

LM

THS Tape #17, side 1

Ivan and Edith Elsner Interviewed by Karen Lafky Beach (Nygaard) and Loyce Martinazzi (Lee) Parker.

LM Is this the same article that was in the book?

IE I don't know.

EE Yes.

KN Ohhh wonderful. Now your farm was over on Elsner Road?

IE Elsner Road near Schamberg bridge.

KN Yeah It occurs to me I don't think I've ever gone across that bridge.

LM Oh, I have. We need to identify the tape.

KN Yes, okay.

IE When you drive by it it's just a matter of interest you can notice the steps to our old house.
??????????

EE There was a park.

KN Yes, here was the river here? this was your house?

IE Yes.

LM Ivan, for the purpose of the tape, we need to have your name.

IE Okay. I'm Ivan Elsner

LM Okay, and you lived on Elsner Road in Tigard?

IE Elsner Road Sherwood Route.

IE ?????

LM And when did you leave the farm?

IE In September of 69.

KN And how large was the farm?

IE One hundred and twenty five acres.

KN All onions?

IE No, this was the onion field here. We did general farming hay, grain , apples...

LM Now several brothers farmed together? ..

IE My brother Richard, Herman and myself.

LM Uh hm Now were you born there?

IE No I wasn't born there I was born in this other farm house.on part of the farm. Actually my father bought this place so I???

KN But the house is no longer there?

IE Yes it is.

KN Now were there 3 houses on the place for the brothers?

IE There were 3 houses.on the place. Actually there were 4. Cause this was a little house I can remember when I was a kid my father had some Chinamen either Chinamen or Japanese people in there. A husband and a wife, I believe. I was real young but I do remember.

LM Well now were these houses built after?

IE This house was built ??later.

KN Now here ??

IE That's the neighboring house, that's were the Nixon family lived.

LM So you remember water from the river right up in here??

IE No.

EE Once it came up to the second steps.

IE Yes it did.

KN What a nice aerial picture. When was this picture taken?

IE I can't remember. Now here's where the park was right down below

LM OH the park was here? So you got to the park..

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LM Ivan, could you any way date these pictures?

IE Well here's my old Case tractor. I imagine that had to be around 19 between 1923 and 1925 somewheres in that range.

LM Would you mind if we wrote with a pencil on the back of that?

IE No.

KN Now I have an idea that the picture that's in the calendar of the covered bridge just says there's a covered bridge near the Elsner home was then replaced by a (little) one which is probably the one shown so chances are that's the wooden bridge and the one we have in the calendar was the later one that replaced it, ratjer than being the scaffold framework for ???

LM Ivan, you remember a covered bridge?

IE Oh definitely.

KN Yes, but it's that one. Which might not be the same as the one we have the picture of.

IE Well you know this is just an artists' conception....

KN But it is based on this actual snapshot that we have here.

IE Right.

Mumbling

LM Can't wait to go through these papers, but we can do that later. What about a date on the onion harvest here?

IE Oh that probably had to be ??I'd say this had to be sometime around a trying to think how old that tractor was...had to be after 42, I'd say around 45.

KN Now what did the binder do? The binder uh did that bundle up?

IE That cut the grain and put it into bundles and the bundles had to be shocked and put on a bundle wagon and taken to the thrashing machine,

KN I see.

IE That's me on the tractor....The tractor we bought in 1936. My brother Herb he's still alive, 88 years old.

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IE Right straight from the road.

LM Looks like the road here. Now what did the park consist of?

IE ????????Old Fisher used to have his picnics out there.

Remember Joe Fisher Dodge?

LM Yeah

IE Actually, you rode into the park maybe 50 feet a little steep.

KN UHM ???A real steep bank.

IE Once you get down there/

LM So did you have a float or anything on the river?

IE We had a float.on the river, yes. Edith has some some pictures of it.

KN OH wonderful! Now you ran the park? The family ran the park?

IE Yes.

LM Now he said there were as many as 500 people there.

IE I'd say there was more than that sometimes. Different Lodges, the Saint John Batchelor club, the Danish Lodge of some kind, they'd even run special buses out here to bring people in from as far as Astoria.

KN My word. Now this is a this is an aerial view, Oh

EE That's somebody else.

LM Well uh let's see

everyone speaking at once, can't understand.

IE I don't know, probably 15 feet or so in the summer, that would be my guess, 15 feet.

LM Well I'm interested in all these floats you used to have on the river. Who made those, did you make them yourselves?

IE Mike McCann made that float. He???

17-4
41

KN That was my favorite memory,,,the float.

EE Well there's the kids on the float.

