city did they hired the Valley Golf Course for \$1.00 to take care of the golf course. The city owns it, but the golf course takes care of it for \$1.00 for twenty-five years. So there's ---

BARBARA: That's a bargain.

CHUCK: It's a good --- yeah, for both people, yeah.

DOROTHEA: That's like the olden days.

CHUCK: Yeah, yeah, they run the golf course, and what --- I keep reminding everybody we own it. So fix the parking lot and maintain it, and be sure you don't discourage it. It's yours. Not many cities own a golf course that's as nice as that one.

DOROTHEA: That's right.

CHUCK: But ---

BARBARA: What do you do for relaxation; do you have any good hobbies? I understand you're writing a book.

CHUCK: Well I --- I've got it written, and I've got the copy of it in Chicago now, seeing what they think of the history.

BARBARA: Oh, is that right? Great.

CHUCK: And they're supposed to let me know what they think of it, so there are no problems with it. And we're ready to publish it. And then I've got pictures galore, I got stacks of pictures like that of the towns and the mill, and stuff like that.

DOROTHEA: Well this is something that we want to add to this. I don't know how it's going to work out.

CHUCK: Yeah, yeah. Oh, yes. I've got, those are just --- like I say, I've got stacks about like that.

BARBARA: Is writing something you've always enjoyed doing?

CHUCK: Oh, in my job at the mill as a sales manager you do a lot of writing, letter writing. And it's been fun, and then of course I, what I did I, in order to get things in date sequence I would go up to the library and read the old Burns Times-Herald, which are fantastic, I'll tell you. You go up there ---

BARBARA: They're a treasure, aren't they?

CHUCK: --- all I'm looking for in those Burns Times-Herald is something to do with the mill. When the mill did this, and when the mill did that. But I end up, and I read everything. I read the want ads, I read the sales ads. But that Byrd and Mullarky were fantastic. They --- those papers are just, you can't imagine what a pleasure it is to read those. And the thing I liked about it is something when it's going on, and it wasn't done, it wasn't finalized in one week, they would pick it up the next week and carry it on. So you knew from beginning to end what the hell was going on.

BARBARA: Right, right.

CHUCK: But it was such a pleasure to read those things, and that's where I got my dates all straightened out. Because see the Hines Mill goes clear back to '28, up through 80's. So we --- about sixty years.

BARBARA: A lot of information.

CHUCK: Yeah, yeah. I had a lot of it in my head, but I just needed the dates that it was --  
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BARBARA: A little verification there.

CHUCK: --- yeah, right. So that's what helped me a lot in my book writing. I would go down ---

BARBARA: Did your wife help you with it?

CHUCK: No. I would go down there with my notebook and I'd take notes, and dates and something. I would go home and write in what I knew about it.

BARBARA: Uh huh.

CHUCK: There was a ---

DOROTHEA: What's the name of your book going to be, or do you know?

CHUCK: "Fifty Years of Lumber".

DOROTHEA: "Fifty Years of Lumber", great.

CHUCK: It's hard to stop one of those things. I had one hell of a time saying the end, you know.

BARBARA: Uh huh.

CHUCK: Because you think of so many things. What my book does, it just goes through the Hines generation. It doesn't go on when we had the plywood mill, or the factory.

BARBARA: I see.

CHUCK: That's another ---

BARBARA: That's in another book.

DOROTHEA: That's book number two.

CHUCK: --- yeah. But there is so much went on from 1930 to 19--- oh say '45, '46, '50 in there, that it was great, it was great. Because they did so many great things here.

DOROTHEA: Can you tell us something about the demise of Hines?

CHUCK: The what?

DOROTHEA: The end of it. I mean, you know, the ---

CHUCK: The demise, the end. You have to get the beginning to get to the ending of it. Like when Mr. Hines came out, he said he wanted to get enough timber to keep his two sons busy. That's why he bought twenty-five billion, I said million, it's billion. Twenty-five billion feet of timber. Now that was in 1928 and '29. And that went on through 19 --- through the 1960's see. So that, that was over some thirty odd years that his sons had a job. Well that's exactly, it's exactly what happened. Mr. Hines came out and got everything going, and then he passed away in December of 1931. Then Ralph took over, and Charles took over, and later then Howell. So what he did, you have to understand the beginnings to find the demise. He had built the mill and built enough timber, bought enough timber to run the mill for the lifetime of his sons, and the generation he brought



out here. Which would be my parents, and everybody's parents that started here. And that's about what it did.

