

HARNEY COUNTY HISTORY PROJECT

AV-Oral History #175 - Sides A/B

Subject: Frank & Betty Eki - With Video

Place: Eki Home - Burns, Oregon

Date: May 16, 1986

Interviewer: Dorothea Purdy

DOROTHEA PURDY: This is Dorothea Purdy, and I'm talking with Frank and Betty Eki at their home in Burns, Oregon, on May 16, 1986. This is tape number one. Frank ---

FRANK EKI: Yes.

DOROTHEA: --- can you tell me your name and where you were born?

FRANK: Yes. Well my name is Frank Tomoaki Eki. Tomoaki is a Japanese name.

DOROTHEA: And how do you spell that?

FRANK: T O M O A K I.

DOROTHEA: Okay. And where were you born?

FRANK: I was born in Portland.

DOROTHEA: Portland.

FRANK: Yes.

DOROTHEA: Did you stay in Portland for all your school years, or did you ---

FRANK: No, you see when I was 3 years old my parents send me back to my grandma's in Japan. And I was raised there until about, oh until I finish my --- ah --- school there. Ah --- junior school, which was about 15 years old. Then I came back to this country again.

DOROTHEA: So then did you finish school in here, or had you already ---

FRANK: Yeah, then I went to school in Clackamas, here in Clackamas. And I went grade school there and I finish the grade school, then I was about to go to high school, then I ---

Well, my mother sent for my sister, she was about a year older --- or younger than me. Well, then --- by the time I got out of school why --- she got sick. She got married and got sick, so we weren't able to. She wasn't able to send me to the school, and I had to find a job to support the family, or help sister. And so I --- that was in --- oh, when I was about 18, 19 years old.

Then I went to work on a farm, which I didn't care too much about working on a farm, but not much choice then. So then as time went on I went to work for produce house, where they handled lot of produce. Then, that's about, oh, I worked for produce house for quite some time, then things got worse. And in those days economy wasn't very good, so eventually this outfit I was working for have to close down. So I have to look for different job, and I end up being a grocery clerk. And that's where most of my time was spent, in the grocery business.

DOROTHEA: Now did you at one time own a grocery store, or did ---

FRANK: Yes, we did. That was right after the war started.

DOROTHEA: So when you --- When they put all the people into these relocation camps, well they took you right out of your grocery store.

FRANK: Yeah. Well, you see the war started and this, the place I was working for, well they were aliens, Japanese aliens. So they have to sell out the store. Instead, we took over, Betty and I took over. And so time --- at that time we thought the citizens didn't have to evacuate. So we thought we can stay, so we just bought out the store, and about three or four months later found out we have to go anyway. So we have to get rid of the store, so we sold out just as much for the store, instead of taking inventory. So we lost quite a bit of our money that way. They can only come and say, "Well, we offer you so much for the store, you like it, take it or leave it." That's the way it was. Then we only have a limited time to leave.

DOROTHEA: Where did you meet Betty?

FRANK: Betty? Well, that was when I was still working at the grocery store. Well, see Betty's oldest sister is married to a man named Augura, Charlie Augura. And they had a big farm out in Brooks, Oregon, where they were raising produce, lettuce, celery, and onions. And one of those famous raise radish --- produce, near Salem. And she was working for Mr. Jones; he was Senator, Oregon Senator. And she was doing housework for them. Well, and the man I was worked for was his brother. That was in St. Johns.

And every weekend, why --- I used to go down there and pick up a pickup load or a truckload of produce. Then just about sell it for the give away price. That way we can draw a lot of customers, you know. Anyway to ---

DOROTHEA: Right. Have a big clientele.

FRANK: Yes, we used to get, oh --- truckload of celery, truckload of lettuce and onions. Then we sold for a penny a head for the lettuce, and so on. And that drew a lot of customers.

DOROTHEA: Oh, you bet.

FRANK: Well, and so that's how we met my wife. I'm going to get the celery and the lettuce, and here she's, they're close by. And she was going back to her sister every weekend. And that was the only time I get to go there, because weekdays, I got to work in the grocery store. Then the weekend they sent me back there to pick up some produce. And that's how I met her, and we got acquainted with her, you know. That's quite a story.

DOROTHEA: It sounds interesting all right. Sounds interesting. So your marriage wasn't a planned marriage like some of the marriages are? You met ---

BETTY EKI: No, ours wasn't arranged.

DOROTHEA: Arranged. Uh huh.

BETTY: We went against the tradition.

DOROTHEA: Well, that's the way to do it. Okay, when you were running your store and you had to go to these relocation centers, did they come and get you and take you by bus? Or how were you transported there?

FRANK: No, we're --- See, the thing was that while we was running the store, and we had Doug, he was only about --- how old was he, about 2 years old?

BETTY: Yeah.

FRANK: So we had to take him to her sister's place, which was down in Brooks.

BETTY: Near Salem.

FRANK: Near Salem, about 30 miles away. And meantime curfew hours came in effect, and we can only travel 5 miles, so we had no choice, but going after him, and so here we're traveling over 5 miles. On the way back we got a cop. (Laughter) We got a ticket for traveling more than 5 miles.

BETTY: He asked, "What are you doing so far away?"

FRANK: So we have to do a lot of explanation, explaining, and we have to appear in court, and this and that, but of course we didn't have to pay no fine, or anything since --- you know, we are just out to get our boy.

DOROTHEA: Yeah.

FRANK: Yeah. Then of course in the meantime we have to get rid of the store by a certain time. Then finally --- this people bought out the whole store.

BETTY: Oh, and that's another story. You know, that guy came in and he looked the place over and he said, "I'll give you a \$1,000." That doesn't even pay for, you know, the cash register or the equipment or anything. And ---

DOROTHEA: You took quite a loss, I'll bet ---

BETTY: Yeah, and then as soon as he bought it, he shut --- We lived in the back of the

store, you know how people used to do, and so naturally since we lived in the back I didn't have any groceries in there because we just stuck it in the store refrigerator. He shut that door, and we didn't have anything to eat from that day.

DOROTHEA: Oh, my gosh.

BETTY: And he wouldn't let us in there for anything. We just ---

DOROTHEA: Did you have to move then?

BETTY: Yeah, we moved out.

FRANK: Well then we went to work for --- which is --- What happened first?

BETTY: We didn't work for anybody after that.

FRANK: Oh, that's right. Then I started for --- well, right after the war ---

BETTY: You were working for Horigomes (sp.?). He was a big shot man.

FRANK: All right. You see I --- At first, at the very beginning I was working for the head of a Japanese Chamber of Commerce. Ah

--- think his name was Mr. Horigomes. And he had a great big grocery store. He had about 4 or 5 grocery clerks, and I was, happen to be the head clerk. Well, the --- just as soon as the war broke out, he was the --- getting stuck by the FBI.

BETTY: Because he was a head of a Japanese ---

FRANK: Chamber of Commerce.

BETTY: It was kind of a Japanese group, you see. He was the top man.

FRANK: And the store shut down. And ---

BETTY: The FBI took it over.

FRANK: Then about a few days later, the government reopened again under a government control. But I have to be there in order to see that they don't take anything out of there, and they watch us from we taking anything out of the store either. And his wife, she worked there, but she can't take anything home or --- all the money has got to

go into a certain account that is under government control. So --- and I thought it was terrible the way, you know. But ---

DOROTHEA: Being American born, it was just kind of like a ---

FRANK: Yeah, uh huh. That was quite an experience, yeah.

DOROTHEA; --- being a prisoner, right. Yeah.

FRANK: People never stop and think of those things, you know, until really happens.

DOROTHEA: Uh huh.

FRANK: But --- I learned a lot of things. But we could, you know, I think maybe ---

DOROTHEA: When we think back on it, you know, it never really hurt us, but it was quite an experience at the time, you know, and --- Did you feel like you were really being treated right at this time, or did you feel that maybe they were wrong in treating you

FRANK: Well, you know, when the war broke out and I --- No, I didn't have no grudge against the U. S. Government. Although I were a citizen, so we thought that we should be treated better than that. But in wartime, you got to expect anything can happen, you know. It's not a peacetime. If all the country clear out went to war, so there --- anything can happen and we have to realize that.

DOROTHEA: Yeah.

FRANK: Yeah, and we can't complain because although we're citizens, how come we are being treated this way? That's the sad part of the war. That's why we don't want a war. Yeah. But we are fortunate that we are still alive. We can be treated a lot worse than that.

DOROTHEA: Oh, yeah. Okay, so then you went to these camps. Did you stay in Portland in this camp very long?

FRANK: Yes, we stayed --- at stockyard about; oh let's see now. No, not too long, about

3 months or so, 3 or 4 months. And then by that time why this Tule Lake Camp, they need help because it wasn't completely finished, so they are looking for volunteers to go to Tule Lake Camp. And I thought I'd better get out of that stockyard, so I volunteered. And I don't know just how many went --- about a 150 or so went. They volunteered to do different type of work there, to finished the camp setup.

Then I got in at the shop. You see I --- in those days, we had a three class of --- what do you say, how you say that? A rate of pay, \$12, \$16, and top pay was \$19. And I don't want to work for --- you know, I want to get on the top pay. So I got into the furniture shop and I got --- which I got the top pay. And I hired about 30 men to run the furniture shop. Then we are making all kinds of desks, chair and table to send to other camps. Furnish the other camps. So, oh, we were doing pretty good, really for as far as job and the pay is concerned. And she is doing laundry work.

DOROTHEA: Now did they have homes for you to live in, or how did you live?

