

HARNEY COUNTY HISTORY PROJECT

AV-Oral History #374 - Sides A/B

Subject: Grover Heinz - 1995 Pioneer Day President - With Video

Place: Harney County Library - Burns, Oregon

Date: May 5, 1995

Interviewers: Barbara Lofgren & Dorothea Purdy

DOROTHEA PURDY: This is Dorothea Purdy, along with Barbara Lofgren, and today we'll be talking with Grover Heinz at the Harney County Library in Burns, Oregon. Today's date is May the 5th, 1995. And following our interview we will be doing a short video of Grover, and it will be stored at the Library along with the transcript and tape. The tape number is 374. Let's start all over again now, (tape recorder problems, start interview over) and we'll ask you your name again.

BARBARA LOFGREN: Now we know what we're doing. Better the second time around. Oh dear.

GROVER HEINZ: Grover Allen, my name is Grover Allen Heinz. And I was born May the 27th, 1919.

DOROTHEA: In Crane?

GROVER: In Crane.

DOROTHEA: And who were your parents?

GROVER: Well J. W. Heinz, my dad, and Olive Jane Heinz was my mother.

BARBARA: And her maiden name was Parker?

GROVER: Yeah.

BARBARA: Okay.

DOROTHEA: And did you have brothers and sisters?

GROVER: I had seven brothers and one sister.

DOROTHEA: And could you tell us their names?

GROVER: Roy, Marion, Bill, Art, Percy, Les, and myself. But there was a girl in between Bill and Marion, Stella.

DOROTHEA: Stella?

GROVER: Yeah.

DOROTHEA: And so then you were, how --- where did you fall in this line?

GROVER: I was the youngest, I was the youngest.

DOROTHEA: You were the youngest?

GROVER: Yeah.

DOROTHEA: So there was eight children in your family.

GROVER: Yeah, eight.

DOROTHEA: Tell us where you lived when you were a small child.

GROVER: Well I lived in Albritton. I --- Albritton. I went to school at Albritton the first, one year. Then we moved, then we drove a Model-T Ford to Crane one year. Then we moved into Crane the third year.

BARBARA: Was that your older brothers that drove the Model-T to school?

GROVER: Yeah.

BARBARA: Because they --- How much older was, like your oldest brother than you?

GROVER: Well Bill, the one that is left, he was 13 years older.

BARBARA: Uh huh.

GROVER: The rest of them was about two years difference.

BARBARA: About every two years then we had another baby in the family.

GROVER: Yeah, yeah. Well between two and four.

DOROTHEA: Between each child?

GROVER: Yeah, each child, yeah.

DOROTHEA: How much older was Percy or Les than you?

GROVER: Well Les was four years older than I was.

DOROTHEA: And he was the one just before you?

GROVER: Yeah. Percy is about 7, I guess.

DOROTHEA: Okay.

BARBARA: So your dad let them drive the Model-T into Crane to take you to school then?

GROVER: Yeah, oh yeah. They was in high school when I was in grade school.

BARBARA: Well yeah. And then you moved on into Crane?

GROVER: Yeah.

BARBARA: Where was your home located when you lived in Crane? Was it on the slough, up next to the slough, or on the hill?

GROVER: No. Well out, when I lived out at the ranch yeah, but not in Crane. We lived on the slough there at Crane, Albritton. Then we moved into Crane, and my home was --- well I don't know, south of the highway.

BARBARA: So about how far was it that you had to walk to school then?

GROVER: Oh, half a mile.

DOROTHEA: What was the weather like; did you have real cold winters?

GROVER: Well yeah, we had cold winters. Lots of snow then.

DOROTHEA: Did you walk in the snow then?

GROVER: Oh yeah. Had so much snow it flooded us out, flooded the whole town out one time.

BARBARA: Oh dear.

DOROTHEA: What did you do when it flooded?

GROVER: Well we just walked, and waded through the water.

DOROTHEA: Well that was a thrill to you kids I suppose.

GROVER: Walked, waded through it.

BARBARA: Did you have big rubber boots that you wore?

GROVER: Oh yeah. Well we had rubber boots. Part of the time we didn't have no boots. But it only happened twice when I was going to school. Flooded the whole town out.

BARBARA: Oh gosh.

DOROTHEA: So did they close the school during the flood?

GROVER: No, huh uh. No, we kept going. Dormitory, most of them was living in the dormitory. We didn't, we lived in town.

BARBARA: There were just a few town kids that walked back and forth every day to school.

GROVER: Yeah, yeah.

DOROTHEA: Did you go out for sports while you were in school?

GROVER: I went for football, mostly football. Played four years of football, halfback.

BARBARA: You liked to run the ball.

GROVER: Yeah, right half. Then I played a little basketball, and a little baseball.

DOROTHEA: Who were some of your teachers?

GROVER: Let's see. Well the first year it was Dillinger out to Albritton. The second year was my cousin, Edna Dickerson. It was Edna Parker then. Lela Sitz, she was a Loggan.

DOROTHEA: And she was a Loggan.

GROVER: Yeah. And there were some men teachers, I didn't know.

DOROTHEA: Can't remember them. Kind of like us.

GROVER: I can't remember them.

DOROTHEA: What was your favorite subject in school?

GROVER: Arithmetic.

DOROTHEA: You liked math, huh?

GROVER: Yeah, well I liked arithmetic, times tables. Pretty good at times. The rest of them I wasn't very good.

DOROTHEA: What were some of the jobs that you did when you were growing up?

GROVER: Well I worked in the hay field. I went out and tied wool, wrangled sheep in the pens. I pumped water for one farmer for fifty cents a day. And the rest of the time I worked on the railroad, and road construction.

DOROTHEA: And that's while you were growing up?

GROVER: Yeah, that's when I was growing up.

DOROTHEA: Your brothers were ---

GROVER: That was mostly when I was still in high school.

DOROTHEA: After you were ---

BARBARA: What was your job in the hay field, what did you do?

GROVER: Well I was setting net, setting net for --- I got pretty good at that.

BARBARA: Did you ever have any run aways in the fields during the time that you were doing that?

GROVER: Well yeah, I had some run away. Got too close to a fence one time, lost everything, rake and everything.

BARBARA: Oh dear. Well I'm sure they had lots of accidents in the hay fields during those years.

GROVER: Oh yeah. One time I was driving the Jim, I went to tie it down so we could go, but by the time I started around there they balked.

BARBARA: They had already taken off, huh?

GROVER: Taken off. But I ran and caught up with them, and stopped it. (Laughter) We

had one horse, just breaking it in, that's what did it.

BARBARA: Oh, uh huh. Did you have some pretty good horses in those days?

GROVER: Yeah, we had some of the best --- Well my dad; my dad drove the freight from Ontario and Vale up to here and around. Had one of the best teams, Jim teams they were in the country at that time. And we used the sagebrush for wood, for fire. We went out to get that.

BARBARA: Did you ever go on, with your dad, on any of these freighting trips?

GROVER: No, I didn't. That was before my time.

BARBARA: I see, uh huh. So he did all this before he started ranching then?

GROVER: Yeah.

BARBARA: And then he worked on the county roads?

