

HARNEY COUNTY HISTORY PROJECT

AV-Oral History #298 - Sides A & B

Subject: Victor Cleveland - Discusses Names & Places in Drewsey

Place: Cleveland Home - Burns, Oregon

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Interviewer: Marcus Haines

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VICTOR CLEVELAND: ... First time I seen him, why Dad and I went to the Robins place to get a yearling steer. Mike, he had his lunch spread out there, feeding cattle for the PLS Company. They bought hay there that winter. And we was getting ready to eat dinner. Anyway, he had this homestead up there, they called it the Needmore, it was up above Ray Schultz's place. John Sword owns it now. But he was a riding colts, breaking colts to ride, and he was riding a colt down there every day. Started before daylight, by golly, to go feed them cattle. Then he'd saddle up a new one the next morning, and have it in the corral there so it would be warmed up a little bit. And by golly, he'd trade a few head of horses he had to Bob Moffet for some cattle, a few head of cattle. And that's the way he got his start, by golly, he just kept a digging. Yeah.

MARCUS HAINES: Okay, well that will take care of him pretty good.

VICTOR: Yeah. Let's see. Well, why the folks that owned that before was, he bought that in 1916. He got it from an old fellow named Gardner. But anyway, this Gardner he got it from Joe Williams that used to be down here at the Double O. And he was, Bethel Asmussen's granddad.

MARCUS: Oh?

VICTOR: Yeah, yeah. They moved over there, and then they sold it out to Williams, or to Lillard in 1916, when they come there. And so, it's been the Lillard family ever since. And --- ... sawmill over there at Otis first, then he moved it over there on the river, what they called Milldale, that was

about 1909 or '10, I guess. So then after --- they stayed there and run a mill for a long time. Then finally they moved up above the ranch, six miles up there and started another mill up there. And John and the boy they run that alone. They'd get them logs out and deck them in the wintertime, and then they'd saw in the summer.

MARCUS: Oh.

VICTOR: Yeah. And they had a little old Ford truck that they would haul the lumber out. They run a pretty cheap mill out there. ... (Pause in tape)

... out there. I don't know, I thought all the time that the old Grandpa McMullin, that was Merle and Lester's dad, I thought that his name was Jim, but they got Jesse. And Jesse now, he was Merle's boy --- or I mean Wes' boy, so maybe that's what they have reference to, I don't know. Anyway, why he, the old man McMullin, he used to own that place that Floyd Dunten owns now.

MARCUS: Oh, uh huh.

VICTOR: Yeah, yeah. He was there, and then Lester he was just across the field, over to the east, he had a place over there. And I think Sitz owns it now.

... (Pause in tape)

And Moffet's down here, so I had William Moffet all right, but there was Bob and Jim Moffet. But still Bob, he was Bummer, and that's what they called William, he was his dad. And then he had an uncle, Mr. Compton Moffet.

MARCUS: Oh, uh huh.

VICTOR: Yeah, he was a grandson of Jim's, you know.

MARCUS: Uh huh. They're an old family over there, I know. I've heard of them, but I never knew them other than this one here.

VICTOR: Yeah, there are a lot of them Moffet's, yeah.

MARCUS: Well, Al Masterson there and Gib, and there was, what was there, about three of those boys, wasn't there?

VICTOR: Yeah, yeah, there was Donald and Ralph, and Gib, and then there was a girl by the name of Doris, and she married Lloyd Edmunson, Edmunson was his name.

MARCUS: Oh.

VICTOR: Yeah. And then there was another family there, and I can't think of the daddy's name. But anyway, why there was Ray Masterson and --- Clyde, and then there was a girl by the name of --- I can't recall her name now.

MARCUS: They lived right around Drewsey there, did they?

VICTOR: Yeah, uh huh, yeah. They was all in there to start with. You see Billy Robertson and Allen Masterson; they were brother-in-laws at one time.

MARCUS: Oh, uh huh.

VICTOR: Yeah, uh huh, yeah. Yes, their wives name was Rutherford.

MARCUS: Well was this Poer family up there? Oliver Poer and ---

VICTOR: Yeah, they never came there --- oh well they was out all right before the '20's. And you see Woody was the old man's name, and he had Oliver and another boy they called Willy, and then Bryan. And they are all dead I guess.

MARCUS: Well they lived up there near where ---

VICTOR: Yeah, up above Atkins.

MARCUS: Atkins place there, yeah.

VICTOR: Yeah. The first, they started over there on Pine Creek. They had the Milt Davis Ranch rented for years. That's where Ed Campbell finally got, you know, yeah. He come over, well before he got over on the river, yeah.

MARCUS: Well, this Overfelt now, is that --- do you know anything about him?

VICTOR: No, I don't. I've heard of the name a whole lot, but I never ---

MARCUS: Well, he's the fellow that bought the, where the Beulah Reservoir is now, for Henry Miller.

VICTOR: Oh.

MARCUS: He made the ride down to Lakeview when it come up for sale.

VICTOR: Oh, did he?

MARCUS: And he got down there, and he didn't have any money. And they had to have cash, and

finally they called around there, and this old bullhead draft that old Henry Miller gave, you know, if the PLS Company --- was considered cash. And they bought it with that draft.

VICTOR: Well, I've heard of that name, always, but I never did know any of them. It was before my time.

MARCUS: Well yeah, I read that in some of these history books here.

VICTOR: Yeah, yeah.

MARCUS: And this Del Overton, I've never heard of him.

VICTOR: Well, I've heard that name, but I never knew him. Of course, Purington, why they used to run a sawmill up here years ago, before he ever come to Drewsey, I guess, or maybe afterwards.

MARCUS: Well, now there was --- Erman Dillman married a Purington, Helen Purington. Would that be a daughter of this?

VICTOR: Purington, you mean.

MARCUS: Yes.

VICTOR: Yeah, it was a daughter, yeah. Let's see ---

MARCUS: And they run the hardware store here for a long time down on the corner.

VICTOR: Yeah, yeah. See there was another one of them --- what the devil was his name? But he was a brother anyway to, that run the hardware store.

MARCUS: Well that was Erman, and that was Dillman. Erman Dillman was the one, yeah.

VICTOR: Yeah, yeah, that's what it was.

MARCUS: Yeah, he married one of the Simmons girls.

VICTOR: Yeah, yeah.

MARCUS: Yeah, he was a neighbor of ours when I was a kid down on the lake.

VICTOR: Yeah. Well, we got back to them again now. You see up there in our neighborhood, why they didn't have them mentioned at all. It was old Charlie Johnson, him and Jeff Cawlfeld both ---Cawlfeld, he bought the ranch from old Charlie. And Charlie, him and his wife came to the Double O; they used to be down there. And they came over there and bought that ranch. And then Cawlfeld, he was married to one of them, the Simmons girl. And then he come and bought a place

from Johnson, yeah.

MARCUS: Well would this be, would that be George Riley's father, C. T. Riley?

VICTOR: It must be. Now they didn't have --- George or Les, the brother to George, they didn't have either one of them down. And I set them down there all right. But C. T., his name was Carl, and so I guess that's who it was.

MARCUS: Probably, that would be George's ---

VICTOR: Yeah, George's dad.

MARCUS: Be George's father. He always talked about Papa. He'd always talk about Papa.

VICTOR: Yeah, all the time Papa, yeah.

MARCUS: Well did he have the ranch up there that George was living on when he died?

VICTOR: Yeah, yes. That their place that --- well his old swamp rights is what it was. He owned it when he died, yeah.

MARCUS: Uh huh.

VICTOR: And then ... she sold it to, I don't know.