FRANK: Yes, we had a ---

BETTY: Barracks, we lived in barracks.

FRANK: One barrack cut into about four, four families.

DOROTHEA: Four families.

BETTY: If it was just a man and wife, they had small places, and if they had children they got a bigger one.

DOROTHEA: Now did you do your own cooking, or ---

BETTY: No, we went to what we called a mess hall. I don't know why, but --- It was just a big building, and ---

DOROTHEA: The houses then, didn't have any facilities?

BETTY: No, no facilities, and the camp was sectioned off between --- they had a row of the latrines, you know, and a shower.

FRANK: Well, you know, first we went there, food was real good because we were just a small crew.

BETTY: Yeah, you know, they had ham, and I thought oh boy, this is good. Better than we have ever eaten.

FRANK: But as time went on, you see that camp hold about 15,000 people. We had about 15,000 people in the camp, Tule Lake Camp. And you can imagine it's about --- how many people here in Burns?

DOROTHEA: Only about 3,000 or 4,000. I could imagine. Right.

FRANK: It was 5, 6 times bigger than Burns population. You know, and ---

DOROTHEA: More about like Bend ---

FRANK: Yeah.

BETTY: Each barracks had about what, four or six rooms? Four for the big ones, four big ones, and six for the little ones.

DOROTHEA: And then after you lived there for a while, did you get transferred someplace else, or ---

FRANK: No, I didn't get transferred somewhere else, I --- By that time, why the, you see the same government found out Japanese doesn't --- what do you call ---

BETTY: Well, it was getting too expensive for the government.

FRANK: Yeah.

BETTY: Because ---

FRANK: And they were afraid of sabotage more than anything else.

DOROTHEA: Oh.

FRANK: Well, it never happened that way. Not a sign of a sabotage any place, you know. So they decide, it was costing too much for the government. Now they start pushing us out of camp. They want everybody to get out as soon as possible. It was

costing an awful lot of money to keep that many people in different camps, and I can understand that. And I got tired of staying in the camp, so I thought well --- And I always -
-- So this is something else but

--- You see, when I was still working in the grocery store, early days, before the way, you know, when you was working for grocery store in those days you only get about ---

BETTY: \$30 a month.

FRANK: --- \$40 a month.

DOROTHEA: Uh huh.

FRANK: That just a small --- you know, such a small pay. Of course in those days why we can survive with that, but you just cannot save anything to get ahead.

DOROTHEA: Yeah.

FRANK: So then I thought, gee this not --- isn't the way I want to live, you know. I know my family was so poor, and so was hers too. But I don't want to be poor all my life, so I got to do something. So one day there was a fortuneteller, Japanese fortuneteller in Portland. And I went to see him, just for the heck of it, you know, just to see what he had to tell me about it, you know. I went, and here he, I don't know just what he was doing, a bunch of bamboo sticks, you know, and he rolled them around. And he tell me this and that, and he told me, "You know what you should do?" And I said, "What?" "You should go to Eastern Oregon, and you work with the dirt and you will succeed." So, well, I couldn't figure out, what kind of work? I know I never did like farming. Never did, and I don't even now, I don't care.

DOROTHEA: Yeah.

FRANK: And I thought my goodness, other than farming what can I do to, you know, work with the dirt, soil. Eastern Oregon, I don't know anything about Eastern Oregon. I don't know anything about outside Portland area. So --- But anyway, that was at that

time then, then this war came along, and we went to Tule Lake in about

--- By the time they want to evacuate these people out of the camp, there's Mr. John Quier from Edward Hines Lumber Company. He was the personnel manager. He came and he was recruiting men for the railroad, he want 12 men.

And I decided, well --- and in those days there was lot of Union or Southern Pacific, Great Northern. They are taking a lot of Japanese workers for the railroad. And of course, you know, these older Japanese, they all worked on the railroads once, before they even started in business. And so they, a lot, most of the people had railroad experience. So a lot of them went Union Pacific, I mean a --- main line.

But I thought then, at that time, well this is the logging section, Edward Hines Logging Camp. And, of course pay for the railroad was 86 cents an hour. And main line was only paying 80,

85 cents. That's quite a difference in pay. And I thought, well, if I'm going to work on the railroad, why not go for the higher pay railroad. But everybody else stop me --- tried to stop me from coming here, because they say, "You know, working on the logging section is awful hard work. You not going to last more than a day." And I said, "Well, this is a ---"

At that time was six months leave, nobody leave for permanent, just six months at a time. So I said, "Well no matter what happened, I'm going to stick it out for six months. Then if I can't stand any more, I won't go back." So I says, "I'm going to sign up for it."

So when Mr. John Quier, the recruiting foreman, he could only get four men. Four men and one cook, and I was one of them. And two of those men had been a foreman of railroad. I don't know just which railroads, but then there was another young man besides me, he doesn't have no experience either. So the four of us come with the cook, and farmed out.

We --- oh my goodness we started out from Lakeview, on a Red Ball Stage. We

got here to Hines about three-thirty. That was a long, long ride. And I have never been out of Portland, so you know, I thought to myself, my goodness we are going through the country roads. Nothing but sagebrush, and I had never seen sagebrush so much before.

DOROTHEA: Now did you come in a car?

FRANK: Yes, Red Ball Stage.

DOROTHEA: Oh, Red Ball Stage, I see.

FRANK: Uh huh. And we finally got into Hines office, and then we got through signing up, then they took us down to Trout Creek Camp. And my goodness when we got in there, they only had two, a bunkhouse and a kitchen. That's all the buildings we had. And when we got in the kitchen, oh, the dishes and utensils was just stacked up in the kitchen, and they were dirty. Never been washed. And we have to do all the cleaning up there so we can have a meal. So we, and we have to carry water from pump house to the kitchen, because no water set-up. And we have to make hot water over the stove, and of course in those days, we didn't have no electricity either, you know, everything was a lamp.

And, but we worked till so late in the night, and then here comes the train crew. Train got off of the track, and we have to go. We're getting wake up two or three times a night. Every time the train goes through, they get off on the track about three or four times before they get back into Hines.

DOROTHEA: Oh.

FRANK: And --- Oh, we really have to work so hard. We got so tired, and when night comes and we want to sleep, talk about bedbugs! We got no sleep.

DOROTHEA: Oh, no.

FRANK: Yeah, bedbugs, you know. And the mattress is only about two inches thick, and so dirty! But we can't complain, we are so tired. But the minute you turn off the light, you

can just hear the bedbugs dropping onto your bed. Oh gee, we had a terrible time. We had to take the mattress out and sleep right on that spring with a blanket on it.

DOROTHEA: Yeah.

FRANK: And so we ---

DOROTHEA: Who had lived there before?

FRANK: I don't know. They must have had a --- I don't know who lived there but ---

BETTY: I think at the "Y", you know where Scheckels ---

DOROTHEA: Yeah.

BETTY: --- where we go to, they had what they called a "Y", where the train went there and made the circle, and ---

FRANK: There was a section crew there all right, but they just never had been kept clean.

DOROTHEA: Yeah.

BETTY: And do you know where Old Trout Creek is? Which is that road that goes into Hoppers or Schetkeys?

DOROTHEA: Now I didn't know about that before, but Thad was telling me about that.

BETTY: Yeah, that was called Old Trout Creek, and I think there was some people living there at the time.

FRANK: So we spent most of the time cleaning up the camp. Besides go getting out --- going out to work. Then going out to work, we couldn't eat. Sometimes we have to work eight hours without have a --- taking time to eat, because no way of getting --- coming back to camp. And once they get off the track, the train gets off the track; it takes so long to get it back on the track. Then we got to repair the track so they can get over it. By the time you get one place done, they go a little ways down again, off the track again.

DOROTHEA: The railroad must have been in terrible shape.

FRANK: Oh, it was terrible. Yes, it was in terrible shape, you know. But oh, we put up with it and then --- But the foreman we had, oh, he was a terrible foreman. He just swear from morning to night. Then he was so rough with the men. He just have no consideration, you know. And in the meantime we get a bunch of boys came, but they just couldn't take it, so have to go back. And I was sent back to camp for two or three times to recruit the men. I went back to camp to get a few men, come back, then they stay for two or three weeks. But they couldn't stay with that foreman, so they ---

DOROTHEA: Now the foreman's name was?

FRANK: Louie Meador.

BETTY: M E A ---

DOROTHEA: It's what?

BETTY: M E A D O R.

DOROTHEA: And he was a White?

FRANK: A foreman. Yeah, he was from the South. He used to a ---

BETTY: He had a wife and two kids that we know of, I think. They had more, but ---

FRANK: And so many young men just couldn't stand that.

BETTY: Oh, his language was terrible. He'd come into town and I think he was thrown in jail nearly every time because he'd swear at the waitresses.

DOROTHEA: He wasn't Japanese?

FRANK: No, no.

BETTY: And he would just swear at the waitresses, and so they would just throw him in jail.

FRANK: He was a White man, but oh, he used to ---

BETTY: And then these guys would work a little longer, you know, at night, and it would

just kill him that they're putting in over-time. Then he'd come and take it out on me. You know, that they were working too long.

FRANK: But anyway ---

BETTY: I didn't have anything to do with it.

FRANK: Before it comes to that, we'll see, then --- of course I just ignored it. You know a lot of people can't, you know, but I just figured, oh, I just ignore whatever he said. Well, you know, I'd just pretend that I couldn't or didn't hear. Or, you know, it doesn't bother me. That's the only way to get along.

DOROTHEA: Right.

FRANK: Every time he says something, you ---

BETTY: Well, you can imagine what kind of language he used.

