

Floyd Fuller/TC1992.0029  
Mad River Valley Project/VFC1991.0004

JB Jane Beck  
FF Floyd Fuller  
Place Randolph Center, VT  
Date 03/26/1992

FF Okay.

JB Okay, I am with Mr.

FF Floyd Fuller.

JB Good and it is?

FF Randolph Center, Vermont. [2.29]

JB And it's March?

FF Twenty-sixth.

JB Twenty-sixth.

FF 1992. Ha! Ha!

JB And you had your ninetieth birthday, November 8th,  
1991.

FF 8th, 1992, no 91. Right, yeah. Yeah. 92 hasn't come  
yet. 1991, you're right.

JB Wow!

FF Yup and I was 90 years old.

JB Well I was interested in maybe starting with some of  
your early memories, on Fuller hill, and Earl had told

me a story about how, I guess it was your grandfather first came up there looking for hemlock, was that the story?

FF Well now I don't remember but I know my grandfather came up where it's known now as, there's sign in Warren village, it says, Fuller hill, they told me here just a few years ago, but up until just a few years ago, there's been Fullers live on that hill since way back in, 1840 something, my grandfather came and from down in New Hampshire, and settled up on to the top of the hill there where my dad was born and I think there was 1844, and then my dad was born up there, and then my dad when he was, older and got married bought the farm down three quarter of a mile this side down toward the village, and started, moved there in 1882, and that's where my, where we was all born. [4.12] And so, that, but that's the Fuller's, my niece retired from the telephone office in Burlington, probably Earl told you about the, hospital burned and she was a telephone operator and she worked until she retired and then she kind of into the genealogy of the Fuller family, and she worked hard and then she, her

kidneys gave out on her, and then she passed away before she got it finished, but she got several generations.

JB That was Ruth?

FF Ruth.

JB Yeah well I talked with Ruth.

FF Oh did you.

JB Before she died. Yeah. And you were always a favorite of.

FF And so, [4.48] see the Fullers came from \_\_\_\_\_, she probably told you from England, way back and some of them settled in New Hampshire and some of them in Ipswich, Mass, and all around and so I've got that, whatever she got done I got a copy of it but, so that is, but I, well as I probably told you my brother, the next to oldest, Lauren, spent his whole life Lauren and he never left he stayed there on the farm with dad and then bought dad out. And then stayed there and then he finally sold it out last year and moved down to the foot of where Sugarbush is, and he was selectman, probably you got that too he was selectman in Warren for 21 years.

JB I had, I'd forgotten that.

FF And he was the one that showed this Mr. Gadd, the land up in there what they've got now as the Sugarbush ski business. [5.44] And that Mr. Gadd my brother then was living right there at the foot of where they turned to go up to the ski tow, and he bordered there for awhile looking it over and he bought, he ended up he was only 32 years old and a multi-millionaire and he bought that all the land up in there and opened up that ski development.

JB Now one story I heard recently was that, Lauren had said to him, I'll take you up and show you my Sugarbush, is that true, and that was how Sugarbush got it's name. [6.18]

FF Well I, probably, I don't know, I don't remember, but I know Lauren took him up, he come, he'd been there looking around and somebody referred him to Lauren because Lauren was one of the selectman and he'd also been a listor at times and in Warren and he knew all the, he was fire warden, he knew all the farms up in there and what, whoever owned them that like and the took him up there and he showed them around and he

ended up buying it. [6.41] So it was quite a story, now it's unbelievable of course I knew all those little farms when I was growing up, and now there isn't a farm up in there, cause it's all taken up, and one of the farms just, what you've probably heard about it, there's a golf course made out of it, and there was a small dairy farm, now it's a golf course. Ha! Ha!

JB Yeah who owned that?

FF Allen. [7.06] The name was Allen.

JB There's a guy that lived near there that, I can't think of his name right now, who is still alive and living in Brownsville, but I don't think his name is Allen. And then the Eurichs' were up in there too.

FF Oh yeah, yeah. And as I say I can't think of, I get so I can't think of names quick when I want to. But, well in of course I went to school with the Allen girls, and but that farm as I say been put into a golf course. And another place, some Pattersons lived up in there, and well probably you, maybe nobody ever told you but, when I got to be, thirteen and fourteen I was playing a violin, and I'm the only one of the boys

that, ever amounted to anything and played the violin and Earl or Lauren never tried it, my older brother Claren did but he didn't stick to anything anyway, and so I was the one that continued and I started playing for, kitchen junkets when I was thirteen years old. And played for the grange entertainment. And, later on a little older once in awhile they'd have a dance in the Warren town hall, and we'd just, we didn't have an \_\_\_\_\_ [8.30] or form or anything but we, they'd pick up, when they had a dance, they wanted to dance instead of being in somebody's house, have a big dance, a kind of a bigger dance, so they'd pick up a \_\_\_\_\_ and get an \_\_\_\_\_ together, and Georgia Patterson had lived up in there played this trumpet, and he used to play with me for dances, and he had the, he and his brother they had a farm up in there, a deer farm and now that farm is, I think there's a big restaurant there in the barn where that farm was.

[9.00]

JB I'll be darn.

FF Yup. So I used to play in the town hall for, play the

violin for dances and then for, I used to play well I played, for a number of years in the wintertime, every Friday night, the last few years that I lived to home, I left home when I was twenty-one, they in the wintertime provided their own entertainment, that's about what they had, they didn't have any movies or anything then. And, they'd have a dance in somebody's house it was on a Friday night, they've got to hold them Friday night cause back then, if they had a dance Saturday night when midnight come you couldn't dance any longer, they always stopped, now they don't matter to, the Sabbath don't mean anything to many people today, but so they used to hold them on Friday's nights, and about pretty near every week, I'd be going to somebody's house if the weather was good, and they'd moved all there stuff out of the house and everything was piling up and they'd dance at the kitchen and dining room and living room and oh, Mrs. Bashaw, was wanting you to go and most every, well every place we went either had a piano or and organ, and all the music they had was the organ or piano and me with the violin. Which was enough for in the house.

And, Mrs. Somerville her daughter I think is still alive over in East Warren now, but Mrs. Somerville used to go some and play but the one that went with me most was Mrs. Bashaw, and she used to go, we went together a lot, and we started dancing at nine o'clock and they'd call us up and tell us where it was going to be and we'd get there supposed to play from nine to one. And around, a little before eleven, a quarter to eleven or so, they'd hold up, have a time for lunch, and in the fall there would be home made donuts, and cider and oh the neighbors were bringing beautiful lunch and then they'd go dancing to one, well quite often one o'clock, before one o'clock come, they were having so much fun, somebody would pass their hat around and they'd get dimes and nickels thrown in and they'd dump it, come along and dump it on the organ or piano and say, we passed the hat around and will you play another hour. [11.13] Well that meant to play till two, and quite often but not always but quite often, they'd do pass it again and then we'd play till three o'clock in the morning. And we got a dollar and a half pay for each one of us for playing from nine

until one. And then we'd divide up, and I know one night, I remember we was out in Waitsfield common, and we played until three o'clock and each one of us had two dollars and sixty five cents a piece, and we thought we had quite a lot of money. [11.46] And we played from nine to three o'clock in the morning. And I was, at least twelve miles from home, and it was down to zero or a little bit below, at three o'clock in the morning but every was all good and I use to, I'd take my violin cause it was cold weather and the temperature was bad, I had it in a case, I used to wrap it up in a blanket, and put it into the sleigh seat, and drive home and I had a black horse I was driving and sometime when I got home to rest the horse, it's half past four in the morning when I drove into the barn with him, the frost on his hair, he was, looked like a white horse. And I'd put him in the barn and go up and change my clothes and dad and Lauren would be going to the barn to milk, and I'd put on, go up and change my clothes and go to the barn and go to milking and I didn't go to bed at all. [12.35] And, but the next night I was ready to go to sleep.

JB Oh I bet! Well now did your father play the violin?

FF Yeah.

JB Cause I remember, I think Earl told me he also made,  
did he make violins? [12.48]

FF Well he made his first violin, and then he later made  
a half sized violin for Pearly, the boy they never  
adopted him but he went by the name of Pearly Fuller,  
but he was quite musical Pearly was, and dad, when he  
was a little kid, and dad made a half sized violin for  
Pearly. [13.06] And it was a good little, I even  
played on that, and then later on dad gave it to  
Pearly, and I wish I knew where it was, cause, oh it  
was beautiful little violin and but Dad made his first  
violin. But he didn't know one note from another, as I  
say he didn't know a note from a donut.

JB No kidding. [13.27]

FF But he played by ear. And so, well.

JB So did you learn from your father?

FF Well no, this is to me it's kind of interesting to  
tell what I did cause I, I think I accomplished  
something but anyways, my older brother, Claren, was  
four years older and he and we, well it was Claren and

I, had left on the organ, one of them organs that you peddle and you got sound, and he give us lessons, and the teacher used to come to your house and stay and give you lessons. [14.05] Well we both took lessons on the organ so I learned the notes. And then Claren got the idea that he could play, and dad wanted him to learn to play the violin, so he had his take some lessons, well, I was too small and too young to take lessons on the violin cause, my arm was too short.

JB Ha! Ha! [14.30]

FF So they thought, but the little, well what do I want to say determination, anything Claren could do I made up my mind I could do it. So after he had his first lesson, our teacher had gone and that like, I don't remember just how old I was but it don't matter. I went in and took it on dad's violin, and I got the violin out and I got into, well my mother informed me that I couldn't play the violin and I wasn't big enough and well I says I'm gonna play the violin, I says if he can do it I can do it, well she says you got to wait awhile, and I says, no, I says, I'm gonna take it well I was sawing around and you could make a

horrible noise so she shut me into the living room, so she couldn't hear me, and I sawed around and squeaked and scalded around my arm didn't bend any but, I can remember it, and I says well, I don't know where the notes are, but my little head told me to, sit down to the organ put the head to the violin on the a, and peddle it and I got to sawing the a tone, as long as I peddled to held the key down so then from that I kept a sawing around and I found the second string, was a, he courted with it without putting any fingers on it. And, well I says that's, so then I put my first finger on the a string and raised the head of the violin up onto the next key which was b, and they courted.

[16.03] And I found, that I raised it up to the next one, it was c and then a second figure and that's the way I taught myself where the notes were on the violin, and so then I got so I could, I could play his lesson just as well as he did when the teacher come, and but I never took a lesson I just taught myself to play that way.

JB How old were you at this point?

FF Oh, I was probably, let's see I was about seven or

eight.

JB That's terrific. [16.33]

FF And so, I, got to playing and then from that, of course dad used to, get his old violin out and \_\_\_\_\_ and I used to go down and I learned to play all them old square dances, the tune, Fisher Horn Pipe, and the \_\_\_\_\_ Gig, and old those old \_\_\_\_\_, I'd set side of him and watch him and I could pick it up and it got so so we used to play together. And play, [17.03] play together, we had a lot of good time and in 19, well see I was, let me think about that a minute, I was, I was, I think I was, ten years old, yeah. I was, I was when I was small I had a lot of sick spells and didn't go to school, couldn't go to school and I don't know I was sick with the gripe or something, but dad sent and bought a nice violin for me, and it came while I was sick of bed, the grip of something, and I've got a scare and I'll show it to you, later, I made, cause I tried to do something in bed and then when I put it into the case I didn't get it quite in and the cover came down and made a mark on the top of the violin which I felt pretty bad about. But that violin [17.55]

is well, 80, at least 80 years old.

JB Do you still play?

FF Well not much of, I got arthritis in my fingers, that finger I can't, sometimes I can \_\_\_\_\_ it but sometimes I can't get it to go down to hit the key, oh once in awhile when the grandchildren come I get it out, and try to play a little tune for them, but so that violin has been with me ever since I was a kid about ten years old. [18.21] And, that's what I've used to play for all those dances and that like.

JB Did you used to sing as well?

FF No. No.

JB Cause there are a number of songs now Art Hartshawn used to make up songs.

FF Oh yeah he was musical, he played a trumpet and he, he wrote quite a few pieces of music.

JB Yeah do you know whatever happened to that?

FF I have no idea.

JB Cause I was looking for it, cause it would be wonderful to pull together.

FF Yeah. I don't know where they went. I don't know where it went.

JB Would you have any ideas where I should start looking?

FF Let me think a minute. Give me a little time.

[19.01] Some of the relatives that are still. His  
brother's daughter.

JB Kit.

FF Kit is still alive.

JB I've talked with her. She has a couple of pieces but  
not many.

FF And, and she's on the Bell side, some of them, well I  
think, I'm putting it I think, that the Murrays.

JB Now I talked with her. And.

FF Of course, May Murray and Weston are both passed away.  
But now, but, they was alive when Art and Bill passed  
away. And now they was pretty close, Bell and Art and  
May and Weston. And at one time, the one that, Art  
bought that land of and that farm, they was real close  
and then later on I don't know what happened and they  
didn't have anything to do with each other, and maybe  
you heard this before, you could.

JB No.

FF Cause well, when Arthur made, when he made out a will,  
and he passed away, in the will that was read, he had

it mentioned in there, no, when you were, that he didn't know what was it, Murray's, \_\_\_\_\_ was, oh, gosh, I knew him well, [20.47] anyway, I don't own him one dam red cent.

JB Ha!

FF And he had it in his will, they had some problem over something, and so they didn't, but somewhere it's in there, I think some of the Murrays and that like, sort of picked the house, cleaned up the stuff in the house, and I don't know where the stuff was.

JB Cause he wrote, the yellow painted hack, I think.

FF Yup. [21.20] And he was clever, Arthur was, Art \_\_\_\_\_ was clever and musical and clever in a, if you'd ever known him, that fellow was, a keen fellow and you know, he understood the bible as well as any minister you ever listened to.

JB Is that right?

FF That's right. And boy he could recite, \_\_\_\_\_, and I don't know if Earl ever told you one time that, in the legislature in Montpelier, they was trying to get a bill through that they, that they couldn't, what was it, oh play games and things on Sunday. [21.59]

Ball games, and something like that that were getting through, and he went to one of the, hearings in the legislature, and I guess he got up and this was told me he talked to them and the told the, told the ministers there, and that like he didn't want any, have any fun on Sunday and that like, he says, he said if you'd preach and have your sermons as interesting as a ball game is he says you'd get a bigger attendance. And he raved on and he quoted things out of the bible to them and they said after the meeting, where he had more ministers turned around talking to him, and but he, he could, he could repeat the bible. Ha! Ha! [22.41]

JB Gosh. Well tell me a little bit about your farm. How big a farm was it that your father had?

FF Well, [22.49] when he first went there, probably, maybe Earl told you, I don't know.

JB Well I, I, we always talked about it, but I never got you know, specifics.

FF Well when dad and mother got married, in 1882, probably Earl told you they married the 3rd of March, and believe it or not, they was married over in

Starksboro, and they had to go over Lincoln mountain with a horse and buggy on the third day of March.

[23.13]

JB Holly smokes.

FF And I heard dad and mother tell about that there was a rough ride cause it, it had winter and that \_\_\_\_\_ thawed off and this thaw and it rutted the, of course dirt road, they didn't have no gravel on them that they have now and then it rot and then it froze up, and I guess it was a rough buggy ride. Ha! Ha! Over Lincoln mountain, they had to go over to Starksboro where they was married. Well, then they bought, I don't know, I think they, dad they bought the farm, before they got married from a fellow by the name of Severy, and it was a small farm, keep oh probably eight cows and a horse or something like that, and you've seen pictures of the old house of course, and I don't know how many years it was, but Fred Cardell, lived towards the village, Warren village, just a quarter of a mile down the road, and that's where that house was taken down and moved up there, he bought

Fred Cardell after a few years, and then a few years later this side from here, this side around the turn where my Aunt Carrie and Uncle Lorenzo Orvis lived, which was my mother's sister and husband, and oh, they bought them out, and they moved over to Starksboro, and they had that, so that made three farms into one, and then in I don't know what year it was, the, John Cardell farm which was, well around the road was three quarters of a mile, and across lots, half a mile, with a beautiful sugar place on it, and John Cardell and Dan Cardell was son, lived there alone and when he passed away they had to have had an administrator and that like and so they, the thing was gonna be sold and put up on sealed bids, and I remember hearing dad tell about it, and he, John Lovett was a neighbor, and wanted to, buy that farm to, but it didn't join him, but he wanted to buy it, to make his place bigger, and so he put a bid in the sealed envelope, and John Spaulding I think was the administrator, but anyway, John put a bid in of five hundred dollars for that farm, dad put a bid in a sealed envelope for five hundred and five dollars and he, he got the farm, and

John Lovett I heard dad say was pretty mad cause he got that farm for five dollars more. Ha! Ha! And it was a beautiful sugar place you could hang a thousand buckets in that woods and there was only one other tree in the woods, every tree was maple except one, which was up in the northeast corner, and they was an elm tree, but every other tree in the sugar bush was maples. And some of it laid so smooth you could, dad used to drive around there with his old Model T ford.