MARCUS: No, it's changed hands several times there since they

VICTOR: Yeah, it's changed hands quite often. They got a new one there now that I never did see.

MARCUS: No. I saw the fellow once, but you hear quite a lot about him.

VICTOR: Yeah, I guess he's something too.

MARCUS: Yeah, that's what it sounds like anyways, you bet.

VICTOR: See that, when we left over there, why Foppiano he owned it.

MARCUS: Yeah, that's right, Foppiano.

VICTOR: Yeah, his boy lives right up the street here now. He drives a truck for Bob Otley, the long ...

MARCUS: Oh, well ---

VICTOR: Yeah, and his wife is one of Floyd Dunten's girls.

MARCUS: Oh, he married one of Floyd's girls?

VICTOR: Yeah, see he had five girls I guess, and one boy, Floyd did. Yeah.

MARCUS: And then the Riley's there, there was William and John and Joe --- or Robertson's I mean.

VICTOR: Yeah, yeah, well now there was two of them Robertson's of the same name, Billy. One of them was a redheaded --- they was cousins. And the other one then, he was a brother-in-law to Al Masterson we was talking about a while ago. And he had two boys, and one girl I guess.

MARCUS: Well did they live up in Otis Valley at that time?

VICTOR: Yeah, yeah, they was in Otis Valley. And that's where Al Masterson started too, was there. And then he went down to Juntura and bought a place down there.

MARCUS: Oh, uh huh.

VICTOR: Yeah.

MARCUS: Well let's see, we got Abner Robbins there.

VICTOR: Yeah, you see they --- I guess he was the first man that ever run a store in Drewsey.

MARCUS: Was that the store man, that was the Robbins?

VICTOR: Yeah, uh huh. And there was another store man there that they didn't have mentioned, and that was Harry Brown. He was --- well him and his wife and boy, they used to run a store there in Drewsey. Well it was over there close to the old Odd Fellows Hall.

MARCUS: Oh, across the street there from ---

VICTOR: Yeah, across the street. Right across from the old Bartlett Hotel. Yeah.

MARCUS: I saw a Bartlett name on here someplace too.

VICTOR: Well that was A. J., that was the old man, old Jack. I seen it too. Yeah, you see --- now they didn't tell too much about him. The old lady, she run the hotel for years there. And they had four girls, and three boys I guess. You see Carl Bartlett and Curt Bartlett were both doctors, and they were their children.

MARCUS: Yes.

VICTOR: Yeah.

MARCUS: Yeah, I met Carl one time. He was at Baker, wasn't he?

VICTOR: Yeah, uh huh.

MARCUS: And then the other one Curt, was at Ontario, he married Ethel Brown.

VICTOR: Yeah, yeah.

MARCUS: Yes. I went to school to Ethel Brown one time.

VICTOR: Oh, did you?

MARCUS: Yeah, I sure did. Well, the Roberts brothers here, who would they be?

VICTOR: Well, I don't know. That's something I don't know about.

MARCUS: And then we got a Sitz there, J. L., would that ---

VICTOR: Yeah, that there was Lou Sitz. He was Glenn and Jim's dad.

MARCUS: Yeah, uh huh.

VICTOR: Yeah, yeah. They called him Lou, and I don't know what his first name was.

MARCUS: Well, let's see. Old Sturtevant, I've heard the name Joe Sturtevant, but I don't know anything about him at all.

VICTOR: Yeah. Well Joe Sturtevant he, at one time he owned the Vanderveer place up there.

MARCUS: Oh?

VICTOR: Yeah. And then he left there and he come, he was a, come over here and started this flourmill up here on the river.

MARCUS: Oh, he did?

VICTOR: Yeah, yeah.

MARCUS: Well he was around quite a while ago then, wasn't he?

VICTOR: Yeah, yeah.

MARCUS: Then we got a Len Stallard there. That ---

VICTOR: Yeah, well that's the old man. He is the daddy of Ed and Chet.

MARCUS: Where did he live then?

VICTOR: They lived over there on Otis. Just about seven miles east of Drewsey.

MARCUS: Yeah, up there where Glen is now?

VICTOR: No, no, that there was old Bill --- can't see a name here. But anyway, I'll tell you what it

was; it joined right on to the Williams place, just up the creek from Williams'. Just a fence between them there.

MARCUS: Oh, uh huh. I see.

VICTOR: Yeah, they used to have a stage station there.

MARCUS: Well, that's the old Stallard, yeah, the old Stallard, I've been up there.

VICTOR: Yeah.

MARCUS: Yeah, and then the Otis Valley School was right near by there too.

VICTOR: Yeah, yeah.

MARCUS: Uh huh.

VICTOR: Yes, Agnes taught there a long time.

MARCUS: Cicero Stewart, I never heard that name.

VICTOR: Who?

MARCUS: Cicero Stewart, I never heard of him, did you?

VICTOR: No.

MARCUS: There are lots of Wards. I knew old Lige.

VICTOR: Oh god, yes. Yeah, that there was just one of them, you see. Yeah, he had a brother that used to be there by the name of Charlie Ward. There was another one, I can't think of his name. They called him Whitey, but I don't know what his name was.

MARCUS: No, I never knew much about them either. And then Jim Ward, the boy showed up, he's down in Ontario now.

VICTOR: Yeah, I guess he's down there. You see he was, of course he was a grandson. He was Herb Ward's boy.

MARCUS: S. S. and Sam Williams, would that be old Sylvester Williams there, the S. S. and ---

VICTOR: No, no, Sam Williams, he had a little place up there, well it's part of the Ed Campbell place now. Well it's all the old Ed Campbell place. It lays right there on the east side, just across the fence from Bentz.

MARCUS: Oh, uh huh.

VICTOR: Yeah, yeah. Old Sammy, he was, he was an uncle of Merle and Les McMullin. His mother was a Williams.

MARCUS: Well, I'll be darned.

VICTOR: Yeah.

MARCUS: Well, we've got a Bill Wiley.

VICTOR: No, and I never heard of him. He was before my --- I've heard of him, but I never knew him.

MARCUS: They wrote your dad's name [Thomas Cleveland] in there.

VICTOR: Yeah, I put it down too; they didn't have it there.

MARCUS: He went there when, early 1900's, didn't he?

VICTOR: Yeah, yes, him and Mother [Elsie Olive (McKinnon) Cleveland], they was married in 1900, and I was a year old, I was born in 1901. And they went over there in 1902 and worked for -- well they took a, bought a little homestead right from a fellow named Phil Bruner. And that was right in there on Muddy Creek. So, then they stayed there a year or two, and Dad said he would starve to death there, so he moved from there and we went to Nevada to work for the PLS Company. He worked there two years, and then we come back to, up there to the home place. They bought the home place in 1908, when we left. But anyway, we come back in 1910, and we stayed there 59 years on that place.

MARCUS: You did? Well you were at the Sodhouse for a while too?

VICTOR: Oh yes, we was at the Sodhouse.

MARCUS: Yes.

VICTOR: Yeah, he worked for the Frenchglen Company there.

MARCUS: Yeah, yeah.

VICTOR: Yeah.

MARCUS: I remember you and Dorie were just about kids together.

VICTOR: Yeah, yeah, yes, I can remember Doris was awful good to me.

MARCUS: She was born in '97.

VICTOR: Was she?

MARCUS: Yeah, she would have been a little older than you.

VICTOR: Yeah. Yes.

MARCUS: You lived there for 59 years?

VICTOR: Yeah, 59 years.

MARCUS: You had the post office, and it was called Van right there in your house, is that right?

VICTOR: Yeah, my first wife she run that post office for thirty-five years.

MARCUS: Well, you saw some tough winters up there, didn't you?

