

HARNEY COUNTY HISTORY PROJECT

AV-Oral History #31 - Sides A/B

Subject: Otho McKinnon & Cleo Voshall

Place: Burns, Oregon

Date: October 16, 1973

Interviewer: Pauline Braymen

Release Form: No

PAULINE BRAYMEN: This is Pauline Braymen; I'm visiting with Otho McKinnon and Cleo Voshall in Burns, October 16, 1973. Okay, well let's start with; your parents came to Harney County then sometime in the 1880's?

OTHO McKINNON: Before that.

PAULINE: Before that even.

OTHO: Well they had to. In the 1880's yes, I would say that. From the looks of this Bible and everything here, why most of them were married here. All but my --- it seems to me here like every-body but Uncle John was married here. And he was, married a woman, Allison from Iowa. He was the one that was sheriff here years ago, Uncle John McKinnon. He is the one that when Pete French got killed, he is the one that went out and got Ed Oliver.

PAULINE: Uh huh, he was sheriff at that time.

OTHO: He was sheriff at that time. So evidently the family was in here in the 1880's, around that time.

PAULINE: Yeah. Then your father and mother weren't married when they came here. They --- your father was here, and your mother was here, and they were married.

OTHO: My father was here first, my father come out here with my grandfather, of course, when he

settled at the river. Up, well the old ranch is what is called the Hart Place now, up the river, Grandpa McKinnon's place.

PAULINE: Then up the river, is up the Silvies River.

OTHO: Silvies River, yes. It is on Gardner Creek, the old ranch is on Gardner Creek up there. But he used to run horses in there years ago, in the early times when he come out here he run a lot of horses. He had, you know, race horses and sold them. That's the way a lot of them made their money in them days. Of course a horse was your automobile then, you valued it just like you do, we folks do a car here.

PAULINE: And your father was Bob.

OTHO: Bob, Robert, yeah Bob McKinnon.

PAULINE: And what was your grandfather's name?

OTHO: Bob too.

PAULINE: Bob too.

OTHO: R. J. McKinnon, R. J., Junior and R. J., Senior.

PAULINE: Okay, well that accounts for seeing the name early in the book, and then later in the book. It doesn't designate, it just sounds like the same man. And I think they must be talking about

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OTHO: Well there is R. J., Senior and R. J., Junior.

PAULINE: Well that's good to know. Where did they come from, do you know?

OTHO: Iowa.

PAULINE: They came from Iowa.

OTHO: I believe my dad said Red Bluff, or Council Bluff. Council Bluff, Iowa. And how they come out here, I think by team of horses, I think is the way they come.

PAULINE: Well I'll check that. It should be easy enough to check at the courthouse and find when they were settled on the Silvies, and that would give an accurate date when they came.

CLEO VOSHALL: Do they have all of those records out, Pauline?

PAULINE: I don't know.

CLEO: They haven't been destroyed? They had a fire, you know.

OTHO: Didn't that burn up a lot of that stuff?

PAULINE: A lot of it is gone, but I will check ---

OTHO: Well I was born in 1903. And then you take --- it was Ralph, or Gladys was born before I was, and Ralph was born before that, and then there was Eula and Clarence.

CLEO: Yes.

OTHO: So it would have to be back there.

PAULINE: Yeah. Well Eula said she was born in 1891, I'm sure, because I wrote it down so I would have that, you know, when I come. But, and she wasn't the oldest.

OTHO: 1891, and then two years prior to that would be 1888 then, when Clarence was born.

CLEO: Well the marriage certificate shows 1886, that they were married.

PAULINE: They were married in 1886.

OTHO: My father was married in 1886.

PAULINE: What was your mother's ---

OTHO: Laura Ann Galloway.

PAULINE: Do you know how she happened to get into this country?

OTHO: I do, yes. She had a sister that lived out here right across from the old Harkey place. There was a --- I was telling Cleo about it yesterday. The old house set up kind of on a knoll as you went out that lane, out past the old Harkey place on the river. And the old house set over there, and Uncle Tom Morrison and Aunt Lizzy lived there years ago. That's on my mother's side, Aunt Lizzy was. And my mother come out here to visit my Aunt Lizzy, and she met my father out here.

PAULINE: Well where did she come from?

OTHO: Well they were more from the coast over Yaquina Bay, at that time. Where they come

from we haven't found any tree there of the Galloway's. But where they originated from I don't know. Go clear back to ---

CLEO: Virginia, someplace in Virginia.

OTHO: Yeah, Virginia, and back in there, and during the early wars.

PAULINE: Well it sounds as if they may have come around the Horn then, and settled on the coast then.

OTHO: Could have been, I ---

PAULINE: I mean just guessing it would be.

CLEO: ...

OTHO: Ask Aunt Stella.

CLEO: ...

OTHO: She would remember. But that's how my mother met my father. She come out here to visit my Aunt Lizzy and Uncle Tom Morrison was in here. He was a sheep man at that time; he had a lot of sheep here. He run the sheep over in the Blitzen, Kiger Gorge, out in there. And he lost a band of sheep, one whole band of sheep one winter, by a blizzard. ... wiped that whole band of sheep out.

PAULINE: That could happen awfully easy up on the Steens, especially when a storm comes up fast.

OTHO: ... Steens Mountain up around one of those gorges. Why they got to drifting, and they drifted right over the bank, it was snowing bad, freezing, and they lost the band.

PAULINE: So then, and your mother and father then were married in 1886, and your brother Clarence is the oldest.

OTHO: Right.

PAULINE: Is he still living?

OTHO: No.

PAULINE: And then Eula, and we know that she was, at least she told me that she was born in '91. So I'm sure that that's right.

CLEO: Yeah.

PAULINE: Then who were your other brothers and sisters on down the line?

OTHO: Well then there was Ralph.

CLEO: Ralph was next, and then Gladys.

PAULINE: That's Gladys Legrand?

CLEO: Right.

OTHO: Yeah. Gladys Legrand and then myself.

CLEO: And the twins, Leo and I.

PAULINE: Oh, you're a twin?

CLEO: Yes.

PAULINE: Leo and Cleo. Well I'm curious about your name. Is it a family name that was ---

OTHO: Biblical name.

PAULINE: Biblical name.

OTHO: Eula and Clarence, they named me.

CLEO: The two oldest named him.

OTHO: After some men in Dallas, Oregon, Otho and Ralph Williams. Ralph and I were named after them. Ralph Williams and Otho Williams, they were very prominent men over in Dallas, Oregon. And in fact Eula and them gave me this name that I have. ... It's a Greek name; it's in the Bible.

PAULINE: It's in the Bible. It's interesting. ...

OTHO: I read quite an article about it here not long ago, didn't I?

CLEO: Uh huh.

OTHO: It's some ---

CLEO: Just barely run across Otho.

OTHO: And I read the whole article in this book. I read not too long ago, it's ---

PAULINE: Okay, and you said you were born in 1903.

OTHO: Right.

PAULINE: Now Eula said that you lived in Harney City at the time that she was born, and she grew up in Harney City. Is this where you were born?

OTHO: I was born up the river.

PAULINE: Up the river.

OTHO: At my grandfather's.

PAULINE: At your grandfather's place.

OTHO: At Gardner Creek.

PAULINE: And then your dad had a livery stable in Burns at one time?

OTHO: He bought the livery stable --- well see he had a place up the river close to my grandfather's place. It was close to the old Parker place, Nellie Parker and Carlie Parker place up there. And Clarence, and Eula, and Ralph were born there. Well we all lived there. And this is how I got my arm burnt up there at the place ... stove when I was little. Got my sleeve caught in there and burnt my arm. But it was just a place where my dad had kept his horses.

... (Pause in tape)

OTHO: ... was my home for two or three months. I'd go out maybe at The Dalles, Oregon, or Shaniko, or places. He freighted from all over the country, you know, in here, he and Jap McKinnon years ago. They would go, and they wouldn't get back for months. It would take them months, you know, to make the trip with horses, those freight teams.

CLEO: In those days, yeah.

OTHO: You take a 20-horse freight team, they don't go very fast. And that's what they had at that time, 20 horses. Both of them drove 20 horses.

PAULINE: And then how many wagons could they ---

OTHO: Two wagons.

PAULINE: Two wagons.

OTHO: Yeah, two wagons was about all they could pull. Because as a rule they wouldn't take any changes of horses, unless a horse would break his leg, and then they would probably buy one, or some would get sick and then they couldn't use him, they would probably buy one along the road, you know, or something to fill in with. But if I could remember, the old teams at that time, a lot of them when they would come through town ---

I was about 6 or 7 years old then, when my dad bought the livery stable here. Oh I was about school age, about 5 or 6, I went to school I think just about the time he bought the livery stable. The old school that I went to was the old building that set up here on the hill. The big old building by the courthouse.

PAULINE: Uh huh.

OTHO: And Lena Harkey was my first schoolteacher. Have you heard of her?

PAULINE: Uh huh.

OTHO: She was my first schoolteacher. And she is the first woman that ever give me a whipping, and she give me a dandy! Don't ever fool yourself. I shot some paper wads in Marie Smith's ear, and she whipped me under the table with a four-horse whip stalk. Boy, if she didn't give it to me!

