

HARNEY COUNTY HISTORY PROJECT

AV-Oral History #181 - Sides A & B

Subject: George Hibbard

Place: Hibbard Home - Burns, Oregon

Date:

Interviewer:

GEORGE HIBBARD: This is, some of it may be repetitious, I don't know, but I was going to speak of my father and about trench mouth. Now, I don't suppose very many people now know what it is, but it is a very contagious oral infection. You can get it from kissing or just like --- well like you can get impetigo. But anyway it is a condition where the infection makes the gums draw away from the teeth. And there is a specific for this, and it is a drug, a chemical that releases pure oxygen when mixed in the saliva. And of course they have it well under control now, and I haven't heard of trench mouth in many years, but it used to be quite a problem. And they had mouth washes already mixed, but just this powder, a little bit in the mouth and the saliva will release the oxygen and will cure it.

Then as I spoke once before, we always have had music in the home, of one kind or the other. And my dad saw that we had a piano way back, because I know starting in 1908, well Mr. Saunders used to tune it. A, Saunders, I think are the only ones that ever tuned it, up till Harold Saunders was still living, retired, and I don't think it has been tuned since then. And it probably needs it very badly; it's in the parlor where the heat and cold changes are extreme, because we don't try to keep that warm. But anyway, we had a Victrola. And then my sister had the ukulele. This was back in the days when people had their own entertainment in their homes, and Eugenia had one. And I had what was called a banjo uke. It's a four-string banjo, instead of a five string, and it's played just like the

ukulele. And Arthur Godfrey made it quite famous, with his solo "Luke" as he called it. But it's like so many of the instruments that are --- the stringed instruments that are developed from the, oh what is it, the dulcimer and --- well like the violin and those, but this was real easy. Well, anybody could chord on it in a little bit, and even easier than a guitar. And the Hawaiian idea was quite popular evidently at that time, and that's why the ukulele.

And there were some people here that were in the same church as my folks, the Nazarenes, named McHose, from over in Nampa. And they used to have the laundry that was over here in the --- what had formerly been the brewery. I believe that brewery was built by Wohlenberg. Wohlenberg, a German extraction man from Canyon City. He also had the stage run over here part of the time. And just to the east of the brewery at the top of the hill, that's right where the Clubrooms and the Library are --- well, the brewery didn't take all that area. And then it was made over into the laundry, and the McHose ran the old laundry for a time. And Mrs. McHose was quite a piano teacher. And I know she tried to teach me, and my sister Roberta tried to teach me, but I never learned very much. But this McHose family, one of them is still alive. Their daughter, and there was a Bill McHose, young ... of the father who became quite a man in New York politics. And the --- Charlotte McHose, the girl married a president of Elon College down in I believe it is in South Carolina or North Carolina, somewhere down South. But what I'm getting at is how much of the community developed the talents that we had here for self-entertainment before the radio and television and these things came along. Of course the Victrola was quite a thing. But nevertheless, these were all some of the --- and the Sagebrush Symphony that Mrs. Dodge started, that went on to become the Junior Symphony in Portland, and is one of the finest young children's orchestras in the northwest, undoubtedly.

But then I wanted to speak about also how as kids, we used to go over --- just north of the brewery, there were all kinds of bottles stacked out there. Some of them had a chip on the top that they couldn't cap, and some of them were wine bottles, and just as I said, just to the east of it, across what is now North Broadway, there was a little bottling works where they made the soda pop. And a little man by the name of Chris Byrd used to run the bottling works. And the original pop bottles had a rubber stopper with a "U" --- well more than just a u-shaped heavy wire top. But when you --- the charge was in the bottle, then these tops were pulled up into place so that the rubber cork would hold the bubbly. And it was --- an ingenious way before they had the bottle cap with the ... seal around the edges to cap them. I expect some of the local bottle collectors have found some of these old bottles. They were, as I remember, a blue glass, clear but faintly blue glass. And these were --- well quite a collector's item.

