

HARNEY COUNTY HISTORY PROJECT

AV-Oral History #247 - Sides A/B

Subject: Cecilia Urizar and Gilbert Urizar

Place: Burns, Oregon

Date: May 1972

Interviewer: Pauline Braymen

(NOTE: Tape quality is very poor, not able to hear or understand a lot of the conversations.)

PAULINE BRAYMEN: This is Pauline Braymen; I am interviewing Mrs. Urizar and Gilbert Urizar at Burns in May 1972. Here we go. Now all I have to do is find my pencil and paper, and we're all set. Well the first thing that I would like to know is how you and Felix Urizar happened to come to Harney County?

CECILIA URIZAR: Well we lived in a --- Nevada, McDermitt.

PAULINE: In McDermitt.

CECILIA: In McDermitt. We were single then. So we married and then we bought the place from Grace and John Smyth.

PAULINE: Uh huh.

CECILIA: That's how we come Andrews.

PAULINE: Uh huh. What year was this, do you remember?

CECILIA: '20, 1920.

PAULINE: 1920.

CECILIA: We moved 1919, but we come to Andrews in 1920.

PAULINE: Did you both come over from Spain?

CECILIA: Not same time.

PAULINE: Not at the same time.

CECILIA: No.

PAULINE: When did you come?

CECILIA: I come 1916. And he was here, he come 1907.

PAULINE: Well he had been here a lot longer ---

CECILIA: I don't even know him in old country. No.

GILBERT URIZAR: ... over there.

CECILIA: Yeah, we come from different towns. Pretty near, but a, you know, it was in a, it was different towns. One is ... and the other is ... So he was ... with friends in the olden times, and I was staying with my sister. That's the way we meet.

PAULINE: In Nevada.

CECILIA: Yes. No! Really it was Oregon. Oregon Canyon.

PAULINE: Well that's right ---

CECILIA: It was right on the line.

PAULINE: --- right on the line.

CECILIA: We was on the Oregon side.

GILBERT: ... in Oregon.

PAULINE: Well did you say he came here from Spain in 1907?

CECILIA: 1907, uh huh.

PAULINE: Do you remember, did he ever say why he came? How did he happen to decide to come to America?

CECILIA: Well it was hard to make a living there, so they wanted to go someplace else. They thought maybe it would be easier.

PAULINE: Uh huh.

CECILIA: Just try to make a living somehow, it was.

PAULINE: Uh huh. Did he come with some other people, or ---

CECILIA: I think his brother was here when he come.

PAULINE: Uh huh.

GILBERT: Uncle John?

CECILIA: Yeah. And I got a sisters here, and a brothers, and that's how I come.

PAULINE: Uh huh. So they were here before, and then you came to be with them?

CECILIA: Yes.

PAULINE: Well in a --- did he have sheep right from the very beginning, or did he ---

CECILIA: No! No! He herd sheep first. Then he sheared a few years, and then started ... You don't have anything when you're married. You don't have a nothing ... either. So we borrow money from his brother to buy Andrews Hotel. He was ...

PAULINE: This is what you started your married life, you ran the hotel?

CECILIA: That's it.

PAULINE: Well how big was Andrews when you went there in 1920?

CECILIA: There was a, I don't know how many families there was--- Smyth's, Krueger, Carey, Ross --- I think --- another one, a Hoffman.

PAULINE: Hoffman?

CECILIA: Uh huh. They was there. And the Smyth brothers there at the store. I think that was about all. Lots of sheepmens around though.

PAULINE: Lots of sheep men.

CECILIA: Lots of sheep mens, uh huh. Most of them Bascos, except that Frank Kueny. Frank Kueny was there.

GILBERT: ...

CECILIA: ... Huh? Who?

GILBERT: Irish.

CECILIA: Irish.

GILBERT: Irish.

CECILIA: Irish? Yeah, it was from, from ... I don't know ... took the small bands.

PAULINE: Well my uncle, Ben O'Keefe, he was on the other side of the mountain, wasn't he?

CECILIA: A no, he by Fields, I think.

PAULINE: Around Fields?

CECILIA: Yeah. I never did see him there though. Maybe he was there after we come to Burns.

PAULINE: This could be.

CECILIA: In '26 we come to Burns.

PAULINE: Uh huh. Well I understand that the Andrews Hotel burned down while you were there.

CECILIA: Yes, it burned down when we were there.

PAULINE: Can you tell me about what happened that night?

CECILIA: That night there was lots of excitement happened because it was nearly 30 below zero, and cars were, we had a dance.

PAULINE: Uh huh.

CECILIA: It was Christmas Eve, and there was lots of people, and we had a dance hall by the house. Oh, it was, I don't know, like this one, ... and when fire started why everybody tried to take their cars away and nobody can start it, and they had quite a time. No water or nothing.

PAULINE: Well at 30 below zero it would be very difficult.

CECILIA: Yes, in those times, they wasn't the fancy cars like now either. You got to

crank it.

PAULINE: Uh huh.

CECILIA: So it was quite a excitement. And I had a, I forget, I had a three kids, all small. They are close, and my oldest one might have been three, and then Julio. And, well like Careys, their folks was leaving me with them at the hotel, and we stayed there until, I don't know, 2 or 3 o'clock in the morning.

PAULINE: Uh huh.

CECILIA: And my sister lives a little ways, by that time on the ranch, and we went over there. Next then Felix come to Crane to make them a bid on the hotel, but instead the bid on the hotel was too big. We don't have the money or anything, so we made a rooms in the dance hall and stayed.

PAULINE: I don't suppose you had a fire insurance in those days?

CECILIA: Yes we did have a little bit, not very much. I think we had a \$3,000, and it was pretty big house so it wasn't ---

PAULINE: It wasn't enough?

CECILIA: It wasn't enough to ... the material.

GILBERT: ... clothing, burned up all that too.

CECILIA: Everything. We don't even have any clothes, what we had on, that is all.

