

HARNEY COUNTY HISTORY PROJECT

AV-Oral History #40 - Side A

Subject: Ethel Turner Clark

Place: Burns, Oregon

Date: May 1975

Interviewer: Marcus Haines

Ethel Turner Clark of Lakeview is the sister of Alice Johnston of Burns and Hazel Laythe of Mesa, Arizona. She was married to Roy Clark, son of Emanuel Clark, who was ranch foreman for Peter French at the Sod House Ranch, at the time Pete French was killed. The Turners grew up near Andrews, Oregon on the southeast side of Steens Mountain.

...

ETHEL CLARK: ... so she said, well the water department for the State of California, up on the dam there. So she had the ...

MARCUS HAINES: Yeah, she told me. You see some of my relatives lives at Oroville. My mother's mother died at Oroville.

ETHEL: Is that right?

MARCUS: Uh huh. Yeah, they left Council, Idaho, see --- well mother had just gotten out of school; she was sixteen years old, Council, Idaho, when Warren Curtis married her and brought her over here in '96.

ETHEL: Oh, is that right?

MARCUS: Yeah. And then later ---

ETHEL: You know that Dora's name is Curtis.

MARCUS: Uh huh. And then later Grandma Osborne married a fellow by the name of Black, and he moved to Oroville. And then some of the other family kind of migrated down around there. But they are all gone now.

ETHEL: Oh, uh huh. ... One of the, he's a doctor, Todd Bailey; they transferred him clear down to L.A. He had some good ...

MARCUS: Was he down with the dam people there?

ETHEL: No, no, he was a doctor.

MARCUS: Uh huh.

ETHEL: He had a practice there. I think he is down there and has charge of --- I don't know whether it is alcoholics or something. He has something with the state. He was --- well one time they went to a meeting and he said when they found where he was from, he said, "Does anybody know where Harney County is?" Of course ... spoke up and said yes, she knew where it was. So she kept in touch with him for some little time. And then I met his mother down at Ontario at the rest home. I think she has passed away now, hasn't she, Mrs. Davies?

MARCUS: I really think so, but I haven't seen those folks for a long time.

ETHEL: Oh, yes.

MARCUS: its just kind of here say, you know. I know they ended up down in that country. And Burns was over here at LaGrande, he has the International Agency, the tractor agency.

ETHEL: And then there is one little boy that is a county agent, or something down there.

MARCUS: Yeah, at Ontario. I have never seen him. I've been in the office there a time or two, but he was out.

ETHEL: Oh. I'll tell you who knows him real well, ... and ... But I haven't been down for a couple of years because I've been sick. And they kind of grounded me, but I just

outlawed them the other day and just drove my car and got ---

MARCUS: Are you feeling pretty good?

ETHEL: Oh yes. But they haven't allowed me to go up on the, down where we had some mining property. But after the last time I had a check-up, they took some of my medicine away from me. I'm in hopes that I can get to go up there this summer. Maybe not to camp, but to go up there.

MARCUS: What is it; a little heart ailment is it?

ETHEL: Yeah, well I --- well I don't have any heart damage, but it gets out of rhythm. And what it was, I was on the bus and I just accumulated a lot of fluids, you know, and it pressed against my heart. And he put me in the hospital and oxygen for a week and that was in '72. And I have been going to the doctor ever since. They finally cut me down to about two pills now. So ---

MARCUS: I had a visit with Blanche McWilliams at the store, I was buying some groceries, you know. She had a heart attack here the 5th of May.

ETHEL: Oh, did she?

MARCUS: And she is getting along pretty well. She said just a case of; she said oh it will take a couple years for me to straighten up. She is 76 now.

ETHEL: Well I'm 77. And you see --- but I got along fine. And then I was in the hospital twice for ingrown toenails after that. But I never had any more attacks, and I didn't have any heart damage. So the other day the doctor told me, about a month ago, he said well you're better now than you were twenty years ago. So I just ... come to Burns, and I just took off.

MARCUS: Got in the car and took off. Well this girl that was going to interview you, you told me that you were going to the Bontemps, or the Ponderosa. Did she misunderstand you?