JB Is that right.

FF And we could hang a thousand buckets there. And I've got a picture here I'll show you, maybe you haven't got, of the old sugar house.

JB Oh I'd love to see it, yeah.

FF I took over two, three year ago, I took some people I've taken a lot of people over there, and I boiled sap in that sugar house with an old bellows falls evaporator when I was twelve years old. And I want to tell you them was lonesome days, believe it or not. Mother would pack me up a lunch when at that time, you see he had, that sugar place and he had the one to home. So he had to, dad boiled up to home and my boys

brothers gathered the sap. And they had a hired help too. And, of course them old fashioned evaporators flat pan, \_\_\_\_\_, so they'd gather the sap over there and fill up the storage tank full, this afternoon, I'd go over there tomorrow and then tomorrow they'd be gathering up there, they didn't have to come back cause I had sap enough to last me and so I'd pack my little lunch and go half a mile across lots over there and I'd fire that thing from, the first thing after breakfast, until dark, and boil sap there all day long alone. [27.08] And I'll tell you, twelve years old, nobody to speak to and that like, and I used to look out the window and see if there was any movement going over home, I could look over home, but I boiled sap in that little, and I don't know for the life of me what's keeping that sugar house, it still stands there.

JB It is?

FF And that sugar house is lots over a hundred years old, and it still stands, the last time I went over I went up and I didn't go into it. Cause I didn't dare to, but it still stands up there, and no there hasn't been

anything done to it for years and years and why that thing don't cave in, I don't know.

JB And nobody sugars there at all?

FF No, no, of course there are no other buildings there. They're all gone. And, and it's being built up there, oh it was only several houses over there in the sugar house now, I go over there, on the old road to get over there, I don't know where I am hardly. [27.55] There's houses, people living there. And so, but it's quite a, and the house burned, I forget what year it was, I left home when I was 1922, and my wife's sister and her husband was up there, I don't know what, probably nineteen 24 or 5.

JB Your father's house burned?

FF No, the one, over to that, Dan Cardell, over to where the sugar house was, you see, this may not wind up good, but I'll tell you how I happen to get acquainted with my wife, was maybe Earl might of told you this.

JB No.

FF Well, Belle was a girl Belle.

JB Yeah.

FF Atkins, married Arthur Hartshorn. [28.48]

JB Yes.

FF And Belle, they, I don't know, or remember what happened to her folks but they took her and brought her up, and never adopted her but they brought her up, and Gertrude, my wife, Gertrude Neil, she was a, a Eugena Davis, she lived there in Warren, Waitsfield, she had a lot of aunts that lived there, she was a girl, but he and Belle went to school together.

JB Ah ha.

FF And they was great friends, and most every weekend my folks dad, and they always had a lot of people come stay there, they'd take in anybody they'd know that had, anyway Belle and Gina was almost like sisters, little kids growing up and going to school together. And, then later on, Gertrude's mother, something happened to her folks, and when she was I think 16, or 17, she went to Lowell, Massachusetts, Lynn, Massachusetts to live with her older sister, which was married and had a business down there, so she went to Lynn to live, because her folks had passed away, or her aunt and uncle who lived there but, anyway she landed at Lynn, and worked out and so on and so forth,

and during, after awhile she married Fred Neil, and he was, several years older and had been a bachelor, but anyway a wonderful man, and so he was a shoe cutter, and a wonderful shoe cutter and a pattern he used the last of his, all he did was cut the pattern shoes, he was that good. So anyway, she'd been there and she had two girls, Mildred, and Gertrude, which was Gertrude who was later my wife, and then Mildred was five years older she lives over, I sold her some land on my farm, \_\_\_\_\_ and they I helped them, they built a house, and she still lives there. [30.48] She's 90, 94 years old.

JB What's her name?

FF Mildred Ripon. Well, so this is kind of interesting and that is, when Gertrude was about three years old, and Mildred was about eight, Gertrude's mother rode up to, they used to correspond back and forth, I was a young kid I didn't know anything about it, but I usually did Christmas time and that like, so Gertrude's mother rode up, and it was in the summertime, and that she said I'd like to come back and visit. [31.27]

END OF SIDE ONE

SIDE TWO

FF There with his team and meet \_\_\_\_\_ and the girls, well of course, [.03] my mother wrote right back, of course I will. So they made a date and, and dad hitched up a pair of horses on the, well call it a surrey, with a fringe on top, a two seater and went and met the train and brought them over there, and she waited there awhile and then when they got ready to go down to Waitsfield visiting, he hitched up his horses and carried her and the kids down to Waitsfield, and he took them over to Lincoln, and that's the way my dad was. He'd do anything for people and then when they got ready to go home, he went and picked them up and brought them up and they spent a night or two, a day or two there and then he took them to Rockford and they took that train and went home. But this is s funny thing, I'm gonna tell it, you can cut it out of the tape if you want to. [.53] As I say Gertrude was about three, and I was four, and I'm a year older, so in the old house, there was a bedroom off of the

kitchen that dad and mother slept in, and then there was a the house was, go by the stairs, went upstairs, there was a living room and in the corner, the bedroom, and in the corner was a little corner, and they had a wooden rod, and some kind of curtains up, and they called it was den, and well the writing desk was in there and also they could set up a, a half bed or something, I don't remember what half, I guess it was a half bed, three quarters bed, I don't know.

[1.36] I can't remember that but anyway, so when they had extra company, cause some of the rooms upstairs weren't finished off, the bedrooms, they used to put up, move the desk out and set up the half bed there, so, well they was come there, the first night, they made up a bed for, Gina and Mildred, and they made up a little bed on the floor for Gertrude, and when they got around and of course, as kids, we had to go, the little kids had to go to bed first, got Gertrude into the little bed on the floor, and I had to get her to bed, [2.15] but I was sleeping upstairs with my brothers, and they wanted me to get in bed with Gertrude on the floor. And I wouldn't do it. I says no

sir, boy oh boy, they were way trying to done it, and no I was, I was disgusted with them and I wouldn't do it, I was, boy I was, I guess I was probably ready to ball or something anyways, but I, I never forgot it, that bothered me, why I wouldn't think of getting into bed with that girl you know, why. And to think later on I married her. Ha! Ha! [2.43]

JB Ha! Ha! Ha! That's funny. That's a great story!

FF So when we, and then in two, or three years more, they came back again, and of course the kids were bigger and they come up and dad done the same thing, he got them and that like and they stayed, and then it got so, well I got some pictures I'll show them to you, that, when they was up there, Gertrude used to like to be out strolling the farm with me, and that like, and run along and so we were together a lot as little kids and then it got so when they was bigger, well we always called her Grammy Fred, grammy used to come up with just Gertrude, Mildred was off at school. [3.30]

Got to, she was going to art school, she an artist and they sent her and Gertrude \_\_\_\_\_, but probably around fourteen or so, and she used to work in the summertime when she was going to high school, [3.43] in a shoe factory, get a job, some kind of job in there, they used to do piece work and she had to keep track of them and that like, but she liked it up Vermont so well that she'd come up with her mother, and her mother wanted her to take a week's vacation and then go home. But she didn't want to, she said well, I know several times they argued, she said, mother said well you'll loose your job, you're gonna, you can't, well I don't care, she says I'll get another. So she used to stay up summers and so we got so \_\_\_\_\_, that it got so, I don't know, we got bigger and we enjoyed being around each other, and so, after we get the chores done on Sunday, always had a nice horse and a nice buggy, and of course we had a lot of nice horses, so we used to, Gertrude used to pack up a little lunch, and I put up a little hay in a bag, and shine up my horse, and everything, and we'd, start out Sunday around ten o'clock, we'd go back some

back road where there's a brook, we'd hitch the horse, and we always carried a little fish line oh on the end of a stick, and I'd get to the brook bank, and tie the line on to it, and I'd go and sometimes Gertrude did too, we'd, we catch four, five, six trout, and then I'd come back down to where the horse was and we'd feed the horse some hay, and I'd take some stone and make a little arch, and then I'd get some \_\_\_\_\_ spruce boughs and little dried branches and build a fire and Gertrude would dress the fish off, and fry them, had a fry pan and fried them, we'd cook our fish right there for lunch, and sat around and just enjoyed ourselves and chew sometime and then go home. [5.31] And we'd done that a good many Sundays. And then, so later on, they got so Gertrude's dad was kind of having not much work and kind of retiring, and he used to come up, and stay for quite awhile, and this particular time, they had so much fun and they used to stay in a house down in Waitsfield which belonged to Gertrude's mother then, and \_\_\_\_\_, a little house, [6.02] they stayed in there, and one time I know, when we usually, Dan Cardell's house where the

sugar house was, used to store sap buckets and stuff in, cause nobody lived in it, and so, what the particular year, they stayed up for, and got pictures where ever they was on the farm with us, and I got picture that Grampy Fred set up on the piano smoking his cigar, and she said to my dad, she said oh I wish she says we had a place that we could come to and not to have stuff moved out for us and stay and we'd like to stay some years and we'd like to, sometimes stay up here till after Christmas, spend Christmas up here.

[6.47] Of course Mildred was off to, weren't there and that like, and so dad says, well, he says, oh the old Dan place he says, that old house there he says, if you want to fix it up inside, paper it and fix it up, he says, I've kept the roof good and it's all good, the floors are good, of course there's no heat in it, but he says, we could set up a stove, and he said if you wanted to fix it up, he says, we'll move the buckets and stuff we got stored in there and put them somewheres else and he says, you can have it to use.

[7.20] He says it wouldn't cost you, we'd let you use it. Well they was tickled to pieces with it, so they

fixed it all up and they come there two, three years and spent the summer there, and stayed some time till after Christmas. And so, this particular time, during this time, Gertrude's sister Mildred, and her husband, and they had a little boy Dean, come up, this was in the summer, they'd come up for vacation, see, and of course they stayed over there, there was two bedrooms, and Gertrude's dad used to gun to the Boston market, he and a fellow from Salisbury they used to gun for the, the market there in Boston. And, quail and pheasants and all that kind of stuff, they used to every fall, they'd go out, they'd bring you birds in and make some money. [8.14] And he had a beautiful, beautiful shot gun, oh he thought the world of it, well anyways, so they had a couch, in the kitchen there, with a, I think it was, they called it a chenille cover of something. And of course, Harold Ripon, Mildred's husband smoked a lot, cigars, and so this particular morning, and I was, up from Lynn, I was living in Lynn at the time, then, I went down to Lynn and married down to Lynn and we come up on our vacation.

JB Oh so you married Gertrude by this time.

FF Yeah. Yeah. [8.51] That was after we were married, we was married in 1924, 68 years ago, this Sunday. I was married. January, March 29th, 1924. And so, Gertrude and I came up, having my vacation and I was working for the, I guess I was working for the foreman of the Lynn \_\_\_\_\_ Company at that time, [9.15] we come up to my folks for and Harold and Mildred and little Dean was staying over to the Dan Cardell house, with her folks, and so this particular day, they was Harold and Mildred they was gonna come over to the farm, and Harold was bringing little Dean sitting on his shoulders, and as near as we could figure, a little breeze, and he come out and left the door open, and there was steps up there, there wasn't a porch, but there was just a step, some sparks flew from that cigar or a smoked a pipe sometimes, a cob pipe, and they got almost over to the house right near the house and Harold turned around and said, oh my god, that house is a fire. And of course Grammy Fred and Grampa Fred come over earlier in the day to the farm, and so

well boy I took and started on the run and my brother Lord did and well I, I run faster than the rest of them, I was younger I guess and I run faster and Harold says, my, under the bed in my pocketbook, well of course I was excited and I didn't use my head if I had I could say something but I was the first one that got there, and they had, moss greens over the windows, to keep flies out, and I, I should of waited a few seconds to get my breath but, I went to that bedroom window and I, tore that screen off and I leaped right into that room, and it's a wonder I ever come out, what I intended to do was gonna, go in that and gonna shut the door, the bedroom door, but I didn't get to the door, oh I sucked in so much smoke that I, I nearly blacked out, and I crawled out, back out the window and I was laying on the ground when Lauren my brother got there, and I said don't go in there, I said that place is full of smoke, the wind was blowing in right there, and I said I, and I was coughing and strangling, and my older brother raised me up and I says, yeah, I'm all right, but we couldn't save a thing.

JB Hum.

FF And so, pocketbook and dad, and dad we called him  
grampy Fred's beautiful shot gun was in the cupboard,  
everything went, we couldn't save a blooming thing.

JB Ah! Gosh!

FF So that's what happened to the old Dan Cardell house.  
But, a little excitement.

JB Gee, I'll say.

FF And that, ended there coming up and spending the  
summers, up there. So they went back, when they did  
come up and visit, come stay with my folks, or go down  
to Waitsfield, and stay. But that's kind of.

JB Wow! Well now your father was a great horse trainer,  
and a great horseman.

FF Well that's where we boys got our training.

JB Well I've, that's where, I'm interested in where he  
learned and cause he was really thought of as a.

FF I don't know what Earl told you but I'll tell you  
what, his dad told me, and I heard him tell a good  
many times, when he was fourteen years old, he bought  
his first horse, a three year old stallion, just  
halter broke, and of course he was living to home and

his father was an old great of a horse man and his brother, well his brothers they could drive them but they never, but dad was one of a million, it was born right in him, he seemed to know how to do everything and that, so I thank him for what I know. And so he trained that stallion and what, how he got to be a veterinary, well he never went to college or anything like that, or school on it, when the neighbors back in them days they of course, calves and the cows would be sick, they had veterinaries, well I got a little extension that I'm on a party line (phone ringing).

JB Oh! [13.19]

FF That's the neighbors ring. So, when the neighbors had a sick cow or a horse or whatever, he heard about it, he'd go to the neighbors to see it, to see how it acted, he was that interested, and if it died, he said to the people, well, then can I cut it open and see what's wrong. And he did. [13.40] That's where he got his education on starting to be a veterinarian, because he watched the animal to see how it acted when

it was sick, and the veterinary would then give him  
they didn't have much as they have today of course,  
but he done the best he could and then they died. And  
then he'd go back and cut them open and see what's the  
problem was. [14.00] And from that kept a reading  
books, and that like and the first thing he knew, a  
neighbor had someone sick, he'd hear about it, he'd go  
down there and he'd, he'd maybe dose it. And from that  
he kept a going, after many years he was what I called  
a real good veterinary, there wasn't anything of  
course they didn't have needles to give shots and that  
stuff, he done everything the old fashioned way but  
that man was busy and of course Earl left home, he was  
one of the first ones, he got married and he left  
home, and then Lauren and Claren and I was there, and  
you know we'd go out in the morning, to do farm work,  
we never knew whether dad would be there all day or  
what, maybe he'd be out in the field, he might be  
plowing or whatever, and the next the phone would  
ring, and mother would come out, and ring a bell and  
somebody had a sick horse, or a sick cow, or a cow  
couldn't freshen, and one of us boys would take a team

and step in his foot tracks and go ahead and he'd go and hitch up a horse and go, maybe he'd be gone for two, three hours, depending on how far he had to go. And he always stayed until that animal was better. [15.14] And he'd get called out in the middle of the night somewhere and he'd go and dose that animal and when he come home the horse, or cow or anything was better and that's the way he learned, the sad thing is, that man was so capable of knowing just what to do, and no education on it, he taught himself and raising books, he had a lot of big doctor's books that he never wanted to let some of us boys we knew a few things but he never let us know all the stuff that he used, and I don't know what Earl told you but he, I remember him telling me several times, I'd ask him questions, and he says, you know, he says, don't let everybody know what you do. [16.00] If you let everybody know what you do he says, they wouldn't want you. Don't tell everybody how to do something. Well back in those days if you had something that somebody could do, the money was, and that was his idea cause money was tight and he could go out and pick up a

little extra money doing veterinary work and also save the farmers money because he didn't charge like a vet did, but there's a sad part of it was, why didn't he leave us the recipes of some of the stuff that he made up. That.