All right, we get up into the 1960's and '70's. '60's was great, you know. Lots of money was made. '70's there was a lot of money made. But things were getting a little sticky in the '70's. What was happening then, it happened today, people don't realize that there wouldn't be a mill if Hines hadn't came out and spent his money to build the mill. There would be no mill if the stockholders didn't come out and buy new equipment and keep the mill. It is fine for the workers, they get all the money to send their kids to school, and keep them busy. But there has got to be some profits back to the people that spent their money to start with.

Well it got to where, where I got thirty-nine cents, or thirty-five cents to start with, that a man down there sweeping the floor was getting \$9.00 an hour. Now there is no way in the world that you can say that you are worth \$9.00 just to sweep the floors. So what happened, it is not the fault of the unions or the, or the management. It's both their faults. For the management to let the salaries get so high that there is no more profits. Or there is no profits because there is too much wages. So I imagine, and this is what happened after Charles died --- see Charles had stock, Howell Howard had stock, Eddie Hines had stock, Mrs. Hines, and all these people had big chunks of stock in the mill. And everything went smoothly, because there was no big vote in any of them.

Well when Edward Hines --- when Charles Hines died and left his stock to Edward Hines, which is his son, he had the biggest block of stock of anybody. Now he and, he had some different ideas about the mills and so forth. Mostly being a retail yardman. So finally I think they just got tired of bickering and going back and forth --- the generations are gone that did all the work running the mill. And they said, let's get our money and leave.

What they did, sold everything, put their money in the pocket and went home. They were millionaires to start with, and they didn't need this here to make any more money. But it just got to where it was too much of a job. You have to almost be born with it to live it.

But we --- of course it's not the fault of the labor or the management. There is just no profit there anymore. You can imagine now --- my god, to insure somebody to work, we were paying eighty dollars, part of our insurance ... if you don't work. And I never realized until I retired, you can't find insurance for less than \$200 a month.

DOROTHEA: That's right.

CHUCK: So a lot of these things you pay for the mill, and the workingman doesn't know this. Well my, my own crew right here don't know this. You know we pay all the fringes, plus the salary. So I told Mary the end of June, and we gave them a raise this year, end of June, I want you to give them their checks and show them how much they get in fringe, that they never see. And see, and let them ---

BARBARA: Open their eyes a little.

CHUCK: Yeah. But that's the only thing I can see. I, you know, I left the mill just about the right time. But it kind of hurts you to go down to see such a beautiful mill end up as nothing. And I --- it's still there today. In fact when we had the hearing up there at the Museum, you remember, that Saturday that Eddie Hines wrote a letter and excused himself because he couldn't be there. I've talked to him on the phone, and he's the same way. He says, "Chuck, I just don't --- didn't know what to do." Because see his father lived the mill. And Edward Hines and Charles Hines, that was, that was all they lived for was the mill. But, and the people. Boy, I'll tell you ---

DOROTHEA: Now the boy's names was Edward, Ralph and Charles.

CHUCK: Yes, well the boy's names was Ralph and Charles. Ralph was the oldest, and

then Charles. And then Edward is the son of Charles.

DOROTHEA: Oh, okay.

CHUCK: He is the son of Charles, so he is alive today. He is a

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DOROTHEA: And Howell ---

CHUCK: Howell is, Howell's mother was a Hines. Howell Howard. His mother was a sister to Edward Hines, or the Charles Hines. Then they were, they were in the paper business, their money came from paper. But he decided he wanted to be in lumber, so he came as manager of the mill, of the company. He was president of the company for a while.

But then right now, of course cousins don't get along, that was part of their problems. But you get two or three millionaires running around and one millionaire says I don't want to do it anymore. But they were a great, great family. You can imagine along with this nine to pretty near a thousand people working out here what they had in these other mills, plus Chicago. So everybody went in all different directions when they disbanded. But it was, it's --- this incidentally started in 1892. So they went on for pretty near seventy-five years, the Hines Lumber Company. They're still in business in Chicago. Edward Hines has still got retail yards there. But they have no manufacturing companies. But it's quite a business, quite a business.

DOROTHEA: Well I hate to call this to an end, and maybe we can make another appointment and come out and continue this another time.

CHUCK: Yeah, sure.

DOROTHEA: Maybe even so in our, in our videotape, you know.

CHUCK: Yeah.

DOROTHEA: Do some more ---

CHUCK: We're scattered back and forth here, maybe we can get some ---

DOROTHEA: We're about to run out of tape.

CHUCK: (Laughter) Okay.

DOROTHEA: I know you've got other things to do.

CHUCK: Yeah.

