

HARNEY COUNTY HISTORY PROJECT

AV-Oral History #246 - Sides A/B/C/D

Subject: Castolia Drinkwater & Sam Burt

Place: Drewsey, Oregon

Date: Summer 1981

Interviewers: Marcus Haines & Bonnie Barrett

Release Form: No

Note: The following interview was done in preparation for Bonnie Barrett to draw and publish prints of the town of Drewsey, with accompanying history of the town. Castolia Drinkwater and Sam Burt were proprietors of the Drewsey General Merchandise Store, the Porter-Sitz Store for many years.

MARCUS HAINES: I'm going to hold this recorder up here so that---

CASTOLIA DRINKWATER: Sam! You're in the wrong one, that one by the door, that one by the door. Uh huh. Makes me so mad to be blind. I can't see anything, I can't read, I can't write, I can't sew, I can't do anything but sit here.

MARCUS: Were you born in Drewsey, Cas?

CASTOLIA: Yeah, I was born right here in the street somewhere. I don't know where.

MARCUS: Where?

CASTOLIA: Right here in the street somewhere, I don't know where. (Laughter)

SAM BURT: Now you know that's a --- made me madder than hell --- was a Mrs. Sullivan that writes for the "Oregonian," some features, you know. She was up here with those two ladies that come here, the rock hunters and artists that come here, you know.

MARCUS: Uh huh.

SAM: So, she came up here at the same time. Got a big write-up about his community and Cas. Then went home and wrote it up and wrote it all wrong. See. See Cas was the first white girl born in Drewsey, Cas was. And so, when she wrote it up she wrote that she was born in Prairie City, and came here at an early date, you know, instead of being born here and going to Prairie City when she was two or three years old.

CASTOLIA: Four years old.

SAM: Huh?

CASTOLIA: I was four years old when we went back.

SAM: Four years old. Well anyway, she was born here and then went to Prairie City. This woman put it in the other way. Damn, it made me madder than hell ---

MARCUS: You bet.

SAM: --- if they want to write, why don't they write the truth, you know.

BONNIE BARRETT: Or if they're not sure, maybe they should have sent it back to check and see if they had everything right.

SAM: Sure. And all she had to do was --- but she never took any notes or anything, she just kind of---

MARCUS: Well, you know, I've given some interviews and they take these notes and scribble them, and they can only read half of them when they get away. And I say, haven't you got a recorder? I said, if you are a little doubtful about something, you can play it over again so you can kind of get it straight, or ask somebody. But they don't seem to like to do that for some reason or another.

SAM: Is that an enlargement of that picture that you took of Drewsey?

MARCUS: No, no I didn't take this picture of Drewsey. Now there's the one I took.

SAM: There's the one you took there.

MARCUS: Yeah, uh huh. A winter scene of Drewsey. I took it from up on top of the hill one evening when we come in.

SAM: Now this, this house here, this is Cas's house. That was her boy setting there. See the

sidewalk?

MARCUS: Well, how about that. That's where we came in, Bonnie?

BONNIE: Oh, oh isn't that nice?

SAM: That was Cas's son a setting there on the sidewalk.

BONNIE: And what's his name?

SAM: Now what was his name? Delmas, yeah. They had a --- sidewalks up and down these streets at that time. I think maybe that picture there might show it.

BONNIE: Gee, that certainly is good photography, isn't it?

MARCUS: You bet. Some of this --- they had some good lenses in those days, there is no question about it, it's sharp.

BONNIE: It's sharp.

SAM: There's a picture of ---

MARCUS: Yeah, that's old ---

SAM: --- first came to Burns. That was out at Drewsey here, somebody, I don't know.

MARCUS: I have that picture.

SAM: I don't know if that's old Charlie Cranmer or not.

MARCUS: No, it isn't. It's Lucas.

SAM: Lucas?

MARCUS: Yeah. That colt there, I bet he got into more jackpots than --- (Laughter) --- you've worked horses with colts around, haven't you?

SAM: Yeah.

MARCUS: They got the lines around their necks and they're here, and they're there. You see, it's pulled out in front of that team?

BONNIE: Oh, yes.

SAM: Here's a picture of the inside of the Porter-Sitz Store in the early days.

BONNIE: Oh.

SAM: They had water around Drewsey in the early days too, didn't they?

MARCUS: Yeah, I'll say they did!

... (Looking at pictures.)

BONNIE: These must have been all hats up here. These are all hatboxes up on top.

CASTOLIA: Yes.

MARCUS: Here Bonnie, is the original picture right here.

CASTOLIA: Is that the one with all the names on it?

SAM: No, no. There's a picture in here somewhere --- Here's the Drewsey band.

MARCUS: I've got to get in here with my camera and take some of these pictures. I need my --- get copies, Sam. I'll come over with it. Look at the Drewsey band (sheep) here.

BONNIE: Oh my.

SAM: That strange thing, you know, that was taken out here --- that was taken out here at a --- oh what do you call that place--- back, you know, this way from the Lamb Ranch a ways. Conley Basin.

MARCUS: Oh yeah, Conley Basin, yeah. (There used to be shearing corrals in that area.)

SAM: Conley Basin, yeah.

MARCUS: Well, how about that. That's when they used the blades. Huh. There's an unusual picture there, Bonnie, now they're shearing sheep there and they are using the blades, like you roach a horse with, instead of the clippers. See in there? And this is the wool rack up here where they put the, throw the wool up and put it in these big sacks. They weigh 350 or 400 pounds, these sacks, 45 or 50 (to a rack).

... (More talk about pictures.)

BONNIE: My, everyone looks so elegant in this picture.

CASTOLIA: That's a picture of my mother and ... and they had on beautiful dresses. You know in that day you wouldn't think people would have anything to wear at all, you know. Some said, "Where did you get all of those pretty dresses?" I said, "I don't know, we got them somewhere." Probably the only Sunday suit they had.

SAM: Well, you know, in those days men all wore a suit when they went somewhere. They all

wore a suit.

CASTOLIA: Well, that's what I wanted to find, was that picture of the saloons with the old Indian

...

MARCUS: This is Cas and her sister.

CASTOLIA: Every man in that picture has on a white shirt and a suit, and it was the next morning after the Christmas dance. Everyone of them, there wasn't a one of them but what had on a suit and a white shirt. In that day and age, you know, it seems kind of funny but they didn't just go in their jeans or anything like they do nowadays.

BONNIE: Yeah, right. This picture in the store now, are one of these ladies you?

CASTOLIA: Yes, if I can see it. It's the one outside the counter is it, and the one behind the counter is Lee Meyers. She worked for us in the store there. And one of these little boys is mine, and the other one is Art Reed's boy.

BONNIE: Look at all of those handsome neckties there in the case.

CASTOLIA: They're all gone but me that's in that picture.

BONNIE: These must be wallpaper books down here, I'll bet.

CASTOLIA: Probably is, I don't remember what I can't see, and tell what anything is these days.

BONNIE: I was reading a newspaper from February of 1921, here in Drewsey.

CASTOLIA: Oh.

BONNIE: And I was really amused when I got to the local news. They would have, interspersed in the local news; there was all these ads for Porter-Sitz. And at the time you must have been featuring wallpaper because I would read a little bit about who went to visit who, and then pretty soon you would say, "And come see the wallpaper books that have just arrived." (Laughter) And that is probably why I recognized those in the picture. Let's see, this is your copy of that picture.
... (More talk about pictures.)

BONNIE: Who had the, the other store? I see there's another; it looked like another general store across ---

CASTOLIA: Well, my father had one, and then Daly, John Daly had another one.

MARCUS: What was your father's name?

CASTOLIA: Ace Johnson.

MARCUS: Johnson. I have an invoice from that store with me.

CASTOLIA: Oh. We sold out there and went up and he bought the ranch, took it on a bill, rather. Up the river for a ---

SAM: Johnny Sword lives there now.

CASTOLIA: Yeah.

MARCUS: Oh, Johnny Sword?

CASTOLIA: My dad made that, built that house.

BONNIE: The one that Swords live in now?

CASTOLIA: Uh huh. ... I think they built on two rooms since then.

MARCUS: Now Cas, tell us a little something about the Needmore house up there.

CASTOLIA: That what ah --- I think it was place back of that, you know, you can't see it from the road because it's back. And my sister and her husband, that was Mike Acton, they lived in that one there, and it was kind of hard going in those days, you know. And so, Mike he got to calling it the "Needmore Farm". (Laughter)

MARCUS: I remember how --- Don Toelle told me how it got its name.

CASTOLIA: Yeah.

MARCUS: When was the house built up there about, Cas, do you recall?

CASTOLIA: Let me see, when was it? Well, I can't --- it's '08 or '09, I don't know which. Somewhere along there.

MARCUS: Uh huh.

BONNIE: I'm going to do a painting of that house for Cindy --- for Johnny for Christmas.

CASTOLIA: You are?

BONNIE: Yes.

SAM: Is that house still standing up there?

BONNIE: Yes, I went in this spring and took pictures of it. It's just beautiful.

MARCUS: I didn't even know it was there. I'd never seen it. I've got to go see it and Bonnie has a picture of it she's going to paint and it was quite a house in its time, there, Sam, wasn't it?

SAM: I thought they tore it down.

CASTOLIA: What will ...

BONNIE: The Needmore house.

CASTOLIA: Oh yeah, they tore it down. It's back in the hills there.

SAM: No, they never tore it down.

BONNIE: It's still standing. I took pictures of it.

CASTOLIA: Oh, you did? Well, I never had been up there for years.

SAM: I thought they'd have torn it down, abandoned it.

CASTOLIA: I thought they'd have torn that one down too.

BONNIE: I should have --- it's too bad I didn't bring it.

MARCUS: Yeah, you should have brought the pictures, Bonnie.

BONNIE: Yeah, that's too bad, I didn't think about it.

MARCUS: Yeah. I didn't think about it either.

SAM: It was a nice house at one time. It was pretty nicely built.

BONNIE: Yeah, those big bay windows --- oh my, it looks, it just looks like a house that has stories to it. You know, a lot of nice things happened, and it is beautiful. The setting is really nice.

... (More talk about pictures.)

SAM: You know this, this here was where Cas's dad had a store one time, and then they had a drugstore --- Henry Welcome.

MARCUS: Oh, yes.

SAM: Had a drugstore over there one time, and then they went into a ---

MARCUS: Well, was it in this building here?

SAM: Right there. Yeah, and then there was this blacksmith shop was along side here that one of her uncle's run.

MARCUS: Oh. Now there was a Broady Johnson, is that from the same family?

SAM: Danged if I know.

MARCUS: He was a blacksmith down there at The Agency, at the Indian Reservation.

SAM: No, I don't think he was. I wouldn't say it positively. I just don't believe he was.

MARCUS: There was a Bartlett Hotel along on this side somewhere too, wasn't there?

SAM: Yes, there's the store. There's the Bartlett Hotel. That square building right there, see.

MARCUS: Up near where the garage is now, isn't it?

SAM: Ah, it's right between where the garage is and Alan's house. ... Here's the school at Drewsey at one time. I don't know whether Cas could tell you who some of those people are now or not. She used to.

MARCUS: Yeah, there is Lee Williams right in the middle of it.

BONNIE: Well, that's quite a collection of people there.

MARCUS: I have that; I have that picture there. I have copies off of a picture that Lee has, I think. I believe that Terry got it for me somewhere.

BONNIE: Oh.

SAM: Well I, I don't know, you probably didn't know Frank Stallard did you? Frank Stallard used to be in Ontario. He had a pool hall there for years.

MARCUS: No, no I didn't.

SAM: I don't know, where did he come from? His wife was who, Thompson from over here at Beulah?

CASTOLIA: No. They didn't live over there. They ---

SAM: Well, this Thompson, where did they live?

CASTOLIA: They lived here in town awhile.

SAM: Oh, they did? Well, I was just thinking there's a picture of her. She was just --- talk about dressed.

MARCUS: Boy, she was really strutting her stuff there too, believe me. (Laughter)

SAM: Frank Stallard had the pool hall in Ontario, the old hotel across on the corner from --- what the hell was the name of that hotel? Well, right across from where Macabee used to have his

insurance business, right on the corner at one time. Right in the main part of town.

MARCUS: There used to be a Moore Hotel, or not the Moore, but the --- on the east side of the street there.

