

Floyd Fuller/TC1992.0030
Mad River Valley Project/VFC1991.0004

JB Jane Beck
FF Floyd Fuller
Place Randolph, VT
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FF Yeah and I forget to _____, I don't remember what I told you of course, I told you a lot of stuff, zig around here and there, I don't remember just what, what we did.

JB We talked last time, if you would start out by saying your name then I'll get a level on it.

FF Okay. [.27] I'm Floyd Fuller.

JB Good. Last time we talked quite a bit about your father, and how he learned about horses and then learning to, take care of them.

FF Did I tell you about his, he's a veterinarian, how he, yeah I probably told you that.

JB Yeah and I was very interested in that, because.

FF Yeah cause he.

JB He really had a reputation.

FF Oh yes, yes.

JB Through out Warren as a horseman.

FF And not only that as a veterinarian and he never went to college he'd fix it up himself, I guess I, I think I recall I told you that, he used to go and see the animals when they was sick or something and see how they acted then, and open them up afterwards if they didn't mind, and that's the way he had, and he made up all of his own remedies, yup, yeah. [1.27] And, of course the horse training, he took that up on his own, being able to train horses to do all these tricks, and stuff like that, I don't know where he got it, but just experience and that like and, and I guess I told you about, he made a stiff crupper, for a horse.

JB Oh right, yeah. Yes for the tail. Yeah.

FF Yeah. Oh, and then I, let's see we told you about the, all the mill stuff, didn't I.

JB Well we talked, yeah, you started going through the mills, and I'm interested, didn't your brother Earl, drive through Granville woods one year, logging, with logs. [2.18] For your, team mate, I guess.

FF Well he worked at different, different things and I don't remember just what he did, but he, one time he, well several of us used to drive the mail route, from

Warren to Roxbury there, at one time and he, he did different, different things like that and, and it's possible I guess cause, I was that many years younger they, the international paper company was logging up in Granville woods, and there was quite a lot of log hauls down to Granville, and, and a lot of logs went to the bowl mill in Granville, [2.59] there used to be a bowl mill there and I guess they, I guess they still kind of out there now, I don't know, and another thing probably you've heard about it, later when the, the international paper company got really going big they had a, a log hauler train like.

JB Yeah I did hear that, yeah. [3.17]

FF Did you ever have a report on that or?

JB Well tell me a little bit about it.

FF Well it was a, like a steam engine, and on lags, like a railroad engine, and the road from up in Granville woods, they had a road up into the woods where the men was cutting these logs they used to cut the trees whole length, and then they had these big sleds, and they used to put on, oh five thousand feet, or more of logs on a sled, and then have, like a train, two,

three of those sleds hitched to that one, what they called a log hauler, and then they, that road down through Granville woods, down through the gulf, the hills was, kind of, some of them was kind of steep and there's a hill, it's been for years and years, it's called Hay Hill, and they used to had a man with a little shanty in the wintertime stay there and when they was gonna come down with a load of logs, he'd go and spread hay along there so that the sleds wouldn't push it so fast that they couldn't control it, then after they went down through, he had to rake that hay all out of the track and put it to one side, so that they could come back up through, and they'd take, took all those mounts, loads of logs, down to Granville, and pile them, and in the spring they were cut up into log lengths, and put into the river and floated down through to Bellows Falls. And they used to float them in the river. [4.45] They called them a log drive.

JB And the river there is, is that?

FF It's a branch of White River.

JB That's a branch of the White River.

FF Yeah.

JB And as I understand it, the Mad River and the White River rise just a few.

FF The Mad River and the White River up in Granville Woods, in the town of Granville, there, well there's those springs, they start from springs up on the mountain and they, in fact years and years ago, in deer hunting and that like, I've been up there, and they're probably oh, I'm guessing but, we'll say probably they might be thirty, forty feet apart, and it starts from a little spring and you can flow down, one of them goes north, which is Mad River and the other one goes south, goes down through the gulf and that's a branch of White River. [5.37] And so that's where they get their water, but it only used to have a lot of, well, the weather was different and you know it was quite interesting, well my folks had pictures of that old big log hauler, with loads of logs on it, and the big loads they went down through there and then in the spring to see those men, get them logs and put them into the river when the ice went out, and they had spike shoes on and their poles, and they'd ride us, right down through us standing on those logs.