DOROTHEA: Oh yeah, I understood that. Clint was telling me about how rough they were there. There was a bunch of Swedes there, and guys up there, and he said they were terrible talking. Really rough. Yeah.

FRANK: He used to work with Black people in the South. And that's how he used to drive those --- what they call, you know, slave drivers. Yeah.

BETTY: And I think that was the first time he had ever been head of anybody. I don't mean to say anything bad about him, but I think he was what was called trash, White trash, in those days. You know, I don't mean to say ---

DOROTHEA: Yeah, I think that we have a lot of those kind around.

BETTY: Can you imagine the language?

FRANK: You see, first we get Mr. Bert Kromer. He was superintendent of the railroads.

DOROTHEA: Mr. who?

FRANK: Kromer. Bert Kromer. Bert, B E R T, Kromer, and he was a superintendent, and also head of the purchasing agent. He had two titles. And finally, he got rid of him,

this Louie Meador.

BETTY: Bert Kromer fired Louie Meador.

DOROTHEA: How is that Kromer spelled?

BETTY: K R O M E R.

FRANK: Then --- ah ---

BETTY: Was Mr. Dewey assistant then?

FRANK: Huh?

BETTY: Was Mr. Dewey assistant manager then?

FRANK: Well, at that time Mr. Waldenburg, he was manager. Waldenburg, at the mill. And he either, I don't know just how this happened, but anyway, he left the company, and Mr. Dewey came in as manager.

DOROTHEA: What was his first name?

FRANK: Al, Al Dewey.

DOROTHEA: Al.

FRANK: Al. He was manager for quite some time. But --- now where are we now? We're talking about?

DOROTHEA: The --- the --- you going and getting more crews.

FRANK: Oh yes, uh huh. Yes, then --- meantime, why oh, it's been over a year or so, after why --- see we didn't have no family facilities. No, not enough housing for families, just for the workers themselves. But somehow I got okay to build me a shack for house and send for my family.

BETTY: That's because the camps were closing up. They were going to close all the camps, and so we had to get out.

FRANK: Well, but that wasn't the reason they give me okay here. The company accept my --- I ask for --- to see if I can send for my family, and they said, "Okay, we'll have you --

-" But, I have to build house on my own time, not on company time. But they furnish all the lumber. So I build a house there at Trout Creek. And so when that completed, I sent for my wife and my kids.

DOROTHEA: Do you remember what year this was when you first came?

FRANK: That was, --- What year was that when you came?

BETTY: Oh, we came in '44. Oh, it's exactly 42 years. We came on about the 13th of May, because he wanted to start working on the 15th. So it was May the 15th that he start working. And I remember as I came through the canyon, you know, the hills were just full of those yellow flowers.

DOROTHEA: Oh, yeah.

BETTY: And every few miles I'd say, "Are we there?" And he'd say, "No." And I'd say, "Are we there?" And he's say, "No." And I said, "Gee, how far are we going into these woods?"

FRANK: Well, first time I came was 1943.

BETTY: Yeah, he came first.

FRANK: Yeah, about May of '43. Then I worked all the year, and of course in the meantime why 6 months is up, and I decided to stay longer. And, you know, that time why, the government want us to stay out anyway. So when 6 months leave, why it didn't matter, even after 6 months. Permanent leave is what they want, so I didn't have no troubles staying out. And of course the first I came here, I didn't like at all, you know. All that, but as time went on, I got used to that, and kind of like that job. So ---

DOROTHEA: You liked the smell of sagebrush?

FRANK: So I took a lot of interest in it and I thought well, just to be a section hand, by golly, that isn't enough, you know. That isn't what I want, you now, I want to get ahead. So I took more interest in it, and I took the brush up on that of how the railroad being, you

know, kept up, and oh, read a lot of books, and experiment with a lot of things. And I had learned a lot from the ones that had experience too. But --- so that paid off in a long period of time. So, first we came, we had two sections, one in Poison Creek, and one at Trout Creek. And 50 miles of railroad track from Hines to Seneca. So we ---

DOROTHEA: Do you have the upkeep on all this 50 miles?

FRANK: Yeah, 50 miles, but one section had Trout --- Poison Creek had from Hines up to the summit, 23 miles. Then Trout Creek section from summit on down to Seneca. See, that's how that section was spread out. And ---

DOROTHEA: Now were there --- other --- Were you one of the first Japanese to come, or ---

FRANK: Yeah, I was the first one.

DOROTHEA: The very first ones here.

FRANK: The first one to come here, and the first one --- the last one to leave, left the railroad. Yeah. Well, in the meantime --- Mr. Geer. Well, they hired Mr. Coy, he was from Union Pacific. He was head, Vice President of Union Pacific, on maintenance section. The company hired him to see what they can do to get the track up in shape. So he came and he let that Mr. Kromer go, and he appointed Mr. Henry Geer as the next superintendent. He was a conductor at the time.

DOROTHEA: Now how did he? Is he ---

FRANK: Henry Geer, Thad's father.

DOROTHEA: Yeah. This Mr. Coy, is he ---

FRANK: I forgot his first name. I can't remember his first name. Last name of Coy.

BETTY: C U O Y, I think.

FRANK: Coy, C O Y.

BETTY: Oh, are you sure?

DOROTHEA: Oh, just C O Y.

FRANK: C O Y. Coy.

BETTY: He was a White man. It sounds like a Chinese name, but he was a White man.

FRANK: Oh yeah, sure. Vice President of the Union Pacific! Then Mr. Coy and Mr. Geer walked from Seneca to Hines every day. To count, and looking the ties over to see how many got to be done. How many ties required to get the track up in shape. Okay. Well

BETTY: Yeah. But in the meantime, you know, they fired Louie Meador.

FRANK: Yeah, well of course he is gone. But we had somebody else. Louie Meador had another man from --- He's --- the South. Mr. Miller, I forgot his first name either, he was taking over foreman job.

DOROTHEA: Miller?

FRANK: Miller, uh huh. Poison Creek was Mr. --- Oh, what was his name, I can't think of his name now. Big man, from Yugoslavia. What was his name?

DOROTHEA: Clinton mentioned a name, but I can't remember.

BETTY: It was before Nick Tonkavitch.

DOROTHEA: Tonkavitch, that's what Clinton said.

FRANK: But he wasn't the one. He was just a working section hand. But they had a man named --- oh, what was his name? I can't ---

BETTY: You know, it's got so we forget all names.

DOROTHEA: Well, you know, that's the terrible part of it. They like to interview these older people, but gee when you get like now --- See, I interviewed Daddy, and oh, I had a terrible time with him.

BETTY: You know, we're here in body, but our mind is gone.

FRANK: But he was a husky man. He can lift one end of a rail by himself. That's how

strong he was. Oh, what was his name?

BETTY: We'll probably think of it after you leave.

DOROTHEA: Uh huh.

FRANK: But anyway, they let him go. And by that time we had a few Japanese in Poison Creek too. Then after Mr. Coy came why they promote one of the Japanese men as the foreman of Poison Creek. And in Trout Creek, why at that time, Mr. Geer became a superintendent. And we get another man, Mr. Brookhart. He was from St. Johns area I guess, somewhere around there, as a foreman for the Trout Creek. But all he does is take a magazine out and read all day. He doesn't do anything, just stay in the speeder.

BETTY: He dressed like a businessman.

FRANK: Yeah. He never step out of the speeder. Just read all day in a magazine. And when time to go home, well --- And all he does, you know, is just a name, he's foreman.

DOROTHEA: Yeah.

FRANK: But he doesn't do a darn thing, which is all right. I don't have no, you know, bad feelings.

BETTY: You know this thing isn't going in sequence. We left Trout Creek at one time. I didn't get along with Mr. Meador and his wife. Yeah, you know me.

DOROTHEA: Well, I can understand.

BETTY: Yeah, and she didn't like me because, and I know just why, because one day she came knocking on the door and I had my door locked, you know. And I was taking a nap. And then that night he came over and he said, "If your wife can't get along with my wife, you're getting out of here." And so we said, "Okay, we'll get out." But in the meantime, I wrote to the WRA, that's the War Relocation Authority, to see if I could go back into camp because, I said I just can't live here with that man. And they said no you can't come in here anymore, you left for good and we can't let you in --- back. So they

came to see us at Trout Creek, and ---

DOROTHEA: That's the WRA? The authorities?

BETTY: Uh huh. Yeah, the big guys from the WRA came over and they said, "Well, we're not going to let anybody come to work here any more. Because if this is the kind of treatment that the Japanese are going to get, why ---" So we left, we went too.

FRANK: We went to Ontario, and I start working on a shed, onion shed. But I didn't like that job too well. I just never did like farming, you know. So, but anyway to survive, to make a living, that's the only job that was available around here. So, that's what I was doing. In meantime, Mr. Kromer call and said well we finally got rid of Mr. Meador, now will you want to come back again? You welcome to come back if you, if I wanted, so I decided yes. I didn't leave because I don't like the job, but we just can't get along with the foreman.

BETTY: He did, but I didn't.

FRANK: I got along, because he didn't bother me at all, you know.

DOROTHEA: Well, you've got to have happiness with the family or it ---

FRANK: Well, I knew that she was suffering, so we left.

BETTY: He used to come every day and just call me all kinds of names because they worked overtime. You know, it wasn't my doings.

FRANK: But --- so that's the way it was. And so we came back again. And when Mr. Geer become a superintendent, oh, things really just completely changed. He was such a, you know, under-stand, and real kind, and oh it was just, you know, he --- all the Japanese workers, he just liked them so well. Because they, we're treated real nice. But until then everything, you know, like I was telling you, only reason we stayed because of the money.