And next I want to tell how as children we'd go over there and get these bottles that were stacked outside that they couldn't use anymore. I presume they couldn't, or they wouldn't have stacked them outside. And those beer bottles that had the --- there was one beer called Bevo, that was in a little short stubby. Somewhat like the ones now, the beer bottle, only it had a longer neck, and we called these Shetland ponies. And the slim necked wine bottles, tapered wine bottles, like a champagne bottle with the porcelain push-up in the bottom, was what we called a race horse. And the big quarts were the big workhorses, and the pints were the mares. And we would get these bottles, and we would build corrals and --- with little stakes and strings and make the fences and so forth in the backyard in the garden, or wherever was a good place, and put our horses in at night. We would tie a string around the neck of the bottle and we would get a straddle the string and pull the bottles around after us and run races with the race horses, and so on and so forth. But it was one of the ways that as children we entertained ourselves.

Of course the boys --- not only the boys, but we used to play marbles and I still have some nice agates. And then there was a game where --- well most of the games you have a --- see who gets to start first, you lag or toss the marble to --- and see who can toss it and stop closest to the line, say six feet away in the dirt, not on pavement. And when you had a little square ring which you put the clay marbles in, and they were a different values. Some of them were worth one, and some of them were glazed and had a couple spots on them, and they were two spots. And then there were some a little larger that had three spots on them. And there were other clay marbles that had stripes on them that --- and these were called dough-babes. Or, and that was the name for clay. And the --- and then you had glassys or innys, which were the ones of glass of various colors, and swirls. Some of them clear glass, and bubbly glass --- not crazed, but just little bubbles in it. And the bigger ones were the shooters, and the small ones were the ones that you tried to knock out of this ring. Well then we had a racehorse game, we would play it coming down the street there. One would shoot a ways down the road, and then the other one would shoot and try to hit that. And then we had--- sometimes we could shoot and you had to keep your knuckles down on the ground, and other times you could, what you called ups. Why you could put your other hand underneath, double your fist, and put your knuckles down on the top of the fist and then shoot from an elevated position, which sometimes gave you an advantage. It was all part of the game. But my father was so strict he would not let me play for keeps. If I won some marbles from another kid, I couldn't keep them, so that I couldn't accumulate more and more marbles. Because he said that was gambling, and I --- and we weren't allowed to gamble.

In fact we weren't allowed to have even playing cards. I mean the kind that bridge or poker is played with in the home. We were allowed to have game cards like, oh, Pit and Flinch and some of those you could play Old Maid with, or something like that. But

he was so strict as to gambling, that he just didn't want us playing with playing cards. And some of us did, and some of us didn't get ever into that. One of my brothers and I both --- which didn't follow the precepts of my father. But then I got to going to card parties, and I got to going in the back of the pool hall where there was rummy games, or poker games. Poker or whatever, and I found out I didn't know very much about handling cards, so I didn't ever indulge in it very heavily. But my brother did quite a bit.

And then to go back to this race horses that we kids played at with bottles. My grandfather on my mother's side bred and raced trotting horses back in New York, particularly in the winter on the ice with cutters. And this was up in the Finger Lakes region of New York. And trotting horses to my father were fine as long as they were not in races. But all along Macadam Road in Portland, or River Road as it was called sometimes, there was two of them. On a Sunday afternoon they would drive out to Oswego or wherever and have a picnic or court ladies --- whatever it was with trotting horses. And it was --- in fact it was a trotting horse that my father used here that --- when we hunted the coyotes. They were used not only a good trotting horse, but he was a pretty good runner also.

So my brother that went into prize fighting, and later into the racing game, and he bought and bred and whatnot several race horses in the --- took them probably to the fair here, but to Portland Meadows and up to Seattle, and to Vancouver, and around on the racing circuit in the northwest. He never made any money at it, but that's a millionaire's play game.

Now I want to go back a ways and speak about a man named Vernon Bailey. In the '30's when we were in a very, very dry cycle and the Malheur Lake went dry, and oh, there was a little water from the spring running out into it from headquarters. And a little water from the Blitzen, but it just cracked open like the Alvord Desert. And they found in

clusters, bones of animals that belonged to the bison. And it was an important find because the Smithsonian Institute in Washington sent a man named Vernon Bailey out here; he was a paleontologist I believe is the term. And he found that this bison that was here ... been told by the Indians that previously there were bison here. But about two hundred years before the White man, all the bison in this country had gone over and jumped into the Snake River, and never come back. Well, they were not the plains bison, but evidently, probably the woods bison that ranged more up like into Canada, and are a sub-species, like these were. But they were also finding bones of saber tooth tiger, and caribou, and reindeer, and elk, and various things that hadn't been known to be in this area until they found these bones. And evidently they were --- the lake was starting to dry up again and that was about the only water, and they were all clustered on the ice and they broke through and into the mud underneath and died there. Either that, or that was the last water in the valley, and they died from around the water hole. I just don't know.