ETHEL: Yeah, I guess she did. I wrote in the letter, the City Center Motel. Because I knew then that ---

MARCUS: I called there this morning and asked if you had registered, and they said no that you hadn't. So I ---

ETHEL: Well I guess she misunderstood.

MARCUS: Well maybe I misunderstood her too. Anyway I had been looking for her down there.

ETHEL: We always stay here with Joan, because she --- Alice always gets me a hotel.

MARCUS: Joan ---

ETHEL: That runs the --- what is her name? Her father, you know they have ranches over around --- the Rickles or whatever they are over around John Day.

MARCUS: Oh. No, I probably don't know them.

ETHEL: Uh huh. Well this is a daughter. She has charge of it.

MARCUS: But ---

ETHEL: Well getting back to, you was going to say, have you got that about Lenny Clark now? And I'll send you some pictures.

MARCUS: Yeah, you do that.

ETHEL: And then you'll send those back.

MARCUS: You bet, sure will. I'll copy them and send them back.

ETHEL: Now Stella, she ... she is trying to get some more pictures for, is for the Davis's. And then Mrs. Davis wanted ---MARCUS: Oh, at the Alvord.

ETHEL: At the Alvord. So last night she was there, and that's how she come to having, bring the flowers over. So she said that she would look around and see if she knew anybody that had them. I doubt very much whether Bessie has any or not, because like I say I don't remember seeing any there.

MARCUS: How is Bessie's health there?

ETHEL: Not very good.

MARCUS: Victor told me that she had just had to move into an apartment or something there.

ETHEL: I think it is sort of like a --- well it's a rest home more than anything.

MARCUS: Oh, rest home. How old is she?

ETHEL: She's about three years older than I am. She's about 80.

MARCUS: She is about 80 then.

ETHEL: Because you see Roy was born in 1900, you see, and he would just be 85 the 27th of December this year.

MARCUS: Yeah, and Bessie was the youngest wasn't she?

ETHEL: Yes. I think she was three years younger than ---

MARCUS: Uh huh. And then the older boy Frank, I never knew him.

ETHEL: Well he was married to my aunt, Mama's younger sister, and they lived in Iowa. And he was just older than Roy.

MARCUS: Uh huh. I knew that ---

ETHEL: I have that quirt that Pete French, you know, how it was made and everything.

MARCUS: Yeah, and well tell me a little more about that, Ethel. That was, was that a Christmas present that French gave to the boys after ---

ETHEL: Yes, he gave everyone of the --- he had a party for them. He had been to Chicago, shipped horses, and come back and he had a Christmas party and had gifts for all of them. So Roy, and some time when I come over, it's quite a novelty that there, how the quirt was made. So Roy kept it all these years.

MARCUS: Yeah, you bet.

ETHEL: So then I kept a quirt that Roy had made. So I said well I had that, so I kept

those two for novelty things. I have a thing that is quite unusual, is a beaded cape that was my father's mother. And as near as we can figure out that is a hundred and thirty-five years old or so. It came from Sweden.

MARCUS: I was going to say, it came from Sweden.

ETHEL: Yes. It was all beaded, and how that material and everything lasted all these years ---

MARCUS: Your maiden name was Carlson?

ETHEL: No, Turner.

MARCUS: Turner.

ETHEL: Charles Turner.

MARCUS: Turner, that's right.

ETHEL: The Carlson was, Elmer and Ed Carlson were --- and our dad all grew up together.

MARCUS: Well, you know, Charlie Chapman, he used to tell me about you folks. I had never seen or heard of you except through him for years and years, you know. There was all young people down there, you know.

ETHEL: Well Ed Carlson lived with us after he sold his ranch. And when my older sister -- when he passed away he left Hazel ten thousand dollars. But he was, they grew up in Sweden together, Ed and Elmer Carlson and Erlind, and Papa and his brothers, you know.

MARCUS: Now there was somebody down there, Charlie used to tell me about that only had one arm.

ETHEL: Well that's my dad.

MARCUS: That was you dad. He could pitch more hay than anybody in the country.

ETHEL: Oh yes, that's who it is.

MARCUS: Yeah, I remember that.

