

HARNEY COUNTY HISTORY PROJECT

AV-Oral History #341 - Sides A & B & C & D

Subject: Gladys Beckley - With Video

Place: Beckley Home - Princeton, Oregon

Date: June 25, 1993

Interviewers: Barbara Lofgren & Dorothea Purdy

Release Form: Yes

DOROTHEA PURDY: Gladys Beckley in Crane, Oregon.

BARBARA LOFGREN: Princeton, aren't we?

DOROTHEA: Are we in Princeton?

GLADYS BECKLEY: Oh yes, definitely.

DOROTHEA: We're in Princeton, excuse me. Okay, and the date is June the 25th, 1993, and this will be tape number 341. We'll ask first Gladys, your maiden name, and your full name.

GLADYS: My name is Gladys Viola Jones Beckley.

DOROTHEA: And where were you born?

GLADYS: I was born at, in Yamhill County, about four and a half miles from Newberg, in what was called Fernwood.

DOROTHEA: Now is this in Oregon?

BARBARA: Absolutely.

DOROTHEA: Okay, these names are not really familiar ---

BARBARA: I'm from the Willamette Valley, so I know what you're talking about. (Laughter) This is down from Portland a ways.

DOROTHEA: Okay, okay.

GLADYS: And by the way, my great-grandmother delivered me.

DOROTHEA: Oh, great.

BARBARA: Was she a midwife, or did she just happen to do it for your mother?

GLADYS: Oh, she just did it all the time. And she was at Lafayette, and she walked, she was only a 105.

BARBARA: Oh my.

DOROTHEA: At the time you were born?

GLADYS: That is correct.

DOROTHEA: Okay, she was an active person then?

GLADYS: She was. She walked from Lafayette to Fernwood, Newberg, and you know where that is?

BARBARA: Yes. My goodness.

DOROTHEA: Okay. And she walked at a 105.

GLADYS: She walked.

DOROTHEA: All right, okay. What year and what date were you born?

GLADYS: April 2nd, 1908.

DOROTHEA: Okay. And what were your parents' names?

GLADYS: My mother's name was Christina Louvina Parrish Jones. My father's name was Robert E. Lee Jones.

DOROTHEA: Robert E. Lee, great, you've got some great names. What did your mother and father do for a living?

GLADYS: My father was a carpenter, and he built various houses over around Newberg. He was also a marvelous musician.

DOROTHEA: Did you have any brothers and sisters?

GLADYS: I did. I --- Charlie was my oldest brother, but he died at the age of two months from whooping cough and measles.

DOROTHEA: And any other sisters or brothers?

GLADYS: Yes. Daniel was the next child; he died at 18 from diabetes. At that time, it was a death sentence. The next child was Wallace; he was a minister. The next was Opal, and that is

interesting, because Papa wanted a little girl all the time. And so, he walked up to Chehalem Mountain where my, his mother and father lived. And Grandpa Jones walked down from the place so he could see this wonderful baby. No, I told you a fib, that was Opal I told you, it was me. And then Opal died at, I think she was 18, with diabetes. Then Noah arrived.

DOROTHEA: And how do you spell that?

GLADYS: N O A H.

DOROTHEA: Okay.

GLADYS: Then Harold, and then I arrived. And that was when Grandpa Jones walked down to see me. And it was, you know, how it rains down in the valley?

BARBARA: Uh huh.

GLADYS: And he caught cold and pneumonia, and died a week later.

DOROTHEA: Oh.

BARBARA: So you come from a large family, then?

GLADYS: Yes, that's true. But not nearly as large as my mother and father's family.

BARBARA: Oh, really?

GLADYS: They, each one, had thirteen children. (Laughter)

BARBARA: Oh my.

GLADYS: And Grandpa Parrish came across the plains. He got to Oregon when, I think, he was six, and his father was scalped ---

BARBARA: Oh gosh.

GLADYS: --- the next year.

DOROTHEA: Oh, goodness. Yeah. Were you the youngest of the family then?

GLADYS: I was the youngest.

DOROTHEA: The youngest.

GLADYS: Uh huh.

DOROTHEA: Uh huh. Have you had any problems with diabetes?

GLADYS: No, I have not.

DOROTHEA: You're lucky.

GLADYS: Yes, very lucky.

DOROTHEA: Did your parents have diabetes; did either one of your parents?

GLADYS: No, no.

DOROTHEA: So it was just an unfortunate ---

GLADYS: Well, a number of Papa's brothers' children, Juanita, Uncle Frank's daughter, died with diabetes. And I know Denny was a cousin, also.

DOROTHEA: So you do have diabetes in the family?

GLADYS: Oh, very definitely, yes.

DOROTHEA: Yeah, yeah. When did, where did you go to school?

GLADYS: Fernwood School.

DOROTHEA: In all your years of school?

GLADYS: Well, the first eight years. Dog ridge came also to that school.

DOROTHEA: And about --- was it a country school?

GLADYS: Oh yes, it ---

DOROTHEA: I don't know this area; I ought to turn this over to Barbara.

BARBARA: All schools at that time were pretty much country schools, probably.

GLADYS: Yes. There were two rooms in the Fernwood School; we were a very modern school. And it seemed there were so many uncles, it was a very, very --- everyone, no Uncle Tom was a sea captain, but all the rest were carpenters. So they built a play shed. The district just paid for the lumber, and my various uncles built this huge shed. And so we were way ahead of Newberg. They didn't have a play shed then.

DOROTHEA: How about bathrooms? Did you have outdoor bathrooms?

GLADYS: Oh yes, but they were very nice bathrooms. They had a guard in front so that there could be no peeking at all! (Laughter)

BARBARA: And where did you go to your high school then?

GLADYS: Newberg.

BARBARA: Newberg, uh huh. And then your college, where did you go to ---

GLADYS: Normal, at ---

BARBARA: Normal School.

GLADYS: At Monmouth.

BARBARA: Monmouth. And did you go two years, or four years?

GLADYS: Two years.

BARBARA: Two years.

GLADYS: And then, I did graduate work afterwards.

DOROTHEA: And you took in education, so to be a teacher?

GLADYS: Oh, I did more than that, I majored in rural education.

BARBARA: I didn't know there was such a thing.

GLADYS: Of course, there was.

DOROTHEA: So you planned on teaching in the rural area?

GLADYS: I very definitely did.

DOROTHEA: So, how did you end up in Harney County?

GLADYS: For the salary.

BARBARA: So you came from Newberg, or Monmouth, when you finished school, your first teaching position was in Harney County?

GLADYS: Well, I don't know just exactly how to answer that. But I think I better ---

DOROTHEA: Back up a little bit?

GLADYS: Back up a little bit.

DOROTHEA: Okay.

GLADYS: Now, what in the world did they call that?

BARBARA: You didn't have student teaching in that day, did they?

GLADYS: Oh, of course they did.

BARBARA: Did they? Okay.

GLADYS: Yes. But I got paid for it.

BARBARA: Oh really?

GLADYS: Yes.

BARBARA: And where did you do your student teaching?

GLADYS: Fall City.

BARBARA: Fall City, okay.

GLADYS: Uh huh. And let's say I was earning my way through school.

BARBARA: Okay.

GLADYS: And you wouldn't believe, you wouldn't believe where I lived at Monmouth. But it was with Mrs. Tittle, and I've forgotten how many children she had. But anyway, she rented rooms out for hard-up people that were going to school. The upstairs, the upstairs was, well, I don't think the steps were any wider than this.

BARBARA: So you were in the attic, is what you're saying?

GLADYS: Well, I suspect it probably was. But anyway, you had to hold on the steps to go up, really, because you couldn't, even turning your foot this way, you couldn't ---

DOROTHEA: You'd fall off?

GLADYS: A ladder would have been much easier. And there was a little cook stove up there. The refrigerator was a box that was nailed outside the window. (Laughter) There was a bathroom downstairs. And let's see, there were one, two, three, four, five of we girls there.

DOROTHEA: You all had to go up these steps?

GLADYS: That's correct. And if you were in a hurry to go to the bathroom, it was rather awkward. (Laughter)

DOROTHEA: So don't get sick.

GLADYS: No, don't. And I found it difficult to study with so many girls, so Mrs. Tittle arranged for me to have a separate bedroom. It was, I think it was probably a closet, I don't know. But anyway, a small cot would fit in this room. And by sitting --- then the oldest boy built a shelf across the window here, and I could sit on the foot of the bed and work on this shelf here.

BARBARA: So that was your desk?

GLADYS: That's right. And at the other end, I could hang my clothes. So it was ---

DOROTHEA: A little room.

GLADYS: It was. There was no door to it, but then ---

BARBARA: Oh dear.

GLADYS: Okay, but what is really the funniest thing about that, my grandson, youngest grandson Todd, also went to Monmouth. He had a lovely apartment. And he said, "Grandma, you've always said where you lived when you were going to Monmouth. Is the house there yet?" And I said, "Well, we'll go look and see." Sure enough, it was. An old gentleman lived there in the downstairs part, and he collected buttons. And believe it or not, every room in that house was just covered with buttons, attached to the wall. And I said, "Well, what about the upstairs part, is it the same?" "Oh yes," he said, "it hasn't been touched." And Todd said, "Grandma, can we go up there?" And I said, "Sure." And he looked up there, and he said, "Why," he said, "no one could live here."

(Laughter)

BARBARA: But you did.

GLADYS: Yeah, I did. Okay.

BARBARA: So you did a little student teaching out of there then?

GLADYS: Yes, from Monmouth. Well, you know Fall City was a lumber town, you know that, or did you?

BARBARA: I wasn't real familiar with it. I grew up in Corvallis.

GLADYS: Oh, well, Corvallis was a very modern place. (Laughter) That's where my oldest brother went to college. And then to the Christian University there at Eugene. Okay, they had problems keeping teachers in Fall City. So there was three months for school to, before it would end, and the --- Miss Hinkle, no, she was a geography teacher, well anyway the college got word that they was there anyone there that would finish out the three months, and they would pay \$125 if they would.

BARBARA: For three months?

GLADYS: Yes. And Dr. Hinkle was --- Gentle, Dr. Gentle was in charge of the program for

placing students, and he knew how I was scrambling around. And he said, "Look, we'll find out if you are any good as a teacher. You go up there and finish out the year. You'll get paid for it, and you keep up your studies here. We'll send your ---." So that's exactly what I did.

DOROTHEA: So you made the \$125?

GLADYS: Yeah, I did.

DOROTHEA: And then where did you go from there? Is that where you went to college, I mean --

GLADYS: When I finished up at Monmouth --- I probably should tell you that when I was in high school, I was, it was when they had that platoon system, which was a weird idea. You went to high school, and you were given your work assignments each week for up to a month, and you could go just as fast as you wanted, or just as slow as you wanted. Whenever you wanted help, you went to a teacher, and otherwise, you were on your own. So I finished up high school in a little, just a wee bit over two years, which was really not a good way to do. And they discarded the system because a lot of the kids were still working on their first week's assignment. (Laughter) One was my cousin.

But then I applied for schools, various places. And I think one of the funniest rejections that anyone ever got was from the chairman of a board, I won't --- no I won't say that. But anyway, the letter read, Dear Miss Jones: You ain't got enough education for us. Education was misspelled. There wasn't a capital in the whole letter. And Dr. Gentle used it in his office for a long time, so people wouldn't feel bad when they were rejected.

BARBARA: Oh, that's something.

GLADYS: And I applied for a school in Alaska, which I got, and Mama said, "Absolutely no. You couldn't go anyplace like that." And then I got, I don't remember another place, but then I got this one from Harney County. And it, they offered me a salary, now remember I said \$125 for three months. They offered a \$125 a month for here.

DOROTHEA: Now, what year was this?

GLADYS: 1928.

DOROTHEA: In 1928.

GLADYS: I was the ripe age of 18.

BARBARA: You thought you had died and gone to heaven for \$125 a month.