[6.11] And if a log got off to block anything they'd straighten it up and ride those logs from Granville clear down through to White River, clear down to through to Bellows Falls.

JB Now where was Cod Fish Corners. [6.24]

FF Hum. That's right in Granville. That's upper Granville, there's two Granville's, there's a lower and a lower Granville and an upper Granville, upper Granville was Cod Fish Corners. And that's where they bowl mill was and of course the Rice's owned it, for many, many years. And, of course now there in Granville they've got a novelty place where they make a lot of wooden things and that, you've been to that place probably where there's, I guess they got more than a thousand things they've got a little mill they make a lot of stuff right there. But, that was the, extent of the mill and of course the down also in Granville they used to, saw out shingles, and dad when he built this barn in 1913, he hauled a shingle from that big barn, with horses from Granville, bought them down there and brought them up with horses, two horses up there for all the shingles it took for the, for the

big barn. [7.35]

JB Gosh! Now did he have a barn raising for that?

FF Yup. Yup. July 4th, 1913, the neighbors all came in, and they set up tables on the piano with the, with the hole is, right to the south of the house, across to the end, and all the neighbors come in, and mother had some extra help and I know she made 26 pies for that dinner, and they came and all that lumber was piled, the carpenter was Walter Hubbard from South Royalton, a wonderful carpenter, a builder. And he came there the first of May. And the other carpenters came there too and they went to framing the timbers all eight by eight timbers and then they had put them in piles and had they marked, so when they got ready for raising, every timber was just put in it's place was marked so the, the people had come and helped him go out and get one of them timbers and bring it around and the man would push it up, it was with pike poles, and so on and push it, raise it up, groves, pull it up into place, and put it together, and put the pins in it. [8.44] And, they started at the first of May and the 4th of july they had a raising, but the, they didn't

get it all up that day, cause when they was way up to the top part of the big barn, which was 44 by 100, three floors, the pearl line they called them pearl line plates, that's a plate that goes, it's a hip roof, or a half hip, whatever you want to call it, but the upper plates, where the top part of the roof of them, the raised down first joint, where the timber went through and it was called a pearl line, I don't know where it got it's name, pearl line plate, and that was a pretty high, so Friday, the next day after the 4th, there was a few of the neighbors farmers that could climb way up top, and weren't dizzy, came back and they finished putting, raising that top part, with just a few men [9.33] on the second day but the main part was all, went up the day before.

JB How many men?

FF Oh, gosh there must of been, oh I would say probably, 25, 30 men. And all the neighbors would come in, you know, and each one would help to do everything, and so.

JB What time would of, would you start? [9.55]

FF Well they started in the morning about eight o'clock,

and when the night come, they had the whole frame work up except the pearl line plate, the first floor, the basement was all put up before they had the raising, they got it, they had put the, the carpenters had put that up, cause they could handle it down low, and then when they went from there, up with the, framing and I wished, they did take pictures, I wish you could of had pictures of that.

JB I was gonna ask you, what happened to the photographs?

FF I never had any.

JB Oh you've never had any.

FF No nobody. Back then they didn't take hardly any pictures, for some reason and.

JB I know.

FF Just one of those things.

JB Yeah.

FF So it was interesting to.

JB And how late did they work?

FF Well they, they stayed till around five o'clock. And then they were, of course a lot of the farmers had to go home and do their chores. [10.47] And but they got that up to the pearl line plates and then, dad asked

some of the certain ones that didn't mind walking on eight by eight timbers way up in the top of the barn, they'd come back and they were glad to come back and finish it up. [11.04] But you know, that you've got to be pretty level headed when you're up, well say forty feet in the air. Walking on an eight by eight timber, ha, nothing under you. Ha! Ha!

JB Who were, who was good at that?

FF Well there was, well my brother, next Lauren, he could climb like nobody's business, and it didn't bother him, and then there was an Estee, well I can't think of his first name, now, I've forgotten, the Estee boy, and oh gosh, I can't remember the names of several of them, I think there was one, one of the fellow's name was, one of them was John Mobus's boys, there were three, four, four five men and that could climb and they weren't dizzy. [11.51] But it's quite a project.