JB How did he learn to make that stuff up?

FF Don't ask me. [16.35] I don't ask me, but just experimenting and trying. And he had, back here, oh quite a few years ago, I was down in, Plainfield, New Hampshire, and there was \_\_\_\_\_, was an old horse jockey down there, [16.55] and he knew my dad, and I was down there doing horses for him, and he was getting along in years, \_\_\_\_\_ too well, and so my name got down around there and so I went down there, and we got to talking, and he says, you wouldn't happen to be Roger Fuller's boy would you? And I says, well I guess it happened to be that I am. Well he says, a great man, a great man, he says, that man he says, had more knowledge on horses and he says boy he knew how to dose them, and I was pretty good myself. And we talked and said well, after a year or so he

passed away and I was doing some horses for his daughter which was, a great horse woman and had Morgans, and I was to her place and her husband had a portable saw mill and I was up to her place and had the horses teamed and then she always had to visit with me cause we talked about \_\_\_\_\_, and my dad and went in and had some coffee, and I don't know how it happened, but anyway we got to talking about, she says, you know my father used to be called at night, to dose horses with the colic. [18.06] And she says he had a, a colic medicine, she says he would never tell anybody what it was, but she said if he got there when they first begun to be colic, he'd give them a dose of it, he says, and half an hours times he says it was better. And she says, well I says wait a minute, I says, your bringing back kind of memories, she says well let me go out in the barn, she says, I've got, one of the bottles, and I'll show you what the bottle was, it was a round bottle, and in that bottle was a, probably I don't believe it was a half a teaspoon full, it might of been, in that bottle, of greenish liquid, and I says for heaven's sakes, I don't know

what dad used but there was, it was the same color, and time and time again, when I was a young kid, we was breaking colts, a lot of times dad and I was young, he'd say well, we'll hitch up that colt, and I'll get my stuff my case and we'll go and doctor that sick horse and you kind of tend to the cold while he was being hitched outside they get uneasy you know, and that like and so I used to go and drive for them and that like. [19.14] And whatever that was, it was a greenish liquid, but I remember he, a two tablespoon fulls, in a long, and of course they had to use a long neck bottle then to drench them, he put two tablespoon fulls into that end of that bottle and a pint of warm water and shake it and poured it into that horse and nine times out of ten that horse just started to be colicky, in a half an hour or so that horse was eased and he was better. And so I asked dad one time, I said what is that, oh he said, some stuff I rigged up. And I don't know to this day nobody else knows and old Bronk Farns wouldn't tell his daughter, he says, it's a secret, and she says that's a shame, I says, I know it.

JB Did you learn any of his remedies?

FF A few. [20.00] But not too many.

JB Which remedies did you learn?

FF Well I learned some of the stuff that he used to use for cuts, and things like that. And to give them for bots, and different things like that and then one time this was interesting, I think I was a young kid, and we were breaking a colt for somebody, and she was a, one of those always that dad says, didn't have too much between her ears, you get her and drive beautiful today and tomorrow when you hitch her up, you start out with her, you wouldn't think she ever been harnessed. So he had to go either, he either had to go to Montpelier, or over to Bristol to a drug store, he needed some stuff, so he said to me, let's hitch up that foolish colt, and he says, we'll drive her over to Bristol and back, maybe he says she won't forget it. And, he said, of course over the mountain you know, and that's quite a little drive, so we started out right after breakfast, and went over to Bristol and put up the Dan Lane is cousins over to Bristol,

and we had dinner there, and he went down to the drug store, and of course, put the colt into Dan's barn, and went down to the drug store, and he had written out on paper what he wanted, passed it to the druggist, and the druggist took it and looked at it and says, and Dan, Dan knew the druggist in the drug store cause Dan was a, at one time he used to, I thought he was sheriff or something and he would patrol nights around with a great big dog, one of them big dogs, anyways he says, Dan introduced him to dad there, and the druggist says, Mr. Fuller are you a licensed veterinary and dad said, no, no. I don't have no license. And he said I don't know if I can fill that, and dad says why? Well he says, I know what's in that, well dad says I do, and dad says I don't have no problem getting it filled in Montpelier. And I live in Warren, and he says and so I come over here to, I thought I'd get it over here and have a little visit with Dan and exercise a cold. [22.07] And before he got around, he said, well he says, you know that stuff will eat hide, hair and bone. And dad says I know it, it's a blister, I want a blister and take a smattering

off the horse. [22.19] And so he filled the prescription. But he called, he called it a spanish fly blister, now I don't know where that name come from but I don't know what was in it, but he used to take \_\_\_\_\_ off of horses, that's a place up on their hind legs, [22.32] hard like a bone, and he'd put it on there and it would blister and sweat it out and take that bunch off. But I have no idea what was in it.

JB Earl told me once about, some remedy with a, of a from a frog that he used to put on a knee, a bad knee of a horse.

FF Yeah. Well.

JB And I don't know whether he learned that from his father, your father or not.

FF Yeah I bet he did.

JB Cause I'm fascinated, as you say, it's forgotten.

FF That's right.

JB And that's why I feel interviewing is so important, because although many of the people you talk to, can read and write, they don't choose to but they have this fund of knowledge. [23.19]

FF Yeah. But I say it's too bad that he wasn't freer he showed us boys certain things to do like floating teeth. [23.26]

JB So you, that's who you learned floating teeth from?

FF Oh yeah I never went to school on it. And none of the boys did, and also he taught us boys all of us to shoe horses, he had a blacksmith shop and he was a corrective shoer, he'd bring horses there that was limping on that leg and when he put the shoe, set the shoes and picked them up, they walked off and they wasn't limping. [23.48] And he had a blacksmith shop and that like, and he taught all us boys to do that. I shod a lot of horses. And, I know how to, in fact I dosed more horses over the years than I like, with a bottle and stuff and drank them and put it into them. And that like. And so he was wonderful that but he was a very hard teacher. I, of course I was the last one, and another thing, why he was a hard teacher, that kind of stuff comes so easy to him, that the first time we did something he thought we ought to do it like he did, well he wanted, he shouldn't be so gomming, doing this, [24.32] and you ought to be do

better you know.

JB He called it what?

FF Gomming.

JB Gomming?

FF I don't know how to spell it, but don't be so com dam, never swore, but com dam gomming doing that. You ought to be able to use your hands or do, and you know well, you know, it irritated a kid or it was to me. And I'm telling you I don't know how many colts, his horses that I worked on their teeth. Before he ever told me I did a good job, and this is a story I put on, over the years, many, many demonstrations, I've got a horses skull which I showed you, and you've seen it I guess, of floating horses teeth, I do it for four H, riding clubs, and different organizations. And I am bragging a little, I've been told by other vets, that asked me to come, come and ask me how to do a teeth, and I've been told by them, and I guess it's true, I think I'm the only man that ever demonstrated floating horses teeth with a skull to the public. [25.32]

JB I think that's probably true.

FF I know I'm the only man that's in Vermont that's ever

done it. And so, well I feel kind of proud myself for that.

JB Well you should.

FF But, people have asked me, how many years you been doing it, and I say, I, this is what I tell, I says from seventeen years on, off and on. Seven years I was in Massachusetts I didn't do it of course. But, and why seventeen. I was seventeen years old and Warren was a mill town, you probably Earl told you a lot about the mills in Warren, several mills all run by water power except the steam mill, one mill would run water in the spring and when low got that, the steam engine, the board mill but, there was a clapboard mill, a butter tub, butter, a big grist mill, a \_\_\_\_\_ mill, clothespin mill, and all those mills down through Warren was operated by mill power, water power. [26.25] Well anyways, so this, at that time Arthur Pray, it used to be Pray and Parker's business, the clapboard mill, lumber mill, a rich man, and he passed away, and Orvie Jones, married Pray and Parker's daughter, and his daughter married Arthur

Pray, well when Orvis Jones retired, got old and couldn't do anything, Arthur Pray come in and took over the business so of course all the hauling of material of all those mills had to go over Roxbury mountain to the railroad, so in the spring, along in the last of March, and the first of April, they'd bring the horses up there by my dad's and we had two clipping machines, and we used to clip their winter coats off, and the clipping machine we had was \_\_\_\_\_ covered but there was a [27.09] stood up and you had to turn a crank, so we had two machines, and of course it was the boys job to turn the crank, and we'd clip four horses that day for Arthur Pray, and when he got through he says, Lija, he says, before I take the horses home, I want you to do their teeth. So dad went and got his float and his pail and stuff, and he did one, then he said to Art, he said, you mind if my boy does one, and Arthur says, heck no, go ahead. Well now maybe I wasn't nervous, cause my dad was so fussy, time and time again he's always said well you're improving but, you're angle ain't just right. You don't go back and get that last molar or some,

something you know, never quite right, then he asked me to do that horse, and that man there, well, (phone ringing) so I took the float, and I went up there, and as I say I was nervous, I did this side and I did the other side and I'd taken it on the \_\_\_\_\_ that the deed had been done, and when we got through dad says well, I'm gonna see what you did and he walked up and pushed the head horse by the nose and put his thumb up there and felt of his teeth, and went around and felt the other side and pulled his tongue out, and looked up in there, he said, well he said, you did you a good job. [28.23] And that was the first time. That I was ever told I did a good job. So I tell people well I've been doing off and on since I was seventeen. That's where the seventeen come in on.

JB Ha! Ha!

FF And, so from that I've been doing it and I, well I, I don't know I've done thousands now.

JB Did you do, cause Earl did?

FF Oh yeah. Oh yes.

JB And, he again had learned from your father.

FF Oh yes. What Earl knew about doing doctoring horses

and training was all from his father. And Earl was good at it, and he could train.

JB And your father trained as well?

FF Oh yes. Yes. And you know, a lady come in here the other night, and I don't know as she lived over here since July, and she used to live up in Granville somewheres her name is Powers now and the last Saturday they had a, doings over here at the college on tax and that like and I went over she met me and she says, you Earl Fuller's brother, and I said, yes. Oh she says I knew Earl when I was. she's at least 30 years old, she come in and see me the other night, and says, and she told me, she says, and I used to talk to your brother quite a lot, she says, I love horses and I have horses, and she says, he taught me, told me how to train my horse so he'd, when I was riding I wanted to stop and pick up one foot and tip his head down and bow, he told me how to do it, and she says, and it worked. [29.50] So Earl told her how to train it. And of course Earl had trained him like my dad, to lay down and roll over, and set up. And I've got a picture of Earl standing in front of old Don J, out in the

back room in a frame, setting up, and dad of course used to take him to fairs, and show off with him, and enter him as a gentleman's driver. And probably Earl told you about that too. [30.17]

JB A.

FF About his playing dead over at the fair?

JB I'm not sure. Remind me.

FF Well this was, I was a young boy, when it happened, he was a little fellow, but anyway, dad for several years he and John Master from Randolph, and I forget the other one was horse judge over to Northfield fair, dog river valley fair, and back in those days, the horses that they showed was not raising but show horses, they didn't ride them hardly at all, they was either in a four wheel buggy or a cart, and they drove them. And dad was one of the judges. And so he had old Don over there and so, I don't know who drove him anyway, but he always used to come home with a blue ribbon cause my dad was one of the best horse trainers I don't think there's anything like him today, that could do a better job than he did, when he trained a horse, trained, he would drive up and say, woo, and he stood

there, and his head would. [31.20]

END OF TAPE ONE

JB Okay.

FF So the first thing in the morning, they was early in the morning, they everybody was to the stalls cleaning their horses off getting ready for the day, taking them out and show them, you know, so dad seed it was kind of gravelly out there, you know, out in front of the barn, not too good a place for us to lay down and perform but, he took him outside [2.47] with just a halter, and a lead rope on him, and he said to old Don Jay he says, lay down, he had him trained so he said if you lay down you're dead. He'd lay right out and lay out flat. And he would not move, until dad snapped his finger, so he laid out there, and dad he said, he hadn't hardly for stretched out when the fellow next door, looked up and \_\_\_\_\_, and he said, Mr. Fuller your horse sick, and dad says, well I don't know, funny he come out there and laid right down. And from that he come over to him, and from that word got through, he had nine or ten horse man, all around that

horse dad says I could hardly keep from laughing, they felt of his ears and they felt of his pulse, under his jaws, and they felt around his heart, and they had all kind of suggestions and they said, well it's funny he laid like that, he don't seem to be in pain, he isn't sweating, but there's something wrong, and finally one fellow down behind the back of him on his knees and if you ever lifted a horse, ever get a chance, to stand on side of a horse and they're quiet, put your ear right back by the hipbone, and down and bend over and put it up against their belly up tight, and listen, you'll swear that there's the worst thunder shower in there that you ever heard. It's woom, woom, woom, this fellow knelt down behind the horse as he was laying his feet out this way, and bent over and put his ear on that horses belly, and he says well he hadn't got a stoppage, he says, it's still, when they have a stoppage, or colic, or something, everything stops, you don't hear anything. And this fellow says, well he hasn't got a stoppage cause he says it's still moving in there and that like, but he says it's something, I don't know what it is, well he get us and he says, I'm

gonna see if I can find the phone and call a  
veterinary before he gets any worse and dad says I  
looked around and couldn't see anybody else coming,  
snapped his fingers and the old horse jumped on his  
feet and then he showed them what he could do with  
him. Ha! Ha! Ha!

JB What a wonderful story. No I never heard that. [4.45]

FF And another thing he used to do with him, he used him  
for breeding, he was a hamiltonian, and which is a  
trotting horse, and about they're, you don't hear much  
about them anymore but, back then it was odd. He had  
him trained, and he'd take him out in the yard, Earl  
was holding him in the picture I got, but dad could  
take him out alone without anybody, without any halter  
on him, just a little whip in his hand, out in the  
yard and tell him to lay down and he laid out and he  
tell him to roll over, and he'd roll over and he'd  
tell him to sit up, and when he was sitting up like a  
picture we got, he'd ask him to say his prayers and  
he'd put his nose down to his knees, and go ouuuuu.  
And, [5.22] when he was standing people would come and  
say, look at him and they would go maybe one of them

would have a mare bread to him, they'd say how old is this horse, and what they didn't do, they never watched dad, but they'd stand side of the horse and dad would stand in front of him with, just a little lead rope, and jump, and the old, dad would say Don how old are you? And he'd take his right foot, and tap it on the floor. [5.46] And everybody was watching him, when he got to ten, eleven whatever he was, twelve, he'd stop. And they never watched dad, dad stood right in front of him and he had his hand down by his hip and he just made his finger, and that horse would tap his foot as long as dad, and when dad stopped he'd stop. [6.03]

JB Ha! Ha! Ha!

FF Then they'd say to dad, how does the horse know how old he is? And dad would say, well you know how old you are. Yes, but I'm not a horse. What about next year? Well dad says you gonna tell him you're the same age next year as you was this year? Well no, but. Well he says, he'll tap his foot once more, he'll know when he's one year more. And nobody ever discovered what dad did, but all he had to do was just say, how old

are you Don, and then make his hand, keep it on his side and then do that to the old horse, \_\_\_\_\_. Ha! Ha! [6.30]

JB How did he ever train him to do that?

FF I don't know. And I don't know Earl knew how to train a horse to lay down and, and set up, like dad did. But I left home. I don't know and dad never did any of that training when I was coming along, I don't know, I don't know just, I've got ideas but I don't know, I don't intend to know. So many.