GLADYS: Absolutely. And it was more than Dr. Gentle was getting, a college professor.

BARBARA: Is that right?

GLADYS: Uh huh.

BARBARA: And what school was this that you were offered?

GLADYS: Virginia Valley.

BARBARA: Virginia Valley, okay.

GLADYS: District 28.

DOROTHEA: Okay, now tell us some of the students that you had out there, so we'll know approximately who lived in the area.

GLADYS: You mean the students that I had in Virginia Valley?

DOROTHEA: Uh huh, uh huh.

GLADYS: Okay. I had, let's see ---

DOROTHEA: Like, I mean, you know, just use last names like Starbucks, or whatever, that you had.

GLADYS: Okay, we'll start with Faye Bennett, daughter of Lake and --- that's terrible, Lake was her --- Arthur Bennett was her father, Lake and Arthur. And Bessie, their two girls, I had them. And then Harley and May Quier. There were gobs of Quier's, but --- Delbert, Frances May, Eugenia, and Edwin, and Esther. Henry Bleuler's children, I can't think what his wife's name was. And Henry was the oldest, no, Olga was, but I never had her in school. Frieda, Herman, and Helen ---

DOROTHEA: These were all Bleulers?

GLADYS: They were all Bleulers.

DOROTHEA: Okay, who are these, what was their last name? The Delbert and the Frances May?

GLADYS: Quier.

DOROTHEA: Oh, they were all Quier's?

GLADYS: Yes.

DOROTHEA: Okay.

GLADYS: I said they were Harley and May's children.

DOROTHEA: Okay, okay.

GLADYS: Then a brother of Harley's, his two children, Sybil and Quinten.

DOROTHEA: Well, you had quite a class then?

GLADYS: I had nineteen.

DOROTHEA: Wow, yeah.

GLADYS: In all eight grades.

DOROTHEA: In all eight grades.

BARBARA: That was really quite an experience for you, really your first teaching position.

GLADYS: Oh yes, it was. Well, not really my first, because ---

BARBARA: Well, I understand, with the three months prior to that.

GLADYS: Uh huh.

BARBARA: But that was a real challenge to start out with eight grades and nineteen students.

GLADYS: Yes.

DOROTHEA: And being eighteen years old.

GLADYS: And then, Officers. Oh, let's see, huh, Mona's sister, and what in the world was her name now? Well, it was an Officer, a girl, and I can't think of her now. That's terrible, once in a while.

DOROTHEA: Well, once in a while that happens to all of us.

GLADYS: I'll tell you, well, George was the youngest. Lona, Lona Officer, and George, and then the one just before George.

BARBARA: During this time was it just single women that were hired as teachers, or were they still doing that?

GLADYS: Oh definitely. If you were married, no, you could not teach, huh uh, no.

BARBARA: About when did that change, do you know?

GLADYS: I really don't know.

BARBARA: Because I know we have talked to a number of people that said that they brought these young ladies in as teachers, and of course the young gentlemen picked them up as fast as they came in, so they were always searching for new teachers to come in. Because as soon as they married then they weren't allowed to teach anymore.

GLADYS: This is true.

BARBARA: I was wondering about when it was that they finally realized that married ladies could teach, too.

GLADYS: They were decent enough to teach, I guess. (Laughter) Well, there were three Officers, but the one, can't think of his name right now.

DOROTHEA: Okay, how long did you teach there?

GLADYS: Four years.

DOROTHEA: Four years. From there where did you go?

GLADYS: Well, Charlie and I were married.

DOROTHEA: Oh, okay, let's ask how you met Charlie.

GLADYS: Well, you know, well, in the Willamette Valley you didn't ride horseback all the time, by any means. I rode on some of my uncle's plow horses, setting, when I was a little girl. But a saddle horse, I'd never ridden. So, the only thing that Quier's had for me to ride to school was a green broke horse, and Bright Eyes was her name. And let's say I wasn't man enough for Bright Eyes, so I walked to school.

DOROTHEA: Okay, so in other words, you were living with the Quier family?

GLADYS: Yes, Harley and May Quier, this is true.

DOROTHEA: Okay, okay. Did you live there the whole four years?

GLADYS: Yes, I stayed with them, uh-huh, this is true.

BARBARA: Did you go back to Newberg to your family during the summer, or did you stay here?

GLADYS: In the summer, yes, yes, I did.

BARBARA: Uh huh, and then you came back in the fall.

GLADYS: And then I came back in the fall. But I'll have to tell you, the schools were a little bit

different then than they are now. Of course, there was a barn at school because many of the children rode to school. So the youngsters, if they were big enough, took care of their horses and so on. But the little first graders, if they --- (Speaking to Alda Sampson --- there is cold tea in there, or you can make you some ---) the teacher was supposed to saddle and unsaddle the horse and so on and take care of them. Never saddled a horse in my life. And Bessie Bennett was a first grader, and she rode a horse to school. And it so happened that Faye was sick, so there I was, supposed to saddle her horse.

BARBARA: She probably knew more about it than you did, huh?

GLADYS: I had no more idea how to saddle a horse than a man in the moon, or put a bridle on either. Well, the horse was much smarter than I was, and I couldn't even get the bridle on because it would hold its head up, you know.

DOROTHEA: Head up, uh huh.

GLADYS: So finally, Bessie suggested I climb on the manger, which I did, and I did succeed in getting the bridle on. Then I tackled the saddle. Well, I got the blanket on, but that's just as far as I got. (Laughter) And it kept getting later, and later, and later, and later, and finally Bessie heaved a sigh and she said, "Miss Jones, just give me a boost, I don't need a saddle." And I stirred her up on the horse, and she reached over and patted my hand, she said, "That's alright, Miss Jones, you'll learn some day." And away she went, lickety snort.

DOROTHEA: Well, if you didn't ride a horse, how did you get to Harney County, on a stage or ---

GLADYS: On the Galloping Goose.

DOROTHEA: Oh, that was a red car.

GLADYS: Yes, yes. Remember, it came from Ontario. And I had a cousin in Ontario, he and my brother Harold had a photography shop there. But anyway, I left Alvin's (Heater) place at three o'clock in the morning, and got to Crane at three o'clock the next morning. (Laughter)

BARBARA: Oh dear.

GLADYS: The train stopped to pick up milk cans, they delivered groceries, they were very, very nice people. The only passengers, it was a caboose sort of, you know, behind, was the gentleman

that was working for the mill up here. I think he was, I heard with the hotel, I don't remember which. He and I were the only passengers on the train.

DOROTHEA: And when you got here you knew why?

GLADYS: Yes. And remember, I saw Crane, and not as Crane is now, because Crane was really a metropolis then. But it was something I had never seen. Took one look at the place and burst into tears. And the conductor said, "If you feel that bad," he said, "why don't you go back home?" And I said, "I haven't enough money." (Laughter) And he said, "I'll lend it to you." And I said, "No, I'll stay." And still ...

DOROTHEA: And here you are.

GLADYS: Yes, and I fell in love with the place.

BARBARA: And so what year was it that you met Charlie? You say, while you were teaching your first four years here.

GLADYS: The first year that I was here.

BARBARA: You met him then?

GLADYS: It was a ---

BARBARA: At a dance?

GLADYS: You know how --- no, no it wasn't.

DOROTHEA: She said she couldn't ride a horse. Now it has something to do with a horse.

GLADYS: And it was a terrible storm, you know, how a dust storm comes up here in Harney County.

DOROTHEA: Uh huh.

GLADYS: Black, and I just knew that I was going to get drenched. So I was cutting across the sagebrush, a trail, straight across the sagebrush and running just as hard as I could, and jumping.

DOROTHEA: You knew where you were going?

GLADYS: Oh yes, I was headed for home, to Quier's place, jumping sagebrush. And Charlie happened to be riding horseback, he had been out looking for some steers across the same flat. And I had on a pink smock, and it wasn't even buttoned. It was sailing out behind, I guess. He saw me

going, jumping across there ---

DOROTHEA: Look at the pink smock.

GLADYS: Yeah. So, he made up his mind that he was going to see me. And so he --- I didn't see him, but I actually met him at Sunday school in the schoolhouse there in Virginia Valley.

BARBARA: So, did he ask you for a date then, or just come and visit, or what did you do during your courtship or going out?

GLADYS: Oh, just the same things, I suppose that people do now. Went to plays and ---

DOROTHEA: Horseback.

BARBARA: Movies?

GLADYS: Well, no, plays. There were no movies in Crane then. So it was, well, people would just get together and make ---

BARBARA: Play cards?

GLADYS: ... and so on. And of course, dances, and whatnot.

BARBARA: And so this, you met him the first year that you were here?

GLADYS: Yes.

BARBARA: And so, four years later, he finally popped the question, did he?

GLADYS: Yeah.

BARBARA: And what was he doing at that time?

GLADYS: Here on the place.

BARBARA: Was he?

GLADYS: Yes.

DOROTHEA: Did his folks own the place?

GLADYS: Yes, they came here in 1910, I think it was. Dad was going to make his fortune here in Harney County. He had worked on the railroad all, up in Tacoma. And they took up a desert claim out from Wright's Point, out in that area. And then this place came up, whoever was on it, let it go back. And so they just bought the relinquishment rights from the county, and then finished up homesteading it. And Charlie homesteaded back up on top.

DOROTHEA: Okay.

BARBARA: I understand he was a buckaroo, and he was a stonemason, is that true?

GLADYS: Correct. His father was a stonemason, too. Charlie supervised all the building of the bird refuge, all the stone buildings down here. The three C boys helped him, because Charlie started in with arthritis the first year that we were married. In fact, got pulled off the haystack, and then it started in that leg. Because he, the year we were married --- and he wasn't about to get married on crutches, so he started, just threw the crutches away, and I suppose the leg didn't heal properly. It's probably --- because that's where it started. But ---

BARBARA: So where did you live when you were married then? On his place right here?

GLADYS: Right here.

DOROTHEA: You've lived here then all your married life?

GLADYS: Yes.

BARBARA: You've never lived in Burns or ----

GLADYS: No, no.

BARBARA: I understand that he worked on some buildings in Burns.

GLADYS: Oh, yes, he did.

BARBARA: So he traveled back and forth then, while he was working on those.

GLADYS: Yes, he and Dad. Well, you --- maybe you know, but there used to be wells ---

BARBARA: Oh, the wells for fire in the middle of the streets?

DOROTHEA: In the middle of the street.

GLADYS: In the middle of the street. Well, they, Charlie and his dad built those, and a number of stone buildings in Burns. They also built buildings on the Whitehorse Ranch, and several down at Diamond. And of course, it was just horses then, so to go across the Alvord, they would have to load water in barrels to make it across the, to water the horses to get across there.

BARBARA: So you were married, and then of course you could not teach at that time, is that right?

GLADYS: This is correct.

BARBARA: And so did you miss teaching right away, or were you more interested in being a wife and having a family?

GLADYS: Well, what I should say, you know they had trouble getting teachers. Well, after Charlie and I were married they were, when Marianne was born, this is when Virginia Valley decided that married people could teach. They couldn't get anyone to teach school that year, so they offered me the job of teaching school again. And I said, "I couldn't possibly, because Marianne was a baby." So they got Annie Dougall, paid her salary to take care of Marianne.

BARBARA: Oh.

GLADYS: And my salary for teaching school.

BARBARA: They were really desperate to get someone here.

GLADYS: Yes, uh huh.

DOROTHEA: And so you have ---

GLADYS: And remember that was in the depression years.

BARBARA: Oh, and money was hard to come by.

GLADYS: Oh, yes.

BARBARA: So, what year was it that you were married? About '22?

GLADYS: No, no.

BARBARA: You were, I mean, you were about 22 years of age when you got married?

GLADYS: Yeah, approximately. I can't even --- I'd have to go look to see the exact date. But anyway ---

BARBARA: '34, '35, somewhere around there?

