

3/20/98INTERVIEW WITH LILLIAN STEWART

ASSISTED BY VIOLET BEARD

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Q: What type of clothing did people wear?

L: Well, they wore long underwear, and uh lace shoes and I mean they come about half way up above your ankles and over shoes with buckles on it about four and uh of course you always had a heavy coat.

V: A long small dress.

L: And uh well, yeah you're dress with a long dress of some kind. And uh stocking cap, gloves. And I had a pair of gloves that my aunt gave me and made them out of sheep wool. Boy they were warm. And of course I carried my dinner bucket to school. And uh, I walked about uh a mile and a half to school.

Q: What color was the clothing? Were clothes gray, black or blue?

L: No, mine were red. I liked red.

Q: When and where did the people go to school? Did school start in the early morning?

L: We start we started uh school you mean when it started? It started about nine o'clock. And they had uh recess at ten thirty. And uh, two thirty.

Q: Did you go to a one-room schoolhouse?

L: Do what?

Q: Did the school have like only one room?

L: It had one room but uh, kinda vestibule where you went in hung your clothes but, uh but a big recitation bench and when you recited that class went up to the recitation bench and the black board was back of it. It seemed funny now didn't it? And I had uh; there was four when I was in the first grade. So that was kinda unusual sometime Violet only had one in hers the last year she was in high school, grade school. It was always nice to have someone to compete with.

Q: Do you know what the qualifications were to be a teacher? Could just any parent be a teacher?

L: Take any what honey?

Q: Could your mom be the teacher? Did teachers have to have certain qualifications?

L: Um, they had substitute teachers.

V: No mother what she means did you have to have an education and a certificate to be a teacher.

L: Yes, but them uh...

V: The eighth grade.

L: Yeah but they had to uh, no, I don't believe they did now when I think about it. I think we had a teacher that just graduated down out of from High School. I mean grade school. She was a good teacher.

Q: She wasn't that old?

L: She was 18.

V: Everybody had pupils older than they were. My grandmother went to college here at Marshall. It's where the old North Side school use to be. I have the certificates down here.

Q: Do you know what the people did for entertainment in their free time.

L: Well, we had box. Is that what she means?

V: Yeah

L: We had box suppers. And of course at every Christmas we always had a program, and at Valentine we always exchanged Valentines and uh I don't know.

V: We had a lot of picnics and a lot of church, church activities. Everything was evolved around the church.

L: And at that time they met up uh the school house and especially box suppers. And uh they had a can of pickles for that. That's what they were I believe it was. The popular girl, maybe that was it. And uh and see what else they had.

Q: When were box suppers held? Were they just regular suppers?

L: Once uh, about every summer.

V: Tell them what box suppers were. These girls don't know what box suppers is.

L: Oh, uh well you went to the schoolhouse on Friday night usually on Friday night. And then in your box you had chicken, and uh I don't think we had Jell-O at that time. And an orange and a banana and a piece of pie, sandwiches.

V: You would decorate your box up and they would put them up there and you didn't let anyone know whose box it was. I know I am not supposed to be in this but... They decorated the box and you would let your boyfriend, or whom you were sweet on, know what your box was. He would try to find out and they would auction them off and whoever bid the most got your box. The girl wanted her boyfriend to have it and tried to get word to him even though you weren't supposed to. You had to eat with the person who bought your box.

L: One times my box brought 3 dollars and I thought that was great. Of course, that went back to the library and that would buy schoolbooks, or books you know. It was interesting.

Q: Were there many churches?

L: Yes, at that time there was. There was quite a few, United Brethren, Presbyterian, Christian, Methodist, and Baptist.

V: Her mother and father helped get the Christian Church at Redmond, that's where she lived at, got it started. One lady donated a piece of ground, then the men built the church. The women went around in their buggies to collect money. They would have suppers to raise money. They just had their 90th Anniversary. She got to go to it and she could remember when she went there for the dedication for the church.

L: I am a charter member. I think I went to church in 1915 or 1916. I've went ever since until now. But I listen to programs. They have good ones on t.v.

Q: Did they start church services at the same time we do now?

L: Well, it started at, let me see, we aimed to be there at nine o'clock I suppose it started about ten maybe, and uh, we'd get out about noon.

V: A lot of times you'd go back in the afternoon.