JB Yeah Earl had a horse I guess he did that with and then saw him again in Connecticut or some where.

FF Well it was a hubbard, a stallion that Dick Hubbard bought. Before he rode it down to Massachusetts, \_\_\_\_\_ Holbrook brought him up, and Earl trained him. I got a picture of Earl with him in a cart in the fourth of July and the Dick later went out of business and sold him down in Massachusetts and Earl went down and I guess to I don't know what happened to him, seeing that horse remembered him, and he showed Earl Fuller how he could team and have him lay down. Ha! Ha!  
[7.22] And so, oh he was good, he was good, Earl was,

he was a corker. He was much better than Lauren, Lauren was all right, Lauren used to after he sold the big farm, and that like, he bought down the foot of Sugarbush, and he used to ground, and shoe horses. And that like, he used to come over to Randolph and shoe Cliff Mayer's horse, and that he had this forge and everything on the truck, but he never was as handy as the rest of us around the horse. [7.54] He loved oxen.

JB That's what Earl said, that he was the.

FF He could drive oxen, he could teach oxen to do most anything, and he could drive horses, but there again, whenever my dad say to him, where's your gomming with those reins, that was the words of my dad, you're so gomming with those reins. You. Well he didn't have a knack of, picking them up and he could drive them and get around places but you know, he wasn't like, like the rest of us.

JB Well it's a gift.

FF Yup. [8.23] But he'd take a pair of oxens, steer them and break them, and he'd, where after he had them awhile, he could, of course they had the ox carts, they'd hitch them on to and drove, we used to have to

draw manure and load by hand and spread it by hand, and after he had those oxen awhile, he could set, come in with an empty cart, and come down around to the barn to talk to them and swing around and back into the garage, the door under the barn, and set all the time up on the end of the cart and just talk to the oxen and they'd back that cart right around into the manure pile. [8.51] And he wouldn't have to get on to the carts. But, he wasn't handy with horses. But he was good at shoeing, and he could handle them in the, boy he'd shoe some that nobody else would ever think of shoeing, but to handle, to drive them or train them, to break them, he wasn't there. [9.08] And that's one thing that Earl was excellent on, and another thing, all one side my brother Claren, although he was four years older than me and I never got along good together, because he was older and he wanted to boss me around and I was, I guess I had the disposition that I didn't take orders from him and I was always able to do whatever he could do, and a little bit better and so we never get along too good together but, I have to hand it to him, he was a good

horse man. He was a wonderful horseman. But, I won't say no more about him. Ha! Ha!

JB Ha! Ha! [9.44] Yeah Earl never spoke much about him, he said he, I guess he lived down in Springfield. Or?

FF Down in Connecticut.

JB Connecticut.

FF Yeah. But, he was a good horseman. But. Don't do business with him. He's gone now, I'm the last one left anyway. [10.03]

JB I know you are, yeah.

FF Yeah. So.

JB Well, Earl went to school for awhile out in, was it in Chicago, did he?

FF Not to my knowledge. Just between you and I, believe it or not, you can cut it off the tape, Earl was my brother and I think the world of him, but he exaggerates.

JB Well I, I know that. And I, I didn't know whether he'd gone to actually gone to school, or?

FF You know he, he'd make up things, and he'd tell him so you'd believe him, but I know. And, I'm 90 years old, and you can inquire about me, and I'd like, and I'll

\_\_\_\_\_ my head with a hammer here but I never lied to anybody. [10.57] And anything that I said I've done it and I can prove it.

JB That's certainly your reputation.

FF Well, that's the way it's always been, that's the way it's, and that's the way my dad was, but.

JB Do you think, did Earl actually drive turkeys to Boston?

FF I don't believe it.

JB Cause it seems.

FF I've heard that story.

JB He told it to me a number of times, but it seemed late, and people weren't driving stuff to.

FF Oh that's something he dreamed up, and it was a good story.

JB Well he probably heard it somebody else.

FF Yeah. Oh yeah, yeah. But.

JB Cause I think all of his stories have a nugget of truth, he heard them maybe from somebody else.

FF Oh yes. Something that did happen. [11.45] And then put it in there, I was the one that did it, but I, as far as I'm concerned I, if you went back and traded

and checked, I'd be willing to gamble my home that he never, I don't know as that man ever went to Boston. Ha! Ha! Ha! And he told, I've heard the story sometime, well let's see, it was, driving stage over to Roxbury.

JB Yeah. Well now he told me he did that for four years.

FF He did drive for, for a short time, to help out in carrying the mail.

JB Yes.

FF Yeah he actually did. But some thing or other I heard some of the stories something about somebody he brought back and, just, I doubt it happened but. Ha! Ha! [12.41] But. But I say, he was a good hearted fellow, but he would tell some outlandish stories, that never happened, ha, ha. And, never heard dad say \_\_\_\_\_ but a lot of times he and Clarence, Lauren was another one of my brothers next to Earl, two years younger, one of the most honest men you ever met. If you told you something it was so, and if he told you he'll pay you such a day, chances are nine times out of ten, he'd be there the day before. [13.24] That's the kind of a fellow he was. And, Earl and Claren I

won't say what happened, but I know.

JB Well, I was curious about the, I was sure that you know he was telling me about driving turkeys, he's heard it somewhere but it seemed pretty late in time.

FF Oh yeah, oh yes. Yeah.

JB For him to be doing that.

FF It was. And, part of it never happened with him. That's a bad thing to say, here, but I mean it, I'm honest.

JB Well, good. Well it's important to know, I mean he's, in many cases it's as valuable to record stories that have been passed down to you, I think that's very important.

FF Yeah. Oh yeah.

JB But the other piece of information I'd like to get is whether they're first hand or second hand.

FF Yeah.

JB So that's, that's important to know and I always suspected that but.

FF Yeah. [14.28] Well as I say of course another thing speaking about myself I tell people I'm an eight grade drop-out, well I didn't drop out of the eight, but

eight grade is as far as I ever went. [14.43] And, I'm not blaming my folks, because I wanted to do more, but I passed my everything but history, I hated history when I was in school, that to me was, I didn't care when Balboa or Columbus did this and that, that to me was no way of, wasn't gonna earn me anything, I was out for things that were gonna earn me some money to live.

JB A practical education. [15.07]

FF And so if I do say so arithmetic it was called back then, mathematics, arithmetic, and geography and spelling, I liked it but the teacher used to get so mad at me, back then when you had the class come out, you had the teacher set at her desk and you come out and set her over on the, circle around the desk and seats, and she'd ask different questions. Well that was your daily, and just before history class I studied what I was supposed to do to \_\_\_\_\_, so that when I got out there I could answer any questions. [15.51] Six weeks later they'd have a written test, heck I was, and Mildred Pray was the teacher, (coughing) excuse me. And she says Floyd Fuller I

can't understand you, she says your day marks are wonderful, and six weeks from the time you have a test you don't know nothing. Ha! Ha! And you know when I, I got to get a drink of water, I talk too much.

JB Sure. Let me turn this off. [16.16]

FF Yeah. And I've had plans of going to Montpelier High School, to stay with Belle and Art, and Art at that time had a cow, and a horse, and that was the only house up on Sunset Avenue, and.

JB And you said that was moved from?

FF Fred Cardell's place.

JB From Warren?

FF Yup. I'll tell you.

JB How was it moved?

FF Well I'll tell you, to get back to that, see dad \_\_\_\_\_ that house and he used it just for a catch all, and Arthur and Belle had been for a number of years down in, West Swansea, New Hampshire, he was a night watchman around the mills. And so he got sick of that and he also was a carpenter, so they came up back up to Vermont, and he went up and he bought from the Murrays, quite a chunk of land, and well Belle was

related to the Murrays through the Atkins and that like, and so anyways they were great friends, and they bought quite a chunk of land of Calvin Murray. And so they of course while they was up and that like, they come up and they stayed quite awhile with dad and mother cause that was Belle's home, and they was telling that when spring come that they was gonna, they bought that land and when spring come they was gonna build a house up there and he was gonna go out and go do carpenter work, talking about it and, and Dad suggested that, took him down there and he says why don't we, cut this out in sections, and he says, I'll take two teams of horses on sleds and we'll take it out there and then when spring comes you can put it up and have a house, he says I'll give it to you and we'll help you cut it down. [18.13] So that's what they did, they cut that house down in sections, and loaded in on to two, two horse traverse sleds and twenty six miles or more from there, probably twenty seven miles from dad's house down to the house to Arts, in the wintertime and they took that house and delivered it up there with horses on sleds.

JB How many sections?

FF I don't remember how many sections there were, it wasn't an awful big house, since then, I've got to go up there again, I haven't been up quite a number of years, I got to go up again they tell me that there's a lot of houses built up there now and also they've, they've added on to it and made it bigger. [18.50] Like that picture shows there, it shows it.

JB Yeah.

FF And it wasn't too, too big a house, it was high up but not too.

JB That's amazing.

FF They cut it down in sections and put it on and went in the wintertime with good sledding and of course the sections hung out over the sled on both sides so they, when they met somebody with the horses of course there were no automobiles they could pull out and go by each other and they took it out there and, and when they was out there with, one day with the horses and stayed all night, and I guess they put the horses up in Murray's barn, and come back the next day, and so that's how that house happened to be set up there, and

I say in the meantime, I was gonna go out there and go to school. And, I was gonna help Art, he could of used a carpenter and I could help do chores, around the cow and also he was burning coal, and he had this haul his own coal and his own horse, a little one horse sled, and I was gonna haul coal up from the city up there, and help Belle and Art and for my board. Well just before school started, typhoid fever set it, and several people passed away, and my mother was, kind of a nurse, and she used to go and help people have babies and anyways, you aren't going out there she says and get into that. She says that's for sure cause she says back then of course they didn't, don't have the doctors like they do today, if they have it, they says will you wait in the waiting area and I'll go next year, well, that was all right. And during that next year, my brother Claren which was four years older, got married when he was nineteen, and left.

[20.33] So, when time to start school again the next year, dad says well I can't spare you, you've got to stay here and help me. Claren is gone, so there was just Lauren and I and dad and then, during sugaring

time, and special times he would hire a man, but the rest of the time, we was doing it. So that's the reason I never went to high school.

JB Well and then by that time you had a huge farm.

FF Oh yes. And of yes in the meantime, a farm, between the Dan place, the Dan Cardell place, and the Lorenzo Orvis place, was owned by my Uncle Amassa. [21.10] There was a farmer there and there's a barn there, but there's no house, and Uncle Amassa lived on the home place up top of the hill, and so, dad bought that, so there was five farms put into one. So when he sold out to Lauren, my brother, there was over four hundred and fifty acres more or less, but they're all in one barn, and so that is how that come to be such a big farm, and I don't know if Earl told you but after they bought, the Lorenzo farm up on the hill, they raised a lot of turkeys and they had a pasture, and they used to call it, turkey pasture, they raised their own turkeys and also they had sheep, and they used to make their own wool and they had the spinning wheel and that like and mother used to knit us all wool socks for, for winter.

JB Did she, did your mother spin?

FF Yeah.

JB I have often been told, that there was a song, that people used to spin by, and you know every different movement the rhythm of the song changed.

FF And, you know this is, it might be interesting, my mother's brother, William Curtis, when I was born, named me, I don't know why but he named me, my name is Frank Floyd Fuller, and I was to always be called Floyd, and when he, when I was born he named me, he gave my folks a sheep, with the understanding they were to keep that sheep, and all the proceeds from it would be to be put into a bank for me. And so, that's what happened, until dad had to get rid of all the sheep, the bear and the dog got to chasing the sheep so much that he finally cut out, but, the little lambs and everything that he used to sell them, and that like, and my wool, shear them and sell the wool, and I always used to put that in the bank. [23.23] And, it counted up, so when I went to, twenty one years old and I went down to Massachusetts, I had two hundred and twenty-five dollars in my bank account, and, in

the Northfield Savings Bank, sheep money.

JB That's terrific.

FF And I never spent it until after I was married.

[23.46]

JB That's wonderful.

FF And so, that's kind of interesting.

JB Yeah and you had, a bear after you sheep?

FF Yeah. Yeah a bear and dogs. And so, dad says we can't  
he'd loose them, chase them and get them scared and so  
he cut out having them sold out, of course Earl  
probably told you about the bear that dad caught in a  
trap when he lived to home and brought him up in and  
had him in a ox cart to show people. [24.13]

JB Yeah I think he did tell me that one.

FF Ha! Ha! And so, he was quite a, he always was doing  
something nobody else would even think of doing, and  
so this was interesting talking about myself, well  
about my education, I laughed over it more than I,  
back here a few years ago, on of the auditors passed  
away in town, and so the selectman for some reason one  
of them came and says, we selectman had a meeting and

we got to have an auditor and we're appointing you as an auditor to fill in until, for this year, until the March meeting and then we'll elect an auditor to take care of that, but until then, the selectman had to appoint somebody for the, this was long, the first, late in the fall see, and the first of January you had to audit the books. [25.05] And this was what was so funny, that year, down to Randolph town clerk's office, Mrs. Wakefield, was a representative up to Montpelier, and Helen Wakefield and I knew her and she knew me well cause I was a Raleigh man for about seven years after I left Rochester, and then my back was bothering me and I had to get out of trucking, and so I took a Raleigh route and so she, so she knew me real well and she came into the town clerk's office and she was a good representative, she'd come back with the \_\_\_\_\_ bills and ground them, visit people on weekends and see what they thought about it, how to vote, she was working for the interest, an awful nice lady. And she come in and she said well I've come down here, she said, I thought, I'd get some good advise, and Clifton Chadwick was the, that year was the chairman of the,

there was three of us, and he was a college graduate [26.00] and one time was the town manager here. An awful nice fellow, in fact it's too bad, he's up in a rest home up in Northfield. But, anyways and Jack Stevenson, was another well educated man and been a salesman and came up from Massachusetts seven years ago and he bought a place up by John Deere and so he was on the board of auditors and I was filling in for \_\_\_\_\_, so she come in, I don't remember what the bill was, and she says I want to get some advise, and she told \_\_\_\_\_ to write the bill off, well Tom she said, Mr. Chadwick what do you think about it? And I, didn't pay much attention, I was doing something that the papers I was figuring up, and he told her and she turned to Jack and he said what he thought, and she turned to me, she said, Floyd she says, what do you think about it, and I said why do you ask me, I said I'm an only eight grade drop out and I says I don't know nothing. I talk to people and it's a wonder I got any friends, but they all seem to like me. [27.02]

JB Ha! Ha!

FF She says, listen don't talk that stuff to me, she

says, an eight grade drop out, is certainly not being an auditor for the town of Randolph. And I laughed, I said, well that's what I am, well I said, maybe didn't really drop out of, but I says for your benefit, I'm telling you, eight grade as far as I ever went. She said, I don't believe you. She said to Cliff Chadwick, is he telling the truth. And Cliff said I think he is, he says I've known Floyd for many years and he says I never knew him to tell anything but the truth, and he says, I guess I think he's telling the truth, but he said I'll tell you this much, he said, I'm a college graduate but he says you give him a set of figures to add up and you had to add them up by then, and he says, he'll add them quicker than I am and he says it'll be right. And, he couldn't hardly believe it. [27.55] But, ha, ha, \_\_\_\_\_ got a big kick out of it.

JB That's terrific. Well talking about Warren, describe what Warren was like as a town, when you were growing up?