DOROTHEA: Twenty-eight and thirty-three ---

GLADYS: Well ---

BARBARA: You started teaching over here in 1928?

GLADYS: 1928, yeah.

BARBARA: So in four years later, so --- about '32.

DOROTHEA: About '32.

GLADYS: Approximately, uh huh.

BARBARA: '33, somewhere around there.

DOROTHEA: How many children do you have?

GLADYS: Three daughters.

DOROTHEA: And when were they born?

GLADYS: Well, now then, I'll tell you --- whoop ---

DOROTHEA: Just tell us their names; we don't need their dates.

GLADYS: Well, Marianne is the oldest, a nurse in Boise. She is married now; Ami is her name.

She graduated from nurses training and came home that summer to have a big, long vacation. And the first week she was home got a call from St. Luke's and said would you like to work in the surgical department?

BARBARA: Oh, very nice.

GLADYS: She said, "Yes." She's been there ever since. (Laughter)

BARBARA: So, she missed out on that nice long vacation.

GLADYS: Uh huh, that's true. And then Patsy Louise Cronin, she is a teacher, retired now. And Doris is another nurse. By the way I always figured I wanted to be a nurse, and it wasn't considered a very lady-like occupation when I was growing up.

DOROTHEA: And now men are not considered very nice nurses. (Laughter)

BARBARA: But there are becoming more and more of them now. I noticed in the hospitals there are a number of them now.

GLADYS: Yes. Rasmussen is Doris' married name, and she is in Albany.

DOROTHEA: Uh huh. And so how many grandchildren do you have? My goodness, there we go again. Patsy has four.

GLADYS: Yes, Patsy has four, Doris has five, Cindy has one.

DOROTHEA: That is a great-grand ...

SIDE B

GLADYS: ... grandchildren, and grandchildren, but only one daughter, granddaughter.

DOROTHEA: Okay.

BARBARA: So you went back to teaching then after Marianne was born. How long did you teach then at Virginia Valley, just the one-year?

GLADYS: Just one year. And then when Marianne needed to start to school, the Princeton schoolhouse used to be just at this turn at the big hill there. It had been discontinued, so there was, it was moved to Crane, so that's when I started teaching. No, I didn't either. The first year I taught because I had told Mr. Haberly I wouldn't teach in Crane. (Laughter)

BARBARA: Oh, dear.

GLADYS: I taught school in Clyde Weittenhiller's homestead shack down at the Riddle Ranch, up on the ranch. The ruminants of that is still there. I lived in one room, and taught school in the other. And that's where Marianne went the first year to school.

DOROTHEA: So you taught Marianne the first year?

GLADYS: Yes. And then the second year, Mr. Buchanan came out; he was on the school board, and this happened to be the only member that I knew. And I was cooking breakfast for the hay crew at that time, and it was a big long table here, not this round one. But anyway, I was frying hotcakes and Mr. Buchanan came, and he said, "Well, I have the contract for next year's school, and will you sign it now?" I said, "I just don't have time, I've got to get these men fed." "Well," he said, "I've got to have it signed right now." And he said, "Here, I'll hold it, and you just sign it." And so I signed my name. And you know he says, "I think I'll have breakfast." And he just stuck the contract in his pocket, and he sat down. And I don't know how many hotcakes he ate. Then went out and visited with the men while they were saddling or harnessing up the horses. And I thought, my goodness, that's really weird, but then forgot all about it.

So, it was about a week before school would start again in the fall, and I got a letter from Crane that I was to report for school the opening day at Crane. And no way, I was not going to teach in Crane.

BARBARA: You thought you were teaching out here, huh?

GLADYS: Uh huh. I didn't know that that was just a little branch school, because the roads were so bad. And they had just a temporary school out there, because Dick Otley had a lot of youngsters and there were the ---

BARBARA: So that will teach you to read the fine print from then on. (Laughter)

GLADYS: Always. So that's how I happened to arrive over there.

ALDA SAMPSON: Which school was it that you nailed the lid of a tomato can to keep the visiting snakes to come in?

GLADYS: Well I had --- that was a really, a nice winter. It didn't snow all winter, it just rained, and rained, and rained. But it was real warm, and at noon the youngsters would want to go down to the creek and take off their shoes and try and catch trout for Marianne and I. So we'd work real hard and then we'd go down and we'd catch trout during the ---

DOROTHEA: During the noon hour.

GLADYS: Or play hide and seek. And so one day the --- I think it was James McWilliams, I'm not sure, could have been John, could have been any of the boys. They decided to hide under the bed, they shot under the bed, but they shot out a lot faster. There was a nice big rattler there under the bed.

BARBARA: Oh, dear.

GLADYS: And we were going down to do this fishing one noon, and the boys, the big boys, would carry Marianne a lot of the time so that they could go down. But anyway, she was walking, and they had gone by, down this trail, down to the canyon, and Maryianne was hurrying down, and here was a big rattler right in the path. There was no way I could get her back, but I gave her a shove right off the side. So, she made it kind of, had a green stick fracture on her arm, but at least she wasn't bitten by a rattler. But then, we were down exploring; up that canyon, there are Indian carvings, so Dorman said. But I never had time to go up to see, but other people say there were. And we were up there, and the kids wanted to go in this cave, and I said, "No, not unless I went in first to see if it was safe." And I went in and there were just rattlesnake tails, you could see up in the --- you can't imagine what it was like. So, I sent Dorman down for his dad, and he and Harold

Cawlfild came up, and they poured gasoline down through the cracks up here on top, and then set it afire. And I have no idea how many, close to a hundred of those snakes come ---

DOROTHEA: Boiling out, huh?

GLADYS: Uh huh, yeah.

BARBARA: A real den?

GLADYS: Yeah, it was a den. They had a, that year there was down at Coontown, they found another den that had a lot of snakes in. But in this cave then, after it was cleaned out, Harold and Dick Otley checked it, and we found a skull. So the youngsters --- I took it down to the bird refuge. And Harold, when he was, Harold Cawlfild, I think it was, could have been Dick --- well someone that had worked there, a man had drawn his wages and gone out to go to Burns. And the check was never cashed, and he never showed up, and they thought it was a possibility that it might have been him. I don't know.

DOROTHEA: Huh.

BARBARA: So what year then was this that your first year at Crane, that you started, that you got hooked into?

GLADYS: Exact dates ---

BARBARA: Well, I mean, year?

GLADYS: But, well, it would be when Marianne was seven years old. I could, if I had known you wanted the dates, I could have looked them up.

DOROTHEA: No, that's not really important.

GLADYS: But --- exactly --- but anyway, Mr. Haberly was the principal. And Mrs. Weittenhillier was the music teacher.

BARBARA: So you had to live down at Crane then, or did you come back and forth to the ranch?

GLADYS: No, we rented a house. It was Arthur and Lake Bennett's house there at Crane.

BARBARA: And did your husband come with you then?

GLADYS: No, he stayed on the ranch.

BARBARA: So, you kind of commuted back and forth on weekends or something?

GLADYS: Uh huh, yeah, whenever we could. When we couldn't make it, why ---

BARBARA: So what did he think about you going back to teaching? Was he all for it, or ---

GLADYS: Well, after all when steers only bring four cents a pound ---

BARBARA: Someone has to bring in a little cash, huh? (Laughter) If the steer can't do it, Mother can, huh?

GLADYS: Yeah.

BARBARA: During the hard times.

GLADYS: Uh huh.

BARBARA: Yeah.

GLADYS: But my wages had dropped.

BARBARA: You weren't drawing a \$125 a month then?

GLADYS: No, it was only \$79.

BARBARA: Oh my.

DOROTHEA: A month? So that was quite a drop. Well, did they have more than ---

GLADYS: You have to remember it was during the depression.

DOROTHEA: During the depression, yeah, yeah. But was there more than one teacher there at that time, or were you there ---?

GLADYS: Oh yes, there were three teachers.

DOROTHEA: Oh, three?

GLADYS: Uh huh.

DOROTHEA: Okay.

BARBARA: So then, did you take time off when you had your other two daughters? Did you teach, and then take a year off, and teach again? Or did you just continue to teach?

GLADYS: Well, the girls just --- Charlie took care of the girls. And then Grandma ---

DOROTHEA: Beckley.

BARBARA: I mean, during the times that you got pregnant and had another baby, did you take time off to have babies, or did you just keep teaching all the time?

GLADYS: I taught from the time that Marianne started, because you see the girls were born, they were, I always wanted triplets, and they were almost triplets. (Laughter)

DOROTHEA: Pretty close, in other words?

GLADYS: Yes.

BARBARA: One a year?

GLADYS: I think, well, I think about twelve months, something like that.

BARBARA: So, how many years did you teach at Crane? When did you retire?

GLADYS: I retired twice.

DOROTHEA: The first time?

GLADYS: Well, the first time when the girls, when Doris graduated up from high school, I retired. And then Penny Catterson was teaching at Crane, and she got pregnant and was not able to ---

DOROTHEA: Work.

GLADYS: --- work. She had quite a difficult time, and so they ---

DOROTHEA: Was that her first one?

GLADYS: Uh huh. I think it was the first year that --- no it couldn't have been, because she and Buster were --- I'm not just sure. But anyway she and Buster were, they weren't married the first year she was here. Well, anyway ---

DOROTHEA: Was it her first child then?

GLADYS: Yes, uh huh. Yes, it was. And I simply taught then till ---

BARBARA: And finished out the year for her?

GLADYS: Yes. And then I just continued teaching.

DOROTHEA: Well, at that time you weren't doing much on the ranch probably, so ---

GLADYS: No, no.

DOROTHEA: Did you have big hay crews that you had to cook for in the summertime?

GLADYS: Yes, in the summertime, yes.

DOROTHEA: Did you ever learn to ride a horse?

GLADYS: Oh, yes. Yeah.

BARBARA: Did Charlie see to that, so you wouldn't be flying over the meadow in pinafores?

GLADYS: Well, you can't very well run cows, running steers afoot is not --- just a wee bit difficult.

DOROTHEA: Especially in the wide-open spaces.

GLADYS: I --- another really funny thing, I fell in love with a horse, Gypsy. She was a hot-blooded horse. And a man over where Mina is living now, I don't remember his name, I saw it, and I said, "Charlie, I'm going to buy that horse." And he said, "Well, if you want it, go ahead." So, I went the next day and took the car and the trailer and bought Gypsy, and brought her home. And Charlie came out and looked at the horse, and he said, "You bought a Jim Crow horse." I said, "A what?" He said, "That horse is stolen."

BARBARA: Oh dear. How could he tell?

GLADYS: It wasn't even branded when I went up there. And then it was branded --- the brand wasn't registered anywhere. So I called Eldon Sitz, or no I didn't, we didn't have a telephone, I went in to see Eldon Sitz. And the man wasn't there, he went out, and I had paid cash for the horse. And so Eldon said, "Well, the only thing you can do is advertise the horse." And I did, I put an advertisement in the Burns Times-Herald, and in the, I think it was the Journal in Portland, and one other newspaper. Nobody ever claimed her. But oh, she was a beauty, and as easy to ride as a ---

BARBARA: So you lucked out after all?

GLADYS: Oh, I did, but someone --- oh, it was a shame.

BARBARA: Was very sad that they lost their horse.

GLADYS: Uh huh, yeah.

DOROTHEA: Was it already broke, then?

GLADYS: Yes, she was just --- she wasn't afraid of a rattlesnake. She loved apples and everything else, so you know she wasn't --- and she would follow me anywhere. If I'd come in the house, she'd come right in after me. (Laughter) But could she travel. Oh, she could really go.

DOROTHEA: So, who were some of your students at Crane?

BARBARA: Did you ever have Avel Diaz as a student?

GLADYS: No, he was in high school then.

BARBARA: In high school, when you were teaching?

GLADYS: Uh huh, yeah.

BARBARA: You taught the lower grades?