VICTOR: My god, I'll tell you. When we first went there, a lot of people don't believe it, but I'll tell you if we didn't have three and a half, or four foot of snow right out there in the yard, we didn't have no winter.

MARCUS: Uh huh.

VICTOR: And it was awful cold too.

MARCUS: Yes, you bet. You get that kind of snow; you get the cold with it.

VICTOR: Yeah, you bet you.

MARCUS: They go hand in hand.

VICTOR: Yeah, you bet you. Wallace Capps used to run quite a few horses in there on that Capps Mountain. Well, he never did, he put up a little bit of rye hay up there. He had 160 acres of dry land. Well of course, he would kind of take the, sometimes the winter colts, he'd gather some of them and take them in there. But anyway, it was --- oh, I can't remember the winter, but anyway, by god I tell you, there was dead horses all over that country the next spring.

MARCUS: Oh, I'll bet.

VICTOR: Oh boy, oh boy, the snow was deep, and it crusted, you know.

MARCUS: Yeah.

VICTOR: They couldn't get nothing to eat. They eat sagebrush, and they ate so much of that, that big brush, that it just perforated their stomachs.

MARCUS: Uh huh.

VICTOR: Yeah, yeah.

MARCUS: Eat the manes and the tails off of each other.

VICTOR: Yeah, yeah, they did. Done the same thing, you bet you.

MARCUS: Yeah. It's a pathetic thing, you know, you hear these people tell about these wild horses and this and that and the other thing. I said, "Did you ever see a horse die from starvation?" "Oh, no, no, no." Hell, they get down, and they will lay there for awhile, and then the predators come along and pick their eyes out while they are down there. And they will beat their heads on the ground.

VICTOR: Yeah, beat their heads on the ground.

MARCUS: And there will be a hole there that you can't believe. I said, "Would you like to see them go that way? Or would you like to see them taken care of right?" I said they have to be controlled the same as game.

VICTOR: Doggone right, they've got to have help sometimes.

MARCUS: You bet, you bet they do.

VICTOR: Yeah.

MARCUS: It's pretty hard to convince people of that sometimes. These people that has never saw a horse in their lives know more about them than you do, you know, anymore.

VICTOR: Oh yeah.

MARCUS: Yeah, you bet. Well Vic, tell me something about old Sylvester Williams, Vess Williams.

VICTOR: Yeah. Well you see, he --- his wife and Lou Sitz were sisters. They was Holladay girls. Well, the old lady Holladay, the way I understand it, why she had --- there was Les, and Frank, and Mrs. Sitz, and Mrs. Williams when she come there. And she settled over there on that hot spring, warm spring, and they run a stage station there. So, then Vess, he had a, well I think he had a stage line over in the Prairie City or John Day country.

MARCUS: Yes, I've heard Lee talk about that.

VICTOR: Yeah, so he got over here, and he got acquainted with her, and they got married. So,

they had their family then. And Vess went back, and just before he died, and got a contract again over there at John Day. Well Lee finished that up, yeah. Yeah, when the old man died, why he went over there and ---

MARCUS: Then they'd had a stage route from Drewsey down to Westfall too, at one time.

VICTOR: Yeah, yeah, they had one.

MARCUS: They talk about the Fopiano Station there.

VICTOR: Yeah.

MARCUS: Yeah, we made the trip down, took Lee and Pauline Braymen and I went down, went over Bendire Mountain and down. The old Fopiano Station, they were tearing it down with a cat. They were just, a big old stout building, they were rolling it all around, but they were kind of wearing it out there. They had it about forty feet away from the foundation, still working on it.

VICTOR: Yeah, the old Fopiano.

MARCUS: Well getting back up in your country there, somebody, the old places right down below you there ---

VICTOR: That was the Gearhart place.

MARCUS: Yeah, Gearhart, yeah.

VICTOR: Yeah, that was Polk Gearhart, he lived down there. And then Billy Gearhart, his brother, why he owned the place down there that Acton has got now, at that time, yeah.

MARCUS: Well the place that Terry has got there now, what place was that?

VICTOR: Well, I don't know what place that was before Vess got it.

MARCUS: Oh.

VICTOR: They was there at the time we went over there.

MARCUS: He owned it then?

VICTOR: Yeah. But I don't know ---

MARCUS: Well then E. E. Larsen was down the river there from you too for a long time, wasn't he?

VICTOR: Well yeah, yeah, he was at --- now they never mentioned Jim Anderson or Larsen either

one there. But anyway, why Bentz he has got that place now. And they called it the Larsen place yet. But Jim Anderson, he was there, had a big family and raised them up there. And let's see, I guess there, no there is one of the Anderson girls alive yet, two of them. One of them married Don Masterson, she is still alive. Then there is one of them, the youngest girl, ... something; I never did know her married name.

MARCUS: Now see we had Cas Drinkwater, and what did they call her store when they first opened up there?

VICTOR: Well when that there store first, when we first come here in 1910, why it had changed hands several times, you see. And they called it Porter, Miller and Sitz at that time.

MARCUS: Oh, uh huh.

VICTOR: Yeah, yeah there was a fellow named Porter, and another fellow named Miller, and then Lou Sitz he bought into it. So that's what they named it. And then it went ahead with that name for quite awhile, and finally why Porter and Sitz, they called it that. And then I guess that name stayed with it all the time, as far as I know.

MARCUS: Yeah, I think that's what they called it, Porter-Sitz Store there.

VICTOR: Yeah, it never did change.

MARCUS: Now Cas, Cas Drinkwater was involved with the store there for many, many years, wasn't she?

VICTOR: Yeah, yeah, her and Clarence they owned it for a long time, yeah.

MARCUS: And then Sam, he moved in there after the war, was it Lee and ---

VICTOR: Yeah, yeah, well no he come in there before the war.

MARCUS: Oh, uh huh.

VICTOR: And then he went and took a stretch in the Service, and then he come back and he went in partners with Mike O'Toole. Well, I don't know, he told me that the wife was too fast on the figures for him. But anyway, why he went back to work for Cas in the store.

MARCUS: I've made a tape with those folks here, oh it's five or six years ago, and I asked Cas where she was born. "Oh," she said, "I don't know, out here in the middle of the street of Drewsey

someplace," she said.

VICTOR: I think she was born on the John Day. Because that's where her folks come from.

MARCUS: She was, huh?

VICTOR: Yeah, yeah.

MARCUS: She had quite a sense of humor, you know.

VICTOR: Oh, you bet, yeah.

MARCUS: You bet, she was a dandy.

VICTOR: Yeah, you bet. Yeah, old Cassie, she was a great asset to that country over there, I'll tell you.

MARCUS: Oh boy, you bet.

VICTOR: One time, by god, we had some machine accident, it was haying time. Supposed to be in Drewsey --- well I went down there to get them, and by god they weren't there. So, we was needing them pretty bad, and so I called Dad up, and I said, "What, the machine ... hasn't came," I says, "what should I do?" "Well," he said, "you're that far, why go ahead to Ontario and get them." "Well," I said, "I haven't got any money with me." "Well," he said, "maybe Cas will let you have some." Sure enough, she let me have twenty dollars to pick up that. Of course, twenty dollars, that was a whole lot of money at that time.

MARCUS: Oh boy, I'll say it was a lot of money.

VICTOR: You bet. I brought it back to the ... sent the rest down to her. Yeah. Yeah, you bet, Cas was hard to beat.

MARCUS: Yeah, she sure was, by golly. Cas and those old timers are all gone, aren't they?

VICTOR: Yeah.

MARCUS: We're into just a different era.

VICTOR: By god, you bet they are different.

MARCUS: You bet.