When I thought I would speak again, I think I've told you before about my father bringing in the first jerseys into this country. Well when he did, he bought a bull and his name was Valco. And he had horns, unusually long, but I figured he was probably a two year old or a three year old. And we had the hillside down below my house, and this is what is now the ball field all fenced in. And that's where the herd, of our Rimrock Dairy herd, pastured in the summer, and that and other places. But that was where they were, the milking ones were kept, and bull was kept with them. Well one morning my father went down in the fence, inside the fence, down just below Ray Weeks house down the --- there's a trail that goes down the hillside there. It's closed off by a fence now. But it --- went down there, and it went around in sort of a curve to begin with because the --- evidently a road built, somewhat of a road, wagon road, so that the granary which was on the property where Ray Weeks house is, which belonged to Harry Smith to begin with,

and then Archie McGowan was. And they needed access to this granary, and the way to bring hay to it. Because everybody in town had a barn, and that was Harry Smith's barn, and later a granary. And then he finally made a garage out of it for Archie; well Archie did, to drive his Model-T into.

To get back to this bull Valco --- my father went down there, and jersey bulls are known to be pretty, well to say the least, mean, and he charged my father. And Dad started up the trail as fast as he could go, but the bull caught him and knocked him down. And my father was on his, face up, and lying in the middle of the trail. Well the trail was cut down in the middle a little, the cattle coming up and down it, and evidently that's what saved him because this bull started with his feet and went right up the length of him. And Dad turned his head sideways, but his horns were just able to reach him enough to tear his shirt out, and clothes, and scrape his chest but it didn't puncture him, and bruised him some. But when the bull got up the full length of him, then Dad scrambled out between his hind legs, and the bull came rushing back down. Why he side stepped him into the sagebrush, and then made it up the trail without more incident, I mean got away from the bull.

And the first thing he did was to call the two men that worked for him in the dairy and said, "Get that bull and dehorn him." Well he didn't cut the horns off completely, because when you dehorn too close why this --- it was very difficult to stop the bleeding and they; the bull would probably suffer a great deal. But at least he got him so he wasn't so inclined to charge. And then he was careful after that because he knew this bull's meanness, and he just didn't get into a situation like that.

Now I have several subjects here, and I don't know which --- well I presume that you have enough on Mary Dodge who came from Boston here, and started the Sagebrush Symphony. And I was --- mostly young people. Well quite a few of the people

in it I know. Well, was a Pauline Des Ilets Henderson here, and my brother-in-law Baxter Reed, and his cousin Roselle Reed, and the widow of the man that made my telephone ring, Luke Saunders, whose father was the piano tuner that I have just spoken of. And Mr. Dodge was a civil engineer, and they came here and she was undoubtedly a woman of great vision and determination. She has one son that lives in Portland, and he is also musically inclined. And Mrs. Agnes Foley Kennedy, and Gwendolyn Lampshire Hayden both worked on getting her name as really the founder of the Portland Junior Symphony. Because when this Sagebrush Symphony went to Portland to play ... and I think I have given you this before.

Now next I want to talk about our family relationship with an English family named Padget. My father's sister, Helen Mary Hibbard married a Padget in 1900. And he died in 1902, and she never remarried. And she was, well a schoolteacher thereafter, and she spent one winter here with us. And she was quite one to correct one on the English. She taught me that I could set a hen, but I couldn't set myself down. I could sit myself down. And I could lay me in bed --- but I could lie in bed, but I --- had to get these things straight. But I caught her on a couple words that I felt that she ought to have known, but she didn't. And so I speak about her --- But her later years, I think she was seventy-nine, she had had a stroke, and was able to leave the hospital and her sister-in-law who was --- we all called Aunt Mary, but had never married. Mary Padget was older than she, and yet she moved into her home, Aunt Helen's home with her, and took care of her until she died. And Aunt Mary was as saving and --- I should say Aunt Alice, as any --- scratch Mary and make Alice on that --- as any little old English lady I ever knew.

And in that home there was an old English grandfather's clock, and it came around the horn in a sailing ship and into Portland. And my sister Roberta has it, and when she is gone it is to come to Frances as next in line for it. So my brother-in-law Bert Vincent used

to keep it fixed. One of the ... type clocks, and a nice chime on it.