SAM: Yeah. Well, anyway he had this pool hall there for a hundred years.

MARCUS: Oh.

CASTOLIA: He's dead too.

SAM: They are all dead.

CASTOLIA: Alec Murray and me are the only ones left over here of the old tribe.

MARCUS: Alec, did he ever get his other eye fixed yet?

CASTOLIA: I don't think so. I haven't seen him.

MARCUS: Well, he's doing real good with this eye he had the implant put in, isn't he?

SAM: Done awful good for a while. I don't know. I haven't seen him to talk to him for quite a while. Here a few days ago he said he wasn't --- couldn't see anything. I don't know whether it's gone bad, or ---

MARCUS: Well, they coat over, you know. He talked to me several times about having it done, and I've got an implant in this eye here. They'll coat over and they just set you up in the chair and take a little sharp instrument and go right into your eye, yeah, Bonnie.

BONNIE: I don't even like to think about it!

MARCUS: They scrape that crud off your eye and away you go again. You can see.

SAM: ... That's taken alongside the old store there.

BONNIE: Oh. Now she's riding sidesaddle, isn't she? Gee, that's quite elegant for riding in on horseback. Dressed in a suit and taffeta skirts and everything, that woman is ---

MARCUS: How did they get on? That's the thing that always bothered me.

CASTOLIA: I don't know how they could either. I never rode horseback much. When I taught school up at Pine Creek, I went to school on horseback, you know. And one day the old horse, he decided to jump sideways, and I didn't go with him, so --- I bumped my head pretty hard and I don't think I ever got over it!

BONNIE: You taught school at Pine Creek?

CASTOLIA: Uh huh.

BONNIE: When was that?

CASTOLIA: Oh, I don't know. It was before I was married, of course. It was when we lived on the ranch. It was about 1910 or '11, along in there.

BONNIE: How many pupils did you have?

CASTOLIA: I think I had twenty up there.

BONNIE: I'll be darned. That's more than they are now.

CASTOLIA: Well, it was a community school.

SAM: They had two teachers.

CASTOLIA: And they, ah, what is that one Sam, that one that, that school that they used to have there at ---

SAM: Wolf Creek.

MARCUS: Wolf Creek, yeah.

CASTOLIA: Wolf Creek. And Pine Creek, and Kimball Flat, and Otis, and Drewsey, six of them.

BONNIE: My goodness.

CASTOLIA: Now they have two. (Pine Creek and Drewsey Schools)

MARCUS: And they were all full too, weren't they?

CASTOLIA: They were all full.

MARCUS: You bet. I have a picture of the Otis Valley School up here. There must be twenty kids. Mrs. Stallard was the teacher up there. Yeah.

CASTOLIA: Well.

MARCUS: Twenty kids, such a matter.

SAM: Yeah, they used to be a lot of them up there.

CASTOLIA: I taught school out there too.

MARCUS: At Otis Creek?

CASTOLIA: Uh huh.

MARCUS: They built those old schoolhouses, you know, just one room. The ceiling must have been twelve or fourteen feet high in them, weren't they?

CASTOLIA: Must have been, yes.

MARCUS: And you couldn't heat one to save your soul. You could throw a cat out through the cracks, of course, and all of the heat, what you got, stayed in the top there.

CASTOLIA: Well, for years, we only taught three months in the spring and three months in the fall, you know. And that's the only time we could get there.

MARCUS: It would be so cold in the winter you couldn't ---

SAM: Say, you remember Harry Clark? You remember him, don't you?

MARCUS: You bet. Yes.

SAM: You remember Harry Clark. There is a picture of when ...

MARCUS: Say he was a pretty foxy looking fellow, wasn't he?

SAM: Yeah.

MARCUS: Pauline Braymen came over here and interviewed him just shortly before he died, and so he was telling her, he said, "I want to give you some advice, young lady." And so, on and so forth. Old Harry was kind of a rough talker, you know, and she didn't know what was coming next. She didn't know whether she wanted to wait for it or not. He said, "Never live alone." Said, "Now if you lose your husband," he said, "you get married right away and don't live alone like I have." (Laughter) Pauline is hiking in the Pueblos this week.

BONNIE: That's what I heard, yeah.

MARCUS: They left Sunday afternoon to go on it.

BONNIE: Russ ... What kind of training did you have to have then, to be a schoolteacher?

CASTOLIA: Not much.

BONNIE: My aunt taught school years, and years, and year ago. And it was funny because I didn't even know that she had ever taught school until just recently. We were talking and she mentioned this part of her past that I didn't even know about. It really surprised me.

MARCUS: Where was this, Bonnie?

BONNIE: Back in Wisconsin.

MARCUS: Oh yes.

BONNIE: And she's about 75 now. It was before she was married, when she was a young girl.

MARCUS: Now Jessie Williams, she taught school one year, in 1914. And that was my first school, I went to her.

BONNIE: Oh, really?

MARCUS: And she got married and back in those days a married woman couldn't teach, and that ended her teaching career right there. See, she will be 87 years old here in September. And she got married there ---

BONNIE: I wonder why that was that they ---

MARCUS: I don't know what it was.

CASTOLIA: We lived up there at the Sword place when I taught school. Had to go about 4 miles over there, so that's the reason I went horseback. And then my dad, he fixed --- Mama wouldn't let me go anymore, alone you know. So, Dad, he fixed me up an old cart and that old mare, and I drove that cart. I drove that horse and cart the rest of the school year.

MARCUS: You had lots of snow in this country back in those days, didn't you, Cas?

CASTOLIA: Yes. Yeah, we did. We don't have it anymore.

MARCUS: It came early and stayed late.

CASTOLIA: Uh huh.

BONNIE: Then there were an awful lot of sleds used then, weren't there?

CASTOLIA: Oh, yes.

BONNIE: People would come in to get their groceries and supplies using sleds.

CASTOLIA: And they came by sleds, every two or three months.

... (More talk about pictures.)

BONNIE: You know when I was reading that newspaper the other night; I couldn't help but wonder if, was there an actual printing press here?

CASTOLIA: Uh huh.

BONNIE: There was?

CASTOLIA: Uh huh.

BONNIE: So much of that news was Portland news, and the ads; a lot of them were Portland. And I wondered if they ---

CASTOLIA: What was the name of it? What did they call it?

MARCUS: "Drewsey News," wasn't it?

BONNIE: "Sun."

SAM: "Pioneer Sun."

MARCUS: Was it the "Pioneer Sun?"

BONNIE: Now did you have access to, like the Portland newspapers, the daily newspapers then? Or was that basically the ---

CASTOLIA: I think that's about the only paper we got in those days.

BONNIE: That's what I kind of wondered because you weren't really on a --- I know with Crane and Riverside, they got daily papers because they were on the train route, of course, but ---

SAM: ... around here too, because the stage came from Juntura up here and brought the mail in every day.

CASTOLIA: We had mail --- it went over to Ontario and around by Westfall, and then over that way. The road did then --- to Westfall and back up through Beulah and on up here. They drove horses of course, and they'd drive each two horses ten miles, and then they would change and drive another two horses and change again, you know, clear from Ontario and up.

BONNIE: I'll be darned.

MARCUS: Lee Williams' father drove stage here (Drewsey) to Westfall, I think, didn't he?

CASTOLIA: Yeah.

MARCUS: Over the Bendire Mountain and ---

CASTOLIA: Uh huh, yeah.

MARCUS: That's the way my mother came here to Harney County in 1895. She always remembered the Bendire Mountains and was always speaking about it. It was quite a way out when

you come along through there on a wagon. It was quite a trip.

SAM: Yeah, quite a road.

CASTOLIA: Did you ever go over it?

MARCUS: Yeah, we did. Pauline Braymen and Lee (Williams) and I went over it about five years ago this fall, or six, such a matter. I have a tape made of Lee on the trip, and ---

SAM: It was kind of a --- at that time I think ... on the old road. Didn't you have to detour in a place or two?

MARCUS: Yeah, we did. And up on top there above the, what's the Harris Ranch, is it? The last ranch, the big ranch there with the picket fence along it. No, it wouldn't be the Harris Ranch. What did they call it? Well, up there ---

SAM: Called Foppiano I think, wasn't it?

MARCUS: No, it's on farther down. That was the Stage Station. But just up on the top was where the wagons cut so deep in that limestone rock --- stone up there.

SAM: Oh yeah, oh, at that time.

MARCUS: Yeah. Just above that, that ranch there. The car, well the modern cars couldn't begin to get through following those ruts. They'd hang up and they just cut down about the width of this drawer here, Bonnie, and far deeper than probably from here to here in that solid stone where so many wagons had gone through. And for a distance, I guess, as far as from here across to Sam and Cas's store there. Quite a sight to see. I've got pictures of it, and there was a beer can laying there and I set it down in the track, you know, for reference for height there. It's something to see. You see one of the cars have gone through and they left their marks, scraping along up in the center of this thing.

SAM: Another thing, where the tracks are right in the center you can see where the lead chain on these big teams, you know, they have a lead chain where the team hooked on to it. You can see where it drug along, you remember --- down the center ---

MARCUS: Yeah, you bet.

SAM: It wore out the sand rock in there where that chain came dragging along at that time.

MARCUS: Charlie, or Lee Williams tells the story about Charlie Cranmer coming down that mountain with a load and he had a drummer with him and he bet the drummer \$5 that old Whitey, his line horse, could take the team down the hill by themselves. So, they tied up the jerk line and got in the rear wagon with a fifth of whiskey, or corn whiskey in those days, in those days. And I guess by the time they got through with drinking, old Whitey had them into Drewsey here.

(Laughter)

SAM: Yeah, I asked him about that one time and he said --- well, I don't know how he said it. He said, "I'll never try that again!"

MARCUS: He really did it though?

SAM: Yeah, he done it all right. Yeah. He tied up the line. I didn't know they got in the wagon. I thought he tied up the line, and I didn't know they got in the wagon, or I thought he would have stayed on his horse, but that old --- Baldy was that horse's name.

MARCUS: Was it Baldy?

SAM: Yeah, that was Baldy.

MARCUS: I've got pictures. I'm gonna come over, Sam, and I'll get some pictures here and we'll identify 'em. And I've got quite a bunch that Gary Cronin had. And I have these pictures of Charlie Cranmer with his freight wagons and stuff in Drewsey.

SAM: Yeah.

MARCUS: That I got from up here at Altnow's. And we'll have a show over here some evening, a slide show.

SAM: Okay, fine.

MARCUS: And then some others, pictures, I'll work in there. I've got a real good picture of you and Cas, the last show over here. You're pointing to tell Cas to look over here so to have her picture taken and --- (Laughter)

CASTOLIA: I've got one of those.

MARCUS: --- I got that. Well, you want to get a little information about your picture now, or do you have ---

BONNIE: Yeah. If we can maybe identify ---

MARCUS: Or have we lost it?

BONNIE: We may have. I don't know which one was the clearest. They're probably all a little hard to see, aren't they? They are so faded.

CASTOLIA: They are for me, yeah. That one's good on my side, but it's not as clear as the others.

SAM: Well, that's the clearest one of the two that you had there. This one is one of your pictures, Cas.

BONNIE: Oh, is it? That's my picture?

SAM: Uh huh.

BONNIE: You know what I've always wanted to know is during prohibition, what did they serve in the saloons?

CASTOLIA: Whiskey. (Laughter)

MARCUS: Now you know. (Laughter)

BONNIE: That's a good honest answer. Okay. (Laughter) Now see, I ask Walt that question when I was doing the research on Riverside, and he wouldn't give me a very clear answer.

MARCUS: Well, Walt didn't know. He was ---

SAM: No, I was going to say, Walt was too young then to know that probably.

CASTOLIA: I imagine if you were to dig, you could probably dig around this town most any place and find a bunch of whiskey down in the earth someplace.

MARCUS: They used to cache it over here in the flourmill, didn't you Cas? And ---

CASTOLIA: Yeah. Yes, they did. Got so the kids would go over there so they kind of had to quit that. I remember my aunt went over there and George Riley was here then, and he was just a kid, and she went to where --- his mother went over there and got him out of the sawdust and brought him home. Oh, she was so mad, she couldn't see, 'cause they let them have that whiskey. Well, they had stole the whiskey, of course, but I can see her yet, dragging him home. They lived up in the other end of town here.