GROVER: Yeah, he worked on the county roads.

DOROTHEA: Well while you were in the Crane school and played football, can you tell us some of the things that happened to you then? Did you get to go on field trips, or ---

GROVER: Oh yeah, we went all over John Day, Burns, Prairie City, Long Creek, and places over that way.

DOROTHEA: That "C" that is up on the hill that represents Crane, I understand that the freshman of each year paints it.

GROVER: Yeah.

DOROTHEA: Can you tell us something about the "C"?

GROVER: Well I, we had to carry paint up from the bottom of the hill up there to paint it. Every year there ---

DOROTHEA: How many kids do that, just certain ones, or the whole class?

GROVER: Well it seems like maybe took the freshman up there, make them paint it.

DOROTHEA: How long does it take to paint those rocks?

GROVER: Oh, not too long. You got a brush, you had a mop there and you just mopped it.

DOROTHEA: Oh, you didn't brush them?

GROVER: Yeah, we brushed them.

DOROTHEA: And I understood that you had a little accident while you were up on the rim of that ---

GROVER: Well yeah, we had some girls up there, and we were showing them off. We went around, another guy and I went around the first time. Well I thought I'd be smart I'd go around again. I fell off! Down pretty close to them boulders, sprained my arm and my ankle. Had to be carried down from there, down to where they had a motorcycle and then they drove me on home on the motorcycle.

BARBARA: Did the girls give you a lot of attention then?

GROVER: No. (Laughter)

BARBARA: It didn't work then, did it?

GROVER: No, it didn't work that way. Part of them was my nieces.

BARBARA: Oh. Who were some of the other families that were living in Crane at the time that you were a child?

GROVER: Oards, Presley's, oh there were a lot of them. Hoops and all that, a lot of people.

BARBARA: Hoops, you said?

GROVER: Yeah, Hoops, H O O P S, I think it was.

BARBARA: Hadn't heard that name before. Who were some of the kids that were in your class that you paled around with?

GROVER: Well most of my cousins, Gene Oards ... mostly. And then I had a friend, his name was Jimmy Towne. We went together all the time.

BARBARA: T O W N E, is it?

GROVER: Yeah, yeah, T O W N, I think it was.

BARBARA: No E on the end?

GROVER: E on, maybe on the E. He was a railroad guy.

BARBARA: Their family worked on the railroad, his family?

GROVER: Yeah. He took care of the depot.

BARBARA: I see.

DOROTHEA: Tell us something about the train. Did it make a lot of noise, or after you moved to town or ---

GROVER: No, not when --- There wasn't much ...

DOROTHEA: It didn't bother you then?

GROVER: No, huh uh, didn't bother at all.

DOROTHEA: But that was the main way of freight wasn't it at that time?

GROVER: Yeah, yeah.

DOROTHEA: When you worked on the train, what was your job?

GROVER: Well I worked on the railroad, ... section. Putting ties in and stuff like that.

DOROTHEA: Making sure the railroad was in good shape.

GROVER: Yeah.

BARBARA: The beds were in order.

GROVER: Yeah.

DOROTHEA: Ties and rails and ---

GROVER: Yeah.

DOROTHEA: How did you lift those ties and rails?

GROVER: Well just two of us packed them, and put them in there. Dig the ditches ... like in under there, and then put them in there and just spike them down.

DOROTHEA: They're pretty heavy.

GROVER: Oh yeah, yeah. That adobe was so bad you couldn't hardly get through it. Then I went to the Army, after I got through with the railroad I went to the Army then. 1941, I think it was.

BARBARA: And you graduated from high school in what year?

GROVER: '40, 1940.

BARBARA: 1940. Okay, so then in '41, the summer of '41 you went into the Army?

GROVER: Army, yeah.

BARBARA: And where did you take your basic training?

GROVER: Well my basic --- well I went to Fort Lewis, Washington, and then I went to Fort Ord, California. And we went all over that country down in there. And we went --- when we, the war broke out we had to go from coast to coast, Washington down to California back and forth, guarding the coast. Then in 1943 we went to the Aleutian Islands. Then from there on I went to the South Pacific. I went in March 7th, '41 and got out December 25th, of '45.

BARBARA: Oh, on Christmas, huh?

GROVER: '45, '45, yeah, '45.

BARBARA: That was a nice Christmas present, wasn't it?

GROVER: Yeah, I got out.

DOROTHEA: Did you receive any medals while you were in the service?

GROVER: Yeah, all of them.

DOROTHEA: All of them?

GROVER: Yeah. I can't name them, they're in there, they're in there (history) I can't name them.

DOROTHEA: Well what did you do to get these medals? Are you ---

GROVER: Well just my outfit went from one place to another, and that's why we got the medal. Then when we --- I was an expert in M-1, expert in the Carbine, and all the other medals followed that.

BARBARA: So you had a good unit to work with then, didn't you?

GROVER: Oh yeah, they were all good.

DOROTHEA: And when you came back, you were discharged on December of 1945, and you came back. Did you come directly back to Oregon?

GROVER: Yeah, yeah. From overseas I went back to Fort Lewis, Washington. Then we got out from there. I came back, and then the next February of '46 I went in the mill. I worked in the mill.

DOROTHEA: So you moved into Burns then?

GROVER: Yeah, we moved from Crane to Burns then.

BARBARA: Your family moved in then?

GROVER: Yeah, my mother and my other brother Les.

BARBARA: And was your dad still alive at this time?

GROVER: No.

BARBARA: When did your father pass away?

GROVER: About, oh let's see, 1954. I was 14 years old.

BARBARA: '54?

GROVER: 1954, yeah.

BARBARA: Well you would have been older than that if you went into the service in '41.

GROVER: I went into the Army --- When dad died --- no it wasn't either. When did he die?

MARY HEINZ: Don't ask me, I don't know.

DOROTHEA: If you were 14, that would make about '33 or '34.

GROVER: Yeah, about '34, 1934.

BARBARA: Okay.

GROVER: Yeah.

BARBARA: So how did your mother manage then after your father passed away with ---

GROVER: Well my brothers was all working.

BARBARA: So they kind of took care of things then?

GROVER: Yeah. Les was working on the railroad by then, and he was, he helped me out until we got to go to school.

DOROTHEA: Is this when your brothers started shearing sheep?

GROVER: Well they started shearing long before that.

DOROTHEA: Before that.

GROVER: Yeah.

DOROTHEA: Tell us something about the sheep shearing business. I understand it's not an easy trade.

GROVER: Well no, they had machines. They used machines, and they sheared down, sheared them ---

DOROTHEA: With a gasoline plant or something?

GROVER: Oh, it was run by a engine. It run by a motor.

BARBARA: They had generators there?

GROVER: Generators, yeah. They run by that.

BARBARA: And what can --- how many can a good shearer shear in a day, how many sheep?

GROVER: About 200.

BARBARA: About 200.

GROVER: Yeah, if he worked hard at it. See my brother Marion, he --- they had a

contest one time to see who was the fastest shearer. He come out the highest. He had, sheared over 200.

BARBARA: Oh gosh.

GROVER: About 206 or something like that, that day. He won the money anyway.