PAULINE: You didn't shoot paper wads for a while, I would imagine.

OTHO: Oh, she really poured it on me.

CLEO: Well, what year was it that Papa got the livery stable then?

PAULINE: About 1909.

CLEO: That's the year I was born.

PAULINE: 1909?

CLEO: 1909.

OTHO: 1909, it was before that, wasn't it? Let's see it was '06.

CLEO: And '03, it would be 1909, wouldn't it?

OTHO: You're right.

PAULINE: Well then that livery stable burned down in 1914.

CLEO: Right.

PAULINE: Yeah. Do you remember?

OTHO: Oh yes, very well.

PAULINE: You remember that? Can you tell us about ---

OTHO: Can I tell you about it?

PAULINE: Yeah.

OTHO: Well I sure can. It was, for them days it was one of the worst fires we ever had in town, you know what I mean. It wiped out the old French Hotel; it used to stand down there. Tom Jenkins' Saloon that was on the corner, there was another building on the corner, but I can't tell you what it is.

PAULINE: Well just where was McKinnon's Livery Stable located?

OTHO: It was right on the, what's on that corner now?

CLEO: Is it the bank?

OTHO: No, well you know where ---

PAULINE: The French Hotel was where the Arrowhead was ---

OTHO: You know where the Tonawama was?

PAULINE: Yeah.

OTHO: All right, right down here was the old Tonawama building.

PAULINE: Yeah, that's where the Burns Department Store is now.

OTHO: Yeah.

CLEO: Right.



OTHO: No.

CLEO: Isn't it?

OTHO: Is that a department store?

PAULINE: Or is that where the ---

CLEO: The Bennett Motel ---

PAULINE: That's where the Bennett Motel is.

CLEO: It's where the Bennett Motel was.

PAULINE: Okay, now I've got it, yeah. The Tonawama was where the Bennett Motel ---

OTHO: Where the newspaper office used to be.

CLEO: Yes.

OTHO: In there, in the Tonawama.

CLEO: Yeah, that's right.

OTHO: Used to have a dance hall there and we used to --- where we had a good share of our entertainment in them days was in that Tonawama hall there. That's all we had, just about.

CLEO: Well where was the ---

OTHO: The livery stable sat katty-cornered, it wasn't on the main street, but it was right back on the other street.

CLEO: Would it be where Trailways is then?

OTHO: What?

CLEO: Where the bus depot is then, the Trailways bus?

OTHO: Not on that corner, it was on this ---

PAULINE: It was on this side of Main Street.

OTHO: Yeah. Well you know where the old Lampshire Garage was?

PAULINE: No.

OTHO: Jim Lampshire, you heard of him?

PAULINE: Yeah.

OTHO: You've heard of the Lampshires. Well Jim Lampshire used to have a garage right on this corner, right across from the Tonawama. And it went the full block, pretty near there where old Ben, the Chinaman, had a laundry in there.

CLEO: I'm trying to figure which block, which would ---

PAULINE: Okay, I think I ---

CLEO: Do you know, Pauline?

PAULINE: I think so.

OTHO: Do you know where Mart Brenton's old saloon was?

CLEO: No.

OTHO: Well do you know where Reed's Drug Store was?

CLEO: Yes.

OTHO: Well right across the street, and then right down the street on the next ---

CLEO: Oh. Well there is a, kind of a, what would you call it? Not a motel, but its apartments there.

PAULINE: I think that white square building?

CLEO: No, it's one just this way.

PAULINE: Yeah, a pink building.

CLEO: Yes.

PAULINE: Right across from the beauty shop.

CLEO: Right, there.

PAULINE: Okay. And that's where it was.

CLEO: Yeah.

PAULINE: Okay, that's where Mrs. Hoget lives now. I know who ---

CLEO: Well isn't there an apartment there or something?

PAULINE: Yes, there are apartments there, uh huh.

CLEO: Yeah, it used to be ---

OTHO: Is there a garage still in there, I never looked.

CLEO: No.

PAULINE: No, that's all vacant now.

OTHO: It's all vacant?

PAULINE: Except for, there is a beauty shop there. There are a couple of buildings there, but most of that, in that block is vacant in there.

OTHO: Well then the fire, as we was talking about, it burnt practically all of this block out down here on the other side of the street. And then went into the next block and burnt a good share of the next block out. I think it burned the old Charlie Bedell Saloon down. I think it got down that far, I think it burnt a good share of that block out too. Oh yeah, it killed; I think was 20 horses lost in that fire. They cut the horses loose, I can remember them cutting them loose and they'd run. We had one sorrel horse we valued awful highly because he was a smart horse. My oldest brother broke him, and a sorrel horse. And Johnny, they broke him together. Of course he trained this sorrel horse. When they hooked him up to the manure cart to clean the barn out, they turned the horse loose and he'd go way out here by the graveyard by himself. He would go out there to the dump, and he would stand there until somebody got there. If the man wasn't there with him, or walking or something, he would stand there until he got there and dumped that cart. They would send him back and he'd go right up through town.

PAULINE: Right back to ---

CLEO: Isn't that something.

OTHO: He was just a smart horse. We lost him in the fire. The bay horse, oh Johnny, we got him out of the fire. But it burnt the hair right off of his back. Just right off of the back, the hair was all burnt off. And for years we took him to Wyoming when I went back with Clarence, back to

Wyoming. We took him back there, and the hair was still --- hadn't growed back. But he was still a pretty good horse. I think we lost 20 head of horses. And of course everything in the barn, but I don't think there was any lives or anything lost in that fire. A lot of hay, a lot of harness.

PAULINE: It would be pretty hot with hay. I talked to Dot Davis in Portland, and he was telling me that he was a fireman at the time and helped fight the fire. And he was telling me about fighting it. And he said if the wind had done something different than it did, it would have taken the whole town.

OTHO: Yeah, it would of.

PAULINE: The wind changed just at the right time, and they were

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OTHO: Did he tell you how far down the block it got, or what it

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PAULINE: I don't remember.

OTHO: But it burnt a good share of that other block.

CLEO: Freddy helped, Fred Black helped fight that fire too.

PAULINE: Yeah.

OTHO: Yeah. But I was standing on the other side of the street all the time when the fire was burning. Of course they wouldn't let us kids in there too close with the horses running around. It was the horses screaming --- it was quite a ---

PAULINE: You mentioned Ben the Chinaman, can you tell me about Ben the Chinaman?

OTHO: Yeah, I'm going to tell you about Ben the Chinaman. We used to live down behind Voegtly Store as kids. The poor old fellow, you know, he was an awful good Chinaman. Had a son by the name of Get. Ever heard of him?

PAULINE: No.

OTHO: He had a son by the name of Get that come over from China. And we used to, oh Wes

Welcome and Pat Donegan, and some of the rest of us were always looking for something to do. We used to rock that poor old Chinaman, throw rocks over there on his, the roof of his building to make him mad, and get him to doing something. So this one night Pat Donegan had an overcoat on, I'll never forget it, a black overcoat. We was throwing rocks over on that Chinaman's, and old Ben come out of that little building right across from the Voegtly. He had a little laundry there.

CLEO: Yeah, I remember it.

OTHO: And he started chasing us, of course Pat couldn't run very fast. Well, anyway that coattail was sticking right straight out and I looked back at Pat trying to get away from old Ben.

CLEO: And his coattail was just out straight ---

OTHO: And the rest of us we outrun him.

PAULINE: Did he wear a pigtail? Did Ben have a pigtail?

CLEO: Seems to be like he did, you know.

OTHO: Yes, I think at one time ---

CLEO: You know, I think that lots of times that I think we teased him, you know, and he would run after us. It was kind of a game with him, partly, you know. Uh huh.

OTHO: But you heard of Pat Donegan?

PAULINE: Oh, yeah.

OTHO: Oh yeah. Well old Pat, his coattail, I'll never forget that was sticking right straight out.

PAULINE: He was running for his life, wasn't he?

OTHO: He was one mad Chinaman. And then there was another year, a Halloween here. We used to pull some of the dangdest pranks I ever saw pulled in a town. I don't know why they didn't kill somebody. But they run a --- Clarence Young and Gus Bardwell, and a bunch of them older guys run a wagon tongue right through his door, that poor old Chinaman's door, and they was a sleeping there, them Chinamen. Now that may not be for the books, I don't know, but they run a wagon tongue right down ---

CLEO: I wonder if Clarence remembers that.

OTHO: I think Clarence Young was in on that, and Gus Bardwell and that bunch. But they run that wagon tongue right through that poor old Chinaman's door.

CLEO: Now that wasn't nice.

OTHO: That wasn't very nice.

CLEO: No, maybe they didn't mean it to go that way, and it turned and went.

OTHO: But anyway, on Halloween you could see the outhouses down the middle of the, parked on main street. And you could see wagons up on top of my dad's barn. They put two or three buggies up there on top of that roof. Oh, you could walk down the street and you would see the dangdest conglomerations. Did anybody ever tell you that?