JB I would say.

FF And, you know this is, something that's a, was scary but it was lucky, one day it was the first day, they was pulling timbers up, got up into towards the top part, and my brother was up there with the boss, and

they was pulling on this rope and the one down below, somebody didn't wrap that rope around the timber correctly, and it let go, and my brother thanks for Walter Hubbard, up, standing on eight _____ timbers right behind him, [12.32] and when that rope let go of course, my brother kind of lost his balance, and went backwards if it hadn't been for Mr. Hubbard he'd of gone, but he was there and he, big strapping fellow and he caught him in his arms and saved him. [12.46] And then the, they got a little talking to down below about being sure they wrapped that timber, they had what they call a timber hitch, wrap a, around the timber to pull it up by so that you could take it off quickly when you get it there see, but somebody didn't wrap it right, and the rope gave way, come undone, and he'd of lost his life if it hadn't been for Walter Hubbard.

JB Now, in a barn like that, did your father tell the carpenter what he wanted and the carpenter sort of figured out the length and.

FF Yeah, Walter Hubbard came up in the middle of the winter, my dad knew him anyways and cause he, he built

a beautiful house down in South Royalton, which is, I don't know when it was built but it's still standing, it's perfect as it ever was, right down by South Royalton on the main road, down just below South Royalton on the left a big square, kind of square house, and so, he came up and set down and dad knew what he wanted, and he drew up the blueprints and the plans and then he told, wrote out and told dad how many timbers they needed to such a length and it was all about what he needed and then they, from that they went into the woods, went to cutting the timbers and taking them to the mill and have them sawed to the way they wanted them.

JB Now in those days, in 1913, how much did a barn like that cost?

FF Well, [14.24] the carpenters the regular carpenters got a dollar and a half a day, and a dinner. Ha! Ha! And they worked six days a week. Ain't that something.

JB That is something.

FF And they come up there, and of course, making the mortar, it's not they had, they used a bore machine, to bore the, to cut out for the mortar and the timber

to bore the whole, set it on the timber, and a man sits on there, and turns the crank and them augers bore down in and then they take chisels and chisel out the mortars and then another one makes the tenants to fit in and but they got those carpenters got a dollar and a half a day and their dinners. [15.03] And, the boss carpenter stayed right there, boarded right there and he got fifteen dollars a week and his board and room, and he looked after everything he was a wonderful man. And besides he was a, quite a musician.

JB Oh Walter Hubbard was?

FF Yup. And, and also I've got somewheres I don't know where, but I've got it put away, but it's been so many years, a piece of poetry, I should of looked it up, but I didn't. I don't have no idea, but well somewheres over the years but, he made up a piece of poetry that I can recite a little of it, as he started out, that poetry was last spring, when I came to, to Billy Fuller's barn I came with great elations, expecting when we had it raised, we'd have a big celebration, and when, then there was something in between and then he says, when we started the, when

Lija started the wall, that's the [16.06] stone wall foundation, he says I figured we would be, how was it, it was last, it would be fall or something before we, had relations or something like that and he went on and told about it, but, then he says on raising day, on raising day, he said we all got awfully full but Lija was fuller. Ha! Ha!

JB Ha! Ha! [16.31] Ha!

FF And it was quite a piece of poetry he wrote.

JB Gosh, I'd be interested in seeing that, do you.

FF I've got it here somewhere. Don't ask me where, but I've got it, I know I have, cause I saved a lot of those old clippings.

JB Well I'd be very interested at some other point.

FF And another thing that he was a violin player, and while he was there, cause I was a young fellow, only twelve years old. And in the evening lots of times, he'd get his violin out, and play and of course dad didn't play much with him because lots of times in the evening until it got, well dad would work on that stone wall till dark, to get it ready for the, to put the building up, for 4th of July see. And but he did

play with him a little, of course as I told you dad didn't know music but he played by ear, but, I learned from watching Mr. Hubbard play, I learned two, three pieces of music that I've played for years since, then but just hearing him, watching him and I'd have, I don't have any music for them, but I got it in my head. [17.44]

JB I'll be darned.

FF And one of them was a, Gates Ajar Waltz. [17.47] So I used to play that.

JB The Gates?

FF The Gates Ajar Waltz.

