

Gladys Bissell/TC1992.0028
Mad River Valley Project/VFC1991.0004

JB Jane Beck
GB Gladys Bissell
Place Warren, VT
Date 03/24/1992

GB We lived longer, but we have more problems.

JB I think that.

GB Their health conditions and their eye sight and their hearing and.

JB Once I loose my health I no desire to plug along.

GB No. And, I have, my father's father died when he was three years old so I had never seen their grandparents on his side of the family.

JB And you said your father was, was it your father that was in the civil war or your grand?

GB My father.

JB Your father.

GB My father on my mother's side. [3.17]

JB Ah ha.

GB Or, or.

JB Her father?

GB My father was seventeen, and a half when he

volunteered down at Rochester. They were offered a hundred dollar bonus if they could fill the ranks to get the quota that President Lincoln want, needed.

JB I'll be darned.

GB But there's so many puzzling things connected with the civil war, that I haven't got them all separated, it seems that the, military college was at West Point, and the military leaders, commanders and generals and what ever their rank, had graduated from that same school, they had the same training, whether they were southern or northern. But in the deep south, my son married a southerner, and they're very prejudice, most of them against the blacks. [4.43] If as a matter of fact when the building of the, new housing for the black people in some areas of Alabama. The white people were so jealous of the elevation of the living quarters from a wooden shack to a, I think they were made of brick, masonry buildings. They thought it was impossible, that the blacks would be elevated to that level, and better living quarters than they had then, but there are just as many people in the white trash elevation as there are colored people. [5.50] There

were separate and supposed to be equal but were they.
Some got in on one program some got in on another.
But, as, of course I have never lived in it, for any
length of time, I am a Vermonter, I grew up in a
relatively small town, I was born in Randolph, which
is in Orange County and it's on the other side of the
divide.

JB Ha! Ha!

GB You know the elevation and the water, from Roxbury and
in this area, the water goes south, and from here with
Mad River, and from Roxbury, Dog River into
Northfield, they go north. [6.45] And a few people
realize the difference. There were no paved roads when
we came here, in that time, the flood had destroyed
all transportation through Granville woods. There
wasn't a bridge across the brook there anywhere. You
had to go you could go out part way down then you had
to go over the hill, and down into Granville. I have
researched the records, and of course this was two
hundred years, 91 was two hundred years of statehood,
we were also the fourteenth state, and back when I was
in school, grade school, it was changed when I was in

the fifth grade, from 9 years of grade school and three years of high school to eight grades of elementary education and four years of high school. That was in 1912. [8.05] And, the building where the, primary rooms are now, grades, was the corner stone was laid in 1910. And it was finished in the after the fall term we were moved into the new building from the temporary places while the building was being erected.

JB And this is right in Randolph?

GB And that's right in Randolph. And that building is still used to school purposes. Though a great many people think it's passe, it should be condemned, and put into senior living quarters and those kind of things, well, it was, the best quality of it's time when it was constructed, the fire hoses were installed in, on all floors, at both ends of the corridor and it was a, supposed to be a fireproof building, it was heated, with steam, generated with a coal furnace, and there were several different caretakers, janitors in my time going through the grades. [9.53] But not they have to have about ten or twelve scholars per teacher. I've got a picture of my first grade class and that

teacher had forty students, but we were divided into groups, A B or C, whatever and what A students were studying, the C students were over hearing, they were absorbing that knowledge that was going on in the room, if they didn't, weren't paying attention to there assignments, well along the way I was not a, an excellent student. The school was there it was about oh five to ten minutes walk to school, I wasn't allowed to go until first bell rang which was at the quarter of nine, there was plenty of time to go, but I missed quite a lot of things, even then, because the teachers were on duty in their rooms and frequently the youngster that were there early some came in from out of the village, and brought their lunch and quite often, the teachers would read from a book, every morning by the way, we still had the Lord's Prayer in school, during my school years. [11.47] And my teaching years. So I have observed a great many changes in my life time. But to get back to my father, his father died when he was three years old, I don't know anything of the history back of that family, and my father's first wife, died.

JB Now what was your father's name?

GB He was Dean Briggs Fassett. [12.24] He was born
Rochester Branch.

JB Fassett Hill, is that?

GB Well, the families were there, but he was born in what
was called the red house up in the bingo district.

JB Yes. Okay.

GB Of Rochester.

JB Yeah.

GB You turn, you go straight ahead instead of turning
off, on seventy three to go over Brandon mountain, I
never was in the house but my mother pointed out, that
that was the house where he was born. And that was
where he had the family lived when he was born. He was
the youngest of four children, and his oldest brother,
out lived him by, I don't know how many years. He was
Charles Fassett, grand, my uncle was Charles Fassett
and he lived in Rochester, all of his life. And they
had two daughters, and because of the difference in
the ages, we called one of them aunt, and the other
one died early, I never knew her. [13.42] And, I guess
I was prit near high school age before I realized that

she was my cousin and not my aunt.

JB Ha! Ha! Ha!

GB But it was the age difference and a little bit of respect and so on. And, she brought up her nephew, Claude Martin, and he went through college. He had polio, in somewhere along the line and I believe it was his left arm was, almost useless. But he was a telegraph operator, and he had his fingers on his right hand of course, punched the keys that made the messages and the, I don't know anything about the process of telegraphy but I know that it's done with dots and dashes, and symbols, I suppose it led up to this computer situation.

JB I suppose.

GB We have today. I don't know anything about computers because that was since my active times. [15.05] But, I have great grand children that are working with computers.

JB I imagine, yeah.

GB I have seventeen grandchildren, my oldest daughter eventually had a piece of land up here, and she had, a family of eight, the three oldest ones were in the

service, the oldest, the oldest girl, the oldest child, went into the Air Force, her next sister went into the woman's Army Corp, and the son the oldest son the third, the third one in line, went into the Navy. They didn't go to college but they had this other experience, in their time. And the oldest girl is still employed, through the Air Force. And she lives in, Palm Bay, Florida. [16.15] She's been married twice, and he daughter by her first marriage is a, I believe is a junior in high school this year. She was born in Japan.

JB No kidding.

GB So you see my family are [16.31] spread all over everywhere.

JB Absolutely.

GB And, she and her first husband split and she has the daughter, but her husband, her first husband was a very likeable chap and I never met the second one. And they didn't stay together long. And Christie's a very loveable granddaughter, great granddaughter. And she lives with her mother, and then the next girl that was in the Air Force, in the woman's Army Corp, married

military, he had been in Vietnam.

JB Ah ha. [17.27]

GB And I have never been in contact with him so that I've gotten his story of the Vietnam, he simply mentioned one day that he had been there. But for any details of his experience there, I never, I don't know whether he, he ignores it or whether he lives it or, or what goes on. But, they had a daughter who is a senior this year, the oldest one, her name is Kelly. Devaney. And she was chosen from Glens Falls to go on that student tour to Russia.

JB Oh my gosh.