Well, there are still some Padgets in Portland. They had the Padget Mortgage Company, and they used to have a farm out on Mt. Tabor, and my father used to go out there pheasant hunting. And it was when he was out there that he was hit in the upper lip by a stray pellet from a shotgun, and one reason he wore a mustache. Well, enough of the Padgets. Oh no, one other thing. My sister Roberta had several pieces of English china that they had in their home, a soup tureen with a lid, and a great big platter. And she has the platter yet, but I do not think she has --- her nephew has the soup tureen. Now, I'm going to leave the Padgets altogether.

Next I want to speak of the Church of Christ --- or Christian Church, as it is commonly known here. And there is two sects of that, one is the Christian Church, and one around the point from the Dairy Queen is called the Church of Christ. But they both have their origin with the Cam alights in Kentucky I believe. And it was first started here by Mrs. Weittenhiller, who I referred to earlier as the music and art teacher in our grade school. And she was county school superintendent I think for a time. I'm not certain on that. But she held the first meetings as I recall in the Liberty Theater, of the Christian Church. And that was when the Liberty was no longer being operated as a theater, although I think it was later, again. But that is my recollection of the first Christian Church here. As I've said, there has never been a Methodist, but since the Nazarene was an offshoot of the Methodist, and various things --- it doesn't make any difference. But that was about all I wanted to say about that.

Now I want to talk about the Atwater-Kemp. Atwater-Kemp was a --- two men who developed one of the early radios. And the first two we had were Atwater-Kemp. One was an old model that had the loudspeaker horn sitting on top of the radio with about three dials, as I remember, and they all had to be tuned correctly to get the right --- And in

those early days of high aerals we would get far more distance than we do now, because radios were not built for distance. And besides there are so many stations, there is too much interference. But Atwater-Kemp, well we have the desk in the kitchen with our last Atwater-Kemp ... after that we bought different ones. I had an early Majestic that had a clock on the side of it, that was --- what I used after I was injured, and I could have it set so it would come on at certain times, and then change to a different station every fifteen minutes if I wanted to. And then turn off at ten or eleven, or whenever I thought I would be going to sleep. And it was quite an innovation. Then a little later I got me a General Electric with a clock radio just like it, only that wasn't built into the cabinet. So a friend of mine who was taking woodworking in high school built me a frame for the clock, and it set on top of the radio with a little key to turn these fifteen-minute dial settings. And you could have it do the same thing.

Well, Atwater-Kemp also held an audition once a year, I guess it was, and all over the United States. And they had certain regulations, they were as I understand amateurs that were --- had various city-town competitions, and then the one in Portland was for all of Oregon. Well my sister Frances was chosen as the winner here. And if I remember right, Gladys Byrd, I mean Marjorie Byrd, well her name isn't Byrd now, I can't think of --- Higby, Marjorie Higby, her name now, she lives in Portland, was the runner-up. And they went to Portland, and while we all desperately tried to listen here on what radios there were, we weren't able to get very much from Portland. I think it was over KGW, and it wasn't any easier to get KGW then as it is now. But anyway, it was quite an experience for my sister, as I think she sang in the studio rather than the theater, I don't know.

Well I wanted to speak about a building that Earl Higgy put up here; I have spoken of him before, what was called the Oasis. And this just run north --- well I think the Surplus Store has it as part of their showrooms. And the Oasis was the Oasis. And it

was --- they had a contest, and everybody put in their favorite name for it. And I think Beatrice Des Ilets --- Frank Des Ilets sister won the contest by naming it the Oasis. And believe me, it was. They had dances there, they had roller-skating there, they had prizefights there, and basketball there, because it was the best hall in town. And the --- well it truly was the Oasis for a long period. Especially until the Castle Dance Hall was built out just south of the highway going over the hill to Bend, where the old Locker Castle was.