PAULINE: No, I've never heard about the outhouses setting in the middle of Main Street.

OTHO: Oh yeah.

PAULINE: Hauled them in and set them out.

OTHO: Set right in the middle of the street. You was liable to see anything. Rube Haines was marshal, I think, at that time.

PAULINE: Well I've heard about Rube Haines. Tell me what you remember about him.

OTHO: Oh god, I remember him chasing us too, just about like old Ben. We deviled him and would get him mad, you know, get him to chase us. And that was one thing we would try to do, get old Rube mad. Yeah, he was a good marshal.

CLEO: Was he a good marshal?

OTHO: He was a good marshal, he was tough, rough, but he was an awful good marshal.

CLEO: Is he from the Haines family that's down there by The Narrows?

OTHO: No, I don't think, no connection.

PAULINE: No, they are no relation at all.

OTHO: No relation at all that I know of.

PAULINE: I asked Marcus (Haines) about it.

OTHO: Rube got, I think little --- wasn't it little Joe Cavender shot him?

PAULINE: I think so.

OTHO: Yeah, shot him in the stomach. While Joe bootlegged a little here, and Joe told Rube he says, "If you don't leave me alone," he says, "you're going to get it." And Rube just kept at him. And I think they had a carnival going here or something at the time, and he pestered Joe, and shot him.

CLEO: I hadn't heard that.

OTHO: Oh yeah. And another time, there used to be an old fellow out here in the valley, Charlie Nelson used to come to town. And he'd get on one of the dangdest drunks you ever saw. And when he got drunk he was hard to handle. Oh, he was an awful one, big man. And Rube and Fred Dickenson beat him up terrible. Oh they just beat that man something ... They couldn't do nothing with him. ... that they pretty near had to do it to him to get him to jail. Those are the things that a fellow shouldn't tell maybe, I don't know.

PAULINE: Well, I don't know why ---

CLEO: Well she can delete what she wants to.

PAULINE: I kind of use good judgment, but something that I think would hurt someone, why ---

CLEO: Well don't use it.

PAULINE: You know, I just delete it out. But a lot of these stories, they border on the humorous, and are humorous, and really it was the way things were.

CLEO: Was part of the times, I mean.

OTHO: Yeah, that's the way things were when I was a kid here. There was nothing to see the cowboys come to town, and going out a shooting, and whooping, and it was nothing, you know what I mean. They come to town and they got their, got full, and it was the only entertainment they had. They spent months out there riding, or something, why you come to town and you got a little

loaded, and they still get a little loaded.

PAULINE: And they made a lot of noise. Yeah, it happened down town here not too long ago.

OTHO: And the shepherders they used to come to town. They used to have a lot of sheep in this country. And they would come to town, and maybe with a stake, I don't know. God only knows how much they had, but when they left they didn't have a cussed nickel because they would ride through and drink it up in the saloons. And one of these saloons, we had six saloons there, I think, at one time. There was Tom Jenkins, Mart Brenton, and Charlie Bedell, Jim Crawford, Henry Richardson, Jesse Ferguson. I think that is five or six.

PAULINE: That's five or six of them.

OTHO: That I can remember. Have you been told about them?

PAULINE: Some of them I've heard of, some of them I hadn't.

OTHO: Yeah, Charlie Bedell had an awful nice saloon, it was across the street. Well I could go down and show you, but it was pretty close to where Wally's at in there now, the drug store.

CLEO: You know Wally?

PAULINE: Yeah.

OTHO: In that block. It's pretty close in there. He had a beautiful saloon. I can remember when I was a kid I used to go to the barn with my dad, and I would wait until he went home, and then once in awhile why he would take me in the saloon with him, as we was going home. God it was beautiful the back bar.

CLEO: I was going to say, I wonder what happened to back bars.

OTHO: Just a beautiful saloon. It was just like the movies, and things that you see of these old bars now. It would be worth thousands and thousands of dollars now if you had something like that.

CLEO: How did you get your spending money?

OTHO: Oh, well I got my spending money when I was kid, I used to, the boys used to buy whiskey



in flasks, you know, they had these flasks. And I used to sell them to the saloonkeepers for five cents a piece.

CLEO: Like they do Coke bottles now.

OTHO: Yes, I made quite a little bit of money.

CLEO: Tell them about who herded the cows.

OTHO: Oh, Theo Sprague.

PAULINE: Now I hadn't heard his name.

OTHO: You hadn't heard his name? Well there you are.

PAULINE: Theo Sprague.

CLEO: Right.

PAULINE: Okay, well tell me about him.

OTHO: Well Theo Sprague was just a little bit older than I was, and he; they lived down in what we call Whiskey Flat.

PAULINE: Yeah, I've heard of Whiskey Flat.

OTHO: His father and mother, his father's name was Tom Sprague. He was a carpenter that come in here, oh I guess it must have been 1910 or '11, cause they were in here ---

CLEO: After I was born.

OTHO: Yeah, well anyway, they lived down there in the field and herded cows here, milk cows. They got into this pasture down by the fair grounds, an old pasture down there. And everybody had a milk cow here then, pretty near every family had a milk cow, you know had a little barn, a little corral, and they milked their own cows. Well Theo got the idea that he would pasture these cows for fifty cents a head in the summertime. So, he would start down at about this end of town and gather those cows and come around the hill up here and pick those cows up. And they'd all fall right into line, it seemed like, he had them trained. And just make the whole town --- and he would pick those cows up and he'd take them down to pasture. And then in the evening he would go get

them and drop these cows off where he was supposed to, back in town. But it was quite a sight to see, bringing those cows in, and the cows got in the right order where home was, you know.

PAULINE: When they got home they would drop off.

CLEO: Yeah.

OTHO: Yeah, I don't know whether --- a lot of people probably remember. Probably Jesse remembers it, maybe.

CLEO: I'll have to ask her about it.

PAULINE: No one has ever told me that, but some of the women tell about their mothers or their grandmothers selling butter and making butter and selling it.

OTHO: He had a business of it; he made a business of it. These cows that he ---

CLEO: Cow sitter.

OTHO: What?

CLEO: Cow sitter.

PAULINE: Cow feed.

OTHO: What ever you want to call it, pasturing cows or anything else.

CLEO: Every morning he picked them up and every night he dropped them off.

OTHO: The Fourth of July, we always used to always have a lot of foot races. I suppose you have been told about them too.

PAULINE: Oh some, but I always thought that ---

OTHO: Ever hear of a man named Whiskers?

PAULINE: No.

OTHO: That was quite a deal. He come into this town. He had a long beard and he looked just like a, well let's say just a drifter. So we was having the Fourth of July here, and I think Shattuck, if I remember, Shattuck was a pretty good runner, and a few more from around here was pretty good foot racers at that time. And he got up a purse, I don't know what it amounted to now, but I can

remember that he got up a purse on this foot race. Why he just outrun them fellows, he was a really a trackman. I bet he was a ten second man if the truth was known. And he just left them guys. We called him Whiskers.

CLEO: Did you run?

OTHO: Oh, I run a lot of times here. Wes and Al and I, yeah we won a lot of foot races down here years ago. But he was quite an old character.

CLEO: Character, huh?

PAULINE: Did you use main street for the track, or did you have a ---

OTHO: We used Main Street for everything. Potato races.

CLEO: Horse races.

OTHO: Well like Newton Hotchkiss used to have a horse called Little Jug. Teddy Reed had a little mare by the name of Trixie. Andy Vickers had a, I don't think, a big brown horse. But they used to have potato races here on the Fourth of July, right down Main Street. They would drop, you know, you would have to get off at one end of the street, run clear to the end and back, and they would get down and pick this potato up and get back on the horse, and go to the end of the street and which one beat, won. And Newton had a little horse name Jug that was awful good, a little brown horse. If you ask Newt, he'll tell you. And this little Trixie was --- and Tuffy White used to ride that little Trixie mare for Teddy Reed. The little mare belonged to Teddy Reed, Trixie. Foot races.

CLEO: Everything was right on Main Street. Well that was the center of town and everybody could congregate there and watch, you know. There is a, pictures somewhere where you were just a kid---

OTHO: Just a kid.

CLEO: And that Whiskers was in it.

OTHO: Whiskers was there.

CLEO: What was his name? You said you knew ---

OTHO: I can't think of his name, I can't think of it. He drifted in here. But you've talked to a lot of the people they probably will remember him.

CLEO: Wally might, I don't know.

OTHO: Wally might remember him. Wally was a little younger.

CLEO: He was the one that told you.

PAULINE: Well if anybody would know it, it would be Wally, because he knows everything.

CLEO: Isn't he remarkable.

PAULINE: Remarkable.

CLEO: I think it is wonderful.

PAULINE: He should write a book.

OTHO: Yes, he should. Wally has kept up on stuff.

PAULINE: He used to say, well he thought about it, but he has just never has taken time to get started on it.

OTHO: But Wally could write a good one.

PAULINE: He really should do it.