GB And I haven't seen her to talk with her since her trip, but I expect she'd have a great deal to tell of her experience with the other students, of course there was a large group that went together, and they're safely home again, and what their experience may have been I don't know. [18.44] But, my family are so wide spread, and to keep, kept in contact with them but up until after Christmas this year mostly. But my income hasn't increased as fast as my expenses.

JB Ha! Ha!

GB And I'm getting older all the time, we had been my son was up with his wife, he'd never been to his niece over in Glens Falls, so when the leaves were turned last fall, in October, he has his itinerary all made out when he comes, this day we go here and this day we go there and we go here and go there. Around. On a Sunday, it rained and it rained, and it rained, well his wife wanted to go back over to Dog Team Tavern into Middlebury area, and she didn't consider the day of the week, or she didn't realize the volume of traffic but anyway we went in the rain, that Sunday over toward Middlebury, in and up to the Dog Team Tavern, and when we got there there were I think three or four busses parked in the lot.

JB I'm sure.

GB The cars, the parking lot was full and there was standing room only and there was a line of people from the door way back. [20.35] And we finally got in the door and the receptionist said, it will be at least thirty minutes before I can get you a table. Fran says I'm starving I can't wait that long. Let's go. So, we went back out into the car, but that was the volume

that she hadn't realized of tourists and if it had
been a nice day.

JB It been twice as hard.

GB The, but they would be rotating faster.

JB Yeah.

GB They would be out touring. [21.09] Oh when the seasons
change they come in here by the bus loads.

JB Um.

GB And when the ski business is good, they come in by the
bus loads.

JB Well, you must of seen all, well start with when you
first came here, you said you came after the flood,
and you said that all the bridges were out, and you
came expressly for the purpose of taking the mail or?
[21.34]

GB It was a contract situation, they were four year
contracts, and they were put up for bids to
competition, of bids and my husband was, bid on it and
he was assigned this route, and from the where the
post office was, not where it is now, but where the,
they were serviced, the mileage figured eight miles
and three tenths or five tenths, between post offices.

The mail came twice a day. We left here at approximately soon after five o'clock in the morning or the driver did whoever went reported at the post office here and picked up the locked pouches, we didn't have stamps or money orders or anything, we just simply carried the bulk mail, between this post office and the Roxbury post office, which is on the railroad. In Roxbury, I guess they still have a postoffice in Roxbury I don't know, they closed a lot of them in various places, and put the, patrons on the mail deliveries. But, then we delivered this, we had oh let me see, one, two, three, five, I think five patrons, we delivered their mail like RFD, but we didn't sell sales, we could carry passengers if there was need we could carry passengers and I think the, I think it was a dollar, that they asked a dollar.

JB And what kind of a vehicle would you have?

GB Oh we had horses, a pair of horses on a wagon or on a, usually a buggy wagon. We didn't have a big covered van because sometimes there wouldn't be only one mail sack. [24.00] But, we had to be over there so this mail was dispatched it all to the railroad, then after

the mail came in, we picked up the sack for Warren and came back before noon. We blanketed the horses in the wintertime of course and then, in a shelter over there they had a place and we had a, two, three, four I guess five, six, I think six patrons out of the Roxbury post office who delivered, we delivered their mail on the way back. [24.50]

JB What do you mean by patrons?

GB People with mail boxes, like mine down here.

JB But would they have to pay, is there a charge?

GB Oh no, no, it was RFD that was established through the grange, for years and years back, and one of the big things the grangers did after the civil war.

JB I didn't realize that.

GB And my family had been grangers ever since it was organized I guess, and I'm a seventh degree member. I don't go, I haven't been since October, to even a grange meeting, and the rules are that there shall be seven members to constitute a quorum, to vote, especially to vote on money matters, some, some of the established fees, don't have to be voted on, but for instance if they had a state grange meeting and they

delegate goals you have to pay their expenses. And he has to present his bill and it has to be voted on, it's a routine, sort of a situation in the order and.

JB So the grange helped bring in rural delivery. I hadn't realized that.

GB Yeah. It's, it's in our grange history, I don't know where else it may be but.

JB So you delivered to the patrons.

GB So I, we had that many patrons on the Roxbury end, and if they had mail to go out, and their flags were up, we had to pick it up, we didn't sell stamps, we didn't write money orders, if they didn't have money, stamps on their mail, they had, it was customary or, appreciated if they would put their money in a container and not throw loose change in the box.

[26.55] Several times there was a box on this end, where the neighbors made use of it, because they had to wait for their mail to come here and to the post office to be canceled, but if you could get in on to the stage route, it would go right in that trip.

[27.18] And, ha, I substituted, I didn't have the contracts for the first three years, and we served

three full contracts from 29 to 43, and I spoke to the patron whose box they were using, I said you know it's pretty hard to reach from the driver's, we started using automobile after we came here. And I drove. I said if you go from the driver's seat and you have to reach into that mail box, and there's loose change on top of the letters and you pick it up and you spill it down on the road I have to get out of my car and pick up that change, or make it good. And mail was I guess 3 cents back then, on a letter. Well the RFD man, you see, so happened he, his route doubled over mine, so he happened to be talking with the lady of the house, this particular day that I came back, eventually the, the route was divided, they didn't go but once a day, one round trip a day, and then there was one round trip a day that went to Middlesex. [29.00] And then eventually it was discontinued, and it all went to Middlesex. And now it's, the mail, the bulk mail delivery comes out of White River.

JB Yeah.

GB And it's dispatched through the Montpelier post office and the stage brings it in, once a day. One time a

day. And when it went to the railroad, had the mail service, we, we dispatched mail or we took that mail over there, twice a day. We had one, one long pouch that was parcel post, and we had another that was first class, and then, then we had the, the, we had to furnish our own security as I remember for the first class mail that we delivered on the road.

JB Boy. How long did you have horses doing that job?

GB How long did what?

JB How long did you drive horses across the mountain?

GB Well, we, through the winter usually we had horses and when the, when it was dry, we could make it with the car.

JB That must of been a cold ride.

GB We were allowed two hours leeway to get to the post office. And we could make it in thirty minutes of course with the car and deliver the patrons mail.

[30.45] And the contracts were four years. Six days a week. Twice a day.

JB Wow!

GB And our bid, the first year, I can't tell you about the, all of them, but the first year was a hundred and

forty nine dollars and fifty cents a month. A whole month. Now that would be chicken feed for a week's pay now a days.

JB Right. [31.24]

END OF SIDE ONE

SIDE TWO

GB Oh we had a free stall to a gallon, a syrup can full of boiling water, and we put it under the blankets, the, the horse blankets were folded hair side in, they were put on the seat and down over the seat, and down under your feet, and then we had a, a big buffalo robes, fur robes, and the horses of course in the wintertime had to be blanketed, while we waited for the mail, and then in the process the blankets had to go back into this vehicles and so on. And we waited and the post office was in a store. [.46] In Roxbury. They had one corner of the store, Harry Richardson was postmaster at that time. And Henry Brooks was postmaster here, well when the administrations changed from Republican to Democrat, the postmasters were changed accordingly. Well some times Henry Brooks was postmaster and I don't remember whether he was the

Republican or whether his wife was the Democrat or
what the _____ was, but anyway. [1.26]

JB Ha! Ha! Ha!