MARCUS: What's your next question, Bonnie? (Laughter)

BONNIE: I wish I had a good follow up, but I don't. Well, I imagine they didn't have to worry too much about the "revenue" men way out here in Drewsey.

MARCUS: No.

CASTOLIA: I remember Lige Ward hid a lot of --- I guess. I think that was beer down here below my house, down here by this slough one time, outside of my fence. And another woman and I was watching, and we saw him hide it, you know. He dug a place, put this down in there. So then after he was gone, this other woman and I, we dug it up and --- we didn't drink it, but we dug it up and hid it from him. We kept it for quite a while and finally we give it back to him.

MARCUS: By golly, Lige was a pretty good customer for that stuff, wasn't he?

CASTOLIA: You bet, I'll say.

MARCUS: You bet.

BONNIE: Well, were there stills around Drewsey then?

SAM: Oh, yeah.

BONNIE: Well what did they use --- what did they use for their mash? I mean, was this ---

MARCUS: A little sagebrush.

SAM: Yeah.

BONNIE: Now you can tell me that and I might believe it. Sounds pretty bitter to me, but ---

SAM: No. They bought lots of sugar.

BONNIE: Oh, that must have been pretty good for business then.

SAM: Yeah, they was good sugar customers. I wasn't here then.

CASTOLIA: Oh yes, they had places stuck all around, they was making whiskey.

BONNIE: Well, what did they use though for the, I mean, don't you have to have grain or corn or something?

MARCUS: Grain.

SAM: Grain.

MARCUS: And get it to ferment.

BONNIE: Uh huh. Well, since you were the first white person born here ---

SAM: The first white girl.

BONNIE: --- first white girl. Oh, I see.

SAM: Harry, Harry Clark, he was born before she was. But he was the first white boy born in Drewsey, and she was the first white girl, yeah.

MARCUS: Well, I'll be darned.

BONNIE: So --- but there were an awful lot of Indians here at that time, is that right?

CASTOLIA: Uh huh, yeah. Across the river there was Indians, camps and tepees over there for years.

BONNIE: Did people get along pretty well?

CASTOLIA: Oh yeah. They was good Indians. They wasn't bad at all. Oh, what kind were they, Paiutes?

SAM: Yeah, the same as they ---

CASTOLIA: Burns finally took them, you know, over there.

BONNIE: Yeah. Did they pretty much stick to themselves, or did they associate much with the people here?

CASTOLIA: Oh no, they didn't associate much with --- they didn't have anything hardly, and what they had the Reservation had given them. They always had good clothes. They had a good shawl, you know, they always wore shawls and a thing over their head. They made their own moccasins. And my Dad, he had the store then, and he liked to talk to them, you know. And he --- they'd talk to each other and he could always --- a lot of the Indian ---

BONNIE: Their language?

CASTOLIA: Uh huh. But they, they were really poor. Mama would have them chop wood. Of course, they'd just haul a bunch of wood down in them days and piled it out and women cut it mostly. And when they, but Mama would get an old squaw and the other women would do the same thing. They'd, the old bucks, they'd sit on the pile of wood while the women chopped the wood, the squaws, and then when they got through why they would eat breakfast with them. The old bucks would eat breakfast with them. Mama would bring a big old milk pan full of food, you

know, out to them.

And those days, people had plenty, you know, to eat. When we lived here they always had a cow, and that made their milk and their butter. Had chickens, and that was eggs, and meat, they had their own meat. They could kill a deer anytime then, you know, it was all right. And their own beef. Always a pig or two to kill in the fall. You know, people ate well. Never had anything fancy, but just food.

MARCUS: You bet.

CASTOLIA: The PLS Company went up through here. They had ranches clear from California up into Washington, where they could stay all night every night, you know. The boss, he would come through, oh about two, three times a year. He had a buggy, and he'd come up through here and go to California, and every night he could stay in a PLS Company home, or ranch, or whatever it was.

MARCUS: Do you remember him, Henry Miller?

CASTOLIA: Kind of. Not very good though.

MARCUS: Uh huh. I had a story about him on the radio here last week, and I'm doing some researching, and I'm trying to find the Bullhead Draft that he used to pay the bills. And the same --- it was just the same as silver and gold in those days. And I'll have some inventories here and I'll show you, invoices here I'll show you here pretty quick that I got out yesterday to bring them over to you. It's unbelievable. The way they are now, with the forgeries and everything, they'd break, or broke old Henry. Because they made those Bullhead Drafts and everybody was supposed to take them, you know, and cash them, wherever they came from.

CASTOLIA: I guess they broke the PLS Company, anyway ... it was broke, wasn't it?

MARCUS: Yeah, they were. He died in 1916, and then --- but I guess he was a pretty good neighbor, wasn't he? Wasn't the PLS people instructed to be, according to what I've been reading, that they were. And if you needed a little help, if you needed something, why they were willing to help.

SAM: Yup.

CASTOLIA: Some of them --- got a little help, got a few cattle, I think, too.

MARCUS: Yeah, they expected that. They figured Sam, a 7 percent loss in the cattle herd a year.

SAM: They did?

MARCUS: With the winterkill, and butchering, and thievery, 7 percent. Yeah, they had 35,000 head of cattle here in 1980 --- 1894, I believe. So, 7 percent of that is quite a little bunch of cattle.

BONNIE: That was Pacific Livestock.

MARCUS: Pacific Livestock Company.

BONNIE: Company. What was the "S" for?

MARCUS: The what?

BONNIE: Well, wasn't it PLS?

CASTOLIA: Store.

MARCUS: Pacific Live Stock Company. PLS, Livestock.

BONNIE: Oh, okay. All right, okay.

MARCUS: It was two words.

BONNIE: Oh, okay. I couldn't figure out where the S ---

SAM: There was an old fellow there at Harper, and he'd trade there, and he lived up this side of Harper a ways on a little place. And old Miller come along there one time, he was telling me about it, and got there and he just stopped to eat and stay, you know. He just stopped where, wherever he got to, he stopped. And didn't want to go on down to the Harper Ranch, and he stayed there with him, and he didn't have any meat. And he asked him, he said, "Earl, what's the matter, no beef?" And the man said, "No," he said, "I don't have any meat." He said, "Don't never let me stop here again and find you without beef when I got all of those cattle running around." So, he went on down to the lower Harper and he had them send him up a quarter of beef. And after that he said he had beef all of the time.

MARCUS: Well, how about that.

SAME: His name was Corbett.

MARCUS: I'm going to change my tape right here; I don't want to miss any of this.

SIDE B

MARCUS: Now, we're in business again.

BONNIE: When was the --- now there was a smallpox epidemic here at one time, wasn't there?

CASTOLIA: Uh huh.

BONNIE: And I understand during the time the Indians were here?

CASTOLIA: The what?

BONNIE: When the Indians were still here, is that right?

CASTOLIA: Yes. Everybody in the country had it, about. But some people just didn't take it, but we all had it. My sister and I we were just smallpox all over. And my other sister, she didn't hardly, oh, just one or two little places on her. And Mama didn't have it at all. She had been vaccinated of course, many years before. Well, we had too, I was vaccinated twice. My sister and I both, and then we had the smallpox too.

BONNIE: Huh.

MARCUS: Well, they had a vaccination for it at that time?

CASTOLIA: Oh, yes.

MARCUS: Did they?

CASTOLIA: Yeah, it saved a lot of people's lives.

MARCUS: It wasn't too effective though, I guess.

BONNIE: Maybe you would have had it more severely had you not been vaccinated.

CASTOLIA: Yes. Yes. We had it severely, my sister and I, but---I don't know for some reason or other, the vaccination didn't take on us. I don't know why it didn't. We were both vaccinated twice.

SAM: Who was the doctor here at that time, Cas?

CASTOLIA: Doctor Stanley.

SAM: Stanley?

CASTOLIA: Uh huh. He was part Indian, I think. He had it too. His buckaroos, they got him out and stripped him off, and took his picture, and he was just --- You couldn't tell that there was a man there for the ---

BONNIE: Oh my gosh.

MARCUS: Gee whiz. They had to mark it down as a case of chicken pox.

SAM: He really got ---

MARCUS: Oh boy, he really got loaded up. Well, it killed lots of Indians, didn't it, Cas?

CASTOLIA: Killed three of my --- I had a cousin that lived at our house. My Mama raised him.

His mother died when he was a little boy, and he died. But he had some kind of bad blood. I don't know what they called it now.

SAM: Well, how about the Indians?

CASTOLIA: --- and he never would be vaccinated. But he died. And an old --- then there was a fella, a sheepherder up here in the country someplace, he died with it. And Old Buckaroo Jim, an Indian, died with it. He was, oh, Buckaroo Jim was the only --- I think he was the only Indian that died with it. They all had it, but they ---

SAM: I thought somebody told me that they --- when the Indians had it, that they had that cure, they get in the hot tent, you know, and then they run and jump in the river.

CASTOLIA: Well, that's what he did and that's what killed him.

SAM: Oh, well that's the only one it happened to is it?

CASTOLIA: Uh huh.

SAM: Oh, I thought they all done that.

CASTOLIA: No, just him, just Jim. He was kind of an old soldier, you know, and he was kind of -- he was a great big Indian. He was always kind of over the rest of them. But he had it real bad, and he went and got in the sweat shop, and, or the sweat house, and then he got out of there and run and jumped in the river, and of course took a cold and died. But they had it, a lot of them, but they didn't die with it. But the doctor, he would just go in and vaccinate them whether they wanted to be vaccinated or not, you know.

MARCUS: That was a quite a deal, wasn't it, vaccinations? You had it of course, but some people, they got an arm on you here. They had a scab on here that big, and it stayed with you too. People have got scars, some people got scars, you know, half the way, the length of their ---

BONNIE: And they don't even vaccinate, they don't give the vaccination anymore.

MARCUS: They don't?

BONNIE: No, they discontinued it. I'm trying to think if my kids were vaccinated. It has only been in the last, within the last probably fifteen years, that they discontinued it.

MARCUS: Oh, uh huh.

BONNIE: Because they said that there were more deaths as a result of the vaccination than there have been because of the disease.

MARCUS: Oh, is that right?

BONNIE: They feel like they have wiped out the disease in the United States.

MARCUS: Well, I hadn't heard that.

CASTOLIA: That didn't seem like it was here, because they --- the hotels, there were two hotels, and they would have five or six at a time in there. In each hotel, and every house in town, I think, had it in it.

BONNIE: Huh. That must have been frightening.

CASTOLIA: And was just those three that died with it. So that wasn't really the smallpox fault.

BONNIE: What time of the year was it when ---

CASTOLIA: Spring. After the spots was all gone, why it would leave a blue place, you know. And it was March, we had it. And the Fourth of July, we went to the dance, my sister and I. Of course, we had those blue spots on our faces for a while. Went to the dance and some old girl was sitting there, and she looked around and saw our faces, and lord, she got up and just took off, you know. We had the smallpox then!! My sister was so mad about it. She ---

BONNIE: Do you remember when that was, around when?

CASTOLIA: Well, I was 14, I remember. I'm 93 now, so that --- you can tell the difference, 14 from 93.

SAM: Well, she was born in 1888.

CASTOLIA: I was born in '88.

SAM: It would be about 1902, wouldn't it?

MARCUS: Yeah. Well Cas, there was a Bartlett Hotel along on Main Street, wasn't there?

... (Looking at pictures)

CASTOLIA: This is a new picture of Janice Sitz's --- Janice Dunten's ---

MARCUS: Oh, that's the twins. Yeah, there's the Dunten twins that they had such a time saving this spring. They were born about the 1st of April.

BONNIE: Uh huh. ...

MARCUS: They had to do a colostomy on one of them there, and I think they have made the correction again now. And I guess they are getting along okay.

BONNIE: Oh, that's great.

SAM: They're taking that one down to Portland, down yesterday, I guess, to make the correction on it.

MARCUS: Oh, they haven't done it yet?

SAM: No. That's the Bartlett Hotel; you can't hardly see it in that picture.

... (More talk about pictures)

MARCUS: That's the store there, isn't it?

SAM: That's the last one before this one.

MARCUS: That was the one that burned in the '50's was it, Sam?

SAM: No, no, this is the one that burned here last time.

MARCUS: Oh, is that the last one?

SAM: Uh huh, yeah.

... (Looking at more pictures)

SAM: There's the Bartlett Hotel, I recognize the picture.