OTHO: He never was active in buckarooing, and he was never with any buckaroo outfits. He and I worked at the Bell-A together one time, Wally and I did. And he got to cussing so bad down there, old Bill Hanley said, "My, my, my, my, my, my, who's that boy? Who's that boy?" Old Lou Willard was boss at that time. "My, my, my Lou, who's that boy? Who's that boy I say?" And so Lou told him who the boy was, Frank Welcome's boy, and he just shook his head. "My, my, my, my that's awful." Wally was cussing his mules.

... (Pause in tape)

PAULINE: Well with mules I guess sometimes that was the only way, is what I've heard.

OTHO: Oh, I will never forget Wally. You ask him about it now, he will remember it. And he says to me one time, he says, "Do you remember when Lou canned us?" I said, "Yeah."

PAULINE: Yeah, he told that on himself at Pioneer Day. Was wanting to know who got fired, who replaced him, and he was the one that got fired. I don't remember who it was that took his place ---

CLEO: Wally wasn't much of a buckaroo.

OTHO: Oh, no. No, I can't remember Wally riding anything. But he was sure a good kid. There was another boy here; a Reed boy was in here, Charlie Reed's stepson. Charlie Reed was a lawyer here at one time. A red headed boy.

CLEO: I know who he was, uh huh. Oh gosh, I went to school with him.

OTHO: He was an awful nice kid. Well there was a lot of them kids. We lost ---

CLEO: Fred.

OTHO: Yeah, Fred.

CLEO: Frederick.

OTHO: He was a nice boy, awful nice kid. You don't hear nothing about him or where he ever went to.

CLEO: The Gould's were old pioneers.

OTHO: The Gould's were old pioneers.

PAULINE: I've heard the Gould's, I think, yeah.

OTHO: Jay and Effie, and Will Gould. Yeah, a lot of them. Cam Kilburn used to run the Island. I worked for him down there in haying. Nothing to see a mowing machine, runaway teams a going one direction, and going every direction maybe, you know. Working four at a time on those rudder bucks. For Clarence Mace, I was working for. You know, or you've heard of Clarence Mace.

PAULINE: Uh huh.

OTHO: Boy, he was a character. I worked for him one year. Yeah, I worked for Jesse Vickers too, one year in haying. Oh, I don't know, I worked around pretty near --- that's all we had, you know, when we was kids. It's the only way we had to make it ---

CLEO: Extra money.

PAULINE: Well and kids started out pretty young doing these things too.

OTHO: Oh, yeah, yeah. Just as long as you could sit on a hay rake, well that is where you was at or something.

CLEO: Right.

OTHO: Or a horse, why you set there. As I was telling you, I've seen cattle strung out for 16 miles. On top of Devine Ridge down to the Hedgepeth Field. You ever been told that?

PAULINE: No.

OTHO: Well that was, Jim Brandon was buckaroo boss at that time. Skinny Skiens was in that outfit. Troy Osborn was with us that year. That was quite a string of cattle.

PAULINE: That would be quite a string, it sure would.

CLEO: Oh, yes.

OTHO: Quite a string of cattle. The leaders were just going down to the Hedgepeth, and the others was up on Devine Ridge. But it took them hours to get there.

PAULINE: Well this was bringing them in off the range in the fall?

OTHO: Yeah, out of Silvies. Of course there was no allotments them days.

PAULINE: Yeah.

OTHO: There was no allotments, they just turned them loose, you know, and they went out on the range. In the fall of the year, why everybody, of course the Company, the PLS Company, always had a lot of buckaroos. They always had 15 or 20 in a bunch. A fellow by the name of Smith, he was the cook that year. Six mules on that old cook wagon and every time he'd hook them up they would run with him until they ---

CLEO: Got tired.

OTHO: For the first mile maybe, mile or two before they got it out, and settled down.

PAULINE: They say, I went to --- last week Marcus Haines and Lee Williams and I went from

Drewsey to Westfall, on the old freight wagon trail. And they were telling about the cook wagons and they didn't always put the gentlest horses on the cook wagon.

OTHO: Oh them mules would run. Boy they had six good mules on that Island cook wagon. Boy and I'll tell you they were good mules. They had some wonderful mules.

CLEO: They can run pretty fast too, can't they?

OTHO: Yeah, but they wouldn't hurt themselves. A mule won't hurt itself like a horse. A horse will run into things where a mule uses his head. Well a horse will just keep running till he runs through barbwire.

CLEO: Uh huh.

OTHO: My uncle had a, Uncle Emanuel he run a lot of ranchers in this country. White Horse, Mann Lake ---

PAULINE: Is that Emanuel Clark?

OTHO: Yes. And Alvord, I worked for him on the Alvord. But he had one man, John Hassenfratz, I don't know whether you've ever heard it.

PAULINE: I've never heard that name, no.

OTHO: Well he was one of the best muleskinners I've ever seen. Boy he was one of the best. He was a big German, and he could break a mule, the toughest mule that come along, John could break. Uncle Emanuel valued that man.

CLEO: Did he?

OTHO: Awful high. Yeah.

PAULINE: What was his last name again?

OTHO: Hassenfratz, German.

PAULINE: Yeah, I hadn't heard that.

OTHO: He drove freight team, he drove a twenty --- Uncle Nat he drove a freight team too.

PAULINE: Well your dad and uncle then drove mostly, freighted mostly towards The Dalles and

that way rather than ---

OTHO: Shaniko.

PAULINE: Shaniko and ---

OTHO: I don't know whether they ever made it much to Baker and them. They could have.

CLEO: Where?

OTHO: Baker, they could have went to Baker and through there, but I don't think ---

PAULINE: Well did they haul just everything?

OTHO: Everything.

PAULINE: They didn't specialize in wool or ---

OTHO: Anything to make money, as a rule, is what they freighted. And I suppose when they came back here, they brought supplies. Like to Brown and Son, Lunaburg ---

CLEO: Oh yeah, he ... up there in the museum.

OTHO: Lunaburg and Dalton or, oh I don't know. Hagey had a store that was Brown's. Lunaburg was Dalton's, and Schwartz had a clothing store. Oh, Chip Smith, you ever heard of him?

PAULINE: I may know who you are talking about. Tell me more ---

OTHO: Oh Chip was a fine man; he was a brother to Phil and Russell.

PAULINE: Yeah, I know Russell.

OTHO: And Neil, Tubby, and Harry. They lived out here by Hotchkiss's, where Hotchkiss's have there now. But Chip had a butcher shop here, and every time us kids were, would go in there Chip would give us one of them great big fat wieners. And they were the best things. You can remember when you was a kid, a big fat wiener.

CLEO: That was a treat.

OTHO: But they don't taste like they used to, I don't know why.

PAULINE: I don't know what they've done to wieners.

CLEO: You know they don't do a thing for me.



OTHO: Old Chip would always give us kids, especially me; he would always give me a big wiener or a slice of baloney or something like that.

CLEO: Well he had a ranch.

OTHO: Chip? I don't know whether Chip had a ---

CLEO: Oh, Phil.

OTHO: Phil had a ranch. Phil bought, Phil was quite a man. You've heard of him a lot.

PAULINE: Yeah.

OTHO: He was an awful nice, awful nice man. He built the Tonawama, if I remember right, built that.

CLEO: And the Thornburgs were an old family.

OTHO: Oh, there was a lot of them. The Crabbs were here at that time. They moved to Bend, a good share of them. Like you folks down in Crane, the Ausmus and a lot of them are --- And I was trying to think who raised Harvey Marx. What was that family?

PAULINE: Well I've heard of Harvey Marx, but I don't remember who a ---

OTHO: Well it wasn't his mother and father. Harvey was raised by somebody south of Crane there, and they are old timers.

PAULINE: I'll ask my dad, he might know.

CLEO: I don't know.

OTHO: But they raised Harvey Marx. This family, and they were old timers. There were the Browns, Elsie and Han. Oh, Clem and all of them they were in here pretty early too. The Brown family, I think, they run sheep out there. This town is, a lot of the old ones, why some of them have left quite a few years ago, that were in here. But you don't hear too much about them.

PAULINE: Well I have a running battle on with people to preserve the pronunciation of Egan Street. What is it?

CLEO: I would like to know.

PAULINE: Well it is Egan, it's no Egun.

CLEO: That is what Grandpa pronounced it, Egan.

PAULINE: It's Egan. Any of the older, well Darrell Howser or, you know, any of the people that have been around this country for a long, long time will say Egan.

CLEO: Right.

PAULINE: And of course new people come in, and with Father Egan at the Catholic Church for so many, many years, they --- and the Catholic Church being on Egan Street, they assume ---

OTHO: What about Father Francis? Where is his name at?

PAULINE: Well ---

OTHO: Huh?

CLEO: That's what she is trying to say now.

PAULINE: That's what I'm trying to say is that Egan Street was not named for Father Egan.

OTHO: Oh.

PAULINE: The people that come into the community in later years, you know, assumed this, and pronounce it Egun.

CLEO: You mean something else don't you? He means that Father Francis is not in the book or in the writing.

PAULINE: Yes, well tell me about Father Francis.

CLEO: ... about Father Francis.

OTHO: I've never seen it in a book or anything.

CLEO: He was here.