ETHEL: And he used to play the accordion for all of the dances.

MARCUS: He did, huh?

ETHEL: And in Sweden, there was a big family of them, seven boys and three girls I believe. And he played the accordion for the royal people out on these ships, you know, when they went out on excursions.

MARCUS: Yeah.

ETHEL: And he played for the dances for years until he lost his arm.

MARCUS: Uh huh. Oh, he lost his arm after he came here?

ETHEL: Oh yes. Let's see, I was twelve years old. Let's see, and twelve from that would be sixty-five, be sixty-five years ago. Well he went out to get this gun off, shotgun off of a hayrack and it accidentally --- the fellow that was helping feed had left it loaded. And he was going to go get us a juniper tree for a Christmas tree, and it just blew his arm off here. And Dr. Marsden had to come and was stopped at all of the ranches, and came down there and took that, finished taking that off. And they kept him a couple of days and they brought him up here. They didn't even have a hospital, you know.

MARCUS: No. Well, it was off then below the elbow?

ETHEL: Yeah, and he could just --- oh, yeah, he could --- oh that's who you're meaning.

MARCUS: Yeah, yeah.

ETHEL: Oh, yeah, he'd played for all the dances. And he liked to celebrate and have a good time. He had a lot of pep. Yeah, he was quite a character.

MARCUS: And then you lived on the old, what is now the Harry Blair Ranch?

ETHEL: The Harry Blair, that was the Turner Ranch.

MARCUS: Well who had the, where Rube (Blair) used to live? Was that part of your ranch too?

ETHEL: No, where Rube lived, that belonged to Andy Stone, a Swedish fellow that came through.

MARCUS: Kind of a Swedish colony around there.

ETHEL: Yeah, and then he turned around and married a Spanish young girl, May Lewis, and they had this one boy. And she was a niece to Juan Redon. You've heard them talk about the one who could rope.

MARCUS: You bet, you bet, the old roper. Charlie told me about him roping the elk there, when they branded him, and put him on the freight wagon and hauled him out to Frisco, I think.

ETHEL: Oh yes. Well, and then you see Andy Stone lived, his place was there, and the Huffman place and then the Redon place. And then we lived just below there, the Turner Ranch.

MARCUS: We talked to Bessie a little bit about getting some of the old, you know, these relics and that for the Historical Society, that's around. And Rube had a lot of stuff there --

-

ETHEL: Yes.

MARCUS: --- that he wanted to come in here. He was a member of the pioneer society and all.

ETHEL: Oh yes. And Andy Stone, he was quite a fellow, you know. When I was a youngster, I'd be out to move cattle, I'd come back and he always had root beer. And he would sing, and then if our dad was along, they would just talk Swede, you know.

MARCUS: Uh huh.

ETHEL: He was quite a character, Mr. Stone was. And he just dropped dead out plowing in the field. Well then Aunt Nellie Redon, that was Juan's wife, she raised Emil because May, she separated from --- because he was a lot older than she. And so we all grew up

together, all went to school.

MARCUS: Well, I was visiting with Alice (Turner Johnston) the other day a little bit, and she told me she rode the racehorses. She didn't care much about buckarooing. She liked to ride the racehorses.

ETHEL: Yeah, oh yeah, we all rode racehorses. And we used to have at Denio and Andrews, it was kind of rivalry. We had some horses, you know, that could run, and they'd have some. And it'd get pretty hostile.

MARCUS: I'll bet.

ETHEL: Then Alice come along and she was just a little kid. She could sure ride. I rode out on the Alvord Desert once when we had a \$500 Basco match race. Emil Stone and some Bascos from McDermitt, and I rode against Bill Buffington and it was supposed to be a match race but they didn't jockey. And it had rained that day and Mary Kueny always said, "Rain before seven, quit before eleven." We went out there, and I got \$50 for riding. We all grew up riding horses.

MARCUS: Yeah, yeah. Well did you ride in the rain then? Did it quit before eleven?

ETHEL: Yes, it did. We got out there, but --- Bill Buffington, you know, he was from Denio, from down there. And they had a horse from down there that they matched, you see. And this was a Basco horse from over at Oregon Canyon. But anyway we won there and I got \$50.