KN Ohhhhh My golly,

EE Harveys kids when they were little of course I don't know, there's the sign

KN OH my!

LM You don't still have the sign, do you?

IE It was on my brother's place when he died...Don't know if it's still in there...

EE Might be in that chicken house.

LM That should be saved, for your family if not for...

IE But I imagine it's only rust.

KN Was it metal?

IE Yes.

EE Did Ronald use that? Maybe Ronald has it.

IE Well he might have.

EE I think he might have.

IE I'm pretty sure he has got some things.

EE Do you know Carol and Ronald? LM No.

EE Anyway they live up there on Kruger Road.

KN What year was this picture taken?

EE I've no idea.

LM How many years did the park ooperate?

IE Well I think I'm not sure I know it was it operating sometime everyone talking at once. Ivan and Edith.

IE I would say sometime around 27 or 28 . Probably ran until 56 or something like that.

LM Is that right? So it operated from about 27 to 56?

IE I think so. Because the only reason I can say that is I'm thinking of my dad and it seems that he died about 58 seems to me that we didn't keep it open??? till the river was up. Dad kept that park open as long as he was alive, didn't he Edith even though it wasn't on a full time basis? Do you remember?

EE Yes. Pretty much but I don't know...

IE Until he died?

EE Oh no, a couple of years before that.

LM On the river parks

EE That's right it was. He kept it going.

IE I'd say at least till 56 course after the river went bad and everything...

KN Now when did the river become actually unswimable?

IE Oh I in the early 50's, you took the kids over there.

EE I took the kids swimming and they were 3 or 5 years old, probably 57 or something like that.

IE Dad died in 58.

EE That's about the time

IE I'd say in the last years or so I'd say 56 or 57.

LM Whose park on the river was the first to open? How did this get started?

IE I have no idea. Uh I think Roamers Rest was probably the first in because I can remember when I was just really young in grade school the neighbors would come and get me and we'd go to Roamer's Rest.???? And I started school in 32 so I was probably around 1937 or somewhere in there.

KN Now did your park run I suppose the others were something like that. Were they open just on week ends or?

17-6
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IE I think Roamers Rest was open all the time. We weren't and Roamers Rest at that time had a elevated and people were going down on slides and sliding down it.

KN I remember that the slide I didn't have the courage to do that but I always admired that ...??? the slide and slide down into the river.

IEHa ha

KN Now what was the admission you charged for the park?

IE I think it was 25cents as long as near as I can remember It may have gone higher but I can remember the 25 cents.

LM Well did you collect it at the gate up here or when they got down?

IE As soon as they got in we stood at the right here at the bottom of the road

LM Was it 25cents a car or 25 cents a person?

IE 25 cents a person.

LM Sure.

KN You had to have somebody there at all times? Or could you?

IE Well it was loosely operated. You could ????

LM Well you said there was another park above yours?

IE Yes, Nixons I was talking toMaxine just the other day. their park was right here just before you go across the brodge. You can't see it.

LM And it was called? Nixons?

IE I think it was called Riverside Park, you'd have to contact Maxine. I'm not for sure just what they called it.

LM Maxine who?

IE Maxine Stringer now.

EE I guess she won't mind it. She loves to talk. I don't know, here's some stuff about ...dates in there, I'm not sure.

17-7

7

LM So did someone have to ride back here Ivan?

IE Someone had to ride back there, see the bundles all gathered up here on kind of a platform and they'd press a lever and the bundles would go and they'd put them out in rows so they'd be more convenient. And of course it needed constant attention to keep them going the twine would knot up and so on so if someone wasn't there you'd have a lot of loose bundles to tie up.

LM So the person that rode here then would release the lever to let the bundles of I see.

IE Right there I know the grain was so tall and angled up and that's why down there ???

LM I'm so thrilled to see these pictures!

IE Really ha ha

LM Really, I am to me farming in the old way

KN Well, we're both farm girls

LM It's so interesting and I don't want to lose it.

IE I just didn't think they had any interest, anybody...

KN OH no...

LM Oh don't you think that, no

KN Another generation and it will be just gone from memory.

LM Now, 1936 did you say?

IE I would say 36. I think that's fair guess.

LM And also what's this?

IE That's Fred Sagert's thrashing machine.

KN Ohhh

LM Who's this sitting here?

IE I'm not for sure but I think one of them is Bob Fleet. He's dead. I don't have any idea who the other man would be.

19-8
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LM Okay, and about what time? If you don't mind can I write Fred Sagert's threshing machine?

IE I don't mind. I would say probably 29 in that area.