BARBARA: That's a lot of hard work.

GROVER: Oh, that's hard work.

BARBARA: Back breaking.

GROVER: Trying to keep the sheep in there too.

BARBARA: Yeah.

DOROTHEA: I'll bet.

BARBARA: Kept you guys busy getting them into the pens so they'd be right there to take out.

GROVER: Yeah. One time the old buck he didn't want to go in. He didn't want to --- he bucked me in the face, knocked me down. I got mad and I went out and got a dog and I put him to work. That dog was pretty mean there.

DOROTHEA: What was your job besides putting the sheep in?

GROVER: I was tying wool part time.

DOROTHEA: Did you stomp it too?

GROVER: What?

DOROTHEA: Did you get to stomp it in the bags?

GROVER: No, no the other guys stomped it in the ground. I just tied the wool and throwed it up to them.

DOROTHEA: Throwed it up to them.

GROVER: Yeah, and they stomped ---

BARBARA: How many skins would go together in ---

GROVER: Just one, just one, one at a time.

BARBARA: I see, okay.

GROVER: You just have to tie them around, tie them.

BARBARA: I see.

DOROTHEA: They're called fleece.

GROVER: Yeah fleece, yeah. Twelve cents a fleece.

BARBARA: You got twelve cents for every one you tied?

GROVER: Yeah, yeah.

BARBARA: And did you count as you go along, or who was doing the counting?

GROVER: They did the counting, the boss.

BARBARA: I see, oh. That was back breaking work too then, wasn't it?

GROVER: Oh that was back ...

DOROTHEA: About how much does a regular size fleece weigh?

GROVER: Oh, I don't know, eight, ten pounds. Eight or ten pounds, it didn't weigh too much. Maybe twelve pounds some of them.

DOROTHEA: Did you get a lot of grease on your hands, handling that wool?

GROVER: Oh yeah, yeah.

DOROTHEA: How clean was it?

GROVER: Pretty clean.

DOROTHEA: Pretty clean.

GROVER: Yeah.

DOROTHEA: They run around a lot in the bushes and things out in that area, but they didn't pick up ---

GROVER: No, they didn't pick up much stuff.

DOROTHEA: Not seeds? Did you just shear once a year?

GROVER: Yeah, yeah. Around May, around spring, May, the end of April, May.

DOROTHEA: And how long did the season last?

GROVER: Oh, about a couple months.

DOROTHEA: June?

GROVER: Where I worked anyway, I worked a couple months there.

BARBARA: And did your brothers travel around the states?

GROVER: Yeah, they traveled all around.

BARBARA: And how many years did they do that, do you remember, about?

GROVER: Oh, I don't know, ten or twelve maybe, years.

BARBARA: And after they got through doing the sheep shearing business, what did they do? They just ---

GROVER: They went back to the ranch.

BARBARA: Ranch work then?

GROVER: Ranch work.

BARBARA: Did any of your brothers own any ranches around here, or did they always just work for someone?

GROVER: No. They always worked for someone.

BARBARA: And did you have any brothers that did anything other than ranch work?

GROVER: Well Les he worked on the railroad. Percy worked on the railroad. I worked on the railroad. But that's all, the rest of them --- the rest of them worked on the ranch around.

BARBARA: And what happened to your sister, did she marry someone locally?

GROVER: No, she didn't. She died before she --- in 1918, she died in 1918 when that flu was so bad.

BARBARA: Oh the flu, uh huh.

GROVER: That flu was so bad. She's the only one that didn't make it.

BARBARA: Was she pretty young at that time?

GROVER: Well she was about 18, about 18.

DOROTHEA: So she was about 19 years older. She died before you were born?

GROVER: Yeah, yeah almost a year before I was born. 1918, April 1918.

DOROTHEA: I can't remember what questions we've asked.

BARBARA: Hard to repeat.

GROVER: Most of them, I answered most of them.

DOROTHEA: Did we ask you what your mother's maiden name was?

GROVER: Oh, Parker, her maiden name was Parker, Olive Jane Parker.

DOROTHEA: Okay.

GROVER: Not Ollie, Olive.

DOROTHEA: Did they live here for a while then before she married your dad?

GROVER: I don't remember that, I don't remember that. She was born in Elgin. My dad was born in Lancaster, Ohio.

DOROTHEA: So how did he come out here?

GROVER: They moved out, his dad and them moved out here.

BARBARA: To take up a homestead?

GROVER: Yeah, homestead, yeah.

DOROTHEA: Did he tell much about how the country was when he first came?

GROVER: No, he didn't say much about it.

DOROTHEA: I understood it had a lot of tall sagebrush.

GROVER: Well yeah it had lots of sagebrush, because that's what we built the fires with in the house, used sagebrush. Get them big old round ones, and then ---

DOROTHEA: So that was even a job when you were small, I suppose, getting wood in?

GROVER: Oh yeah, yeah. I had to chop it up and bring it in. We milked about 31 head of cows, and we sold the cream, and milk, and butter and stuff.

DOROTHEA: Did that go on the train then, the cream?

GROVER: Yeah.

DOROTHEA: Right from the depot in Crane?

GROVER: Yeah, it went on the train.

BARBARA: Do you remember some of the businesses that were in Crane as you were a young boy? I understand they had quite a few business out there at one time.

GROVER: Well there were two stores, two pool halls, a bank, a theater, two hotels. One year one side burnt down, the next year the other side burnt down.

BARBARA: Oh, my goodness.

GROVER: Burnt down. So it went to nothing.

DOROTHEA: Is that where the town of Crane went?

GROVER: We had the store, yeah that's the way it went down with them fires. Burnt the whole side, one side, and the next time it burnt the other side.

DOROTHEA: How about the --- how about the homes, was there any homes that burnt up at that time?

GROVER: No.

DOROTHEA: Just the town buildings.

GROVER: No, they saved the two hotels there, and the store. Then they had the old theater down there, and the bank. The bank set up on the corner.

DOROTHEA: The didn't rebuild then?

GROVER: No.

DOROTHEA: Most everybody moved into Burns then?

GROVER: Yeah.

BARBARA: That was about the time that the town was kind of going down because the railroad had come on into Burns.

GROVER: Yeah, started coming down. Well the railroad went on, from there on to Burns. I think that was about 1939 or something like that.

BARBARA: Oh, when the fires were, uh huh.

GROVER: Yeah, somewhere in there.

DOROTHEA: Well I understood that you met your wife through your brother's wife. Tell us something about that.

GROVER: Well she came out, she came out with her sister when --- my brother got married to her sister. And I grabbed a hold of her.

DOROTHEA: Well how did Les meet his wife in the first place?

GROVER: Through the Army, letters, letters through the Army.

DOROTHEA: So Les had been in the service also?

GROVER: Oh yeah.

BARBARA: They had pen pals and that sort of thing?

GROVER: Yeah, Percy was in the Army too. We went together, Percy and I went together in the Army.

DOROTHEA: Did you get to serve together then, or were you separated?

GROVER: We was separated. He went into company, Rifle Company, and I went into headquarters attachment.

DOROTHEA: Well what was your job in the service? I think we forgot that.