But nevertheless this filled a real need in this town because we had had the Locker Hall, and the Tonawama Hall, and of course we had the Liberty Theater to begin with. And when we got the Ideal Theater, where the Times-Herald now is, and these were started by a man named Combs. And that was Mrs. Racine, Mrs. Wilford Racine's father, and she had one daughter. And she and Wilford had no children. Wilford --- I mean Goldie's brother later became I believe a district judge, circuit court judge I mean, down in --- either Columbia or Clackamas County, I'm not sure which one. But that was where I saw the first talking picture here in Burns. I'd seen a couple in Portland, and believe me that was quite an innovation. The first one I think they showed here was, well one of the Jolson pictures. And it was, the sound and the film were, the sound was on a record and it supposedly ran right in time with the big pictures on the screen, but ---

SIDE B

--- Theater and all around pleasure palace. It was one of the Jolson pictures that I saw there. And it --- of course it wasn't as well synchronized as the sound films are now days. But there is a very big improvement.

Now I'm going to talk about a man named Phil Pittman. And he was, as I recall, the first --- well he was the first state police who was assigned to game protection, only

game and wildlife. And he was a young fellow from Bend, and very zealous in his first assignment over here. Anyway, and he was --- had a Chevrolet coupe I remember with -- - when they first started to try to make them a little streamlined with sloping windshield without a visor over it and so forth. They didn't have tinted glass up in the upper part then. And there was --- quite a thrill to get to go with him, which I did sometimes, when he was out on patrol. I remember getting the scare of my life riding with him one time; we were patrolling up along the refuge. We saw some lights down in, inside the refuge after dark, where they had been hunting. And he was trying to intercept them, and we did intercept them, catch them before they got away. But it was just a rancher who had been down in there to his grain fields, and he wasn't hunting. But this Phil Pittman I spoke about him being zealous.

I may have told you this before, but my father's dog, this black Labrador which he took with him hunting, and he was the one that arrested my father and brought him up before the justice of the peace for hunting with a dog, an unleashed dog. Well it wouldn't have made any difference whether the dog was on a leash or not, but nevertheless, he was carrying out his duty. And the judge, being a friend of my fathers, knew that --- my father just told him what the situation was, and he just dropped the charge. Not through favoritism really, but because he hadn't let the dog run the deer. That's what the purpose of hunting with dogs is. You can hunt with a dog today if you keep him on a leash, as far as I know. I have never seen any of the regulations against it.

But there is no greater thrill than hunting over a good bird dog when you're hunting for upland game, or even for ducks where they are --- you shoot them and they land in the water, to have a dog that doesn't mind swimming out and bring it back, especially with a soft mouth that doesn't chew a half live bird up before he brings it to you and lays it at your feet, or give it to your hand. And so that's why I brought this Phil Pittman in.

Now I want to speak about some of the old buckaroos who were coming through here. And one in particular was a Negro. And you don't see many cowboys that are Negro; at least we didn't back in the twenties. But Jeff Stall was one of the best, I think maybe he won the first or second out here at Harney County Round-Up, as it was called then, when it was promoted by, and put on by three men, Wally Reed, Joe Thompson, and Gus Bardwell. That was before it became Harney County Fair. Another fine rider from Lakeview was named Perry Ivory. And there were two Riggs brothers, and they were cousins of the Riggs who lived here, and they were Everett and Evan Riggs. And I know Evan Riggs won the silver mounted first prize saddle. And these early rodeos we had were just as good as they are now days, only maybe not as big a crowds. But these kids would grow up on ranches and have to break their own horses, and know how to ride. And I don't know where Jeff Stall came from. And there was another one called Montana Red; I think he was here the same year that Jeff Stall was here. And if I'm not mistaken they got somewhere up into Northern Idaho or Montana, and this Montana Red or Jeff Stall, one of them, was doing a little prize fighting when their bucking horse money wasn't as high as they hoped it would be. But that's just part of the early history. I think Rankin Crow speaks of him --- has pictures of a lot of those in his book, and so I'm not going to try to do what he did in his memories of the bucking horses. I do remember that Roy Skiens was one of the best pickup men in the arena that I ever saw. He had a horse that was especially good at getting up next to a bucking horse and taking a rider off if he was still on after he had completed his ten second ride, or whatever it was.

Next I want to talk about a young attorney that came here from Portland. Well he went to Columbia Prep, I think, maybe when Wally did --- Wally Welcome. His name was John Casey, and he came after Charlie Foley died, and bought out Charlie Foley's business. And he was a red faced, red haired Irishman. And he was a gentleman

attorney with a lot of --- to do about the Malheur Wildlife Refuge, which brought my father into this, with him. And he thought a great deal of John, and John thought a lot of him, and his wife Margaret. And John Casey told me the other day that he had some very fond memories of going down to my father's old dental office and seeing a picture of his bride to be out of the Portland paper, the society section, pinned up on the wall beside where father's chair was. And then after they were married why they had both of them for a time, out of the paper.