LM Now the grain would come off here into is it 2 sacks or is it one sack

IE Two sacks so one would be filling while the other would be taken off and sewn. Then somebody would pack it up there to the truck.

LM Labor intensive wasn't it? It sure beats cutting it by hand.

KN Yeah, this is stationary so that they the bundles or the bindles would be brought here and then this is all the chaff that 's ...

LM I remember Fred Sagert's machine coming over to my dad's place. When I was just a little kid.

IE Atractor chugging along. Big old smoke stack.

LM And the big pulleys running from the tractor to the threshing machine and a lot of noise, we had horses too that would pick up the bundles on to the wagon and the horses would take it up to the threshing machine. I was real impressed for a little kid.

KN So that machine lumbered all the way over to your place then? From Fred Sagerts?...

IE Fred Sagert threshed all over the country.

KN I see that's an interesting story all by itself.

LM This is the only Case automobile in Washington County...So this is your father?

IE That's my father

KN Was that a make of car?

IE Case automobile.

LM Was it the Case tractor company that made...?

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7

IE Uh hm but that date is just a little bit fast because he bought a new Case in 1925 and it had big balloon tires on it. It was an entirely different looking automobile so I would say it would be at least 23 or 24 would be a more appropriate date.

LM Oh

IE 1925 had big balloon tires and ...wheel brakes.

KN Oh I see, this is the same binder.

IE It might not be the same binder because this is a good many years later.

LM This one is later?

IE This is later, this is an entirely different binder than one

KN Oh, I see. But you can see how it works.

LM Same principle?

IE Well, of course this one the machinery operated on the power take -off from the tractor. I think this one had what they called a bull wheel that as it went along the ground turned everything around.

LM I wish Larry was here to talk with you about farming cause he knows...

KN Yeah.

IE then you can take these binders and when you had to go through gates or down the road or anything they had a hitch you turned around and hauled them the other direction.

LM OH for gosh sakes.

KN Now how did you work it it uh between each of these paddle wheels it compressed..

IE The wheels just turned around and pushed the grain onto a turning canvas that when the grain fell on it the canvas would travel and kept travelling and it would pull the grain on into the machine.

KN At some point it was tied with twine did you say?

IE Pardon?

IE At some point it was tied?

17-10

10

IE That's right, it got up in here, why a knotter went around it.

LM ...trouble with the knotter?

IE Well probably knotter and twine both.

KN Now did that work with the canopy or did this person have to...

IE No it was automatic.

LM Now where was the blade that cut the wheat?

IE It was right in front of these paddles., on the front end here, near the tractor side, it was a regular sickle.

KN Sickle, yeah

IE The sickle cut itunintelligible..

LM You didn't keep any of this old machinery?

KN That's just what I was wondering...seems we had a binder just in the uh lean to of the barn that dad never used, he just used a cutter, raked it up and ..then put it on a wagon...

LM Karen's father was Mark Lafky.

IE I've heard that name.

LM Yeah, he grew Dutch iris bulbs.

IE Well anyway, I don't know...

LM Well you were early to get tractors on your farm. You must have had a prosperous farm.

IE I think dad probably did have a prosperous farm.

LM Do you remember working with horses?

IE I remember working with horses, I used to haul hay with horses.

KN Yeah.

IE And uh when I'd...that bings me back to the onion field why when I would come home from school at first they hauled those onions in in a box wagon , real early days, and uh, I guess you know what a box wagon is it's got sides on it of course it's ...loaded it back and packed it to the

17-11

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front because at that time trucks couldn't negotiate the soft ...had solid rubber tires you know and they'd just sink down, you'd have to pull them out with horses, at least on our place. And my brother, as soon as I'd get home my brother would have me set on the seat and drive the horses which was always a challenge because those wheels were always sinking into the dirt.

KN Uh hm.

IE And I was always afraid I was going to get the wagon stuck. When you'd stop to load those onions sometimes you'd go down quite a bit and the horses would really strain to move on to the next...

LM When did your dad give up his work horses?

IE I imagine probably in the, probably along about '43 somewhere in that area as far as I can remember. It may have been earlier than that but uh. This tractor came along which was the one here on this onion equipment, I think we bought that in 41 and it was like...(surface, this one?) This one, so uh that was the undoing of the horses cause it could do any kind of surface work with this type of tractor. Now I assume it must have been about 43 or so.

LM Is that a Caterpillar tractor?

IE That's a Fleet tractor, it's , at that time it was Caterpillar and Fleet tract and later along came John Deere with a crawler.

LM Uh hm.

IE I guess everybody makes a crawler now.