L: Oh, I went to the other church nearby that was the United ----church at afternoon. And then at night we went back to Redmond to the Christian church. So I was always going to church.

Q: Did most of the people go to church ?

L: Uh, the biggest part of them did. Sometimes we went in a wagon or by horses.

Q: Where were the churches? Were they close together ?

L: Well, I'd say in the little town of Redmond there were three churches. And in Embers about two miles would be about two miles.

V: Probably about two or three...

L: About two miles west. And then Oakland was about eight miles further down. Well, It still had

V: It still had churches.

L: And Gorton did too.

V: About every little town had a church. You'd find them scattered out in the country you know.

Q: How did people get around? Did they walk?

L: Well, we walked quite a bit but we had buggies and storm buggies. Do you know what a storm buggy is? I thought I had a picture. It was a uh, there was room for about three people, it was all enclosed. Give me that basket there I think maybe I've got a picture. I'm not sure but I think I have a picture here.

Q: Did most children have their own horses to get to school?

L: Do what honey?

Q: A horse?

L: Oh we had about eight horses.

V: She means to ride to school. To get to school with.

L: Well, there was one boy who had a pony and he rode that pony. Then he'd, sometimes the water would get up past the creek and we'd get on the pony with him. So we'd go on to school. Oh we walked. I imagine about a mile and three fourths to school. Then you'd meet your friends. To come across the field. You'd always have someone with you.

Q: What did people eat? Did they go to people's houses a lot?

L: What?

Q: What kind of food did people eat?

L: Oh, we had fried chicken, and beans, potatoes, applesauce. And of course we raised our own food and uh I don't know we ate pretty good.

Q: Was it basically the type of food that we eat today?

L: Well we didn't have t.v. dinners or anything like that.

V: But they had their own milk, which is whole milk, then they butchered their hogs, and they made their butter and drank their butter milk and stuff like that.

L: We had chunks little chunks of butter in it.

Q: Did most of the people farm?

L: Well, a lot of them did. My father farmed and uh my husband farmed. Yeah we farmed quite a bit with horses and then about uh 19 I can't remember they had tractors. The tractors were used and an old tractor called titan.

Q: Did it take awhile for many people to get the tractors because they were so expensive?

L: Yeah it took awhile to get used to em. But that way they could farm a lot more. Of course, now that seems queer. They weren't anything like tractors are today.

Q: Who was the main source of income in the family?

L: Well, we uh sold hogs. I sold chickens, eggs, and of course we raised most of our food in the garden. Yeah and cows we raised cows. And then when we had horses, a lot of the time you wanted to sell them. Somebody would buy em maybe for another work to work for.

Q: Did everybody have a part?

L: Had what?

Q: Did everybody have a part in raising money in the family?

V: All the kids worked.

L: They always had their .. Violet had to wash supper area. She didn't like to do that. Of course she went to school.

V: I never liked to milk. I hated milking.

L: They , They help milk. They just helped with everything. Clean the house and all that.

V: Whatever there was to do the kids all helped out. I mean they didn't say that I didn't like that. They didn't sit down at the table and say I didn't like this. They ate what was put in front of them.

Q: Do you know about how many people settled around here and stayed?

L: Do you know?

V: I have no idea. I do know that the Beards, my grandchildren, are seventh generation and when nobody had no

L: That's my mother. That's they way they used to dress. (Showing a picture) It was taken at my oh about 1896 or something.

Q: Are these your sisters?

L: Yeah, these, well this lady I believe was a friend, but these are all sisters.

Q: Did they buy special clothes for their wedding?

L: Well, I wore I graduated, in June, I wore my graduation dress. That was my graduation dress out of high school. Of course the men dressed in suits, and all. They think it would be awful dress like the way it is now. And uh, they always had nice clothes.

Q: Were most of the pioneers rich, poor, or middle class?

V: Were most of the people were rich, poor or middle class?

L: I would say middle class.

Q: Did certain people seem to have more money?

L: Well some of them did yes. You know they owned quite a bit of ground and farmed big and had big cars.

Q: Was there a particular family that was popular around here?

L: You know anybody around here popular?

V: Well, of course you go back and think about who settled the town and when you say that I think of the Scholfields and people like that. I am not from here, I'm from Paris. When you go up in that area, why she can say probably the Chestrounds....