MARCUS: Have you got it located here, Bonnie? So, she can kind of know what she's --- she would kind of like to get the buildings identified a little, so she'd know what she was working on there, Sam.

SAM: Let's see. That was a shed there. That was the old station right next to it, right there. Right there is the Bartlett Hotel, see. See the one with the peaked roof up here?

BONNIE: Uh huh. Yes.

SAM: That's the Bartlett Hotel. Right the other side of it was the, a livery barn.

BONNIE: Oh.

MARCUS: 1857, the oldest ---

CASTOLIA: And the old ... on one of them. Oh, what's it called?

MARCUS: The old Model-T Ford looks like.

CASTOLIA: An old Model-T Ford, and the old dance hall, it was, and then two old women.

SAM: That picture, Jim --- Jim Palmer took that.

MARCUS: Who is the other, who was the other woman?

SAM: Stella Smith.

MARCUS: Oh, uh huh.

SAM: Stella Smith, she was one of the Bartlett's.

... (More talk about looking at pictures.)

MARCUS: What are you doing, drawing pictures, Bonnie?

BONNIE: I wouldn't want anyone to see these pictures! Just trying to ---

SAM: Now about where that, I guess about where Alan's (Williams) house is now is where they had the barn to that hotel. A shed barn right there.

MARCUS: It would be right on south of the hotel then, wouldn't it?

SAM: Yeah.

MARCUS: Just right on beyond, Bonnie.

BONNIE: Uh huh. Let's see now, the livery station is right --- is that what you're talking about?

SAM: That was a, well it was more or less just for the hotel.

BONNIE: Yes.

SAM: The barn ... The livery stable used to be down this other way. Now wait a minute. We're looking the wrong way on this. I've got to find another picture. Right down on the corner here there used to be a livery stable, right here.

BONNIE: Oh, that was just for general use, you mean?

SAM: Yeah, uh huh.

BONNIE: Oh. But this one right here is for the hotel?

SAM: Hotel, yeah.

BONNIE: Yeah. What did you say the building was on this side of the Bartlett Hotel?

SAM: Ah, that was a little of everything. At one time, I guess, it was the post office. And Clark, this Harry Clark, I showed you that picture, his mother lived there, and I think they had a store or something in there, didn't they Cas?

CASTOLIA: Where was it?

SAM: In that, Harry Clark's mother's house there.

CASTOLIA: My dad's store, that was there first.

SAM: Oh, was it?

CASTOLIA: He was the one that built it.

SAM: Oh. Well, that's about what was there then. That picture must have been taken about 1902.

CASTOLIA: And then he sold that to Mrs. Clark, I think it was.

SAM: Yeah.

CASTOLIA: And he bought the place down there on the corner, and had the store there on the corner there for years, till he sold it.

SAM: Yeah, he sold it.

BONNIE: And that was across the street, on the other side of the street?

SAM: Which one?

BONNIE: Is this the one that he bought next?

SAM: No. Yeah. Yeah, right down here on this side of the Smith's, right here.

MARCUS: Just right. Almost off of the picture there, you can see the "Johnson" on it. Ace Johnson is the name, Bonnie.

SAM: Yeah, that's the one.

... (Looking for more pictures.)

SAM: Here's a picture of Arley and Delia Acton, and I don't know who the little boy is there.

MARCUS: It sure is, isn't it? It doesn't say who the little boy is either.

SAM: No, do you remember Cas? This is Mike and Del there, and that little boy standing there.

CASTOLIA: Oh, I think it's one of their hired men's kids.

MARCUS: Probably is.

CASTOLIA: Yeah.

SAM: There's a picture of the schoolhouse up there again, another bunch.

BONNIE: How long ago was this schoolhouse, whatever happened to it, was it torn down, or whatever?

SAM: When did they tear it down?

BONNIE: Uh huh.

SAM: By god, now what do you know about that, Cas? Do you ---

CASTOLIA: I can't remember either when they tore it down.

SAM: Huh. George Carey tore it down.

CASTOLIA: Yeah.

BONNIE: Gee, that was a large building, wasn't it?

SAM: Oh yeah, they was four rooms, wasn't it?

CASTOLIA: They was three rooms downstairs and one up.

SAM: Just one up?

CASTOLIA: Yeah, and it was a great big one, you know, covered the whole upstairs. And then it had a great big room in front there. Entrance room and stairs --- stair steps in that front part to go upstairs.

BONNIE: That's a really nice building.

CASTOLIA: It was a real nice building.

MARCUS: Eighteen kids. It looks more like the front end of a general store, doesn't it, in town, than a schoolhouse?

BONNIE: Uh huh, yeah.

MARCUS: It really does.

BONNIE: It was really a first-class school. Looks like a big bell tower. Did the bell ring every morning when it was time to go to school?

CASTOLIA: Yes, yes.

MARCUS: By gosh, you know, they don't ring the bells anymore for school, do they?

BONNIE: Well, they have those awful buzzers. If you live near a school you hear them. Don't you hear the Filmore School's buzzer?

MARCUS: Yeah, I hear that. But I mean out in the country.

BONNIE: But not the nice friendly ---

MARCUS: In the country, now down in the Sodhouse School, and especially on --- in the wintertime, they had a big bell there and you could hear that for miles. And they always rang it at 8:30. Rang it, oh thirty seconds, or maybe longer, to let them know they had a half an hour to get to school in because you could, the whole community could hear the bell. And then at 9 o'clock, you just, turn it over, just ding, ding, and you come in to go --- And the same way, that's the way they called the kids in too, off of the playground, you see, and at noon, and then at the two recesses. You never hear them anymore. We got them to put the bell on the schoolhouse there too, but they just don't use it. Don't hear it anyway, or didn't when we left out there.

SAM: What's that, the school bell?

MARCUS: Yeah.

SAM: Never hear one ring anymore up here.

MARCUS: No, that's what we're talking about here, Sam. You just never hear them anymore.

... (Looking for more pictures.)

MARCUS: You'd ought to tell Bonnie about what the Fourth of July celebrations used to amount to back here when you were a young woman.

CASTOLIA: Well, we always had three days of --- Well, we celebrated for three days.

MARCUS: Yes.

CASTOLIA: I remember when my mother used to make we girls --- of course we had the store --- and she made us a dress apiece for each day. Of course, it cost about five cents a yard, I expect, for

the cloth. But we thought we looked all right.

BONNIE: Did she have a machine, or did she do this by hand?

CASTOLIA: Oh, she had a sewing machine.

MARCUS: Well, you had ball games, and you had horse races, and ---

CASTOLIA: We had horse races. And then we had a --- in the evening we'd have foot races, you know, out in the street with little kids, and all of them would run races. And then they'd have a dance at night. Had the big hotel then, and they could go over to it from that dance hall. This one that's over here. Across the street was the hotel. Well, she served a midnight supper, Mrs. Bartlett. And we, I remember, she always served soup first. That was kind of funny, but we always had a bowl of soup first, and then we had the rest of her meal after. And we'd dance till morning, and then we'd go home and cook breakfast. We generally had a bunch in for breakfast, you know, then we would go to bed after that.

MARCUS: You didn't go to bed for very long though, did you?

CASTOLIA: No, because we danced every night, they'd dance, you know.

MARCUS: Yeah, yeah. All night long too. You bet.

BONNIE: Oh, my goodness.

MARCUS: Oh, you bet.

BONNIE: Well, did they have big picnics and that sort of thing too?

CASTOLIA: No, they didn't have picnics much, I don't think.

SAM: Everybody was too busy celebrating.

BONNIE: This must have been the dancingest country that ever was! Because everybody --- that's what people talk about. Almost, you know, right away, when they start talking about the old days.

MARCUS: Well, that's all we had to do.

BONNIE: Well, it sounds like a lot of fun!

MARCUS: It really was, it was, it was a lot of fun.

CASTOLIA: It was.

SAM: You bet it was.

CASTOLIA: Somebody a while back asked me, said, "Well, what do you do when you go to Burns?" Just had wagons, you know, or buggies or something. I said, "We didn't go to Burns, we stayed at home." I said, "Maybe some of them would go pay their taxes about once a year, and that's about it."

MARCUS: Yeah, yeah.

CASTOLIA: But we entertained ourselves, you know, we'd sleigh ride, and go out to parties. Lots of times they'd maybe get up a, get an old hay rack and go around and gather up a lot of us and we'd go to somebody's house. And sometimes they didn't like it very good, but they learned to.

(Laughter) We'd dance the rest of the night.

MARCUS: You moved in on them whether they liked it or not, huh?

CASTOLIA: Yeah.

MARCUS: How about that.

CASTOLIA: We had lots of fun though. Lots more fun than they have today.

SAM: You made your own fun.

CASTOLIA: Oh, we did, yeah.

BONNIE: Yeah. It really makes me envious when I hear people talk about it up here. It just sounds like a lot of fun.

MARCUS: But Bonnie, there was no baby sitters either in those days. You took the kids right with you.

CASTOLIA: No. And at midnight, and we wasn't supposed to nurse a baby around where people could see us, so we'd go to the hotel and go in --- she had a big kitchen, and we'd go over there and nurse our babies, and take them back. Put them in their little buggies and take them back to the dance, and dance the rest of the night.

MARCUS: And like your boy, or smaller, along, they'd get tired and you laid them, there was just benches along to set on and the first thing you'd know, the benches would be full of kids. All sound --- I've put in many a night on a bench.

CASTOLIA: You bet. My uncle, he was a dancing teacher, and he'd get us all out there on the

floor, and he'd start with the Grand March, he called it. Some woman and man would be first and they would march around the hall two or three times. That was the Grand March. And if anyone did anything wrong, we'd stop right now, till we finished it. We learned how to do it and then we went on.

MARCUS: It had to be perfect to start with.

CASTOLIA: It sounds kind of silly now, but that's the way we did it.

SAM: You know them old dances, though, the way they executed them they was really something to watch at that.

BONNIE: Now this was just square dancing, is that right?

CASTOLIA: No, everything!

BONNIE: No, everything? But a little bit of everything, I suppose. Did they square dance and ---

CASTOLIA: Yeah.

BONNIE: --- waltzes?

CASTOLIA: And then the little kids wanted to dance too, you know, and so my uncle, he'd make them --- he took his place off in one corner of the dance hall and he'd let them go in there and they could dance all they wanted to, but they couldn't come out among the other people. He didn't, somebody'd have to call them for them, you know. They didn't know what they was doing half of the time, but they was dancing anyway.

BONNIE: Did you have, what do you call that, box socials, where everybody brings a box lunch and you bid on them?

CASTOLIA: Yeah.

BONNIE: There's a name for that.

CASTOLIA: Yes, yes.

MARCUS: Yes, you bet.

SAM: Yes, that was box socials.

BONNIE: Box socials.

CASTOLIA: We had those too.

SAM: I haven't seen one of them for a long time.

CASTOLIA: I haven't seen --- we tried everything.

MARCUS: You were born too late, Bonnie, for the fun.

BONNIE: Well, you know, I lived for a while in Prairie City, and by golly they did revive a lot of these things over there when I was in school. And we used to go out to; I can remember a party we had out at Ricco's. And out in the, I believe there was a schoolhouse on --- I can't remember which Ricco. I don't know if you're familiar with them.

MARCUS: No, I'm not.

BONNIE: But anyhow, there was an old schoolhouse on their property and we went out there once for an old-time dance and everybody dressed old fashioned, and we had a box social, and square danced. It was one of the most fun I've ever had.

MARCUS: Sure, you bet!

BONNIE: It was really enjoyable.

MARCUS: They don't know how to dance now, you know.

CASTOLIA: No, they just get out there and jump and buck and that's all there is to it. Finally find your partner maybe, way down at the other end of the hall. No, I think it's awful. They made us dance gracefully in those days. There was no jumping and bucking.

SAM: They all stepped the same. I mean it was just like a rehearsed show almost, at those dances. They all stepped the same, and you didn't see all those different kinds of kicks and dances.

MARCUS: And they had floor managers, and by golly, there was no monkey business around in the hall. If they wanted to fight, they went outside, they didn't ---

CASTOLIA: You bet.

MARCUS: --- and they got a little too tipsy, they stayed at the saloon, and they didn't have them in the dance halls.

CASTOLIA: It wasn't a good dance if they didn't have a fight or two.