GLADYS: I taught lower grades all the time. Of course, I had a certificate to teach in junior high.

I taught, in high school, I taught bonehead English whenever they had some ---

DOROTHEA: You taught the modern-day talk, yeah.

GLADYS: Whenever the high school principal would show up, and they'd have so many that he figured just weren't going to graduate, then I, as I say, I had a bonehead English class.

BARBARA: Did the State provide you with the curriculum that you were to teach?

GLADYS: Oh, yes.

BARBARA: The things that you had to fulfill for your students?

GLADYS: Absolutely.

BARBARA: Uh huh.

GLADYS: You know, when I started, there were, you had, the students had to pass an eighth-grade exam. So, I had a number of youngsters, well, even at Fall City, I had some students that were 23 years of age.

BARBARA: Still trying to pass their eighth-grade test?

GLADYS: No, parents just didn't bother to send youngsters to school.

BARBARA: They needed them at home to work, so they just didn't send them to school.

GLADYS: Yes, uh huh, that's true.

BARBARA: So, each --- when you were teaching your one room school, your eight grades, you had a lesson plan for each grade, or curriculum coming in that you had to follow.

GLADYS: Absolutely, absolutely.

BARBARA: So, it really took a lot of preparation on your part to be able to see that each student was doing what they needed to do.

GLADYS: This is true. But you know it's also, it also has its advantages. Because youngsters

learn a great deal from each other, a very, very large amount. Because now then, you know, now they are going --- well they call it --- well it's really just going back to your little rural school.

BARBARA: Oh, the blended classes that they are having now.

GLADYS: Yes, that's all it amounts to.

BARBARA: I know Andrea Thompson, this last year taught at Slater, a blended class.

GLADYS: Yes, they give it a fancy name, but that's all it amounts to.

BARBARA: I think it ---

DOROTHEA: Now are these the top of the class kids, or are they just ---

BARBARA: I think it's just the three grades that they're trying to work ---

DOROTHEA: Three grades.

GLADYS: Uh huh. They haven't --- but ---

BARBARA: The kids will pick up on what the other class is doing.

GLADYS: Absolutely.

BARBARA: They can work ahead faster.

GLADYS: Uh huh.

BARBARA: I know when my sons were in school in Wyoming, that they had --- you could work at your own speed, you know, and a lot of them could just really go through quickly. And others, you know, so it kept them challenged that they could progress faster.

GLADYS: This is true, they do. And the children really get more individual attention. Now that's hard to believe, but you know Crane isn't a huge school, but it just so happened when --- I mean Burns, it just so happened that Marianne wasn't able to get in chemistry because it wasn't taught every year at Crane. But someday, or somehow, she could not get in chemistry.

So I sent her to school, a year, and she worked as a nurse's aide in the hospital. In fact, a lady in Burns and I just traded youngsters. I took her boy, and he went to school out at Crane, and she lived there and worked and went to --- took her chemistry in Burns.

And the teacher I knew real well, and I just happened to be in Burns, and Marianne was with me, and I stopped to chat. And you know, youngsters out of high school aren't particularly

interested in standing around, so she just went on. And he said, "You know," he said, "who is that?" He said, "Kind of seems familiar." I said, "It should be, was in your class all year."

BARBARA: Oh dear, oh dear. That is terrible.

DOROTHEA: Was that a Mr. Williams, or a Mr. ---

GLADYS: I'm not saying who it was.

DOROTHEA: You're not mentioning names, huh? Sounds like Farley.

BARBARA: That's a shame.

GLADYS: And in a little one-room school, you certainly know the names of everyone.

BARBARA: Yes.

DOROTHEA: Uh huh.

BARBARA: Over the years that you taught, did you see trends changing with the curriculums and things coming down? Or were you pretty much, did you pretty much stay the same? Were they offering different ways of doing things, suggestions to you, presenting things differently, or --- Do you understand my question?

GLADYS: Well, they tried different things. I would say ---

BARBARA: For instance, I know there were some years where they really didn't work hard at phonics, and teaching children to read.

GLADYS: This is what I was going to say. I think the worst thing that was ever done was when we weren't supposed to teach phonics. And I had the girls, so I went to the principal and I said, "Would it be alright if I taught phonics to my daughters?" And he said, "Yes." But he said, "Make it clear to the other students that they are not ---

DOROTHEA: Required.

GLADYS: --- it is not required from them." So I would tell the students, now, then I would arrange work for them, and when I was, I would proceed to teach phonics to my girls.

BARBARA: Of course, everyone was listening.

GLADYS: I didn't have any, really any, reading problems with any of my students. (Laughter) Or spelling problems. It was ---

BARBARA: To learn to sound the words?

GLADYS: Yeah. And any book that you want youngsters to read, be sure and tell them that it's not on the reading list.

BARBARA: They will certainly devour it. (Laughter)

GLADYS: Yes. It's marvelous.

BARBARA: Reverse psychology.

GLADYS: Yeah. And you say you wanted some names of students that I had in Crane?

DOROTHEA: Uh huh.

GLADYS: Well ---

BARBARA: Maybe family names.

DOROTHEA: Just family names.

ALDA: How about the Oards?

GLADYS: I had all of the Oards. No, not Al, he was in high school.

DOROTHEA: Did you have Eva?

GLADYS: Eva was in high school.

DOROTHEA: She was in high school, too.

GLADYS: But I had Etta and Richard. Well, practically everyone in Harney County. (Laughter)

Well, I had ---

DOROTHEA: Dunn's?

GLADYS: Oh yes, Larry Dunn.

DOROTHEA: Some of the Dunn's.

GLADYS: And his wife.

DOROTHEA: Allene.

GLADYS: Yeah, Allene. As I say, practically everyone around here. And Norma Davies.

DOROTHEA: How about the Davis'?

GLADYS: Oh, and Wess.

DOROTHEA: Wess Mace?

GLADYS: Yeah. All through school, and his sister.

DOROTHEA: Which is, can you remember her name?

GLADYS: Sharon.

ALDA: Sharon.

GLADYS: Sharon.

DOROTHEA: What's her last name?

GLADYS: McGinnis.

DOROTHEA: McGinnis. Okay, all right. How about the Davis', did you have --- is it Ed Davis or

---

ALDA: It would be Herb Davis.

DOROTHEA: Herb Davis.

GLADYS: Herb, yes. And his sister and --- all working in town, Chuck's twin. Joe, Joe Davis, all of the Davis'.

DOROTHEA: Okay, how about the Otleys? Were they all in high school by then?

GLADYS: Yeah, I had --- no I had Dorman, you know, out at the Riddle Ranch.

DOROTHEA: Okay.

GLADYS: But the other boys were in high school when I was over at Crane.

DOROTHEA: How about Temples?

GLADYS: Yes.

DOROTHEA: Did you have them?

GLADYS: Yeah, Richard.

DOROTHEA: Is that Richard and ---

GLADYS: Allan.

DOROTHEA: Allan.

GLADYS: No, I didn't have --- yes, yeah.

DOROTHEA: Ora?

GLADYS: Yeah.

DOROTHEA: John?

GLADYS: No. John was in high school.

DOROTHEA: Didn't have John, he was in high school. Now Ora Dee, he was probably older, he's older than John or is ---

GLADYS: No, John is the oldest.

DOROTHEA: John is the oldest. Okay.

GLADYS: There was a little girl, but she was, she was killed. They were driving the horse to school, and that's when Temples moved to Crane so that the children wouldn't have to drive horse.

DOROTHEA: Okay. Do you remember her name?

GLADYS: No, I don't remember her name.

DOROTHEA: I haven't heard of her, so I don't know either.

GLADYS: No, I don't. Oh, and all the Wheeler children, they ---

DOROTHEA: Is that Frank and ---

GLADYS: Wheeler. Lois and Georgene and Marian, they're out at Boise. The Wheelers moved out.

DOROTHEA: Well now Frank, he lived here for a while, is that the same Wheeler? He was married to Katie ---

GLADYS: No.

DOROTHEA: --- Harris, or I can't remember her ---

GLADYS: No, no, no.

DOROTHEA: Okay.

GLADYS: I didn't have any of the Harris children in school. They went to the Sodhouse School, I think it was.

DOROTHEA: Oh, did they, uh huh.

GLADYS: I think that's where they went to school.

DOROTHEA: Okay, that's quite a bunch. Are any of them still living around here now?

GLADYS: Oh yeah, sure.

DOROTHEA: Ranching?

GLADYS: Herbert and ---

DOROTHEA: His kids.

GLADYS: Yeah. And Joe is in Burns. And of course Norma is down here, and so is Wes, is here.

DOROTHEA: Up here.

GLADYS: If I had known that you wanted --- I'd have ---

DOROTHEA: That's okay. Tell us something ---

GLADYS: I think it's rather interesting, you know, a number of people that have moved away have come back here to send their youngsters to school. So, they like for them to go to school to me. I always wanted a big family, and I think I've got a big one. (Laughter)

BARBARA: You inherited all these children.

DOROTHEA: Tell us something about ranching. How did this work into your school teaching? You said you moved into town during the wintertime.

GLADYS: This is true.

DOROTHEA: And then home --- how did, what all were your ---

GLADYS: Well, in the summertime, when Charlie was, when we were first married, Charlie would stay at the ranch at Diamond and I'd stay up here. In other words, I run one crew up here, and Charlie would run a crew down at Diamond.

Then, when the girls were older, Doris would stay up here with me and the other two girls would go down and stay at Diamond. But I would stay at Diamond in the evening; Doris and I would, because we would go down. And then I'd get up and get breakfast for a bunch of men. Oh dear, how many, sixteen, nineteen men.

BARBARA: Oh goodness.

GLADYS: Set bread, which the girls would bake. Then they would get dinner and supper, bake the bread, and so on. And they got paid the same wages exactly that the men got. And they were very prompt about getting the meal on the table, because one --- Well, we had very clean front windows at Diamond, because there was someone on the road crew that was real nice looking. And

those windows got shined practically every day. But one day they didn't have dinner ready, so Charlie figured up the time that each man lost, and the girls had to pay for that time.

BARBARA: Oh.

GLADYS: There was never another meal that was late.

BARBARA: That was a good lesson. No more boy watching, tend to the meals, huh?

DOROTHEA: And then you would come back here and run a crew.

GLADYS: Yes, and I would come here and get the meal on the table. Then make a circle around the windmills out here and get those started. Then do the same, get the things done up here, and then go back down to get breakfast on the next morning.

BARBARA: You had a very long day then, didn't you?

GLADYS: Well, yeah, but you know, teaching school, correcting papers, I'd never get to bed until around midnight, and sometimes later. And you know I can't go to bed yet until about, around eleven o'clock, or I can't sleep. (Laughter)

DOROTHEA: Well, then, going to school and teaching was kind of a vacation?

GLADYS: It was, yeah, it was.

DOROTHEA: A lot easier.

GLADYS: It was really easier, yeah, it was.

DOROTHEA: Even though you had all those students that you had to correct and take care of.

BARBARA: Did you raise gardens here on your ranches?

GLADYS: Oh yes. I had two gardens, because remember, you couldn't get into town all the time.

BARBARA: You can't run to the store every day.

GLADYS: No, huh uh. This was all in garden, and over where Wess has this corral now, was a big garden.

DOROTHEA: Was in garden.

GLADYS: Now my garden, look at it out here. (Laughter)

DOROTHEA: Does Marianne have a garden?

GLADYS: I don't think so.

DOROTHEA: What kind of a --- I've lost my question ---

GLADYS: I'm glad somebody else has.

DOROTHEA: I was thinking about gardens and yards.

BARBARA: So, you had to do a lot of canning then too at the end of the summer?

GLADYS: Oh yes, oh yes. I also raised lots of chickens because, well you know we didn't have electricity or anything like that when we were first married. So you either raised it, and canned it, or you did without.

BARBARA: Did you can your meat too?