A lot of unintelligible talking.

LM When did they change from hand weeding to chemical?

IE Well, we never did ever get entirely away from hand weeding when I was there. We had pretty good chemical weed control along about , I'll have to think about...I would say that we didn't have really good chemical control until sometime around the mid 50's. Of course I just can't really pin it down but I can remember how miserable the stuff was to put on because I...

LM Well how did you do it, if you didn't have a tractor and sprayer behind it like they do nowadays.

Everyone talking at once on different subjects, can't understand.

KNHall, Sherwood, Oregon. what in the world. Excuse me for interrupting. ...?

IE That's all right. You weren't old enough to go dancing.

17-12

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KN? Oh my God Is that a building that's still standing?

EE It's where the bank would be now, and then later on that building burned down I was here when it burned down.

KN That's right. That was not too long ago that it burned down.

EE Probably in the early 50's or late 40's.

KN I see. And this was upstairs? This was over the bank?

EE It would have been. there was a big building on the corner there.

IE Of course, there's no bank there at that time.

KN So what was... Is this the upper floor or was this just the? What was underneath?

EE Yeah,

KN So what was underneath?

EE Wasn't it? I wasn't there. Ivan would have been.

KN What was the ground floor or was this the ground floor?

IE No that's all up on the second story.

KN What was underneath?

EE When I came here they were dancing down below.

IE I can't remember what was underneath.

EE There was a hardware store there when we first was married, and it burned down and there was Fishers hardware store underneath.

IE Before that there was Kilpatrick's grocery store.

KN Kilpatrick's over there?

EE Yeah, Kilpatricks had a grocery store.

IE And I think underneath was just kind of a I don't know if it was storage or not.

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EE When we first came here they were dancing in back of that building on the ground floor and then soon after us girls came here they quit dancing in there.

IE I remember going up the steps to this dance hall and I can't and the steps were on the railroad side of the building and uh they were interior steps, they weren't on the outside or anything.

KN Can you remember how late that might have been a dance hall upstairs?

IE Well I know I was probably about 16 when my sister took me over there to try to teach me to dance so that was . I imagine it was probably there about 4 or 5 more years after that. So I'm 71 now take 55 away from 89 and it was around 34, right?

KN I see. My brother Herb should remember that.

LM And -----was born in 1914...

KN My gosh, from 14 to ...?

EE Do you remember showing pictures on the end of that...

KN You bet, in Sherwood?

EE Movies...A warehouse . Howard Smith used to have a warehouse, I think it was him when we first came.

IE That was a nice...

EE It was over the railroad tracks where those apartments are now right close to the road.

KN Yeah,just a kind of vacant lot.

EE And they'd show movie pictures on the side of that thing, and you'd set out there on benches.

KN Benches, yeah.

EE Every Saturday night they had, what was it?

KN Thursday night as I remember.

EE Oh.

KN I guess during the summer only and I don't know how many years they did it.

17-14

14

EE Well they were still doing it in I don't know when they started but when we moved here in 1940 they were still doing it.

KN unintelligible.

IE Do you know the Muralts? Well I'm sure one of the Muralt brothers was a predominate orchestra.

LM Really? I knew of course, the daughter, Loretta she played the organ at a lot of funerals....

IE I'll bet she may be...

EE Her daughter still lives up there above the Tigard Care Center way up on that hill.

IE I think it was Oscar Muralt. I'm not for sure,

KN Hmmm.

IE He was never in the .butcher.business or anything like ----.

EE I don't know if you could get a copy. I'll take it down and see if I can get a copy on a machine ...

Unintelligible sounds, blank.

Other side What a good way to have fun.

KN I should say, so much more dancing, all the way through the 30's and into the 40's and then it just kind of petered out.

LM Uh hm.

EE Did Hites play there later on?

KN Oh, I'll bet.

IE Hites played there a lot, not in that dance hall, they played when there was a dance hall on the bottom floor on the street level.

KN Hm

LM I wonder if the people in Sherwood know about that?

KN Probably not.

17-15

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UNintelligible sounds.

LM Well listen, we..... You were talking about spraying the onions.

IE OH well, when I first started to spray onion why Radox was the predominate weed control. I guess it's not allowed anymore I think Joe Galbreath told me it had been outlawed. anyway we used to walk behind a garden tractorand sprayed about 12 rows at a time and just went straight ahead and did it. It was really very effective. Practically cut...when the onions came out they were pretty much weed free. Of course sometimes you had a little damage to the onions if the weather didn't cooperate. But that's my extent of experience, that's the only weed control I ever used and it just...we called it death valley down there afterwards. Because those fumes, you could just sense and feel it.