PAULINE: Everything burned?

CECILIA: Wooden building, and more important thing was to take the kids out --- there was lots of people having kids, and we got ours too.

PAULINE: Well, I knew that there was one child in, and the man who, the father who went in, I can't remember, Eldon was telling me ---

CECILIA: Yeah.

PAULINE: --- got burned, but I didn't understand that there were other children there too.

CECILIA: Yeah. There was a, this was from Trout Creek. It was Swede, they called him.

PAULINE: Uh huh. Yeah, that's the name.

CECILIA: Yeah. And everybody tells him, "Felix, that kid was in the room!" I never forget that room. And Felix got his own boy too. So --- but then after awhile all of the kids were safe, and nobody --- a, Swede himself did get burned a little bit, not bad. They brought him to Burns. So ---

PAULINE: Ah, so then you came into Burns in 1926, you said?

CECILIA: '26. And we bought a little hotel here, the Star Hotel.

PAULINE: The what now, the Star Hotel?

CECILIA: The Star.

PAULINE: That's S T A R ?

CECILIA: Yeah. Right there behind the Arrowhead, you know, that rooming house now.

PAULINE: Oh.

CECILIA: They took the sign off.

PAULINE: Yeah. I didn't realize that it had been a hotel at one time.

CECILIA: Oh yes.

GILBERT: It used to be a hospital at one time.

PAULINE: A hospital at one time?

CECILIA: Like hospital. It was supposed to have been for a maternity hospital. That's what it was called.

PAULINE: It's just directly behind the Arrowhead Hotel on the other, across the street?

CECILIA: Yeah, across the street.

GILBERT: Reason I knew is some fellow come over there one time and he ---

CECILIA: It not really behind, a side-by-side across the street. We stayed there until '43 or '46. '46 when we moved to ---

GILBERT: You know that guy that ... hospital. Who was that?

CECILIA: ...

GILBERT: ...

PAULINE: Then in 1946 you moved out.

CECILIA: To a ranch where we are now. We had a, we bought that there, '36 or --- '36, yeah.

GILBERT: ... that one time.

CECILIA: Yeah. We been in the hotel business quite awhile. Between time it was '26 through '29 we stayed in the Star Hotel, and '29 to '32 we run the Central Hotel.

PAULINE: Okay. 1929 to 1932 you were at the Central.

CECILIA: Central. And then we come back to the Star. Because the Star was ours, and it was rented.

PAULINE: Okay. Did you serve meals or anything like that, or did you just have rooms?

CECILIA: Yes. Most Basco people. Oh some --- some sheep mens--- that's more like, sheep mens.

PAULINE: Sheep men --- yeah, because I imagine even ---

CECILIA: Yeah, Frank Kueny, you know, and Irish people, ... and Callahan's and a ---

GILBERT: Billy Berry?

CECILIA: Berry --- Billy ...

PAULINE: Oh, Billy Berry, I remember him. Uh huh.

CECILIA: Yeah. Don't you ...

PAULINE: No, that does it.

CECILIA: Because he been gone quite awhile.

PAULINE: I think probably I remember Billy Berry because of the name more than --- I don't even remember. I know that he was at the house sometimes.

GILBERT: Did you know Art Callahan?

PAULINE: No.

CECILIA: Not ... she's, she's young.

GILBERT: ... Used to come over here all of the time. ...

CECILIA: You, you remember Frances? Yeah?

PAULINE: Yeah.

CECILIA: Frances is a, classmate was a ---

PAULINE: With Donna, and I'm four years younger than Donna and Frances.

GILBERT: You know ...

PAULINE: Oh yeah.

GILBERT: ... One is a priest and the other one is an attorney in Portland.

PAULINE: Uh huh.

GILBERT: I don't remember names, but their faces ...

CECILIA: This machine, is it on?

PAULINE: Uh huh.

CECILIA: I was going to say something, but I not gonna say it because I don't want it taped.

PAULINE: Oh well, don't, don't feel --- the thing about having the tape recorder on is that ---

CECILIA: No, I was just thinking, this girl ... where she was born and ...

PAULINE: The thing about the tape recorder is that I can take it home and go back and listen to it again and write up a better report than if I try to remember everything from memory. It really helps.

CECILIA: Yeah.

PAULINE: Well did Felix ever run sheep on the Steens ---

CECILIA: Yeah.

PAULINE: --- and that sort of thing? Can you tell me about some of those ---

CECILIA: Well, yeah. We had a, we bought the sheep in 1930? '20, '30, no --- '29 or '28, or something. See I run the hotel, but we got sheep. About '28 or something like that, until '46, and sold the last sheep. Not the last ones, we still have some---

PAULINE: Oh, I know that you still have some out there.

CECILIA: Yeah, he runs the sheep in the Steens.

PAULINE: Uh huh. Did, how much, how much time of the year did they spend up there?

CECILIA: At the ... Well all of the time except when they go haying and once in while go to Alvord and Mann Lake, and different places where they can get the hay. ... by Folly Farm in the fall --- in the spring, around Folly Farm.

GILBERT: ... mountain and weed there and had to get off the mountain as soon as they got that weed.

PAULINE: Oh, I wonder if that is that locoweed stuff?

GILBERT: I think that was it, yeah.

PAULINE: And so as soon as that started to ---

GILBERT: Get out.

PAULINE: --- come out, then they would bring the sheep down from the mountain.

GILBERT: Uh huh. ...

CECILIA: ...

PAULINE: Well I did --- Now I've forgotten what I was going to say. Let me start over again. When you had your sheep out on the mountain, and you had herders to stay with them, and one thing and another ---

GILBERT: ... Zabala.

CECILIA: There was three families.

PAULINE: And Teelas Zabala was one?

GILBERT: ...

PAULINE: Someone was telling me about him last night, that I should talk to him too, at some point.

GILBERT: He ... when we first come here.

PAULINE: Uh huh.

GILBERT: He come here in 1905, he said.