GROVER: Well I handled the ammunitions, and I helped handle the TNT.

DOROTHEA: And what was this used for?

GROVER: Well this TNT was used mostly for big pillboxes, where we fought the Japs. Throw them down in there, down in there and blow them up.

DOROTHEA: Then you --- back to your wife, let's see how long you went together before you were married.

GROVER: Oh, about three months.

DOROTHEA: And how did you get her back out to Oregon?

GROVER: Well I went back there and married her back there, in Hackensack, New Jersey.

DOROTHEA: In New Jersey?

GROVER: Yeah, Hackensack. I brought her back out here.

MARY: ... I met him the 7th of July, and I went back home the latter part of August. I went back to work.

GROVER: Yeah, we got married in November the 15th of November.

BARBARA: She was out here a little over a month, and then went back. And you corresponded until you went back in November and got married.

GROVER: Yeah, I went back and got married.

DOROTHEA: And you were married there then?

GROVER: Yeah.

DOROTHEA: How long was it before you came back to Oregon?

GROVER: Oh, about a month, about a month. I got a month off.

MARY: We were married on the 15th, and we were in Chicago on Thanksgiving.

GROVER: I was working in the mill right down --- they let me have a month off.

MARY: About a week is all.

BARBARA: So then you came back on the train, did you?

GROVER: Yeah, came back on the train, yeah.

BARBARA: And where did you make your first home then after you were married? In Hines, or Burns?

GROVER: Oh, in Burns.

BARBARA: Uh huh.

GROVER: Down south.

BARBARA: A little house or an apartment?

GROVER: Oh, it was a house, east of the railroad there.

DOROTHEA: And what was the --- how do you remember that house, was it little or big, or did it have running water?

GROVER: It had a two room, had two bedrooms and a kitchen and dining room. Then we built a, I built a house on the back, another bedroom on the back end. So we stayed there for awhile, and then we stayed there, and in '47 we moved to Burns, down the other way, north, down on 114 N. Harney.

DOROTHEA: And that's where you live now?

GROVER: Yeah, that's where we live.

DOROTHEA: Okay so how long have you lived in that same house?

MARY: You mean when we were married?

DOROTHEA: No, where you are now.

MARY: Where we are now? Since '49.

DOROTHEA: Since 1949.

GROVER: Yeah, 1949.

DOROTHEA: Well you've lived there a long time.

GROVER: Yeah.

DOROTHEA: Did you build it, or was it a ready ---

GROVER: No, it was already built. We bought it, we bought it. There wasn't much there until we --- the house is there, but nothing else.

BARBARA: And you worked at the mill during this time?

GROVER: Yeah, I worked; I worked in the mill from '46 to '82.

BARBARA: And what were your jobs at the mill?

GROVER: Green chain, I was pulling the green chain. Poking stickers for the stackers. I did a little bit of everything.

DOROTHEA: A little bit of everything?

GROVER: Yeah.

DOROTHEA: We had better go back and find out who your wife was?

GROVER: Oh she was Mary Louise Wilhelm.

DOROTHEA: And what was the year you were married?

GROVER: 1947, November the 15th.

DOROTHEA: Okay.

BARBARA: And do you have any children?

GROVER: Yeah, we got two boy --- a boy and a girl.

BARBARA: Okay. And their names are?

GROVER: George Heinz.

DOROTHEA: And what's your daughter's name?

GROVER: Barbara Ann.

DOROTHEA: Is she married?

GROVER: No.

DOROTHEA: Does she live here?

GROVER: Yeah, she lives here. She lives in an apartment.

DOROTHEA: Do you have any grandchildren?

GROVER: Yeah two, a girl and a boy.

DOROTHEA: Are they out of school, or married?

GROVER: Oh yeah, oh yeah.

BARBARA: These are George's children?

GROVER: Yeah, George and Jeannie's children, yeah.

BARBARA: Okay. And their names are, the grandchildren?

GROVER: Oh, George Heinz, George Anthony Heinz, and Mandy (Amanda) Jo Heinz.

DOROTHEA: Mandy Jo.

GROVER: Jones now, I guess.

MARY: Well she's not a Jones yet.

GROVER: Not Jones yet, but --- And we got one great grand daughter.

DOROTHEA: Granddaughter.

GROVER: Great-granddaughter, yeah.

BARBARA: Well that's nice. And what does your ---

...

BARBARA: She's (Barbara Ann) still here in Burns with you then?

GROVER: Yeah, she's in Burns now, in an apartment.

BARBARA: Okay. And did your wife work outside of the home at any time during these years?

GROVER: Yeah, she worked in the hospital.

BARBARA: Oh, and what was her job there?

GROVER: Cleaning house.

BARBARA: Housekeeper.

GROVER: Housekeeper, yeah.

DOROTHEA: That's how I know you; I've you seen there. That's where I've seen you before.

MARY: Your face was familiar to me too. I couldn't place it.

DOROTHEA: Well I knew your face, but I didn't know your name, so

--- Let's talk about when you first came to Burns, what were the streets like?

GROVER: Well I'll tell you, most of them were dirt roads.

DOROTHEA: Dirt roads.

GROVER: Yeah, most of them. They were dirt roads when I come here.

DOROTHEA: How about the streets of Crane, did they get real muddy, or how did ---

GROVER: Well they had gravel on the roads, but off of the gravel road it was muddy.

DOROTHEA: So you didn't get off of the road very often in the wintertime?

GROVER: No.

DOROTHEA: I also understand that one of the hobbies of you as brothers and sisters was skating.

GROVER: Yeah, there was ice-skating. They did all the ice-skating. My ankles was too weak, I didn't, I couldn't do it. If I even tied them up, or tape them up they would still flop over.

BARBARA: Just flop over, huh?

GROVER: Yeah.

MARY: You didn't know what you were missing.

DOROTHEA: No, some people have a knack for that, and some people don't.

GROVER: Yeah, uh huh.

DOROTHEA: I don't. My grandkids ---

GROVER: I used to try to roller skate too, that was just as bad.

BARBARA: Yeah.

DOROTHEA: Yeah. I don't know which one is the worst.

GROVER: Well I think ice-skating is.

DOROTHEA: Tell us something about your childhood and growing up years. Did you help your mother? Did she have a garden?

GROVER: Well we had a garden. We milked a lot of cows, about 31 head of cows.

BARBARA: Did you milk by hand, or did you ---

GROVER: Was by hand, all by hand. And we moved into Crane and we still milked 5 or 6 head of cows when we did.

BARBARA: When you had the 30 head you were still at Albritton then?

GROVER: Yeah.

BARBARA: Okay.

GROVER: Yeah, on the ranch there.

BARBARA: And have to clean the separator and all that.

GROVER: Oh yeah, had to separate all that.

BARBARA: Uh huh.

DOROTHEA: Did you --- having a big family of eight brothers and sisters, did you have lots of parties?

GROVER: No, we didn't have no parties at all.

DOROTHEA: Not birthday parties?

GROVER: No.

DOROTHEA: Can you tell us something, what a birthday was like?

GROVER: Well, no.

DOROTHEA: Just another day, huh?