OTHO: Oh yes, he was here when we were kids. He was the Catholic priest, and he used to help us kinds more than any man in the community. He had a car, and if we wanted anything, a lot of us kids wanted to go to a game or anything, and didn't have a way to go, we would go to Father Francis and he would take us.

SIDE B

OTHO: I don't think Wes was Catholic. I think Frank probably married a Catholic.

PAULINE: Well Eula told me that the McKinnon home at one time was just behind Wenzels there, where McRae's lived for a good long, years.

CLEO: Yeah, that was our family home.

PAULINE: Uh huh. Do you remember when they built that house there?

OTHO: Well our first place that we lived, that I can remember when I was a kid, was out by the Indian Camp.

PAULINE: The old Indian Camp.

OTHO: The old Indian Camp out there on the ridge. We had a house out there. And that's the first house I can remember living in, was up on top of that ridge. Then, well the Hotchkiss's lived down in there, and I believe Goodman's lived down in there, and Skiens.

CLEO: Yes, Skiens, I remember the Skiens family in there, right.

OTHO: We used to Indian War Dance with the Indians when we was kids. We would go down there and dance with them.

And later on why I belonged to the Sagebrush Orchestra, and later on why Tuffy Teller and I went with the Sagebrush Orchestra to Portland, well to the Salem Fair first, and then on into Portland.

And we danced Indian War Dance in the old Baker Theater years ago. And that's the time the picture was taken someplace, some-body's got it. With Schumann-Heink's around Tuffy Teller's neck, one around my neck and on around Tuffy's neck.

CLEO: I don't know whether Eula has that picture or not. I think it is down at the museum.

OTHO: Had you heard of that?

PAULINE: No.

OTHO: Mrs. Dodge was the orchestra leader.

PAULINE: Yes, I knew ---

OTHO: And Henrietta's husband, Alex, Gwendolen Lampshire, one of the Owsley girls.

CLEO: Was Agnes Foley in that deal?

OTHO: Yeah, Agnes Foley. There were so many kids in there.

PAULINE: What instrument did you play?

OTHO: Violin.

PAULINE: Violin.

OTHO: We had quite a trip. We, they had chaperons, you know, that went from here with us on the trip to the Salem Fair, and then on into Portland. Just kind of reminiscing, I guess.

PAULINE: Well that is the kind of thing that I am interested in. This is what I'm interested in.

CLEO: Yes, I knew you would be.

OTHO: But we had a lot of fun on that trip. We slept in a tent in Salem. We had a big tent out in the fair, and they put all of us in that big tent. We stayed in that big tent out there at the Salem Fair grounds, slept in there. They had cots and things for us.

CLEO: Yeah. That was quite an experience then, wasn't it?

OTHO: Yeah, it was. Yeah, when we got to Portland we of course, we stayed in a hotel, but I can't tell you what hotel now, I wasn't interested too much.

CLEO: Too many other things.

OTHO: Too many other things. Gladys Byrd, she was in there.

PAULINE: Yeah, she was in there.

CLEO: There's another old Burns family. They're an old ---

OTHO: I can remember my dad took us from Bend to Burns for something. Took a bunch of us over there for something. And Gladys Byrd, and I, and my father was in the front seat. When we got to Bend my dad made a turn, a U turn in the street, and the door wasn't quite closed and Gladys

Byrd fell out the door. I will never forget that.

PAULINE: I would imagine she had a white dress on.

OTHO: I don't know, I can't remember. I know she fell out the door.

CLEO: I will have to tell her, ask her about that when I see her.

PAULINE: Well you would have been just about the right age to remember when Julian Byrd, I think wasn't it, brought the first movies into the theater.

OTHO: Oh yeah.

PAULINE: Wasn't his the Liberty Theater?

OTHO: It was the old theater right next to the drug store there. Right next to Reed's Drug Store, wasn't it?

PAULINE: I'm not sure just ---

CLEO: Who played the piano? Didn't Henrietta play the piano, Henrietta Bardwell?

OTHO: I don't know. Henrietta done a lot of playing.

CLEO: Yeah, for one.

OTHO: Oh, there was quite a few people who played the piano at that time. They were a, for a town that was so far back away from everything, the people were pretty well, they made their own amusements, a lot of their own amusements we made it. They had parties in houses, chaperoned the kids, you know, a lot of times. The people seemed --- now our old place down there had a room in it that was, well bigger than this.

CLEO: Huge.

OTHO: And we had a player piano, and a lot of times the kids would congregate there and dance and what not, you know. Then Al Welcome, old Al and ... were awful good. We used to go to their house a lot. Oh, I don't know, just to bigger homes here, we would have parties and things for the kids, you know, school programs. It was quite a town for school programs, and churches.

CLEO: I think it still is.

OTHO: It was for the kids. Of course we made a lot of our own too, amusements, you know. We used to go swimming a lot in the summertime and stay in that swimming hole a long time.

CLEO: And ice skate.

OTHO: What?

CLEO: Ice skate.

OTHO: Ice skate.

CLEO: How far?

OTHO: I've seen them skate quite a lot when the ice on the river was right. I spent half the night up there skating. Walk home maybe 1 or 2 o'clock in the morning. We lost one boy out in the river, he fell through the ice. He wasn't a --- they wasn't old timers here. They were a family that moved in here. He was a pretty good friend of Jo Cook's. By golly I will have to ask Wally, he'll probably remember that. We lost him through the ice, you know, he broke through the ice. Never did get found. But I believe that was down, we got in down here at that river down past Charlie Byrd's old place down there. Hit a snag, hit a snag ---

PAULINE: Do you remember the first car you ever rode in?

OTHO: First car?

PAULINE: Or the first car you ever saw, or ---

OTHO: Yeah, I can. And they got a picture of it too. You wouldn't believe it. Gladys has got it over there.

CLEO: Has she? What kind was it?

OTHO: I believe it was a Buick. I'm pretty sure it was a Buick. It had a front seat, and a little dog seat in the back. Just one seat.

PAULINE: Steer with a stick, did you, or did you have a steering wheel?

OTHO: Oh, it was probably on the left hand side, I think the shift was then, over to the left hand side of the wheel.

CLEO: It had a wheel, a steering wheel?

OTHO: Oh yeah. Yeah, Bert had it I believe was the first car. And Gladys has got a picture of it.

PAULINE: This is Bert Richardson?

CLEO: Yes.

OTHO: Bert Richardson, it belonged to Lon, I think, I'm not sure. Lon used to be sheriff here. But I believe that's about the first car that I rode in.

PAULINE: Did you like it?

OTHO: Well, I don't know. He used to take me fishing with him in that cussed thing. He put me in the back seat. Yeah, I liked it all right, you know what I mean. Then it was, I don't think a Model-T, I don't think they were in any sooner than some of the rest of them old cars that come in here. My dad had, bought a Studebaker one time, a brand new car. And Roy was driving for him; he drove the stage line for him. See my dad had the horse stage line from Vale to Burns for years. But anyway, this Studebaker car, Roy --- oh god I can't call his name. He drove for my dad for quite a while until my dad got to learning to drive, and Clarence got to learning to drive. But anyway, I'll never forget we went down this lane, my dad was driving, went down this lane by the old Tom Jones, or Allan Jones' place, down that lane there. And then we turned into a place my dad was going to buy some horses from Shingledecker. And he came up to that wire gate and he forgot to hit the brake and he hollered, "Whoa", and the car went right on through.

PAULINE: Went right on through.

OTHO: Went right on through. He hollered, "Whoa," and Clarence, and Ralph and I, I think, was with him. But the car didn't stop; it kept right on a going, right through the gate.

PAULINE: And so he had the mail stage, or the --- What kind of a stage between Burns and Bend?

OTHO: The stage was everything, you picked up everything. You picked up milk cans; you picked up anything that you could haul, passengers.

PAULINE: Passengers, the mail, and ---

OTHO: The mail and everything. It was just a --- well I'll show you what I was in them days. When Leon Brown died, the banker, I rode back, no when my dad died, I rode back to Bend with Leon Brown. And Leon Brown told me, that was after the funeral and everything, that my dad made \$17,000 clear off of that stage line in one year.

CLEO: That was good money.

PAULINE: It was, in those days.

CLEO: Oh, you bet.

OTHO: In them days it was big money.

PAULINE: Yeah.

CLEO: Well they depended on that so much for everything, you know.

OTHO: But he would have horses, see they would only drive them teams maybe 15 miles, or 20 miles a day. It just depended on the roads a lot, and what they had to go over. But we had one driver, Arch Howell, played the accordion. He could play that accordion; boy and that old team would go along there just as pretty. When I was a kid I used to ride with him, and he would take that four-horse whip and he could take that button off of your coat there and wouldn't touch you. Cause I've had him do it to my shirt when I was a kid. He was just that good with a whip. He could just take a horse and cut it anywhere's he wanted to. His old --- my dad says he is the best driver he ever had. Said he drove his team hard, and kept good, took good care of them, fed them good.

CLEO: Howell you say?

OTHO: Arch Howell.

CLEO: Arch Howell.