PAULINE: Uh huh. And then who was the other partner?

CECILIA: Alex, brother. Felix's brother. Then they bought Felix out, and Alex and Felix run the sheep there for two or three years. Well there was lots of us was there --- Oh, Walter McLean was there. ... Walter McLean.

GILBERT: ...

PAULINE: Oh yes.

GILBERT: ...

CECILIA: We wasn't even ... here then, we was going to the ... to see the sister and family, and we had snowstorm and a Folly Farm --- by Folly Farm. No, the other road, what they call that, by a, you know ...

GILBERT: ...

CECILIA: No.

GILBERT: ...

CECILIA: Yeah, what they call it, Virginia Valley? That's the way you went, and we got stuck, really stuck. Maybe 25 or 30 miles, maybe more, and finally we run out of gas and couldn't go any farther, and stay overnight out there in the snow. We had three kids and Felix and myself and my nephew. My nephew was going to school here at that time, high school, and the next morning we went to a --- oh, not ... Juniper Ranch.

PAULINE: Juniper Ranch.

CECILIA: Uh huh, and a car come from there and they take us to the Juniper Ranch, and we send the nephew to Folly Farm to call for help. No telephone in Folly Farm or in Juniper Ranch, so they had to come from clear over here to Brown's Ranch, and Mike Pollack come, they call for Dr. Homan and he come over there. Dr. Homan come there.

PAULINE: To the Juniper Ranch?

CECILIA: The Juniper Ranch.

PAULINE: Uh huh.

CECILIA: And the next morning he help us to dig the car out where we left the car on the grade. He went with the team, Dr. Homan, himself, and my nephew went to get the car and they broke a track to the car. And I told him, I said, "Doctor, you go ahead and take Felix," because Felix was unconscious, "and we follow you." And, "No," he says, "I will follow you," and he put us in the car. He put me and the kids in the middle and we started, and pretty soon we got stuck this side of Folly Farm, and the highway mens was going that a way, and there was four mens with a shovels and they help us out, and we come home.

GILBERT: ...

CECILIA: And a Felix, he don't want to go to the hospital, so we brought home.

GILBERT: ...

CECILIA: Yeah, he was unconscious all night.

PAULINE: Well his feet had frozen, you said?

CECILIA: His feet.

GILBERT: See he went off ahead of us, and Mom told him ---

CECILIA: He went too fast, I think, he just fainted. He used to work all day out in the snow.

PAULINE: Oh, he fainted in the snow then? Did you go find him then? Or ---

CECILIA: Yeah. He had walked down to the other road. He was in the road when we, I was going with the kids and I find him.

GILBERT: Sent my cousin on to the Juniper Ranch to get help, and when Mom found Dad, put a coat around him, and when they come back to the old man's ranch ... horses and ... at the Juniper Ranch.

PAULINE: Uh huh.

GILBERT: Then Mom, she didn't know what to do for him, and she had ... I call it ...

CECILIA: Turpentine.

GILBERT: Turpentine.

CECILIA: For unconscious, or for frozen feet.

PAULINE: Uh huh.

CECILIA: I don't know, this just come to my mind. I hear sometime, either coal oil or turpentine or something that is good, but you're supposed to mix it with water, but I didn't, I put it straight and his feets, they got peel off.

PAULINE: I'll bet.

CECILIA: But Dr. Homan says that's what saved his feet.

PAULINE: Uh huh.

CECILIA: You don't use it whole, you mix it.

PAULINE: Well, yeah, that ---

CECILIA: But I use it too strong.

PAULINE: So it peeled off, it peeled the skin off.

CECILIA: Peeled the skin off, uh huh.

GILBERT: ...

PAULINE: Yeah.

CECILIA: And I, we found something that, some medicine, it was supposed to be too unconscious. This old man was at the Juniper Ranch, he was pretty old. I don't call myself old now; maybe he was as old as I am now then, that man. And he says, "Well, all of the medicine here is in this box." He showed it to me.

PAULINE: Uh huh.

CECILIA: And I found this big bottle, it says for unconscious, and I was debating to give it to him, or not to. And I thought, well yeah, I'm going to give it to him. And his teeth was, he had a crooked teeth to start with, and I had quite a time to pour that medicine down, but I did and he closed his eyes. His eyes were open until then --- and I don't think I breathed for half a minute there, just seeing if I killed him or if I didn't. And he's sound asleep, and I told this old man and I think he is asleep. "He maybe died," he said, "just like that." And he scared me to death, but I watch, and no, his breathing was lots better, so I feel pretty good.

PAULINE: Well that would be a frightening experience.

CECILIA: Oh, my goodness yes, it was. And nothing, food or bread, we don't have nothing to eat, except potatoes. He got flour, so we made the biscuits and potatoes. That was that quite a day.

PAULINE: How old were the children when this happened?

CECILIA: Oh, Manuel was 6 and a Gilbert going on 5, because they were only 13 months difference, and Julio about 3 or 3 and a half. Julio was about 2 years younger than Gilbert.

PAULINE: Well that would be quite a chore then, to bring him through the snow ---

CECILIA: Ah ---

GILBERT: ... and Mom ... the track ... Come from the Juniper Ranch, the old man.

CECILIA: It was dark by then, night and we, I; we don't know where the Juniper Ranch

was except Felix know. I know was on the hillside somewhere, but not where. But when it started getting daylight, I send nephew. I told him, I begged him, don't you stop at, don't you stop at, for nothing until you find the house. And I, I could just see that house right now. It was a white house and a barn just close there. That was in my head, it wasn't there at all.

PAULINE: It wasn't?

CECILIA: And I finally make the nephew see that too. He didn't see it because it wasn't. But anyway, he went and he holler at me pretty soon. He says, "Tia, I missed that house. I can't see it." I says --- it wasn't there so --- "Well," I say, "I can't see very good and you just go ahead." And he called me again, he said, "I found a fence," he said. "Hang on the fence," I said. 'Cause I was prayed that he won't freeze his leg off. And finally he's the one that got the help.