LM Of course they didn't know just how dangerous it was.

IE Well that's like this uh what is it in Viet nam.

KN Agent Orange

IE Agent Orange we used that, practically everybody around here was soaked in that stuff.

KN Really?

IE I know I used a lot of it. And I wondered about it at the time. My clothes would be soaked in it. Banks and waterways and--?...but it worked pretty good. it's like DDT you know when that came out you were supposed to be able to eat it and we didn't even use a massk when it first came.

LM What did you use for insecticide control?

IE Insecticide? Oh we used.. I can't hardly remember. Trying to remember what we used Your're thinking like bugs on plants. I think DDT was the first effective insecticide....

LM So before DDT you didn't do anything?

IE I don't think they did.

LM I saw a picture one time of Don Galbreath, I think it's in that book, the Tigard book with some type of a screen device, a big thing that he pushed ...

IE That was for maggot fly control.

LM Oh, did that work pretty good?

17-16

10

IE Uh, I'm trying not... Well, I didn't think of that as a ...no.

LM Oh it didn't?

IE No, it was kinda a joke.

LM Oh.

IE What did we use for the early effective...we used formaldehyde to control the smut.

LM Did you put that on with a duster or...

IE That was put in a solution with the seed a water solution . I cannot remember what else they usedI know they used another agent to control those maggots, but I think it had to be DDT. There was something before that but I can't remember what it was. Of course, you know, now DDT is still around, plus you import your food from some other country.

Unintelligible sounds.

Kn Did you ever find arrowheads on your place?

IE They used to find a lot of them.

KN Did they?

Did you save any?

IE I don't have any They were pretty well gone... I don't think I personally ever found an arrowhead ...before other people had ...they were pretty well cleaned out prettyfast. that one field there on the farm that I'm sure has some artifacts in it because uh there occasionally you'd get ...? there must have been a lot of Indians...

KN Sure.

LM This is an article about Karen's family.

IE Uh hm.

LM And this is my dad.

IE Well, you've undoubtedly got that paper there.

KN Yeah

LM

17-17

17

Well, I remember reading these articles about Tigard but i didn't save them.

KN Y

LM Quoting from newspaper article "The Quackenbush home, family home was later used was later used as a roadhouse, the Spinning Wheel which was destroyed by fire."

KN Screech!

LM There we go!

IE I told you I thought that house was the same.

LM You did! He did!

KN Now do you remember it? Do you remember ever seeing it?

IE Oh, I saw it from the outside I don't think I was old enough to go into the inside.

LM Ha ha, you aren't going to admit it anyway, huh?

KN We heard one person say there was an escape route out back a road out back that led to Tualatin Road or something for the times when it was raided, have you ever heard that story?

IE No, I didn't know that. I knew it was kind of a gambling or some kind of an illegal outfit

KN Must have been raided ...\

IE But I'm surprised there was nothing said about Bert's roadhouse up there on Bull Mountain..

LM There was another Roadhouse?

KN Up on ...?

EE Bull Mountain.

IE On Bull Mountain Road where Dr. Mansfields house sits , it was a famous place there in the 20's for rich people from Portland came out there and...

KN Now what place was Dr. Mansfields? Was it right on Bull Mountain Road?

IE It was right on Bull Mountain Road within 100 feet of it.

KN It still stands?

17-18

18

IE Oh it's been converted into a nice family residence.

KN On the right as you leave highway 99?

EE Yeah, it's a big 2 story house on the right.

IE Well, when you get up the first long big stretch onto Bull Mountain it's probably another half mile, do you remember what that street is? I'd say it's around 130 .

EE Something like that.

KN I see.

IE It stands around... what's that road up by Hasuik's?

EE That's 150th.

IE Well, I'd say it's around 130th and uh it's got a circular driveway around it and I know that i used to stand down homeamd sometimes something special going on there, they'd have airplanes come out and do stunts and stuff...at least that was my assumption, because why would and airplane go up into that area and spend a lot of time doing aerial manuevers.

KN That was a roadhouse. And it was called what again?

IE Bergs.

KN Bergs. BERGS? (spelled out)

IE That was the name of the owner and there was a Bergs that was the name of the owner and there was a Bergs, she moved into Portland and I don't remember... after that.

KN Hmm.

LM Hmm.

IE Berg's Chalet or something...

LM Berg's Chalet? I've heard of that

KN Mmm. My goodness.

IE I think it was probably a little bit like the Spinning Wheel.

17-19

19

LM During prohibition.

IE Yeah, I think they probably had there ...I guess.