L: Yeah, where we lived the Chestrounds, and uh the uh Brinkerhoffs, and uh I am trying to think. The Brown's were too. That's up around Redmond area.

V: She was born and raised around Redmond.

Q: Do you know what Marshall or near by towns, looked like?

V: Well tell her about what Redmond looked like. Redmond was just a little tiny town.

L: Well, Redmond used to be a big town. They had a bank, and 3 churches, 3 restaurants, and a general store and a post office, and uh fire station. Now about everything is gone. The general store is gone, it's kind of sad.

V: There is really about 1 church there now, I think.

L: Yeah and uh well they had other church there but I don't think they much there.

Q: Did a lot of people go to the banks for loans, just like they do today?

L: They used to and above the bank there was a post office. No uh telephone office.

Q: Did it have two stories?

V: Yeah, it had two stories.

L: And at one time Mr. Snaughty was the man that ran the bank. There was a man that tried to rob it he and shot and killed him. Everytime I go by that I can see that man laying there dead.

Q: Was there usually just one store in the towns?

L: No, they had two uh three stores. There was three.

Q: What was usually in them; what did the stores contain?

L: They had groceries and just about everything. I have got that picture some place.

V: They had groceries, uh kerosene and uh horse bridals and that sort of stuff.

L: Give me that. I think there is a picture in there.

V: The one I just had. I didn't see anything in there mother. She has been going through pictures and sending pictures back to people.

Q: Whenever you got your hair cut, did your parents usually cut it, or did you go to a barbershop?

L: Oh, we had a barbershop.

V: Did you go?

L: Well not at that time. No we had long hair. No.

Q: Did the girls usually let their hair grow?

V: The ladies would take their hair up and put it in the bun behind there. This is mother and her sister. You can kind of see how their hair was like there.

They are showing us different pictures at this time.

Q: Who is this again?

V: This is her and her sister.

Q: Well, which one are you?

V: I am the youngest.

L: Well she doesn't know which one is the youngest.

J: They look almost like twins.

L: Well they used to call us twins. And I wore mate suits. We used to wear mate suits.

Q: Did a lot of people wear those?

L: Give me that uh I will show you a picture. This is taken about 1915 and uh this was taken later. That's my sister and that is me. She was two years older than I am.

Q: Did the little girls used to wear their hair in braids?

L: They used to. Now she had long hair. I think maybe I got a picture of her.

V: She had long curls, very long curls.

L: And she wore her hair in braids around her head and a big bow in the back.

V: They made two braids and wrapped em around like that.

Q: Did the older women just wear their hair in buns?

L: Sometimes and not on top of their head.

V: I don't suppose any of those women ever, well they didn't know what beauty shops were, but you know....

L: Well, we just went to get our hair cut. You know if it got too long. Well, we didn't at that time we didn't. We just did it up and put it around. Then we used to rough comb our hair. That's my sister. That's when she graduated out of high school. And this is my cousin. She was a schoolteacher.

V: My grandmother uh was a schoolteacher and so was mother's sister. And mother got her diploma to be a teacher, but she got married instead, but she could have been a teacher.

Q: Were the people that taught not married?

V: Usually they didn't allow married teachers to teach.

L: No they weren't allowed to teach, at that time.

Q: Did any men teach, or were there all girl teachers?

L: I don't, I think there were a few men that taught. Not very many.

V: I read a lot of pioneer books and there is in the books, whether that means it or not, why you know, there was men.

Q: Do you think the books and shows like Little House on the Prairie are true?

L: Well they are kind of like it used to be. I mean it I think so don't you?

V: Yes, I think they do. They talk about these side how floors, you know. That is just dirt and I am sure there were a lot of them. Yes, I think they are. The way women had their herbs and gardens and of course they had cans. You canned everything. My grandmother raised turkeys, and chickens.

L: She had about 300 chickens. We had a lot of eggs.

V: You would take your eggs to market and take em how often?

L: Well, we used to have huxters. Do you know what a huxter was? He would pick up the eggs.

V: He used to come in a wagon. A built in wagon.

L: And uh you would sell your chickens and uh your, to him. Then you could buy a lot of groceries. I mean he had different groceries you could buy. You didn't buy many groceries you raised everything.

V: You canned, if you had chickens in the summertime and you had meat, you would cure the meat you know, like the old cured meat. A lot of the times you would tan the meat or the chickens because that way then you would have it in the summertime when you ran out of the cured meat you would have it.