But John Casey was a greenhorn if there ever was one when he got here. One time he --- well he thought he ought to dress as the westerners should. Only his boots were English riding boots, rather than buckaroo boots. And he went down --- to go down towards Venator, I don't know whether he went to see somebody, anyway he got stuck in the mud down there. He got to Venators. That's when Alphene Venator was alive, that was the father of Stanley and --- well he had two boys, I can't remember the other one, and I think one girl. Well I know Mrs. Nick Voegtly is a Venator. And anyway when he got stuck, he walked into Venator's Ranch, and Venator went out with a team and pulled him out. And when he got ready to leave, why he offered to pay for his meal and I guess his lodging if he had to stay overnight. And old Alphene said to him, he said, "Young man, there is one thing you better learn if you're going to live in Harney County, and that's not try to pay for what you are given freely --- and any of the ranchers around here and you will find that so, no matter where you go." And he said he had never forgotten that, he found it so.

Because another time after he had taken a young attorney named Kriseen with him, he went goose hunting around by the lake, and sure enough he got stuck again. That's one thing that you could get to very easily in the spring around here on these dirt roads. Well anyway, he had gone goose hunting around by the lake and he got stuck. So

they walked in just about breakfast time over to Myrtle Caldwell's. Now Myrtle Caldwell is Marcus Haines, I mean is Ted Graves mother. And she had been married to a man named Pete Caldwell, and then they were divorced. And then he left and --- but then he came back in the winter. He didn't have any work and so Myrtle, being a kind soul, told him well you can stay here. Well John Casey just thought he would kid her a little bit so he went down there that morning, why she said, "Sit down, take your wet shoes off, and I'll get you some breakfast." She had a roll her own cigarette in her mouth. And they said, "Well Myrtle, have you got any cigarettes?" Said, "We ran out of cigarettes." They were, I think they were out on the dike is where they had been when they got stuck. And they finally got back, walked back. She was making flapjacks with this roll her own cigarette in her mouth, and the ash was dropping in the batter, but it didn't bother the taste of the pancakes. So then John decided to kid her a little bit. He said, "Myrtle," he said, "the D.A. up in town" --- I think at that time it was George Sizemore --- "hears something about you and Pete having nude cohabitation down here." She said, "What do you mean, nude cohabitation?" He said, "Well, I mean he is living here back with you, in fact he is probably in your bedroom right there now." And she said, "Well go on with you John Casey, if you want to pull my leg, get a hold of my good one." And he says, "No, I'm really serious." She said, "Well you just tell that Sizemore to come down here and I'll just show him that there isn't anybody." And so then John says, "Well Pete, you might as well come on out, I know you're in there." And she said, "Well, you see Pete came back last winter and he didn't look like he was eating very good, so I thought I had better take him in." Well, that was Myrtle; she was kind hearted as she could be.

I remember she had her gall bladder out up here in the old hospital. And I had a friend who had had appendicitis, and they put me in my chair and carried me up the stairs so I could go see my friend. So I went in after I had seen him, into the next room to see

Myrtle. And she says, "Well how are you there?" And I said, "Oh, I'm fine." She says, "How's your daddy?" And I said, "Well, he is doing pretty good." And she says, "You know he is a fine daddy, but he won't spark none." Well I knew he didn't spark none, not with Myrtle, or most anybody else, even though my mother had been gone a long time. But nevertheless she was quite a character. She had a bottle there by her bed and she said, "Look there, there's the gravel they got out of me, shows you all the grit I had." And I said, "Well I knew you had lots of grit Myrtle." She said, "Also got a bottle of liquor underneath the mattress if you want a drink." And I said, "No, I don't think I can quite handle that." And she says, "Well, I really didn't think you would, but I kinda use it myself sometimes."

But John Casey is --- he owns the property where the Arrowhead was, he owned the Arrowhead. And I asked him what he was going to do about it. He said, "Well I'm not going to build another hotel there." And I said, "Well just so you pay up your back taxes." "Oh," he said, "I keep them up so that they don't take it away from me." But I know he had a chance to sell it and he didn't --- they didn't get down to the price he thought they ought to, so he's still got it. But it was a lot of fun visiting with him.