VICTOR: Yeah. Well these generation, they won't even to speak to you, a lot of them.

MARCUS: No.

VICTOR: No, they just ignore you.

MARCUS: No. You bet. But out on the desert, you know, where we run cattle, Foster Flat country in Clover Swale, and Jack Mountain out there, and those old, those old bachelors out there would do anything for you.

VICTOR: Why, yeah, you bet you.

MARCUS: And you could come and stay as long, and you were just as welcome as the flowers in May, you know.

VICTOR: Yeah.

MARCUS: Steve and Dino Kern, you knew them.

VICTOR: Yes, yeah.

MARCUS: And Oscar Downs, and Matt Davies, you knew old Mat.

VICTOR: Mat Davies, yeah.

MARCUS: Old Nelson, and some of those fellows out there. But there isn't any of them, they're all gone now.

VICTOR: Well yeah, they're all gone.

MARCUS: Yeah, you bet.

VICTOR: Yeah, yeah.

MARCUS: They sure are.

VICTOR: Yeah, they're not a --- I don't know, I don't think they replaced them very good either. Well you just can't replace them, no.

MARCUS: You can't replace them, that's what it amounts to, Vic. No, you can't replace them.

VICTOR: It's just a different generation, that's all.

MARCUS: You bet, it sure is.

VICTOR: Yeah.

MARCUS: Well let's see. We get over in Pringle Flat there, there should be --- see we got the Milers there.

VICTOR: Yeah, let's see.

MARCUS: Old Charlie, he was --- did he have a ranch in there?

VICTOR: Well yes, he had that there place where Chelsea lives now; you see that was the old Kimball Flat Company Ranch.

MARCUS: I knew it was.

VICTOR: Yeah, yeah.

MARCUS: I didn't know how, just how it was acquired there.

VICTOR: Yeah, but Charlie before that, why he --- oh after him and Hattie was married, why they lived over there at, well in there close to the Lamb Ranch --- Stinkingwater.

MARCUS: Oh, Stinkingwater.

VICTOR: Yeah, Stinkingwater. So, then they, see he was buckaroo boss at the Company for years there, Charlie was, before he was married. And then they, when the Company started selling out, why of course he was kind of on the inside track there, so he bought up some of them bonds or whatever they were.

MARCUS: That was in the early '30's when they started to going broke, yeah.

VICTOR: Yeah, yeah. When they was a going broke.

MARCUS: Yeah, uh huh.

VICTOR: So, they have had that ever since, yeah.

MARCUS: Well, the Duntens there, that's kind of a strong hold for them too, isn't it?

VICTOR: Yes. Charlie and Bert, they was there when we went there in 1910, and I don't know how much longer before. Yeah.

MARCUS: Well, that was the father of Byron and ---

VICTOR: Yeah, Byron and --- but you see Turen and, well he had a half-brother, and then he had a full brother, Loren. Well that was Bert's boys. And then Charlie's boys was Byron and Floyd.

MARCUS: Byron and Floyd are brothers?

VICTOR: Yeah, they are brothers.

MARCUS: Yeah. I knew that Turen was a cousin.

VICTOR: They are cousins to ---

MARCUS: But I didn't know about Byron.

VICTOR: Yeah.

MARCUS: Or Floyd.

VICTOR: And there was another boy, Monty, but that was ---

MARCUS: I've heard of Monty, yeah.

VICTOR: Yeah, he was by ---

MARCUS: Never knew him.

VICTOR: --- Bert's first wife. I think their name was Scott. They used to live up there on the river too, I think. And I ain't too certain but what they had a little flourmill or something. There used to be a flourmill up there on the river, and I believe they run it. But I won't say.

MARCUS: Oh, there was, huh?

VICTOR: Yeah.

MARCUS: Well they had a flourmill just across the river there at Drewsey too didn't they?

VICTOR: Well that's the one I meant, I guess, yeah.

MARCUS: Yeah.

VICTOR: That was the one I guess, yeah.

MARCUS: I know Cas telling me about how they used to play in there and find whiskey casks in the grain there, when they were kids.

VICTOR: Yeah, I guess. Yeah, that's what it was I guess.

MARCUS: Yeah, over there close to where Jim Freeman lives, I guess, wasn't it?

VICTOR: I think so, right in there somewhere.

MARCUS: I think it was, up in there somewhere too.

VICTOR: Yeah.

MARCUS: But they used to have New Years over there with Lee and Gladys when George Riley was alive. And they would come down, and George tell stories there, you know, about --- He could sure tell some good ones too. He was telling me --- Terry picked up a picture from someplace that showed the old Drewsey. And there was a building outside of town there a little ways, and he said,

"You know I saw a feller run across there to the saloon from that house," he said, "without his pants on." And he said, "There was a feller shooting at him every jump, but he never did hit him." He said, "This feller was supposed to go to Canyon City." Said, "He just rode up on the hill and then run and come back." (Laughter) I said, you sure that wasn't George Riley? (Laughter) "No, I don't think so," he said.

VICTOR: Wasn't certain about that.

MARCUS: No. Oh gosh, I got a kick out of him. But they trespassed him here when they first got the BLM in here on his horses. And he said, "I went in there and I told them damn fellows, ---" But he never did say just what he told them. But I expect it was a plenty, don't you suppose?

VICTOR: Yeah, he would tell them pretty rough, I said, yeah.

MARCUS: You bet, he was a character; there is no question about that.

VICTOR: He sure was. Well sir, you was talking about that, when the BLM first come in, they called it the Taylor Act. Anyway, why old George Baker, he used to run a blacksmith shop there in Burns. So, he finally went to Juntura when things got kind of dead up there, and cars got to coming in more. So, he went to Juntura and run a garage down there. Well one time, why he also peddled gas up there with a truck at the ranch. Come out one morning, he kind of stammered and stuttered, he was awful slow in his speech. So, he got to telling one thing and another, and finally why Dad says, "Well by god George," he says, "the boy and I has got to go to Vale to a Taylor meeting this morning." He said, we was supposed to be there about eleven o'clock, I think just before dinner. Well George said, "I'll tell you Tom," he says, "they'll call you down there to Vale, yeah, they'll give you a pill, yeah, about two weeks why they'll call you back, yeah, they'll give you another pill. Says in about two weeks more they will call you down there and give you the whole damn bottle."

(Laughter) That's just about all they done.

MARCUS: Wasn't so far off at that, was he?

VICTOR: No.

MARCUS: No, you bet he wasn't.

VICTOR: No, give you the whole bottle.

MARCUS: Give you the whole bottle.

VICTOR: Yeah.

MARCUS: Well then, the Cronin's, we haven't talked about them yet.

VICTOR: Well ---

MARCUS: Harvey is about the only one I knew --- I knew Clarence, Clarence and Harvey, and then the boys.

VICTOR: Well there was, let's see, one, two, three, four, five, --- six boys and three girls, I guess, in Joe's family. And anyway, why they lived there on that, well it's right across, up there by Jim Sitz's little place up in there. And Harvey, he owns it yet.

MARCUS: Oh, uh huh.

VICTOR: Yeah. Anyway, it's right there by the Jim Sitz place, just across the river from Jim. And see Joe's wife, she was --- well it was Belle Jones, they called him Cougar. His daughter, she was one of them.

MARCUS: Yeah, I've heard of Cougar Jones.

VICTOR: Yeah, she was one of them. There was six or eight family in that, or kids in that family too. But anyway why, Joe he raised a big family there, and never --- it was a good family too as far as I know. You never heard no commotion out of them at all. Tend to their own business. See he was a half-brother to, oh, see my mind don't work right ---

MARCUS: Well, I think it is working pretty darn good.