GLADYS: Yeah, I canned lots of meat, uh-huh. And I'd also raise about a, oh a hundred fryers every summer to feed the hay crew. Of course, we butchered meat too, but without ---

DOROTHEA: Freezers.

GLADYS: --- without refrigeration, you just traded with your neighbors. A quarter was about all you could use. A mutton was really easier. But Charlie would hang them up, way up high, you know, the meat up high, and then in the ---

DOROTHEA: Every night?

GLADYS: --- night, take it down and cover it in hay so it kept well.

DOROTHEA: Uh huh, that's what I was going to ask how, how you kept your meat. Because I know that's what you have to do.

GLADYS: But I had a refrigerator, though, which belonged to a saloon up here. Charlie would cut ice and bury it in the sawdust in the wintertime. Then make lemonade with that ice, and it had green things in it. I didn't drink it; I didn't care for it. But everybody else did, and nobody ever got sick. But I can't ---

DOROTHEA: Did you have a milk cow?

GLADYS: Four of them. But I had never milked when I came up here. Mama said with all my brothers that they would be ashamed to make her milk, but if I learned to milk, it wouldn't bother them a bit. So, I didn't learn to milk.

Well, during haying, the girls all were real good; they arrived at seven months, regardless of

what, even staying in bed didn't help. So, I had to have milk for Marianne. And who was going to milk the cow, but me. So, Ready was the cow that was fresh, and I, let's say she was used to Charlie going out there and going like that. Well, she tipped me over, she upended me, and she did everything. And I had started at four o'clock in the morning, I finally decided I'd had enough, and I got a club and I worked Ready over. And I backed her up in a corner, and at eleven o'clock I had enough milk for Marianne. (Laughter)

BARBARA: Oh my. Did she turn around and look like, what are you trying to do, huh?

GLADYS: And do you know, I never had any problem with Ready after that. I'd go out to milk her and she'd just look at me, and (sigh).

DOROTHEA: Oh, here she comes again.

GLADYS: Yeah. Eventually, I got a little bit better, but never was very good at it.

DOROTHEA: Well, that's where my husband and I go round and round, because I learned to milk when I was very young. And he never learned to milk, and he pushes the milk up. I swear he dries every cow up that we ever had. And I said, "You push the milk up, Clinton, you don't pull it. You pull it out, you don't push it up." And he says, "I don't push it up. See, I can get milk." And I said, "Yeah, but you can't milk that cow." So ---

GLADYS: So I solved the problem. I built a barn and stanchions, and I put hobbles on cows that I ---

DOROTHEA: You say you had four; did you milk them all by hand?

GLADYS: Yeah, oh yes.

DOROTHEA: When did you get electricity?

GLADYS: Well when the, when we put in the electricity here.

BARBARA: When the power ---

ALDA: It was '57 wasn't it?

GLADYS: Uh huh.

DOROTHEA: In '57?

BARBARA: Do you remember the first electrical appliance you bought for your home? Was it a

stove, or a refrigerator, washer?

GLADYS: Well, now look; I want you to know that we were very modern. We had electricity long before there was any electricity, before the rural electric co-op was formed.

BARBARA: Oh.

DOROTHEA: You had a light plant?

GLADYS: No.

DOROTHEA: Oh, how did you have electricity?

GLADYS: Well, the cheapest way in the world. Barney Kobler figured it out.

DOROTHEA: You set a windmill on top.

GLADYS: A windmill up here on top, and a whole row of batteries out there. And it went around, and around, and around, and put electricity in the batteries. So, I had an electric washing machine, and an electric iron, and lots --- Barney Kobler wired the house.

BARBARA: Wonderful.

DOROTHEA: My in-laws had what they called a wind charger.

GLADYS: A wind charger, that's right. And then, I could wash with electricity. Before then it was

---

DOROTHEA: Uh huh. A scrub board.

GLADYS: Yep.

BARBARA: Watch out for the knuckles.

DOROTHEA: So, you had a refrigerator then, or was it gas?

GLADYS: No, I had a kerosene refrigerator. It's up at Dad's now, as far as that goes. But then Barney got rambunctious, and he said, "It would be much better to have a plant." So he figured out this system, and put it in a little trailer house, so all ---

TAPE 2 - SIDE C

GLADYS: You know there is something I should have told you about the, down at the bird refuge. There was a gentleman that helped Charlie, his name was Scottie, now don't ask me any other

name, that's all I know. He had a problem drinking, that's true, but he cut windowsills and doorframes for all the buildings down there. Charlie never knew how to do that, Dad did. So he should be remembered. I had a horrible time sobering him up.

BARBARA: When he was sober enough, he did an excellent job, huh?

GLADYS: Yeah he did, marvelous education. He came from Scotland, but I don't know any other name for him.

DOROTHEA: This is probably where Marcus could help us, and Marcus is gone, so there probably is something in his past tapes that maybe have mentioned him.

GLADYS: I don't know, but it should. He would drink; you know, some of the most capable people ---

BARBARA: Some of them figured they didn't have anything else to do, so they just drank sometimes, I think.

GLADYS: I don't know.

BARBARA: Of course it's an addiction, so ---

GLADYS: But he is responsible for doing that. Okay, now where were we?

BARBARA: Well, we were talking about the light system.

DOROTHEA: The electricity, yeah.

GLADYS: Oh yes. We moved it back and forth, the plant. Oh, Barney took the windmill and had it produce electricity for him too, when we put the other.

DOROTHEA: Now, was he an electrician, or just knew how to do this?

GLADYS: Barney could fix anything. I don't care what it was, but I ---

DOROTHEA: And his last name Kobal?

GLADYS: Kobler.

DOROTHEA: Kobler. Okay.

GLADYS: In fact, he drilled a well for us. This well that went dry last summer, with a ---

DOROTHEA: Hand drill?

GLADYS: No, a drill that you hooked a horse to.

DOROTHEA: Oh.

GLADYS: And it just went round, and around, and around like that.

BARBARA: Oh, gosh.

GLADYS: And I have a picture of Charlie and Barney sitting in chairs out here, tilted back against the fence sound asleep. And Marianne going, driving Girlie around, and around, and around, and around, and around. And guess how long it took to drill that well?

BARBARA: I have no idea.

GLADYS: One half day, in the morning.

BARBARA: Is that right?

DOROTHEA: How deep?

GLADYS: I don't know.

DOROTHEA: Don't know. How did they get the dirt out?

GLADYS: Twenty-four foot.

DOROTHEA: It just came out naturally?

GLADYS: They, I don't know how they did it, because I wasn't down there, I was cooking the meal. This is all I know.

DOROTHEA: Oh, you weren't there.

GLADYS: And you would, I'm sure like to know the cost.

DOROTHEA: Okay.

GLADYS: Barney liked watermelon pickles. And so, I asked him how much he wanted, and he said he wanted a quart of watermelon pickle all of his, by himself. I went down in the cellar, got a quart of watermelon pickle, took a big plate, he ate it all. That's what it cost.

BARBARA: That was a pretty cheap well, then, wasn't it?

GLADYS: Yeah. Thousands of dollars for the irrigation wheels, then. I wish I could get one for a quart of watermelon pickle now.

BARBARA: Oh my.

DOROTHEA: Now, is that how you supplied the water to the house then, or you packed water?

GLADYS: Oh, you mean you want to know how our water system developed?

DOROTHEA: Uh huh.

GLADYS: Oh well, that's an interesting story. When --- until Marianne and I, Marianne was born, we lived up in the house up here. And when, and there was a windmill. So, when I decided that, when Marianne was on the way, that we needed a house of our own. So, Tony Matejowicz --- I tore down two buildings, and Tony Matejowicz built this house. Right to there it was, and there was a little porch. Well, that back part I can show you later. The house grew, too, just as we got a nickel or two.

Anyway, I had to carry all the water from up here, down. And with two babies, you can imagine what that was. So, I decided we needed a water system. So Charlie hooked two gas barrels together and built a platform out here, and they set those two gas barrels up there. Well, that helped a lot in washing, and still packed drinking water.

So, I decided we needed water in the house. No way, couldn't be done. So I said, "Well, I just knew it could be done." So I got gobs of books and so on, and I read. And so I said, "Well, all we have to do is build a cistern up here on the hill, and the water will just run down." "No." And I said, "I know it will." Okay, I figured out how many gallons of water I needed and how big a cistern we'd need. And Charlie and Dad both were excellent with cement, so they could do the cement work. But then, how to get the water from the windmill up to the cistern. And I figured, and I figured, and I figured, and I figured, and I said, "Well, all we have to do is put a ---

DOROTHEA: Trough.

GLADYS: --- put a pipe up here in the air." And I figured out how far the windmill could lift water. And then it would run right square across and run the pipe down into the cistern. Well, I drew it all out, figured out, Charlie said he would make whatever it was that I wanted, but it wasn't going to work.

BARBARA: That crazy woman, we'll just humor her, huh?

GLADYS: So, got it all, then to assemble it. You know, we didn't have tractors with lifts or

anything like that. So how to get it up there in the air. So Dad solved that problem. He said, "All we have to do is for Charlie and I to hold two ladders, fasten them together, you climb up there, we'll fit these poles down here and you'll clamp these pipes down here." And made clamps that are round like this, you know, and then would slide down in the other. "All you have to do is climb up the top and put those clamps down in there." (Laughter) Well, it took me almost a month; I thought I had gone that far, before I got the courage up to do it. It was kind of scary.

DOROTHEA: He didn't think about building platforms or anything, huh?

GLADYS: No platforms, no, huh uh. Up I went. I got them down, and we got water into the cistern. Okay, beautiful, worked fine. So then, Charlie and Dad dug the ditch and laid the pipe down to the house. Then, how to get it in under the house, because this side is right down on the ground. And tear up the floor in the house? No. So I went out on this end, side, on the west side of the house, and I took a little kid's shovel and I started shoveling, and shoveling, and shoveling. And then I got it so that I could lay down in the ditch, and then I shoveled my way in. And I shoveled my way in clear here. So then, Barney and I shoveled, and shoveled, and shoveled and got a hole under here. Pulled myself along, you know, until, in the ditch, and then I'd shovel some more until I could get the pipe under this end.

Okay, then Barney never measured anything. Hooked it up here, I didn't know anything about that, and he put the plumbing in. So, then came day one.

DOROTHEA: Turn on that faucet.

GLADYS: I turned it on, and we had water in the house! So then, I backed my way out and covered my pipe up. And it's been there ever since.

BARBARA: You surely wanted water in your house, to do all that work.

DOROTHEA: Do you still have the same cistern?

GLADYS: And that same system worked until last year, last summer, and the well went dry, this one that Barney drilled. You know, we hadn't had water for so long. It's not a deep well at all, perhaps twenty-five, thirty feet, and there is simply no water.

So then, had to figure out some way to get water. Irrigation wells everywhere, but no water

in the house. Stock wells all going, but no water here. So, I got the well driller here, and well he said no way, it would cost around, no telling whether you could get water either, because they've drilled wells everywhere around on the place, and just didn't hit water. Got a water witcher that did this, down here, the big well. Mr. Miller from Drewsey, he was a miracle worker.

DOROTHEA: Is that Francis?

GLADYS: No, no, Merle Miller's dad.

DOROTHEA: Oh, I can't think of his --- uh huh, Jack.

GLADYS: Yeah, that's it. Oh, he did beautiful leatherwork, gorgeous. Mecates, and he was something else again. Okay.

BARBARA: Well, Charlie must have thought he married a crazy woman to think that she had to get water in the house and would do all this just to get drinking water into her house, huh?

GLADYS: Oh, I forgot we had a system out here before we got it into the house, too. That --- I wanted a milk house out here, so we moved the water tank in.

DOROTHEA: To keep your milk cool?

GLADYS: Yeah, because we sold cream.

DOROTHEA: Yeah, yeah.