GB They alternated and she was substitute some of the
time. And, what was her name, she died in a nursing
home, in the, Label, Label Parker was the mail, worked
in the post office for Henry Brooks, I don't know as
he did, she did for Lean, but. And the post office
changed from here to there and from there to here and
from there to here, and so on and after Henry Brooks
and his wife didn't keep it, her brother took over,
Lamorter, and one of her brothers was also the RFD
carrier, out of this we had one RFD route for the
whole area. [2.32] And he drove horses most of the
time. Especially in the wintertime.

JB Well did you ever have trouble getting through in the
wintertime, you must of?

GB Well, sometimes we run late. Sometimes the, well the
selectman of course were, farmers mostly and they
would go with a team of work horses and break the
roads.

JB Oh!

GB And when the, after a big storm. But this winter we haven't had the snow.

JB I know, well in those days you used to have, at least from the photographs I've seen a lot of snow so that I would think you would of had sometimes where it was pretty hairy. [3.26]

GB Well of course in my childhood, in Randolph, there were times when they used, three or four, pairs, teams, pairs of horses on a snow roller.

JB Um hum.

GB And they would crush it down and it was loaded and it would pack it hard, oh, it was fun to walk on the road after it had been rolled. And where I grew up, it was on a, the door yard was sloped, from the highway, all the way down to the river, or the mill pond. And we used to go out there and slide on the crust, and we used to have a wonderful time. We didn't play in the street, we played on our own land, we had a whole acre all to ourselves. Right in the village. And of course before automobiles were used in the wintertime, there was another big hill, and it would be a whole bunch of boys and girls and they had, long traverse sleds, and

we'd go up to the top of this big hill and we could slide way down there and by my mother's house, and ride down around and through the covered bridge, and we went down into what was called lower Canada in those days it was down where the, oh those big fancy stoves that are made in Randolph now.

JB Oh right.

GB Was it in the old, Sergeant Osgood and around the foundry.

JB And why was it called lower Canada?

GB Well, I don't know, where it, that name originated, but there were, a poorer circumstances.

JB Were the French?

GB Circumstances.

JB French living there.

GB Yeah. They were, the rent was cheap and the poorer people had houses down there, and I don't know if there are any houses down there now or not. [5.35]
But, the parking area, to the Randolph house where my sister lives is on that, down on that street. I haven't been over since the fires in Randolph, they've had three in three months.

JB Yeah I know it. [5.51] I know.

GB And, my first experience with a town meeting, we were sent to observe I must of been sort of, probably seventh grade, I don't know, it might of been the eight grade and the publisher of the newspaper, L.B. Johnson, was moderator, and it was up in this, the first building they'd burn, and it would, the _____ hall, [6.22] there was a, a big room with a hardwood floor and a stage and the officers and the moderator and so on were on the stage, in that facility. And I don't remember it t'was during my primary years that the Chandler Music Hall was built. They moved a house, off the foundation and took it down to what was called, what is still the school street, and put it on a new foundation down in the, on that street.

JB With oxen?

GB I don't remember but I know the house was moved.

JB Gee.

GB No they, probably horses. They might of had some oxen too, I don't know. But anyway, now see I've lost my thread now. [7.27]

JB Well, now you were talking about the Chandler Music Hall.

GB Well, the Chandler Music Hall was established and it was, that was fired with coal and steam heat, and to this day it is praised as one of the best acoustics in the state.

JB I've heard that yes.

GB It's a, well as you go in from the street, there's a lobby, there's a rest room for men on this end of the lobby and there's a rest room for the ladies on the other end and there were, you had to go, from the lobby through a, there were two door that went in, and the lower seats were of course the orchestra seats and then you could go up the one flight of stairs and there was the balcony, it went the whole, space, I don't know how many seats there were there and then there was another, elevation, we called it the niger heaven, [8.47] they were the least expensive seats, we didn't have colored people in our town, but this was the lingo that was attached to it anyway. It was the gallery. But it was nicknamed the niger heaven. So, you can imagine all the open space there is from three

levels on to the big stage that and the you could go up go to back stage you could go up on the right, or you could over and go up on the left, and oh they had all kinds of entertainments, musical and plays and serious, plays, of various kinds and, and then they had a movie, a movie projector.

JB Oh really.

GB And they had a screen and then later they had a, a separate building where they had moving pictures, and I guess they still do have now and it's still in Randolph, but I haven't lived there in sixty-three years, you see so things have changed.

JB Ha! Ha! And things have changed here too.

GB Oh definitely. And, there used to be the red lion inn, was in the brick building that's still there and I don't know that it's occupied for any reason only for somebody's tax shelter. [10.27] But in the wintertime people of means, widows or widowers would go there for the winter and have a room and have their meals and so on. And then there was another building across the railroad track, they called it the Maples back then,

and that's been demolished for some reason or other, I don't know what, I don't think it burned, but's it's not there anymore anyway, and they called it the Maples. Which had board and room and transients.

[11.06] And of course the salesman that came in on the train there were livery stables the horses, _____ drivers and whatever they was necessary. But, [11.24] I think about some of those things that happened, my father was my constant companion from the time my brother started school until I had to go. He was born in 1901 and I was born in 1903. And, I was in the sixth grand when my father died, he was 66. But he, during his military service he had been in uniform he signed up with the company E, First Vermont Calvary and from all of my reading about the Calvary, there was only one Vermont Calvary, and everything else was replacements that went in there, and the companies were lettered, each county at that time, had a, a letter and Windsor County, Rochester and that area, there letter was E, in Windsor County was E, for the First Vermont Calvary. Yeah. And that picture there with all the little dangles hitched to it, was the

governor's proclamation honoring my father for his service in the civil war. And all of those little ribbons that it had attached to it, eventually there was a, organization that one of the girls in town belonged to and I got curious about it and I'd seen it written up in my Randolph paper, and there were people in Chelsea who attended meetings of various kinds and the members were descendants of the civil war veterans, and like the American Legion had an auxiliary, this order of Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War was their title, oh when you write that all out, it's goes all the way across an envelope. [13.59] And, eventually I contacted through, through this girl, her name was Catherine Aldrich and then she married a, I've forgotten now what her husband's name was, he was a native here, and we got in contact and that's how I come to get my father's war record. Or his military record, because you had to have proof of your descendants of people. And, I don't know as I want to tell, tell tales out of school, but the secretary of the auxiliary seven in Montpelier says it was not possible that he was my father. Well I said

I'm here, and I know he was.

JB Ha! Why did they say that?

GB Well they thought he was too old to be a father.

JB Ha! Ha!

GB Or something.

JB Ha! Ha!

GB But anyway he was 66 when, a 56 when I was born. The year I was born.