L: Just had to go down in the basement cellar and get a can of meat, a can of corn.

V: And to keep things...

L: We didn't freeze and uh tomatoes well we just canned everything.

V: But to keep things cool like butter and stuff like that you would put it in a container and put it in a bucket and lower it into a cistern or well uh and then when you wanted it you bring it up so it was cool in there.

L: Well I remember we used to uh we butcher a calf, or cow and hang it up on the back porch. You couldn't think about doing that now. Why on earth? I think we would have died. It would freeze or the men used to kill a lot of rabbits and squirrels. Then they would hang them out on the back porch, let them freeze. I can't figure why we did that.

Q: Did most of the families have a lot of children?

L: Well, uh my father and mother just had us two, my sister and me. My grandmother had uh about 10. My mother's mother had about the same amount, several.

V: Usually they had several kids.

Q: Did a lot of them stay in the same bedroom?

L: Do what?

Q: Did they sleep in the same room?

L: I think they kind of doubled up.

V: I think they had to in the wintertime to keep warm.

L: There was uh of course, my mother's family they lived in Texas, where it was warmer you know.

V: Tell her about the heating system, mother. How you kept the house warm.

L: Well we had uh at one time a baseburner. That was a great big stove that burnt hard coal, and otherwise, we had a wood stove. I really liked the wood stove better. Of course, you had to get up in the morning and build a fire. About freeze before you got it.

V: You had to start a fire the next for the cook stove to fix breakfast.

L: Well, when uh my husband would get up and start a fire in the cook stove. Then I would get up and he'd go on and feed the horses, and the cows, milk cows, then when he would come back, I would have breakfast ready.

V: Tell her what you had for breakfast.

L: Oh, we had bacon, eggs, toast, and coffee. We ate big breakfasts.

V: A lot of the time you ate biscuits.

L: Well, I had biscuits quite a bit, too. And my mother always had biscuits. She never had a meal that without biscuits. I mean never had breakfasts.

Q: Were the houses mainly two story or anything like they are today?

L: There was quite a few that were two story. Now, when I was born, we lived in uh I think it was just a three room house. Then I had uh kind of a room back of it. And then we moved to a house well, it was built after we moved there. We had a two room house. We had two rooms upstairs and four rooms downstairs. The living room, then of course, we always had a parlor, and uh we had a dining room and kitchen.

V: A lot of the time they had a hired hand that stayed with them all the time.

L: Yeah, we always had a hand, always.

Q: Were the floors made of wood, or did they have any carpet ?

L: Well, we had like we have now, linoleum. Otherwise, we had rugs. Just a rug to spread out. I mean it was like a carpet but they were, didn't fasten down like a carpet.

V: Everytime like at spring you would take em out and run a clothesline and you would see these rug beaters. That was a kids job to go out there and beat the dirt out of those rugs. I mean he could beat and beat and beat and beat you know.

L: Yeah it was kind of hard work.

V: Yes it was.

L: Then a lot of the time they had straw under it under the rugs.

V: Also, they put straw under their mattress. Filled their mattress with straw. That was there oh they had feathers.....

L: Oh, we had feathers. Always feathers.

Q: Were the pillows feathers, too?

L: Yeah. Well they usually raised ducks or geese and they picked the feathers and stuffed. That was what the pillows were made of. A lot different from now.

Q: What was the furniture around the house. Was it mostly wood?

L: Yeah.

Q: Did you buy it, or did the men make it?

L: Well, I don't know. I think it was mostly oak.

V: Did the men make it?

L: Oh no. No, it was bought.

V: I suppose if a man was capable of doing it, he would.

L: Yeah, no it was really bought.

V: Like today, some of them can do that and some of them can't.

Q: Did you have a bathroom?

L: Oh no, we had a private, had a toilet outside.

V: It was cold too.

L: And we had an old turkey goblin that flop ya when you went into the bathroom, or to the toilet.

V: Now, in the wintertime you had your little pot. But uh there was, you didn't have toilet paper either. You had a Sears Catalogue.

L: Yep, oh Sears notebook catalogue was used for that.

V: And all the kids wore long stockings and underwear.

Q: Did you have to go out to an enclosed toilet?

V: A lot of the times when they would go to school, the snow was so deep they would walk across the fence tops. The snow would be over the fence, which would be four feet or something like that.