DOROTHEA: Right, yeah.

FRANK: But --- So as the years went by that 50 miles, two sections too long. So they made three sections out of that 50 miles. That's when I was promoted to foreman for one of the sections. Another section older Japanese, he was foreman. And the one in here at Poison Creek was another Japanese man. He was from Union Pacific, but he's been foreman for a long time too. They took over that section here.

BETTY: Zeko, that's his name. Eli Zeko, I got to say it before I forget it.

FRANK: Oh, that's right.

DOROTHEA: Now who was he? He was the fellow from Poison Creek, the big man.

FRANK: He --- Eli ---

BETTY: The one before Nick.

FRANK: Yeah, he was the Yugoslavian. He was a big man, husky man.

DOROTHEA: Z E ?

BETTY: K O probably.

FRANK: He must have weighted about 350 pounds or so. Oh, a big man, husky man. Like I said, he can lift one end of the rail by himself. Most of the time takes three, four men to lift it up, you know. He was so strong man.

DOROTHEA: Yeah. Thad told me about one time, and he said those things weighed terrible, terrible, and it took four or five men to lift them.

FRANK: Yeah, it weighs about a 1,000 pounds. And so ---

BETTY: You know, it is really sad to see the railroad close up.

DOROTHEA: Isn't that sad. It really is.

BETTY: Because I see the sweat and toil that was put in there, and the men worked so hard, and now it's just going for --- It doesn't affect him as much as it does me.

FRANK: Well no; let's move on with our story, so we can get this thing all completed. But anyway, we had that way for quite a few years. Then as the years went by track got

better. We used to put in a lot of ties. That's all ---

DOROTHEA: Where did you get the ties?

FRANK: Ties, well, used to cut it here at the mill, but only thing wrong, they are not treated ties. So they rot out in 5 or 6 years. You kept laying ties in there. Put it in the ground and 5, 6 years time, be rotted out again. It was just going in a circle.

DOROTHEA: Just don't last.

FRANK: You putting in, and finally you can't put them in fast enough to keep it up. Then that's when they start buying used treated ties. Treated ties last long time. 'Course the ones we put in this railroad track here is all used ones. But even then it's better than not treated ties. But then Mr. Geer took over, and he started buying the big rails, and the treated ties. So we start to making a little progress. Then we cut --- let me see now, about --- I couldn't tell you the year, but it kept on for a while, then I got promoted to road master. I got complete charge of railroad from Hines to Seneca.

And one day I was called into Mr. Dewey's office with Mr. Geer and he says, well they want --- they --- Mr. Dewey said, "We won't say anything for the --- toward keeping the track up, maintaining the track. You just take charge of everything. Do the way you think it should be done, and nobody going to tell you what to do." So I accept the responsibility. Then that's the way, I cut the sections to two again. See, by that time well the track got lot better too. Having too many sections why, maintenance cost quite a bit of money.

DOROTHEA: Yeah.

FRANK: So we have two sections, Poison Creek and Trout Creek. And just made in two sections. Then a lot of things happened.

BETTY: Well Trout Creek, Trout Creek went both ways, one went one way and ---

FRANK: Yeah. And anyway --- I just can't remember just when we made it all into one.

But as time went on, it's been quite a lot later. You see I worked on railroad about 43 years, you know. I mean 32 years. And toward the end, about 10 years, oh 10, 15 years before I quit, why we have to close the camp at Poison Creek. It's getting so --- too expensive to run a two section camp.

DOROTHEA: How many people lived there?

FRANK: Oh, we had about 12 men.

DOROTHEA: All men?

FRANK: Yeah.

BETTY: But towards the end Poison Creek only had about 4.

FRANK: Well toward, for a while 12 men. Then we had about 12, 15 at Trout Creek. And of course in the summer it was a different story. We had lots of students. See in those days, lot of these Japanese students come to United States for education, language study. In the summer they are looking for jobs. And it just came fine with us because we don't need that many people in, all year around. Just the summer is the only time we can do this job. So it just work out real fine. Then I started hiring a lot of these students for summer, 3 months, 3, 4 months. Then we got a big help from these boys, you know. And they are good hard workers.

And so, it just worked fine, and toward the end why Hines, Hines wanted to build a new track over on Seneca. Then we, I build about 8 miles of new track across landing, and of course at that time we only have a skeleton crew on the main line. It took most of the men over to Lake Creek, where they set up a camp there. They laid new track up in -- - oh, what? From Lake Creek on down to Prairie City, or what is that, ain't town. I can't remember the name of the place, but anyway we laid 8 miles of new track.

BETTY: Logan Valley. That?

FRANK: Yeah, Logan Valley.

BETTY: Have you gone to that Lake Creek where those 4-H and Girl Scouts --- Yeah.

DOROTHEA: Yeah.

BETTY: That's where they ---

DOROTHEA: That's the Lake Creek Camp.

FRANK: Then we start helping out Seneca crew, because Seneca had a terrible time too.

The track got so bad. So every summer, I too take about oh, anywhere from 10 to 12 men and go up there in summer and retie and resurface tracks. And so being it doesn't, so naturally we don't have too many men on the main line here. Because I have to take so many out of the main line, crew. But we got along that way for many years. Then finally got Seneca's track up in shape, fairly good shape. Then new track there, and oh, we done lot of work.

DOROTHEA: Did you move up there or did you just travel back and forth?

FRANK: Yeah, well I --- I travel back and forth. Because I have to keep on the main line to see what's got to be done, and all this and that. So I stayed at the camp, then I went up there every day though.

DOROTHEA: Did the men stay up there?

FRANK: The men stayed up there at Lake Creek.

BETTY: That's where Thad went to work. Did he mention that?

DOROTHEA: No, he didn't.

FRANK: Did Thad work up there?

BETTY: Uh huh.

DOROTHEA: Up at Lake Creek?

FRANK: Oh, did he? Oh, maybe he did, I've forgotten now. But I know he helped us 2 or 3 summers. Couple summers anyway.

DOROTHEA: Oh, he loved the eating part of it, he said. He liked that, but he said, boy

did you ever work. He said when he first started there; he said he didn't think he was ever going to make it. He said, "Boy, they worked hard."

BETTY: Yeah, some of those high school kids used to tell Doug, says I didn't like it when your dad worked with us, we have to work too hard.

SIDE B

FRANK: But the thing is we had a 100 miles of fence to repair at the same time, not just the railroad track. You see that's what we had to spend so much time repairing the fence. Every day office called and says there's cattle on such and such place.

BETTY: Maybe some of them were Purdy's.

DOROTHEA: Probably.

FRANK: So I have to send 2 men out there to repair the fence, and sometimes we have, the whole crew have to go out and make a stretch, you know. Repair the stretch.

BETTY: And they used to fight forest fires too.

FRANK: In the summer we have to follow the train to see that there is no fire. So we have to --- I done that for quite a sometime, the first I came here. But --- follow behind the train.

DOROTHEA: Because of the friction on the track.

FRANK: Yeah.

BETTY: Uh huh.

FRANK: Especially those rotten tie. They don't take much to start a fire. We came across many times a smoking.

DOROTHEA: I'd never thought about that.

BETTY: They had ---

FRANK: Yeah. I used to carry water, water and wet burlaps, and see that all the water

cans at the end of a bridge was filled up with water, and all this and that, you know. And I forgot to mention earlier, but when we first came, that Mr. Lambert, he was watching at the tunnel.

DOROTHEA: Yeah, now this is what I wanted to ask you about. Now why did they hire him to be a watchman? I just never ---

FRANK: Well, that was before we came. He was already there.

DOROTHEA: That was before you came?

BETTY: That was ---

FRANK: You see that was required by the government.

BETTY: All the bridges had to be guarded, because ---

FRANK: And the tunnels, you know, because of sabotage. Afraid of sabotage. It's not because of us, but because they --- you know, so that was going on for quite some time. So when we first came here, Mr. Lambert was already guarding the high trestle and that tunnel. Then at the same time, he was doing the pumping job at Trout Creek. The steam engine takes water every day.

DOROTHEA: You hauled it in a truck, or how did you get it?

FRANK: No, it was a well, just run the pump.

DOROTHEA: Oh, I see.

FRANK: He just run the pump to get the water tank filled up, and Homer, not --- he was, what was his name?

DOROTHEA: I can't remember his name.

BETTY: I imagine his name was Homer.

FRANK: Anyway, Mr. Lambert. We had a ---

BETTY: You know we never call anybody by their first name. So it's always Mr. or Mrs. so ---

FRANK: And first nearest rancher ---

BETTY: Our first friends were the Purdys.

FRANK: Yeah.

DOROTHEA: Were they?

BETTY: Uh huh.

FRANK: We got real close to Mr. and Mrs. Purdy. But I don't even know his name.

BETTY: Ray.

DOROTHEA: Ray.

FRANK: Oh, Ray. Well, I always go by Mr. and Mrs., you know, so

--- but I don't know their younger generation. I didn't mingle with them too much.

BETTY: Mr. Purdy's mother was living there with them too, at that time.

DOROTHEA: Oh, se was? At that time?

FRANK: When you wanted ---

BETTY: She was quite an elderly lady. I went ---

DOROTHEA: She used to live with them during Clint's younger days.

FRANK: The only one I knew well, is Mervin.

DOROTHEA: Mervin?

FRANK: Yeah. He used to come to the camp and visit us, you know, and we used to go over there quite often too. But Mervin was the only --- Only thing is, that he is so quiet.