VICTOR: Well, Charlie Cronin and Joe --- oh that other Cronin that used to be down here, worked for the PLS Company so many years. Bart Cronin.

MARCUS: Bart, no I never --- I knew a Charlie Cronin. I played ball with him at Frenchglen here years ago.

VICTOR: Well, that was young Charlie.

MARCUS: Yeah, young Charlie.

VICTOR: See old Charlie, why he was a half-brother to Joe, and a full brother to Bart. But anyway, why he married, oh I can't think of his last name.

MARCUS: Well this young Charlie, he is still alive, isn't he? Doesn't he live down at Ontario?

VICTOR: I think so, yeah, I think so. He married down there, yeah. He was wilder than a buck deer at one time, that feller.

MARCUS: He was, was he?

VICTOR: Oh, boy, you bet you. There wasn't nothing slow about him, yeah.

MARCUS: He was working for the Company. We used to play ball up at Frenchglen in the early '30's. They were working on one of the ranches up there in Catlow Valley, and he come down there and played ball with us. Drink a little home brew.

VICTOR: Yeah. Yeah, him and Roy Clark, they run together, and they was a good team, you know.

MARCUS: Yeah, they were pretty well paired off there all right.

VICTOR: You bet you. You just had to be a bigger man than either one of them, to drink more whiskey, that's all. Yeah.

MARCUS: By golly, yeah. Yeah, you know all about --- you kind of related there to ---

VICTOR: Oh yes, Roy and I was cousins, you know.

MARCUS: To Roy, you bet, you bet.

VICTOR: Yeah, I don't know if it was of any benefit to him or not. (Laughter)

MARCUS: Did you ever know Frank?

VICTOR: Oh god yes, yeah.

MARCUS: I never did see him.

VICTOR: Well, he was older. He was the oldest one of them. Frank, and Roy, and then Bessie, she was the oldest.

MARCUS: I knew Bessie, yeah, I knew the three kids.

VICTOR: Yeah, one time Bob McKinnon, of course he was my uncle, why he --- him and Dad was a going, they was here in Burns, and Dad was staying all night with them. Well by god they was a going from the barn, the livery stable back up to the house to stay all night. Well by god they met old Frank, he was in the lead, and that there, he used to be marshal here, a rough feller.

Anyway, this marshal was a running Frank, to try to catch up with him to arrest him. Well Frank he fell down on them old board sidewalks and hooked his pocket, by god, on the nail he had sticking up, and tore his pants off. (Laughter) Anyway, why this here marshal caught up with him about that time, and anyway why Frank he was a telling his troubles. So, Dad and Uncle Bob McKinnon, why they talked this here marshal out of arresting him. Said, "We'll take him back down to the barn and put him to bed down there." So, they did. So, then Uncle Bob, why he had to go hunt up old Lynn Brown, or Ben Brown and get him out of bed so he could get Frank a new pair of overalls.

MARCUS: That sounds like Rube Haines, was that who the marshal was?

VICTOR: Yeah, that's who that was, I couldn't think of the name. Yeah, Rube Haines.

MARCUS: Sounds like him. Yeah. Cavender shot him here a few times.

VICTOR: Yeah, yeah. Yeah that Joe Cavender I guess.

MARCUS: Yeah. We were in here to a Chautauqua show, right across from the garage there when that took place. Sure emptied that tent in a hurry now I'll tell. They went out through the sides and every place else, all that shooting taking place just outside there.

VICTOR: I'll bet they did.

MARCUS: Yeah, that was about 1923 I think, '22. Quite a while ago, anyway.

VICTOR: Long time ago, yeah.

MARCUS: Yeah, you bet.

VICTOR: That Chautauqua it didn't last too long here did it?

MARCUS: No, no it didn't.

VICTOR: A year or two is about all I guess.

MARCUS: They had good shows, you know, for us anyway. Those shows were sure a treat when they come through the country, you know.

VICTOR: Oh yeah. You bet.

MARCUS: We didn't have a TV or a radio to turn on.

VICTOR: No.

MARCUS: We went on a historical society trip here one time, a tour, a whole busload of us. We

went down to Crane and around. We used to dance there, and we used to dance here. And Art Sawyer was along, and he said, "Is that all you folks did was dance around here?" Said, "That's all there was to do."

VICTOR: By god, yes.

MARCUS: You bet.

VICTOR: ... has got to see a lot of fights, you know, while you was at them dances.

MARCUS: Yeah.

VICTOR: By god, one time over there at Drewsey when I was a kid, by god there was seven fights there at a dance one night. Well I didn't have nerve enough to fight. And as long as the musicians would play, well I stayed in the house and danced.

MARCUS: Sure, that's what you went there for. Well that same thing happened down there at Crane in the '30's, you know.

VICTOR: Yeah.

MARCUS: When old Fiser was there. Hell, they danced until mid-night, and fight until morning.

VICTOR: Yes sir.

MARCUS: You bet. You bet they did, they had other amusements besides dancing with them too. Well, tell me something about Mike O'Toole; we're about to miss old Mike.

VICTOR: Well then Mike, you see, he come in here, why he was a young fellow and he herded sheep for Pat Conley a long time. And then finally why he got married, he married this ... girl here in town. And then he went back and they bought that ranch from Pat Conley, and went ahead and run sheep there. And he run there until he died, yeah, yeah.

MARCUS: He was a pretty big operator at one time, wasn't he?

VICTOR: You bet he was, yeah.

MARCUS: Yeah. He owned the Lamb Ranch, and the Bradfield place. I don't know whether they live there now or ---

VICTOR: Yeah. Well Mike, if he hadn't liked whiskey so well, he'd of been all right. Yeah, that's what happened to him, yeah.

MARCUS: He had a charmed life anyway, didn't he? He wrecked, I don't know how many cars, never got a scratch. They said he was sober when he got killed, that's when he turned out and killed himself.

VICTOR: Yeah, that's what it said. Went in that hillside, rim rocks. One-time old Mike, they told about he come into Drewsey there, and he had a whole houseful of kids, you know.

MARCUS: Yeah.

VICTOR: Somebody says, "Mike, have you got them all?" "Well by god, I don't know, I haven't counted them yet." (Laughter) And he lost one out of the pickup, the little ..., they had to go back and hunt him up. (Laughter)

MARCUS: He's about as bad as Mann Bundy. Do you remember Mann? He was so absent minded; he'd drive off and leave the kid setting by the gate or something. Get out and open the gate for him, he'd drive right off ---

SIDE B

VICTOR: ... coming from five miles down the road, but maybe not that far, but my god it was noisy. Just a bunch of ... a hanging ...

MARCUS: Golly, he was quite a man, no question about that. Last time I saw him, you did too, setting on the, they called it the Bundy tree down there at the sale yard. He sat under there, wasn't able to do anything else except sit there, to visit with people when they come over.

VICTOR: The poor old devil.

MARCUS: Well let's see, we ought to figure out something --- figure out somebody else to talk about.

VICTOR: Do you want to look at this here paper? I got it all doubled up here.

MARCUS: Yeah.

VICTOR: Maybe it will help you figure out something.

MARCUS: Yeah, here is the Swamp Ranch, I never heard of the Swamp Ranch.

VICTOR: Well, that was the old George Riley place.

MARCUS: It was, huh?

VICTOR: Yeah, yeah. All there was left there when we moved there was a great big barn. And then George he bought it from the Company, and he built the house there.

MARCUS: And then we have a Holladay Hot Springs here.

VICTOR: Well now that there is, Vess William's mother-in-law, she is the one I was telling you about that come over there to that spring and put up a stage station.

MARCUS: Oh, uh huh.