L: Well, we always had people to walk with us and the neighbor kids, you know. We were never lonesome. But we would walk on top and I had a friend that had only one leg. She would come with her crutches for school.

V: Mother said that they of course the barn was the place they played in all the time. She'd get up and hang on quicker than they all could. That lady is still living today too.

L: She is two years younger than I am. She lives in Danville.

Q: You both wear glasses now. Did many people wear glasses back then? Who made them?

L: They had glasses back then but didn't operate on them like they do now for cataracts and things. They didn't know how to do that at that time. I think they were more like magnifying glasses than anything else. They wore glasses.

V: Mother when you went to parties tell em what kind of games you played at parties.

L: Button button who's got the button, and uh what was that other game?

Q: Was that where you passed the button around?

L: Yeah. I can't think of the name of it Violet.

V: I was thinking about post office and stuff like that.

L: Well anyway, they had uh a ring around and they would go around and swing each girl around. What was that called?

V: I don't know.

L: Come to Georgia, I don't know. That's before your time.

Q: I know my grandpa always told me that they would go and tip over the outhouse. Did they do that a lot?

L: They did that a lot yeah. On Halloween. That was kind of neat.

M: My grandpa said one time there was somebody in the outhouse when they tipped it over.

L: That would be bad.

Q: Did the toilets flush, or did waste just remain?

V: There was a hole and it went right down in this big old hole.

Q: Were they similar to what we see today?

V: Kind of like at the park, uh huh that type.

L: Yeah about like that.

Q: Did many people, especially the ladies, wear watches or jewelry like people do today?

L: Usually a watch around the uh with a chain. Well they didn't have wrist watches back then. A lot of beads and necklaces.

Q: Did they make them themselves?

L: Well, I don't know. They had pearl beads.

V: Cameo was something that was good wasn't it?

L: Yeah, a lot of pins. They wore a lot of pins.

Q: Did they wear wedding rings?

L: Well their wedding ring, and their engagement ring lots of times.

Q: Did a lot of women have fur jackets?

L: They used to. My land they look queer now, I guess. You hardly ever see that. They had fur coats. I know I told you that. There was a man that had a fur coat. I always thought he so funny in that fur coat. I wondered why on earth he wanted a fur coat.

Q: What did the men normally wear?

L: Do what?

Q: What did the men normally wear?

V: What did men wear?

L: Well, they just wore ordinary suits like uh they wouldn't thought about going with their pants going clear to their ankles. Of course they always wore long pants and suit coats. Well they wore sweaters.

Q: Did they wear suits everyday?

L: They had pant suits you know the shorts and the pants to match.

Q: What did they wear to farm?

L: They wore their suits, you know everyday suits.

V: Not dress suits.

L: Everyday suits.

V: Did they have denim overalls?

L: Yeah, I think so at that time. It seem like there was another name. There was another brand.

V: They had Shandler jackets, shirts. The women made a lot of the shirts too. The women did most of their own sewing.

L: Women used to sew a lot more.

Q: Did they usually stay at home while they farmed?

L: They didn't get out and work like women do today.

V: If a women did anything it was like maybe she took in sewing or she'd work for somebody else in the home. Tell her you got back and forth to high school.

L: I went on a train from Redmond to Mar, Paris. Every Sunday night we'd get on a train and uh I think it cost a dime. I am not sure. Then we'd get on a street car and then I had to walk about a mile to get to where I stayed.

Q: Did you do this every morning?

L: Just over the weekends. Then we'd go back home on Friday evening. Do the same thing, get on a train and go to Redmond and then somebody would meet us there. Then we moved well we lived at least two miles maybe three.

V: It wasn't anything uncommon for them to walk to Redmond from where they lived. But if somebody took them to their car, then didn't call it the car. They called it the machine. Just very few had the machine.

L: They had real, they had a real. There was a real, that was the name of the car. I don't know if they still have reals or not.

V: I don't know.

Q: Did you go to school Monday through Friday?

L: Yeah.

Q: You went from age ten; children started at ten. Is that what you said earlier?

L: I think. I can't remember. I think it started at nine, maybe at nine.

Q: Did school last until two or three?

L: Yeah. Then we got out at recess. Did we get ten-thirty?