DOROTHEA: Right.

FRANK: But he is real nice, you know. He is going to ---

DOROTHEA: I think he has gotten quieter.

FRANK: Oh, yeah.

BETTY: Well, he better be, he is the only one there. If he's talking, it'd be to himself.

FRANK: So, but --- one day his father died, he came and I knew there must be something

he want to talk to us about. When he came, I said, "Well, come on in, sit down." So he sit down, but he's not saying anything, you know. Then we go ---

BETTY: You shouldn't put that in there.

FRANK: Oh, maybe we better not, huh?

DOROTHEA: Yeah, that's fine.

FRANK: So I asked him, "Well Mervin, is there something you want to talk to us about?" Then I realized, you know, that he wanted to tell us about his father dying. It was sad, you know.

DOROTHEA: It happened so fast. But, you know, that's the way to go.

BETTY: Yeah. He told us that he was reading or something, and there was this ---

DOROTHEA: Glass of milk in his hand.

BETTY: Yeah, uh huh.

DOROTHEA: That would be the way to go. I --- Mom Purdy did the same thing. You know she was having surgery on her knees, and she just never woke up from surgery.

BETTY: Oh, Mrs., uh huh. Do we have bugs in here?

DOROTHEA: Gnats.

FRANK: We had about four close neighbors. One is, well, Scheckels, Mr. and Mrs. Scheckels. They was about the closest one. And in back of us was ---

BETTY: Hoppers.

FRANK: No, not Hopper. What was his name that owned that place?

BETTY: Well, at the time we were there, it was the Hoppers.

FRANK: Yeah, he was the manager there, but ---

BETTY: Schetkey?

DOROTHEA: Schetkey?

FRANK: Schetkey, Mr. and Mrs. Schetkey. And of course Mr. and Mrs. Purdy's ranch,

then ---

DOROTHEA: Do you remember how to spell that?

BETTY: Schetkey was, I think S C H E T K Y. (Corrected to Schetkey)

FRANK: He wasn't there very much, you know. Most of the time why it was run by the foreman. And I think he had a logging camp over on the Tillamook area. Yeah. So, but we used to visit Mr. and Mrs. Purdy quite a lot, but not too much at the Mr. Scheckel's place or ---

DOROTHEA: Do you remember some of the --- the first thing that I can remember is she had a Christmas party or something up there, and I think you folks were up there.

BETTY: Oh.

DOROTHEA: Because I remember she invited the whole --- that whole end of the country, I think, because the house was plumb full of people.

BETTY: That was after we had been there for a while though, because Norman was a baby then. Uh huh, and see ---

DOROTHEA: Now how many of your children were born in Burns?

BETTY: It was Elliot and Norman, for us, because Donna Mae was born in Camp at Minidoka, and Doug was born in Portland.

DOROTHEA: Oh, I see. Doug was born before.

BETTY: Uh huh. Yeah, he was 2 years old.

DOROTHEA: Doug's my sister's age. They went to school together.

BETTY: Oh, that's right, Helen. Yeah. I was telling him that I thought that Doug graduated with you. Yeah, that's right, uh huh.

DOROTHEA: No, he's younger than I am. He's my sister's age.

BETTY: Yeah, we were going to have Doug's second birthday party, when the war broke out. But his birthday was in the middle of the week, so we had it on Sunday, and we went

to borrow some chairs from our neighbor. And they said, "You better not go out today, or you will get beat up." And we said, "Well, what for?" And they said, "Turn on the radio." So we turned on the radio, and there was Pearl Harbor being bombed right and left, you know, and --- but then things have changed since then, you know.

FRANK: So really, it was quite an experience for us, you know. And if good or bad, it's quite an experience. So anyhow ---

BETTY: The only regret I have is that we had to move in such a way that we could only carry a few things, and we had to get rid of things or store them, you know. And of course we didn't have too much, because we had been married only 4 years. But we didn't have any money either. But what we did have, that we --- like a car or something like that, we had to just give it away. But that was all right, because if a person has money, they can buy a car, or a stove, or whatever, you know. But we had to get rid of so many of our personal treasures. You know, we had a lot of things. I did anyway; dolls and stuff, and I gave it to my friends. And now they are worth a lot of money, you know. And then I had to--- I stored some of my things in a trunk, you know, and took it to friends to keep for me.

DOROTHEA: Did you ever get them back?

BETTY: Yeah. But, you know, when I went to get my trunk, she had taken things out of my trunk and had it on her shelf. And I thought well, there's my vase, or there's my ashtray. But after her taking care of my things for me, I didn't dare say, "Well, what's my things doing out there?" Because that would just be calling her a thief, you know, after she was good enough to store them for me. So I thought, well those things are not --- If I ever wanted to, I could go out and buy it, you know.

But the things that I lost, or hate most was well, we had albums of pictures --- and he was in Japan just a few years before the war started, and everybody said if you've got any pictures of Japan, burn them because they will come and throw you in jail if you have.

So off we go and burn them. You know, we didn't have

DOROTHEA: And those pictures, you can never replace, that's the terrible part.

BETTY: Yeah, because the Japanese are being --- well, investigated right and left, and this and that. And my neighbor, she --- we were real good neighbors until then. She even loaned me the chairs, but after that why she wouldn't talk to us, you know.

DOROTHEA: Huh.

BETTY: And she told the rest of the neighbors ---

FRANK: Well, I think so many people, you know, they want to be friendly, but still afraid of maybe somebody else may think, you know, different way, so best not to get too acquainted with a, you know, friendly with the Japanese people.

DOROTHEA: Yeah.

BETTY: But, you know, I think the evacuation might have had its bad points, but it was good in a way, because it protected us. I think, I like to think that it was for our protection. Because there were people who were not rational. And if they saw any of us going down, they weren't going to stop and ask us if we're citizens or not, you know. And they would just beat us up. So in a way, I go along.

FRANK: When we first came here, well Mr. Kromer said, "Don't go to John Day, that's cowboy town." Afraid maybe might be treated, treat up there. So if you want to come to town, come to Burns. But even Burns, even some people ---

BETTY: They didn't have to worry about us going very far, we didn't have any car.

FRANK: Even some people got thrown out of restaurant. They won't feed them, you know, all this and that. It's so! But I didn't experience all that, I didn't go out very much, you know. I stayed in pretty close to camp. So ---

DOROTHEA: How long was it before you were able to come in and just really go like you

do today?

BETTY: Oh, I guess after our kids started to school. Then they began to make friends, and by that time --- You see, Doug was only 4 when we came here, so by the time he was 6, you know, the people of this area were used to seeing us in town. We didn't go into town so much, because we didn't have a car. We'd have to hop on one of those speeders and go, and that was an all day trip.

FRANK: Yeah, we didn't have a car for oh, maybe, probably about 10 years or so.

BETTY: But I think after the kids started going to school, why then --- And by that time, we were, I wasn't afraid either, but I really was afraid. I used to be afraid of some of those stores. But, you know, we had a good time, you know. I remember one time we came into the fair. You know, when they used to have it right there where Hirsch's is now, and Wenzel's used to have ---

DOROTHEA: No.

BETTY: They used to have the fair and the rides right in that part. My kids were waiting there for the ride, pony rides.

DOROTHEA: I'll tell you what my school --- what my childhood life was like. It was --- I lived on a ranch, and we used to be able to come in on weekends, maybe twice a month to go to the show. And in the summertime, that's the only time we got to go to the show. We stayed at home and we never ever came into town. I was the most bashful person in the United States, I think.

BETTY: Well, after we got our car, that was our ritual. Every Saturday night we came to the movies, whether it was a good one or not.

DOROTHEA: Yeah. They had a lot of Roy Rogers, and Gene Autry, and Hopalong Cassidy. And, you know, that's what we all went to.

BETTY: Oh yeah, Roy Rogers was Donna Mae's first love.

DOROTHEA: Oh, mine too. Oh, boy.

BETTY: And you know, I always say, it had its good points, because if we had stayed in Portland, I wouldn't have made the good friends that I have now. You know, I made a lot of good friends here, and I wouldn't have met them if I had stayed in Portland. I'd still be weighing out potatoes, and maybe have about 18 kids.

DOROTHEA: Really. I don't think so.

FRANK: I doubt about that.

DOROTHEA: Frank doesn't agree.

FRANK: But, you know, first we came, just had a very --- well like Poison Creek. It doesn't even have a bunkhouse, just a cook shack, one of them. And I built a house there, a bunkhouse at Poison Creek too.

DOROTHEA: At Poison Creek?

FRANK: Uh huh. Because they need more room for the men. So, I forget how big it was, maybe 14 x 30 or so, you know.

DOROTHEA: I've never been back in there. I don't even know any-thing about that.

FRANK: Oh, uh huh. In the summer I kept the fire patrol, follow behind the train. Then I stay there and worked on the house. Then I went back, and then the next day I came back again the same way, and worked, and finally I got that bunkhouse built there.

DOROTHEA: You had to build that on your time too?

FRANK: No, that was on company time.

DOROTHEA: That was company time.

FRANK: Because I don't have anything to do with that bunkhouse. But my own house to send for my family, I had to do on my own time. Then when this Meador moved out, he got fired, why that foreman house was vacant. So, that's when I moved into that house with my family. My house that we stayed in was vacant, so we sent for Okitas. You see, I

didn't know them at all, but Jim Okita is a good friend of her brother, used to be.

DOROTHEA: Oh, I see.