KN Was there gambling also like there was at the Spinning Wheel?

IE I didn't hear that so much but I assume there was private gambling there.

KN Well, that erases altogether the doubt that the ... was the...

LM Uh hm.

IE Unintelligible sounds.

LM Can we, can we borrow all this stuff? And make copies of it and get it back to you? We'll be real careful/.

EE I can get you one of that aerial view if you want it ...I could.

LM I think it would be nice to have.

EE I have the film developed.

KN Do you?

EE I costs about \$10 bucks done that size.

KN Oh, you have the negatives?

IE You know, those onions, when I was a kid, they planted them one row at a time ...?

KN NOW was your farm still used as an onion farm?

IE Yes, it is.

KN Does it look something like that still?

IE Well, these buildings, when we sold, these buildings were all burned down, well, let's sec...

17-20
20

EE The 2 sheds...

IE This, this and this is all gone. The barn and this and this is still here. And the added a lot out in here. This house here, my mother's half brother lived there when I was a kid and he was a logger and outdoorsman, he's the one that would take a drink of water out of the river here.../ anyway, he spent most of his winter trapping on the river, and he'd have minks and all kinds of skins, it was kind of a treasure to me to go to his house and see all these skins and things.

LM Well, on these Bergs, getting back to these Bergs, the Roadhouse, are there any Bergs left that you know of?

IE I don't know. I'm sure there must be some Bergs left cause I'm sure there are some relatives but then? I just never knew Mrs. Berg or any thing, I just knew the name and knew the place. Maybe Dr. Mansfield might know something, I doubt it.

KN He might, Yes.

Unintelligible sounds.

KN A story on the river parks would be so interesting, I wonder if there are pictures, of the ...and all of the Roamer's Rest Park?

IE There must be.

IE You've showed me this picture here?

KN That was a beautiful picture...

EE That's uh, I have the film for that some place, I could hunt it up probably...

IE That was a? have so many people on it ??????

EE Popular place, the Reiser kids, ...

IE Two tanks, one depth for the little kids and a diving board ...

EE The Reiser kids always over her, young Reisers, the Borchers, were over there swimming all the time.

KN Lorene Borchers is my sister-in-law now, she married Herb, my brother.

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IE I'll bet she remembers.

KN Yes, I'm sure she does. Ray, her brother died a couple of years ago. Herb still lives on the old home place.

IE Have you seen or know anything about Al Ernsfeld?

KN Uh, Pretty weell, he has a house down uh at the coast, next to his sister an Herb and Laurines' house. We go down there once in a while.

LM Who did you say was farming your place now?

IE Tony Amstead.

LM Oh yes, did he buy it?

IE Yes.....unintelligible sounds.

LM Oh, that's where he built his house.

IE Yeah, a big home right in here.

KN Now, your house is still standing, is it still lived in?

IE Yes, there's people living in it

EE Hired help

KN I see,

LM You mean, he actually ?...

IE Wait a minute. Here's the onion ground.

LM Oh that's the onion ground

IE I'm sorry, that color threw me.

17-22

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LM uh hm.

IE Theseby the entrance of the place.

KN Imagine the floats or the park. Were people allowed to swim in the river itself or did they have to stay...

IE Oh no, they could dive in the river, swim in the river ...

LM You never worried about liability/

IE Dad had liability insurance...

KN Even back then?

IE Fred Anderson, I think, got him insured through Lloyds of London.

KN Oh really?

IE I don't know when it was, seems to me it was around I don't know, the figure \$250 comes to my mind. Whether that's right...

LM That's a lot of money for 25 cents a head.

I

IE No life guard, signs were posted, no life guard, swim at your own risk ...

KN Was there any injury?

IE One person drowned there, just one Japanese, came and jumped in the river somebody, some other Japanese people brought him in and uh I guess he couldn't swim and he just went out there and he never came back.

LM You know, I've heard at Roamers Rest, maybe it wasn't Roamers Rest, but one of the parks, not this one, that some kids were weeding onions down at the Sherwood onion flats. Got off

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work and it was real hot day and jumped into the river and was drowned. Did you ever hear that?

IE I think I did. I think there was more than one drowning.

IE ...Thousands of people.

KN Oh, yes.

IE Stands to reason they must have had several.

EE They had the dance floor down there/

KN OH yes, I remember that.

IE Dad had a dance floor there in his park.

KN He did?

Unintelligible sounds of glee.

LM Did you have a band?

IE Usually records.

EE Some of them brought their own music.

IE I think so Most of them were records.

EE Yeah.

LM It's so fun to find out how people used to live.