JB Now did he tell you much about the civil war?

GB No.

JB He wouldn't talk about it.

GB No. He didn't talk about it. Of course, well I was only, I was ten when he died.

JB Yeah. Yeah.

GB So, but, of course he and my mother talked, and things that she knew that her father had done and back and forth, and so on, and any rate, I established my connections as a daughter of civil war veteran and it, I also have the certificate from the national headquarters of my, that I'm a, a daughter of a civil war veteran. I also have my certificate as a seventh degree grange member.

JB Now what does a seventh degree member.

GB That's national grange. Your subordinate grange is four degrees, and then there's a fifth degree is the Pomona grange, that's the district area of several granges, the pomona districts, and it's been changed we've been with the Granville and we've been with this one and we've been with that one and the other, and then.

JB Where is the pomona grange?

GB They have no permanent home.

JB I see.

GB They have officers and they.

JB Is that regional. [16.53]

GB It's a regional affair and they meet at, in the different fourth degree granges around, but they have their own ritual, their own pass word and their own, membership fees and so on and then the next step is state grange, and this last year in Burlington they had the national grange meeting. And it was spread all over the city. [17.26] I went and I took my seventh degree and fit 1950. My mother had been a granger I

guess from a girl. And she belonged over to Randolph, and when I was, you had to be fourteen to join, and then later, they started having the junior granges, well when we came here there was between two and three hundred members that belonged to the grange, there was odd fellows and rebeccas and down to Waitsfield they had, eastern star and masons, but grange was the lively one, they did things and so on. Well of course then, it's time for progress and things happen and so on and then there was prohibition and then there was, other, off springs from that and so they didn't do the things to raise funds, and in late years and then, then the members died off, and they married and moved away and so on and since, since the early thirties the membership has fallen off. [18.56] I think we have twenty paid up members on the books. But Ed Eurich never comes to a meeting. Lisa Fortner never comes to a meeting, and there's one up on Roxbury mountain that, she's in political things, and of course, their membership isn't in the grange, which is a national affair, it gives them a little bit of clout and it collects votes I suppose. Members vote for these,

these people. But they're not active in the subordinate grange.

JB Yeah.

GB I can't think what the one on, she lives, she's got a house up on Roxbury mountain, there somewhere off the, off that main road, now, they've changed the road over the mountain, some what.

JB Oh they have so, they changed it, since you were?

GB Well yeah. I, my last day and the last day I brought the mail in I came over the new road.

JB I'll be darned.

GB I think that was in 43.

JB Now why did they change it?

GB Well the state took over that, it was a town road, you see between towns, and then as the automobile business came in to vogue, they had to improve the road, it was just a dirt road, and if it was rainy, it got pretty muddy and all these kinds of things, and then they graveled it and so on and now part of it is paved, it's paved way up oh up the first big hill part way, but the horse back riders they wanted the dirt road.
[20.42] So they have protested and protested and so on

and they prevailed and they still haven't paved it all the way over. But it's high ground so that it drains, it don't get muddy and it's graveled. And on the Roxbury side it's paved pretty well up.

JB Well do you have any real memorable trips over that, you must? [21.06]

GB Oh, once in a great while. Saw a bear once. I saw an albino skunk, she was white mostly white and she had a whole litter of little pups with her on the road.

JB All white?

GB She was in the ditch, and she was, mostly white.

JB And were her pups white?

GB I didn't know, no they were mixed up some, I guess and, and they followed her like a bunch of kittens would follow a cat you know. And, oh one other time I, I was going over, and we went from East Warren up into, from Warren village up into East Warren, and there was a four corners up there, well when you got up to the three corners this side of the Elliot farm.

JB Um, hum.

GB [22.02] There was a field across, and the guide board was there, and out in that field there was a moose.

The big wide antlers.

JB No kidding.

GB Nobody believed me. I says you don't have to but I know it was a moose. It wasn't a deer.

JB Ha! Ha! Ha!

GB I said his antlers were wider then my hand and I could see him right face too he was looking right at me. Right in that field back of the guide board at the three corners. You go up the, up what was called Pike hill.

JB Um, hum.

GB And Orin Lovett lived on the left, and Kim, they called him Kim, Kim Brooks owned the place on the right, on the flat. [22.55] And in the hill going up, we left mail for Leon Brown, and there was a school teacher that had the, bought the house above on that piece of road, and we left mail there, we had Len Freeman, and then we went up Pike Hill and left Laura, Leon Brown's mail, and then Brooks and the Lovett box, both of them were on the same side of the road, and then we turned left at the three corners and went up, and we left, Fred Elliot's mail, and in the

summertime, there was a, what was their names? Well they lived across the road in the house, it's been, all refinished and done over and it went into the Elliot, the widow Elliot lived there awhile, and then Arthur Moblis and his wife across the corner and the next place up was a summer people that lived there. And the names escape me now but they had mail service when they were here. And then we went on up through Jim Nick hill and that used to.

JB Through what? [24.13]

GB They called in Jim Nick hill, it went down and in a dip and then up.

JB Why was it called Jim Nick? [24.20]

GB Well somebody by the name of Jim lived there and it was a hill was always the wind blew the snow in there and filled it full and there were, stone walls then both sides of the road and the snow would drift over those stone walls and land right in the road you know. And it was Jim Nick hill. (telephone rings) And. (tape off, then on)

JB We're talking about the Jim Nick road and your experiences.

GB Well this Jim Nick hill was a problem in the highway you see, in the town roads and then after the state took it over and they were improving the, the and widening the roads to state specifications, we don't have a town business much anymore it's all comes out of either Montpelier or Washington, anyway, it was done, they took the stone walls and dumped them all into the road, for fill. And then they graded over it and graded over it and graded over it and now it's paved. And.

JB I think you started to tell me something you'd seen there. [25.40] Or something that happened there, you were talking about seeing the moose, you talked about seeing the bear, which I wanted to ask you about too.

GB Yeah my son was with me, he was still in school, that is he was school age, but this was in the summertime.

JB That you saw the bear?

GB We went up and it was on the old road, before the road was changed and then there used to be a water tub, at the foot of the big, what we call the big hill. And, oh from East Warren we used to go up, go up a small rise and then there was a long lane in between and

then there was a water tub, and then this sharp hill went up, high, and they didn't take that big hill out, they, but they graded it and down, and I don't know how many houses there are, on the side of the mountain now, there didn't use to anybody live from East Warren until you got over to Roxbury. [26.46] And there's another place on the road on the Roxbury side of the mountain, and they call it Cheese _____.

JB Cheese bin.

GB Yes. The story is that they made cheese in the creamery here or something and there used to be a mill over across this road here, and they made butter boxes, wooden boxes and cheese boxes, round one, wooden boxes, that they put cheeses in, well you see the produce had to go to Roxbury to get onto the railroad to go to market, and as you go down from the top of the mountain, there's a sharp right, a left turn in the road, and sometimes the springs in the road you know, the time of year, they would bubble up and freeze on and freeze on it would run down the wheel tracks and so on and so forth, so the story was that, this freight load of, of, with horses of loaded

cheese had a spill and that, in the band and that's how it got it's name.