GROVER: Yeah, another day, I can't remember back that far.

BARBARA: What about Christmas time and holidays, did you celebrate those and have -
--

GROVER: Yeah, we celebrate them.

BARBARA: I suppose with your dad being gone when you were young, it was kind of hard wasn't it for your family to keep everything going?

GROVER: Yeah, it was hard. Yeah the kids, most of the kids was working of course. They got by that way.

DOROTHEA: Did you have any family pets, dogs, cats?

GROVER: We had two dogs is all.

DOROTHEA: Rabbits?

GROVER: No, we didn't have rabbits.

DOROTHEA: Did you go hunting rabbits to ---

GROVER: Oh yeah, I had enough money to spend on, to buy shells, then go out and kill -- That's when they were so thick, you know. Even have them rabbit drives down on the sand reefs there.

BARBARA: Get a nickel for a pair of ears?

GROVER: A nickel for a pair of ears. That's where I made enough money to ---

DOROTHEA: Buy more shells.

GROVER: Buy more shells and go to school. Yeah, I worked out on the ranch out there at Princeton for fifty cents a day pumping water for cows.

BARBARA: Oh gosh.

GROVER: For a whole summer, one whole summer.

DOROTHEA: What were they cows that had come in on pasture?

GROVER: Well they were out there running around loose on the pastures. And I had to go about a mile down to pump water.

BARBARA: Who was that you were working for, do you remember?

GROVER: Thompson.

BARBARA: Thompson.

GROVER: Yeah, Orrin Thompson. Rode a horse down to there to pump cattle (water).

BARBARA: Oh gosh, that was kind of a long day then, wasn't it?

GROVER: Yeah. I was down there about a couple of hours until they got ... then I would move off on my own the rest of the time.

BARBARA: What kind of other summer jobs did you have? You say you worked in the hay fields, and you did the sheep.

GROVER: I worked in the hay fields, I worked out in the shearing corrals, railroad.

BARBARA: Did you ever work on any ranch other than the time that you pumped water?

GROVER: Yeah, I worked on a lot of ranches around.

BARBARA: Did you?

GROVER: Yeah. I worked for Vickers, and I worked for Lynn Seeleys. A lot of other ... are gone.

DOROTHEA: Were they in the Crane area then?

GROVER: Yeah, they were around the Crane area, Buchanan and down

DOROTHEA: Lawen.

GROVER: Lawen, and stuff like that. I worked there.

DOROTHEA: Well let's go on then to when you came to work in Burns. Did you go directly to work for Hines?

GROVER: Yeah I did, yeah. In 1946, February the 7th. 1946, I worked there until '82. I retired in '82.

BARBARA: So you took a couple months off after you got out of the service before you started in to work then?

GROVER: Yeah, yeah. A couple months, yeah. I run around. (Laughter)

BARBARA: Well it was good to have a little free time and just relax a little bit.

GROVER: It sure helped, it sure helped.

BARBARA: Yeah, right. And did you really think that you wanted to stay in Burns, or did

you ever have any idea of moving someplace else?

GROVER: Oh I'd rather stay in Burns.

BARBARA: You just liked it here?

GROVER: Yeah, I liked it here.

BARBARA: And the mill was going pretty good at that time, hiring lots of people?

GROVER: Oh yeah, it was going good then. Yeah it was going good until just before I retired, anyway. They tore it all down then. BARBARA: Did any of your other brothers work at the mill?

GROVER: Yeah they all --- let's see Art and Bill did. Les, and me, that's the only one that worked there. The rest of them worked, most of the brothers worked in the schoolhouse, schools around, until they moved to Eugene, and they kept on working in schools there.

BARBARA: Did they do maintenance work?

GROVER: Janitor, maintenance work and stuff like that, yeah.

DOROTHEA: Well I understood that you not only raised your own children, but you raised children of other ---

GROVER: Well Jack Devitts.

DOROTHEA: Can you tell us something about how --- was he a relation or ---

GROVER: No, he was no relation.

DOROTHEA: How did you ---

GROVER: Well she got sick and she passed away. And we kept the kids there, took them to school when --- He worked on a ranch out to Harney. He brought them in to school, and they stayed at school, and then on the weekend they'd go back out there and stay with him.

DOROTHEA: How many children were there?

GROVER: There was three.

DOROTHEA: And what were their names?

GROVER: Betty and Johnny, and Eddie. Eddie was the oldest, but he had that cancer.

MARY: Eddie was the oldest one.

GROVER: He died when he was 13 years old.

MARY: He had muscular dystrophy, and then he got cancer in the eye. He lost his eye that way.

DOROTHEA: He was only 13?

GROVER: Yeah.

MARY: They were good kids.

GROVER: Yeah, they were good.

DOROTHEA: So they lived with you most of their school time?

GROVER: Yeah, yeah.

DOROTHEA: Did they go out for sports or anything?

GROVER: No, I don't think they did.

MARY: What?

GROVER: Sports, they didn't go out for sports.

DOROTHEA: Sports, did the kids go out for sports? Take activities?

MARY: Oh, no, they didn't. Well they were still in their grade school anyway.

DOROTHEA: Oh.

GROVER: They were still in grade school.

MARY: And Betty, I don't think she went out for sports when she got ---

GROVER: I don't think any of them did.

MARY: But she finished high school before she left my home.

DOROTHEA: Did she? Did she go to school in Burns or at Crane?

MARY: Oh right here in Burns.

GROVER: Burns, Burns.

DOROTHEA: In Burns.

GROVER: They all went in Burns.

MARY: Then she went to college after that. Their father moved to, over in Vale. He went back to Vale, so he sold out here in Harney and went to Vale. ... Johnny, he was old enough then, I said, "If you want," I said, "you could stay here and finish school here, or you can go home with your dad." He said, "Oh I don't know, I think I'll try it in Vale." So he went down to Vale too. Eddie was already gone then, there was just the two left.

DOROTHEA: Did, do they keep in touch with you?

MARY: Oh yeah, I talked to Betty last night.

DOROTHEA: Oh did you?

GROVER: Oh yeah, they keep in touch with us.

BARBARA: Part of your extended family then.

GROVER: Yeah.

MARY: Oh yeah.

BARBARA: Well tell us something about your son and daughter as they were growing up. What were some of the things that they got involved in? Did George do sports?

GROVER: Well George wrestled, he got into wrestling.

MARY: Well he was in the National Guards too.

GROVER: He was in the National Guard. Wrestled in high school. The girl didn't do nothing.

MARY: Well she worked up at the hospital for a while.

GROVER: Barbara Ann worked up in the hospital there for quite awhile.

MARY: Then she wanted to go back to school, and she did that, until she had to give that up.

GROVER: George, he works for a carpenter, he's a carpenter around.

BARBARA: And does he still do carpenter work?

GROVER: Yeah, he still got carpenter work, yeah.

BARBARA: Construction work.

GROVER: Yeah, he's working for somebody else now. He was doing it on his own, but he ---

BARBARA: That's kind of hard nowadays.

GROVER: He went back to work for somebody else.

DOROTHEA: Do your grandchildren live here?

GROVER: Yeah.