FRANK: Used to be a buddy, you know. I didn't know that. So I said, as long as we got a house there and I know they probably want to find a place to go, so I said why don't we ask them and see if they want to come. That's how they came to Burns. But like me, first I came was because of that prediction I got from fortuneteller, you know.

DOROTHEA: Yeah, well see ---

FRANK: And I thought, well maybe this was the place to go. I didn't know anything about the railroad then, but I know I got to do something to do with the dirt too, you know. So I thought well, I'll take a chance. I didn't know anything about Eastern Oregon. Or ---

DOROTHEA: So in other words ---

FRANK: I just took a chance, but I just don't want to be poor all my life.

DOROTHEA: This fortune teller was a good omen for you.

FRANK: Yeah, it worked out real fine.

DOROTHEA: Right. Worked out really good for you.

FRANK: But I don't know whether she like it or not, but you know.

BETTY: That was secondary.

DOROTHEA: Yeah, we always have to go where the husband takes us anyway.

BETTY: When I told the placement office at the relocation camp, they said I shouldn't come. They said, "Do you know it gets 40 below zero there?" And they said, "Do you know it snows?" And all I could picture was those Christmas cards with just the chimney sticking out, you know, and I thought, oh my gosh! And then I found it gets too cold for us to have snow, because it did get 40 below up there.

DOROTHEA: Yeah, and sometimes 50 below. That first year Clinton and I was up at Silvies, it was 52 below.

FRANK: After she came, why I had the hardest time finding a cook, a man cook. We don't have no facilities for a family to come and do the cooking, and so we have to have a man cook. But see, the rate of pay was so much different from a cook to the railroad, section hand, so nobody want to do the cooking. So finally, I asked my wife.

BETTY: No there was a family there. There was a --- he sent for his friend and his wife. She cooked and he worked on the railroad. And then ---

DOROTHEA: What was her name?

BETTY: Kurodas. K U R O D A. And she was called DoDo, because Elliot couldn't say Kuroda. So he used to call her DoDo, so all the trainmen used to call her DoDo.

FRANK: And I forgot how long she stayed, but not too long.

BETTY: She stayed long enough for them to retire.

FRANK: No, no. She didn't retire from railroad. She had to turn that all over to Social Security, because she didn't have ---

BETTY: Oh my, maybe less than 10 years.

FRANK: It goes that even now, I guess, that if you don't have 10 years in, what you paid into railroad all goes toward Social Security. That's how they get you.

BETTY: And then she left, and then a man was cooking, but he didn't like it because everybody else was getting paid so much more, so he quit. And then a man came to apply for the job, but he wanted two days off a week, and the cooks weren't getting any days off at all, you know. And he wanted two days off, plus a job for his son who was half sick. So, we didn't hire him.

So he said, "Well, then you take over until I find a cook." So I thought well, it won't be more than a month, you know. And, you know, I had never cooked for more than 2 or 3, you know, and so I didn't want to, but I thought if it is just going to be a month I guess I can do it. But then it ended up as 20 some years. After awhile you get used to it, you

know, how many potatoes to throw in for another man, and ---

DOROTHEA: That's like me when I first got married to Clinton, and they said now, "Here's the hay crew!" We'd only been married a month, and they said, "Here's the hay crew." And it had like 10 or 12 guys in it, and you cook for them. Sure! Fun!

BETTY: And men have got an appetite.

DOROTHEA: Fun!

BETTY: And, you know, I don't know any Japanese cooking. And, you know, I had never cooked before. I did housework, but it was just for a man and wife and their son. But I thought well, I'd just try it anyway.

FRANK: But Dorothea, you know, first we came --- 'course you can't blame them, because most of the people don't know what Japanese are like. First time they had seen the Japanese. And so --- but after people get to know us, well gee, we're treated real good. We go to Seneca, and everybody in Seneca so nice. Same way in Hines or Burns, you know. But until then, 'course everybody is --- 'Course what they hear about Japan attacked Pearl Harbor, and this and that stab in your back. Why you can imagine, you know.

DOROTHEA: Oh yeah, yeah.

FRANK: Give a bad impression too, you know. So can't ---

BETTY: I don't think anybody in Burns had ever seen a Japanese until we came.

FRANK: I think we're about the first ones.

BETTY: Yeah.

DOROTHEA: How many Japanese are left here besides you and Okitas? Aren't too many at all.

FRANK: Now?

BETTY: Of the section crew, that's all. Although there is another family, but they're ---

FRANK: They're just here recently, you know, around 5 or 6 years.

BETTY: They are new, they just came to Burns.

DOROTHEA: I didn't even know there was another family here.

FRANK: Yeah.

BETTY: They are Sugai. He's working --- He did work for Teagues.

FRANK: He came from Detroit area. He used to work on the --- He is a mechanic, auto mechanic. He used to work for some General Motors or ---

BETTY: You probably have seen her. Oh, I think she babysits for --- oh, who is that tall lawyer?

DOROTHEA: Finlayson. Oh ---

BETTY: Pinkerton. No. Tall man with kind of reddish hair, he's a lawyer.

DOROTHEA: There's Pinkerton, and there's Finlayson, now I don't know, I don't know what Finlayson looks like.

BETTY: Oh, well then it must be Pinkerton.

DOROTHEA: But Pinkerton only has the one boy.

BETTY: Baby, is it a baby?

DOROTHEA: No.

BETTY: Oh, well then ---

DOROTHEA: Must be Finlayson.

BETTY: Well, maybe so. I don't know, I just know that she baby-sits. Used to anyway. But, and then there is Mrs. Dickenson, she is Japanese, married to Earl Dickenson. Maybe you know her.

DOROTHEA: Yeah, I do know her, right.

BETTY: Uh huh. But those who worked on the railroad, Okitas and us, we are the only ones.

DOROTHEA: You are the only ones left. Now what was the man's name that used to drive up and down the highway? He had a little Chevrolet, or something he owned for a long, long, long time.

BETTY: Oh, you mean Bob Nishimura?

FRANK: (Laughter)

BETTY: You mean?

DOROTHEA: I think that's who it was. Yeah. How do you spell his name?

BETTY: N I S H I M U R A.

DOROTHEA: And is he gone, or where is ---

BETTY: Yeah, uh huh.

DOROTHEA: He's gone?

FRANK: Yeah, he's gone, but I don't know where. I'm sure he is still alive. But nobody hasn't seen him for a long time.

DOROTHEA: He just left, huh?

BETTY: You know, we're ---

FRANK: 'Course he was about the last one to leave too, before most of us went.

BETTY: He wasn't all that sharp, you know, he was a slow learner.

FRANK: He was driving ---

DOROTHEA: Now there was a Tom --- somebody. He used to have epilepsy.

BETTY: Yamasaki. Uh huh.

DOROTHEA: Okay. What, what? How do you spell his last name?

BETTY: Y A M A S A K I. Yam-a-saki. That's one thing about Japanese, you sound it out.

DOROTHEA: Sound it out, and it sounds just like it's spelled.

FRANK: He married to, I don't know the lady's name, but she used to work at the

restaurant. She was a waitress for some restaurant here, he married her. You know who I'm, talking about?

DOROTHEA: Huh uh.

FRANK: I don't either. But I know he married her. She --- What restaurant did she used to work?

BETTY: I don't know.

FRANK: She was a White lady.

DOROTHEA: He --- was talking.

BETTY: Oh, Thad and you?

DOROTHEA: Thad was talking about him, and he said the first time that he had one of those attacks, he jumped off of the speeder, and Thad went over there and he was scared that he had fallen off and died. But everybody just said just leave him alone, you know, he's all right. So he got back on and just went right to work, and just worked like heck all day.

BETTY: He used to pass out. He'd be talking to us, and I could see he was going to go, you know. And I wanted to see what they look like, you know, just to see. But I was afraid he would come out of his trance while I was looking, so ---

FRANK: I didn't know anything about he being that way. If I knew that, I wouldn't even have hired him, you know. But I didn't know, I didn't know he had that kind of a sickness. Then he looked all right. He was a husky man too, you know. But yeah, every so often, he just passed away. He don't say anything. Then he come back and start, and take off from there on, you know. It's amazing how people ---

DOROTHEA: Uh huh. Well, that's what Thad said. He said, you know, he didn't, he kind of --- he had some kind of fits, but as soon as he got over them, well then he was fine. But he said it sure scared him the first time he did it. He just really thought, oh, he's fallen

off the speeder, he said, and we were going, you know, and he didn't, he just dropped off.

BETTY: He just kind of rolled off.

DOROTHEA: Yeah, he just jumped off.

BETTY: You know, there was --- When I first came here Mr. Geer was a conductor, and Doug was just little kid, and he said, "See that man over there Mama, he's got lots of kids." So I looked and I thought he's got lots of kids? You know, and I'd imagined a whole house full, and then we got to talking and he said his name is Geer. And I said I used to know a Geer in Salem, Oregon. His name was C. C. Geer, and he had a wife named Ruth, and she taught piano. And it turns out that they were cousins.

DOROTHEA: Oh, huh.

BETTY: You know, and then as the years went by I met Orm Carter, and I found out that he as a kid used to come to the grocery store where I worked. He lived in the same area. And I said, "I'll bet you were one of those little brats that used to come around, you know."

DOROTHEA: He probably was.

BETTY: But he didn't trade with us, he traded with another store, but his friends lived in our area. And so he named all these kids, and they were customers of ours, you know. And I thought what a small world. Come so far and ---

DOROTHEA: It really is, you know, it really is.