OTHO: Well he was an old-timer, Arch Howell, and Harry Howell. But I can remember the people when the stage would come into town, they would look for that stage team, you know when they hit this little knoll up here coming into town, you know. Because Arch would be a cracking that whip coming into town.



CLEO: That was quite an event.

OTHO: That is quite an event.

CLEO: Sure.

PAULINE: And then the horses had the bells --- the different teams had different harness bells?

OTHO: They didn't use bells so much on the stage teams. Freight teams, yeah, freight teams usually.

CLEO: Well then Papa also had the stage line from Van to Drewsey too.

OTHO: Right, and he had it from Burns to Suntex years ago. He had that stage line from Burns to Suntex. Of course I dang near froze, I deviled him enough one-winter morning to go with him. He says, "I haven't got room for you," he says, "I can't haul you." And I just kept at him, and kept at him, and I know we had to prime that old Studebaker car to get it started that morning. And he says, "All right come on," he says, "if you, if you're determined to go." And he made me ride that running board clear to Riley. And I like to froze to death.

PAULINE: That is really something that he lived, you know, spanned the time from the horse, and the freight wagons and all, and clear through to see the automobiles.

CLEO: Tell her about the stage stops, honey.

OTHO: Stage stops, oh yeah.

CLEO: Where they had horses.

OTHO: A lot of them was Dillard's, the old Dillard place.

PAULINE: Now where was it? Was it this side of Burns, or ---

OTHO: It was at Drewsey, out by Drewsey.

PAULINE: Between --- okay.

OTHO: Buchanan was one stop.

PAULINE: Yeah, Buchanan.

CLEO: Yes.

OTHO: Buchanan was a stop.

CLEO: Do you mean Lillards, honey?

OTHO: Lillard.

PAULINE: Lillards, okay.

OTHO: Now wait a minute, was that Lillard?

CLEO: Joe Lillard.

OTHO: That wouldn't be on that route, would it?

CLEO: To where, honey?

OTHO: To Joe's.

CLEO: Where?

OTHO: To Drewsey, to Drewsey, or Buchanan was on it, on the route.

CLEO: Well, and so would Lillards be one way, if you go the Pine Creek route like you went to ---

OTHO: Yeah, but that would be too far, I guess, probably ten miles.

CLEO: But you would cut off then and go to Drewsey.

OTHO: What was that other, what was them other people's name? That Leo he used to go with a girl.

CLEO: Stallards?

OTHO: Stallards was another stop.

PAULINE: I was there last Wednesday, I was there.

OTHO: Stallards was another stop. Did they tell you about it, the stage stop?

PAULINE: Yeah, I was there. I was there Wednesday.

CLEO: She went over the stage route last Wednesday.

PAULINE: Last Wednesday.

CLEO: Oh gee, I wish I would have known.

PAULINE: Oh, it was fun.

CLEO: Was it something anyone could do, or was it just certain ones?

PAULINE: No, well no, there was just Marcus Haines and Lee Williams went along to guide us and ---

CLEO: Oh, I see for a story.

PAULINE: Yeah, and just the three of us went. You have to go in a four-wheel drive outfit.

OTHO: I come from there once clear through with Arch from Vale to Juntura. I was in Vale too, once.

PAULINE: Well, we started at Drewsey. Then of course we went to the Stallard Stage Station. And then we went on and over Bendire Mountain, to what they call it Hannah Station now, but Lee said it was Kate Foppiano when he remembered it. It was Kate Foppiano before it was Hannah. And then down Cotton Wood Canyon to Westfall. And then we went on back over to the highway, and come on home. But it was ---

OTHO: I don't know how many stops, I can't tell you. But I know my dad bought, or had hundreds of horses that he had to keep ahead of time to keep on that run, keep that team a going. I have a picture of one of the stages, of the team at Drewsey, years ago at the old stagecoach. I think Arch was the driver on that team. I can remember the horses, I knew the horses well. I got so I knew every horse he had that I could see. Of course some days, I know up here at Buchanan they used to have the most trouble of any place.

CLEO: Did they?

OTHO: In the spring of the year, and the winter months it would get so muddy that the mud would just cake on the wheels and the horses would all gum up and they couldn't hardly get through that. Nigger Flat they called it, you couldn't hardly get through there in the spring it was so bad. I know they said that's the worst spot in the whole, well Stinkingwater was bad too, that was a bad one in those days too. Pretty rough going. I don't know what else you want to know.

PAULINE: Oh, well let's stop and think here for a minute. You don't remember about what year

that you moved into the house down here in back of Wenzels?

CLEO: Well it was, the fire was, it was when Papa's place burned, wasn't it, the livery stables. We was there then, honey.

PAULINE: So it would be about 19---, you were there then.

CLEO: Uh huh, at that time. I have a picture of that, of all of us, you know, right in front of the house.

OTHO: A little before the fire, a little before the fire.

CLEO: We were there before the fire, yes.

OTHO: I would say about 1912.

PAULINE: Yeah.

CLEO: Something like that, approximately.

PAULINE: Approximately, that's close enough. And you always went to school in Burns? You didn't never go to school up the canyon then, up the river?

OTHO: Right here.

PAULINE: Right here.

OTHO: Played football here, under old McDade in High School.

PAULINE: I've heard of McDade.

OTHO: Danny McDade. Yeah, that old football team was Jim McCulloch, Madison Richardson, Allen Sitz, Harley Hotchkiss, Pete Hotchkiss, Hal Hibbard, Al Welcome. This is when ---

PAULINE: Yeah. Did you play all your games here, or did you go out of town?

OTHO: Oh, we went out of town, Crane and John Day, Baker, Redmond, Prineville. Had our track meets a lot of times in Prineville for the running track. I played baseball and football here at that time. Nollie Reed was an awful good man to the kids in basketball. He taught us a lot about basketball.

CLEO: Did he?

PAULINE: Well did you ever go to school in what, you know, it's Lincoln Junior High now, but it was the High School? Or did you graduate before they built that building?

CLEO: I went to the old school, it was up in here.

OTHO: I went to that public school house. There was a public school back here, I went to that.

PAULINE: Yeah.

OTHO: Then, the high school was over here then. Big old building, yeah. Where the out houses was out behind. Didn't have any facilities like they got now, you know. A big old yellow building it seemed to me like at that time. I seen a picture of it someplace here the other day.

CLEO: I think Nellie Ritchie has one.

PAULINE: I've seen a picture of it, and I've talked to several people that went to school there.

OTHO: Big old high building.

PAULINE: Two stories. They'd tell about when the wind blew why it ---

OTHO: Had a lot of steps going up front, if I can remember.

CLEO: And it also had steps that went up to the second floor.

OTHO: Yeah, and then you got on the side --- up the side, the steps went up the side there.

CLEO: I remember those very well.

OTHO: Yeah. Well that's where Danny McDade taught high school was in that building. Sutton was the grade school principal.

CLEO: Yeah, I had him.

OTHO: Oh, we all went to school to him to a certain extent. Everybody, I think.

PAULINE: Yeah, everyone I've talked to ---

CLEO: He taught everyone.

PAULINE: I think he did.

OTHO: If he ever missed anybody, paddling their rear end, I don't know who it was, because he got me a good many times.

CLEO: I don't either.

OTHO: He was great with the stick. He was great for paddling.

PAULINE: Well going back, you may not remember too much about this because it was certainly after your time, but you mentioned that your uncle was the sheriff at the time that Pete French was killed. Do you remember anything that was said about what happened at that time?

OTHO: That was before my time.

PAULINE: Yeah, I know that it was.

OTHO: It was before my time, you know, when Pete French got killed. Yes, I can remember people talking about it. You know, and I can remember Pete Petersen marrying Mrs. Oliver. Of course Pete lived right behind us. You see we did live on the corner, right down at the end of Main Street where you turn to go to Hines.

PAULINE: Yeah.

CLEO: That's where I was born, on that corner.

OTHO: Right on that corner was where she was born; the twins were born right on that corner. And we lived there for a good number of years.

CLEO: And he lived right, Olivers, or Petersens ---

OTHO: Petersen lived right behind us, right going down towards Hines, in the next block.

PAULINE: You must have gone to school with Burt Oliver, you must have known him.

OTHO: I knew Burt, I didn't go to school with Burt, I went to school with Shelby. Shelby and I are about the same age. And Roy, there was a Roy Oliver too, and Leatha Oliver, that was a girl. Gladys now was a very good friend of Leatha's.

CLEO: Was she?

OTHO: Yeah, because they were about the same age.

PAULINE: Well I know I talked to Shelby here several months ago and he was telling me some things, you know, from the other side of the picture. And he said that their family will always

believe that Ed Oliver was murdered right here in Harney County, and disposed of, you know, and never got out of the country. But other people tell a different version of it.

CLEO: A different version.

OTHO: Well this is something that is hard to say, you know what I mean. It is just like the Link Hutton deal over on the Wagontire, you know, that shooting over there. Well that was over nothing but a water hole. It is one of those things. It happens, you know, in that country at this time.

PAULINE: Well water was a serious thing, well people took, well still do really.

OTHO: Yeah, they still do, you know.

CLEO: They depend so much on it for their livelihood.