PAULINE: He got the help. He finally did find the ranch house?

CECILIA: Yeah. He drove that old man and a team. They come with a haying rack.

PAULINE: Oh, that's quite an experience.

GILBERT: Tia means "aunt" in Basco.

CECILIA: Yeah, an ugly one.

GILBERT: Tia means "aunt" in Basco, and Tio means "uncle".

PAULINE: Do you spell Tia, T I A ?

CECILIA: Yeah, T I A.

PAULINE: Well how do you pronounce, I mean how do you spell the other name?

GILBERT: Tio?

PAULINE: Tio? Oh, Tia and Tio. It's T I O.

CECILIA: Yeah, one is A and one is O. So sister come next day, because Dr. Homan send word with the stage to. We meet those fellows when we got stuck, those four

fellows come with the shovels. Was the stage driver, one was, and a ...

PAULINE: Uh huh.

CECILIA: I don't know Felix was in danger to die, but Dr. Homan thought he was ...

PAULINE: Uh huh.

CECILIA: ... and he send word to sister and they come next day, sister and brother-in-law. And when I saw them, I was suspicious of this. "Well how come you come such a weather?" And my sister's eyes was red and stuff, and I thought well there was something wrong. But I never thought it was Felix was in danger. No, I never thought that. And then when Doctor come I says, "How come you sent word to sister?" And he says, "Well now I can talk to you freely," he says. "He's out of danger. His lung was frozen," he says, "and I thought he wasn't going to make it."

PAULINE: Well, it was a good thing you came along and found him when you did.

CECILIA: Yes, yeah.

PAULINE: Did you carry him back to the car, or what ...

CECILIA: No.

GILBERT: ...

CECILIA: The car was maybe a couple of miles down the road. We just stayed there until they come with help.

PAULINE: Just stayed in the road.

CECILIA: Tried to cover up each other all we can. We had my coat, that's all, heavy. I had wear, it taken off the snow off. I taken my coat off and then when we started walking, I take a blanket and that's what I think save us. I put a blanket over all of us and we set close --- just as close as we can.

PAULINE: Uh huh.

CECILIA: I tried to start a fire, two or three times, and the brush as I break it, wind take it

away as fast as I can pull, so we couldn't start no fire. Probably that was best thing. They said I take him to the fire, he would be worse, so ---

PAULINE: Well yeah, he would have thawed out too quickly.

CECILIA: Yeah.

PAULINE: Well that's really, that's really something.

CECILIA: Yeah, that it was, it was ---

GILBERT: ...

PAULINE: Well you said you were about 5 years old ---

CECILIA: No, not 5 even, I don't think. He was ---

GILBERT: Manuel was six.

CECILIA: Manuel was 6. Yes, he was just 6. Yeah, wasn't quite 6, his birthday was in December and, this was I think, Thanksgiving. We were going to sister's for Thanksgiving, or what was it? It wasn't Christmas --- I don't remember what we was going for.

GILBERT: I don't know.

CECILIA: I don't know. Made me want to go home when Doctor was over with. Go, we don't need it. We was glad to come back home.

PAULINE: I bet you were! I bet you were glad when it was all over.

CECILIA: Next, next year in the wintertime, Felix says he was going to a, the mountain, and Julio says, "Don't you do that," he says, "... and you won't freeze."

GILBERT: ... after that.

PAULINE: I didn't hear you.

GILBERT: ... after that.

PAULINE: Did he ever have any trouble afterwards?

CECILIA: Oh never, he gets cold fast and stuff.

GILBERT: He used to go ...

CECILIA: Oh yes, he was real lucky.

PAULINE: This was what, I never knew of him being crippled or anything.

CECILIA: Yeah. No, it was alright.

PAULINE: That's quite a story. Did you ever go out with the, in the sheep camps much, or were you too busy with the hotel to get away much?

CECILIA: Well we did go a few times, the marking time, and a stuff like that. But not too much, the kids in the school, and you know. No, we don't take the kids out of school. Summertime the boys go.

GILBERT: Fourth of July.

CECILIA: Fourth of July, yeah, one or two days. Fourth of July, that was our vacation, two days.

GILBERT: Up in McCoy Creek, over to the McCoy, Kiger Gorge.

CECILIA: Yeah, a bunch of us went.

PAULINE: On the Fourth of July you would go to the McCoy Creek, or the Kiger on the Steens and go fishing?

GILBERT: Yeah.

CECILIA: Kiger we never did go, but Fish Lake.

GILBERT: ... camp there. Sometimes take a lunch. I say, did you know ...

PAULINE: I've heard the name, I don't know.

GILBERT: He'd go up with us sometimes. ...

PAULINE: Where did you sell the sheep? Did you drive them to market in the '20's, or ---

CECILIA: Oh, yeah, they drive them.

PAULINE: How far did they go? Did they go clear to Nevada, or---

CECILIA: No, to Crane. We never went to Nevada side, no. All the freight we did was in

Crane.

PAULINE: This is where the train came in, and you'd take them there ---

CECILIA: Yeah. Wool was delivered to Crane, and lambs and ---

GILBERT: Dusty, oh my, it was dusty over there.

CECILIA: Yeah, the trailer, I don't know, two or three years, or four or five, depends what the ---

GILBERT: ... four cents a pound.

PAULINE: Four cents a pound?

GILBERT: Uh huh. ...

PAULINE: Now did I understand you right, you said you'd get ---

... (Pause in tape)

GILBERT: ...

CECILIA: We don't know what happened to him.

PAULINE: This was a fellow that was working for you?

CECILIA: No, no, he was not working for us, he was working for Whitehorse.

PAULINE: For the Whitehorse. And he drew a pistol on your husband?

CECILIA: Yeah, and oh he was just, he was drunk. He was half Indian, he was a Mexican, half Indian. He come to the kitchen there --- oh that was after our house was burned and we had a dance in the dining room, in the hotel dining room.