V: I don't know mother. We used to get out at ten-thirty. Then we would have our lunch break, which was about an hour. Then we'd have in the middle of the afternoon, we'd have another 15 minutes then we'd get out.

L: Then on Friday we had recreation. I mean teachers read a book or something.

Q: What did you do on recess? Did you play tag?

L: Yeah.

V: 3-D, black man...

L: And yeah, black man...

Q: What's that?

V: black man? A group up and one gets on one side one another and somebody's it, they have to run side to try to catch em. If you got caught...

L: I always liked play andy over.

V: Do you know what that is? Well we'd have to divide them up again. There would be half on one side and half on the other and you would throw a ball over and you'd catch it. When you caught you had to run over and tag somebody. You would run this and maybe they would go that way who ever you tagged had to go on your side.

L: There are ways to... That's been a long time ago.

Q: Was recess only 15 minutes?

L: 15 minutes.

V: Lunch was probably an hour. Don't you imagine?

L: Yeah an hour.

Q: Did you decorate your buckets, too?

L: No. Just for uh box suppers.

V: The bucket was a lard bucket, a metal lard bucket or something like that.

Q: What did you usually take to eat at school?

L: Well, uh sandwiches, maybe an orange or banana, and cookies and that was about it. Then we went through this lady's yard when we went home. She had a grapevine. We always stopped and got grapes. She didn't care.

J: My grandma would have something with grapes and we'd pick em. That was always fun.

V: She told about her dad would get bananas come in a bunch. He would hang them in the doorway when the kids come home they would come and get them. That was a treat, a big treat.

M: Yeah, because they don't have bananas that grow around here.

V: Yeah and think about having them at that time.

L: Well they used to buy the ... that has been a long time ago.

V: I was thinking about something yesterday. I don't remember what it was.

L: But things change, maybe they should.

V: Oh they would have taffy pulls. Do you know what taffy pole is? Well its did you ever eat taffy, just home made taffy?

J: yeah!

V: Well it's like sugar, and vinegar and oil. Well any way its not got much in it. When you get cooked so long, you would pull it until it turns white. Then you'd pull it out in a string and then you had taffy pulls.

L: It was awfully good, when it was dried.

V: Yeah it was!

L: Hard candy but it was good.

V: But that was one of the entertainment's that they had, with the young people, especially young people.

Q: What other kind of candy did you have?

L: Well, I don't remember having too much chocolate candy but it was mostly taffy. Seems like we made fudge.

V: How about vinity?

L: Yeah I think we had vinity. I don't remember having chocolate, like a box of chocolate. I don't remember it, stick candy usually, peppermint sticks.

Q: Did you usually have things hanging on the walls?

L: Yeah. We didn't have pictures. It was usually pictures of people not pictures of scenery.

V: Did you have calendars?

L: I think so, but I can't remember.

V: I never thought about that.

L: I didn't either. I think we did. I think we had calendars.

Q: Did you mostly drink water from a well, or did you have tea?

L: Well, we had lemonade a lot and tea. We just drank water mostly.

V: Oh but you had coffee.

L: Oh yeah we had coffee.

Q: Did you have to go somewhere to get the water?

L: Carry it with a bucket.

V: Well tell her how you went about when you wash day.

L: Well, that was a job. You had to carry water and put it in the tub in uh boiler. Then uh my mother used to put lye in it and take that lye off. I mean and then she'd uh put a couple of she always boiled the clothing. Then she had a washer.

V: Then you had to take off of there and put it in the wash machine.

L: It was a lot different from it is today.

V: My mother and I had a wash board. All women had a wash board. Then you had to put it in water, rinse the water....

L: Carry it out.

V: Then hang it out.

Q: What did you do about taking showers or baths?

L: We took a tub of water.

V: Once a week.

L: Got in the water and took a bath that day.

Q: Was it outside?

L: Oh no, it was in by the fire, in the heat, by the stove.

V: Usually in the living room. We'd go in there and run our water and get everybody out. Like you girls wash your hair everyday probably, we washed ours, we were not supposed to wash ours but every two weeks. If we did it would ruin our hair. We rinsed it in vinegar too and your hair would be so soft. Just plain vinegar, it would be so soft and shiny.

Q: Did it smell funny?

V: Oh it smelled kind of. But it was so soft.

Q: Did you just have a wash basin in your bedroom? Is that how you would wash your hands and face?