GLADYS: And that's the way the girls made money to go to high school. Run in cows and milk them and sold the cream.

DOROTHEA: I did the same thing.

GLADYS: Anyway, this summer I, my grandson figured out a reverse system so that I could get water from up here at the trailer house, that was supposed to be an irrigation well. And the fellow that did it, drilled it, wrecked the well, he pumped it too hard. Took off. Okay, but it does put out a hundred gallons a minute.

DOROTHEA: Well, that is plenty for a house.

GLADYS: Oh yes, for two houses as far as that goes. So, I already had it pumped down to the shop here. So, if I could get it up from the shop up here, and turn it back to a gravity flow system, I'd have water in the house. So, Toby figured out some sort of a valve that they use in a gas truck,

big gas truck. Well, he delivers gas over here, and he said, "Well, Grandma, we could put the same thing in there. You could just shut it down so that it would be back to a gravity flow." So that, no new pipes, no new anything.

DOROTHEA: That's what you've got?

GLADYS: It took them, I don't know how long it took them to get it all figured out, but dug a ditch from right down here where the well was, piped it up here, and put the valve right out here. So now I have water in the house again. Still gravity flow.

DOROTHEA: Well, he must of inherited some of Grandma's wisdom, huh?

BARBARA: If there is a will, there is a way, huh?

ALDA: Well, now this Tony that built this house, is he any of the old shoe man that fixed your shoe, white shoes at the ...

GLADYS: No, no, Mr. Tehufen was no relation to Tony Matejowitz.

ALDA: Oh, uh huh.

GLADYS: No, Mr. Terhufen had the shoe shop here at Crane.

ALDA: Oh, uh huh.

GLADYS: Yeah. My white high heel slippers, broke the heel off and fixed them with black thread.

BARBARA: Oh dear.

GLADYS: And I complained, and he was disgusted.

BARBARA: Well, he should have known better.

GLADYS: Well, he said, "Anyone would be crazy to wear shoes with heels like that." (Laughter)

ALDA: Well, they were sewed.

GLADYS: Yeah, he said, "They're sewed." They were.

DOROTHEA: Well, tell us something about the businesses in town, in the town of Crane, when you first came there. By then ---

GLADYS: Oh yes, there were, oh let's see, there was a laundry room, a newspaper, telephone office, a bank. I should go ---

DOROTHEA: More than one bank?

GLADYS: No, one bank.

DOROTHEA: Just one bank.

GLADYS: Yeah, just one bank. But there were ---

BARBARA: Hotels?

DOROTHEA: Taverns, no doubt.

ALDA: I had that all written down. I wish you had called. How many hotels were there?

GLADYS: Well, there was May Gillespie's, and the Denman. I think it was two hotels. Lumber yard.

BARBARA: Was there a lot of wool shipped out of Crane on the rails?

GLADYS: Oh yes, and the V.T., Vale Trading Company. And I think there, let's see, how many restaurants were there?

ALDA: There was a Chinese restaurant.

GLADYS: I think there were two Chinese restaurants.

ALDA: Oh, uh huh.

DOROTHEA: A grocery store or two?

GLADYS: What?

DOROTHEA: Grocery store?

GLADYS: V.T., the Vale Trading Company.

DOROTHEA: Oh, that was all?

GLADYS: Uh huh. They carried everything in the world.

DOROTHEA: Now, Cyc Presley mentioned a kind of a machine shop, or car ---

GLADYS: Oh, a garage. Oh yes, there was a big garage there, yeah there was.

DOROTHEA: Did his dad run that?

GLADYS: Floyd, Floyd Presley run that store. Would you like to see something that came from that store?

DOROTHEA: Let's show it in the video.

GLADYS: Okay.

DOROTHEA: Okay, okay.

BARBARA: Where did the Chinese people come from? Were they, did they work out on the Borax Mines down there, or did they come in with the railroad? Why were there Chinese people here to run the restaurant, do you know?

GLADYS: Well, they could have come in with the railroad, I really don't know. But most, the Company nearly all had Chinese cooks.

BARBARA: I see.

GLADYS: The PLS and so on.

BARBARA: Did they bring them up from California, did they?

GLADYS: I would imagine they did. I would presume so. But, I know that even when I came in, they nearly all had Chinese cooks. And of course, oh, and the railroad station was a, it was big business.

DOROTHEA: Big, yeah.

GLADYS: And the corrals too, there.

DOROTHEA: Because all the freight came into Crane.

GLADYS: Yeah.

DOROTHEA: And then was staged out, or wagoned out, or whatever.

GLADYS: Shipped out.

DOROTHEA: Shipped out.

GLADYS: Uh huh, drive it over, drive the stock over to Crane and ship it out on the ---

ALDA: Well, were the livery barns up here when you came to Crane, those livery barns that they talk about that was over there by Alice Presley's old place, back in there? Were they operating yet, for the freight wagons to go in and out?

GLADYS: Well, now, I know Art and Homer Bennett freighted out all the time. But when I came in there were no ---

DOROTHEA: No livery barns.

GLADYS: No livery barns, huh uh. Not when I came in, in 1928.

DOROTHEA: Well, now the railroad went on to Burns in 1929, is that right?

GLADYS: I don't ---

DOROTHEA: You can't remember?

GLADYS: I don't know for sure.

DOROTHEA: Because it seems like Pete Clemens' mother made the, pounded in the golden spike in Burns, and I think it was 1929, something like that. So ---

GLADYS: I don't remember really.

DOROTHEA: Is that right, or '26?

GLADYS: But I can tell you something that really, funny that happened. Charlie took me out for -- I think we went into Burns for a show, I don't know what we did before. But anyway, we stopped at the restaurant that was right, it was on the, it would be on the left hand side going through Crane, for supper. And there was a big crowd in there, and it was warm and I took my coat off and hung it over the back of my chair. And oh, no, I won't say that name, but anyway, a lady was there and she was decidedly drunk. I had never in my life seen a drunk lady. In fact, I had never seen a drunk man as far as that goes, because Newberg was a very Quakerish town.

BARBARA: Ultra conservative.

GLADYS: Well, I, the gentleman that she was with was, I presume, had probably had a drink or two, but certainly wasn't drunk the least bit in the world. And she kept getting worse, and worse, and worse, and worse, and I kept looking, and I was more nervous all the time. So I, seeing they were right close to us, and Charlie just seemed to be ignoring the whole thing, she stood up, and the gentleman stood up. And neither my mother or father ever swore, ever, and I couldn't believe what I was hearing. (Laughter)

He was trying to shush her. So they kept getting closer, and closer to our table. So I forgot all about my coat, and I didn't say anything to Charlie either, as far as that goes, but as I say I was standing and suddenly I thought I don't think I want to be here any longer and I headed for the door, and so did the gentleman.

As I say, I made it to the door. Charlie was just sitting there with his mouth open.

(Laughter) I got the door open and I guess the gentleman thought this is no time to wait for ladies. He was headed for the door, too, and she swung. And let me tell you, she was, she was a good swinger because she hit me right in the back and sent me out on my knees, just flying on the sidewalk. I landed out, and here came Charlie. Let's say he knew both of them well.

BARBARA: Oh, dear.

GLADYS: To say I was furious is an understatement, is the understatement of the year. Well, he offered to go back and get my coat, but I didn't wait for my coat or anything else.

BARBARA: Oh my. Didn't want to go back to that restaurant for a while, did you, probably?

GLADYS: No. It was a Chinese restaurant, very good food.

DOROTHEA: Did you go on to the show?

GLADYS: No.

DOROTHEA: You went home, huh?

GLADYS: Let's say I wasn't even speaking to Charlie for some time. And he eventually went back and got my coat and delivered it to me.

DOROTHEA: Oh dear.

BARBARA: What about the Princeton Store? Who have been some of the people that have run this? Was Marcus Haines' dad here when you first came? I understood that he ran that store for a short period of time.

GLADYS: Marcus' father did. But we had a store here at Princeton.

BARBARA: That's what I mean, here at Princeton.

GLADYS: Uh huh. But now, then, when I came ---

BARBARA: Was there someone operating a little store here for you at that time?

GLADYS: Oh yes, yeah, it was a store and post office.

BARBARA: Has there been a number of turnovers over the years?

GLADYS: Yeah. Bob and Grace Dougall ran the store for a long time. But that was not who was running it when I came in.

ALDA: Well, when you came in, the Old Princeton it was down at the end of the road then, wasn't it?

GLADYS: Yes, down at the --- there was really a store before, it moved around several times. But when I came in, it was straight down at the end of the road before you make the turn to go there.

ALDA: Well, Charlie said something that there was a first Princeton out there by Herb Davis.

GLADYS: There was a Princeton Store down there.

ALDA: Then this other one at the end of the road was the second Princeton.

GLADYS: Yeah.

ALDA: And then this is the third one, is the one ---

DOROTHEA: Yeah, they called that one Old Princeton.

GLADYS: Down there.

DOROTHEA: Uh huh.

GLADYS: Oh for heavens sakes, anyway there were two brothers, supposedly twins, one was born coming across the ocean, and the other was born here in the United States. Now, if you can explain that?

DOROTHEA: Make them twins.

BARBARA: Well, I just read in the paper this last week, where this woman had twins, and the first one was delivered, and forty-some days later the second was. They kept her; you know, just really down in bed and couldn't do anything to get it to a bigger weight.

GLADYS: Well, maybe it's the truth, but for the life of me I can't think of their names.

BARBARA: But in those days it would be a little less --- yeah. But this was just pretty much a record for time between them.

GLADYS: I certainly should remember it, too. I wish I had known what you were wanting. Well, anyway, what was unusual about that, he wasn't there very long, oh, several years, two. But after Charlie and I were married, I delivered the mail in the summertime down to the Narrows.

DOROTHEA: That too, huh?

BARBARA: You didn't have enough work to do?

GLADYS: Well, he delivered it in ... and remember roads didn't exist. He kept a hack and a team of horses down at the bird refuge. And you could generally get through with old Model-T's down to the bird refuge, and then have to go on with the hack in the wintertime.

Well, anyway I was, went down to the store for Dad's chewing tobacco. And if he was out, you got chewing tobacco for him or he, you didn't live with him. And I walked in the store, George --- what was his last name? Well, anyway, his dog was always in there, and he was a real friendly fellow. And I just stepped in; he came out from behind the counter and just fell down on the floor like that. And he had rabies, but it just struck him, he just couldn't move.

DOROTHEA: Died?

GLADYS: Now, wasn't that lucky?

DOROTHEA: Wow.

BARBARA: Paralyzed him then, huh?

GLADYS: Uh huh, yeah, it did. But you know that is something that was really bad in those days. And now it still is bad. Now, the year that Charlie died, no it was that summer; there was one that came right up here to the fence out there. Charlie was a crack shot and he said if I could get him outside, I put out a big washing, that he would shoot him. So, got him outside, wheeled him out in the wheelchair, and got him up and he leaned against the post out here. And he said, "I might shoot some holes in the sheets." And I said, "Go ahead." And he got him with one shot. Oh, and there was one, Gordon McWilliam, you know, run sheep out there, and when I was teaching at the Riddle Ranch there, it was one noon and a rabid coyote came out and run through his sheep snatching, biting. And I told the kids not to move. But we were up on the rim; this was down on the flat. I didn't think it would come, but I said not to move. And then one of the kids went and got Harold Cawfield, or Dick, or someone. And they got on horseback and got the coyote. But they had to kill the dogs, it bit their dogs. They were wonderful sheepdogs, too.

DOROTHEA: Did they ever attack the sheep, the rabid coyotes or dogs, did they ever attack a sheep herd?

GLADYS: I don't know.

DOROTHEA: You don't know.

GLADYS: But everyone had told me that not to move was the safest thing. So ---

BARBARA: Do you know any of the history about the Windy Point Cemetery? Do you know some of the people that are buried out there?

