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I arrived in Burns about 11 o'clock at night and I was the only passenger on the stage. The stage driver said, "What kind of hotel do you want to stay in?" There are two here." I said "it doesn't matter." He said, "well, I want to stay at a fire-proof one." But the fire-proof one, which was the Levins Hotel, was filled, and so I went across the street to the old Burns Hotel, which was an old frame building and that's where I stayed that night. Early the next morning I asked this stage driver who had brought me from Bend if he would take me on to Harney with my big trunk. And he said he would. We went on to Harney that morning and arrived at the store, Charlie Loggan's general merchandise store. Charlie and his wife and children lived there and they were very fine people. I said I'd like to find a place to board. He said his mother-in-law right down the street would take the teacher and he took me down there. I was introduced to Mrs. Bower, who was a woman about 75, I imagine. She said she planned on taking the teacher and I said - I'd like to see the room, please. They all laughed about that because it was the only place in town to board. But it turned out to be a very fine boarding place and she treated me just like a mother - she was just grand to me. (How old were you at this time?) I was about 21 or 22 - just out of Monmouth. (That was your first teaching job?) No, it wasn't. I taught in Tennessee 3 years before I came out west - started out young. And in Harney there was the City Hall, a nice school building for that day and time, and another store - the Rube Haines store. He and his wife and he had one daughter. Mrs. Bower with whom I boarded, was really a very civic minded person and she'd always say - "Well, we must keep our Corporation." She was always boosting for Harney, and Harney hated Burns. They always claim that Burns stole their County Seat. We had really good times that winter. For a social life, Mr. Loggan decided to put some plays on, and along about November when we couldn't get out and do other things, we would meet at the City Hall to practice these plays. We put 2 plays on that winter, and, of course, everyone was delighted to come to the plays. (Do you remember what the plays were?) Yes, one of them was "Tony, The Convict." I don't recall what the other one was. (Did you ever play a part in these?) Oh, yes, I felt very important. Then there was a lovely little church there. It is certainly too bad that it was ever torn down. It was a beautiful little country church, and the money we earned from these plays - the proceeds went to fixing up this little church. They painted it and put a little strip of carpeting down the center. It was a very nice little country church. Our school house had the Waterbury system of heating - which was like a big furnace in each room. So we were very comfortable. We burned wood. I

think there were about 40 pupils that year. The people were all friendly and interested in the school. In fact, the school and the little church were the center of their life there. (What were some of the other social activities?) They had dances there at the City Hall quite often. I think those dances lasted all night. I never stayed all night, but I'm sure they lasted practically all night. The country people would come and bring their children and the children would sleep on the benches until they got ready to go home from the dances. And, of course, they always had a pot luck - feed of some kind. They had box socials, too. I recall going to one party out at Cow Creek where the Pajade family lived. That was a great big house, and we went out there on a sleigh and didn't get home 'til 2 or 3 in the morning. Another time we went down to Crane to a dance. I wasn't used to those dances and going and staying all night - I usually came home a little earlier than that. I met my husband there that first winter. We were married the next year, one day before he went into the service, WW I. (Why do people become attracted to Harney County?) I didn't know a thing about it when I went over there. I didn't know what it was like. But I suppose I was an adventuresome person - I wanted to see the country. I was glad to get a position. Positions weren't so easy to get then. In fact, the girls at Monmouth were rather jealous because I got this position. I had had experience - 3 years in Tennessee, so I had that in my favor. (What was the hardest thing about teaching in Harney, in a small school with the 4 grades?) You know, I can't recall that any of it was hard. I was so happy to be teaching and happy to be working that I never thought of it as being hard. (You had 4 grades?) Yes, the first 4 grades. I think the children in the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th grades learned something, but I doubt if the 1st grade did. I don't think I knew how to teach the 1st grade. I just didn't know how to go about teaching 1st grade. I suppose they learned to read in spite of the teacher. Mrs. Wright lives here in town - she was one of our early pupils - 2nd grade, I believe. There were nice children in that school. A funny thing happened one time. I had a little red-headed boy and I was trying to teach the children to be refined and they used the word "stink". And I said, Oh, you musn't say that - say unpleasant odor. He looked up and said, "If we see a stink bug, do we say there's an odor bug?" After that, they always called them "odor bugs". (What about the different attitudes toward life - then and now. One of the differences I'm thinking of is the neighborliness?) Well, the young people all had respect for the older people. (How would they act differently?) It was very seldom that they ever questioned any authority. If the teacher said to do this - they never