KN I should say.

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24

KN So did you have ...so they could plug in their whatever ...?

I

IE We had electricity down through there.

LM I'll be darned, What else did you have down there, did you have picnic tables?

EE We had stoves, you know, fireplaces, cook ...

EE Bathhouse and they had a little house, Mallory's still got the little house, pop house, they called it where we sold pop and ...and candy. We had one a little, I've still got it in there I think, told the prices, you wouldn't believe the prices ...

LM Well, did you have an outhouse for toilet facilities?

IE Oh yes, there was at least 4 outhouses in there, and men's and womens' dressing place.

KN None of this shows up in this picture.

IE No, it doesn't.

KN Do you have anywhere at all a picture of the park?

IE Well, we've got some I guess of the storm pictures that might show some of that , but the main picnic area is back off the picture here. This is kind of a ball area in here and there were some picnic tables up in here, but this must have been taken after. because I can't locate the float so it must have been taken after a good part of that was all gone, it has to be.

KN Now how large was the whole park in acreage?

IE Well sometimes I guess if you'd call it acres I'd would probably say there was at least 9 or 10 acres there. A lot of times when we had to park cars up in this area, it would get too crowded back here, but this was primarily pasture and what not up here but if it got too crowded we'd put cars up there.

LM Now was the park open say from June to September or what?

IE Primarily, yeah As far as being really operational, yes. If somebody came and wanted to go in or go fishing or something why a lot of times somebody would just come and bring their boat .and want to know if they could go in but actually, you know the park operation was in the summer months.

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KN Now was this low ground that would tend to flood ?

IE See that would have to be under water to get over the road but...

KN Excuse me, on just a normal winter when the river got high uh would it flood---

IE Nearly always you'd get some water up here. Nearly always.

LM Well did it hurt your buildings quite a bit, the flood?

IE Well, they were tied down, it didn't usually get over 2 or 3 feet high, you know. So they weren't really hurt, you'd have to wash the mud and stuff up.

LM Uhhm.

IE But they were anchored with cables...

KN Huh.

EE 1941, those were the prices.

KN Ohhh!

IE Edith, do you know where the storm pictures are?

LM Now this is what you bought wholesale, this is your wholesale price?

EE I've been hunting them and I just can't find them, I can't put my hands on them at the moment.

LM It's 72 cents.

KN How many would be in a case, 12?

LM Oh, it would have to be more than that.

KN That's right. 24 maybe.

IE Do you know if Gerda Cereghino is still alive?

LM I believe she is.

IE She was an Anderson, you know.

17-26

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LM Yes. Yes, she's Fred's sister.

IE Right.

KN What's her first name?

IE Gerda.

EE I got the films but I just figure out, I can't.

KN Oh. You have a very well organized house if you can find any...

EE Now very well cause I can't find the darn Oh that's, anyway...

LM Ivan, this would be wholesale that you're buying, wholesale?

EE Yeah,

IE I don't know what it is...

KN From Fred Meyer, how many would one be, how many in 1 case, how many...

IE That's what it must have been

LM Well, how many were in a case?

IE Oh well, we weren't buying wholesale we just went up there and bought them and sold them for more.

KN I see.

LM Had to be more than a dozen ...

IE They were apparently about 10 cents a pack.

EE Well, you can see if you look in there. See the picnic tables run here clear around and then they had bingo games and there was a sign there, you can see the sign, here's the picnic table.

KN Yeah, yeah.

EE I cannot figure out where I put my prints of these.

KN Oh, I see.

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EE Oh, here's the bathhouse (Can't make any sense for a while)

LM How many people did it take to operate?

EE Big picnics that's where all those organizations were you know, and they used to have bingo games and that kind of stuff.

IE Oh, I'd say it took 2, sometimes 3.

KN You do have the negatives, but they're not of anything?

Unintelligible sounds.

KN Oh, I see, sure, sure.

EE That's the barn, over at herb's place where Herb lives. One of our milk cows got killed there under the trees -----big oak trees fell----

KN Oh for goodness sakes.

EE One evening, start about 4 o'clock.

IE Columbus Day storm.

KN Oh, these are Columbus Day storm pictures/ These also?

EE Yeah.

KN I see. Well now, you weren't operating the park right then so...

IE No, No, that would have been probably the final blow.

LM Was the park a good money maker for the family?

IE Not really, more of a hobby.

LM I see. Fun to have people come to your place.

EE Grandpa enjoyed it.

LM Yeah, yeah, was it his idea to start it?

IE Uh hm.

EE I don't know.

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29

IE I'm sure it was, he wanted to talk to people, it wasn't so much the money as how much...