PAULINE: Uh huh.

CECILIA: Oh, I was ... Wind blew off roof of the dance hall, one winter. That was the --- I think Julio was just a six months or something. No, you was six months or something. Julio wasn't here yet, and the wind blow off and we had announced the dance, so we had the dance in the dining room. And he come and he wanted to dance with me, and I was carrying baby. I was pretty big, I think I was carrying Julio, I'm not sure. And I says, "No,"

because I was afraid, he was drunk. And, "You see this?" And he show me a big pistol like that. I got so scared, I run to my room. I don't even come out the rest of the night. ...

PAULINE: Uh huh.

CECILIA: Then he went for Felix. Felix was in the pool hall. And then because I refused to dance with him, he was mad.

PAULINE: Uh huh.

CECILIA: He was just crazy, drunk and crazy.

PAULINE: Yeah. Sometimes when people ... to much.

CECILIA: Yeah, makes me mad.

GILBERT: ...

CECILIA: I never see Felix so nervous as he was that night though. He was ...

GILBERT: ...

CECILIA: Yeah. Then a, I forget, Billy was ... because ... Billy in the crib asleep, they were kid then. ... They was just kids, 14 or something like that.

PAULINE: Uh huh.

CECILIA: ... That was Johnny's brother. ... was angry. Johnny was good, real good.

PAULINE: Oh, Johnny was a good man.

CECILIA: When he was kid too, he was good, but the other brother! I don't know how they come from the same place. They were sure different. Yes.

PAULINE: Eldon Currey was telling me the other night; of course he was just a little boy when the things he was telling me about

CECILIA: Yeah.

PAULINE: But this was how he remembered it. He said something about a saloon there that had a big picture of a bear, a calendar or something with a great big picture of a bear.

Do you remember anything like that?

CECILIA: I don't know what he's talking about. Was man's business. No, I don't remember. Yeah, he was a, yeah, they was just kids, Eldon and Lee. Then another Currey was there, Nolan Currey's father was.

PAULINE: Yes.

CECILIA: And Eldon's dad was Chet, the other brother was Nolan. And he got a son, what did they call him, Stub? Stup or Stub, or something like that. Quentin, I think his name is. He is married to ... daughter or something. I don't know where he works.

PAULINE: Well this may be a silly question, but you know you read in all of the western magazines and on the TV and stuff, that the cattlemen and the sheep men never did get along too good. Did you find that true in the '20's, or ---

CECILIA: Yeah.

PAULINE: It was still true then?

CECILIA: Well a, they was a little bit more civilized, but before that I hear the talking, they was a Western in the '20's though.

PAULINE: Uh huh.

CECILIA: Ah, there is ... pretty stupid then, when I was there.

PAULINE: Uh huh.

CECILIA: ... horses, was it that was Austin Goodman was killed? Yeah. He bought the horse, but the check was no good and they sent the police, it wasn't any state police or anything like that back then, but the county sheriff.

PAULINE: County sheriff?

CECILIA: Austin Goodman was at the time, and he caught him at Folly Farm and he got saddle, a horse in the barn and he asked Austin to let him take the saddle off of the horse, he was going with him, and was coming to Burns. And he was, then got the rifle and he

shoot Austin Goodman and he killed him.

PAULINE: Well that's right, I read about that.

CECILIA: Yeah. Cody was his name. I don't know him, but ---

PAULINE: But this was the reason, that he had written a bad check ---

CECILIA: That's the only reason, a \$100 or something like that.

PAULINE: Yeah.

CECILIA: Just little, yeah, that's it.

PAULINE: He must have been very crazy.

CECILIA: Oh, he was ...

PAULINE: Of course if he shot a man, that's worse than writing a bad check.

CECILIA: Yeah.

PAULINE: Yeah.

CECILIA: Oh, all Burns people was there, around there and he run away ... He was caught, I don't know, somebody's place. Some other state, I don't remember whose. Yeah, we was madder than ---

GILBERT: Did you ever hear about the wild pig drive to Winnemucca?

PAULINE: Now what was ---

GILBERT: The wild pig drive.

PAULINE: The wild pig drive?

GILBERT: Uh huh.

PAULINE: No.

GILBERT: Uh huh. They used to have wild pigs.

CECILIA: Yeah, that was before the '20's though.

GILBERT: Yeah, they used to ... and then they take and drive to Winnemucca ...

PAULINE: Wild pigs ---

GILBERT: Uh huh. They ...

PAULINE: Why, I had never heard this. This is interesting.

GILBERT: They ... all the way to Winnemucca ...

CECILIA: ...

GILBERT: ...

CECILIA: Oh, not us.

GILBERT: ...

CECILIA: ... you just hear that, must be. Oh, probably some of people that lived in a ---
No, that happened, the driving these horses, pigs before our time.

GILBERT: I know, but I heard about it.

CECILIA: Well ...

PAULINE: Well I'll do some more asking about that. I'm going to talk to Rube Blair and
Andrew Shull, I'll sure ask them about the wild pigs, because that sounds interesting.

CECILIA: Yeah. Well ... I'm thinking no, because Andrew, he, I don't even know Andrew
would ... much.

PAULINE: Well he may be ...

CECILIA: You can probably find someplace.

GILBERT: I bet Joe Fine would know.

CECILIA: Joe Fine?

GILBERT: Yeah.

CECILIA: He might, he might. Joe Fine might.

PAULINE: He might. Well Rube Blair should ...

CECILIA: Oh well, we know Rube Blair ...

PAULINE: He's a nice person. I just have gotten acquainted with him in the last couple of
years, and I sure like Rube. I think he's nice.

CECILIA: He's nice. Poor old bald man, he's just, that's what he is too, just a nice --- he's got ... he calls, calls me. I don't think he's too healthy now.

PAULINE: He doesn't seem to be in very good health. I saw him a couple of weeks ago, he doesn't look like he is in very good health.