MARCUS: You won the race.

ETHEL: That was a lot of money.

MARCUS: You bet that was a lot of money, you bet. Well then you told me something about the trees there on your property. Was it timber culture?

ETHEL: Yeah. It isn't those poplars, it's those cottonwood. And the house now that I was born in, that room, Stokey Gerber saw that picture and he said, "Well they sure knew

how to put it together, not any better trees than they had then."

MARCUS: Uh huh. Well that probably would have been built out of quaking aspens, was it?

ETHEL: No, it was built out of this cottonwood. Now I don't know what you call it. They were great big trees and you had to have so many acres you know, planted in trees. And that was timber culture. And then this pre-emption right was down in the Company field. That still goes by the name of Turner Field, and I don't know what that was. And then when they proved up on any of this, they had to go clear over to Lakeview and ride clear through open country, you know. That was the closest land office.

MARCUS: Well Ethel, when your father came to Burns, or Harney County, when he came to the United States, ... did he come directly to Harney County?

ETHEL: No, he came to Marcus, Iowa.

MARCUS: Oh well, that is where Frank ended up at, wasn't it?

ETHEL: Yeah. Now you see, when nearly all of them had left, they leave Sweden before they are 21. And while Uncle Earlin was in there, they gave him the name Turner. Now his name, Papa's name, was Charles, let's see, Charles Johnson. Now his children had been Carlson. See, they put "son" on the name of the ... You see when they came here, the brothers came over after Uncle Earlin was there, he took the name Turner because they gave that to him in the service.

MARCUS: Oh.

ETHEL: See they gave him that name. Well then when he came there, he started the store in Marcus. And he just kept buying land all around. And he died, he was wealthy when he died, that was down in Pasadena. And as they came, that's how Papa came. Well then they knew Andy Stone, I was telling that ... someway down at Lovelock. They got down there; Papa's other brother that is a mining engineer. And so that's how they

came up there and got that place. Andy Stone had it first. I don't know what right they filed on under that, because Papa never used his --- I think he must have bought the right, the place from Andy Stone. Because then Andy Stone went up there where Rube was, just up the mouth of the canyon there.

MARCUS: Uh huh. Well now the place there that Frank Maclone had, and ---

ETHEL: Was it the old stone house?

MARCUS: No, it wasn't a stone house, I don't believe. You come up on the east side of Wildhorse Creek, and you go right up to the ranch there. And the fellow by the name of -- - I can't think of his name, out of Nevada, was there for a while. And he sold it, and then some more people, who I don't know, own it now. But its east, it's east of where Rube and Harry --- it's across the creek on the other side, you know.

ETHEL: The Huffman Ranch?

MARCUS: Was that the Huffman Ranch?

ETHEL: Yes, that would be the Huffman Ranch originally.

MARCUS: That was old Bill's?

ETHEL: Yeah.

MARCUS: Uh huh.

ETHEL: And you, then you see Mary Kueny finally got all of that. She got the Redon place, and she, then she gave that, you know, to the ones, the crippled children.

MARCUS: Shriners.

ETHEL: Shriners, you know. She had all of that. Then there has been Elmer and Ed Carlson had the Redon place awhile. But then it was all sold then. So there's been quite a turnover in that. MARCUS: Yeah, you bet.

ETHEL: From our place, where I was born was, our folks had it until they sold it to Harry Blair. That's when we lived at the

--- ... I don't know. That must have been in later years, yeah. But that --- before Mama and Papa moved to Burns here. Yeah, that's quite a country down there.

MARCUS: Did your parents die here in Burns?

ETHEL: Yes. They both passed away here in Burns. Well then they sold the ranch, you see, when they moved to Burns. ... Harry Blair and Bessie then bought the ---

MARCUS: Well they moved to Burns a long time ago then, didn't they?

ETHEL: Well, let's see. We were at the --- they weren't here

--- See Mama died in '53.

MARCUS: Oh, that's the year my mother died, the fall of '53.

ETHEL: Yes. And of course I went to California in '54. About '53 my mother passed away, in September 13th. And then my dad passed away in '58.

MARCUS: Oh, well they lived a good long life then.