Well I don't know whether I told you this or not, but the ranch where my father had, which Poteet has now was named Albar, because we raised alfalfa and barley mainly. And it was one of these ranches that some of it is good land, and some of it isn't so good. But it's on the Foley Slough, which comes across the corner of the property, and there is always --- if there was water in the valley why we'd get some. And some years it was so high, and that was so true of a lot of our land here. We have a section, maybe three quarters of it is good, and the other quarter is alkali. We had one corner of it that was mostly greasewood, not much else, even though we tried everything on it. We tried clearing it, and we had a great big ... that they could use today on some of this sagebrush

clearing. But sometimes I wonder whether sagebrush clearing is wise as they think it is when they spray it. And then our antelope and our deer don't produce young. I don't think they have ever proved that the spray has anything to do with it, but it might have, I don't know.

Then I want to speak of the fairgrounds. Now when we speak of the fairgrounds now, everybody knows down Egan, and out --- or I should call that Eegan. Because as I recall the Indian Chief it was named after was Eegan, not Egan, as the Irish name is pronounced. And he was one of the fractional chiefs of the --- or factional chiefs of the Paiutes. Eegan and Winnemucca and Owitze ... but anyway.

The fairgrounds originally was started at the corner of where the Pine Room is on Egan. And it was, that was the northeast corner of the fairgrounds. And then was, that was made an addition to the city; I believe it's the Morrison Addition, I'm not sure. But they moved the fairgrounds on down to where, in the twenties, where the three men I spoke of earlier had their round up. But they used to have a racetrack there, and they would have football games in the center of it, and they had a grandstand and various things. And it was just like the fairs nowadays.

And then the Mother's Club decided our children should have a playground, so down on east, well I'm not sure whether it's east "D", "E", or "F" street. Well it was a little corner that was owned by the Mother's Club, and they built a playground for the, well it was sort of like a gazebo in a wealthy estate. It was a little place where there was a roof overhead, and you had no walls, and children could go down there and they had swings and they had a little equipment, not much, I can't remember exactly. But I remember going down there --- and the Mother's Club playground. And the Mother's Club did then just like it has tried to do in later years, just was a service club for the community, like any of the service clubs. Try to do some of the things that aren't done by the governments.

But I thought I would speak of that because its origin was about like our library's origin. Of the twelve ladies that --- now I went into this once before, but I'm not going to do it again. But anyway that was the playground.

I have got some more things here if I can read them. Well when we were speaking about music a while ago, there was one musician here, and he lived down in Virginia Valley or down at Princeton, I'm not sure just where his place was. He came out just like so many of the settlers from the east when dry land farming and free land was here for the taking, if you proved up on donation land claims. And one of these man's name was Merrijolly. And it was spelled --- I think he was French or maybe ... somewhere in there. And he was quite a musical man. And they nicknamed him "Tickle Funny Merry Jolly". And this Saunders that I spoke of again, the one that is still alive, he isn't young now, he is eighty-one, never married. But he lived down in that same area, and he bought a new C-melody sax. Well I don't think you folks ever heard of a C-melody sax. There was alto, your flat alto, and B flat tenor, a soprano sax, which was like a clarinet more or less, and baritones. But these are --- C-melody is fine for if you can just play in the key of C. And this Harold Saunders out there in his little old homestead sent off to one of these magazines, and bought him a Boucher C-melody sax. And about the only song he learned to play on that was (sings) "please play for me that sweet melody, called doodle-de-do, doodle-de-do, don't know the rest, but the part I like best is doodle-de-do, ah doodle-de-do, simplest thing there is nothing much to it, you don't have to sing, just doodle-de-do it, I liked it so, wherever I go, I'm a doodle-doodlin dude." Well, that's enough of my vocal type attempts.