VICTOR: And she had two boys that came there with her. One of them was Vess, and one of them Frank. And then she had the two girls, Mrs. Vess Williams, and Mrs. Lou Sitz.

MARCUS: Oh, uh huh. Yeah, I knew they were sisters.

VICTOR: Yeah, I don't know if there was any other children or not. But she --- but never any of them came here.

MARCUS: Well, where was the spring at again?

VICTOR: Well it was over there, well it's just right across the hill from the old Sitz place, over there in a little flat. It used to be the stage run by there years ago, that went over the mountain there. It come from Harney. And it was about five miles from the Sitz's home place, down the river. Up there where Jim lives now.

MARCUS: Yeah, just as you went out over the hill there.

VICTOR: Yeah, just went over the hill. Little flat in there, and that hot spring, that's all there was.

MARCUS: Yeah, that was called Holladay? Uh huh.

VICTOR: Yeah, uh huh.

MARCUS: They've got it as Stinkingwater Stage --- talking about stage stops here. They've got a Stinkingwater, but that would be the same place.

VICTOR: I think so, I think so, yeah.

MARCUS: And the Edward's place.

VICTOR: Well that there, that was up there above the Vanderveer place, the next ranch just above there. And it was off the road just a little ways, right down on the creek there, yeah.

MARCUS: Oh, uh huh. Let's see here, this one here we'll never see again, the Warm Springs Ranch. Do you know much about ---?

VICTOR: No, it's covered up with water.

MARCUS: Do you know much about it?

VICTOR: Well I know when it --- before they built the reservoir there, why there was what they call the Ben Jordon place, and PLS Company Ranch, and Armstrong's they had ranches there, yeah. Now Armstrong's, well Ewing Armstrong, he was married to my dad's cousin is how I come to know about that, I was down there. Yeah. Yeah, there was just the three ranches in there that I know of anyway. Well the Warm Springs Ranch, it was considered a pretty good ranch.

MARCUS: Well I was out here to Wes Shepards, Annie Shepards, you know --- Jordan's.

VICTOR: Yeah, she was a Jordan.

MARCUS: She had a picture that was about four feet long, and about this wide. It was rolled out, and it was of the Warm Springs area in there.

VICTOR: Well that's where --- that's the place they used to own.

MARCUS: Yeah, there was alfalfa hay all over the place there.

VICTOR: Oh, you bet, yeah.

MARCUS: It must have been real productive in there.

VICTOR: Yeah. Well it had the, of course it was the end of the river all right, the Malheur, that's before it went in the valley, you see.

MARCUS: Yeah, over in the canyon there.

VICTOR: So, they had pretty good winters, so they had plenty of water. Yeah, it was productive then. Armstrong's, they had good rights there, and the Warm Spring Company Ranch, and no doubt it was a good one. It was probably the oldest one of them in the valley there, I don't know. Yeah.

MARCUS: I told Annie, I said, "Why don't you let me make you a frame for this and put a glass over it? This picture you will never replace." But she says, "It doesn't belong to me, it belongs to some of the relatives." And I was back there about a week later. I bought some poles from them,

and made a mistake in the money, I went back and gave them some more money for them. And she said well some relative came and got the picture while I was --- during that time. I don't know whether she put it away, or whether it really left, or what. But that picture, it should be, you know, right out where people can see it. Because you will never see it again.

VICTOR: Yeah you see, now Lloyd Jordan over there at Drewsey, why he is a cousin of Annie's.

MARCUS: Uh huh.

VICTOR: Yeah, there was four or five of them in that, boys in that family. Ed Jordan, John Jordan, Frank Jordan, Ben, and Dan, and I guess that's all.

MARCUS: Now these Jordan's down here on Main Street don't claim any relation to these people, do they?

VICTOR: No, they are no relation to them.

MARCUS: No relation, are they?

VICTOR: Different layout, yeah.

MARCUS: I remember Dutchie, we called him in school.

VICTOR: You see that Jordan Valley, I think some of the older Jordan's; I think that's where it got its name. Yeah, so Lloyd told me, yeah.

MARCUS: I heard my mother talk about one of the Jordan's that was a fiddler.

VICTOR: Yeah, I think that was Frank.

MARCUS: And she said that he was seen there, to come over and fiddle at the Narrows, and somebody would start a fight there in the hall, they said he just come down there with that old fiddle bow and start a whipping them over the head, and he'd whip them right out the door, and go right on playing his fiddle. (Laughter)

VICTOR: Yeah, they was some of them older ones was pretty tough old customers, I guess.

MARCUS: They tell a story too about one of the Jordan's down there; they had him up for killing beef.

VICTOR: Naturally.

MARCUS: And so, got the kid in there to testify. He held a lantern for him, you know. It was a

midnight job of course. So, the kid said --- the judge asked him, or the attorney asked him, said, "Well, whose beef was it?" "Well," he said, "we didn't know until we got it down."

VICTOR: Yeah.

MARCUS: "Well when you skinned it, you must have known." "Oh yeah," he said, "it turned out to be one of Paw's."

VICTOR: They didn't figure on that.

MARCUS: No, made a mistake and killed his own beef.

VICTOR: That's what they --- Jeff Cawlfeld --- well Frank, he was a brother to Jeff, he told me a story, they used to live down there. A whole bunch of them married them Simmons girls that lived down there at the Narrows. But anyway why ---

MARCUS: Yeah, they job you any time they got a chance.

VICTOR: Yeah, oh boy, they were the worst in the world.

MARCUS: Yeah, they sure were.

VICTOR: Well by god, they seemed --- I'm going to have to think about names again --- George Cawlfeld, he had one cow. Well by god, Buster, he was the youngest one. Well by god they wanted a beef, so by god old Buster, why he brought these in, and he told George he says, which one to kill. He says, it was supposed to be a Company cow. By god, the only cow that old George had. Said Buster wasn't very popular after that.

MARCUS: He probably got the wrong cow.

VICTOR: Yeah.

MARCUS: Kind of like the Jordan's I guess.

VICTOR: Yeah, I guess.

MARCUS: Well here they got Milt, and Dan, and Jess Davis. They haven't got old Percy here.

VICTOR: Well no, Percy see he is Milt's boy. They had another boy, but he died when he was young. And then, but Jess and Dan, and then there was another one they haven't got there, is John Jordan, they was brothers, yeah.

MARCUS: Well now, I used to hear a lot about the Holebos. They got a Joe Holebos here.

VICTOR: Yeah. Well he was, now he was a brother-in-law you see of, oh ... and Oscar Newell, and then Bud Metcalf's dad, he was another one that married a Davis girl, yeah. But they was, Joe he used to have a little ranch down there below the Jim Anderson place on Wolf Creek there. Just between it and the Lillard place. And they had two boys and two girls, yeah.

MARCUS: Well the Robbins, the Robbins place there, I never did know anything about those people. They called it the Robbins place.

VICTOR: Well yeah, that there is the Abner Robbins place, you see.

MARCUS: Is that the same fellow that had the store then?

VICTOR: Yeah, uh huh.

MARCUS: Oh, I see.

VICTOR: Yeah, his was the best ranch, by golly, over in that country, that ranch was.

MARCUS: I'll bet.

VICTOR: Oh, you bet you, that was a good ranch. Lots of water, my god, and good hay land, yeah.

MARCUS: How about Harry Clark?

VICTOR: Well Harry, his dad was Mose dad, or Mose Clark, and he was gone in the country though when we went over there. And Harry, he was, oh twelve or fourteen years old. And Harry's mother, she run the post office for years there in Drewsey. Well, it was the same place that Alan Williams has got now. Used to be a building there at that time, it finally burnt down. Yeah.