BETTY: Yeah, and at the time I came, I thought well Doug is only 4, when he starts school, we'll be back to Portland. Here I am, we're still here, and my four kids have gone back to Portland. And the funny part is, Doug is living just a few miles from where I used to live as a kid.

DOROTHEA: Oh, really?

BETTY: Norman and Doug. Uh huh.

DOROTHEA: Now you have 4 children, can you tell me their names?

BETTY: Yeah. Doug, and Donna Mae, Elliot, and Norman.

DOROTHEA: Do you spell Donna, D O N N ---

BETTY: A. D O N N A Mae. She calls herself Donna, but I call her Donna Mae. Yeah.

DOROTHEA: And what does Norman --- Is he a doctor now? I know that was his dream.

BETTY: Yeah, he is a pediatrician in Gresham.

DOROTHEA: Oh, Gresham.

BETTY: Uh huh. And then Elliot is assistant news director for KGW.

DOROTHEA: Yeah, I've seen him on TV.

BETTY: And Doug is a diesel mechanic in Trout --- or right in Portland. And then Donna Mae is in Iowa. She teaches at the ---

DOROTHEA: Oh, she's a teacher.

BETTY: Uh huh. University of Iowa.

DOROTHEA: Oh, wow!

BETTY: She teaches Japanese.

DOROTHEA: Now did you do any Japanese talking in the camp? Did they do ---

FRANK: Yeah, we did. Well most of the men.

BETTY: You mean in the war camp, or section?

FRANK: No, Trout Creek.

DOROTHEA: No, the section.

BETTY: Yeah, that was all Japanese because, you know ---

FRANK: Mostly Issei, you know, first generation.

DOROTHEA: Yeah.

BETTY: I don't know if you know that or not. Issei ---

FRANK: I don't know whether Issei is the first generation. I'm a second generation, Nisei.

DOROTHEA: I don't know. Nesei is second generation?

FRANK: Nesei, that's second generation.

BETTY: Issei are the first set of Japanese who came.

DOROTHEA: How's that? E S ?

BETTY: I --- I S S E I.

DOROTHEA: Oh, I.

BETTY: Uh huh. They're the first batch of Japanese that came from Japan. So they will be Japan-Japanese. You know what I mean?

FRANK: Aliens.

BETTY: Alien Japanese. Then their kids are called Niseis, which means two. N I S E I. Issei means one, and Nisei is two, and then in between ---

FRANK: No, I'm the Nisei.

BETTY: No, in between, there is a bunch called Kibei. K I B E I. They are children who were born of alien Japanese. Born in America, but raised in Japan.

FRANK: Until such a age.

BETTY: Yeah. And that's what Frank is. He's a ---

FRANK: Yeah. I had to ---

BETTY: He's a Kibei.

FRANK: You see I had a dual citizenship, at the very beginning. You see, I didn't know that. See, they --- my ---

BETTY: In those days there were a lot who had dual citizenships.

DOROTHEA: Oh, so they were both United States citizens and Japanese.

BETTY: But eventually they had to decide which they wanted to be.

FRANK: By 18 years old you got to decide whether you want to be U. S. citizen or you

want to be Japanese citizen. So I just took my Japanese citizen off, because if I had a Japanese citizen, I have to serve in military service over there. Even if I'm here, I have to go back there and, you know. And I don't want to ---

DOROTHEA: But even as a U. S. citizen you didn't have to?

FRANK: Right.

BETTY: No.

FRANK: So I --- But lot of these Nesei, that born here like me, I went back to Japan. But lot of them didn't just raised here.

DOROTHEA: Well, why did your parents send you back?

FRANK: Well, the parents --- The reason is, my folks want to get rid of little ones, so they ---

BETTY: It's a hindrance to their working. Children were a hindrance ---

DOROTHEA: Oh, I see.

BETTY: --- and they can't go out and work in the fields with the little ones, you know, so --
- And it was cheaper for Grandma and Grandpa to raise them in Japan. So they would send money over, back to Japan, that's why. But we --- I didn't go back. I was---

DOROTHEA: So what did your grandparents do?

FRANK: My grandparents? Well they are farmer too in a way, you know. But then ---
But see, I had a sister, one year younger. And my older sister is different father. See, it's a brother, oldest brother married my mother. And, but she was born Japan, and he went Japan-Russian War, and got killed over there. So my father is next to the oldest, and he married her mother, which is my mother too. But later on, so ---

BETTY: Brothers, she married brothers. She was married to one man and he died, and so she married the younger brother and had two children by the second husband.

FRANK: So, I had a --- My oldest sister was 12 years older than me, I am. And my

younger sister is only one year younger. So in other words, my real sister is just one years younger than the other is. Both sisters, but a stepsister. And my Uncle, which is the youngest of the three ---

BETTY: The three boys.

FRANK: Why he came to Eastern Oregon, and run a restaurant in Pendleton.

DOROTHEA: Oh.

FRANK: And when he retired, he wanted to go back to Japan. He had a daughter, but born Japan.

BETTY: No, she wasn't. She was born in America.

FRANK: Well, how come she didn't come then?

BETTY: She told me she was born over here, but they took her ---

FRANK: Oh, but she sent over there. Oh, I didn't know about that part. Oh, okay.

BETTY: So she just stayed there, so she lost her citizenship because she didn't come back.

FRANK: Oh, that's right you got to come back by a certain age or otherwise lose citizenship.

BETTY: She wouldn't have had to go to the army, but that was the rule.

FRANK: But when he left, and he wanted to sold out the restaurant, he asked me if I want to take over. But I didn't know anything about the restaurant.

BETTY: He still doesn't.

DOROTHEA: You don't cook, huh?

BETTY: He doesn't know anything about cooking.

FRANK: But he said it was a good business, you know. He made a fortune running the restaurant then. I was still young yet, I was only about 20 years or so, you know, and my goodness, I don't know nothing about running a restaurant. And my mother --- my father

died the last world war, right after the war and ---

BETTY: He died in that flu epidemic they had in 1918.

FRANK: My father had a big old farm out of Milwaukie. And my mother and father both got sick, and for a while they thought both were going to die. But my father die, so they waited for a while to see if my mother going to survive or not. And so happened she survived, she came out okay, from flu. So, they had the funeral. But, you know --- So I don't even know my father, really. You see, I went back there, was sent to Japan and I was only about 6 years old, and I don't know him.

DOROTHEA: Well, now did your sister get sent back too, or did you grow up together, or did she stay here?

FRANK: My sister went back same time I did. She was only 2, I was 3. Then she stayed there until she got through with the high school. And then they, then we sent for her, she came.

DOROTHEA: I've always been under the impression, or was told when I was young or something that when you go to school in Japan, your schooling is all done before you are as old as we are here. Is that right?

FRANK: Well, I don't know just ---

DOROTHEA: In other words, you got out of school a lot younger than we do here.

FRANK: No, no.

BETTY: Well, you have to take tests to go into high school.

FRANK: I don't think so. No, I don't think so. You see over there we start going grade school from 7 years old. Here it is 6, which is about the same age.

BETTY: But it is more advanced.

FRANK: But then their grade school is up to the sixth, then two years of junior ---

BETTY: Middle school.

FRANK: Or middle school, or whatever you call it. Then high school, four years, five years. Business, why five years high school. Then from there you go to college, another four years.

BETTY: But they're very picky.

DOROTHEA: So it's, it's a lot like it is here?

BETTY: Yeah.

DOROTHEA: Yeah.

BETTY: But the thing is that they are so advanced, that the kids that come from Japan, even if they can't speak the language, their math is way ahead. Because math is the same no matter what country, you know. Two plus two is four, you know what I mean.

FRANK: The only thing over there, you know, when we was little, they can only take so many, public school. Then so you have to take the test. If you --- there must be about a 1,000 people applying for high school. Okay. They are only accepting 500. And so other 500 is going to miss out on going to high school. So they go to private schools. That's the way it was.

DOROTHEA: Oh, I see.

FRANK: The same way with college.

DOROTHEA: Oh, I see.

BETTY: That's why the Japanese are so educated minded, because they want to get into school, you know.

FRANK: Yes.

DOROTHEA: Well, I know all the exchange students that come over here were so far advanced, you know, and they would go to school up here and they would say, "You are so far behind us." And I would always think, well, they must have learned more than we did or something, you know.

BETTY: For one thing the parents are more pushy.

FRANK: And there the summer school, or I mean the vacation is only one month.

DOROTHEA: Oh.

FRANK: Yeah we don't have no three months like here in this country.

BETTY: And now they send kids to school at 3.

DOROTHEA: Japan does?

BETTY: Uh huh, 3 years old. And so when Donna Mae was there in her period, they had a school there. Little kids doing that abacus, you know, those little, those little beads.

DOROTHEA: Yeah.

BETTY: And they --- See each one of those beads means a number. And you could hear them chanting, you know. And only 3 years old.

DOROTHEA: Don't you think that's awfully young?

BETTY: Yeah, their childhood is very short.

DOROTHEA: I know my grandson is only 3, and Tim and Cindy were talking about sending him to pre-school. And I said, "Cindy, you know once they start school, they are in school forever." You know, and they really are. They don't have much life except for school life. And here he is only 3 years old. So Tim said, "Ah, he doesn't need school." So I was glad he said that, because I couldn't imagine starting school at 3 years old.

BETTY: Yeah.

DOROTHEA: I started at 5, and I thought it was really great, you know, and then I got sick and had to be taken out. So I had to start all over again. So that didn't do me any good. So that first three months that I went to school before I got sick, I just had to redo, or I chose to redo. The teacher said that I could pass on, but I just didn't ---

BETTY: You'd be better if you ---

DOROTHEA: I didn't feel that I was smart enough. And I'm glad my mother agreed,

because ---

BETTY: Yeah.