CECILIA: No, he looks pretty bad. But he is good; he was good all the time.

PAULINE: Did you know Mary Kueny and ---

CECILIA: Oh, yeah. Not until, I didn't know her until I come to Burns though, no. I know her now, but a, I think there was something like ... we come to Burns or something like that, they got married. Frank and a ---

PAULINE: I knew they lived down in the Steens area for years, and years, and years.

CECILIA: Yeah. Well then right after we left, I think a Kueny take ... ranch, and about then, I guess he got married to Mary.

GILBERT: Where did ...

CECILIA: Who?

GILBERT: Basco Joe.

CECILIA: Basco Joe was a man, yes.

GILBERT: ...

PAULINE: Who was Basco Joe?

GILBERT: He was a --- he worked at McDade's there ...

PAULINE: At McDade's?

GILBERT: Uh huh. And he ... You know that cabin behind the Arrowhead Hotel there?

PAULINE: Yeah.

GILBERT: ...

PAULINE: Well I sure would like to talk to him.

GILBERT: I'll bring you up there when you got time.

PAULINE: Okay.

GILBERT: ... Mom?

CECILIA: I don't know anything.

GILBERT: ...

CECILIA: He was more a, but he don't hear good.

PAULINE: Uh huh.

CECILIA: Felix ... but he ...

GILBERT: ...

PAULINE: Well I don't care whether they can hear or not, as long as they will talk, that's the important thing. And usually, I mean, if you can, just so that they know what you want to hear, why if they will just talk to me, you know, and tell me about things. Well I'll call you. I don't know, this week is all filled up, and most of next week, but in a couple of weeks I would like to talk to him very much.

GILBERT: I'll see if we can get both of us together.

PAULINE: Okay.

CECILIA: ... wild pigs though, because he never did.

GILBERT: I know. I ...

CECILIA: No.

GILBERT: ...

CECILIA: Papa wasn't a rancher though, he was a sheep man. A sheep handler and a sheep man.

GILBERT: Papa ...

PAULINE: Just strictly sheep. No pigs or horses or ...

CECILIA: Horses, he liked a horses ...

PAULINE: Have you ever gone back to Spain since you were ---

CECILIA: Yeah, I went in '57.

PAULINE: Did you find it changed a lot from what it was?

CECILIA: Not at all.

PAULINE: Not at all?

CECILIA: But they say it has changed a lot last ten years. That's what they claim. I don't know if it is or not. It was fifty years then.

PAULINE: Uh huh.

CECILIA: In our town, one house was built all that years.

PAULINE: From the time you left until the time you went back?

CECILIA: Yes, just one house, that was all.

PAULINE: That's not much change.

CECILIA: No, it wasn't, it wasn't really.

PAULINE: Did you ever wish that you could go back there to live, or ---

CECILIA: No, no.

PAULINE: You were glad to stay in the United States?

CECILIA: You betcha. No, I don't want to stay there for nothing. I still got a brother and sister there, but no, I don't want to ... My sister ...

... (Pause in tape)

CECILIA: I got two of them in Andrews, Gilbert and Julio. Manuel was in Winnemucca, and Frances in Burns.

PAULINE: Uh huh. Where is Frances now? I haven't ---

CECILIA: She's in New Mexico.

PAULINE: Oh, uh huh.

CECILIA: Rosella.

PAULINE: I haven't seen her for years.

CECILIA: She come every summer. She's coming this summer too.

GILBERT: Coming to the class reunion. ...

CECILIA: Yes.

PAULINE: Oh, that's right, that is coming up.

CECILIA: Where is Donna?

PAULINE: She's in Weiser, Idaho.

CECILIA: Oh, is she? Donna is in Mountain Home, you say? ...

PAULINE: Weiser, Donna is.

GILBERT: ...

CECILIA: Gerald?

GILBERT: Yes. Her husband is a cook there.

CECILIA: It would be nice to see those girls ...

GILBERT: Her husband is a cook for the ...

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CECILIA: Yeah, Frances and Donna, they was quite a pair.

PAULINE: They were quite a pair.

CECILIA: Uh huh.

PAULINE: Of course I was just, they were just enough older than I am and ...

CECILIA: ...

PAULINE: ... and I just thought anything that Frances and Donna did was just the utmost. I just idolized those girls, I really did.

CECILIA: Yeah. ...

PAULINE: Yes, I really looked up to those two. Of course, Donna and I had grown up together. We were real close, you know, real close friends. But I was still, you know ---

CECILIA: A little bit ---

PAULINE: --- a little younger, and they seemed awfully glamorous to me when they were in high school.

CECILIA: It was a nice group of kids, anyway.

PAULINE: Yeah, they were.

CECILIA: Well I guess that's it, huh?

PAULINE: Well, if you can think of something else that has happened. I know lots of things happened to you in your ---

CECILIA: ... Nothing happened. No, nothing exciting happened.

GILBERT: ...

PAULINE: Well, this is the thing, after you get home you will say, "Oh why didn't I think of that to tell?"

GILBERT: I know.

PAULINE: Yeah.

GILBERT: ...

PAULINE: Well this is, ah, just the sort of thing that we are doing, is collecting incidents. Well, like when Felix got his feet frozen and this sort of thing, you know, and ---

GILBERT: Yeah, don't forget the pigs.

PAULINE: Yeah, and I don't want to forget those pigs. I've got to find out more about those pigs. Do you ah --- find that, that ah, oh, for instance things that you cook and one thing and another, do you still use --- cook the way that you would have in Spain? Or have you ---

CECILIA: Oh, well I wasn't much a cook in Spain, because I was too young. My mother cooked there. Oh, I guess I mixed up little parent's style and American, you know.

GILBERT: She makes ... sausages and all that kind of stuff. ...

CECILIA: Yeah, chorizos and a few things. I wasn't much of a cook there. ... I don't care to cook, but I had ---

PAULINE: Yeah. I just bet that she's not much of a cook!