MARCUS: No, no they had the ---

CASTOLIA: Outside.

BONNIE: I never thought about that, but there was the separation. There was the saloon and then the dance hall was in another place, wasn't it? Yeah, that would make a difference.

CASTOLIA: Yes, three saloons.

MARCUS: Yeah, if you wanted to dance, you went over to the dance hall and did your dancing. And if you wanted to do your drinking, you went to the saloons.

SAM: You went to the saloons.

CASTOLIA: The women didn't think about going into the saloons in those days. Heavens no! You weren't hardly able, or allowed to look through the saloon windows when you went by going to school. You just pranced right on, we didn't look in!

BONNIE: What were some of the specialties at the store that little kids --- did you have like the licorice whips and that sort of thing that kids would come in and buy?

CASTOLIA: Yeah.

BONNIE: That's always kind of fun to think about.

CASTOLIA: Well, you lived over at Prairie City?

BONNIE: I have lived there, yeah.

CASTOLIA: I've got a host of relations over there.

BONNIE: Well, I was wondering. I was asking Marcus how you would have been related to Billy Drinkwater.

CASTOLIA: Well, he was my husband's nephew.

BONNIE: Oh.

CASTOLIA: He's a brother to Jack Drinkwater over there at Burns.

BONNIE: Yes, uh huh. Yeah, Billy's daughter and I were very good friends.

CASTOLIA: Was you?

BONNIE: Uh huh.

CASTOLIA: She lives in Boise now, I think.

BONNIE: I've kind of lost track, but I think you're right.

CASTOLIA: I think Billy said that he moved her to Boise. But the Drewetts, did you know any of

them?

BONNIE: Yeah, uh huh.

CASTOLIA: There was Blanche, and let's see. Oh, there's so many of them I can't --- We went over to Sunday, last Sunday, we went over and visited a bunch of my relations. We just had about an hour to spend with each one of them. But I have ---

SAM: Myrtle Drewett. She's in the rest home there at Prairie City, isn't she? Did you know them?

What was her husband's name?

CASTOLIA: Jim Drewett.

SAM: Jim Drewett.

BONNIE: Oh, the names are all kind of ---

CASTOLIA: Myrtle Drewett, I don't know what her name was before she was married. She married my uncle. And then there's another one that lives down at Canyon, I think, in John Day. She is in the nursing home there. Bernice, what's her name? Bernice Allen. And then there was Lois. Lois was Jim's daughter. We just traveled up and down the line there and visited a lot of them, and we finally run out of time though. We thought we was going to get lost up here on the mountain, and we did. We always do. And we finally made it in, but we went, well finally come back right where we started from.

MARCUS: You must be like I am, Sam, I get lost just looking in the timber.

CASTOLIA: So, do I. I always did.

SAM: You know, a few years ago we went through there, and there was just about one road, and you stayed on that, and that's about it. Now they got highways running every damn direction.

MARCUS: I bet they have. I've never been through there, but I can't find my way out of the timber. Once I get there, I'm lost.

BONNIE: I am too.

CASTOLIA: Before we went up there --- and so we came to a place where it was seven miles to --- what was it, some lookout?

SAM: Ah, that lookout.

CASTOLIA: Yeah. Well, we thought we didn't want to go up to the lookout, so we went on around, and around, and pretty soon we came back and it said seven miles to the lookout. We was just running around in circles.

SAM: What lookout was that?

MARCUS: Antelope, would it be?

SAM: Antelope Lookout. Yeah, that was it.

MARCUS: I bet it would be, back up there Sam.

CASTOLIA: That's another thing we'd do when we were young. We'd go to Blue Mountain Springs, or someplace, you know, and camp for two, three weeks, and that was our outing.

BONNIE: And you really roughed it too, then. I get tickled at the way people go camping today.

CASTOLIA: Oh, yes.

MARCUS: By today's standards, your kind of roughing it at home when you get back.

CASTOLIA: Stella Smith and I, we used to --- We'd go to Blue Mountain Springs, and she would take everything in the house with her nearly, and we'd stay over there two or three weeks with the kids. We'd have the kids with us. And then we would come home, and in the fall, in the hunting season, why the men they'd go. They'd go up in the mountains to camp and hunt for deer. We'd stay at home and take care of things. They had the saloon.

MARCUS: Was there any elk in this country at that time?

CASTOLIA: I don't think so.

MARCUS: You never hear them talk about it.

CASTOLIA: I don't think there was.

MARCUS: When was this house built, Cas?

CASTOLIA: Before I was born. This --- that was from that stove thing there over here, that was a little bedroom. Just barely get your bed into it there, and that door wasn't there then. It was around the other part. And anyway, that was a little bedroom and this was the living room, and this kitchen. And that's all there was to it.

MARCUS: Oh, uh huh.

CASTOLIA: And John Daly's sister --- and her husband built it when they got married. Mama told me that. And then its been built on to ever since, you know, that bedroom, a front room, and my bedroom back here. Everybody that has lived here has built something on.

MARCUS: There's a jail here in Drewsey too, Bonnie.

CASTOLIA: Yeah.

BONNIE: Oh.

MARCUS: You bet. Bars and windows and everything, just right over here. I had a picture of it.

BONNIE: I think I remember that.

MARCUS: Yeah, steel door and the whole works.

SAM: You know the damn county ought to put a roof on that thing.

MARCUS: Yeah, sure they should. You bet, that should be maintained.

SAM: You bet it should.

MARCUS: You bet.

SAM: I'm gonna get a hold of that Judge one day. I don't see why they don't do that. It ought to be, it belongs to them. They ought to maintain it.

MARCUS: Uh huh. It wouldn't cost a lot. They probably got junk enough laying around there in the yard there at Burns to take care of it.

SAM: To take care of it. All they need to do is roof it.

MARCUS: Sure, you bet.

CASTOLIA: Yeah, they used to get drunk and put them in there and they'd sing all night.

(Laughter) What song was it, some religious song? One time they was two of them they put in jail and they sang that one song all night long.

BONNIE: Rock of Ages?

CASTOLIA: Just about that. I wouldn't be surprised.

MARCUS: They were rocked in anyway, Bonnie. Here, hold this, I want to show Sam --- just kind of keep pointing towards Cas here, and we'll show Sam those invoices that I ---

BONNIE: Oh, yeah.

... (More talk about pictures.)

BONNIE: What kind of eateries --- were there restaurants or places where people could ---

CASTOLIA: At the hotels.

BONNIE: At the hotels. Uh huh.

CASTOLIA: Two hotels and a restaurant. The restaurant didn't do much serving. But there was two big hotels. And it makes me so mad that, to think I can't find the pictures of that hotel.

BONNIE: When they had a drugstore here, did they have a soda fountain in there? Or was it just strictly a pharmacy?

CASTOLIA: I think it was strictly ---

... (More talk about the pictures.)

BONNIE: How long did you live in Prairie City?

CASTOLIA: Nearly four years.

BONNIE: Oh. Just when you were really little then, huh?

CASTOLIA: Yeah.

BONNIE: Oh, I see.

CASTOLIA: My folks --- grandparents, Johnson's was the only ones, like Percy Johnson. Did you know them?

BONNIE: Uh, let's see, the only Johnson's that I knew, oh, I'm trying to think. Garth Johnson's parents, but I can't remember their name off hand.

CASTOLIA: There was Percy and Mary. Well, Mary was just married then.

BONNIE: Did you live over there near where Billy has his ranch?

CASTOLIA: Billy?

BONNIE: Uh huh.

CASTOLIA: No, he lives up the river, and we lived up the --- oh, what's that little place up from Prairie City there?

BONNIE: Dixie?

CASTOLIA: Dixie Creek, yeah.

BONNIE: Dixie Creek.

CASTOLIA: Yeah, we lived up Dixie Creek, yeah. My father's people lived over by the hill, Strawberry Mountain, at the foot of Strawberry Mountain.

BONNIE: Oh, uh huh.

CASTOLIA: My mother was from Missouri, or Indiana, but the rest of them, I think, were all born around this part of the country.

... (Note: During the above conversation between Castolia and Bonnie, Marcus and Sam were carrying on a conversation about some invoices.)

MARCUS: Here's one of Charlie Haines at the Narrows in 1901.

SAM: Well, I'll be darned.

MARCUS: Here's one for Fred Haines here. Says, "Enclosed find checks for the amount of \$128.00 for which please send Bullhead and a ---"

SAM: Yeah. Fred Haines.

MARCUS: And this one is down at Andrews there. I got this out for Marjorie Shull. That was her father.

SAM: Oh, uh huh. This must have been ---

MARCUS: Yeah, he was. Sam, they're crying about interest rates now ... Here's 1883 on this one, you keep that one too.

SAM: Oh yeah, 1883. ... Four pounds of raisins, \$2.00. \$2.00, and I don't know what one of them costs now, probably \$4.00 or \$5.00, but it wasn't too long ago you could buy a four-pound sack of raisins for less than a \$1.00.

MARCUS: I betcha could.

SAM: Royal Baking Powder, a whole can of Royal Baking Powder, \$4.00.

MARCUS: I brought this along to show you, Bonnie. I'll show it to you now. This was taken about the same time of the picture that you're painting. That's my uncle and I together there, and then my mother and ---

BONNIE: Oh. And the women had on those same hats that ---

CASTOLIA: Oh yes, they always wore them big hats.

MARCUS: This was taken about the same time.

SAM: I always like the way those fellows used to write. The way they wrote it was almost like a picture, you know.

MARCUS: Uh huh.

SAM: Nowadays you can't read it, especially mine.

MARCUS: Yeah, here's the ones, the Smyth brothers here, and received 1901. Just the letter with the heading on the store, there's others there too. But there's a box, well a corn box is what it is, and it was just --- you couldn't live long enough to look at everything. Just little pieces of paper like this one, and like this one here.

SAM: I'll be darned.

MARCUS: You see old Lux died in '87. And then they were partners, Miller and Lux, with the Will that if Lux died first why Miller would have seven years to operate it before his heirs could come in, and the same thing was true with him. And this is the thing here that ...

BONNIE: Was it mostly cattle ranching here a long time ago?

CASTOLIA: Cattle ranches?

BONNIE: Was it cattle, or was it sheep too?

CASTOLIA: Well, both, uh huh. It's not sheep anymore, but it used to be sheep and cattle.

BONNIE: And is that what brought people here, because of the grazing area and ---

CASTOLIA: Yeah, I imagine it was. It was just new country to them. People just came here and settled.

BONNIE: Uh huh. Because it seems like it would have been a hard place to get to a long time ago.

CASTOLIA: Oh, it was, really hard. It took us about two days to go to Burns, you know. We'd go to --- Buchanan --- you got on the stage and it wasn't where it is now, well it was there too, and then there was another one back there quite a ways that you can't see it from the road now, and it had the Stage Station there. And then the ---

BONNIE: Oh, I think I know where that is. I think I did a painting of that, as a matter of fact.

CASTOLIA: Well, it's quite a ways around. The way it went then, you know, 'round that way. We'd go there and stay all night, and then go on the next day to Burns. We always liked to stop at Buchanan, because Mrs. Buchanan was such a good cook and she always had a big table full of good things to eat. And we'd --- she had an old phonograph and we played her phonograph.

BONNIE: Oh.

CASTOLIA: We never danced because there was never anybody to dance with, but we had all kinds of fun.

TAPE 2 - SIDE C

SAM: This is the picture of that Martha ...

BONNIE: Oh, uh huh.

SAM: The one that writes the books.

BONNIE: She is a very pretty lady, isn't she?

CASTOLIA: She's the one that wrote that novel, huh?

SAM: Uh huh. Here's a picture of the sagebrush ---

MARCUS: Yeah, I have that, Sam.

SAM: You have that picture?

MARCUS: Yeah.

SAM: There's one around somewhere where a fellow's setting up on a limb there on that sagebrush.

MARCUS: Did I send you this picture?

CASTOLIA: No, Lige Ward give it to me.

SAM: Lige give it to you?

CASTOLIA: Uh huh.

MARCUS: I sent you one, or did I?

SAM: I don't know.

MARCUS: I got some pictures made. Oh, I borrowed the picture from you, that was it.

SAM: Yeah, you did.

MARCUS: That was it. You had three of them, I think.

SAM: Here's a calendar we had of that picture you had there that shows the town. We had that on a calendar one time.