FF Well it was a very busy mill town, way on the, we'll start from up toward Granville, there was a little, a mill up there that Jim Pearce run that they made clothespins, and then they took them up to Barre, or to Montpelier, and I guess they was finished off, up there, but they made clothespins. And then Ezra Parsons, had the little mill I forget just what he did do, but these were all run by water power see, on the, that river, and when you get to the bridge that used to go to the bridge that is still there out of Warren village go to Lincoln, just below that bridge Palmer and Wakefield, had an \_\_\_\_\_ mill where they turned out, later rounds and handles and all that kind of stuff, and then when you go down through the village a little ways below the village, there was a dam and quite a pond and that was a clapboard mill, and they used to get out big stacks of logs in the winter, and pile them up and with horses and all that and then when, spring come and it thawed out, and the ice went out, they had a lot of water power, and they sawed out clapboards, and from the clapboards of course you get the clapboard and you get to clapboard \_\_\_\_\_ for

fence posts and that like, and [29.27] in the water passed down through the village which was just these mills here they had the clapboard mill and the lumber mill was owned by Pliny Parker, and he had a big barn and a lot of big horses and a lot of help, to go in the woods and that like, you go down to that other lumber mill where they sawed out boards and dimensions and stuff and that like, with water but they put in a steam engine for in the summer when it got, the water get low they didn't have power enough and so they could, so they could saw during the summer, cause they used to do custom sawing and that like, in fact that mill sawed out all the lumber for my dad's barn in 1913. Timbers eight feet. And then, the mill was on the left hand side and if you ever been through Warren village which you probably have, there's a bridge set down in there, and right, the other side of the bridge was a grist mill, well you have to grind them, back then the farmers raised a lot of grain and they used to bring it in, and they ground it and they used it for grain for the cows and dairies and that like, and so that grist mill was there, and then you go down and

go up over that hill and then the road used to, kind of turned to go toward Waitsfield and well the road is still there and then the other road was, went straight, you could go up on the west hill in Roches, in Warren, well just out around that curve was another mill where they made butter tubs and butter boxes. So it was quite a mill town, and all that stuff was all products were hauled over the mountain with horses and shipped by railroad then. So it was a busy little town. And, of course they had to the town hall.

[31.18]

END OF SIDE ONE

SIDE TWO

FF Well that, yeah they, you see everything was done with horses and Earl worked, worked out different places after he got married, he left home and he worked out of different places and at that, some of the time I think when he was drove stage, they used to have, the mail went from Warren to Roxbury, two mails a day, one before noon and one in the afternoon. And they used to call it a stage. [.30] Because some of the people would come in, in the afternoon on the train and

they'd ride on the stage over to Warren. And if they wanted to go somewheres, they'd get on the stage in the morning, and one went over, and wait for the train in the afternoon, or whoever, whichever was going, and take the train so they made two trips a day, and of course in those days you know the winter roads was all rolled, with rollers and as you see that a perfect replica.

JB Oh made by Elton Jones. [1.04]

FF Yeah.

JB Yeah.

FF Of course he married my niece, and when he got through he couldn't work he made a lot of those things, but that.

JB I have one of those.

FF Have you? [1.11]

JB Yes.

FF You know that's a nice piece of work, because it's certainly accurate in the a replica and those harnesses, made out of rawhide and those replicas, now those replicas have got little pins in them, so they'll pull out like the real ones, it ain't made up

so it stays like that, you can imagine but those replicas and everything is, exactly like a replica of the old.

JB Yeah. Yeah.

FF And, we used to roll the road from our farm to the Warren village, Uncle Amassa used to roll over to the road from his house down to my dad's and he went the other way over to what they called the south school house, over towards East Warren, and different ones took care of the road, and then the town had a big roll, that they did the main road with, and you know, Fuller hill, the wind blows, and sometimes we'd get the road all rolled down and that like, during the night, there come up storm and the wind would blow and drift it, the next morning had to hitch up and go and do it again. And sometimes we had to shovel and the drifter would blow and get them hard and the horse can't do through a drift, it's got to be broken, and I've set on one of those rollers, hanging on to four horses, till I was so cold I didn't feel cold. [2.32] Cause Dad and Lauren, would go ahead and shovel and

break the crust on a drift that rounded up, so we could go through with a roller and we always had the colt, we used to break a lot of colts, for other people and so a good place for the colt, you get him bitted and you got him so you could rein him, hitch him up back on the pole. On side of another horse and then you have a lead team on ahead. And ain't much he can do but stay there, but he'd get unneedy, get yarned around, and if you couldn't go ahead and leave him, cause he'd get in another horses turned up, they might try to run away or something. So cause I was younger, I set up on that seat, and I'd drive them four horses, and well sometimes I'd be gone, so drifted, and I had to shovel and I had to shovel and I liked to go down there and back it would be three hours, doing it. [3.18] And I'm telling you when it's down around zero, and that like you're setting up there and no exercise, I'm telling you we was cold. And then when you went along, the snow would blow in the back and it would come up around your back and you'd be covered and this is, I told it to a lot of people, they probably thought I was lying but I

wasn't, we had a Sam Daniels furnace, one pipe, we get the horses in the barn, come up to the house, take our coats and things off and go in and the heat come up the center in the air, and the cold air went down, standing on their good fire, and when we begun to thaw out, we'd have cold chill go over us, we'd start and shiver, that's the God's honest truth. We'd stand there and not all the time, but you know every once in awhile we'd stand there and just tremble and shake, cause that heat coming up around us our blood was beginning to circulate. But that's an awful story, standing over a furnace and shiver. [4.13] Boy that was, you set still and there was nothing you can do, I had the colt and then I had to hang to the reins and then when they got through they'd jump onto that cross bar on the back, and ride till the next drift.

JB Well what would you wear as far as clothing was concerned to stay warm? [4.35]

FF Well we had heavy underwear, and a lot of shirts and sweaters, mother used to knit sweaters, and when I was very young, well later years she didn't, but she'd made her own wool, and had wool socks, and then we

used to wear, you can, I never seen one, felt leggings, they were different then the felt you can't buy anything like them now. They were like a rubber, like a boot, the whole thing was all, the felt was probably a half inch thick, and pulled that on and then you had a rubber with a couple buckles in it, you put on over that. [5.14] And buckle it up. And the rest of that felt come up there on your legs, they were boy I'm telling you they were warm. But after you set still so long your feet would get cold in them, but otherwise you was, it was really good, them felt leggings. So.

JB Well I've heard that, sometimes people would lace cider with pepper, to keep people warm. [5.43]

FF I don't remember. No. Something else I was gonna say. Oh, this is another thing that I've told people, and people have asked me, when you roll those roads, when the springtime comes what did you do? [6.01] Well, sometimes we used to have a lot more snow then they have now, and there was times when the road was higher than the fence post past your fence post along side

the road, you was riding as high as the top of those fence posts believe it not, and well when it begun to stop and dump in the spring, what happened, like my Uncle Amassa didn't have a rig like it, he'd cut out of the roads and go into the meadow fields, for awhile until the snow got melted out. Well dad's road from the village, they have woods on the side of the road you couldn't. So with his ingenuity, he had took her front sled, traverse sled, and he, I don't know what he got it out in some road machine, or scraper, or something, and he made a, fastened a blade, slanted it, and fastened it, I don't remember just how it was fastened to the front sled, so that it would run about, three inches, lower than the run of the sled, and just as quick in the spring, you got a warm day, it begin to warm up, if the team went down through, they'd punch a piece, you know, and then that night it would freeze up, and there would be some bad holes and the horse could step into them and break an ankle or something. So when that begun to happen, there again, I done a lot of that, cause I was younger and I could do that better than I could do something else, hitch

up them horses on that sled, [7.30] and we'd go down well that's would shave off, of course the road was up so, sort of a slant and shave and push it right over the side, I'd go down over and take off about three inches of that top snow and then, when we coming back we'd do the same thing and maybe if it was warm, kept warm the next day I'd have to do it again, and that way we kept a cutting it down, and you know till we was down to the road and when got down to the road in the spring, we had very little mud in that road because the snow kept it from freezing very much, all winter you see the roll, the snow packed over it, the outside ditches and things would get froze up, but the road itself wouldn't be very muddy.

JB Well I'll be darn.

FF Well that is an invention that he, rigged up himself, to take care of it. And, of course I'd love to talk about another thing that he would do, he, I don't think maybe Earl told you but, I don't know, anyway, he made a stiff crouper for a horse.

JB A what?

FF A stiff crouper, nobody ever heard of it, and I, there

again, well I won't say anything, but, I don't know where it went, but, it's gone, horses used to sometimes they had what they called driving horses with switchers, they'd take the switcher, and some of them if they'd switch, get their tail over the rein, they'd hug it down and pull the horse right off into the ditch. If you couldn't raise up and with your hand and lift that tail up quick enough. And so dad went down to his blacksmith shop, and he made a stiff crouper out of steel.

JB And a stiff crouper?

FF Crouper, it goes under their tail.

JB Crouper. C R O U P E R.

FF C R O. Yeah. And in a crouper and every harness, driving harness had a crouper it goes around under the tail to the back pad, well he made one shaped just like it, only it was iron and then in the center of it, he welded a little piece of light steel bar, oh probably eight inches long, maybe a little more, right in the center of it, and give it a curve, then he took it to Henry LaMorter which was a harness maker, there in Warren, and took it down to Henry and says here, I

want you should pad that and cover it and put buckles on it for a crouper. Well dad said that Henry looked at it and he says God sakes, he says, what are you gonna do with that, dad says well I use it when I need to and then he wouldn't tell him, he was a real tickler, so he made it and then on that piece that went under the tail bone there, slanted down, he said I want you to cover it with leather, and have and bring your leather around and sew it on the under side and make some little holes and he says I want three little narrow straps with a buckle on them, very small, and fine, he says, when I put that in there and they put the horses tail into the crouper he says and get hitched up, then I can poke the hair on the horses tail apart and put them little straps and strap it right to the horses tail. Nobody could see it, cause the hair had all covered over see, if you get my idea, them little straps \_\_\_\_\_, that horse would raise the tail up and down but he couldn't do this with it.

[10.56] And so.

JB What a great idea!

FF He could cure a horse from switching. So he made that

and had it for years and years and well I'm not, to blame to much but there's several things that I was supposed to have, that I never got. And, so, that was one of them, and that's, I think that's the only one that was ever made in the country. [11.22] And I'll, I got to tell you a little story, and not keep you here forever.

JB That's fine. Ha! I'll come back, too.

FF When I moved to Rochester, I come up from Lynn, Massachusetts, in 1927, I got a little story to tell you about the 27 flood.

JB Oh I'd like to hear that. [11.40]

FF Which is interesting. But anyways, I come up and I rented John Lyon's farm, on Route 73, going to Brandon, up above Ames, well of course Earl lived on that Route 73.

JB Yup.

FF Down there to the Flanders place well up further was Ray Andrews then you went through and went through a covered bridge and just through the covered bridge about six hundred feet was a John Lyon farm, and I

come up from Lynn and rented that farm, the first of July in 1927, and the fourth of November, that bridge left, and I saw that bridge leave its foundation and go down stream all whole just like a boat. [12.24] And this is something that interesting. Eleanor Barns, lived up above me, on that same road in a brick house, and he was kind of an elderly man, and he had one horse, two seated buggy, and he used to take little kids to school, over to the school house over by Ames, it's been made into a house now but at that time there was a school house there. [12.50] And so he used to take the kids and then he'd go in the afternoon and get them little duffers, home. So this particular day had been raining and raining and I went up to the hen house, right up above in back of the house, and John also had a blacksmith shop up there, so I went up to see about the hens, and boy, there was a little brook that come down through there, and that thing had rised up and was, was running water right into a little hole that the ends went in and out, and some of the hens were swimming and some of them was up on a roost. [13.23] Well I went to blacksmith shop and I got a, I

forget what I got but I knocked a hole through the end of the hen house, so to let the water out, and I got the hens shook them, got them up on to the roost, I come down I was just go into the barn, and Mr. Barns, just drove up about six hundred feet, from that bridge, up there, and he said, Mr. Fuller, I'm afraid we're gonna loose that bridge he says when I went over to, this is what he, just like the term he used, he says when I went over it trembled, he says I heard the horse, and I told the teacher to let the kids out cause I wanted to get home, and he says, when I come through just now, he says it trembled awfully and that's all he told me when the wires start snapping, and we looked and that bridge, was like when the telephone wire was hitched, and when that bridge left it stripped them right out. Now a matter of, well it couldn't of taken him more than, two minutes or so, to go six hundred feet with that horse walking, and up there telling me that, and that bridge was gone. What a catastrophe thing that would be if the kids had been in the middle of that thing. [14.29]

JB Now was that in 27 flood?

FF That was the 27 flood, November 4th. So we was without lights and telephone and we couldn't get out of there. And we had company from Massachusetts with a little kid, and of course they tell, there's a busy little Rochester, a busy little town, and they got right busy and quick as they could and put up a, walks, bridge, to walk across, but before, when we got around till we could I had to go to get some groceries, and it's, well it probably must be pretty close to four miles from that John Lyons farm to Rochester village and I had to go down and with a bran sack, that the grain comes in, and lug home on my back through foot bridges, and through the woods, to get home with groceries. And our company the man would not go and help me lug groceries and that made me kind of mad.  
[15.40] He.

JB Oh that's awful.

FF Oh he said he couldn't, he said he couldn't, he said, I couldn't walk that far and that like and I said you like to eat don't you? And, well I guess he didn't like it very well cause he didn't eat any supper that night, and Gertrude my wife told me that night, she

says I'm sorry but she says, I think, he ain't gonna eat, and she says, I don't want to have any, I says don't worry, he'll be ready for breakfast and he was, he ate plenty of breakfast the next morning. Ha! Ha!

JB Ha! Ha! [16.07]

FF But, and then also when they got around, they hired Bill Shepard to go up into what they call the cooperation up in there woods and cut some stringers, for a temporary bridge, and I went up with my horses and sled and dragged those long timbered with horses down there for that temporary bridge, so when they get around, but until that, I had to take my milk, we separated the cream and sent it down to the creamery, carried it down there to the foot bridge, Ray was a, beyond the other side of his horses and we carried across the foot bridge a he'd take it and he'd pick up the neighbor down through to go Walter Severy's and then that was carried all of milks was carried across the cream across that foot bridge, and another team on the other side took it down to the, to the village creamery. [17.03]

JB Incredible.

FF So, we had quite an experience.

JB Well, you didn't have electricity in Warren did you?

FF Oh no. No. No. No. No. That's another thing when I was growing up, well before I left, dad bought a Delco plant, but before that we just used kerosene lanterns. And when they did get a, we didn't have any telephone for awhile, and when we got a telephone, we had to run our own line to cut, set our own poles and run our own line. And they had the old box that you'd stand up and wind the crank. And so, my, Uncle Jessie Billings from Granville, came out and helped to set the poles and run the telephone wire from Uncle Amassa's three quarter of a mile down so we had a telephone. [18.02]

JB How old were you when you got a telephone?

FF Let's see, I was probably, I think I was about ten years old.

JB That must of been quite a event.

FF Oh yes, I guess it was. And you know the funny thing was, you could call for quite a distance and it didn't cost you anything, and we had to pay rent for the telephone but I mean out of town, you could, you used to call out to Pearly Bonet out to Waitsfield and talk

with Mabel and that like, and it didn't cost anything.

JB It must of been wonderful.

FF Get up there and turn the old crank, one long, three shorts. And, and you could call all over the place.

JB Oh yes. [18.48]

FF And, well but they had a, in Waitsfield village, there was an exchange or whatever you want to call it, and if you wanted to call, further than that, you called the operator in Waitsfield village, one long ring, and she'd say hello, who are you calling? [19.08] And well I want to call so and so, and she'd ring them for you, and then you could talk with them. And that you had to, had to pay something. But, ha, ha, but no lights or anything and that's why, as I told down there to the panel, people used to neighbor more than they do today. They didn't have anything else to do with it, go and come and come and spend an evening and lots of times in the summertime, and that like come out and set in the piazza and visit and mother would always get a little lunch before they went home, and boy we just made our own fun and that's why they had the kitchen junkets in the winter, and do those things,

and.

JB And also the general store was the meeting place.

FF Oh yeah. Yes. There was two of them, George Bragg and John Spaulding.

JB Tell me about them.