MARCUS: And then the Altnow's. They were old timers there.

VICTOR: Yeah, they was out there. You see Bill, he was old one now, but he --- they lived out there on Otis, there where the old home place is. And so, Bill he finally married a Murphy girl, or Murray. She come from the John Day country.

MARCUS: Oh, uh huh.

VICTOR: Yeah. So, they got a place over there on the North Fork of the Malheur, in there. Well so the Altnow place is just --- clear up above the reservoir, way up there.

MARCUS: Uh huh.

VICTOR: It was a good ranch. And they done all right, Bill he didn't drink like Albert did. He accumulated a whole lot, and of course he had a lot of backing. The Murray's, they were Scotsmen and they was well off. He had all the backing he needed, yeah. They used to run sheep, and then they finally went to cattle, yeah.

MARCUS: Well, Albert was the one they called Dutch.

VICTOR: Yeah.

MARCUS: Is that right?

VICTOR: Yeah.

MARCUS: Clarence Young told me this story, just shortly before he died. I was eating dinner there with him in the Palace. When he was sheriff there, you know, in the late '20's, he said he got a call from Drewsey that somebody was butchering beef over here, and they needed some help. So, he said the roads, hell you couldn't go over here in a car. So, he said, "If you fellows can get to Juntura, I'll come down on the train, and you can pick me up and I'll go up there." Well the time come to go, and Clarence couldn't go, so he sent his deputy who was --- I can't think of his name right now. But anyway, he was really a teetotaler. So, he goes down to investigate this beef business. And when he got there, why Dutch Altnow and two or three more of those fellows met him there, and they were so drunk they couldn't hit the ground with their hats, and he arrested all three of them and brought them back to town and never did get on with the ---

VICTOR: (Laughter) Never did get the guy they wanted.

MARCUS: No.

VICTOR: Oh, Dutch was awful bad to drink. God he could have been a millionaire if he just hadn't of been full of whiskey. Ruination of him.

MARCUS: It's ruined many a good man, hasn't it?

VICTOR: Yes sir, I tell you, it's put a whole lot of women over a washboard making a living for a bunch of kids is what that done.

MARCUS: You bet you.

VICTOR: Joe Lamb was one of them, my god almighty. His wife, that poor old lady, she washed

for them their hoodlums around Drewsey there, and the Company men, all of them, you know. And they didn't have no doggone washing machines them days.

MARCUS: Oh, no, no.

VICTOR: No, it was a washboard and a tub.

MARCUS: You bet. If you had any hide left on your hands when evening come, you were pretty good.

VICTOR: Why no, just be raw, you know.

MARCUS: You bet. And old Lou Bradfield, I remember old Lou.

VICTOR: Yeah, he used to run a lot of horses out there on Stinkingwater.

MARCUS: He was kind of a racehorse man too, wasn't he?

VICTOR: Yeah, yeah.

MARCUS: Yeah.

VICTOR: Yeah. He got to fooling around with them horses, he had them race horse studs, and he got to crossing with them their doggone Cayuse mares, and boy they was cranky horses, them there ponies. You never did get one of them broke.

MARCUS: I'll be darned.

VICTOR: God, no. Yeah, he had a few horses run pretty good, I guess.

MARCUS: He --- Pat and Susan owns the property out there on Stinkingwater now.

VICTOR: Yeah.

MARCUS: Well, they got an Ed Beede.

VICTOR: Ed Beede.

MARCUS: Uh huh.

VICTOR: Yeah, there was another one of them, they didn't mention him. His name was Arthur. You see Ed, he --- they was --- when he started in, in that country over there, why he had 160 acres in our old home field up there. There was Carter, and Wheeldon, and Beede place, all three of them, 160 to each one, in that ranch.

MARCUS: Uh huh.

VICTOR: And so, then after he sold out up there to George Howe, so that's when my dad got the places from George Howe, yeah.

MARCUS: Well Roy was out here on Stinkingwater where ---

VICTOR: Yeah, yeah, he used to own that there place there, yeah.

MARCUS: Yeah, Glenn owns it now.

VICTOR: Glenn, yeah.

MARCUS: I knew Roy there in Burns there.

VICTOR: Well let's see, there was --- Roy I guess he was the youngest, yeah. There was Arthur, they called --- he was named after his uncle. He was the oldest boy, and then Roy, and then Fred. Fred, you see --- Roy he used to run the Drewsey post office. He run it for a long time there.

MARCUS: Oh, uh huh. Well let's see, how about the Capps. We didn't talk about Wallace and Walter Capps.

VICTOR: Yeah, they owned a place up there, oh about three miles from us. We finally wound up with that dry land field up there. Yeah, they used to run a lot of horses. That's about --- well anyway Wallace did. He was married to a Gearhart girl. And Walt, why he was married to, oh what was her name, ... But Walt and his wife, they separated, and then they came back together, after we had been over there several years. And I think she, I think he got her down in the Willamette Valley, yeah.

MARCUS: Is there any of them alive? There used to be a Jimmy Capps. I haven't seen or heard of him in quite awhile.

VICTOR: Well no, Jimmy, I asked Compton Moffet the other day, that was, Compton was his brother-in-law, and I asked him if Jimmy was alive, and he said, "No".

MARCUS: Uh huh.

VICTOR: Jim was about eight years older than I am. Yeah, I went to school with him. When we first went over there, now they talk about these here schoolteachers, they can't handle all these kids. By god there was nineteen in that schoolhouse the first year that I went to school there, and one teacher took care of all of them, and all the grades. The first to the eighth, yeah.

MARCUS: You bet. Where was that schoolhouse at?

VICTOR: Well it was, just about right straight south of our house, across the field. It was on the old road that went up to the Cawfield's place up there. It was just about the, oh about the middle of the valley there.

MARCUS: Oh.

VICTOR: Yeah.

MARCUS: What did they call it?

VICTOR: Well they just called it the Van District, is all.

MARCUS: Van District.

VICTOR: Yeah.

MARCUS: Then you had the Wolf Creek School on down.

VICTOR: Yeah, it was down below Jim Anderson's ---

MARCUS: Right about where the roads fork there.

VICTOR: Yeah, yeah. It was there, yeah.

MARCUS: There was one at Pringle Flat there too, wasn't there?

VICTOR: Yeah, one at Kimball Flat.

MARCUS: Kimball Flat.

VICTOR: Of course, there is one still there at Pine Creek, yeah. Of course, that's the main one up in there now, is Pine Creek.

MARCUS: Yeah, yeah.

VICTOR: And you see they used to have a high school in Drewsey when I was a kid over there.

MARCUS: There was?

VICTOR: Yeah. I never did look inside of the high school until after I come to Burns. I went down here to the wrestling match, went down there. It was the only time I got to look at the high school, yeah.

MARCUS: Yeah, by golly --- then the Drewitts. I never knew the Drewitt's, but I hear quite a lot of them anymore.

VICTOR: Yeah, they was --- Jack Drewett, he was married to Ed Howes oldest daughter. And then there was Elmer Drewett, and then there was another one, and I can't think of his name. They called him Croppy, he was a great big son-of-a-gun. Awful husky man. Now you see they was uncles to George Riley.

MARCUS: Oh, they were?

VICTOR: Yeah.

MARCUS: Well George was a pretty good-sized man himself.

VICTOR: Yeah.

MARCUS: You bet.

VICTOR: That's where they got it I guess. Because Carl Riley, he was a little man, he wasn't --- Well he wasn't as big as I am, I don't think.

MARCUS: And the Elliott brothers.

VICTOR: No, I never knew them.

MARCUS: And Dorst, D O R S T, I never heard that name.