MARY: Yeah, Amanda is out on a ranch right now.

GROVER: Out to Rex Taylor's place out at The Narrows. He works out here. And George, young George he works for the Forest Service.

DOROTHEA: Oh, uh huh.

BARBARA: And so you're fortunate that you have all your family still around close then.

GROVER: Yeah, they're all around close. Yeah.

BARBARA: Most families anymore they just take off to all parts of this world.

GROVER: Yeah, they're all around here.

BARBARA: How are we doing on this (tape recorder) we don't have a blinker to tell us when to turn over (tape).

DOROTHEA: I think we've got a little bit more time. Tell us about some of the things that you like to do. Do you hunt or fish?

GROVER: I like to hunt, I like to fish.

DOROTHEA: And do you do a lot of it? Do you have a boat or ---

GROVER: No, we don't have no boat. We just fish off the banks and stuff like that. My

boy's got a boat, but we don't use it. And we hunt together all the time. We go elk hunting and deer hunting. That's my sport, that's my sport.

BARBARA: That's your sport now. Do you do birds too?

GROVER: Well we used to, but not now. Haven't for a long time.

DOROTHEA: What are some of the other things you like? Do you like gardening, or ---

GROVER: Oh, I've got a garden every year, pretty good garden.

BARBARA: Try to out fox the weather to see if you're going to have things freeze or not.

GROVER: Well I wait until almost June and then I start planting.

BARBARA: Yeah.

DOROTHEA: Well that's good around here, because we always have a freeze on June, and then about the 4th of July.

GROVER: Yeah, about the 10th of June.

DOROTHEA: Uh huh. How about rock hounding? I understand that you like rock hounding.

GROVER: Yeah, we used to go rock hunting too, yeah.

DOROTHEA: Do you have lots of rocks in your yard?

GROVER: No, not too much.

MARY: Have quite a few.

GROVER: Yeah, quite a few rocks.

MARY: Yeah.

SIDE B

DOROTHEA: Okay.

GROVER: They used to have a sportsman club here, and that's what we did, go out hunting. Hunt rocks and stuff like that.

BARBARA: Did you ever go with Austa Carlon; I know they hunted rocks a lot? Had the rock shop up there.

GROVER: Well we hunted with all them rock hounds.

BARBARA: Of course they kind of limit you to some of the things that you can pick up and do anymore.

GROVER: Yeah. I haven't did it for a long while, a long, long time.

BARBARA: Did you ever polish your rocks or do that, get into that?

GROVER: Well my brother Les had a polishing machine, and we made them into jewelry. He made them into jewelry. I didn't, but he did.

BARBARA: You just liked to get out and do a little camping and walking around and looking at stuff.

GROVER: Yeah, I like to get out and camp and stuff like that.

BARBARA: When your children were growing up did you go camping for vacations and that sort of thing?

GROVER: Yeah, some, some.

DOROTHEA: Did you travel all over the United States and see different parts of the states?

GROVER: No.

DOROTHEA: Not much of a traveler, huh?

GROVER: No, I'm not much of a traveler.

BARBARA: Did you get back to the east coast?

GROVER: I don't like to drive. I'm not that good a driver, and I don't like to drive here.

BARBARA: Go back to visit your wife's family?

GROVER: Yeah, ever once in awhile.

BARBARA: Take the train?

GROVER: Well we took the airplane.

BARBARA: Airplane.

GROVER: Yeah, it takes too long on the train.

MARY: The grandchildren went with us the last time.

GROVER: Went back, '80, what was it, '82 when we went back there?

MARY: We went to ---

BARBARA: Just after you retired you went back?

GROVER: Yeah.

MARY: ... the Empire State. Oh, it was ...

DOROTHEA: You went to New York and everything, huh?

MARY: Yeah.

GROVER: Yeah, when you get a little money ahead.

BARBARA: Takes a little planning and saving doesn't it?

GROVER: Yeah.

BARBARA: Now what are some of the other things that you like to do?

GROVER: Well there ain't much --- I like to ---

MARY: He likes to put puzzles together.

GROVER: Oh puzzles, yeah jigsaw puzzles. I like to put them together in the wintertime anyway when you got nothing to do.

DOROTHEA: Do you make pictures out of these, or do you just ---

GROVER: No.

DOROTHEA: Just tear them apart and do it all over again.

GROVER: Yeah, tear them apart and get a new one. Get a new one and start in. Give them to somebody else.

BARBARA: Sure, trade them around.

GROVER: Yeah.

DOROTHEA: Do you attend many of the activities at the Senior Center?

GROVER: Well yeah we go there every --- we go down on Wednesday and eat. But I don't --- not nothing else much.

DOROTHEA: Do you play Bingo or any ---

GROVER: We play Bingo, yeah we play Bingo. We like to play Bingo.

DOROTHEA: Cards?

GROVER: Yeah cards, I go down on Thursday and play with the women. (Laughter) They like to play, and I go down and play with them.

BARBARA: Do they play pinochle or bridge?

GROVER: Pinochle, yeah we play pinochle.

DOROTHEA: Do you play pool?

GROVER: No.

DOROTHEA: You're not a pool man?

GROVER: I used to when we went hunting up in the desolation up to Sumpter. We used to play pool, go down and play pool at night. That's all. Drink a lot of beer then. Not no more.

MARY: That place burned up anyway.

GROVER: That place burned out. I quit that drinking six, seven years ago.

DOROTHEA: That's too hard on us people as we get a little age on us, isn't it?

GROVER: Yeah.

BARBARA: Didn't your grandson, didn't he wrestle in high school too?

GROVER: Yeah, yeah, George did.

BARBARA: Did you go and watch him?

GROVER: Well George, both Georges did. Yeah, they wrestled.

MARY: Yeah, they liked to wrestle.

BARBARA: Did you travel around to the other schools to watch them?

GROVER: Oh yeah, we went most of the time. I did, she didn't go. I went with somebody else that had their boys in there.

MARY: I didn't like wrestling.

GROVER: I went.

DOROTHEA: That was not ever my favorite sport either.

GROVER: Oh yeah, I went all over. I went all over with --- One guy had a son in sports, I went with him all the time. Like the Woodfins, I went with them part of the time.

BARBARA: Well they still have the Woodfin Memorial Tournament out there at the school.

GROVER: Yeah, I don't go out and watch them anymore.

DOROTHEA: Well you're going to be the 1995 Pioneer Day President. Can you tell us something about how you felt when they called you up and asked you if you wanted to be President?

GROVER: Well they asked me and I hesitated awhile, and then I said, "Well I guess so."
So that ...

DOROTHEA: Is this a lot of work?

GROVER: Two guys turned them down, so I thought well I better do it.

BARBARA: Oh is that right, they did this year?

GROVER: Two of them turned them down that I know of.

DOROTHEA: How do you come to get the President? I mean do you have to belong to the Pioneer Association?

GROVER: I guess you have to be born and raised here.

DOROTHEA: Oh do you?

GROVER: Yeah. You have to be born and raised here I guess.