CECILIA: No.

PAULINE: But I started to ask you a while ago, and I didn't quite understand what you said. When you were running your hotel, did you put a meal out two or three times a day for your roomers, or

CECILIA: Three times.

PAULINE: Three times a day. How many did you usually have, or did you ever ---

CECILIA: Oh sometimes I don't have any, and sometimes I got five to twenty. But usually ah, summertime not too many.

GILBERT: Tell her about your first washing machine.

CECILIA: But they come back and forth, you know, sheep mans.

PAULINE: Uh huh.

CECILIA: ... they got to take the ... out, and stuff, they stay a day or two, and --- I don't know.

GILBERT: Mom, tell her about your first washing machine.

CECILIA: First washing machine? Oh, that was nice. Yeah, this ah Carlson had a, you remember Bob Carlson?

PAULINE: Yes, he had the Ranch Supply.

CECILIA: Yes. ... Anyway, he want to sell me a washing machine, and I don't have no money, so --- Nope, I don't want to buy it. I don't want to go in debt. 'Course we had the car in payments, and piano. In Andrews we had to have the piano, playing piano with the paper, you know.

PAULINE: Oh, yes.

GILBERT: ...

PAULINE: For your dance hall.

CECILIA: Yeah, dance hall. And we had ah quite a time paying those. Because money go faster when you got to pay end of every month.

PAULINE: Uh huh.

CECILIA: No, I says, I wasn't going to pay --- by then nothing on time anymore. I says when I got money, I pay and buy. And until then, I wasn't going to buy. Anyway, one day Felix told him, he said, "Why don't you just take washing machine ... and see how she like it?" And here come Bob one Monday morning, and I was just ready to wash, I had a big pile. I washed by hand.

PAULINE: Uh huh.

CECILIA: So, "You want for me to wash those?" I said, "No, I can do it." "Oh, let me!" I said, "Okay, go ahead, do it then." And by golly, in couple of hours, he had everything washed.

PAULINE: Uh huh.

CECILIA: I was so surprised, and he says, "Isn't that nice?" And, "Yeah, but I not buy it. I have to have the money, and then I buy it. Not until I have the money." And, "Oh," he says, "it's not much. You pay \$20 down and \$10 a month," or something it was. It was \$110, the machine.

PAULINE: Uh huh.

CECILIA: ... So he left there, and by golly the middle of the week I got this washing again, so I thought, "Heck, I gonna use it as long as it is here." After that no one can take that washing machine away from me. It was Maytag and ---

PAULINE: Was it a wringer?

CECILIA: Yeah. Oh sure, you know.

PAULINE: Was it an electric one, or did it run on gas?

CECILIA: Electric.

PAULINE: Electric.

GILBERT: How long did you have the machine?

CECILIA: Oh, I don't know, a long time. Anyway, finally Bob says ah, "What have you decided, the washing?" "By golly, Bob," I says, "I got to thinking, you fool me." I says, "You left that washing machine there, and I would rather let the cat or anything go than the washing machine." By golly, I did it.

PAULINE: Well that was --- Well I have to tend to agree that putting them through the conventional washer would be a lot easier than washing them on the wash board. And I wouldn't give up my automatic washer and dryer for anything in the world!

CECILIA: No.

PAULINE: I'm kind of with you; they could take the car and the kids before I would let them take my washing machine away.

CECILIA: Felix laughed. It wasn't him, it was my fault. But we don't got no money, so I was afraid. Then the next year my washing machine was, that one, I don't keep it too long, I change it. Some people come from Ontario. Bob got really mad with me. Anyway, they give me a really good deal, I don't know how much it was, but I take it from them. Oh, Bob was mad.

PAULINE: He didn't like that at all.

CECILIA: But they was Maytag too. That's the one I keep it for, I bet I keep it for thirty --- I still got it in the house. The motor went off and I wanted to fix it, and Julio wouldn't let me. He said go up and buy automatic one. But I thought with those I was saving water and soap. Because we don't change it every wash load.

PAULINE: No, that's true.

CECILIA: But when you don't have no money, you got to look where the pennies go.

PAULINE: Uh huh.

CECILIA: ...

GILBERT: ...

CECILIA: That's nothing, they don't want that.

GILBERT: ...

CECILIA: One fellow from Drewsey come with a big pig. He make a deal with a --- we won't go into that, but Hanson was there --- the butcher shop here.

PAULINE: I don't remember.

CECILIA: No. Anyway he make a deal for \$30 for that big pig.

PAULINE: Uh huh.

CECILIA: And when he brought it, he don't want to pay more than \$25. He was mad, this rancher, I don't even know who he is. And he says, he come to our place and he says, "Are you interested in buying pig?" And says, "Maybe." And when I see that pig, I bet that was bigger than the hall here.

GILBERT: Yeah, he was big.

CECILIA: Oh, he was biggest pig I ever say. And I says, "Oh crimine," I says, "not that big." Well I did not take it, and then he tell me what happened. He says how he make a deal with the butcher for \$30 and after he brought it, offered \$25 and he got mad. He said, "I would rather let you have it for \$20 than give it to him for \$25." I says, "Well, we can use it." ... So Felix was running the Star Pool Hall at that time ---

PAULINE: Uh huh.

CECILIA: --- and I call him, and I says how this man come with a pig, and Joe Abasola was with him, and he send Joe over there and gee, there everybody got in love with the

big pig. So --- so we bought it.

PAULINE: So you bought a big pig.

CECILIA: Yeah. And they got the slaughterhouse here. It's not called the slaughterhouse now. Who was the butcher there?

GILBERT: ...

CECILIA: No, Charlie Schroder owns it, but somebody was the butcher there, I don't know. Anyway, that pig weighed 750 pounds.

PAULINE: Oh, it was a big one.