OTHO: Just got in a feud over it, and that's the way they settled things years ago. Went so far, and then that's what it amounted to, you know. It was either one or the other.

CLEO: Yeah. Survival I suppose.

OTHO: An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth, you know. They --- no, I don't know, of course a lot of different things about the Peter French. I've read so many books about it, and so many things that I don't know, I sometimes wish Uncle Emanuel was alive so I could ask him.

CLEO: Does he know?

OTHO: Oh, he worked for Pete French. He was there at the time Pete French got killed.

CLEO: I thought I heard you say that.

OTHO: Yeah. A lot of times I never thought, I was around Uncle Emanuel a lot too, worked for him quite a bit, at different times at the Alvord and different ranches.

CLEO: Would Ethel know?

OTHO: Ethel would probably know, Roy would know pretty much because Roy worked for Pete French. He worked ---

CLEO: Well I thought he might have told Ethel.

OTHO: Now old Chico, Chico and that other old Spaniard that used to ride for the P Ranch. There

is the one that taught Roy how to braid rawhide ropes, and rings and things. They took a liking to Roy and they taught him everything they knew about buckarooing and he was ---

CLEO: And they knew, didn't they?

OTHO: They knew. That's the reason Roy was a good buckaroo. This is my cousin, Uncle Emanuel's boy. He was an awful good buckaroo. Well he's just about like Buck Miller, about in the same category.

CLEO: Buck Miller, did you say?

PAULINE: Well now your father's sister was married to a Clark, is this how you were related?

OTHO: Right.

PAULINE: Yeah.

OTHO: And I have another aunt that married a Clark, Emmett Clark. Well he got caught stealing horses up here. And he went to the pen; they sent him to the pen. Did you ever hear that?

PAULINE: No, but I've heard of some others that did the same thing.

OTHO: Well that's what happened to him, they got caught stealing horses.

CLEO: Oh, horse thief. Got to have one black sheep in the family. Probably more than one.

OTHO: That's the truth; it's one of those things.

MRS. McKINNON: Well did Vic learned the braiding of ---

OTHO: Vic, I don't know whether Vic ever braided too much.

MRS. McKINNON: He said he did that down there. He repaired one that you had.

OTHO: He probably can, I don't know.

MRS. McKINNON: Did he learn it from those ---

CLEO: That is Victor Cleveland.

PAULINE: Is he related to you?

CLEO: He is our cousin.

PAULINE: He is? Well I didn't know that either.



CLEO: His mother was the sister to our dad.

OTHO: Yeah, I used to spend a lot of time over there when I was a kid.

CLEO: I did too.

PAULINE: I didn't interview Victor, Jim Baker did.

CLEO: Oh, that's right.

PAULINE: I don't know what Jim got, one of these days I will have to read it and see, and then I think I will go back and talk to him some more.

OTHO: Well you see his now, on that side of the family, Uncle Tom worked for the Company ranches. Well at one time we had three in the family running Company ranches. One at Roaring Springs, one at the Sod House, and I don't know where Grandpa was at, Uncle Tom.

MRS. McKINNON: Wasn't Grandpa over in the Diamond area?

OTHO: Yeah, Grandpa was in the Diamond area. They was all down south at Sod House, old Tom was at the Sod House I believe. And I believe Grandpa was at Roaring Springs.

PAULINE: Now this is Eastern Oregon Livestock. This is PLS.

OTHO: No, this is Miller and Lux.

PAULINE: Miller and Lux, okay. I get them mixed up, because people call it the Company, and they're referring to Miller and Lux, or the PLS.

OTHO: Well the PLS, Miller and Lux.

PAULINE: Yeah, but they also will refer to the Company and ---

OTHO: The Company Ranch, yeah.

PAULINE: Yeah, and it will be the Eastern Oregon Livestock. So I like to get it straight in my mind.

OTHO: Well it was all the same, Miller and Lux, and Pacific Livestock Company. It's all the same, I think.

CLEO: Outfit?

OTHO: Outfit, yeah.

PAULINE: Yeah, Miller and Lux was the ---

OTHO: Pacific Livestock.

PAULINE: Pacific Livestock, yeah.

OTHO: They had land from the Silvies Valley to, you could go into California and still ---

PAULINE: And lots up around Drewsey, all over in there or ---

OTHO: The Agency.

PAULINE: Yeah, the Agency.

OTHO: This old Charlie Miler did you ever interview him?

PAULINE: No.

OTHO: Is he still alive?

PAULINE: I don't think so.

CLEO: I don't know.

PAULINE: Is that Hattie's ---

OTHO: That's Hattie's husband.

PAULINE: I think she has been a widow for a long time. I might be wrong.

CLEO: Have you interviewed her?

PAULINE: No, I haven't caught up with her yet. I contacted her a couple of times.

OTHO: She hurt her leg the other day over there.

PAULINE: Yeah, she is in the hospital with a broken leg. But we've never gotten together.

CLEO: Maybe you can.

PAULINE: Yeah, I hope that I can.

OTHO: If you could have talked to Charlie, when Charlie was alive, he could have told you a lot about this Pacific Livestock Company. Because he was superintendent for a long time. Now I worked under Charlie for, oh different ranches he was over me. I think he was over Uncle Emanuel

at the Alvord, now as far down as that, I believe at Whitehorse, still had jurisdiction over there. And the Island, and all through there.

PAULINE: Then you left here when you were about 25 years old, 21 years old?

OTHO: About 1925.

PAULINE: Where did you go from here?

OTHO: From here I went to work for Safeway, Skaggs.

PAULINE: Then you made your career then with them.

OTHO: Grocery ...

PAULINE: The grocery ... Where do you live now?

OTHO: Roseburg.

PAULINE: Why did you leave? I've asked everybody why they came.

OTHO: Why did I leave?

PAULINE: Uh huh.

OTHO: Well I've often wondered. I would have probably been better off if I had stayed. I don't know, who knows.

CLEO: The grass is always greener ---

PAULINE: And an opportunity to make a living.

OTHO: Well, I don't think whether at that time the money was too good on a farm.

MRS. McKINNON: No, I'm sure it wasn't. You haven't mentioned you worked on the railroad out of here.

OTHO: Oh, well I helped put the railroad in.

PAULINE: Oh, you had better tell me about that.

MRS. McKINNON: He surveyed one of the roads up here to the ...

OTHO: I worked for Morrison-Knudsen when they put this track in here. I helped lay track.

PAULINE: From Crane into Burns.

OTHO: Ties, I juggled ties.

PAULINE: How long did it take them to put the track in?

CLEO: Turn the furnace up, honey, if you are cold.

OTHO: A little over a year. I think Mrs. Clemens drove the spike out here.

PAULINE: Yeah, I think she did.

CLEO: Yes she did, because I've seen that picture.

OTHO: I believe at the end of the railroad, I believe she drove the spike.

CLEO: Yes.

PAULINE: Did they have quite a --- they had quite a celebration then when the ---

OTHO: Oh yeah, gosh yes. Old cars around there, and people.

PAULINE: I've seen that picture.

CLEO: I have too.

OTHO: Then after the railroad was finished, I --- well we called him Adam Skiens. He was a brother to Willis Skiens, but he was just a little, Ray Skiens was his name. Ray and I went to work for the Oregon Shortline. And we went, oh, around to Salt Lake and worked there after we got through putting this railroad in.

MRS. MCKINNON: That's probably where you got started to leaving the country.

OTHO: Yeah, to leaving, got into making a little more money and a little better wages.

CLEO: Yeah.

PAULINE: Well there really wasn't a lot of opportunity here. You could either work on a ranch or, you know, a few businesses that there were in town, and that was about it. There really wasn't---

OTHO: Well I come back a little later; I went to work for Weinstein's. I worked for Weinstein's for years.

CLEO: I know you did.

PAULINE: They had a mercantile store.

OTHO: They had several stores. They had a store here; two stores here, a clothing and a grocery. Had a store in Lawen, had a store in Crane. Jeff Cawfield run his store in Crane. Charlie Cawfield run the one in Lawen. And of course Weinstein's run the clothing store in, the grocery store in town. Pat Donegan's uncle worked in Weinstein's for a long time. Frank Welcome, that was it. There was Archie, and there was Abe and Hyman.

CLEO: I remember them.

MRS. McKINNON: Now you were telling my brother about helping to survey that road up there.

OTHO: Oh, the Pine Creek road.

MRS. McKINNON: And there was some old timers there.

OTHO: That old Dodge, he was an engineer. I helped survey that road.

PAULINE: Now where did the road go? From where to where?

OTHO: Well ---

PAULINE: Where did you start, where did you end up?

OTHO: Well we started right across where the cattle guard is there.

CLEO: Up above Buchanan.

OTHO: Above Buchanan, and then we surveyed it down to Harry Clark's place. That is as far as I went. And then up to the schoolhouse there.

CLEO: Pine Creek School.

PAULINE: Pine Creek Schoolhouse. What year was this, or do you remember?

OTHO: Mac Lowe was, I believe with us. Mac Lowe and Charlie Gowan ...

PAULINE: Did you work in the summertime or ---

OTHO: It was in the summer.