questioned it. And I think they had respect for their parents, too. Many of the people in the Harney area had high ideals for their children - they wanted them to have an education. Mr. Loggan moved away - he was there a couple of years and went to Burns to live where his children went to school. That was 1918. I taught there '16-'17 and '17-'18. I was there 2 years. It was war time and they only had one teacher then because the people were moving away. After that they only had one teacher in the school. And then the people just moved away from Harney and the buildings were empty - the old hotel and all those buildings were just empty. Mrs. Bower's house where I boarded stood there for a long time. Later Mr. Loggan had that house moved to Burns. They cut that house right down through the middle to move it in 2 sections. It is standing in Burns now. Down there in the area of the Washington School, and it is owned by Mrs. Anderson, I believe, and she rents it as apartments now. A number of those old houses in Harney were moved to Burns - along with the court records - that's what the old timers always say. I don't think they ever had a ball game out there but what there was a fight. They had a baseball team and a basketball team, as well as horse races. What I enjoyed most was the hiking. Nearly every Saturday, Sue Lowe, now Mrs. Oatman who lives in Burns, we'd go for a hike out on those hillsides. We never thought of rattlesnakes, now I wouldn't do it for anything. We'd walk all over those rimrocks. (Do the open spaces have an attraction for you, or do you feel more comfortable in the City?) At the time the open spaces - very, very much. I would like to live there yet if it wasn't for the snow and the cold - especially where you have to shovel snow. Otherwise I like it there, I like Burns. I like living here where I am now - even with the rain. (Were you born in Tennessee). Yes, I was born in Tennessee - I was an orphan girl and I knew that I must make my own living. In fact, I've made my own living since I was 13, to a certain extent. I took the examination to be a teacher and the first time I didn't make it. And so then I crammed and crammed and took the examinations and I passed. I joined a Teacher's Agency. If I applied for one school, I'm sure I applied for 20 and they'd all write and say "Have you had any experience?" I'd say no, so they wouldn't hire me. Finally a letter came from a little town in East Tennessee, Fall Franch, and they said "Have you had any experience?" I was getting desperate and I answered the letter and I said, "No, the only experience I've had is one week supervised teaching, substituting, but I've helped take care of 5 children for 5 years, and I think I understand children." And I also said that I was an orphan and I needed to make my living. That appealed to the old fellow on the school board and

I went to Fall Branch and taught for 3 years at a sum of \$40. the 1st year and then \$45. But I only paid \$10. board, so it wasn't bad, and I was delighted to be teaching. I had had very little education. I went to summer school the first summer. My brother lived in the west - he was single. He came back to see me and said "Oh, sister, you come west next year - you can make a lot more money out there - and I'll pay your way out." The next spring, after I taught there 3 years, I came out to Washington and I taught in Washington one year. And then I realized more than ever that I had to get some more education. I only had enough money to go to school one year. I looked at different catalogs and I sent to Oregon for one, and, of course, Monmouth was the only school in Oregon at the time - of Normal schools - and that just appealed to me. I think because it was a small school and perhaps because they didn't require any examination - they would take you in. In fact, at that time Monmouth had Jr. and Sr. High school there, too. You were part of their Normal School, but you were allowed to take the high school too. So I came down to Monmouth not knowing a soul. I liked it very much, and that's how I happened to go over to eastern Oregon - through the Placement Bureau. I always considered it was a very good move for me. (What subjects did you teach grade schoolers in 1917-1918?) Methods have changed so much. In a rural grade school, if you would teach in units. For example, have everyone work arithmetic at one time. Not have a 15 minute period here and a 15 minute period there like they did in the olden days, they used to have it divided in small periods that way. But in later years we decided everyone would work arithmetic at the same period in the morning. And then the teacher could go around and help each one individually. The same way with the social studies, and even the 1st grades could participate some in the social studies of the upper grades. If you were doing map work, the little folks were just as interested in the map you were showing of the United States and different places, and so it worked out very well. I loved to teach Geography and History. I liked mathematics, too, but seemed like I could always interest them in Geography and History more than anything else. When I went to Burns to teach, I just had one grade, I started in with the 4th grade. Taught 4th and 5th and 6th at one time. One time I taught 1st grade for six years. I was out of Burns for a couple of years during my husband's illness, and after his death I went back to Burns to teach and Mr. Slater came that year, and the whole time I was teaching under him. You met Teresa Guinee? She just retired last year. She's a woman who can give you a lot about the history of the Burns school. (What about the teachers who have retired from the smaller schools, like Drewsey and Harney and Crane