MARY: You have to be here 30 years. Even if you leave and come back, you ---

GROVER: You got to join up. If you joined up --- anybody that is 30 years old, they lived here 30 years, they can join it. Anyway so they finally got me. I must have been old enough, they come and got me.

DOROTHEA: Well that makes, you have belonged at least 50 years then, huh? Not quite?

GROVER: No, it wasn't. It was quite awhile wasn't it?

MARY: What's that?

GROVER: Belonged to Pioneers, belonged to Pioneers.

MARY: Oh, I don't know when you started.

GROVER: Well we started together.

DOROTHEA: Well if you were 30 --- were you 30?

GROVER: Oh, I was older than that, wasn't I?

DOROTHEA: Oh, okay.

MARY: He started before I come out here.

GROVER: I started going ---

BARBARA: Have you always gone pretty much to the celebrations every year?

GROVER: Oh yeah.

DOROTHEA: Do you enjoy them?

GROVER: Oh yeah, visiting with all the old timers. I like to visit with them.

BARBARA: Uh huh.

DOROTHEA: And the programs they have sometimes are pretty interesting.

GROVER: Oh they have good programs, yeah. Yeah my two brothers they was in it one time.

DOROTHEA: Oh were they? Which ones?

GROVER: Art and Bill, they was both in it.

BARBARA: Well you can't let them get ahead of you, can you?

GROVER: No, I couldn't let them ---

DOROTHEA: Well it takes a little bit of work. You've got to get your picture taken.

GROVER: Yeah.

DOROTHEA: And have you done that yet?

GROVER: No, no, they haven't come around.

DOROTHEA: Oh, they haven't come around.

GROVER: I thought they was supposed to come around and take the picture.

DOROTHEA: Well I don't know whether they come around anymore or not. I think maybe you might have to go to the office.

GROVER: Oh.

BARBARA: Down at the paper office.

DOROTHEA: At the paper office.

GROVER: Oh, the paper office.

BARBARA: They take it down there.

GROVER: Oh.

DOROTHEA: Down at the Burns Times-Herald.

GROVER: Burns Times-Herald.

DOROTHEA: Burns Times-Herald.

BARBARA: Just go down to the office. Pauline Braymen will take your picture.

GROVER: Yeah, Pauline.

DOROTHEA: Or somebody in there.

GROVER: Yeah.

DOROTHEA: I think Rotha French is going to be the Queen Mother. And ---

GROVER: Yeah, that's what she said, the paper said anyway.

DOROTHEA: Have you met together then to plan the meal or anything, or the program?

GROVER: No, we haven't got together on that yet. That's why we got to take the picture.

MARY: That's all we've got is those that George and Jeannie put together.

GROVER: We got to take the picture. And they got to put that all down. I guess the granddaughter is going to sing.

DOROTHEA: Oh is she?

GROVER: She's going to sing a song.

BARBARA: Oh, that's nice.

GROVER: She is going to sing a song or two.

MARY: She's been looking for somebody to play the piano for her.

DOROTHEA: Does she play the piano?

GROVER: No, she don't.

BARBARA: That will be really nice.

GROVER: Yeah. She's going to do all that.

MARY: ... got a voice. Because this morning she was making the horses go back, get the horses in. I asked her well where was Jessica at. She said she was on my back. She has one of those things that go on the back and she took her with her. So she was yelling hey, hey, hey, you know.

GROVER: We got that all right. She didn't want to sing, but we finally talked her into it.

BARBARA: Oh good.

MARY: You should see her, she imitates ---

GROVER: She is a good singer.

BARBARA: Yeah, that will be nice.

MARY: I hope this isn't all going on the interview.

DOROTHEA: Uh huh.

GROVER: Yeah, you talk to her.

DOROTHEA: Yeah, I can hear you pretty good, it's coming in. Then you don't know what kind of a program that Rotha and ---

GROVER: No, we don't, no, until they get it all fixed up.

DOROTHEA: Well it always comes out really nice, so I know that it will a nice day for you.

GROVER: Yeah, we listen to them all the time. Sometimes they're pretty good.

DOROTHEA: My daughter graduates from college that day so I don't get to come this year. I said any other time, I would love it. So I said, "Can't I have somebody sign my name and get my ribbon?"

GROVER: What's your husband's ---

DOROTHEA: My husband?

GROVER: Yeah.

DOROTHEA: Is Clinton Purdy.

GROVER: Oh, Clinton. I know both of them.

DOROTHEA: Probably don't know him. He's the youngest of the family, and not very sociable.

GROVER: No, I know Wayne and ---

DOROTHEA: Mervin and George probably.

GROVER: Yeah, I knowed them, yeah.

DOROTHEA: The girls, did you remember Madora?

GROVER: No, I didn't, I didn't remember her. I just knowed the boys.

DOROTHEA: Just the boys.

BARBARA: So what are some of the other things that you and your wife have liked to do

over the years? What are some of the things that you do together?

GROVER: Not much of anything.

BARBARA: As you were a young married couple, did you go to dances, or movies, or that sort of thing?

GROVER: Oh yeah, we went to dances when we were young.

BARBARA: Did you ever play an instrument?

GROVER: No, no I didn't ever play an instrument. No, nothing like that.

BARBARA: Do you have any stories that you might tell on your brothers, or things that happened?

GROVER: No, no I don't.

BARBARA: That you can remember, or something at work.

GROVER: No, I don't remember anything.

DOROTHEA: Do you plant a big garden so that your wife has to can it all? Or do you give it away, and eat it, or ---

GROVER: Oh, we just eat it.

MARY: I freeze it.

GROVER: Yeah the wife used to can, she used to can.

MARY: I told you to cut down a little bit so I didn't have so much to do.

BARBARA: It's a lot of work.

GROVER: She gets hard on me so I have to cut down a little.

MARY: ... it's a little rough.

DOROTHEA: You don't have any arthritis or anything so you can still get around.

GROVER: Well I got arthritis, but I can get around good.

MARY: It's sneaking up.

DOROTHEA: It seems to do that. What do you remember about moving into your first

home when you and your wife were first married?

GROVER: Well when we first got married we lived with my brother and his wife, and my mom. And then my mom moved down, we put her in a cabin. And then when was it ---

MARY: And Catherine and Les was there too.

GROVER: Catherine and Les was there.

MARY: We all lived in the same house together.

GROVER: Then we moved right after that. Right after the girl was born, we moved down there.

DOROTHEA: It was a two bedroom home you said. What do you remember about the hardships of being married and having a family?

GROVER: Well the hardest part was because we bought that house; we had to borrow the money to put it out. That was the hardest, trying to pay it back, had to pay it back.

DOROTHEA: Keeping a job and food on the table.

GROVER: Yeah, yeah. Food and everything on the table, pay for that too. Wasn't making much money then. I was only making \$1.41 out at the mill when I first started.

DOROTHEA: How many hours a week did you work? Did you work ---

GROVER: Forty hours.

DOROTHEA: Forty hours.

GROVER: Forty hours a week, eight hours a day.

DOROTHEA: Was it pretty tiring work, or ---

GROVER: Yeah, pulling that green chain was, yeah. It was really hard pulling that green lumber. I worked there for seven years on that green chain.