GLADYS: You mean this ---

BARBARA: Isn't there a little cemetery right ---

GLADYS: Yeah, right around the hill here.

BARBARA: Uh huh.

GLADYS: Yeah, that ---

BARBARA: Is that just a family one?

GLADYS: No, the only person that I really know there is Arthur and Homer Bennett's mother, she is buried there. But you know they had, it was in the wintertime, and real bad, they had to take her out on a sled with the ---

ALDA: Well, isn't Dorothy Jenkins and Henrietta Venator, don't they have family there?

GLADYS: I'm sure there is, but I say that's the only person I know personally.

ALDA: Well, it seems like Henrietta had said something about part of the ---

GLADYS: I wouldn't, I don't know. But their mother, I know is buried there.

DOROTHEA: Is it kept up, or is it all grass grown up?

GLADYS: Well no, it isn't, it isn't kept up.

DOROTHEA: Is it fenced?

GLADYS: Because I'm sure that probably some of Dorothy's folks are, because she didn't know whether it was on my land that's out there, or on hers. And so, I told her that it didn't make any difference.

DOROTHEA: Now is Dorothy Jenkins the lady that lives in Burns, plays piano? Is that the same one?

GLADYS: No, Dorothy Jenkins is Mr. and Mrs. Paul's daughter. They live down here.

ALDA: She was married to Tom Jenkins, wasn't she?

GLADYS: Uh huh, Tom Jenkins cousin. He came over from Scotland, I think, to work.

DOROTHEA: Oh, okay, she doesn't live in Burns then?

GLADYS: Dorothy is dead.

DOROTHEA: Oh, she is dead? Okay, well there is a Dorothy Jenkins or something like that in Burns, and she is a little different, and she plays piano.

GLADYS: No, no, Dorothy was a schoolteacher.

DOROTHEA: Okay.

BARBARA: Okay, did you have any other occupations? You came here as a teacher, you became a ranch wife, you taught again, you fed hay hands, you delivered mail.

GLADYS: Yeah.

BARBARA: What other, I mean you designed water systems, what other jobs have you had?

GLADYS: Well, I'm also a carpenter.

BARBARA: Okay.

GLADYS: And let's say, Charlie wasn't a carpenter.

DOROTHEA: Okay.

GLADYS: If he built something he just, he said he eyeballed it. I told you that Tony Matejowitz built this house. There was one little tinsy weensy closet. Well, I just decided one little tinsy weensy closet wasn't enough.

BARBARA: Not with girls in the house.

GLADYS: No. Well and Grandma Land was here with us too, and three girls. And the house existed, well, you see here? Well, Uncle Earl had borrowed some money from me, and so eventually he paid it back. Well, I had never had that before, so I decided that we needed some more room.

So, got Tony out here and he built the, built this here. And then you open that door there is, there is a porch out there, and a cellar that you opened a trap door and went down in, like all good cellars here. Well, Tony built this, and I said I wanted a cupboard over there. Okay, he built the cupboard. Well, then he was through. So, I decided I wanted some cupboards up there, so I built

them out of the boards of a barn that I tore down. (Laughter) I planed them. Now then, those doors are real cheap, because I got them from Sears and Roebuck. No, these up here, they're from barns. But they came real cheap. Okay, that was that. And then I decided, well you see that cupboard over there, the one closest to the door?

BARBARA: Uh huh.

GLADYS: That was all the cupboards there were here when Tony finished the kitchen.

BARBARA: Not nearly enough.

GLADYS: No, but I want you to look out here. See that cable out there, way out here? Anyway, that was all the cupboard I had when we had the first; that was my kitchen counters. And I kept it up, when all the girls were married, I wanted them to, I kept it as an antique.

BARBARA: They don't care.

ALDA: And she got me involved in remodeling one of the booths there in ... you remember back when we had fair booths in, each school was represented. Well, we went in and someone had kited ours. So Gladys said, "Well, we'll make one." I said, "Where is the wood?" She says, "We'll find it." So we went out scouting around and we found this pile of boards. And we were back there just a sorting and talking and a banging boards, and here came Mr. Novotney our county agent. And he says, "What's going on here?"

SIDE D

DOROTHEA: Okay.

ALDA: So, we made the fair booth.

BARBARA: You got your booth made, huh?

GLADYS: Oh yeah, we sure did.

ALDA: But I always jokingly said that regardless of where she was, she could probably find a pair of pliers and a hammer in her purse. (Laughter)

DOROTHEA: Now, is that the booth that's still there? Is there one of the booths still ---

ALDA: No, they've taken that all out.

DOROTHEA: They've taken all that out. Okay, so they didn't like your booth.

ALDA: Well, they discontinued the grade school ---

DOROTHEA: Oh.

GLADYS: You know Charlie was confined to crutches for a long time, and then he graduated to a, well cane and so on. And arthritis, eventually he was just there in the chair unless I could, took him in a wheelchair or someplace. So there was a porch out there, and I figured that if I just ripped the wall out there, put the porch in, then Charlie could see out all over the flat out there. Well, my brothers were carpenters, Wallace was, and he said, "No you can't do it, the house will fall down."

DOROTHEA: Don't have the wall, yeah, what is that called?

BARBARA: No bearing beams, or whatever?

GLADYS: Yeah. And it, Chuck I think was in the, my grandson I think was in the seventh grade. I said, "How would you like to help Grandma rip the wall out of the house?" He said, "Really?" I said, "Yeah." So I got the wrecking bar and we ripped it out. There was the porch, and no wall.

BARBARA: Grandma is on the warpath again.

GLADYS: One board we couldn't get out.

DOROTHEA: It's still there, huh?

GLADYS: No.

DOROTHEA: Oh.

GLADYS: When Charlie and Mr. Smith got back, I said, "I couldn't get this board out." I said, "Will you?" "Well, yeah," he said. He did. Got a little bit out of the ceiling there. And Charlie said, "Well, what have you done?" "Well," I said, "I'm going to try and fix this so you can see out." I said, "All I've got to do is figure out how to do it." (Laughter) And I thought well I had better figure it out before it comes a big snow, and it'll all come down.

DOROTHEA: Come tumbling down.

GLADYS: So I got me 2 x 4's and two 4 x 4's, big poles, you know. Had them cut up at the mill. Then I put them up under the, whatever it is that is up there that holds the roof up. Put them on this end, and on this end. And I thought, well, I better make it strong. So between that room in there

and this room I put about a 4 x 4 beam up and down this way. Okay. So then ---

DOROTHEA: Alda has got to go check that out.

GLADYS: I couldn't lift it up by myself, and Charlie certainly couldn't help, so I got 2 x 6's I guess it was, boards this way, and put them up on top of these posts, and then I spiked them together and spiked it altogether and then I walled it in. And ---

DOROTHEA: It held this winter, and several since?

GLADYS: It not only held, it's still holding, and never sagged one single bit. And then all I had to do was finish it up. So the mill was selling this glue board, you know, that they made up there, they are rejects.

BARBARA: Always looking for a bargain, huh?

GLADYS: And you could get a thousand feet for a hundred dollars. It only took two years to finish it, but it gave Charlie something to do.

DOROTHEA: Did you insulate it good?

GLADYS: Oh yes, and planed the boards down that were rough. And then seeing it was, had to fit the house as it was, I had to measure every single board that I put up on each side, because it goes sort of like that. As I said, in two years, I got it done.

DOROTHEA: We've worked in old houses, and never two spots that's the same way. So ---

BARBARA: Well, what have you done since you retired? What has kept you busy these last few years? What do you like to do? What are your hobbies and things?

GLADYS: I never developed a hobby. That's ---

BARBARA: Are you a "puttsier"?

GLADYS: Only just work. (Laughter) But ---

BARBARA: You have someone running the ranch for you?

GLADYS: Oh, Wess, Wess is, yeah, he looks after the cattle. Oh, I've done remodeling down on the house at Diamond, and various things.

DOROTHEA: You still have the place down there?

GLADYS: Oh yes, of course. Have to use it for ---

DOROTHEA: For hay?

GLADYS: Hay, yeah. Yeah, it puts up about, oh averages, not these dry years of course, have had to use it for pasture. But other than that it puts up around three hundred ton of hay a year.

DOROTHEA: Does someone live at that place?

GLADYS: Yeah, whoever wants to go down, stay overnight. Or I go down and ---

DOROTHEA: Oh, it's just a home for people to stay in ---

GLADYS: Oh yeah, yeah, sure.

DOROTHEA: --- in other words.

GLADYS: Everything is there, bedding, everything. Stove and whatnot.

DOROTHEA: I mean, none of the kids are staying there, or nobody lives there?

GLADYS: No.

DOROTHEA: Permanently.

GLADYS: Well, not every day, no.

DOROTHEA: Yeah, yeah.

GLADYS: But it's much easier to stay down there. When we were running the place, we would stay down there all the time in the wintertime, because it was so much warmer and nicer to calve out down there.

DOROTHEA: Does Wess and them go down there in the wintertime, or do they stay here?

GLADYS: No, no. Well, the roads were --- now they're paved. It's --- Marianne doesn't like staying by herself, she's afraid. You know some people are.

DOROTHEA: Uh huh. So what else do you do? You travel back and forth, but you don't have a hobby. So, do you go to church or ---

GLADYS: Oh yes, whenever it's permissible. And I can run into Burns for things when, odds and ends you know, when things break down and whatnot.

DOROTHEA: You still drive?

GLADYS: Sure.

DOROTHEA: Of course.

GLADYS: I'll tell you, I don't know what, I wonder --- Wess came down and he wanted, he has some colts here and the Oldsmobile was parked out here and he couldn't get it started. So he wanted to shut the, get the cars here, and I don't remember, I haven't driven the Olds all winter, I know, but he couldn't get it started. So, he is trying to charge up the battery, put the Scout up here. ... got a Blazer just ---

DOROTHEA: Yeah, it's parked right out here.

GLADYS: Yeah, I think he was, I think he was charging the Olds up with the Blazer. Probably what he is doing, he'll run that battery down so I can't get it to go. Bless his heart. (Laughter)

BARBARA: Well, you have certainly had a very full and active life out here on your ranch, then, haven't you?

GLADYS: I think I've been the luckiest person in the world, really. Because so many, in fact, so many of the youngsters that I've had in school are no longer here. And others are unable to get around, it's really sad, isn't it?

DOROTHEA: Uh huh, uh huh. It really is.

GLADYS: It doesn't seem fair, so many younger people to be gone, and me still hanging around.

DOROTHEA: Are Patsy and Harvey still running the ranch, or ---

GLADYS: Oh yeah, yeah they are.

DOROTHEA: And they're running the old Cronin place, is that where they are at?

GLADYS: Yeah.

DOROTHEA: Or Jones, or what is it? Harvey's mother was a Jones, I think.

GLADYS: I think so.

DOROTHEA: Uh huh. But no relation, just a common name?

GLADYS: Well, it could be very easily. Because, as I say with thirteen youngsters there is no telling what.

DOROTHEA: Right, right.

GLADYS: So it is possible, that's for sure.

DOROTHEA: Yeah. And they live in Drewsey, right in the area, or where do they live?

GLADYS: No, it's about, I'm not a very good judge at all of distances, but I'd say about ten miles probably from Drewsey. The place is right down on the river really. Toby, you know, Alan was trying to sell the store.

DOROTHEA: Yeah.

GLADYS: Well, there just isn't ---

DOROTHEA: No interest.

GLADYS: There is just no way that anyone can run that store for the price that he is asking. But Toby bought out the oil business.

DOROTHEA: Oh, uh huh.

GLADYS: So --- and then they've started in with cattle again. So Patsy is the bookkeeper.

DOROTHEA: Okay.

GLADYS: And she's busier than a fly on a hot griddle. And she is running to Burns, to Vale, and here and there to pick up parts and whatnot. And then you know, Toby went to school to be a mechanic. Well, now he is doing --- and he worked for Alan for several years, I don't know how many years. So, he is doing all the shop work, and delivering gas and what. Got his shop set up there at the ranch at Drewsey.