L: Well, they used to have a big pitcher, pretty pitchers. They always had water in the living or in the bedroom and a bowl, a pretty bowl.

V: We never did at our house.

L: No, but a lot of people did.

V: But they used to back then. I get my time mixed up with my time.

Q: Were there many lakes and rivers around where you lived?

L: Well, uh the lake of Paris on the west side. That has been a long time. They had a river around Oakland. West of Redmond, what is the name of that?

V: Mother I don't know.

L: They used to take people out there and baptize them.

Q: They didn't have those in their church?

L: They didn't have baptistry in the church, at that time. They go to the creek to baptize them. Then at Bellrigdge, they did the same thing. I can't remember the name of the creek, but anyway they would take them to the creek and baptize them. It is a lot different today.

Q: Did clothes you go swimming in the?

L: I never could but my husband could swim.

Q: What did they wear to swim, clothes?

L: They had swimming, not like we do today, but they covered them more.

Q: What material was used for suits?

L: kind of a jersey material wasn't it?

V: yeah, kind of stretched.

Q: Did many people play instruments or have pianos?

L: Well, my family, my aunt's family they all could play instruments. I don't know, you probably don't know but, Dean Vandergriffs, one of them lives here close to Marshall , but they all played different instruments and could all sing different base, tenor, soprano. They were good singers. I always wanted to sing but I wasn't, didn't have that talent. But my mother's family there were all good singers. They had been on television. Well, we had a reunion Violet could tell you about that.

V: They all brought their instrument and played.

Q: What kind of instruments did they play?

L: Well, they played the guitar, the banjo, and the violin and uh what else? And uh the drum, and the piano.

V: I think they could play other things too.

L: There were two of them younger than I was. When we had company, we always had them sing. We were so proud of them.

V: Tell em about thrashing mother.

L: Oh we had big thrashing machines, and we'd have about 30 to 40 men to eat and the neighbors all came in and helped us cook. Then we always had beef and noodles, potatoes. I don't remember having carrots. I don't think we did. Always had a big meal. I used to be the water boy when I a kid. I'd have to carry water out to the men that were working they'd chop the wheat. Then they'd carry it in on a tractor not a tractor a uh, and uh throw it over, to help get the seed out.

V: The straw would come out in a great big pile. The cows would eat around that in the fall and wintertime.

L: It's been some time ago.

Q: When you dated, would the guys go to the girls's houses and sit and talk? Or did they go out by themselves?

L: The girls?

V: When they dated did the boys just kinda stay with them or did they go out?

L: Oh, they'd go to shows and maybe church they went to church a lot. And uh, the boys always took them. Maybe go for ice cream maybe did not. One of them was to stingy.

Q: Were there drive-in movie theatres?

L: They didn't them at that time, but they had uh, I think Paris always had a show.

V: They had on the stage, live people on the stage. What do you call that?

L: Shataqua. At the park they'd every year they'd have a week of shataqua. They had singing and programs.

V: People traveled through and stopped in and gave programs.

Q: At the churches, did people play instruments? What was your normal service like at church?

L: Of the morning they'd play the piano and sing songs at first and then the Superintendent would get up and , and kinda give the lesson that we had. And then uh, we'd go to class and uh, they'd pass communion and uh, then a preacher would preach. Then that was about it.

Q: Did you have church on Wednesday nights?

L: Uh, I think maybe they had meetings Wednesday nights. We use to go usually on Wednesday nights.

Q: What about fairs? Every summer did you have a county fair?

L: Oh, that was great. We thought that was great to go to the fair.

Q: Were there rides there?

L: What?

Q: Did you have rides there?

L: There um, uh, merry-go-rounds, Ferris wheel. What else? What else did you ride on?

V: Well, mother I don't know what you had. I know what they had we when I was a kid. Back that time I don't know what they had.

L: Well, we had about the same. And you go out to the park now, and there's nothing out there. It just don't seem like Paris Park.

V: The women and their can goods, and bake goods, and their handmade items stuff like that were compotion.

Q: Oh, they had pie eating contests and other contests?

V: Oh, I imagine they did. Did they have pie eating contests and things like that?

L: Had what?

V: Pie eating contests and things like that? PIE EATING CONTESTS. DID THEY HAVE CONTESTS?

L: I think they use to. I was trying think. I can't remember. I think they did though. I believe they did.