KN People came mostly from Sherwood and Tigard, just around here?

EE No came out from Portland. The Rebeckas from Tigard and of course there was organizations...

LM That's what Jeanne Jurgens said, when they had their park they didn't have a river park but she said people would come out from Portland just to be out in the country and play in the woods and play ball and stuff.

IE Paul Schatz somebody from Schatz furniture, you remember that name, they used to come out. Just to fish mainly and Mrs. Fields, you've read about her estate, I'm sure., you'd go through this-----?

KN Yes, Fields, now what about that?

IE Well I can remember when she used to come down to the park now and then with the kids and some of the family and uh...you'd probably enjoy going through that estate.

KN Well, I went primarily to see if it was the house I can remember seeing from our farm in the 30's . I can remember looking across on the side of Bull Mountain on summer evenings, it was all lit up and it looked like garden parties were happening and I always wanted to find out where that was, and it had to be that place so they had garden parties---what a splendid home. It was furnished---

IE What do you suppose that cost in 1946, must have been \$100,000---

KN That little folder that ...or more, just enormous, ----square feet I think.

IE It would of had to have been. In my mind it was at least 100,000.

KN Oh sure, I'm sure.

LM In those days...what would it be now?

IE The story in the paper called it a million dollar estate.

EE See that thing to cook on there?

KN Oh yes.

EE There's a gal cooking coffee, Ivan thinks this is ice. Somebody must have gone out on that ice and taken a picture back from the bridge is behind him and this is towards the float, se..

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29

KN I see. Now was your park visible from the bridge?

IE Oh yes. Well, you could see the float. That's all.

EE But he says that looks like ice but see but nobody put a date on them or nothing.

LM Yeah, there should be dates on, and even say what it is.

EE I'm trying to write on the backs of them now.

LM Perish the thought that you folks should ever pass on... You know, are your daughters going to know what this is?

KN It's even hard enough when you get older to remember.

EE That's right. That's the trouble with all these things.

LM I remember this type of a blouse with a drawstring.

KN Looks like 40's.

LM That's a nice, interesting little stove .

IE ----McCann built those.

LM He built the float too?

IE Uh hm. And he also I think, participated, I'm sure he was involved in that St. Paul Lutheran church .

KN Oh. What was his name, Mc Cann?

IE Michael McCann.

LM Did he do other work?...

EE Ray McCann used to be in the Sherwood Cannery.

LM Is he a brother or something?

EE Let's see, Ray McCann married uh ...

LM Annabelle Ficken.

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EE Yeah, yeah.

LM So this Michael McCann was Ray's father or brother?

EE Brother.

LM Did he build other floats and things for the other river parks?

IE I don't think so, he worked in ---construction around the place for my dad when he was starting out, then he got involved in the building homes. He built this home here for my brother.

LM Uhm. Now which house was yours?

IE This one.

LM Oh, you lived in the big house?

EE When we was first married we lived up on Washington Hill in Sherwood in a house that belonged to his father.

LM Did all three families get along real well? None of my business.

EE Sure.

IE I think we got along pretty good.

LM that's nice because sometimes, my family has thought about, my husband's family thought about getting a big farm together, but they'd never get along, you know, close proximity...

EE They say it's not a good idea to do business with your relatives.

IE Well the power -----

EE Getting hungry? I'll get you something to nibble on.

KN Okay.

IE ----pictures of this---or anything.

EE There's just that one of your school you remember but ...

LM Now where did you go to grammer school?

IE Went to uh Bend School, Beef Bend School they called it.

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KN A school on Beef Bend Road?

IE Uh hm. One room school, all 8 grades. I think there was around 55, 60 kids in it. Everybody still remembers it ----

EE ----Where I went to school. It was on the bottom of that picture about the bridge. I don't know if they're anything in that drawer or not,--

IE That old school was moved 3 times and has been made into a real attractive home right...stands right next to Meyer's Lane.

KN Meyer's Lane is on Beef Bend Road?

IE Meyer's Lane is on Beef Bend Road.

EE That's uh, you'd never know it was a school house now.

IE The main body of the building is there but with the side extension, you'd have to know

KN (Reading) "Across the covered bridge on the way to Sherwood's roller rink" There was a roller rink in Sherwood?

IE Uh hm

KN Where was that

EE Where was the roller rink?

IE I don't know I've heard of it being there not in my time.

KN In some way Sherwood has a more interesting history than Tualatin.

EE Someone should remember that old rink, I don't know who.

KN Whatever date this is ...~~tape ran out~~.

End of tape #17, side 2