FF And had them old fashioned round stoves, and they, and the, not so much John Spaulding he was, too, a little bit, too much of a business man, he had to be, over to George Bragg's store, and he used to go around there and they had the checker board over in back there and they used to, some of them old fellows and played checkers and oh gosh you know you could buy, a big stick of candy for a penny and I used to buy a, used to buy, whatever it is, licorice sticks, and they used to be about that long, and then they had a flat place in them, and printed in there where they were made or something, and I used to cut that off in chunks and chew it and I was chewing tobacco and of course the juice would be brown, I shouldn't tell you this, but the teacher, on teacher I had, Clarabell Spaulding, kids chew gum and that like, and she'd come around and, scold them for it, come around, and they used to

put their gum in their hand, for a hand out, so, I had a good cud of liquorice I chewed up, ha, ha, and she come along, ha, ha, I had to stay after school.

[21.16] She come along, and she says, spit that in my hand. Ha! Ha! And I let, she had a whole hand full of liquorice chewed and stuff, she held her hand out I let it go and boy was she mad.

JB Ha! Ha!

FF Oh gees. She said, you'll stay after school for that. She says. Ha! Ha! [21.34] \_\_\_\_\_.

JB Well wasn't there a lot more sort of prac., sort of good humor and practical joking and?

FF Oh yeah. Yeah. They didn't do anything bad to hurt anybody, just good sports and that like. [21.45] And have fun. And the same as they used to have husking bees, and lanterns in the barn and they'd sit there and husk your corn, and if you find a red ear, you could kiss any girl in the crowd, and once in awhile, he'll tell you to cheat and mother did, go into another neighbor to husk corn and slip in your pocket, outside a red ear, so after you husked for awhile, if you didn't find one, you had one. And they wouldn't

see you and you'd pick it up and I got a red ear and go and kiss some girl. Ha! Ha! [22.11]

JB Ha! Ha! Ha! Well wasn't there quite a bit of practical joking in the general store itself?

FF Oh yeah. Yeah.

JB Do you remember any incidences, or?

FF Well, there's there used to be, and maybe Earl might of told you about this old fellow, he was one of the biggest liars I guess there was in town and told the darndest stories, and one time he was, when some people stopped in his house, he lived on the road toward Granville, and he was always telling what a hunter he was, and everything, he said one time, he said I shot a hedgehog, he weighed three hundred and fifty pounds, didn't I old woman. And his wife was right there, and she says, no. He says what do you know about it, you weren't there. Ha! Ha!

JB Ha! Ha! Who was that? [22.52]

FF Oh I'll think of his name in a minute. Oh God. And then there was another one that lived up on that road, old Pinky Heath, they called him Oscar Heath, did Earl tell you about him.

JB I've heard a little bit about him but.

FF Well he used to make baskets. Lived alone and made, oh he used to make, he used to go out and cut his ash, and they used to pound it to get the ash, you know pound it to get this and then he had a shaving horse, a big thing, you put it in the shaver, and he used to make some wonderful batches, little baskets, turn them bottom side up and he could jump right up and down on them, they were, were good, all sizes. Farm baskets, you know. [23.31] And one time, dad had so many, \_\_\_\_\_ so many colts and that like and didn't have a pasture for them, we, he rented a pasture down near, Oscar Heath's place from Blair's and so every Sunday, we used to around to the different pastures, and give the cattle colt, young cattle and the horses salt, and back then it was loose salt, and you could buy in a hundred pound bags, and put it around on the rocks and see if it was all right that he didn't have any hedge hog quills, so this particular time I was a young boy and I went with dad down, and we went across lots a good, a short distance from the Dan Cardell place

right down over the hill, on to the, on to Route 100 there, so when we come back, we dropped into see Pinky Heath, we chat with him and [24.19] the place was kind of a smelly place but, and flies around there, and everything and so, his saw horse, there that big wooden thing was all full of bullet holes and he was one of these fellows that was telling everybody that when you're hunting and that like, all you need to see is the white of the eye and if you can see the white of their eye, that's all you need, you shoot them right in the eye. Everything he owned, he'd always shoot everything in the eye, he was a good marksman. [24.48] So, dad said to him, I never forget it, I was a kid and I was so tickled, dad says what's all these holes in here, well he says, I shoot, he said, I put some little molasses on there, he says, and when the flies get on her, he says I shoot them with my pistol. And dad says shoot them right now, and he said yes, then he happened to think, he said, squish them all to the devil. Ha! Ha! But he first said yes he shot them in the eye. Ha! Ha!

JB I always wondered, if he was indian, or part indian.

FF I don't know. I never knew of course, I was a young kid. An another thing about him, that I noticed about him of course as a kid, he had two great big hunches on his head, one of them was bigger than the other one, one of them was down here and the other one was back here, and I know he says, what's them hunches on his head. So.

JB I guess that's how he got his name, Pinky.

FF Yeah. So. But he could make some nice baskets.

JB Hum.

FF Another thing, I don't know what Earl told you but my dad, come up of course, the hard way and he had to work and that like and he, when he got to doing \_\_\_\_\_ or blacksmithing and that like, shoeing horses, he used to buy his, or horse shoe steel, in rods, and made his own shoes.

JB Ha!

FF Now that's a job, don't you think, he did to make a shape of a horseshoe, and put holes in it, and everything, and.

JB Yeah. I mean usually you have.

FF You buy them all shapes, but back then they couldn't.

And he used to make his own shoes.

JB Incredible.

FF And here's another thing, we boys was taught to do which I don't think today that there is many fairs could weld a to3 cork onto a horse's shoe with a forge and coal. You might be able to weld it with electric welder or gas torch, but to weld it to like we used to weld them, they weren't brought up to, what they go out west and trained them to do fierier work, and everything is powered, and the heat was, you know, but dad had a great big bellows, in the shop.

JB A huge, one of those. Whatever happened to those. you don't see many of them. Stafford Dragone in Ripton had just, a huge.

FF A huge thing that come down there and then there was a handle, a long handle lever, and you'd pump it, and then you'd come up and you had your forge and put your coal in you pump that, and boy that blade would come up, and then you hit your iron and everything in there and when you get ready to weld, when you get it so hot, sparks will rise up in the air and flames flow and that tells you it's welding hot. And so, I learned

to shoe horses, and weld.

JB Now did you father learn that from your grandfather,  
do you think?

FF Don't know. No, that grandfather didn't have a shop,  
and never shod his own horses.

JB No.

FF But he picked that up himself. And his training would  
go into training the horses he used to train horses  
and we used to break them for everybody and bring them  
there and Earl, has had a lot of horses in his day for  
people, to train them. But he got his training from  
dad, but dad, from just practicing and picking it up  
and doing it himself. And, I, if I do say so, I  
inherited a little of it cause I had a, horse, I was  
on a farm here, in Randolph for twenty five years, and  
I bought this horse came from Dale Eatons' and dad  
bought our first, but after he sold out and he was  
down to \_\_\_\_\_, [28.47] and he bought this three  
year old colt from Dale Eaton, half Morgan, and half  
Belgian.

JB Half what?

FF Belgian.

JB And half?

FF Morgan.

JB Morgan.

FF So, my mother was pretty, but dad when he moved, sold out, he brought three colts, and one horse and two colts with him down to Rochester, and the buildings there, and my mother was, just got \_\_\_\_\_, but he got to have a horse, he had one ever since he was fourteen, so run along and then finally he got, well he had one horse, a spicy little horse, that he got from somewheres but he was a tiny, but dad loved to drive him \_\_\_\_\_ and some old [29.37] with old Brock Farnsworth, about a woman up in New Hampshire I can't think of her name, and he bought it, dad put a price on it cause he didn't think he'd buy them, and of course he took a liking to him and they bought it, and so anyways, my mother had told me after that she was glad the horse was gone, well you know he was so uneasy, go see him and he, he said to me, he said, I'm gonna have another horse, said I've had a horse ever since I was fourteen years old here I am eighty so and so, he said well the horse so he went out to Gail

Eaton's and bought that colt. He come home one day and drove in his car and come home, he had a grin on his face and my mother says, what have you done, oh nothing. [30.29] She said what did you do, buy another horse? Well he says I'm afraid I did. Well she says I hope it's well trained, oh yes it's three year old colt just \_\_\_\_\_. [30.39] Hey there Fuller what did you do that for? She sputtered, well he said, don't worry he says, when winter comes he says I'll have Floyd come over and get \_\_\_\_\_ on my farm. And let him handle it for me and then get it going, and get it to driving and then he says I can finish it off and so that's what happened, well, I broke her for him and then he had her one summer, and then, that next winter, he brought her over to my place we agreed to take care of her and cause he and mother and he was getting bothered to go downstairs to attend the furnace and that like, so they, went up and stayed with Art and Belle and they stayed right. [31.29]

END OF TAPE TWO

FF But I'll finish this, and so, well he was there, he

was sick and the doctor, well I'd call him a, I don't think he was fit to doctor a horse, but \_\_\_\_\_ the doctor out there in Warren and Waitsfield, he kept him in bed, said he'd be kept in bed and dad never walked after that. [2.49] Lost the use of his legs, at his age. So, \_\_\_\_\_, old beauty stayed with me ever after that, and so, and then of course Earl and his wife, Earl came after dad when he had that house in Roxbury village, and at that time Earl separated from his first wife, and he got married again, and he and Nan lived there and they, they did a good job, they took care of, dad and mother good shape, they got paid for it but that's besides the point, anyway so, \_\_\_\_\_ was, I had old beauty over there, and so, she was mine, I kept her. And from that I kind of do little things with her, and I used to take her and go to the fourth of July parade, in the meantime, it got to be funny I had, things done with horses there and I had four stalls and I had my work team and the third horse, the old horse would do raking with, and old beauty in the stall, his wife worked with her and trained so that I could go in and unhitch her, and I'd

say, woo, you wait, and when I'd come back out, and I'd get my whip, and I'd say beauty, and snap and she'd start backing out and I'd stand there and I'd just circle that whip and she'd march right around, and around in a circle as long as I stood doing that. [4.21] And after she been around about twice, I'd say woo, and I'd do like this and she'd twist herself instead of being sideways when she stopped, she'd twist herself around so she'd be back and she'd back right up till she bummed me. And I'd when I got her trained than people would come in and I'd show them, and I'd say, look her over. And they could go up and put her and touch her and she'd stand her anywheres you know and that like, and then from that I, went to crawling through under her belly, and fussing with her, and I got her so when she was standing, I'd get under her belly and I'd say, beauty, I've got to go through your hind legs and I put my hand underneath the side of her \_\_\_\_\_, and she'd spread her hind legs out, and I'd crawl out and grab hold of her tail. [5.00] And pull myself up behind her.

JB Ha! Ha!

FF And, another thing people was amazed they'd come and see her, I'd show her what she do and then I'd say okay beauty, I'm through with you. She'd go to her stall and there was always a step up, a drop of manure, when she got her front feet up there, I'd say, woo, you wait, she'd have to be behaved, and feed in her crib, and I'd say well, you want to see my cows. They was right in the same barn down there on the farm. Yeah but what about her? Oh she'd be all right. We'd walk out through there and come back, so help me good, if she'd be standing if she wouldn't go into that, and they says how in the world did you ever teach her to do that, well I'm like my dad, I says oh I talk to her. [5.37] Well I didn't I had the little, little light string, dark colored, used to buy this twine, that you could do up things with dark brownish color, a little light, but it was strong you know, and so I used to leave her like that and I had that little twine hitched, to her halter and I had the halter with the, chain up her nose, and I used to take it, to that area and go out into the stable where she couldn't see

me and I'd leave her there. Well after a few minutes the first few times, well, I guess I'll go in, well, when she started to go in, she didn't know I was around, but I was had that rope and I'd \_\_\_\_\_ and snap it right back, and [6.15] she's come back out in the morning, and I'd have her step in the stall and I said no, you stay right here, well you know why I did that, do that but a couple of times, and as I say, you could go out and leave her and walk out through behind twenty six cows and come back and she'd be still standing there. And so this will kind of amuse you, there's a picture up there on the wall, with me hitched up with a pair like Ben Hur's charity race, over there, no over.

JB Yes. Yes. [6.45]

FF In 1953, I found a mate for her, I even went up into

Canada but I didn't find them I finally found a mate over in Waitsfield from Gaylord, and I had the pair going, and so this particular day I went into the barber shop, George Roy's barber shop, to get a hair cut, and they'd been after me two, three years before the committee for the fourth of July, you tell you've got a nice pair of chestnut morgan mares, but they were only half morgan. But nobody ever sees them. Why don't you bring them in the parade, well I says I haven't got time, my farm and seven days a week and I'm milking forty some cows, I just can't take the time, and so well this particular time I went in, [7.34] to get a haircut. Oh, I guess probably a week, before the fair. And there was some in there, that spoke to me, and I said, oh I haven't got time, Elmer Montgomery, he's passed on but he had a big farm up here, and he was great horseman, had some nice horses in his life and that like, he come in and he said, oh hell he says Fuller is such a dam liar, he said, he hasn't got a good looking team if he had he'd throw them. And, well that kind of irritated me a little bit, he says dam old liar anyway, no joking, I went

home and I said to Gertrude, I said, they're after me again this year to come in the fourth of July parade, but I says, I haven't got time but I says I'd like to do something to shut them up. [8.16] Well she was quite creative, she says, well if you want to go into it, and put the time, she says why don't you do something different, and I says what? She says if you can find a two wheel heavy two wheel cart, she says I'll make you a pleated skirt and a cape and a helmet, and she says, you can dress up and go in as Ben Hur charity race. She said you can build the sides up, and she says Mildred her sister will paint Roman designs on it, and she says that will be something different, well it kind of hit me, I thought about it, and I at that time I was, Ferguson's stable down in Woodstock, he's gone now, but I used to buy horses from him for saddle horses when he needed he'd call me up and I'd find them for him, so I says, that night, when I got through chores I says Gertrude let's go to Woodstock, I said, we're gonna, we're gonna go in and Fergie, see if I can find a cart, I'm gonna go into the parade. [9.14] So we went down and Fergie says, hell yes, he

says, I got a good one just what you need, but he says, it's clear down to Chester, Vermont, he says, I loaned it to, a lady down there. But if you want to go get it, you're welcome to use it. So I hired a pick up, and we went down to Chester and got the cart, took the seat off, and got some wall board, and put it on there, and Mildred, painted Roman designs, Gertrude made me a cape and a pleated skirt, and a helmet, and I had, silver bands around my wrists and trimmed up the harnesses a little, and I got the horses out of the pasture and I was about eight miles from my farm to Randolph, so I had to, the feet was worn down from being on that pasture so I had to put shoes on their front feet, cause on the hard road [10.04] I didn't want to, drive them over it. And so I, went to see, Flint, and it was in, managing the night farm over, the stock farm, and I knew him pretty well, I says, could I bring a pair of horses and I'd pour the fourth of July parade, I'm gonna be in the parade, sure he says, of course you can he says and plenty of room and he says, we'll feed them for you in the morning so you won't have to do it. Well I says, I'll be over early

in the morning. [10.32] So, the night before I drove them over and put them in the stall, over to the barn, went over the next morning to scrub them of course they'd been turned down, I had quite a job to get them cleaned up so they'd shine and I didn't want to, drive them that distance, cause they'd be all sweaty again in the parade, so I went over early the next morning, and brushing and scrubbing and wiping them and that like and I had the cart there, and everybody was admiring them horse you know, and they did look good, and so, what done me good, oh, well, can't think of it, I'm liable to think of it in a minute, he'd retire from the post office, delivering mail around the village, and he was quite a horseman, pretended to more than he really was, and he for years lead the parade [11.21] in Randolph on a horse, and but he always kept a horse nerved up, and spurs sort of dancing and performing and putting on extra things, I didn't like. Howard, well, his first name was Howard, anyway, he's supposed to be a great horseman, trainer, and of course he was working over the stock farm, after he retired there, for something to do, clean out