DOROTHEA: So we will, but we sure do appreciate your talking with us some.

CHUCK: Yeah, you can learn a tape on just running the damn city. There is so much good. Like I say, I get to thinking, you know, about all the people that came out because I knew them. Mothers and fathers and kids came out, and uncles and aunts. But no grandparents.

BARBARA: So Hines is really your family.

CHUCK: Well yeah, yeah.

BARBARA: You worked for ---

DOROTHEA: And how old were you when you first came here?

CHUCK: I was in the fifth grade.

DOROTHEA: Fifth grade. Right, you said that once before.

CHUCK: Yeah, uh huh.

DOROTHEA: I have to remind myself.

CHUCK: Fifth grade.

BARBARA: Do you have plans on retiring?

CHUCK: Pardon?

BARBARA: Do you have plans on retiring from this job?

CHUCK: Yeah. Well, I'm thinking about it now. Get the streets all lined out, and then I think I'll go. I don't know what I'd do though.

BARBARA: Well, that is what I was going to ask you, what would you do, travel or ---

CHUCK: No, no I'm pretty happy to stay right here.

BARBARA: (Laughter) Go to the ball games and watch the kids.

CHUCK: Yeah, I got to start that, that's another thing I got to start again. I've been going around ---

BARBARA: Well you used to take bags of candy and suckers for the kids.

CHUCK: Yeah, suckers.

BARBARA: I know, I used to get a few.

CHUCK: Yeah, yeah. I had a lot of fun with that. I have a lot of fun with that. No, it's been a lot of fun. Good, good, good schools. That's, you know, that's what we used to say, you got good schools, you got good water out here, and --- but one, either one. This City of Burns, you see that picture there, now they should go for ---

We went, one of the other things that I did the first year that I was here, our tax base went clear back to the 1930's. We didn't have enough money to run the city. So the first, one of the first things I did I went out and got a new tax base. Now we can run our town and make our budgets out every year and have no problems. But what I did, I used that picture to show that this is what it looked like when they had a tax base. Look at us today, how much it filled in. They've got streets and ---

BARBARA: Yeah.

CHUCK: No ---

DOROTHEA: I, I probably shouldn't say this on tape, but I think that Hines is one of the nicest looking towns. You know they are always clean and the houses and everything is -- it's really; it's really a nice looking town.

CHUCK: Yeah, that's what, it was designed see. Another one, you know, they're talking about widening the highway here, and I went to the state capitol, and Bob Smith got me an appointment with the engineer down there. And I said, "When you widen that highway,

there is no way in the world that my grade school kids can cross four lanes of highway by the parks to go to school. We need an overpass." "Oh," he said, "overpasses don't work.

We find in Oregon that they don't even use them." And I said; "Now just a minute, in our City of Hines they're going to use them because anybody in Hines went from one side of town to other doesn't go through everybody's backyard to cross. They all go down to Barnes and cross the highway at Barnes."

DOROTHEA: You have to.

CHUCK: Yeah. And he said, "You know by golly, you're right." He says, "My wife is from Crane." He's been here, and he's seen, and he observed. He said, "That's right." If somebody wants to

go to the post office from down there, they don't walk this way, they walk up there and come across at Barnes and out here. So when they do widen it, we're going to get an overpass. But, because of the fact we told them there is no way the kids can cross, and our town does all use that one artery there to go across, most of them. Unless you're driving, you can cross down below on Pettibone or the other end, but --- and Hanley. But most of them come right up here to Barnes. That's going to help. Little things like that help us. It's fun, it's fun.

DOROTHEA: Well we thank you.

CHUCK: Yeah, you bet, you bet.

DOROTHEA: I've really enjoyed this.

CHUCK: Well sure.

DOROTHEA: I've done a little typing on this in the last week or two, and I've learned a lot about it, and I've really enjoyed this. So --- Barbara I know is catching up on some of her history too. So ---

CHUCK: Yeah, I'll get you a copy of what I've written on the history. Let you read that

thing.

DOROTHEA: That sounds great.

BARBARA: Great.

CHUCK: It's got a lot of dates in there that will help you too. Yeah.

DOROTHEA: That's great. And we thank you and appreciate all the time you've spent with us.

CHUCK: Sure, you bet. Next time we do this I'll get all those pictures too that you can be looking at.

DOROTHEA: Well we're going to try to video those. Like I say, I don't know how it will work out, but we're sure going to try to do that. So ---

CHUCK: Great, that will be great.

DOROTHEA: I really appreciate everything though. Thank you.

CHUCK: You betcha.

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