PAULINE: Yeah.

OTHO: We stayed at; we stayed at the old Vanderveer place when we first started. Then we moved on down to Harry Clark's old place and stayed there. I've hauled gravel with teams on a lot

of these roads around.

MRS. McKINNON: Helped build a lot of them, huh.

OTHO: Well not too many, but some of them.

MRS. McKINNON: The old ones anyway.

OTHO: We hauled gravel, and I know I drove a team for Allen Jones down here. And this woman here, what was her maiden name?

CLEO: Mrs. Plumley Wasn't she a McUne?

OTHO: Well there was some German fellows during the war. Two German fellows lived down close to the Locher's old castle down in there. And they worked on the road with me when I drove for Allen.

CLEO: What association do you have, are you putting with the lady next door then?

OTHO: Well I thought she was a sister to them.

CLEO: McUnes.

MRS. McKINNON: That is not the right family then.

OTHO: That ain't the right family, that ain't the right family then.

PAULINE: What do you remember about Leonard Locher's old castle out here?

OTHO: Well you better think about this one down here.

PAULINE: Well I know that he had, well tell me about the brewery then. That was a brewery wasn't it?

OTHO: Yeah, but if you want something, that was something down there, that old building. Do you remember that?

CLEO: Not too well, honey. Tell us a ... about it, all of us.

OTHO: They had quite a hall at one time there.

PAULINE: They had dances there.

OTHO: Dances and basketball games, and one thing or another. Clarence, I think, and Eula used

to play basketball in that old Locher castle over there. Then he built it all with stone. It was all made with stone, and they was, oh he had a lot of different rooms and apartments, and made it into apartments later on. And he was quite a fella to dig underground. The old guy was ---

CLEO: I can remember that old place out there, but this one here I don't.

OTHO: Oh, he would undermine these things, and it was kind of scary I'll tell you. When you was a kid, you know, it was kind of scary.

CLEO: Kind of weird.

PAULINE: Yeah, I've heard a lot of people tell that he tunneled all ---

OTHO: Yeah, all through, back in there. Now he had a son, maybe a daughter too.

PAULINE: Yeah, he had several children.

OTHO: Paul Locher one.

PAULINE: Well Leonard Locher was one of them.

OTHO: Leonard Locher, Leonard.

CLEO: Right.

PAULINE: And then I don't remember what the, seems to me like the girls name was Pauline, but I'm not sure about that. That might be a figment of my imagination.

OTHO: Well he is quite an old character. Now this castle here I don't know too much about it.

PAULINE: Yeah, well he went out here, you know, and built this monstrosity.

OTHO: But I don't, I don't, I can't tell you too much about that. But this one over here was ---

CLEO: Was something.

OTHO: Was something. Boy it was dug underground, and they were waiting ---

CLEO: Isn't it too bad that they tore it out?

OTHO: And the Jenkins girls, they used to come in and they used to rent an apartment --- from up in Silvies. They rented an apartment and stayed there and went to school. A lot of the kids would come to town and rent an apartment, like the McCulloch boys, Jim and Pug would come to school.

They had an old apartment down back behind that old hotel down there. And they would bach and go to school. That's the way a lot of the kids did then that lived out of town, they would come in and bach. But I can remember the Jenkins girls rented an apartment.

MRS. McKINNON: Yes. And what about when you went to high school, the place you lived at down here and milked cows.

OTHO: Oh, Voegtlys.

PAULINE: Yeah.

OTHO: Oh yeah. I stayed with Voegtlys after my mother passed away when I was ---

CLEO: Just a youngster.

OTHO: Huh?

MRS. McKINNON: Well he was going to high school.

OTHO: ... wasn't it?

CLEO: Well I was 6 ---

OTHO: You was 6, yeah.

CLEO: --- when Mama passed away.

OTHO: Well you was about 11 I guess. After that I kind of, I went to Wyoming for a year and then I come back and went to school. But I stayed with Voegtlys and milked cows, and went to school, high school.

PAULINE: You milked cows for your board and room. Was that how you paid for your board and room was milking the cows?

OTHO: And I also stayed with Nellie and Ted Reed, and milked cows and went to school. Before me, Allen Sitz stayed with Nellie and Ted, and milked cows and went to school. And there were several of them that Nellie and Ted took in like that, you know, kids.

CLEO: Uh huh, needed a place.

PAULINE: Well after your mother passed away, did your father re-marry, or did you have



someone to raise you, or did your father raise you?

OTHO: No, no.

PAULINE: Of course your older brothers and sisters would have been old enough to help take care of the younger ones.

CLEO: Yes, uh huh. Well Clarence of course married and he went to Wyoming.

OTHO: Clarence was, lost his wife, you know.

CLEO: Well he married ---

OTHO: Chip Smith's daughter.

CLEO: Smith. My oldest brother, you mentioned passed away when the last child was born. Then he went to Wyoming, didn't he after that?

OTHO: Well he was in Wyoming. He brought her back here when she

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CLEO: When she got sick.

OTHO: No, when she was pregnant, she was going to have Elda.

CLEO: ...

OTHO: Then he brought her home, she wanted to come home. And I don't know what happened.

CLEO: Well something after the childbirth.

OTHO: It was the childbirth.

CLEO: Yeah, there was complications set in. ...

OTHO: They are all gone now. All the first children are gone, by his marriage, none are alive. One got froze to death while elk hunting. The other boy was in a car accident.

CLEO: Well, it was construction work and he got covered with ---

OTHO: ...

PAULINE: Well can you think of anything else that ---

OTHO: I can think of a lot of things.

CLEO: Time.

OTHO: Just to ---

CLEO: Just to think of them.

OTHO: Things, you know, might not be interesting, you know.

CLEO: But aren't you glad I called you?

PAULINE: Oh, I am just tickled to death, I'll tell you. I've been, you know, stewing about getting in to talk to you. I know Eula's has been, not good and ---

CLEO: Eula is still in the hospital.

PAULINE: And so, you know, I kind of ---

OTHO: But my dad, another thing is my dad used to do is to haul these doctors around the country.

PAULINE: Oh, he did?

OTHO: Oh, mercy yes. Marsden, you heard of Dr. Marsden?

PAULINE: Yes, I have heard of Dr. Marsden.

OTHO: I can remember Doc Marsden, Doc Griffith, and Geary. I can just vaguely remember him ... Geary Clevenger was named after Doctor Geary. But yeah, my dad used to rent out the teams and haul these doctors around the winter months. He would have drivers that --- in a buggy. He would have them heaters down, or put a brick down and they had them heaters, and big fur robes, and a sleigh. They used to take a sleigh in the wintertime, or a buggy, whatever it took. Sometimes they would go forty or fifty miles in it. Somebody was sick or something like that. They used to have a lot of buggy teams. They had five or six buggy teams.

PAULINE: Well after the livery stable ---

OTHO: Harry Parker and I worked for my dad for a long time. And Fred Black drove for him. A fellow by the name of Dodson worked for my dad for a while. Ad Black, Fred's father, Ad Black --

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CLEO: Ad.

OTHO: Ad Black worked for him.

PAULINE: Well did your dad rebuild a livery stable after---

OTHO: No, we got another one down at this end of town. There was the old Red Front down there, and my dad took it.

PAULINE: Well, I've heard of the Red Front, but I hadn't made the connection.

OTHO: Well then my dad took the Red Front Barn down there. It was a big barn, so he took that over down on the other end of town. That was down close to Drinkwater and Ben Slocum's blacksmith shop. You ever hear of them?

PAULINE: No, I don't think so. Slocum and Drinkwater.

OTHO: Did you ever hear of the Shorts, Tom Short and Frank Short?

PAULINE: No, I don't think so.

OTHO: They were old blacksmiths in the early times. They built bobsleds for us when we would coast here. And coast on Cecil Hill here, and out here at this canyon where they got the baseball park.

CLEO: Cecil Hill is the one I remember, right here by the Burns Department Store, that steep one, you know, that goes down there.

PAULINE: That's Cecil Hill?

CLEO: Yeah.

PAULINE: Well I never heard it referred to as that. I know that someone was telling me about getting on a sled and starting down there.

CLEO: Oh we'd go clear across this main street. We just go sailing.

OTHO: Oh yeah.

PAULINE: If someone was coming they better get out of his way.

OTHO: We would pour ice on it, or water on it and let it freeze. And of course the fellow that had the sled that would go the farthest, well he was the king. He was the kingpin. And I'll never forget

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CLEO: Well you said out here where the baseball park is. We used to go down those hills too.

OTHO: Oh, we used to ski down there too. We made our own skis. We made them in, we put them in boilers, one of them old copper boilers and steam them, steam the toes up.

PAULINE: For the curve.

OTHO: What?

PAULINE: So you would get a curve.

OTHO: Yeah, put a bend in them.

PAULINE: Well what did you use, a pine board?

OTHO: Pine boards, yeah. And then we would get the ends and then we would wire the ends so they wouldn't. You know they wouldn't stay, they wasn't that kind of wood. But put wire on them back so far.

PAULINE: Oh, those must have been really ---

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