ETHEL: Oh yes. Our dad was 93 years old.

MARCUS: Oh, yeah.

ETHEL: And my mother, she was 79. And Papa was active until he had a little old stroke like in the hospital, and then they took him down to the rest home in Vale. And then he just --- he was only there about a month; wasn't there a month when he passed away. And you know he had all of his faculties, and he could write his name without having glasses.

MARCUS: Well, I'll be darned. Well getting back to Emanuel, we might talk about him a little bit more.

ETHEL: Well I told you about being born in the log --- I'll send you that picture.

MARCUS: Yeah, you send me the picture of the house that you were

ETHEL: Because I had some taken off. And I've given those all away. I think; well Alice

has got one of those. But I'll send you mine.

MARCUS: Were all three of you girls born in that log house there?

ETHEL: No, my sister, oldest sister was born up in Idaho. I said she was born at Silver City, and Andrew Shull said it was Salmon City. But anyway, in Idaho. And then I was born there, and Alice was born up to Aunt Nellie Redon's. She was a midwife.

MARCUS: Oh, oh, uh huh.

ETHEL: Yeah, right up there.

MARCUS: It was just you three girls in the family?

ETHEL: Yeah, I was the boy.

MARCUS: You were.

ETHEL: Well we all worked outside. You know in the old country, now there was seven boys in that family and there was, Papa's family, and three girls. And the girls did all the work outside on these little farms. And the boys, they had to learn a trade of some kind. And when they got to be --- they had to go and get an examination before the minister, for education. And they had to be able to do something. They went off, and when they had any money, they brought that home to their folks.

MARCUS: Uh huh.

ETHEL: That's how they --- the big families ---

MARCUS: Do you remember Albert Olafson that used to live at Diamond?

ETHEL: Yes.

MARCUS: We were great friends, worked together on the refuge there. He told me lots about Sweden.

ETHEL: You know if you were ---

MARCUS: He wanted me to go back with him.

ETHEL: You know if we were --- our dad in later years used to tell Hazel who was at

home, well that was after her husband Willard Laythe passed away, and we made a note of all the things he'd tell you that happened.

MARCUS: Uh huh.

ETHEL: In the old country, and their habits and things. It was really interesting.

MARCUS: Gosh, you know, that we have let so much of this stuff get by, and then ---

ETHEL: And then, you know, before Roy's mother passed away, and well John Scharff was trying to get in touch with Roy even to get some history. They was going to talk to Roy's mother. She knew a lot of it, and so did Aunt Elsie that lived there at Cleveland's, Victor's.

MARCUS: Yes.

ETHEL: You know Victor got married. Wasn't that ---

MARCUS: ... just the other day. I went down there to visit with him about, just about getting Bessie's address. And ... ten days ago. And I didn't know ... anybody up town.

ETHEL: Well I didn't know --- well Alice, yes, Alice sent me a little, just a little notice, you know, in the paper here. There wasn't anything ---

MARCUS: Oh, there was? I missed that.

ETHEL: It wasn't in the newspaper; it was in one of those little ones. Alice wrote it up and sent it to me. But I --- now they, she was Twinman. She is a very nice person. She is a little crippled, not much, but she has arthritis. And you know Agnes was on crutches for years.

MARCUS: She sure was.

ETHEL: Yes. But I think that it's nice that Victor got married. Because he was so used to living at home with his folks.

MARCUS: Of course.

ETHEL: And Agnes grew up with ---

MARCUS: That's what he should have done.

ETHEL: Yeah, well I think it's nice.

MARCUS: You bet.

ETHEL: I'm really happy for him. Yeah, they went down to Winnemucca and that was that.

MARCUS: That's where they got married?

ETHEL: Well, I think Joel Sword's daughter and husband, Darlene and ---

MARCUS: I think the Swords were great friends of the Cleveland's.

ETHEL: Well, they are cousins.

MARCUS: Oh, they are cousins?

ETHEL: Victor and Joel are first cousins.

MARCUS: Oh, I didn't know that.