JB Well I'll be darn. [28.07]

GB Yeah. Well the old timers they had certain things and this one of the men that used to work for us he was a weather prophet, he'd say if the moon, when the moon shone, if you could, let's see, hang your hat on one side and something else on the other it was a wet moon, cause the water would stay in and if it was up it was gonna be a dry moon or whatever. The weather would be dry.

JB Could he tell pretty well.

GB Well in the long run it seems just the majority of things came that way. [28.53] And.

JB Yeah some of those old timers could really tell the weather I think.

GB Well, my father was a, observed the clouds and the sun rises and sunsets and so on and so forth, and he always got up and did the barn chores, early of course before breakfast, and he'd come in and he'd say it was red in the east, this morning, and usually that meant to be a stormy period follows. [29.28] And from here,

the weather comes over the notch from, over Lincoln mountain, and they predict a big snow storm or something, and usually the storms in here come over through that notch. They come in that direction. Rather then from the north, but if the winds come from the north it's usually cold. In the wintertime. Yup. Yup. This was Betty Jones, but she had never attended school, in the town of Warren. I don't know that her father ever owned any buildings.

JB I guess he used to rent.

GB They rented and he, he had horses and so on and so forth. But, when it come time to go to school, apparently she didn't well come to the village, I think she went to the East Warren school one year because she, I used to, she talked about walking that flat from up by, oh the old homestead there, what was her name.

JB Thelma Rickets. And that's a long stretch. I work, one year for, Lisa Gove when they lived way up on the hill, where, John Roth I believe owns the farm now, and then Bob sold out finally and went to Moretown to live. Well. [31.23]

END OF TAPE ONE

TAPE TWO

GB The insurance company don't tell who you have to go and see, well he'd made up his mind, he'd made his choice of hospitals and he finally went and their youngest boy was Steven, he was going to school to East Warren when I worked up there and well he wondered how he was gonna get to school. I said there's your sled and there's a big hill, you get on it, and slid down to the main road, and then you can pick it up and run awhile and then you can jump on it and sliding in. [2.54] He looked at me, much to say, what do you know about it. Well anyway, but while his father was in the hospital he made it to the, he made it to school. Took his sled with him, I said he, you don't need your sled over to school, I says you can park it by the mail box down at the main road, and I says and bring it home when you come back, you'll have it the next morning.

JB Ha! Ha! [3.22] I guess the Goves' were a very musical family.

GB Yes. Robert was very much discouraged, be, because he,

hoped to be a professional someday but his health
isn't very good now.

JB And Raymond was a fiddler and a.

GB I don't know as he could read music though. And his
sister Thelma used to play cords for him, and they
made, they made music, harmony. Yeah. Well my mother
tried to make a musician out of me, but I wasn't very
cooperative.

JB Ha! Ha! Ha! [4.03] I don't imagine that unless you
like something, you'll I imagine would say just what
you thought, which I think is great.

GB Well I, I guess I'm a typical yankee, I don't know, I
grew up in a small town and I'm not happy in a big
place.

JB Well tell me about the changes here, when they first
started and?

GB Oh and it was so gradual it was hardly noticeable,
really, and of course this mill was never in operation
after the flood.

JB Now what, this was the butter tub mill?

GB This was the butter tub mill. And they made cheese
boxes, and so on, they didn't, they didn't do a,

lumber, as such. Building materials and so on but this was a, well there were two or three mills and there were mill dams, there was a big mill dam down across the street here. [5.11] And I've got some pictures where the spring break up, there was always the ice jam all the ways as far as you could see down the road. Down the Mad River.

JB Oh my gosh, and a lot of flooding?

GB Not necessarily. Not necessarily. But this last, break up, the it, the water didn't even get up towards the road.

JB So when you first came here, Warren was pretty much of a mill, logging, farming town. [5.47]

GB There were a lot of single men, that boarded in different places that worked in the mills. And, some were more professional with a board saw, and but they didn't make, they didn't, building material, lumber for buildings and so on and so forth they didn't make that, after we came here, the Brooks mill is down where that fancy show place is, down below there, natural dam, bridge, they made duck pins, and bowling pins, they called them, they were, yeah, bowling, for

bowling alleys.

JB Bowling alleys.

GB For the games, you see.

JB I'll be darn, right here?

GB Yes. [6.57]

JB I didn't know that.

GB They, they were cut and finished and painted.

JB I'll be darned.

GB And then they were shipped out by that time they used, trucks were available, and they sent them out by trucks, I don't know whether they were delivered, at their destination on a truck or not, or whether they were taken to the, the railroad and, shipped on the railroad.

JB Well now when you first came, was East Warren still a thriving community or was that mostly a farm community?

GB Well it was a, it was a farming community.

JB But a thriving one.

GB Yes. Yeah there was a farmers all around. [7.48]
Rupert Blair was, had his uncle's place, and, and oh

the _____, according to the records, in the town clerk's office, I researched back, to the charter of the town, and when this town was chartered, there were five lots, that were designated for the first settled minister, the sport of the gospel, the English school, and public schools I think and there was another one I forgot, but where the Catherines' live way up in East Warren, on the backside, up there, that was the, was a, one of the lease and they leased this land, they didn't tax it, they leased it so much, see, so many dollars a for the track or so much an acre or whatever. And, I don't know how many year ago it is now that through the legislature they did away with the so called leased lands, and so, the property as I understand, where the Catherines' are, has come into the grand list in taxes and through the town treasurer, the money that was available, for those specifies purposes, was paid out of the general fund. [9.34] But it, there's a missing link there somewhere, I don't know, whether the, the, why the church wasn't entitled to an increase in their income off those lands or not. But it never changed, we had about

twenty acres it was in part of the ministry a lot, and it was rounded out, eventually to five dollars, it was easier to keep the books that way, then it was at four dollars and ninety six cents or something, when it was paid with your taxes. But it was, designated as leased land monies and the town treasurer kept it separate and, and dispensed it I guess to the different organizations.

JB So when you first came then, East Warren was pretty much of a thriving farming community?

GB Oh very much so.

JB And here it was more, a mill town.

GB Well, the village was retired people. Older people. Maybe they worked in the mill, rather than in the woods. They didn't, didn't cut trees down, and that kind of thing, they worked in the mills some of them. And, the Bradleys, there was a family of Bradleys there was I think three brothers, and they owned this property, at one time, along with the mill.

JB This house here, you mean?

GB Well this house wasn't here, then, it was here, that is there was a house on this lot, but not this one.

And they owned the house across the street, and but that had been sold off before we came here, and the mill property and there was another old house up on the knoll where that new house is now and it was later, I guess it was torn down, I don't know, they called it the Mary Edna house. She married one of the Bradleys', Nelson I think. Nelson. There was Nelson and Alison and I've forgotten the other one. [12.02] Yeah the people, the names of the people that were here, they've gone and died off and, the buildings and land have been sold and the farm lands have been, divided up into building lots, and where they had crop land, they've got a golf course, and.