V: They had horse races.

L: That was the main thing , the races. Uh, races, horse races. They had beautiful horses.

Q: Did they have beauty pageants, like we do now?

L: I don't, I don't remember that, having that. They had some, sometimes. But, I but I don't believe they did.

V: A pomsome Wedding they had, little, tiny people. I mean maybe children. They use to have topers. The midgets came through. It was, they were little.

Q: Did you have stands that had cotton candy and lemonade and french fries?

L: Yeah. We had that.

V: Did they have cotton candy at that time mother?

L: Oh, no. They didn't have cotton candy.

V: What would they have in their stands?

L: Well, they had different things to drink. Like lemonade, I don't think they had coke, and tea and...

V: And cider.

L: And maybe cider. And Rece use to work at that. One of my neighbors.

Q: Did you have french fries back then?

L: Do what?

Q: Did you have french fries?

L: Now you couldn't do without them.

V: You just can't live without them.

L: I don't even think they have potato chips. I don't remember.

V: I don't remember. I'm 73 and I don't remember potato chips when I was a kid. I just don't know and I don't remember cokes either. They probably had them, but we just didn't have them.

L: A lot of things I have forgotten too.

Q: Did you eat fruit and grapes for snacks?

L: Well, we ate fruit or candy, if we had taffy or something. It don't seem like we use to eat a lot of crackers. I don't know. It seemed like we did.

V: They made their own bread, too.

L: Oh, yeah!

V: They made their own bread.

L: Never thought about anything else.

V: They made their own noodles. And I mean they never bought any. Really when you go to the grocery store, they didn't buy but flour, and sugar and staples like that. Coffee and what have you. We didn't buy homemade boughten cookies or anything like that.

L: Cookies were all homemade. And soap was all mostly all homemade.

V: They made Lye soap.

L: I made Lye soap.

V: And tell about hatching chickens.

L: About what?

V: Hatching chickens.

L: I had a lot of them. Ha Ha.

V: Yeah, but tell her how ya, how ya got them. You put them in the incubator.

L: Oh, yeah, I had a Brutish stove and I had a heat and a heat in there. And we'd get them in a box. When they were just hatched.

V: Now wait a minute, and go back farther. When you done your own hatching.

L: Oh, Well that the old hens. Oh, and about 15 eggs. And then they'd hatch the chickens and then I'd put them in a coop. A little house and uh, then we'd feed them. Take care of them that way. And water them. Old hens took care them pretty well. Sometimes it would rain and then they would almost drown. We'd have to bring them in and, and uh, bring them to the cook stove, to heat them up a little bit.

V: Then she would have an incubator where she put eggs in and everyday she would have to turn the eggs. And after so many days well they'd then start hatching out in the incubator. The incubator was in the upstairs room. At the house and that was the way she got start ordering before you'd give already that way.

L: Well, I'd tell ya, a women didn't any time but to be busy at home at that time. Because they could hardly get a way in the work. A lot of them didn't want to.

V: They worked in the garden. You know. We didn't have a yard to mow much.

L: Well, they didn't. They used a big lawn mower, a big mower machine. I didn't like the high grass lots of times. And I was so proud when we got the lawn mower. Cause I could mow it myself then.

V: Oh, and we didn't have any inner friderature. If you had. This is later on we had ice boxes. You'd put a hunk of ice in there. Which you didn't get very often because you couldn't afford it you know. I was one of those luxury things.

L: We were always glad when we had ice.

Q: What time did you usually get up?

L: Five o'clock.

Q: Then you'd go to bed really early?

L: You'd go to bed about eight or nine.

Q: You'd just wake-up. I mean you didn't have anything to wake you up, did you?

L: Well, I think my folks maybe did. But I, they'd have to get up early cause they had to go to work. I mean they had to feed the stock and everything. But uh, and I always ate breakfast with my family. Usually biscuits and bacon and eggs. We always had plenty to eat.

V: That's one thing you didn't worry, cause you knew you had something to eat. A warm bed to sleep and clothes on your backs.

Q: Most of the time you always ate with your family?

V: Yes, and you always said prayer before you ate. You didn't sit down without prayer before we ate.

L: You wouldn't think of coming down with your housecoat on.

V: When you got up you got dressed. I can't think of anything else to add to it myself.

L: I think we've gone over everything covered.