ETHEL: And Victor has pictures at the house there and we were talking one day and I said, "Well they were more like your brother." He said yeah, that they were closer to him than any of his relatives. Because he never had any brothers or sisters. And then Joel, when he came from Oklahoma or wherever it was, he lived at the Cleveland's and worked for quite a little while.

MARCUS: Oh, well that accounts for it then.

ETHEL: He was a grown man then. That's how they ---

MARCUS: He's up here in the rest home, isn't he?

ETHEL: Well I see where he went home.

MARCUS: Oh, they took him home.

ETHEL: Yeah, they took him home.

MARCUS: I knew he was up here for a while. I hadn't heard too much about him.

ETHEL: Yeah, I saw it in the paper.

MARCUS: Uh huh.

ETHEL: So I'm pretty sure that she did. ... for years Roy and I always went over. Even after Roy passed away, well we were always over to Aunt Elsie's and went fishing. That was --- they were wonderful people.

MARCUS: By gosh Joe Sword, he just actually worked himself to death, didn't he?

ETHEL: Oh yes.

MARCUS: I think so.

ETHEL: Well Victor, I guess if it wasn't for Agnes then, I said to Victor, I was over there one evening, they sold that, they had sold the place and I was over there fishing. I said to Victor, he was out digging me some angleworms, and he said --- I said, "Well don't you hate to leave?" And he said, "Yes." Well he had been there since he was a little boy.

MARCUS: Sure.

ETHEL: And he said, "Well," he said, "but look at the shape that Agnes is in, what else can I do?"

MARCUS: Uh huh.

ETHEL: But she kept after him until he finally come to town.

MARCUS: Another thing that I wanted to talk to you about, last fall I went with Tommy Jenkins and a county agent up over Riddle Mountain and went by Roy's homestead and the old house up there.

ETHEL: Oh, the rock house?

MARCUS: Yeah. Did you live up there much?

ETHEL: Well, we lived --- when we were first married we lived up there. But we tried it one winter, but there was too much snow.

MARCUS: I'll bet.

ETHEL: But we lived there, oh off and on for several years. Well let's see, let's see,

Donna is forty --- when Donna was a baby we went to the "P" Ranch, and we never lived up there after that.

MARCUS: Who built the house for you?

ETHEL: Well, it was a fellow who was working for Agnes Wither's husband, Hugh Tudor. Alice's brother-in-law. And, oh he was just a regular rock mason, you know.

MARCUS: He had to be.

ETHEL: Yeah.

MARCUS: That house is standing pretty good yet. A corner or two fell out of it, but gosh - --

ETHEL: Oh, has it? Well ... and the doors I suppose and things is all ---

MARCUS: No, it's pretty good. And I think Tommy kind of, you know when they had the place, they kind of kept it in repair inside a little bit. The ceilings kind of started falling out. But surprisingly ---

ETHEL: Do Jenkins still have it?

MARCUS: Yes.

ETHEL: I knew they got it from Carlton McKie. Do you know how Carlton McKie, is he still in the hospital?

MARCUS: I haven't heard here recently, but I heard he's pretty much ...

ETHEL: I'm going to call Rankin Crow, because Katie Metzger, his sister, lives in Lakeview and she and ... have a nice ranch out by Parrish. But they have it leased. And ... lives down by Grants Pass.

MARCUS: Oh.

ETHEL: And so Susie came over here, well they call her Dobb, came over here to see him when they had him in the hospital, when they put him in the hospital. And she has never heard any more. So I told her I would find out.

MARCUS: Uh huh.

ETHEL: How he was.

MARCUS: Yeah, he kind of went off his rocker.

ETHEL: Yeah. Oh, they couldn't ---

MARCUS: He was pretty dangerous.

ETHEL: Oh yeah, they couldn't do a thing with him.

MARCUS: No.

ETHEL: And, well ... came, and ... couldn't do anything with him. And so then I guess Phoebe came over, but she didn't come over with ... But I didn't talk to Phoebe, just the last week I guess. But I thought I ought to check with Johnny Crow, he should know.

MARCUS: Uh huh. Yeah, Johnny is ---

ETHEL: He got mad at Johnny, you know.

MARCUS: Yeah, got mad at John.

ETHEL: Oh, yeah.

MARCUS: He was still ...