stables and taking care of horses, he came in there.  
Hi, Floyd, he says. What have you got? Oh I says, I  
got an old pair of horses here, I'm gonna come in with  
the parade, and he looked in the stalls there, he  
says, well, would you take some advise? I says, sure.  
Sure, what's? And there was two, three people around  
there. He says, have you ever over here in Randolph  
with horses? I said, no. Well he says, let me tell you  
something he says, leave them right here. Go in and  
enjoy the parade and then he says come back out to the  
parade and drive them home, he says. [12.21] I says,  
after we've gone to all the work, I said, and my  
wife's made me an outfit, I'm gonna be Ben Hur, you  
know. I says look at the cart out there all decked  
ready. Well better to do that, then get smashed up.  
And there was a fellow, I can't think of his name, a  
great big pot bellied fellow, he'd worked for nights,  
driving a work team, hauling manure and that like, I  
don't know who he was, but I found out afterwards,  
what his name was, and he said, to Howard Smithers, he  
says, Howard, I don't know this man, but he says I  
knew his father, and if he got any of his father's

blood in him, he says, don't worry about him. You can \_\_\_\_\_ and he'll come out, and he won't be no accident. [13.02] Well he thought, well I went into the parade and come out all whole and that like, but it will be known in the mean time, of course after Howard said that, I said well I want to show you a good horse, and I went out and got my whip, and then that, there was a pen where we trained, quite an opening in the tree and I went in and I opened the doors to old beauty, and I said, beauty come out here. She come out, and I stood there and I circled my whip and she turned around in that small area, in between the stalls a couple of times, just my standing there in one place, and the whip circling around, and when she got around, like I said, and I backed up and she come up and backed up, a bumping and I said, I said, Howard look her over. That fellow says to Howard he says, I've seen you around horses, God if you ever have one trained you could do that with, he says, I don't believe it. And then I showed him how I could get down under and well, how's that, so I went into the parade. I took first place. [13.58] Twenty five

dollars. And this Elmer Montgomery told people in the barber shop, hell he said, he \_\_\_\_\_, and that like, [14.04] the next morning, I took them home that night, and when they cooled off, I took their shoes off and turned them back out. The next morning, who drove into the yard, about half past ten, it was Elmer Montgomery, and his wife. And he drove in and I says, Hi Elmer! He says, where's those horses? I says, I turned them out in the pasture. He says, you know he says, I was one of the judges in the parade, in front of the Hotel Maples it's gone now, but, in Randolph, Dean, somebody else and a woman from Chicago, were the judges. And he says when you went by with them he says, I didn't give a dam what you looked like, and he says, I couldn't take my eyes off of them horses. And I told my wife, I'm gonna over and put my hand on them. [14.47] So he said, I wish you hadn't turned them out, well I says, you'll see them pretty soon, so, this old beauty, I hollered to her and she come in the pasture no matter where she was, so I hollered, and pretty soon them came down, and she come up to me and I petted her and I says, beauty you love me? And

she'd laugh in my face. And I says, no halter or anything on her, and I said come up here and look her over, and he come up and oh he went around and he petted and her and gosh he says, that's a nice animal. He says, she's prit near perfect. I says what do you mean, prit near perfect? What's wrong with her? And dammit he says, she is perfect. All right. So then, I said, to the older man I had working for me, Ray I says, go down to the barn and get my whip. So he went down and got the whip, and I showed him what she'd do right outside the pasture, not a strap on her, and then I got down and crawled under her belly, and he said, don't do that he said, out here, he said, someone come along, and I says oh. Then when I got to under her hind legs, and she crawled up there, he said, you're the most foolish man I've ever seen, boy he says, you could get hurt, cause why she wouldn't hurt me. But he, he says I don't how in the world you ever got a horse you could do that with too. But, I says I inherited a little of my dad.

JB Oh yeah. [16.00]

FF Yes and I've had a lot of fun. Ha! Ha!

JB Well you certainly have that reputation, I mean,  
everybody talks about you as the horseman.

FF And, if I do say so, it's surprisingly, how many  
places I go, doing horses teeth, and the people  
the first time a lot of times, they'll say well,  
this horse is hard to work on, hates the vet,  
well the one thing why they hate vets is the  
smell. They smell medicine. And, some of them  
have been abused. [16.30] And some of the vets  
didn't know what they're doing and hurt them,  
they said, well you know, how do you get along  
with them, and I hope, I've heard that you was  
good, you know and I'll go there, in no hurry,  
I'll go up to them horses and talk to them, and  
pet them and rub their eyes, and then feel of  
them, and you know the first thing, I says put  
your head on their nose, and hand on to the  
halter, and bring the \_\_\_\_\_ up, [16.51] keep  
it, where they don't see if they're nervous, put  
my hand on their nose, and they'll wiggle their  
lips on the back of my hands, put my thumb in the  
mouth and the first thing you know, the float is

in there and I let them chew on it, and work, and they stand there, oh, it's unbelievable Mr.

Fuller that this horse stands so good for you.

Well, that's the way you go with horses and take it easy. So but I do give myself credit, I've done a lot of horses, and they told me that they had an awful job holding them for a vet. [17.21]

JB Well, you, when you left Warren, you went down to Lynn, that's really the only period in your life that you didn't have much to do with horses.

FF Yeah. Yup.

JB And that was what? Six years or so?

FF Almost seven years.

JB And what were you doing in Lynn?

FF Well I went down there, can you imagine, I left home

for the reason that dad's hours was too long and a young boy, wanted to go to a Saturday night dance, starting nine o'clock, and you couldn't dance only till noon, until midnight, we never got through chores till half past eight, at night, we was from half past four in the morning until eight thirty and you'd come through at eight thirty doing chores, barn chores, go out in the back shed, in the summertime, and take a bath in a washtub, we didn't have any bathroom, I'd shave during the noon time. Then I'd change my clothes, hitch up a horse, and drive to town and put it in the church shed, by the time I got over to the dance hall, it would be a quarter to ten, the best I could do. Sometimes ten o'clock, well you couldn't take a girl with you, nobody wanted, a girl wouldn't want to wait until ten o'clock cause they only danced until midnight. [18.35] So, I got sick of it, and I says well, when I'm, and of course in the meantime, Gert and I'd been going together so long, we was, we was engaged, we made up our minds it was during the time she come up summer, and spend, that we wanted to live together, and we says we'll wait and when the

times comes right, we'll get married. [18.53] And so that was the reason I went to Lynn, where she lived. And so I went down and the first job I had, imagine a country boy who had never, done anything, only go into a grocery store and by, got a job clerking in a grocery store. [19.05] Meat market, grocery store. And I learned what a little short time I was there how to cut beef a little bit. And I worked there from the fifteen of November I was about there about the eight, the fifteen I left home, and this was another thing interesting, the week from the eight to the fifteen, north of the house on the home farm, that big field, I plowed with a pair of horses that whole field north of the house. And it was so warm that I was working in my shirt sleeves, and when I come in at noon time the horse they'd be ringing wet with sweat. [19.34] That was the year 1922. The fall of 1922. [19.40] The week after my birthday. And I was 21. So I went and worked at a grocery store, and through Gertrude's sister's husband knew a fellow to the Lynn Gas and Electric Company, and I got twelve dollars a week, and I boarded with Gertrude's folks and I paid them seven

dollars a week for my board and washing, I had five dollars a week left. And I was pretty happy with that. Cause all the years I worked for dad I never got one cent of pay. [20.08] I never got one cent, I got clothes and board and that like, if I wanted some money to go to a dance, a Saturday night dance was 35 cents and I'd say dad I'm going to the dance, I want some money. How much is it? 35 cents. 35 cents is what I got. Well, I used to say a little change out my fiddling money for junk, so I could be like the rest of them and go down to the store intermission and get a little candy for the girls or something. But, that was the way it was. And so when dad took me to the train, to Roxbury, he bought my ticket, from Roxbury to Lynn. And he said if you don't find a job and you want to come back home, you write to me and I'll send you some money to come home on. But I never received one cent of wages or anything all the time I worked there. I'm not complaining. Cause I learned a lot, that's all I know. But, that's my life. [21.00] So, I worked and through Harold I got this job, supposedly hired out to the Lynn Gas and Electric Company, and

the first morning I went to work, it snowed a little, and the big boss of course was with his white shirt, and dressed up, executives and that like, they don't shovel snow for nobody, so the first job was this, they told who the foreman was, and he sent me and a couple of other fellows with shovels to go out in front of the garage doors cause the company \_\_\_\_\_ with cars. [21.28] And shovel the snow out from those garage doors. I was shoveling snow, when this Irish man came along, Pat Higgins, right from Ireland, a few years back, he and his brother, and he'd worked himself up, so he was a foreman of the gas, a general foreman on the gas department, Lynn Gas City, city gas, you know, and lights, and he was on the gas department, and that's where I was working for the gas department. And he came along with a black overcoat, and black felt hat, and little plush collar on it, \_\_\_\_\_ walked behind him, red faced Irish man, and he says, hey yeh, and I says, what, come with me. And I say well \_\_\_\_\_ never mind he says, somebody will take care of it, [22.16] and so I started with him and we went and headed for a barn,

and at that time they had several horses, coming in, that they delivered this coke, by the ton, and they used to haul it and slid it into cellars you know, and also, in the meantime they bagged a lot of it in paper bags and it was placed in stores, people buy a little bag of coal and that like. So, I didn't know what he wanted, went over, and on the way over, he says, they tell me you're from down Maine, I says, no, I'm Vermont. Well it's all the same, he says, can you drive a horse? And I says, yes, I says, I've been on a big farm, we get over there and there's this big horse there, he says put the harness on to him, and we're about eighteen hundred, a big, big horse, bony old thing, [23.01] and hitched him up, and went out and he says hitch him into the pung, well that didn't look like a pung to me, but it was what we call a traverse sled, a double runner traverse sled with a potty on it. And I got hitched and he says, he jumped on with me, and he says drive over around to the coal house, and I didn't know what a coal house was, but he told me and I went over, and turned around and backed up, and he says, they were bagging, coming this coal, they

was bagging it in paper bags and tying it up, with a string around the top of it, and he says, you stand on the sled and he says, they'll toss them to you and you put a hundred bags on there, and he says when you go out by, he says the office you stop and I'll bring you out a slip and directions where to go with it. Well I didn't know down there one street from the other, so I did, and he told me where to go, up to West Lynn, he said, oh yes, I can find it, I didn't know, but I knew if I got away from him, I could inquire, and so I found it, and then when I made a turn, on a, in the street, that, I looked around and pictured in my mind something reminded me that that, they've always wanted to turn there to go there, see. So I got along and I, delivered the coal, and drove that old horse for him and then, later, well that was, in January and when spring come, he bought a truck, a Ford truck, and his brother had a big Packard truck, and so, he bought a truck and then I delivered coal and that and they had a contract for the company to take care of all the cinders they make, when they make burning coal to make electricity, and gas, they, them cinders makes nice

filling for driveways and under cement and over to \_\_\_\_\_ and Revere, and marsh land in the spring, them summer people when they come, we had to fill their driveways with cinders, there, because it sunk down. So we had to contract to take care of them, and that's what this, he had a contract for five hundred bags of coal every day to be taken out of there and delivered and so that I did that with a horse, and in the spring and then I, drove the truck and then later they, got a big white truck and they give me the old Packard and had another fellow drive the old Ford truck, but I worked for them two years and a half, and then, during that time, well he, the first thing was, that surprised me was when pay day come, I didn't know until I was working for the, I suppose I was working for the company, when I got to out and say we worked fifty hours a week, got through Saturday noons, and we had to go into the office and get our envelopes.

[25.32] And, he was standing them on the step and he says you don't have to go in there, he says, you aren't working for the company. You're working for me. He reached into his pocketbook and out was this

envelope, and he says, I'm gonna pay you more then the company, the company was gonna pay me twenty dollars, I was pretty tickled to jump from twelve to twenty, and he had, twenty two dollars in my envelope, well I went home, out to 62 Chattel Street that Saturday noon and I was one happy young boy, and there was 22 bucks, gosh! Well I worked for him two years and a half, and after about a year, he thought I was a wonderful fellow, and he says I'm gonna do real well by you, I'm gonna put you on a, salary. So if you're sick, or anything happens you're paid just the same. Well I thought that was good but it turned out to be it was for his benefit. [26.19] Cause after that every once in awhile, I was supposed to have Saturday afternoons off, well I want you to work this afternoon, because we got to finish up this job. Well, \_\_\_\_\_ and I did it and I put up with it for, nearly a year and a half, and it got so the holidays, and in the meantime I got married, and it wasn't pleasant we wanted to do something Saturday afternoon and or a holiday, no I had to work, and I didn't get any extra pay cause I was on salary, see. [26.51]

JB Oh!

FF So, well, finally, I was getting sick of it, and he, sent me on a trip way up to Barnet, Vermont with the old white truck, to get some farm machinery for one of the big bosses son-in-law lived in \_\_\_\_\_, this is kind of interesting, [27.07] the nineteenth of April, and I worked all day with the truck for him, and doing some work for the company, and then at five thirty I had supper and at five thirty left with the big boss and his son-in-law to go to, clear up to Barnet, Vermont to get this farm machinery, five thirty at night. And that white truck governor was set at 17 miles and hour, well we got up to Barnet, Vermont, Peacham and Barnet, the next morning at seven thirty, drove all night, well we had breakfast, then we had to go out in the field, to the barn, and \_\_\_\_\_ were muddy, and load all that old farm machinery, [27.50] then we got loaded and left one o'clock back for Lynn, and I hadn't had a drop of sleeping, so the fellow set in the cab and slept, a big cab. And we got down into New Hampshire, I forget the place, and had the old Moleen tractor, and old fashioned, \_\_\_\_\_

wheels, so we had to go into the railroad bridge and that radiator stuck up just about four inches too much, to go under that bridge, [28.20] well I, in the middle of the night, I backed up and I tried it in several different places and they \_\_\_\_\_ a flashlight, no can't go under and you couldn't go and let the air out the tires cause they was hard rubber tires. So we had to, with screwdrivers and old wrenches and stuff, take that radiator off that thing so we could get through, there, well that was something in the middle of the night.

JB Gosh!

FF But anyways we got out and got into Bell \_\_\_\_\_ and unloaded and I put the truck up, and I got home at eight o'clock, this was Friday night we started out on Sunday morning and I never got home until Sunday morning. [28.56] At 8 o'clock. Well I was so sore for sitting in that seat that I couldn't hardly, and my arms were so limp, because in the cab, they was crowded a little and I had to keep my shoulder up and handle that big truck loads, so I took a couple of

days off, afterwards, I called up his brother John, and John said, don't blame you a bit, take some time off, he says that's an awful trip. Well, Pat the boss, when I went in, this was a Sunday, I took Monday and Tuesday off, and went in Wednesday. And, he said something about, loosing a lot of time, well I says, well I says I think I earned it, I says, all the time no sleep. And I says that was a hard trip. But, then, then the spring come, Memorial time, Gertrude's father had bought a car and he was a shoe cutter and I was having some job to teach him how to drive cause he wasn't mechanical minded at all, he cut shoes but, and so, he had a sister that lived in the Northware, New Hampshire, [30.05] so we planned on, going up there, Saturday afternoon, and stay all night, and come home Sunday. He hadn't seen his sister in, for quite awhile so, Saturday morning when I went into work, I went into the office and got my orders where to go to deliver, I said to Pat, I says it was raining and I said, when it clears off I won't be in this afternoon. [30.28] Well he says, he waits and looks, and says well it's gonna continue to rain, well, I said if it

clears off I'm going to Northware, New Hampshire with my wife's folks. I got to drive them down, and he wants to see his sister. Well the sure come up and it cleared up, and noon time I come in, I put the truck in the garage, and I went home. We went to Northware New Hampshire. Monday morning when. [30.53]

END OF SIDE ONE

SIDE TWO

FF Passed him, he usually give me a slip first, but he kept me, and I started to think something was coming up. [.07] So after \_\_\_\_\_ run out, he says, where were you Saturday afternoon, and I said, I told you where I was going, up to Northware, New Hampshire, and that's where I went. Well he says, here after when a Saturday afternoon or a holiday, when there's work to be done, he says, yee fellows are going to do it. And I don't know I guess I warn't feeling good, I said, listen, here's one of yee fellows that ain't gonna do it. I said, he was a looking, and he put his feet down and

he says, well what are you gonna do about it? [.40] I said, I'm giving you just two weeks notice and I'm done. Well he says, you don't need to get mad, I said, no but I'm leaving before I do. [.50] And, well he looked kind of strange and said a few words, passed me out a list of where to go to deliver some cinders, and well I had given two weeks notice, and you know the next morning he says, I've been thinking it over, he says, you won't be deprived of all your holidays and Saturday afternoons he says, if you want to stay. I says no, I says, I've made my mind up. And he spoke to me several times, one time he says, he spoke to me, he says, you know, I decided he says, that I'll raise your pay a little bit. [1.33] And I says, my dad told me one time, to change a pasture and \_\_\_\_\_ fat cattle and I said I'm gonna try it. And so I got through. And I'd come home and took a vacation. And then I went back, and I didn't know what I was gonna do, but I, in the meantime I got pretty well acquainted with the superintendent of the electric company, in fact the company played cards sometimes and well Gertrude and I we used to go play with, well

Pat and his wife, the superintendent so that night after I come home from Vermont, on a vacation, we was married and had an apartment, Gert said what are you gonna do? I said, oh I'll find something. [2.13] And I went over to see Ike that evening and I told him, I got through, and he says, well, I wondered how long you'd put up with that fellow, taking advantage of you, he says, he's a good foreman as they come, but he says, his own people he says, he takes advantage of them and makes them work extra. I says well, I told him the story, I said I'd like to get a job with the electric company on the line, be a line man. [2.40] He says right now we aren't hiring anybody but he says, you wait a few days and he says, let me have your phone number, and see what I can do, he says. I know what you've done for the last couple of years and, so all right, well I went that next morning, took my car right around and I went to a Ford garage down by the common there in Lynn, went in and I had told him I was looking for a job, and they asked me what I had been doing and I told them I had been working for Pat Higgins, oh yes we know, we've had some fillings,

yeah. [3.17] Well, what can you do? You're a mechanic?