CASTOLIA: Yeah, uh huh.

SAM: You remember that one?

CASTOLIA: Yeah.

MARCUS: You sure have.

SAM: I'm sure that's the one.

BONNIE: What year was --- the calendar is still on the back. Oh, 1962.

SAM: What did I do with that frame?

CASTOLIA: I don't know.

MARCUS: '57.

BONNIE: This is a different view. This is a different picture.

MARCUS: Is it?

BONNIE: Yes.

MARCUS: Here's a picture, Bonnie, here's the store that we was talking about, here's A.I.

Johnson's General Store. Well here's the present store here. And here's the Bartlett Hotel right here. Here's the old Masonic --- or the Odd Fellows Hall.

BONNIE: Yeah, Odd Fellows Hall.

MARCUS: Now see, this is where we come in just now and cross right through here. So, it must have been right on that corner.

BONNIE: Yeah, must have been.

CASTOLIA: Here's two more calendar pictures, I don't know whether ---

BONNIE: Oh, oh.

SAM: There right in front of ---

BONNIE: This is the Bartlett Hotel.

SAM: Yeah. ...

MARCUS: Oh, it shows it there.

BONNIE: Yeah.

SAM: Yeah. When I got 'em why I wrote and bawled them out about it. I said I didn't go to the expense of having a nice bunch of pictures made up and put a two-bit calendar in there. (Laughter)

BONNIE: Yeah, I don't blame you.

SAM: They informed me that their calendars, or that thermometer cost more than 25 cents!

(Laughter) What did I do with that frame?

... (Conversation with someone who just came in.)

SAM: What did I do with that frame? I had a frame ---

MARCUS: What kind of a frame?

SAM: Well, it was an old picture frame, about the size of this.

MARCUS: Well, it was laying right here when we left.

SAM: No, I just dug it out just a little while ---

MARCUS: Oh, another one then?

SAM: I had it five minutes ago. I had it five minutes ago and I was hunting some tape. Yeah, here it is. It come apart and I was going to tape it together with this strapping tape.

... (Looking at more pictures.)

MARCUS: Now this Bartlett Hotel, Sam, that was the Bartlett family, Mrs. Miler and ---

SAM: Yeah.

MARCUS: --- and they were raised here, the doctors. That was her parents that run the hotel?

CASTOLIA: Yes, uh huh. And her father. He didn't do much, she ran it.

MARCUS: She did it, huh?

CASTOLIA: She did it.

MARCUS: Kind of like the Indians, huh?

CASTOLIA: Yeah, just about.

MARCUS: Bonnie wanted to know about the name Porter-Sitz, and I couldn't help her a bit on it.

CASTOLIA: If I can, I'll try. I can't remember myself, just can't remember anything anymore.

Let's see, it was --- Miller and Lux, I think was the first ones.

SAM: No. No, no.

CASTOLIA: No? What was it?

SAM: It was a, let's see --- Miller --- I'll get this straight myself. Not Lux because that's the PLS Company.

CASTOLIA: Yeah.

SAM: But a, it was Daly. Daly started that store, Cas.

CASTOLIA: No, Sam, it was another one.

SAM: Nope. By god, John Daly started that store, or not Daly, but --- oh, Robbins.

CASTOLIA: Robbins and Purington, that's right.

SAM: Robbins and Purington.

MARCUS: Yeah, we got the invoice here.

SAM: Yeah. We got that invoice.

MARCUS: Did you get to see those, Sam? Or ah, Cas?

SAM: We put them away and never showed them to her yet. Anyway ---

CASTOLIA: Then there was Robbins, they sold out to Daly and Robbins, wasn't it?

SAM: No, Purington. Purington must have sold out to Miller.

CASTOLIA: Well, maybe that was it.

BONNIE: There's a Daly and Robbins on this store in this picture.

SAM: Yeah. Well Daly, he got in there after that.

CASTOLIA: He was in with Robbins for a while.

SAM: Well, Robbins had the store clear up till, till ah --- I think till Sitz and ---

CASTOLIA: Then let's see, who got it next? Daly and Robbins. When Robbins got it, I don't know, was Daly --- let's see ---

SAM: Robbins had the store originally and he kept it through two or three different partnerships. And Miller come in there sometime, and I think he must have got Purington as a partner.

CASTOLIA: Let's see, there was --- Daly, Robbins and Company. I think Miller was the

Company. And Clarence bought him out, and Miller. And then Robbins died. And Clarence and Miller had it.

SAM: Nope.

CASTOLIA: No?

SAM: You're getting off there, Cas, because it was, it was Porter and Miller and Sitz for a while.

CASTOLIA: Yeah.

SAM: Porter, Miller and Sitz.

CASTOLIA: Yeah.

SAM: And that's where it got its Porter-Sitz name.

CASTOLIA: Yeah.

SAM: And then Clarence bought Miller out.

CASTOLIA: Yeah. It was the Company, the other two.

SAM: And he was not in there, but Daly was in there somewhere before Sitz got in there.

CASTOLIA: Yeah, Daly and Robbins.

SAM: Daly and Robbins, that's right. Daly and Robbins, and he was, he was, he must of, Daly must have bought Purington out.

CASTOLIA: He must, I guess. Yeah, somewhere around there.

SAM: And then it got to be Porter and Miller and Sitz.

CASTOLIA: Yeah.

SAM: And then Clarence bought Miller out, and then him and Sitz bought the Robbins out.

CASTOLIA: Let's see now, Porter died.

SAM: Porter, yeah.

CASTOLIA: He died, and then Clarence and ---

SAM: And Sitz ---

CASTOLIA: --- Sitz bought it.

SAM: They bought his part of it, Porter out.

CASTOLIA: Yeah.

SAM: And then Clarence bought Sitz out.

CASTOLIA: And then Sitz died and he bought --- it seems like there was somebody else in there.

MARCUS: Was that some of Jimmy's ---

SAM: Well, that was Jimmy's dad.

MARCUS: Jimmy's dad.

SAM: Uh huh. It was Jimmy's dad.

CASTOLIA: Lou Sitz was his name.

MARCUS: Well it's been, it's been Porter-Sitz Store ever since then.

CASTOLIA: Everybody --- Mrs. Porter --- when Porter died, Mrs. Porter, we bought her out and she wanted to keep the same, ask us to keep the name the same.

SAM: Yeah, and Porter-Sitz Company, I think when, I think when Clarence bought in there, when he bought Miller out, I think that's when he incorporated the Porter-Sitz Company.

MARCUS: Oh, I see.

SAM: About 1910.

MARCUS: Oh, yeah. A long time ago, wasn't it?

SAM: I think that was when it got to be Porter-Sitz Company.

MARCUS: Uh huh. And it's been Porter-Sitz ever since then.

SAM: Yeah. Now ---

MARCUS: Now this fellow Porter, did he leave relatives around here, did he have any children, or

CASTOLIA: No. They lived over to Payette.

SAM: He was from Weiser.

CASTOLIA: Weiser.

MARCUS: Oh, oh.

SAM: He run sheep up through here at one time.

MARCUS: You mean he wasn't a native of the country then?

SAM: No.

MARCUS: I see.

SAM: No, but he run sheep up in this country. And he got into the store business later.

CASTOLIA: Then Sitz, he died and Clarence bought his part out. Then he died. I was working there ...

SAM: Then she had the corporation dissolved after that, and then when it burnt out the first time, and I went into partners, it was incorporated. No, we didn't, we run it as a partnership until we sold to that Timberman, we reincorporated it.

MARCUS: After that, uh huh.

SAM: Yeah, but its been the Porter-Sitz Company ever since 1910, that's been the trade name.

MARCUS: Well, you've been involved in the store since that time then, Cas?

CASTOLIA: Uh huh.

MARCUS: Well, then a little over 70 years.

CASTOLIA: My dad had a store before that.

MARCUS: Uh huh. I have an invoice of your dad's store here, I brought over for you too.

SAM: Yeah, he made a copy of it.

CASTOLIA: Oh, did you?

MARCUS: Yeah, 1901. Yeah. I found it in some of this Miller-Lux stuff that I was looking through yesterday.

CASTOLIA: Yeah.

MARCUS: We were looking at it here just before we left here. Sam has got it here.

SAM: Yeah. I got it in there. ... Daly and Robbins.

MARCUS: Yeah. It also showed Sam slipped there, where they were charging 12 percent interest back in the late 1890's. (Laughter)

SAM: Yeah.

BONNIE: On what? What were they ---

SAM: On accounts.

MARCUS: Just on an account.

BONNIE: Oh. Oh, I see.

MARCUS: Yeah, uh huh. Yeah, I've got it here, I'll show you.

BONNIE: Well, that would be worth charge accounts at the grocery store, if you could charge them 12 percent interest.

MARCUS: Yeah, you bet. Quite a lot of 10 percent running through this stuff of Miller's, I found 10 percent quite often. Yeah.

SAM: You know in those days, why these stores, they carried a hell of a book account, I mean they was charging and pay once a year was what they done.

MARCUS: The way Charlie Haines operated there at the Narrows, when you sold your cattle in the fall of the year, you came in and paid your grocery bill. And you got everything there. They was general stores, you know. And you didn't have to go any farther than that store to get everything you needed.

SAM: To get it all.

MARCUS: You bet. And they extended credit there and ---

SAM: Same way over here in our end on payday.

MARCUS: Yeah. It happened right here. Just a way of life in those days.

SAM: Yeah, it's just the way it was done.

MARCUS: Uh huh. I've got some more papers to go through. I'm trying to find that Bullhead Draft that Miller and Lux used. I don't know whether I'm going to or not.

CASTOLIA: Well ---

MARCUS: It was a --- it was just like cash, you know. You see here that Fred Haines and Charlie both wrote and --- well, in Charlie --- in Fred's case here, due \$128.00. Says, "Send it Bullhead Draft, and oblige. Fred Haines." Yes.

SAM: Yeah, it was just like that was about the only currency that they had.

MARCUS: Yes, it was, uh huh.

BONNIE: So where was this good? And where could you use it?

MARCUS: Anyplace.

SAM: Anyplace in this country that the PLS Company was operating.

MARCUS: Any place you ...

BONNIE: Oh, I see. That's who issued them in the first place, is the PLS?

MARCUS: Yeah. Well, Miller and Lux.

SAM: Miller and Lux, yeah.

MARCUS: Miller and Lux at San Francisco. And then they had these branch companies around here. There was an Overfelt; he was the fellow that bought The Agency out here from Miller. And Miller went in company --- in partners with him. It was called Overfelt and Company.

SAM: Oh.

MARCUS: Yeah. Well, a strange thing happened there. When they put the Agency up for sale after the Indian Reservation was abandoned, the bids were opened in Lakeview. And Overfelt went down there and he was the high bidder on the property, but it was a cash sale. Well, he didn't have the cash, nor could he get it. It wasn't available. So, by gosh, they went to court with him and the judge ruled that a Bullhead Draft was equal to cash, was considered cash any place and they got the place.

SAM: They got the place.

MARCUS: Yes. That's what they thought about these Bullhead Drafts, this picture of a bullhead on them.

BONNIE: I'll be darned.

MARCUS: Yeah. He died in 1916, and left an estate of \$50,000,000, so I guess he had plenty to back it up with all right.

CASTOLIA: Who was that fellow that used to own the --- that was --- oh, who was that fellow over there at Burns that in the early days he --- it hasn't been too long either since he died, I don't think. Didn't he have a fellow out there? Was it his son or some relation to him that was out there in the --- oh, toward Bend someplace, and he wrote his checks on a cigarette paper?

MARCUS: Oh, that was old Bill Brown.

SAM: That was old Bill Brown.

MARCUS: Yeah, Bill Brown. Yeah, yeah, that's right. He was out this side of Hampton there on what they called Buck Creek. That was his headquarters. He'd take a wrapper off of a can of corn, or something, and write you a check on it, or write it on a shingle.

CASTOLIA: Good too!

MARCUS: You bet, you bet. It was written on the local bank here.

SAM: He finally went broke, didn't he?

MARCUS: Uh huh.

SAM: I thought he did.

MARCUS: They all went broke by the time the '30's got through with them.

CASTOLIA: Yes.

BONNIE: Well, now is this the Browns that had the bank?