ETHEL: Does he still have some property out at Diamond?

MARCUS: He has sold that to Del McLean.

ETHEL: Oh, that's ---

MARCUS: ... kind of kicked him off. He was running around here with an eighteen thousand dollar check. And I understand he went down to the bank and they wouldn't cash it, non-sufficient funds. And that really upset him. See he sold the place to, or rented the place with an option to buy. And then Delmar picked up the option and paid him this.

ETHEL: Oh. Oh, Delmar.

MARCUS: A malfunction in the loan check getting back to the bank. And of course he got in there and gee whiz he just went hog wild then. He was everywhere but ...

ETHEL: You know I wanted to ask Phoebe, because she was talking about the ranch out there. And I wondered well now who had the ranch. Yeah, we know the McLean's, you know.

MARCUS: Sure, sure, the neighbors.

ETHEL: Yeah, the neighbors, yeah. Yeah he married the adopted daughter of Harrison and ...

MARCUS: She is a real nice girl. We never knew who her parent's were. She was adopted.

ETHEL: Well, she is a Basque girl. It seemed like down at Winnemucca there was one girl, there was one that, this Murray had that bar down there, ... sister. The other sister --- there was a Basque family and the father died and the mother couldn't take care of them and they just --- they got her down at Winnemucca. But they were good type girls when they adopted them. They had

--- the other girl is, she married, well they are separated, she was married to Morris, Ed Morris. And she lived in Winnemucca. But she and Ed are separated. But they were Basque girls. But they know who their mother is, and their dad. Because they were good sized, there wasn't any school, but they were good-sized girls when they got them.

MARCUS: Where does Hazel Laythe live, your sister?

ETHEL: She lives down at Mesa, Arizona. She and Nell Sherman, Stella Calderwood's sister, they go back and forth every year. Hazel has a, keeps an apartment all the time, where the Mormons are. And Nell has a trailer house down there. And they come back and forth, and that's where --- She had quite a fall here not very long ago. She got off of a bus, and the bus driver said, "Watch your step." And she is terribly stooped, you know. And some way she fell and she pulled some of the muscles in her arm, and she has been having quite a time with her arm. But they'll be up in; they'll be up in June. They'll be here

pretty soon now.

MARCUS: I called Andrew Shull last, just before Thanksgiving last year, to get some information on Walter Anderson, the Negro fellow that used to be down there.

ETHEL: And he can sure give you --- if he doesn't like somebody, he can add some more adjectives to it.

MARCUS: I asked him a few more questions, and he said, "Well I've got to see Stella Calderwood, she's gone right now. When she gets back here why we'll get together and figure out some of this stuff, and I'll call you." And so it went on for a while, and I finally called him. And the people at the Washington University up here at Pullman, Washington, was putting a story together about the colored ranchers and buckaroos in the northwest.

ETHEL: Oh.

MARCUS: And they called down here, and they dumped the job on Tommy Jenkins and I.

ETHEL: Oh.

MARCUS: So I was trying to get the information there. So I called down and asked him what they had found out. Said, "Well we are still arguing a little bit. When we get it straightened out, why I'll call you and let you know." I haven't heard from him since. So I'm going to take my recorder and go down here this next month if I can. I invited him and his wife to come by and stay all night with us, instead of running back and forth to town.

ETHEL: Yeah. ...

MARCUS: Yeah. And we could get a lot done then.

ETHEL: Now Margie, she was born down there, and ... Aunt Nellie Redon. And Clifford Smyth --- Johnny was --- where was Johnny there, born? Lucille is the only one that was born here at Burns. The rest of them were all born out in the sagebrush like the rest of us.

MARCUS: Oh.

ETHEL: Well I guess we got along just as well.

MARCUS: Just as well, didn't you?

ETHEL: I have to tell you how I was born. My dad always told about it that, he and this, they were Swedish people too, Frank Larson. They were loading, they were putting alfalfa hay on a hayrack and Mama started getting pains and so she went to call him. And he always said I come near being born in the creek. And he took care of me, so help me, cut the cord and everything. And finally they sent for Aunt Nellie, and everything was ---

(END OF TAPE)

bl