DOROTHEA: And he, let's see, Michael, what's he doing?

GLADYS: Oh, he is in Portland. He is a, well, now let's see, what is his professional name. Oh, he is a hair stylist, or something. Very good.

DOROTHEA: Cosmetologist, or something like that.

GLADYS: Oh yes, all these fancy things.

DOROTHEA: Okay. And Chuck, you said, is in California?

GLADYS: No, no, no, he is in Elko, Nevada.

DOROTHEA: Oh Nevada, okay. And he is computer expert down there?

GLADYS: Yeah. And Danny is a lawyer out at John Day.

DOROTHEA: John Day.

GLADYS: And he also has an office out of Baker, a branch office.

DOROTHEA: Oh, does he?

GLADYS: Uh huh. Yeah.

DOROTHEA: And he is married to Christine Cramer?

GLADYS: Uh huh.

DOROTHEA: And they have how many children?

GLADYS: Jason, in college. Luke, or no not Luke yet. Sam, then Luke, and then Anna.

DOROTHEA: One girl.

GLADYS: Uh huh. Yeah. And I was there when Luke was born; I took care of him and the kids.

And when Anna was born, and guess how long Christy was in the hospital with Anna?

DOROTHEA: Overnight.

BARBARA: Four or five hours.

GLADYS: Anna was born in the evening, and Christy was back home for breakfast. She said, "I'm not staying in the hospital when you're here, Grandma." (Laughter)

DOROTHEA: You didn't deliver any of them, though?

GLADYS: No, I certainly didn't deliver.

DOROTHEA: Didn't follow trend.

GLADYS: I'll take care of any amount of youngsters after they are here, but don't --- I know absolutely nothing about babies arriving.

BARBARA: You'll leave that to your daughters, huh?

GLADYS: Yeah.

DOROTHEA: Well, I hate to stop this wonderful conversation, but I think you're ---

GLADYS: You're tired? (Laughter)

DOROTHEA: No, we could go on and on, but you're probably getting tired.

BARBARA: We'd like to do a little video of you too, so we need another few minutes to do that.

DOROTHEA: And it's been almost ---

GLADYS: A video?

BARBARA: We take your picture.

DOROTHEA: Yeah, we take your picture.

GLADYS: Oh.

DOROTHEA: You can show us some of your --- maybe Barbara can kind of span the area, and show some of your handiwork.

GLADYS: Oh, well, you can take it in the front room. (Laughter)

DOROTHEA: So, is there any exciting things that has happened to you in your life in Harney County? Were you chosen teacher of the year, or grass woman of the year, or anything like this?

GLADYS: I think, yeah I was, I was running for, they had me up for something. I can't even remember what it was. Teacher of the year or something, but I didn't make it. Wasn't that too bad?

DOROTHEA: They didn't know all your handicrafts.

GLADYS: I think I was Senior Woman of the Year, one year or something. I got a silver plate or something up there. I'm not sure what, I'm not even sure what it was. (Laughter)

BARBARA: Are you impressed or what?

DOROTHEA: Have you belonged to any organizations where you were head of an organization or something? Cattlewomen, any of these things?

GLADYS: Grange, I've been in that. No, I never had time for any organizations.

DOROTHEA: Well, I was going to say if you took that in too, then you were a busy woman. What do you think about the changes in the school systems today, compared to when you started teaching here?

GLADYS: Well ---

DOROTHEA: Has the systems changed?

GLADYS: Let's say, I think the biggest problem is the majority of children no longer know, yes and no when they start to school. Parents are leaving too much for the school to carry on, instead of taking the responsibility of teaching their children at home.

BARBARA: They don't have time for parenting skills anymore.

GLADYS: No.

BARBARA: And the respect doesn't seem to be there.

GLADYS: It's not there. And this does not make a child happy.

DOROTHEA: Right. I think we have too many door latch, or key latch, or whatever they call these kids now.

GLADYS: Right.

DOROTHEA: Because of the parents both working.

GLADYS: In other words, material things have become so much more important that --- well it's just not the way to teach responsibility to children. And children can learn responsibility.

DOROTHEA: You bet.

GLADYS: And it's hard working being a parent.

BARBARA: If you're a good parent.

GLADYS: Yes. Now I wasn't in school, I know, my brother Harold was four years older than I was, but anyway we were, every place my brothers went, I went too.

Well, we were over in the back part of the place, and we went down the little trail that led to the little creek, and back over the big creek, clear to the back to the Mills estate. And then it got dark, and we'd left open the gate as we went back, all along that, because the boys said, Noah and Harold said we'll close them when we go back.

And then it started in to get dark, so we went another road that was much closer. And we got home and those gates weren't shut. And it had started to rain, and it was dark too, now. Well, I, of course Noah and Harold wouldn't have said anything, of course I just, I don't know how old I was, but anyway I just conversationally said that we, how we went, you know, and we came back the other way and we hadn't shut the gates. And Papa said, "What?" And he looked at Noah, who was the oldest, and he said, "You didn't shut the gates?" "No." "Okay," he said, "all three of you go back and shut those gates." And Mama said, "After dark?" Papa lighted the lantern and he said, "Yes, go shut the gates."

BARBARA: So you learned a good lesson.

GLADYS: And I went too, and I never knew till years afterwards Papa came trailing along behind us. We never knew it, but he ---

BARBARA: Wanted to make sure it was all right, huh?

GLADYS: Yes. But you know it was one of the best lessons. I mean we don't seem --- I know one of my grandsons, he does have a terrible temper, and he does some really terrible things. But his mother excuses him, because he has got such a temper. He is never responsible for what he does.

DOROTHEA: Yeah.

GLADYS: And that is a lot of the problems with children nowadays.

BARBARA: ... young society.

DOROTHEA: And I don't think that they are given enough responsibility today, either.

GLADYS: No.

DOROTHEA: So, it makes it hard for them.

GLADYS: And a lot of the problems is, now a youngster growing up on a ranch, there is something to do. You put those children all together in town, and what are --- youngsters are youngsters, and they're going to do something unless they are really occupied. And not letting children work until they are so old --- how old are you when you started working?

DOROTHEA: Probably about four and a half or five. I know I had to pack wood and pack water when I was five.

GLADYS: This is --- but I mean I don't care how little the job is, you learn by doing. And children don't have that opportunity now.

DOROTHEA: Yeah. I know the, my niece didn't know how to do dishes, so you know that's something that we learned at a very young age.

GLADYS: Uh huh.

DOROTHEA: And she didn't know how to do dishes. She learned, she learned how to cook at our cow camp, and she learned how to do dishes at our cow camp. So --- but she does a very good job of cooking now. She is real, she makes pies and all these things her mother doesn't do. And her mother knew how, but she didn't make her kids.

GLADYS: Yeah, that's what I mean. And I think that's one problem when, well, right in there, TV.

DOROTHEA: That's a lot of it.

GLADYS: Young people get married, and they expect to have exactly the same thing that their parents have.

BARBARA: Right now.

GLADYS: Right now, instant.

DOROTHEA: So what are the other things that's happened to you that's real exciting, that you have done so much? I don't think we have skipped much. Tell us something about, Alda mentioned the Crane School burning down.

GLADYS: Uh huh, yes.

DOROTHEA: Do you remember that, and the problems that you went through getting a new school started?

GLADYS: Well, I really don't, I suppose that there were problems, true, but we just, we just did things that we had to do. And we had school going in nothing flat. I had changed around at Crane when they got too crowded. I had taught school in the Wickiup before, and then it was quite simple. Tuffy, Mrs. Sampson's ---

ALDA: The alley cat.

GLADYS: --- cat was the one that really saved the kids at school. Now, he should get a medal of some kind, because he is the one that alerted me that there was smoke coming out of the gym. That showed I was a pretty good runner, come to think of it. Dan was in the bathtub, and I hollered the school was afire. Well, Danny was a good runner, but he said, "You passed me up like a dirty shirt, Grandma." (Laughter)

DOROTHEA: And you ran down the halls then and alerted the kids?

GLADYS: I sure did. Youngsters in the shower --- there wasn't time for anything. If Tuffy hadn't of been there, I bet we would have lost half of the youngsters, maybe more than that. Because that smoke was horrible.

DOROTHEA: From suffocation, yeah.

GLADYS: It was unbelievable. That really was terrible. And then we just, well, got just planks,

doors, put legs under them, you know, shoot it out. We'd set up shop for the, for school. We had it going a while for the grade school. We just took them in the houses. I had a group in the house. Alda was up in the far, one of the far teacherages, and we had school without any problems whatsoever.

And what is really remarkable, now even after the high school was set up, there were no showers or things for the kids playing football. And for my room, the girls went to Alda's bathroom, or the boys. No, yeah, the boys went --- which was it?

ALDA: I don't remember. One was --- I think I took the boys, and you ---

GLADYS: You had the boys, because then, at football season, there was no place for the boys to shower. So I said, "Okay." Now, I said, "This, you boys can use my bathroom." But I said, "The first mess that is left there, you're out, and then you'll have no football." And Evan Miller, he said, "There won't be any!" And there wasn't either. And the coaches would come and ask every time, "Could their team go there, was it possible, no supervision?" I said, "No." And there was never a thing.

ALDA: No, we never had any problems.

GLADYS: Never. Now then that ---

DOROTHEA: Do you think today you could do the same thing? My daughter goes in the bathroom and I pick up mess after mess, after mess.

GLADYS: Oh well, yes, but that hasn't been very long ago.

DOROTHEA: But she is about that same age, see. So you said that burned down in '67?

GLADYS: And I never had a problem at all, not one.

DOROTHEA: My daughter is 37, 36 years old, and every time I go to the bathroom, I pick up three towels, a washcloth, and put up her makeup, every single day.

ALDA: Well, the only problem we had was Mr. Squire, remember Mr. Squire?

GLADYS: Yeah.

ALDA: He is the one that I was telling you about.

GLADYS: Now then, before we built the new schoolhouse, I can't remember, Ralph, and I think it

was Howard and myself, we went down to --- because everyone said there was no way that we could possibly rebuild with the amount of money we had.

And we went down to Idaho, and we went through schools in --- that was when we come up with the idea of the metal buildings like this, and look what we've got now. Though really and truly I liked the old building best.

DOROTHEA: Well Barbara, is there anything else that you can think of that we've ---

BARBARA: I can't think of anything. If we think of something, we can ask her on the video, I guess.

DOROTHEA: Okay, okay. Well, our time is getting, it's five o'clock, I think we've been here about three hours, and we don't usually take that much time. So we want to thank you for the afternoon, we've had a lovely time. And maybe we can come back and visit again and get some more information about the ranch and different things. But right now, let's close and go to the video. And thank you very much, Gladys.

GLADYS: Well, sometime, now I think Tom and Frank Mahon should be, something about them. They were Irishmen that lived up here.

DOROTHEA: Are they still alive?

GLADYS: Tom and Frank are both dead now. But Pat, their nephew, is alive. He was here with them, too.

DOROTHEA: Okay. And he is who? Pat?

BARBARA: Winn?

GLADYS: Mahon. M A H O N.

BARBARA: Oh, Mahon.

DOROTHEA: Okay.

GLADYS: He is back in Ireland. He didn't intend to stay, he was going to go back there just on a visit, but then he fell for an Irish girl. And after they got married, she changed her mind; she didn't want to come back. So, he had to sell the place.

DOROTHEA: So, who has it now?

GLADYS: Nevin.

DOROTHEA: Oh, Nevin Thompson.

GLADYS: Uh huh.

DOROTHEA: Okay. Well, sometime if you could tell us about them, then we could probably get some information on them, or anybody else that you could think of that you know isn't here any longer. So, but we thank you a lot, and we'll now go to our video.

GLADYS: Okay.

(END OF TAPE)

bl