MARCUS: No. No, it was a different fellow, Bonnie. He came in here, there was three brothers of them came in here and started in the sheep business out in the Wagonire country, in that area. And finally, two of them quit, and this brother stayed on. And then he got involved in the horse business, Brown did, and he was pretty --- real successful in the business there. And finally, he had more horses than he knew what to do with, and sheep too for that matter. And finally ended up in the nursing home, and died in a nursing home down in Southern Oregon someplace. And the estate was turned over to the State of Oregon to --- they would take care of him for what they could get off these horses that was running wild on the range there. He had his brand on them, "Horseshoe T". But they hadn't been gathered or anything for a long time, so they were really wild. But they got them out along in the '30's sometime, and marketed them, and the State got the money. And then they kept him in this nursing home up to the time of his death. He never married or had a family.

SAM: They tell me he had that store out there at, towards Hampton. What was that?

MARCUS: At Buck Creek.

SAM: Buck Creek?

MARCUS: Yes.

SAM: Never had nobody run it. He just had the store there and stuff in there and people of the community ---

MARCUS: No. Come in and got your order and wrote it out on something. Quite a few of them forgot to write it down. It wasn't too successful.

SAM: I would imagine, even in those days.

MARCUS: Dick Cowan owns the property there now.

SAM: Yeah.

MARCUS: He was the one; packed raisins in his pockets, you know, and he had strychnine too. And he'd eat strychnine right along with these raisins.

CASTOLIA: Oh, for heavens sake.

MARCUS: Oh yeah.

BONNIE: Why?

MARCUS: He just built up a tolerance to it. And he'd come into the drugstore and --- you could buy strychnine right over the counter in those days, and he'd pry the lid off and take the blade of his knife and put a little on his tongue and test it out to see if it was strong enough. Scare them all to death. (Laughter)

BONNIE: Well, did he get some kind of a kick from it, or ---

MARCUS: No, no.

SAM: He was killing coyotes.

MARCUS: He used it to kill coyotes and ravens. And then he had his pockets --- then instead of taking a lunch with him, like some, he had raisins all of the time. Sometime he would get these raisins mixed up with the strychnine.

BONNIE: Oh, so he didn't do it intentionally?

MARCUS: No, no, he didn't.

BONNIE: Because he wanted to ---

MARCUS: And he finally had --- and he built up a tolerance for it. He was going to live on the stuff.

BONNIE: Oh, my gosh.

MARCUS: Scare a druggist to death. He'd come in there; he thought he was going to keel over right in the middle of his store. That's the way the story goes anyway, Bonnie. I don't know whether it's right or not.

BONNIE: Makes an interesting one.

MARCUS: It makes a good one, doesn't it?

SAM: Probably a little of truth in it too.

MARCUS: Is there any more questions you wanted to ask of Cas, about your picture before you ---

BONNIE: I can't really think of any. I keep wondering --- the old hall now, that is the Odd Fellow Hall? What --- has it always been an Odd Fellows Hall, or what was it?

CASTOLIA: Uh huh.

BONNIE: That was what it was originally built for then?

CASTOLIA: 1900, built in 1900. About to fall down, and we wish it would, because it's gone to ruin. You know, we've had fires all around it, and it just sets there.

SAM: It's the most fireproof building in the country!

MARCUS: What happened to the Bartlett Hotel? Did it burn, or was it torn down?

CASTOLIA: Yeah, it burned.

MARCUS: It did burn.

SAM: Yeah, it burned during the World War II.

MARCUS: Oh, did it?

SAM: Yeah, World War II.

BONNIE: Was this --- I wonder what this was on the other side of, now here is your store right here.

CASTOLIA: Well, that was an old schoolhouse that was back in there someplace, back in here.

BONNIE: Uh huh.

CASTOLIA: Not on here, but back in there. And they moved it down here and put it there for a saloon.

BONNIE: Oh, so that was a saloon at that time?

CASTOLIA: That was a saloon for a while, for a long time.

SAM: Well, the schoolhouse was in there somewhere at one time wasn't it?

CASTOLIA: Oh, yes, it was a schoolhouse to start with ---

BONNIE: Oh, I see.

CASTOLIA: --- when it was there. But ---

SAM: Well, where was it at before?

CASTOLIA: Up in here somewhere, I think it was setting out there most any place. I don't think they had things ---

SAM: I thought it was off down there in that corner somewhere.

CASTOLIA: Where?

SAM: I thought it was off down there in the corner by this place.

CASTOLIA: Oh no, huh uh. Clear back in here someplace.

SAM: Oh, I see.

CASTOLIA: And they used the top for a dance hall, and the bottom for a schoolhouse.

BONNIE: Huh.

CASTOLIA: They moved it down here, and of course made a saloon out of it. They kept on until they got all of it, one little square building down there now. It doesn't amount to a thing. But that was ---

SAM: Well, whatcha-call-'em --- Oard over here, now what was his name? Jimmy Oard, he tore a lot of it down and moved over there when he was building his service station over there on the highway.

MARCUS: Oh, did he?

SAM: Yeah. He had a service station there on that corner from---

MARCUS: Yeah, and old Grant Kesterson was here with him.

CASTOLIA: Yeah.

MARCUS: It was a ... in 1932, they had a shop right down ---

CASTOLIA: Right there on the corner.

MARCUS: Yeah, yeah.

SAM: And then they tore that down, a lot of it and moved it over there to make a service station over there, before it burned down and everything.

MARCUS: What kind of a --- what date would you put on this picture? I see 1905 here on the calendar. Is that about, would that be about right for it, do you think?

CASTOLIA: On what picture?

MARCUS: On this picture here.

SAM: On that mud ---

CASTOLIA: Yes, I imagine it would, let's see.

SAM: Well, the only thing that I was thinking about the date, see that picture, right here? Let me see that just a minute. I was looking at that bell tower, and it sets right in there, looks like just about half as high as it is now. Right in there between the hall and this place. And Lee Williams said that the firehouse that they used to have a little fire truck in was built in 1902. And I had an idea that that tower was put up there at the same time.

MARCUS: Probably was.

SAM: Strange about that tower, when we got to looking at it, it was put up in two sections. I thought those timbers all run straight through, you know. But it wasn't, they went up about halfway and then others were fastened on top of them.

MARCUS: Oh, well that's it then.

SAM: They are about to rot off. So, I just got a hunch it was just about 19--- this was probably taken along about 1902, or somewhere along in there. Well, it could have been after that too, because that tower was built about 1902, so it was already there. So '04 or '05 could have been all right too.

BONNIE: But it was just right at the turn of the century.

SAM: Yeah, right, the ---

BONNIE: That's probably the safest thing to say.

SAM: Yeah.

MARCUS: Shortly after that.

BONNIE: What was this beyond the Odd Fellow Hall, do you know?

SAM: A residence.

BONNIE: A residence? And this ---

SAM: That was a residence too, wasn't it, Cas? Remember that big old green house that used to stand up there?

CASTOLIA: Yeah, Nellie ... house, that ... got.

SAM: Yeah, yeah, that was a residence.

BONNIE: Then this little building here, did you say ---

SAM: No, the little building wasn't there, it was back over here.

BONNIE: Oh.

SAM: But the tower was right in there about where it's at now. Right between this place and the dance hall.

BONNIE: Yeah.

SAM: This place right here on the corner, right across from the store there, you see?

BONNIE: Uh huh.

SAM: It went out there a ways, and then there was a house back in there. You lived there at one time, didn't you?

CASTOLIA: Where?

SAM: Right back between the dance hall and ---

CASTOLIA: We lived there when we first came here, with my folks. The second time they came, why there was a house, it was an old granary, kind of. It had a room on the back, or two, and the same thing on the front. Well, Mrs. --- Grandma [Mabel] Moffet, she lived in the front part, and she had her three grandkids to raise. They lived in the front part, and my folks lived in the back part of that old granary.

SAM: Well, that evidently was the warehouse that they used to have over at the store then after

that, huh?

CASTOLIA: I guess.

SAM: And that would have been right there this side of the --- right in there about where that bell -
-- this side of the bell tower there.

CASTOLIA: And we lived there till Dad got us another house over in there, where ... lived then.
We lived there ...

BONNIE: This has just really been interesting. I've really enjoyed this.

MARCUS: We'll make a historian out of Bonnie here.

BONNIE: Oh, I hope so.

CASTOLIA: Somebody got another picture of that --- did you have one of that street over there? It
had the old hotel, and the old saloon there on this side. And it had the livery barn on that side too,
and on across the street where the store is, or right up above there, is a great big old building of
some kind. It finally fell down.

SAM: The old Hamilton Hotel used to stand back there, you know, on that street going that way.
Now the town, that was the main street of town. That's what they named Main Street. That street
going this direction. And there was a, oh, there was a saloon on the corner, and then a barber shop,
and then a livery stable, and then the old Hamilton Hotel up there in those trees.

MARCUS: Uh huh, I stayed there one time.

SAM: Did you?

MARCUS: We were over here to a dance Fourth of July in 1927, with Lloyd Hill --- 1928, with
Lloyd and Nellie Hill, and another fellow. And we stayed on to dance, and we got a room and slept
there awhile, and went on home the next morning. We didn't --- looked like it was getting too
rough around here for us, so we left. (Laughter) We'd heard about "Gouge Eye", and all, so we---

BONNIE: That's what we haven't asked about.

SAM: Oh, Gouge Eye?

BONNIE: Yes, I'd like to know your version of the name, Gouge Eye.

CASTOLIA: Well, now I'll tell you about it, it wasn't ever named that, the town wasn't. Some

people will have it --- it wasn't, it was never named Gouge Eye. But it was just that when we first built up the town, you know, it was --- there was a lot of wild people lived in here, you know. They just --- and they got to calling it Gouge Eye. And a lot of people think it was the name of the town, but it wasn't.

MARCUS: It was a good place to get an eye gouged out about then, wasn't it, Sam?

SAM: Yeah, yeah.

BONNIE: But there wasn't any specific incident that --- I mean, nobody actually did it?

CASTOLIA: No.

MARCUS: No, no. It might have happened, but nobody laid claim to it.

SAM: It was just a nickname.

MARCUS: A lot of them got closed so that they couldn't see out, but ---

CASTOLIA: Sure did.

SAM: Yeah, some would be pretty rough the next morning. Yeah. But that never was the name of the town.

CASTOLIA: No, it was never named Gouge Eye.

MARCUS: Well, you lost one of your fighting men, Jack Miller. He was quite a scrapper, wasn't he?

SAM: Yeah, at one time.

MARCUS: Shy Davis. They all had their reputations, you know. And pretty soon, well somebody'd have to come to Drewsey and see if they could whip so and so, and away they'd go. They always got accommodated.

SAM: Yeah, they was all that way. Westfall was that way too.

MARCUS: I guess it was. Did you know Westfall, the marshal that was killed there?

SAM: No, that was before my time.

MARCUS: That was Mrs. Dale White's grandfather.

SAM: Oh, it was?

MARCUS: Yes. It was here at Westfall and it's just an old ghost town now. He was eating supper

and someone; a guy ran over, said they're having trouble over in the saloon, and he went over there and didn't take a gun with him. He just walked over and walked in and a fellow shot him and killed him. Do you know Mrs. Dale White, Judge White's wife?

BONNIE: I know who she is.

MARCUS: Yeah. Well, it was her grandfather. We went down there on a Historical Society trip. It must have been three or maybe four years ago this spring. Time goes so fast; it must have been three years ago. We ate dinner over at the old big stone house.

SAM: Oh, you did?

MARCUS: Yeah. I think Sam Burt walked out the end of that, up there at a dance one night, if I remember hearing the story right. (Laughter)

SAM: I didn't want to get out of the end --- I walked and took hold of the door and the door fell down on me. (Laughter) Yeah.

CASTOLIA: He never told that.

MARCUS: You haven't told that?

SAM: Yeah, yeah, the door was just sitting up there, you know. I got sick, and I started out the door and I grabbed that thing, it went by me, and down we went, right on the floor. (Laughter)

BONNIE: You don't suppose somebody took the pins out of the hinges just to see what would happen?

SAM: I don't know what they done, but I know what happened to me.

MARCUS: You got a door on top of you.

SAM: Yeah.

MARCUS: Well, it's a good thing you didn't get outside. That just opened right outside, as I recall, didn't it?

SAM: No, there was steps down there.

MARCUS: Was there steps down there?

SAM: Yeah, there were steps down there.