DOROTHEA: And of course I was so bashful.

FRANK: But, you know, you talk about education, why --- I didn't get much education whether in Japanese language or in American language, you know, English language. So I'm sure really glad that all my kids went through college, you know. And I sure feel real good about that, you know. And they ---

DOROTHEA: Oh, today though, you know without an education like that, you can't go anywhere. Like me, I would like to get a job, and every place that I have applied --- I'm 51 years old, and they say what have you been for the last 35 years, you know. Well, being a housewife is not important enough to these people.

BETTY: Yeah.

DOROTHEA: It's just, well, look at how hard you work.

BETTY: Yeah.

DOROTHEA: It really isn't important.

BETTY: Unless you have a skill of some kind. They don't think homemaking is ---

DOROTHEA: But if I'd had college, you know, well I imagine it wouldn't be a problem. But without college, it is really a problem.

BETTY: Well, you know, when we were growing up, women weren't supposed to work, you know. A man was supposed to raise his family, and it was a disgrace to send your wife out to work. I know when I started to work, there was a couple who said, "I wouldn't think of letting my wife work." You know, he said, "What kind of a man is he that makes his wife work?"

DOROTHEA: Hee hee. Ah, she enjoys it. (Laughter) Well, that just goes to show that he wasn't a chauvinist anyway, he didn't think it was beyond your ---

BETTY: He probably thought well, she eats too much, she'd better work for her food.

FRANK: Well, we had four kids, but the oldest one, Doug, was about the only one that didn't care too much about education, you know, going for a higher school. Only thing we asked him to do, we kind of encouraged him to go, so he did. But, the other three they want to go to school. They want to get more education, you know. So like Donna Mae, my gosh, she went to school so long. And of course she did pretty well. She went to Japan, University of --- ICU ---

BETTY: International Christian University of Tokyo.

FRANK: Yeah, in Japan, and she got out number one in that college there, you know. And she had learned a lot of Japanese in that short time, five years or so, you know.

DOROTHEA: Did you speak Japanese to your children?

FRANK: Yeah, she can speak --- oh, well, no.

BETTY: No.

DOROTHEA: Or did you mostly speak ---

FRANK: No, she speak English, but she can --- She's teaching Japanese now, but she can speak real good Japanese. Lot better than I can speak, you know.

BETTY: Well, you know we didn't speak Japanese, because I can't speak Japanese. He can, but since, you know, I can't speak Japanese why we ---

DOROTHEA: Oh, so your children weren't raised ---

BETTY: They understood Japanese, up to a certain age. But after they got a little older, they mingled with Caucasian kids, you know, so they didn't understand.

FRANK: Well, it's just like here in the United States, you know, you go to --- Okay, you graduate grade school, and then you quit going school and start working. Well, you can speak it all right, you know, understand, but it's not like you've gone up to high school, and college. Then, you know, so you miss out on lot of that higher, or you know big

words.

DOROTHEA: Yeah.

FRANK: You don't get to ---

BETTY: Yeah, my friends ask me if Donna Mae can read and write Japanese. I said well she better, we spent a lot of money teaching her.

DOROTHEA: Spent a lot of money so she could learn it, huh?

BETTY: Yeah. I didn't go to Japanese school. Well, I ---

FRANK: Yeah, but Betty she is good. She can speak Japanese real well for what she learned from just picking up, you know. Of course her folks speak Japanese, most of the time. That was how she learned I guess. But lot of time, I think she can speak better than I can, you know.

BETTY: I went to Japan ---

FRANK: And I have forgot a lot of the Japanese words now, because I haven't used them for so long. Now how do you say that in Japanese? My god, I have to think.

BETTY: I might get the wrong pronunciation, but I know the word better than he does, in some. I'm not bragging, but then he doesn't use it, that's why. When I went to Japan, when Donna Mae was there, one of the --- She was moving, and so the man who was helping her move ask me how long I had been away from Japan. And I said, "Been away," I said, "this is my first visit!" (Laughter) And he said, "Gee, you speak good Japanese." And so I thought well, I must be able to speak some.

BETTY: So he must have been of the same generation as my mother. Because over there, the way you talk they can tell what generation you are from, you know. So ---

DOROTHEA: Uh huh.

FRANK: Yeah, the younger generation, they speak a little different than the way we learned, you know. Isn't that funny? Maybe the same way with the English.

BETTY: They use English words with a Japanese accent. Like one word would be, "apartment". They won't say apartment, they'll say, "apotto". Well then they know that's apartment. See. And so that's --- there is no apartment in Japanese, it's a English word made to sound, you know, Japanese.

DOROTHEA: Oh, I see.

FRANK: Oh, it's quite interesting in a way. There is a lot of Caucasian in Japan. My goodness they can --- Oh, we were in Japan, oh three years ago. And here, 'course she can't read, I can't read, so you know, you stop at the station, train station, and all you have is signs saying where to go, or ---

BETTY: It says Exit. But it doesn't tell you where you are going to end up. Now you can --- you might exit to the end of the earth, you know. I could read Exit, but then the rest of it is in Japanese.

FRANK: Yeah, she can't read Japanese. Just writings, so --- That part I can read, you know, fine. But oh, a lot of Caucasian, why they don't seem to have any trouble. They just move on. They know just where they to go and how to do it, and my goodness, it's amazing how well they know, and some of them they can speak real good Japanese. So ---

DOROTHEA: Uh huh.

FRANK: I think education is a great thing.

DOROTHEA: I do too. I'm just sorry my kids were not interested in it. An Kelly was kind of interested in it, but she decided she wanted to rest for a year.

BETTY: She was quite sick, wasn't she?

DOROTHEA: Yeah, and she took that year off, then she decided, you know, she just didn't really know what she wanted to do, so then she got married, so ---

BETTY: You know when they quit school even for a while then it's kind of hard to start up

again. That's why a lot of kids say, "Well, we're going to get married, and then after a while we'll both go to school." But that never works out, because they find out there is more responsibility piled up on them and they have to work, you know, so ---

DOROTHEA: Well, I think that Ronda has really regretted not going on to college, and Kelly I think probably someday will. I think that she will further her education. She is a dental assistant.

BETTY: Oh she is?

DOROTHEA: And I think that she will further her education in that somehow, you know. Either with some kind of special training or going to school for just a certain length of time, you know. But I think that she will continue.

BETTY: Nowadays a person --- a household just about needs two incomes to have a standard good living, you know. A man's wages just isn't enough, and then if they have --

-
DOROTHEA: Not when you are paying \$600 and \$700 a month house payments or rent. You know, I just don't know how these young kids do it.

BETTY: And then if they have one or two children, you know, the mother can't --- And then even to send them to daycare, it's \$300 or \$400 a month, why, it almost doesn't pay for the mother to go off for awhile.

DOROTHEA: No.

BETTY: Well, I hope we have answered some of your questions and

DOROTHEA: Well, I've enjoyed this visit, I really have. I --- We wanted to get something about the railroad track, and you know, because you are part of Harney County and this is part of it.

FRANK: Oh, we done lot of work and lot of --- well, what I should say, lot of figuring out

how to get the track up to shape and such and such, and certain lengths of time, you know. Oh, just how much money we should put in and this and that, you know. By the time I retired, we got the whole thing all retied in creosote ties. We got all the creosote ties put in by the time I retired.

DOROTHEA: And now it's all going to pot again.

FRANK: Now it all gone, yeah.

BETTY: That's what I say, it's sad, you know. I see the sweat and toil put in ---

DOROTHEA: I really think it is a terrible shame too, that they have closed that down because ---

FRANK: I don't know of any prouder trackman, like Mr. Griggs, used to be the conductor. He used to come and tell me, "Frank, no use working too hard, don't --- you know, you will never get the track up into shape, because you can't never get the track up to where you will have no derailments, you know." Why, I said, well, I didn't say anything, but I thought my gosh, I just have got to get the track up to shape. And thinking well, we got to, we're having a wreck every day, you know. But, oh it was a lot of work.

DOROTHEA: Now did you --- That train, that big train wreck up there, how did you clean that track up?

FRANK: Oh yes, oh yes. My goodness, that happened in the winter, about January I think. The old ground was froze. We have to put in a temporary track. Of course they, you know, that was mile post 21. That is about a mile or so above the Frank Whiting.

DOROTHEA: Uh huh.

FRANK: They had a ---

DOROTHEA: Homestead up there.

FRANK: Uh huh. Camp up there, and that was 19, so about 2 miles above Frank Whiting's place. But boy, engine lost air, air brakes at the summit, and it start rolling down

the hill. And of course some of the curves are real sharp, so that's why the engine turned over, and all the log cars and lumber cars.

BETTY: It's a wonder nobody was killed.

DOROTHEA: Uh huh.

FRANK: And everybody had to jump out of there before even get there.

BETTY: She wants to know how you fixed the railroad tracks.

FRANK: Oh, we fixed the railroad. Well, like I say, ground was froze, so we took a Cat, a D-8 to get the track out. You couldn't even, Cat couldn't even get the track out, so we have to build a track over the old track.

DOROTHEA: So --- Oh, I see.

FRANK: Uh huh. So --- But that was a --- That was really something, but we trying to get that engine --- See, the engine was on its side, and we were trying to get the engine upright, and they must have brought out a big crane from Union Pacific. They had a big Cat up there too, but, oh, it took quite a --- sometime to get the place up into shape.

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