But then I wanted to speak of some of the funny names that we have in this country. Well some of them were family names, and some of them are not. But as I was reading something the other day, and I saw the name Shingledecker --- well,

Shingledecker, I haven't heard the name in years, but there was a Shingledecker here. Just like there was a Scheckel, and there is a Sword, and Drinkwater, and Stinkingwater, and Keesenbeck, and Lulaberg, and Ligg, and Rollenberg. But this country is formed by people from all over the world, as you know. And the Indians, some of them had very unusual names. For instance, those of you who know Kennedys now, I think originally were Sixspears, and then the Shakes --- transpired, folds into Shakespeare, and later into Kennedy. Of course most of them are given the first name that the White man call them by. And there was Jim, and Old Blind Jim, there was Sore-Eyed Bertha, One-Eyed Suzie, and Captain Louie, and the son Jim Louie, and Jenny, and Patsy, and Tabby, and Pedro. And Sally Quiver made her Sally Dave, because that was her maiden name, after Pete remarried. But anyway, these names, I can just go on. Oh, I don't know whether this is worth putting in. But Hotchkiss is rather an unusual name. And well we know the Timms now; there was an earlier Timms here. And there was a Barber here of course. I don't mean that they were a barber, but --- it was just because I got to thinking about some of these early ones. The McPheeters, and the Denstedts, and oh, I can't think of all of them. You can probably add some.

And I'm not going to urge you --- told me, I shouldn't try to, to list all the --- when the different things came into the country as Archie McGowan did. But for instance some of the buildings, the --- Well now Hirsch's Value Center originally was the Lunaburg Dalton Store. And Mildred Gates is the last of the Daltons that are here.

Now I don't know whether I told you about this before, but there was Finley and Bowman and Peck. Well the Finley was a naturalist, Bowman was a photographer --- well so was Finley, and so was Mr. Peck, and he was a real old man when he came here. Finley was not so old, and neither was Bowman, but they were the ones that came out here in the early days and took so many of the pictures. And then in the game

commission bulletin now you will see pictures that they get out of their old files of birds, and they give credit to Finley or to Bowman, and these early photographers.

Well, we had some early photographers here. One of the first that I remember was Helen Sayer. And she was the daughter of Pop Sayer that I have spoken of before, who had the Horton and Sayer Sawmill. Well Horton was an early druggist here, and I think he was sort of a part-time dentist sometimes, I'm not sure but --- I know he lived down Alvord here about three blocks, just west of the --- Horton did, lived just west of the telephone company.

And this Agnes Sayer, well Dorothy Cramer was here a couple weeks ago for Tommy Miller, Jenkins daughter's wedding, and she--- Dorothy Cramer came back for the first time in forty years. She worked in the assessor's office with my sister Roberta, worked in the clerk's office. And she's --- I don't know whether I spoke of her on a previous tape, but she was graduated from Reed College with some of the highest honors at that time than anyone had ever made. And it was through her that I got an autographed picture from the Queen Marie of Romania. She had graduated with a man who later became the trade secretary of the Bucharest Embassy. And that was when Queen Marie was still alive, before her son King Carroll took over, and then he had it out by Hitler I believe. But she sent me an autographed photo through the goodness of Dorothy Cramer Sayers. ... writing to this young man she had graduated with. He's not so young now --- is young now, but he was then. I think his secretary knew one of the ladies-in-waiting on the Queen, and she autographed her picture, sitting on a tiger skin with loops of pearls around her neck, and her crown on, and sent it to me with a nice letter.

But she was --- also has a --- she was a very close friend with James J. Hill of the railroad that was being built down the north side of the Columbia, when Hammond was

building the Union Pacific down the south side. And then they both started building the railroad up the Deschutes Canyon, and they finally consolidated when they got as far as Madras, and decided it was silly to build two railroads into Bend. But the estate on the Columbia that belonged to Mary Hill, and she died I think quite young, was made into a museum with ever so many of Queen Marie's things from Romania in that museum. And to my knowledge it's still there. I went through it one time, as much as I could. But it was quite a experience.

Now, I'm trying to remember some other things that I've got written down here, but I can't quite read them. Well for instance the Sod House, you probably have got more information on this than I have. But it was one of the chain or ranches that Pete French had down the Blitzen Valley. It was all I believe in where Marcus Haines now has his property. Now it may be on the refuge. But there was a sod house built there, and the sod house in this country is unusual. While they were common on the plains where the grass sod was of a different toughness and texture than was here. There are more adobe down in the South End than there was sod houses. But anyway, the sod house was one example of a true sod house. And they took some of the remains of it over to the refuge headquarters, and had it under a glass to preserve these old sod pieces. And I don't know, the glass was broken it seems the last time I was down there, and the sod had begun to disintegrate with the rain and snow. But there may be some of it preserved there yet. ...

(END OF TAPE)

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