and Sunset Valley?) I know of one woman - Lavina Palmer - and she is a house mother over at Corvallis. Mrs. Palmer taught at Harney the year after I did. Then she lived around Condon - she was Superintendent for many years over in that part of the country. She could tell you about Harney, too. Agnes Stallard and her sister, Mrs. Enid Gown, both live in Corvallis, both were rural teachers in Harney County and both have had a world of experience. Wish you could talk to Agnes. (If I went to see her and introduced myself, what would be a good topic?) Get her to tell you about her rural schools in Harney County. She taught at Fields and places like that and she lived in a tent. Right now she rents this big house and keeps college students. I presume she's past 80 years old, and she keeps foreign students mostly. And Mrs. Gowan has kept students, too, after she retired from teaching in Corvallis. (I heard a lot about teachers, in times before 1916, 1917, some of the 8th graders were 20 years old, 6'2", 200 lbs., and rather hard to handle?) You'd find that - not in Oregon I haven't had that experience with children that old. I did have a little experience in Tennessee. But Mrs. Stallard could help you. Another teacher who knows a lot about rural teaching in Harney County is Mrs. Dewey Quier in Bend. She was a Portland girl and she taught in Harney County before WW I and quite a bit afterwards, and she has a lot of experience in rural schools. (Were there any anecdotes and humorous situations in your classroom - funny now in retrospect?) A girl here in town that I had in Burns, claims that I sent her home because she came to school with socks on in the winter time. Can't believe I did. See, girls used to wear long stockings and then they changed and started wearing ~~s~~ocks. In a cold country like Burns, socks seemed clear out of place in the winter, and I probably told her to be sure and wear stockings to school next day. She claims I sent her home to put on stockings. (What kind of games did they play at recess?) They had good times at recess. They played marbles, in season. Played ball, baseball, in season. And the younger children played all kinds of ring games - and the teacher got right out and played with them. Didn't stand around and look out the window, we got out there and played. They ran races - really had good times. I never recall having trouble in the rural schools at recess. In a large playground, like in Burns, you'd have a fight to settle occasionally. (Were you teaching in Burns at the time the Hines Lumber Company came in?) Yes, I was. I was teaching either 4th or 5th grade and they weren't expecting all the influx of people there in Burns - they weren't prepared for it - they didn't have the money for it either, and in my room there were 63 pupils for a while. They were sitting all over. They kept bringing in desks. I have a very large

enrollment all that year. It was very hard. I recall that Bob Duncan, who was Chairman of the School Board, at the annual school meeting, he made some remark about how many pupils I had that year and gave me a little word of praise which I really appreciated. I didn't think anybody had noticed it. All the grades, of course, had more pupils, but that grade seemed to be the one that had the most that age children. (What was your impression of the new kids coming in?) We were all quite interest in them because they came from so many different places. I remember one family from Louisiana - a very smart girl, and we had a few that came in that weren't so pleasant to teach. On the whole, they were very nice families. (Would you prefer to teach ranch kids in the rural schools or this mixed group in the City in Burns?) I don't know that I really had any preference. One thing about teaching in a rural school - you are independent - you are not supervised closely - and you can carry out your own ideas. While Mr. Sutton was there - who taught there 20 years, he was of the military order, and the teachers were scared to death of him. We wouldn't dare get out of line any way. For example, I had a teacher right across the hall from me, and if he found you going to their rooms, that was against the rule. You weren't supposed to go to other teachers' rooms to visit. Once in a while we'd stand in our doors and talk to each other when the classes were coming up and down the stairs, but he was very strict. And I think at that time it was a good thing. He didn't only teach school and run the school. He really had an influence over the whole town. If he heard of any youngster getting into a fight down on Main Street, the next morning he was called on the carpet at school. He said he had control of them until they got hom. And he really did.