MARCUS: I think they've been torn off since then.

SAM: Yeah, I think so. I think somebody told me. But no, there was steps down there then. I would probably have fell off of them if I'd have got out.

MARCUS: You might have ridden the banister down.

SAM: Yeah, right on the side of the building ...

MARCUS: I was telling this boy here, when we came through Drewsey, that there's a casket upstairs here with a dead Indian in it. Tell us about that.

SAM: That was just a --- I don't know what was in it, but that was one of the scenes of the Odd Fellows Lodge. You never took the --- you've never been an Odd Fellow? Well, they got one scene in there, in one degree that they have this casket, and that's what that is. Yeah, I don't know where they got that ---

MARCUS: The kids all tell about this. The kids around here are always telling about this dead Indian up there in that casket.

SAM: It could have been an Indian. They called --- a Doc Bartlett, I think, both of them, they went out here somewhere and got an Indian, and cut him up one time, you know, when they was younger fellows getting ready to ---

MARCUS: Going to be doctors, yeah.

SAM: Yeah. I don't know where they got the Indian. You know the Indians used to bury their dead back up on the hill over there. And they tell me that nobody knows where they went to.

MARCUS: Well, you know, I asked Mrs. Louie about that, and she said that they dropped them in the crevices in those rim rocks.

SAM: Is that what they done?

MARCUS: Uh huh.

SAM: I know I had fellows tell me that they'd follow them, you know, to see what they done with them, and they never could figure out.

MARCUS: Never could figure ...

SAM: Never could figure it out.

CASTOLIA: They'd just strap 'em --- they had a lot of Indian ponies and they'd just strap them over

that Indian pony and take off up over them hills, and nobody knew where they went.

MARCUS: There was a lot of mourning, and lots of noise when an Indian died too, wasn't there?

CASTOLIA: They'd just keep at it all night long. For two or three, or two nights anyway after they died, why they'd just have that old drum and things, and one, you know. And they was just a hollering and screaming, and you could hear ---

MARCUS: Ki-yi-ing to beat the band.

CASTOLIA: Yeah. They was camped over here across the river.

MARCUS: They kind of lived up and down the river here I guess, didn't they?

CASTOLIA: Yes, uh huh. That's where old Buckaroo Jim, the one that died with smallpox --- he lived across there, kind of up on the hill. He jumped in the creek --- he got in the sweathouse first, and then he jumped in the creek and then he didn't live very long.

MARCUS: That'd be enough to kill you without smallpox. Jumping in that river in March, that's about the time the ice is starting through right good, Sam, wasn't it?

SAM: You bet. Would be anytime, yeah.

MARCUS: You bet. That's set the hair on you, or take it off, one of the two.

SAM: You bet.

BONNIE: You know I'm surprised there aren't --- I wonder if there are Indians now that come back to some of the digs around here. Do you ever have Indians come out here?

CASTOLIA: Oh, just once in a while. They go through here and they'll stop at the store, and that's about all.

SAM: Well, I'll tell you what they come out for, out here on Stinkingwater, they come out here to get those, what do you call them, not little prairie dogs?

CASTOLIA: Ground hogs.

SAM: Ground hogs. They come out in the spring of the year hunting them and they camp out there, kind of off of Pine Creek road there a ways. Used to be quite a few of them come over here after --- and, you know, you don't see many of them anymore.

MARCUS: We brought Mrs. Louie over here twice, and she visited the school. And we had her in

the store, and we didn't come in this last time we were over. You folks had changed the store. I had her over here about two months ago, or such a matter ---

SAM: Yeah.

MARCUS: --- and she and Justine, we ate dinner with Nancy. And then we took them up the river, and then into Silvies Valley, and back on the way in. The poor old lady, she can't hardly see any more, and so she didn't know for sure where she was at. But she went in and talked to the kids over here at the school a little bit, but not very long. But we had her over here, oh, it must have been 3 or 4 years ago, you know, we had her in the store and she talked for half an hour. I got her on tape there too.

SAM: Oh yeah.

MARCUS: Marky was just a little fellow, you know, and he never sat still that long in his life before, he set there just like a little mouse, listening to all the questions and answers. Said, "Did you ever see any gun fights in Drewsey?" "Oh yes," she saw gun fights in Drewsey," and she told him about one or two. One little girl said, "How many feathers does an Indian lady wear in her hair?" "Well," she said, "if she was married she wears two, if she's single, she wears one." She was really amusing. We got a kick out of her. She likes to talk.

CASTOLIA: There was three of them over there one time, three women sitting on a bench, and I went over and talked to them and asked 'em where someone was. And they thought I didn't know, I guess, what was --- I asked them who this woman was, or where she was, and she says, "Well, she does remember!" I forgot which one it was now, but they was a lot of those --- Old Buckaroo Jim and his wife had twin girls, and I asked her where they was, and one of them had died. They thought it was kind of funny, I guess, that I remembered that.

MARCUS: Yeah, Mrs. Louie is the other one.

CASTOLIA: Oh, is it?

MARCUS: Yeah, she was one.

CASTOLIA: Then there was one, old Bertha, she used to work for Mrs. Bartlett over here in the hotel, washed dishes. One time she and Mrs. Bartlett and two or three of the girls was there waiting

tables, and they all got drunk. She had more fun, old Bertha, we called her.

BONNIE: That was going to be one of my next questions. Was there as much of a problem with alcohol as there is now with the Indians? There must not of --- weren't they more industrious than they are now?

CASTOLIA: No, I don't think so.

BONNIE: Not really?

CASTOLIA: The men was lazy. They let the women cut the wood and then they'd eat breakfast with them. Oh, they'd just entertain them, you know. They'd get up on top of the wood and, you know, they had big loads of wood all piled out, and they'd have to chop the whole thing. The squaws, they'd chop the wood and pile it up and get it all ready for Mama to drag it in, and she'd bring them a big pan of food, about that big around. One of those big old milk tins, the milk pans that we used to have years ago. And while they was chopping the wood, the old bucks would just sit up there and they'd just laugh and talk, and they'd try and entertain those old squaws while they cut the wood. Then they'd eat breakfast with them. Oh, Mama used to get so mad at them, she could kill them.

MARCUS: I don't think they've changed a great deal yet.

BONNIE: I know it.

MARCUS: I don't believe they have.

CASTOLIA: They'd wash. Mama would get them to wash for her lots of times, and the other women did the same. It wasn't just Mama.

MARCUS: Mrs. Louie tells about seeing her first Negro here in Drewsey. Do you remember him? She said she was just a little girl, and she was sent over to this house to get something, and a Negro woman came to the door and liked to scared her to death. She said she didn't ---

CASTOLIA: Was that old Nigger Mattie? Did she say what her name was?

MARCUS: No, she didn't know her name.

CASTOLIA: Nigger Mattie used to be here years ago. A great big old fat ---

MARCUS: That's probably the one.

CASTOLIA: She was around here quite a lot, and she had a husband here, I can't think of his name. She was around here years ago for quite a while. They called her Nigger Mattie. I don't know what her last name was.

SAM: Her husband's name was George, wasn't it?

CASTOLIA: No, I don't think ---

SAM: I hear a lot of them talking about him, but they was gone when I came here. Seems like they called him "Nigger Bill".

BONNIE: What did they do here? What brought them here, do you know?

CASTOLIA: Well no, I don't. They came from the --- I don't know what they got off the reservation for.

SAM: The Negro?

CASTOLIA: Huh?

SAM: The Negro!

BONNIE: Oh, I was just wondering what brought the Negroes here.

CASTOLIA: Oh, the Negro. I don't know what they --- what they was here for.

SAM: I was wondering if they wasn't in Westfall. There used to be a Negro couple in Westfall.

CASTOLIA: Yeah, I imagine they was. And they was down in the South End.

SAM: I tell you, I think, the best I can learn, it was the same couple and they come from here to Westfall, or from Westfall to up here, I don't know. I'm sure it was the same couple.

MARCUS: There was quite a few Negro buckaroos down here. He might have been a buckaroo. That's all I ever heard about 'em, was just what she told me about seeing them when she went to this house. She didn't know any more about them than that either. And she tells another story to the kids about a horse falling in the well here when Dr. Marsden was a doctor here in Drewsey. And what a time they had getting this horse out of the dug well, that a ---

CASTOLIA: Well, I never heard of that before.

SAM: See, they used to have a well on every one of these corners right in the middle of the street. They had a dug well in there for; that was the way they got water for the fires.

MARCUS: Yeah, that's what this horse fell in, one of these dug wells.

SAM: Used to be some dug wells when I came up here. And at every one of these intersections they had one of these dug wells. They had one of them fire pumps, you know, with four men on each side and pumped like heck to work it. I had it hid over there where Sickles live now, there used to be a shed there. I took it and I put it in there, oh before World War II sometime, and damn, while I was up to see Miler, he got a hold of some of them fellers from Pendleton, or they got a hold of him, and they come down and took that over to Pendleton.

MARCUS: That's what Pat tells me here. He said I think you may be able to get it back, but I kind of doubt it.

SAM: I tried. I and Father Egan tried to get it back about, oh, before he left Burns. They claim they never got it over here; they got it up in Washington some place. But they come and got it. They went in that shed. I thought that I had it locked, but they got in there anyway.

MARCUS: They got it anyway. This was Charles Miler that did this?

SAM: Yeah, old man.

MARCUS: Yeah.

SAM: I jumped Charlie about it one time, trying to get it back. "Oh," he said, "You don't need that back. They need that over there." He said, "You don't need it back." And that's all I ever got out of him.

MARCUS: Yeah, that's too bad.

SAM: I figure he sold it to somebody over there in Pendleton. He said they never got that fire engine from over here; they got it up in Washington.

MARCUS: It would be nice to have in Burns. We got the old hose cart that they pulled by hand, that went with that, up there in the wagon shed.

SAM: That's what he said. He said that if we can get it back, he said, you can have it. But you can have it over there, appraised and things, you know, around here ---

MARCUS: You bet ---

SAM: It made me about half sore that they'd take that because --- they had a firehouse ---

remember the city hall here? It was right here this side of where, the other side of this trailer house here. It was where the city hall building was. And there was a little building out there where they kept this fire truck in. It set there until they started to use that city hall for a school. Eleanor Howard taught school there, two years, didn't she?

CASTOLIA: Uh huh.

SAM: And for some reason they --- I'd better back up here a little bit ---

CASTOLIA: Sam, that was the town house sat up there.

SAM: Huh?

CASTOLIA: It was the town house that set up there.

SAM: Well, it was the city hall.

CASTOLIA: Yeah.

SAM: That's what I say, it was the city hall.

CASTOLIA: Yeah.

SAM: Now then --- Before that, I better back up a little bit. Before that there was a family lived there a while. While he was doing some work around here, and they lived in that city hall. And they pulled that thing out on to that little firehouse there to run their car in or something, and they pulled that thing out in the street, and just left it out there. And I went and got it and put it in this shed over here. I said, "Hell, you can't leave it like that, somebody'd steal it. And I kept it in that old shed here. Of course, it was just an old shed. They come and tried to get it once before, and I was here. A fellow from Juntura come up here, had the store down there, and some of the neighbors went to help or something. Anyway, they come, and I wouldn't let them have it. And they was going to try to buy it. I said, "Hell, there ain't nobody got any right to sell it that I know of, it belongs to the whole town." And I said, "Hell, they ..." And they offered \$25.00 for it.

MARCUS: Gee whiz.

SAM: And Mrs. Smith had the tavern there, you know, and she said, "Well, let's sell it, let's sell it. We'd get that \$25.00." And I said, "Just what the hell would you do with the \$25.00 to be divided up with all the people around here?" "Oh, we might find something for it." And I said, "No," I

said, "you just tell me what you think your share in that thing is and I'll just pay you for it, and buy you out." But of course, she wouldn't do that. So, I took it and put it over there, and then they come and got the damn thing.

MARCUS: Well, they sold the fire engine, the old fire engine in Burns to a berry farm down in Los Angeles. Knotts Berry Farm, is that it? It's down there.

SAM: Yeah. It's down there?

MARCUS: Why they didn't get that hose cart to go with it, I don't know. They just missed it I guess. It's got a handle on it --- a couple of guys grabbed it and took off down the street with it, and then there's a big reel in there.

SIDE D

... (Unrelated conversations.)

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