VICTOR: Well that there was Jack Darst, he used to own this Idlewild Mill, or mine up here.

MARCUS: Mine, yeah.

VICTOR: Yeah, yeah.

MARCUS: That's where it was.

VICTOR: Yeah, so then, yeah ---

MARCUS: Well let's see, we've got a Tom Delaney.

VICTOR: Well, that's another hearsay proposition with me too. He was an Irishman I guess.

MARCUS: Sounds like it, doesn't it?

VICTOR: Yeah, I think so. I have heard a whole lot about Tom Delaney.

MARCUS: William Farrell.

VICTOR: Let's see, he was, Farrell --- well I can't just place him too.

MARCUS: Well, we've got a John and a George Farley. Does that ring a bell with you?

VICTOR: No. There was a George Far---, or Charlie Farrens. Used to live over there.

MARCUS: Here is a John Fenton.

VICTOR: No, that's another one I ---

MARCUS: And a George Farrens, or John Farrens it is.

VICTOR: Yeah, that's John Farrens. They called him Farris. But anyway, he lived there; well Bentz owns the ranch now. It's right on down the river below Bentz there.

MARCUS: Oh.

VICTOR: Yeah. You see it joins on to the Van Middlesworth place. Middlesworth, he's where Jack Miller used to live, just under the hill there, off the road. And then the Farrens place, it joined on the south side.

MARCUS: Oh yes, yeah, I know where you mean.

VICTOR: Good little ranch.

MARCUS: Uh huh. Well Jay Gould, what did Jay Gould do over here?

VICTOR: Well, Jay Gould, well there used to be a Jay Gould here and a Willy Gould. And Willy, he was a deputy sheriff for Lon Richardson for years and years. I guess as long as Lon had the office. And Jay, why I never heard of him over there. There was a Jay, he was a brother to Willy, and he lives here in Burns. And what the devil, he worked ---

MARCUS: He worked in the post office.

VICTOR: Yeah, that's where it was.

MARCUS: Yes, I went to school with two of his kids, and started in 1923. That's the reason I was asking.

VICTOR: Yeah. Now you see, now there was another Gould over there in the Drewsey side, they didn't mention him, but he was Tom [Samuel] Gould. Now he was, he was a brother-in-law to, oh hell, there was a whole bunch of them girls. Mrs. Rose Howser, and ---

MARCUS: Oh.

VICTOR: Yeah, he was a --- he married a Howser, one of them --- let's see, what was their names? There was Howser, and Burbank Clay's wife, and ---

MARCUS: Joe Clark married one of them.

VICTOR: Yeah, she was one, yeah.

MARCUS: Yeah. Maggie Bowers.

VICTOR: Yeah, she was another one. There was five or six of them girls.

MARCUS: And then one or two of them married a Loggan or two there too. There was a whole house full of those girls.

VICTOR: Married a --- yeah, yeah.

MARCUS: Well let's see here, what have we got --- Turkey and A. I. Johnson. That sounds like a -

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VICTOR: Well now A. I., he was Cassie Drinkwater's dad. And Turkey, why he used to --- he was before my time. But anyway, why he had part of the Gearhart place next to us.

MARCUS: He did, huh?

VICTOR: Yeah.

MARCUS: Lived up there around Van.

VICTOR: Yeah.

MARCUS: Uh huh.

VICTOR: Yeah. I've heard of him, but I never knew him.

MARCUS: Well let's see, who else, we're getting this pretty well cleaned up here. Oh, Milers.

VICTOR: Well ---

MARCUS: Yeah, not Milers, but Howard's I mean.

VICTOR: Well Howard, yeah old Tom Howard, that was the old man's name. Him and his wife they came from John Day over there and bought that place down there across from --- old Ed, that was the boy, why he was just a young feller. I think he said he was about thirteen or fourteen when they come from the John Day over there. And they have been there ever since, that is the Howard's have owned it ever since, yeah. You see they was young Tom and Ned Howard, and they had a sister.

MARCUS: And then the Hall Cave. Do you want to tell us something about the Hall family?

VICTOR: Well the Hall Cave, I was there one time, and it was --- oh it was up there above the,

well it's the --- do you know where the Dave Kent place was?

MARCUS: Yes.

VICTOR: Well, it was on up the road there, about a mile and a half, and it was off onto the right hand side of the road there, and you couldn't see it until you got right up to it there. It was just a cave back in there, and they had a door in it, and windows was all there was to it. And the Halls, they lived there when we were there. Now Lindsay, I guess he is alive, the old man, Otho Hall's second wife. I think he is the only one of them alive yet.

MARCUS: He just moved back here.

VICTOR: Yeah, I seen him up here in Burns the other day, in the store the other day, and I like to never got away from him.

MARCUS: I'll bet.

VICTOR: Yeah, yeah. They was --- let's see there was two boys I guess by his first wife, then Lindsay, and a girl by his second wife. And his second wife, she was a hunting rabbits down there; they used to pay five cents a piece, you know, for rabbit ears. Well, I guess she was making a living, by god, a hunting rabbits. Anyway, she started to crawl through the wire fence over there at home, and someway she discharged the gun and it killed her.

MARCUS: I'll be darned.

VICTOR: Shot.

MARCUS: Well, there was a whole house full of those kids wasn't there, or cave full I should say?

VICTOR: Oh yeah, a cave full, yeah.

MARCUS: Yeah. Roy Heinz was married to one of the girls.

VICTOR: Yeah, he was married to --- yeah, yeah.

MARCUS: And Lindsay, they were the only ones I ever knew.

VICTOR: Yeah. Well there was Bob Hall, and Bill Hall; they were by his first wife. And there was a girl or two there in that family. And I don't know if there is any more besides Lindsay and Roy Heinz's wife or not, in that second family. But anyway, it didn't take too many kids to fill that there hole up in that rim rock. (Laughter)

MARCUS: No, I've been in there. I've got quite a few pictures of it. But I didn't know anything about the family, other than those two kids.

VICTOR: Well Dad and Lou Sitz, and Vess Williams, they was about the first ones I guess that had Model-T cars over there. Dad he bought one because he got the stage line, and he wanted to run the car instead of horses from Drewsey to the ranch. Well anyway, why when Mrs. Hall, and she killed herself, accidentally of course, why I know Dad he took the car and went down there to haul the family down to Drewsey to the funeral, yeah.

MARCUS: I'll be darned.

VICTOR: Yeah, yeah, it was a pitiful sight. He told me about it. And their kids, you know, those little fellows, some of them at that time --- yeah.

MARCUS: They had a bus tour up here, and ate dinner here at Drewsey and then went on out through Van. They had a busload, and a lot of people from Bend. I remember you were living up there at the time, I guess. Not long before you moved in. We stopped down there, and Lee Williams was on the microphone telling the history of the country there. And he said the Hall Cave is right up there. We'd stopped right --- he pointed back up there and he said they used to live on coyotes and bobcats up there.

VICTOR: Yeah, that's what they told, yeah.

MARCUS: And Mrs. Heinz happened to be along on the trip, and boy she feathered into him. My dad never fed us a coyote or a bobcat. (Laughter)

VICTOR: She told him off.

MARCUS: You bet. She straightened him out on this bobcat and coyote business.

VICTOR: He was a talking when he ought to have been listening. (Laughter)

MARCUS: Yeah, she got pretty vocal there all of a sudden.

VICTOR: I'll --- if it wasn't true, why he couldn't --- (Laughter)

MARCUS: Yeah, great times. Well by golly, is it eleven thirty? It is, I had better be heading for home here. I think we have done pretty good for them, don't you?

VICTOR: Well I'll tell you, if anyone ---

(END OF TAPE)

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