JB Well now that all started when the ski area came about or?

GB Well about that time I guess.

JB Do you remember when that all started?

GB Well the road was paved about 1950's.

JB Route 100.

GB And they drilled all that ledge across the river and changed the road and Route 100 was on the other side of the river, and this strip through the village, is

town road 4.

JB And this originally was the main road, wasn't it.

GB This was originally the main road, and way back in my, in my record of deeds, there was a lot surveyed, before the highway went to Granville, through here, four acres and 88 square rods, from the river no road was in there, and it specifies that a certain party built a house there in 1875. And it burned in 1950, it was seventy five years I think, I think it burned in the fifties. But it had been a tenement house. No, they were temporary owners, I don't think they rented, I think they were temporary owners, but it changed hands, see sawed back and forth, and then they split it, in two and I don't know, there are no fences and no lines, no what. [14.28] I had a phone call, did you own such and such a piece land that so and so owned and I said no I never had title to that. But they didn't tell me who they were and they didn't come and see me. But I, I still have the, my copy of the deeds from the records. With the index that is I have a, the book and page where I found it.

JB Hum.

GB And we have paid taxes on this place for 63 years.

JB On this, so.

GB On this land.

JB Now did you build this house? Or was it built or?

GB Well the original buildings burned, there was a big barn, with a built in silo, the silo was within the frame of the barn, and there was a cow stable, and the horse stable, and a basement barn, and you would of thought, that between the stone wall out back here, in the driveway, was where the barn was. And you would of thought with a basement barn there, with the stable cleanings all in there, there would be odor, but there never was there was never any seepage into the cellar, and the cellar is still a stone wall. And it doesn't go only from about half of the size of the house.

JB So did you have cows and horses and a small farm, or?

GB Yeah. We had tie ups for thirteen head of cattle, and six horses. [16.17] and we always raised a pig or two, we raised two, we'd sell one and have to dress off the other and pack the meat, cure the hams and bacon and I can cut up a beef, I can cut up a pig, I could, I haven't got the muscle for it now but I could have, I

could, and did. [16.38]

JB Did you milk by hand or?

GB I never milked. I fed animals, and I cleaned stables
but I never milked.

JB Now did you husband milk by hand or?

GB Yeah. Oh yes, we never had a milking machine here, but
we did have a separator and we shipped cream.

JB Ah ha.

GB From dairy. Oh times have changed. But the price of
fluid milk you know people, farmers have kind of
gotten discouraged, and they, somebody offers a big
price for a piece of land, they, it's an easy way out
to.

JB Yeah. When did you get rid of your cows?

GB Oh there hasn't been any animals here for, since
Raymond was in school. [17.40] Then from school he
went right into the service and when he got out of the
service he got married and he's lived now in Alabama
ever since.

JB And so thirty years ago. Forty.

GB Forty years ago or more. So this hasn't been, even the
hay hasn't been cut in forty or more than forty years.

JB How much land do you have right, right around here?

GB Well according to the deeds, there should of been 80 acres.

JB It seems to me that, most of the farms around here were about that size. They were small farms.

GB No wait a minute. [18.19] Well I think the Blair farm where Rupert is, I think that was a big farm and I don't know, I don't know the Fred Elliot farm was quite a sizeable farm, and the, DeFrees farm was large acreage, and they have one, one of the only dairies in town, I don't know but it's, is the only dairy in town.

JB I think it is.

GB And, one of the boys that grew up here, he lives in Waitsfield, he has a farm, with animals, Neil.

JB Yes.

GB Elwin Neil.

JB Elwin Neil, yes, I went, I've talked with him.

GB He has, he still has dairy farm and there's another one down in Waitsfield ways, somewheres I think. But that milk, that milk goes in a tanker truck.

JB Well a lot of farms I guess went out when you had to

put in milk tanks. [19.29]

GB Yes.

JB Bulk tanks.

GB I think so. They couldn't handle the expense, and so on and of course, there inspections for milk quality and cleanliness and so on, and so forth, and you couldn't have, we didn't have cattle because we couldn't have horses and cattle in the same stable. That was a no, no. Among other things. But I could teach a calf to drink.

JB How did you teach a calf to drink?

GB I put my leg right around his neck, and put my fingers in his mouth and I pushed his head right down into the bucket of milk. And he drank. Yup, and I fed pigs and I've, I never worked in a hay field much and I never worked on, I never stood on the hay, on the load cause it was too _____. [20.31]

JB Yeah.

GB We raised crops, we raised potatoes, and we had, oats one year, and had them thrashed but, it was, didn't have much storage space for grain, you could buy it cheaper than we could grow it and store it. So, and I

haven't had a wood fire for, oh twenty five years I guess. It's all gas, now, and the water heater, and that little gadget in the corner there, is my water heater.

JB Um hum. Now when you first came here, did you have electricity?

GB Nope.

JB Cause that came in, I mean that must of been a big change.

GB Well we had, the, we had the other, there was another house over there, and we had that wire, and we had lights, but no power to speak of. I didn't have a refrigerator, for a long time. But we, the cellars were cool, and we had milk twice a day, so we didn't have to keep it over, and now what's milk, it's processed till what is it? Ha! [21.50]

JB Yeah I talked with Alden Betts who used to pick up milk.

GB Yeah, Alden was, Alden picked up our cream. He's quite a character.

JB Yup, he was terrific.

GB Yup.

JB And Ed Eurich also suggested I talk with.

GB Oh did Ed tell you his mother worked in a post office here.

JB I don't think he told me that we talked a lot about the farm, and his father and his grandfather.

GB Yeah. But it was, was, I think you had to go what, where the Sugarbush hill is now.

JB That's right.

GB To get up there.

And this road here goes over to Lincoln mountain, on the other side of the river. A lot of people don't like to go over the Lincoln mountain, but I still rather go then to go over the turnpike.

JB Boy, that scares me to death. I've had some rides.

GB Well of course I, I learned with a stick shift.

JB Well yes, and but you must of had some pretty icy rides coming down over Roxbury mountain.

GB Well there were times. Yeah, but, but usually with the horses we were on until the roads got pretty well settled. We had a snow storm one September, before the leaves had even changed color.

JB Gosh.

GB And I was driving the car and I made it, in that wet snow, over the mountain.

JB Without getting stuck.

GB No I didn't get stuck. Nope, I have a Model A Ford.

JB I'll be darned.

GB Coupe with the rumble seat, ha. ha.

JB Ha! Ha! I love it.

GB Yup. [23.50] I didn't know that I'd make it or not but I thought if I didn't I'd go as far as I could, I run out of gas a few times. Usually everything worked pretty good.

JB Well you know there are, very few people who would do that today.