DOROTHEA: Did they have log trucks coming in then, or did they just bring most of the timber in?

GROVER: They had log trucks, and the train come from Seneca. DOROTHEA: Seneca.

GROVER: Yeah, had both working then.

DOROTHEA: Do you remember just who drove the log trucks? Was it just Edward Hines log trucks?

GROVER: Well most of them were, but some of them was commercials.

DOROTHEA: Gypos?

GROVER: Yeah, gypos.

DOROTHEA: Do you remember their names?

GROVER: Yeah gypos. No, I don't know of any. I don't know who drove the trucks, I wasn't in that territory.

BARBARA: As long as they got up there you didn't care, huh?

GROVER: No, as long as we got work.

DOROTHEA: Well what other things do you do besides gardening and rock hounding and that kind of thing, and do your puzzles? Do you work with your hands any, making ropes or anything?

GROVER: No, no, I don't do that. I don't work with nothing like that.

DOROTHEA: Not leather, tool or ---

GROVER: No, no.

BARBARA: Can you tell me anything about what you remember about your mother or your dad? Were they big people, small people, was it a happy household? Did you have music in the house?

GROVER: Yeah, it was happy.

BARBARA: Uh huh.

GROVER: They was just small people like me, my dad and mom was.

DOROTHEA: I understand you got the name of Shorty. Now I'm not sure just how you got that name.

GROVER: Yeah, I got it in the mill. They called me Shorty because I was the smallest one there. I got it ---

DOROTHEA: Did that insult you, or did you just say good, I've got a nickname.

GROVER: Yeah, it didn't bother me a bit.

DOROTHEA: What organizations do you belong to?

GROVER: Well I used to belong to the Elks. I used to belong to the Grange. That's about all.

DOROTHEA: Did you carry any offices in those? Were you an officer?

GROVER: No, no, I didn't do that.

DOROTHEA: Did you go to the Grange dances and things?

GROVER: Yeah, yeah, we went to the Grange dances.

DOROTHEA: Do you still go to the Elk dinners or breakfasts ---

GROVER: No, I don't belong to the Elks anymore.

DOROTHEA: You don't belong?

GROVER: No, I quit the Elks and the Grange hall both.

DOROTHEA: Well I don't think they have much Grange anymore, do they?

GROVER: No, I don't think so, not too much. No I, it done a little too much money to belong to any, so I didn't. I quit.

DOROTHEA: What would you like to see before your time comes that you can't get around anymore? Are there any special places you'd like to go to, or see?

GROVER: No.

DOROTHEA: Just stay here in Burns, huh?

GROVER: Just stay here in Burns, yeah.

DOROTHEA: What do you think of the changes that have taken place in the world since you were a child and today?

GROVER: Well a lot different, I'll tell. They are a lot different now than it was then.

DOROTHEA: People think a little different too, don't you think?

GROVER: Yeah they do, they --- it's more --- takes more money, that's what I think now than it did then.

DOROTHEA: Well it seems like that from the time that I was growing up until today that we were a lot less afraid of being robbed and things like this. We left our doors open, and we ---

GROVER: Yeah, well we did too. But now I don't take chances now.

MARY: No, I wouldn't leave my doors open.

GROVER: No, I don't take chances. There is too much going on here in Burns.

BARBARA: It gets a little crazy sometimes.

GROVER: Yeah, yeah.

DOROTHEA: Well Mrs. Heinz, how would you like to tell us a story? Can you remember any things that happened that, since you married Grover, and that you would like to tell us?

MARY: Oh, I wouldn't know anything to tell. You might get every-body hearing all that.

BARBARA: Well sure.

DOROTHEA: Well how, what kind of things are you looking forward to on June the 10th? How much of your family is going to be here?

GROVER: Well I don't know of anybody besides my boy and daughter and that.

DOROTHEA: Just your own.

MARY: Whether the Devitts will come up or not; she said she might try to come up. But she couldn't, you know, promise.

DOROTHEA: And Bill, do you think he'll come back?

GROVER: Who?

DOROTHEA: Bill.

GROVER: Oh, no.

MARY: He has to have blood once a week.

DOROTHEA: Oh, he does?

GROVER: He has to have blood once a week, or maybe twice a week. He ain't very good.

MARY: So he may come, and he may not.

GROVER: He lost his wife last week.

BARBARA: Oh, is that right.

MARY: I'd like to see him make it over though.

GROVER: Last week?

MARY: What?

GROVER: He lost his wife a week ago?

MARY: No, yes, buried a week ago.

GROVER: Yeah, a week ago.

MARY: Yeah.

GROVER: He lost his wife.

MARY: I think it was a week, I don't think two weeks. Well we were there the week before.

GROVER: We was there a week before and seen them both. I was glad we did.

BARBARA: Well that's good, that's good.

DOROTHEA: Was she ill?

GROVER: Yeah.

MARY: Well she had been ailing, but she was feeling pretty good. But her back bothered her. She said she had the flu, but her back ---

GROVER: She said she had the flu, and I guess it settled right up in the kidneys and that.

MARY: And went awful quick.

GROVER: Kidney and that. He always thought he'd go first.

BARBARA: Where does your brother live now?

GROVER: Prineville.

BARBARA: Prineville.

GROVER: Yeah. Not Prineville.

BARBARA: LaPine.

DOROTHEA: You said LaPine a little ---

GROVER: LaPine.

BARBARA: Okay. Well it might be good for him to come over and visit you then, and kind of ---

MARY: It would be good.

GROVER: Well he don't drive much, but he might.

DOROTHEA: Does he have anybody that could drive him?

MARY: I don't know whether his daughter-in-law would be close by enough to bring them over. They could bring them over.

GROVER: Yeah, they could.

BARBARA: That would be nice for him.

MARY: It would be nice; I'd like to see him come over.

DOROTHEA: That would be nice since you're the only two left. It would be nice to have him here.

GROVER: Yeah.

MARY: Yeah, it's just, only two of them.

GROVER: Most of the people of Burns are my relation. (Laughter)

DOROTHEA: ... that.

BARBARA: Well can you think of anything else that you might like to share with us this afternoon?

GROVER: I don't know of any. No.

BARBARA: Well I hope you have a really good day on June 10th.

GROVER: Well I hope it's good, I hope it's good.

BARBARA: Have a lot of old friends to visit with.

GROVER: Oh yeah, yeah they always come around.

BARBARA: Yeah.

GROVER: Back up --- Ontario and all around. Visit with the old timers.

BARBARA: Yeah, that will be nice.

MARY: I should never have said that, or was it shut off?

DOROTHEA: No, no, but that's okay. That's okay. Well if we don't have any other stories to tell, and you can't tell lies about somebody, well --- (Laughter)

GROVER: No, no, I don't like to tell lies. (Laughter)

DOROTHEA: Well we'll stop and bid you a thank you. And we've enjoyed the afternoon.

GROVER: Okay.

DOROTHEA: And now we'd like to get a video of you.

GROVER: Okay, okay.

DOROTHEA: To store with this tape.

GROVER: Okay.

DOROTHEA: So thank you again.

GROVER: Well thank you, that's fine. That was fine.

(END OF TAPE)

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