I says, no not really, I've tinkered some, but not much. But I says I'll do anything. And, he says how did you happen to through? And I says, well, holidays and saturdays afternoons on a salary don't work good. So it ended up to make a story short, they said well, if you want to come in and wash cars, we'll hire you for. And I says okay I don't know how long it's gonna be but I says I'll do it. So I went in and I worked a little over a week washing cars, when I got word from Ike Patten, to come to his office, at the gas and electric company. So I went down to see him and I was hired right off and, I gave them a notice and I went to work for the Lynn Gas and Electric Company. And Ike told me he says, I can't put you right on the line at first, cause he says we aren't putting anybody there right now, but he says, in a few days something will happen he says I'll get you, so he says, if you want to work I'll put you on the pole yard. [4.19] Trimming knots on light poles and painting poles and doing that kind of stuff. So I says, I don't care what I do, so that's what I did. And in a few days, one of the line

foreman on a truck come, and said the old civil war veteran there, old Judd, he says, you got a fellow here by the name of Floyd Fuller? He says, yes. He says, well I want to meet, well old Judge was kind of mad because I knew how to use an ax and trim knots and a lot of them city boys they, he had to show them how to, and he took his ax when I went to work, he said, can you trim knots? He says, well he says I want to show you how to do it. [4.57] He trimmed one and he passed the ax over to me and I took another knot and I trimmed it, and done just a good a job. He says I don't need to show you anymore. Well he was madder than the old \_\_\_\_\_, he says I get a good man and he says and you come and take him away, he said to the, Angus, boss, Amos Bu\_\_\_\_\_, and so I went [5.16] out and then I went to work doing ground work, on the pole and then I started climbing. Doing work up on the pole but I had to quit that because my back had a bad back, or hurt it when I was a kid. And it always bothered me some and so I, had to wear a brace some of the time.

JB How did you hurt it?

FF Hun?

JB How did you hurt it as a kid?

FF Foolishly. With my brother Claren, four years older and setting on the floor and putting our feet together, and have a broom handle and pull and see which one you could raise off of the floor, of course he had an advantage but, this one day, I was, pretty \_\_\_\_\_ and I threw my shoulders and that like, and I lifted him up, [5.52] and when I did, something let go in my back, and I keeled over on the floor and fainted away so my mother told me. [6.00] And from that time on until, back here in the thirties, when I got over to a chiropractor, and put that sacroiliac back and I, well I've got a pretty good back now. But, so anyways, so I, I couldn't do so they, vacation time they put me to driving the lines, different line trucks so that when the truck drivers took a vacation I drove. Cause I had been driving truck, and I was a good truck driver, and so I drive, so when I got through the, each one had taken his vacation, I don't

know how this ever happened, cause I was young, I was called into the main office one morning and Frank Finlay was the general foreman on the line department, he kept me and he told the other bosses what he sent them out to do and he kept me in there and there was, the drivers was all back see. [6.52] He says, we've had a big meeting up to the exchange street, and we're making some changes, and he said everything is gonna be streamlined, he said, he was an Irishman, if you know what I mean, he says, certain ones are gonna do a certain thing, specialized, like doctors today you know, so he says, I'm appointing you as foreman and there's a truck over at such a garage, and he says your job is to, now I hadn't been there only from May, see, your job is gonna be a, in charge of setting new poles. [7.35] And he says, I'm giving you four ground men and one line man, to climb a pole when you get them set. [7.42] So I was appointed foreman just like that. And so I, well I worked there that's what I do until, until they put the white way in, which I'll tell you about, and so I was in charge of setting poles, and this is, and of course we had that like and

so well, you know it was kind of funny, how the companies do different things, I got called into the office after I'd been doing it awhile and Finnigan had been a foreman on one of the big line trucks, where they had twelve, or fourteen men on it, that's a big company, they covered Lynn, Swan\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, [8.24] and he said that he got pushed up so he was a foreman in the office see. He called him this morning and he called me in and he says say Fuller, they had one up to the office don't like your reports, I says what's wrong? Well somedays, had a little slip, pink slips, turn them in, as I set the poles. Some days he says, you set three, four poles, and the next day he says, you maybe set five or six, they can't understand why you don't set the same number of poles every day. Well that's a disgusting thing to me, and I said look Frank, I called him Frank, you worked on a line long enough, you could answer that question, and I says you know darn well when you're up on the highlands on the rocky territory, you don't dig as many holes as you do when you're over on land that's nothing but sand. [9.14] And if you have to blast to get a hole in, I

says it takes time. Well, then he kind of shook his head and grinned, he says, well, you've got to do something about it, to please them up there, they've got this streamlined and they want, okay. And I ain't so dumb as I look. When I had a good day, and set six, seven poles, I only turned in for four, kept the other slips in my pocket, have a bad day, and it was hard digging, and that like, I'd dig out some of them old ones, and turn them in. Well when I got through over there, I had, I had, I had a lot of good days I had to turn in a lot of them. Ha! Ha! Ha! But they was happy ever afterwards. But the job that pleased me the most was my last year, General Electric had it on the television, [10.03] showing the General Electric playground lighted up to play baseball the first time that it was ever a playground lighted to play at night. Did you ever see that? Or hear it?

JB I think Earl told me that you had done the field?

FF Well, well I was in charge of setting them poles, I went in one morning, and Finnigan says I got a good job for you Fuller. I said, what? There's eight, fifty five foot chestnut poles out in the yard.

JB Gee.

FF Six inches the top end, and the butts. And he said it was heavy, and he said you got take them up to the General Electric playgrounds and set those poles, and he had a paper drawn out a chart, and they've got to set, the corners ways on the corners and he said they've got to be exactly eight foot apart, and they cut gains, a notch in them to put the cross arms and bolt them in, and they're all bored, and that like for to take them out. [10.58] And he said, they got to be set so that they're eight foot apart, so you can put an eight foot across arm bolted to it, and build a platform, put flood lights on them. So those poles he said, have got to be exactly eight foot, for the cross arms. [11.12] And two in each corner, that's eight of them, and also he says, I, oh he's fussy, he says I want those set so that those gains will be level, so when they put a cross arm on, the platform won't tilt. One pole a little higher than the other. Well now you know, that kind of made me think, how the hell am I gonna, when he get a pole to, and also the pole got to be set seven foot in the ground, seven foot deep. Well

now you've, if you don't think that's a job to dig a hole seven foot deep, with a shovel and bars. Some job.

JB Oh yeah.

FF Well, I didn't, I never had asked any bosses any questions. [11.53]

JB Ou!

FF So I went and I says, oh yeah and I says well, I took the sheet and I says when I get the hole dug I got to have some help, cause we had to pike them up a pike pole by hand to dig, today they've got derrigs and post holes diggers and everything, well he said, when you got the hole dug, he says, you call in, and he says, I'll send another truck up with his gang and help you and set them on end, he says and then he says all you'll do with them is stand them up in the hole and then he says let them go and he says, you chew them up and set them the way you want to he said and tap them in. [12.29] So, that's what I did, we took the poles up there and we dug the, it was nice

digging, sandy. And when I set them poles, and during while they was digging I said, do you want to go down, to one fellow, jesus christ, he says Fuller, this is getting hard, and of course them long handled pole, a little scoop on them, I says well, I thought of a good way to do, I says you get it on your knees, and I says you load that, and then over hand, over hand and then bring it up, and another fellow will take it away and pick it out and dump it, and pass it back to you. And that's the way we dug those eight holes. And then when we got ready to set them up we took all the little bars, long bars, and turn them around the back of the hole, and took \_\_\_\_\_, and put the pole up against the bar so it wouldn't cave the side in, [13.12] and then they'd pick up the top end and they had what they call a dead man that I tended, a thing to settle them in the crouch and things, and rest the end on it. So we get it up so you can get pike poles in it, [13.25] and then I was a little worried because them long poles up, if anything happened, somebody could get hurt. [13.30] And I was young and nervous so I put to men on each side with the side poles, and we set them

eight poles up there, as slick as a whistle, and nothing ever happened, and then the other crew left. And then, during this time my mind was wondering, how in heck they're gonna get back and get, see there was fifty five footer, but you drop them down seven feet, you got forty eight feet up in the air, to the top of that pole. And you've got to get a long ways back to sight, to see how that little notch is cut out, see what angle it's in. So, I had them take a \_\_\_\_\_ and then twist it around, and got it on, and I got way back, and what I thought would be the right angle, for the corner, the best I could, and then I sighted for straightness, and they shoveled the dirt around it and I sat tap it awfully good and they did. [14.28] And when he got it solid, they was just eight feet away. I said to the lineman, I had, I said put your spurs on, and I'd get you to go up to the top of that pole, he says, what am I gonna do up to the top of that empty pole. Well I says, you take your spurs, I could of got them done, but when you're a foreman, when you got to be a foreman, you don't climb poles anymore. They take your spurs away from you. I

says you go up there, and I says hitch your belt and I says you sight through that gain, that bottom gain, and I'll have the boys turn that other pole with, twist it this way and that, and I says we'll also, I want you to see if it's level, if it isn't I said, we'll tilt it and kick a little dirt under it, cause it had to raise or lower it so they'd be exactly, to have them the same height, see. So he went up there, and I put it in, and we, set all eight of them, and I was pleased, we got them done and Finnigan drove up with a car, and looked it over and he says, you done a good job. [15.34]

JB Ha!

FF And he don't very often, he didn't very often tell anybody, but he said, you done a nice job. And so they put up, and last summer I think it was, I came home from somewheres, that was a year ago, it don't matter, and when I come in here alone I turn the television on just for the, cause I don't like to be alone, alone prit near eight years now, I turned it on for noise, and if I've been out all day, and come into the house, I've been married so many years, an empty house, I've

got to have something and I caught the tail end of telling their progress that they made and at that General Electric playground was lighted for the first time the playground was ever lighted and they played baseball there. And it showed a few of the lighted up with the poles and the lights.

JB Gosh.

FF And that made me feel.

JB Oh I bet!

FF Pretty darn good. [16.29] Oh and then from that, while I was, during that time, the General Electric and the Lynn Gas and Electric Company decided to put in a white way in Lynn, Massachusetts, and have the city with the best lighting system in the world. [16.45] You've probably heard about it. And so, I was in charge of putting up all the white way poles are metal, and they have a cement base and they're bolted to it, well I was in charge of, putting them metal poles up and tying, bolting their arms on, and tapping them in the ground. [17.05] And then when I got that done, the wire he'd have to be trimmed. And so from that the company in the meantime, I don't know why

they had it made up special, I'm gonna show you the picture while I'm talking, I'll be right there. (short pause)

JB Yeah.

FF And the.

JB Oh look at that.

FF So, they had that, thing truck made up purpose, it had no windshield or anything, and see the steering wheel.

JB Yup. Yup. Yup.

FF And it had hard rubber tires.

JB Oh my gosh.

FF And it run off from batteries. Every night you had to put, there was this battery on the.

JB Oh my lord!

FF Battery charger to charge them up.

JB Ah ha.

FF And when you started up in the morning, it operated like a street car with a wheel to turn the current on, started out in the morning full charge and go ten miles an hour. [17.55] And after you used it during the day, it would be \_\_\_\_\_ run down, so you'd be creeping about five miles an hour. [18.01] Had a

little electric motor in each hind wheel. There's two bosses there, this is the first day they've used it.

JB Ha! Ha!

FF You see there's two \_\_\_\_\_ in there but you wouldn't notice it unless you \_\_\_\_\_. [18.11]

JB Yeah I see.

FF The one took a picture, here's the metal pole and then there was an arm come over and a globe.

JB Oh right yeah.

FF You see and that, there was white way, do not burn bulbs. The carbide stick.

JB Ah ha.

FF And that, thing burned and leaves a, the \_\_\_\_\_ drops in like \_\_\_\_\_ cork. [18.30] And once every s o often you had to go and take that globe off and dump it out and put a new carbide stick in so they had this, I had to go into Boston to drive this thing down, all the way to Boston, ten miles an hour. [18.43] And then they painted it in with, at your service, and they're local. And then, so then, they took me off from setting poles and I was \_\_\_\_\_ . And so that's what I did. [18.56] And

you parked there, and set your few steps on the platform, and pull a safety rail up there on to you, so you wouldn't tip off, so \_\_\_\_\_, and you went right up into the air. Up into that plat post. And then you could, you was right there where you could take your glove off and clean in and then when you wanted to go to the next light, step out of the platform, and go onto a seat, right up there, and \_\_\_\_\_, and you could drive to the next pole that was coming down.

JB Oh that's terrific. [19.24]

FF Well there was quite a, quite an audience.

JB I can imagine.

FF And you know that first night, this is exchange street, but \_\_\_\_\_ street was a much wider street, where you could drive eight, nine cars or more abreast, that first night when they turned the lights on, people went out in the middle of that street and you could see to read the newspaper. [19.44]

JB Shoe.

FF Well I didn't think anything about it, Lynn \_\_\_\_\_ and the Lynn Telegram, they took pictures and there

was quite a write up in the paper, well I was so young I didn't think anything about it, I don't know why I didn't buy some of them papers.

JB Ha! Ha!

FF Oh, I didn't.

JB You jerk. Ha! Ha!

FF So well. You know, after, oh I don't know, four, five years ago, I got to talking about this thing telling people what I did and that like and Jeanie Gilman up to Williamstown.

JB Yeah. Yeah.

FF She's quite a gal, and she thinks a lot of me, for some reason, and I was telling her, that I'd like to get a picture of that and so I tried that, I wrote down to the library, but they couldn't get anything of satisfaction. She didn't say anything, but the next thing I knew, she invited me up to supper one night, and I went up, and what did she have that picture in a box.

JB Oh that's so great.

FF And she had that old frame and she framed it, and I said, Gina how did you get it? Well she says, she

wrote to the library and the library referred me to the historical society, that picture now, is in the Lynn Historical Society.

JB Oh isn't that great.

FF Cause they got a different type but that was back in 1925, see.

JB Geess!

FF So, she said I wrote to the historical society and they said yes, they could send me a copy of the picture. If I sent them some money and she said I did and she says, that's your present.

JB Wow!

FF And was I tickled to see that.

JB What a great. [21.09]

END OF TAPE THREE