GB Well I don't know that women are in a lot of jobs that they didn't do then. A lot of farmer's wives went to the barn, and did barn chores. And, fed the chickens and small animals. Most everybody had a dog in the village, there, there was a barn, for every house I think, and they had a, a driving horse. If they had needed to go any farther than they could walk, they had a driving horse. And I think probably Waitsfield had as much, bulk grocery business and supplies and

clothing and so on, there was a, well there were two stores, here, Roy Long had a store and then Parker and Ford had the, had the store across the street that's been torn down now. And Von Drew was there, The Pitcher Inn when we came here. She sort of got, after her husband died, then she, I guess it was her father's place, I don't know, that she was a Bragg, she kept the Inn down there, and sort of got forced into it. [25.52]

JB Now she had a daughter over in Randolph, doesn't she?

GB Yeah. Gwendolyn.

JB Yeah. Cause somebody.

GB Cameron.

JB Yes. Cause somebody suggested I go see her.

GB Yup, well she grew up here, and then she went to Massachusetts to live, and so on. And I guess there's a, I think there's a brother, I think, Pete, the one they call Pete _____ Rozmorn, Peter Drew, he lived in Barre, [26.21].

JB Ah ha.

GB A long time. I guess he's still alive, I don't know. He was in the service and he was, he was in the

submarine I think that went under the ice.

JB Oh my gosh yeah. Ha.

GB I believe that's right.

JB Well I guess here, when you had the two general stores, they were a whole lot different than your stores now.

GB Oh yeah. Well we couldn't buy fresh vegetables, we couldn't buy potatoes, and the boy, the Parker and Ford store didn't have meats, or potatoes or vegetables, they had staples, flour and sugar, and I guess some, old gloves or odds and ends, caps or, I don't remember much about clothing.

JB Did people used to go in and sit around and by the stove? [27.34] Or had that pretty well gone out?

GB There weren't any chairs in the stores as I recall. There might of been a perch, or a stool, [27.43] at the counter where you could sit. Yeah but you didn't, you didn't go like in a supermarket and pick up your groceries, you, you ordered it, and they brought it to the counter and a great many of the farmers depended on their sugar crop, season, and they were allowed credit and then they the buyers would take their

syrup, or sugar or whatever they had to offer, and pay up their bills for the, until the next season. [28.23] So there was a lot of business was done on pound paper. And people's credit, a man's word was his bond. And, there were no banks in the valley, we had a doctor.

JB Doctor Shaw?

GB Well Doctor Shaw lived in Waitsfield, he, he had originally, he lived before that, he lived over in, along the mountain somewhere in Roxbury.

JB Ah, ha.

GB And then the house down by the covered bridge that was a retired Doctor Campbell lived there well he didn't do very much, he had his office was in the basement of his house, and there's a little apartment down there, I don't know it's been sold so many times, I don't, I don't even know who owns it now.

JB Well there were a lot of home remedies in those days too, I guess.

GB Oh yes.

JB You didn't go to the doctor every two seconds.

GB Yup. Well you know some of the home remedies are,

basic, what the medicines are made of.

JB It always amazed me, goose gizzard tea, now who would of thought of that and it had pepsin in it like, pepto bismal, and would cure children's stomach aches or. I mean the early remedies.

GB Yup. Catnip tea, and ginger tea, and yup. Mustard plasters. Salt pork, they used to bind on salt pork, to fight infection, well between the grease and the salt you see they didn't have much chance.

JB Yeah.

GB And, we used to call it court plaster.

JB Court plaster?

GB Yeah. Sticky tape, you know.

JB Ah ha.

GB What do they call it now.

JB Adhesive.

GB Adhesive tape. If you have a lame back, they might strap you up with bands of adhesive tape.

JB Hum. [30.45]

GB And then the chiropractors came into vogue and. I never had a chiropractor, adjustment.

JB I never did either. Ha!

GB I went to an osteopath one time. But my flesh is so tender, I was all black and blue, even from that.

JB Hum.

GB Yup.

JB How about sulphur and molasses. Did you used to?

GB Oh very definitely. [31.19]

END OF SIDE ONE

SIDE TWO

GB Six days and skip a day or something like that.

JB Yeah.

GB I don't know how many days we took it, but I know, we didn't relish it, very much, but we took, we took it cause we was supposed to.

JB Did your mother ever get used to gather particular herbs or flowers or leaves?

GB Nope.

JB A number of people I've talked with actually used to have a special room where they would, or some kind of drying.

GB Drying, yeah. No we lived in the village so, my father never farmed after, after he and my mother were married. I never been into the house where I was born

in Randolph.

JB Really. [.51]

GB I've been tempted sometimes, but usually I was on schedule so I didn't have time to do any exploring and I haven't had a car since, oh, in the sixties I guess, in 74 I did, I didn't renew my driver's license, I never lost it, but I didn't renew it, in 74. I used to drive oh, 20,000 miles, every season.

JB Well I can imagine. [1.24]

GB I don't know, I've after, Raymond lived in Alabama I drove down there at least three times.

JB Is that right?

GB But it wasn't, we didn't carry mail then, of course.

JB Hum. Well did you tell me, were you, did you teach as well, were you a?

GB I trained for an elementary teacher, I taught two fertile terms, two full years in the town of Randolph, one before I was married, and one after. And then I had my family, I applied for a school over here and then I had to resign because things didn't work out, I, I had a contract to teach in North Fayston, but transportation I was supposed to go up there and

board, but with my family, and, and the things just didn't work out. [2.30] And, for the price I could get sixteen dollars a week and pay my board out of it, I didn't figure I was gonna make anything. It would cost more to substitute my keep in the family then I could earn teaching, at that time. So I, I turned in my contract and another time I substituted it was, oh, a young teacher came in here and she boarded with a family that had children in school, and some of the school board had children or grandchildren in school and well eventually she went home and she didn't come back. [3.18] And, when the school directors came up here, which was, what was his name? George what? Ha! Robinson.

JB Hum.

GB George Robinson was school director. I didn't have a washing machine then I had, I boiled my clothes on the stove, except I was, of course we grew up, I had my wash tubs and my scrub board in a chair here, and I had a, I, eventually I had a bench with a ringer, and

somebody could buy that window, it was after this place was built, and he said there wouldn't be any school, we didn't have any teacher, I said Mr. Robinson, my certificate is still in force, if you can't do any better, I'd be glad to help you out until you find someone. So he grabbed the chance, and I said let me know, tonight and I'll be there in the morning, I'll promise I'll keep the roof on. [4.45] So he came back up he walked, and from the village up here, and he said, we'll have school tomorrow. And my old, my older daughter was in the upper room, there was four grades in the lower floor, and four on the other floor, the primary rooms, and Raymond was in the lower room, so I went down, I checked over the scholars I think there was, more than twenty in the upper room then, I didn't think I could name them all but I could part of them. And, I asked the different ones, I didn't know the village very much, because my work was here. So, I found out, that this one's people worked in the mill and this one's had a farm, and so on and so forth. And, and another one of them his father was a mail carrier, RFD. And, there was a boy from over