CECILIA: Biggest one I ever saw. Except I see in Salem at the State Fair. I never see anything like it. I make it, we make a, I helped them make 350 pounds of chorizos. And I had a girl working for me that time, and a --- but around midnight, they were on strings break down and chorizos come down. See chorizos you make --- they're sausages, just like wienies, and you hang it up for three, four days, they are drying.

PAULINE: Uh huh.

CECILIA: And they was heavy. I never thought they were going to break down, but they did, the strings we put them on. And she laugh, and it was about midnight when they fell down, and she started laughing. Oh, I got so mad. I says, "You gonna pick everyone of them and hang it up there." And I come back to bed, I was mad. Indeed I was mad. And I did, I went to bed. And by golly she picked them all up and hang them up. Somebody helped her, but I don't care, I was so mad with them.

PAULINE: What kind of a tubing do you put the sausages in, or to make the sausages?

CECILIA: They call them the casings.

GILBERT: Casings.

PAULINE: Uh huh, casings?

CECILIA: Yeah, we buy them.

PAULINE: Uh huh. Then you get, you buy them someplace --- the store?

CECILIA: We buy at the butcher shops. They had them there. I make a ...

GILBERT: See a ---

CECILIA: Pork meat you chop it like hamburger, and then season it with a pepper and salt.

PAULINE: How do you get it in the casings?

CECILIA: We have a machine, by hand, and you just grind it.

PAULINE: Oh, you just grind it away ---

GILBERT: It's got a tube you just slip over and you fill that tube with sausage, and cut the tubing when it comes out on the other side, and turns into sausage.

PAULINE: Well I buy sausages in the store, you know, and I just never had thought about how you got the meat inside of them.

GILBERT: ... meat grinder, you know, you just make the sausage on the meat grinder. ...

CECILIA: Like we used to do, you know, this Hanson, the butcher, they did the meat by machine. We used to buy them from them. And then when the electric ones come ...

PAULINE: Now what is the word you call them, chorizos?

CECILIA: Chorizos.

PAULINE: How do you spell it?

CECILIA: I don't know.

PAULINE: Do you know?

GILBERT: She writes ...

PAULINE: Can you write it down? Okay. 'Cause I would never ---

CECILIA: C H O R I S O S. It's chorizos.

PAULINE: I would have never been able to spell it myself. And that --- and this is a sausage?

CECILIA: Sausage, yeah. Frank would like those. All my kids do.

PAULINE: And you season them with pepper and ---

CECILIA: Yeah, dried sweet pepper ---

PAULINE: Dried sweet pepper ---

CECILIA: --- and salt and a little garlic. But we take the garlic out before we put it in the casings. See, you put in the garlic pieces and then take them out before you ---

PAULINE: Uh huh. So that just gives it a slight flavor of garlic?

GILBERT: It just gives it flavor. You take the peppers that are dried and you soak them before ... and then put them in the meat.

PAULINE: Uh huh. So you get Judy really fine, little tiny pieces ---

GILBERT: Well, no pieces of the pepper ---

CECILIA: Just the juices ---

PAULINE: Oh, just the juice.

GILBERT: ...

CECILIA: After you take the skin off, it's just like a gravy ...

PAULINE: Do you remember the first car you ever saw?

GILBERT: Yes, she does, it was a Model-T. ...

CECILIA: Saw, I saw a car before I come to the United States.

PAULINE: Did you do that in Spain?

CECILIA: Uh huh.

PAULINE: What did you think about it when you saw it?

CECILIA: Oh, I don't know.

PAULINE: Do you remember?

CECILIA: Well I remember the cars and busses and stuff when I was little. I don't remember, I was so small. The wheel, a, the busses was, they had a, not the air in the

tires, they got those tires ---

GILBERT: ... tires.

PAULINE: Uh huh.

GILBERT: You've driven the Model-T, Mother ...

CECILIA: Well when everybody started to drive, so I quit.

PAULINE: When everybody else started driving, you stopped?

CECILIA: Yeah, the kids, they were so, the three, they were so close together. They all wanted to drive all of the time so I ---

GILBERT: Tell her about that mule.

CECILIA: I hit the mule with the car, that's nothing. ...

PAULINE: Well yes, I would think so.

GILBERT: ... Tell her about the ...

CECILIA: Oh, Gilbert, go on ---

PAULINE: Hit the mule in the road, or ---

CECILIA: Yeah, I don't go chasing, he was in the road. I was a, the road was just enough, wide enough for a car. It wasn't a big wide roads.

PAULINE: Uh huh.

CECILIA: And a ... to that side the mountain, and the road was down here, and he was started to going this way and then he change his mind and go that away. So I hit him in the hind leg. And it was real expensive stud for raising mules on the neighbor's ranch.

PAULINE: So they weren't very happy about it, were they?

CECILIA: They don't find it out from me. I denied it. I cleaned all the tracks and everything and a ... was. Our car was in their place, we just had one car. Brother-in-law had one car, and brother-in-law was in their place with the car. But Felix was a camped, and he had a car there and I had his keys and I was driving his car. They don't know that.

I wasn't married to Felix then.

PAULINE: Well this was before you come to Andrews?

CECILIA: That's right, before I come to Andrews. And ah, ... was our neighbor. He come the next day. "What happened to my burro?" I says, "What happened?" And he said, "Well somebody hit the car

--- with the car, and I think was you." I says, "No, Martin." His name was Martin. I says, "No, I wasn't at that road yesterday." And ah, "Well who was it?" And I says, "I don't know. Nobody come here." And my sister come and says, "No, we stay home." We both was lying like troopers. And he says, "Well I don't know, I see dust going that away." And I says, "Martin, you know our car was at your place." And, "Yeah." He says, "By golly, that's true."

PAULINE: If your car was at his place, why it couldn't have been you.

GILBERT: ...

CECILIA: Yeah. About 25 years afterwards!

PAULINE: When you thought it was safe!

CECILIA: No, I didn't tell them either, Felix did. He told him ... long time. ...

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