across the river, up on the hill here, where the house with the red roof, and Lauren Wentworth I know was there and this was Merrill, Merrill Johnson the second, second boy in the family, and I probably could recall as of they were seated, you know. The older ones were usually in the back rows and the next rows and the younger grades was in the front row. [6.55] And it was easier to call the classes you know from, so, I went down and I was getting acquainted with the children, but I'd been out of teaching for quite awhile and I never had had many eight graders. My first school I had one eight grader who was a repeater, he was too young to go to high school. His people thought. So, I guess sixth grade was the, limit in that school. And then the next school, I had some seventh graders or an eight grader to two but the families moved away, so I had just the four primary rooms, grade children, that year, so I hadn't had much eight grade experience. Outside of training. And, I got hold of some books and I went over them, and I think our supervisor, our superintendent was from, lived in Waterbury at that time, and I had to study on

my eight grade, programs, but in our training we had a, a written out plan book, for every grade for every class for every subject. Some grades you could combine, quite closely. And other grades of course you had to have individual works, and I went in one morning, I said we have work to do, this is our job, to learn and apply what we have learned, to our lives. [9.08] And I said while we're in school we will do school work, if you want to chew gum, be sure you bring enough to go around, so we can all chew gum. Not have somebody snapping their gum here and over there, you know. Well there came a day when the gum appeared.

JB Ha! Ha!

GB And, I passed it out and everybody had a stick of gum. Well it got recess time I think, I said well if you people chew the gum all you want to, I said if you have you can put it in the waste basket, and when we're in school, we don't chew gum, that was one of my first priorities. And didn't have any more problem with gum chewing. They weren't breaking the rules any more, they weren't getting any fun out it you see. So, I didn't go to college, but I haven't forgotten my

lessons I learned in the primary rooms. [10.14] And, where I went to school, you didn't, you didn't torment the teacher. You didn't, get away with something to, because you could. Well, about a year ago, or better I went down to senior dinner down to the firehouse in Waitsfield, and there was two men, stood by the, the bus door, and one of them turned to me and he says do you know this man? Well I hadn't, hardly got my feet on the ground, and apparently he had inquired, and knew that I was gonna be there or something, anyway. It was the grandson of the school, the one of the school board, and he said, I punished him when I was teaching school, I said I did, and he told me what his name was, I said that's quite awhile ago. [11.35] But I had two children in school, and I knew if I couldn't control those two, I wasn't any better off than the teacher that quit. And his mother, was a hundred years old last year. And he had come from Utah to be here, and to renew acquaintances with the family.

JB How nice.

GB And, he stopped down there to the senior dinner and.

JB And reminded you you punished him.

GB That I punished him. Well it must of had some effect on his life.

JB Yeah, well he remembered.

GB Or he wouldn't of remembered it.

JB And he cared to come see you.

GB So, I don't remember what the punishment might of been, I don't think there was an physical punishment, he may of stood in the corner, he may have come down and set in a front row seat or I don't remember, I don't recall the incidence, it was a, in a day's work, you know, whatever it was but any rate he remembers, who I was and what I, and what effect I had on him.

JB Ha, ha! How long did you teach there, then? [12.56]
Just that one year, or?

GB Oh I just finished the winter term.

JB What happened about driving the mail? So you didn't?

GB Oh they wanted me to finish the year and I said I've got a contract, I'll be out of my job the first of the month. And they had already located somebody so they, yeah. She came, I don't remember now, but, Robert Gove's wife, Letha Gove, Letha Long, was the downstairs teacher at that time.

JB Um hum.

GB She was a local girl.

JB Yes.

GB And, I don't remember who took, who did take over upstairs. Whether it was local or whether it was, someone away that they contacted through the school board, sometimes the superintendent had a spare, some where they could contact for a refill, you know, to fill in.

JB Did Letha Gove teach for a long time? [14.03]

GB Yes she did, she taught in the primary room down here for, I guess, and then she got married and she taught in Roxbury one time, and boarded through the week.

JB And they had what, three children, I guess?

GB What?

JB They had three children, Bob and Letha?

GB Yes. The older boy was a little bit, foggy up here for some reason or other.

JB Psychophrentic or something?

GB Something I don't know, he was, he had certain chores, he did, at the house, I worked for her, at one time, and at one of his jobs was to fill the tank, to the

oil heater, the oil, the kitchen oil stove, and they had a wood furnace, and but he didn't as I recall he did not go to the barn, either he was a, afraid of the animals or I don't know what reason but I don't think he ever went into the barn. But little Steven did, he followed his father to the barn all the time, and the other boy had been, at that time he had fallen and broken a leg I think, he was on crutches. He could get up and dress himself. And get up and down the stairs with his crutches and the railing, and so on, but as soon as he discarded his, his crutches I think he went back to school, I don't know. [16.01] It was through the summer I think, he was on crutches. And no it wouldn't of been summer, cause Letha would of been home. But, I don't know, but Steven found out and he could get to school on his own power.

JB Ha! Ha! [16.22]

GB He finished, he went overseas, and he was in France, and eventually died over there.

JB Yeah.

GB But.

JB Well. [16.40] (tape off and on again)

JB The older boy.

GB The middle one.

JB Bill, wasn't it.

GB Bill, Bill, he was a, or was, or is still a surveyor.

JB And I guess, he's s fiddler as well, I think, Thelma Neil told me he played at, Raymond's.

GB Well you see Thelma Neil was his aunt, she's Bob's sister. And I guess she was I think Bob was the youngest of the family.

JB Yes I think so.

GB She was next, there was quite a big family of those Goves'.

JB I think there were about eight. Eight or something.

GB And, Bob and Thelma are all there is left. Yup. Yup. The girls marry young in those days they didn't go away to school, they didn't go to high school. Letha went away to school, cause she had her teaching's certificate, but. No, Kitt Hartson, Kitt, Carlton I guess she went by that name, went, went to Johnson, teacher's college, Ruth Greenslip, Ruth Varney her name was.

JB Yup, I went to see both of them.

GB And, but Kitt and I don't think Kitt ever taught school, she had the training but she got married and I don't think she ever taught.

JB I don't know, I, you know.

GB Into of the business.

JB Yeah.

GB It doesn't say what year this is.

JB I think it's, it's the Parker before Parker and Ford, it might be his father.

GB Yeah. (short pause) [19.12] The boss of this dirty mungler crew. Ha! Ha! (short pause)

JB Bert Moody, did he.

GB He had a farm up on the Lincoln road. Parker's boobie. (pause) For eighty cents a day, here it mentions Alison Bradley. [20.34] (long pause) Here I remember just barely remember this Klad Miller, I remember his widow, and the family. [21.15]

JB Was he a logger, or a mill worker? Or a farmer?

GB Klad Miller was a mill right, yeah. (pause) Now the moon or the judgement day.

JB Ello Benoit gave them to me. Well. [22.04]

END OF TAPE TWO

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