JB Ah ha.

FF And by the way I'd like to show you my violin.

JB I'd like to, can you play that now.

FF Well no, not much my fingers are. (Floyd is walking away) I'll get it, it's in the other room, I had it here awhile ago. [18.09] (short pause) Like I told you, when my dad gave it to me, I didn't _____ and I put it away and I covered it down in that thing.

JB Oh! Oh, there's the chip, yeah. Isn't that lovely.

Woo! That is beautiful.

FF That's about 80 years old, I think I was ten years old when dad gave it to me.

JB Gosh, that's, and do you still play?

FF Oh not very much. Once in awhile I'll play a piece when my grandchildren come _____.

JB Oh that's nice. [18.53]

FF But when I was a kid, and started to, my brother took lessons, and I, I was so small my arms, didn't have any, any bend in them.

JB Yeah. It's amazing. (Floyd picking the violin) Ha!

FF So, that's what I used to play for the kitchen junkets and.

JB Yeah.

FF And, got my, little pin money.

JB So, Mr. Hubbard actually taught you, you said you.

FF From watching him, hearing him play those pieces, I used to get my violin out, and play with him. And he had this, well Gates Ajar Waltz, and so I liked the tune of, or liked it and so I used to, as he played there, I got mine out, and I watched him, fingering and that like, and I, I picked up so I got, I got so I

could play it, I never had any music for it, he didn't have any music for it at all, he played by music but he, he had a lot of pieces he played just from, from his ear you know, and so. And, it was so that waltz was a nice waltz I used to play it for, for dances and then they had two three other pieces I don't know the name of them now, but, used to play so we he was, was quite a fellow. [20.16]

JB Now is he any relation to the Hubbard down in Rochester?

FF No. Nope. No, all together different, I don't know just where, what his relation, why he did come in from, but he always lived for, as far as I know, for many, many years, in South Royalton.

JB Well now, the barn he built, it was, it was a huge barn.

FF 44 wide and a 100 feet long, did I show you pictures of it? [20.46]

JB No.

FF Oh well. Let me get them, I want to, yeah that's one of the things I wanted to, I should of brought them in, I got some good pictures in here.

JB Oh great. [20.54] (Tape off, and on again)

FF I carry a few pictures in the car to show people and so. You know so the wall.

JB Oh yeah. [21.16]

FF _____ picture in a minute. That, so many people marveled over the walls, laid in 1913, and still standing there.

JB Now how did your father know how to be stone mason?

FF Don't ask me. _____.

JB Yeah sure can, or would you rather sit in your chair, then we can hear it on the machine. [21.55]

FF See this, part of the barn over here.

JB Um hum.

FF He built that in 19, 1898.

JB Oh okay.

FF And then in, then they had another old cow barn, then in 1913, he tore that down and he built this 44 wide, and it went down this way a hundred feet. And it was 50 feet from the peak here down here to the ground.

JB Woo!

FF And that is a.

JB Oh that's a load of hay.

FF That's the _____, now back here, _____.

JB Oh the stone wall.

FF Here's the wall, that my father, there look at that.

JB Wow!

FF This went out towards the front of the barn.

JB Ah ha.

FF But from here out fifty, two feet, was partly laid in 1898 and then in 1913 he went on, forty-four feet out through there, and that, that wall, every stone today is just as tight as it was the day it was laid in there. It's unbelievable to everybody.

JB That's something. [22.57]

FF That's the old house, the way it was.

JB Who's this?

FF Well that's me. One of them, I don't remember who's sitting with me, but you'll see over here the first picture, that's the way it will look, before I was born.

JB Oh look at this. Now, is this your father?

FF Yup. [23.16] And that's my mother. And Earl and Lauren.

JB Ah ha. Oh that's wonderful.

FF Yes, and then you'll see how it looked the next page is where after he.

JB Built the porch.

FF That looked like a home.

JB Yeah.

FF And this is what the house looked like now, the one that makes me cry when I go up there.

JB Oh.

FF Don't that look hideous for.

JB Yeah. Oh!

FF They took the piazza off, it's a mess. But the man that owns it, owns just ten acres, he don't live there, he's from New York, and he rents the house, but that wall, he thinks so much of it, the first time I met him here, three four years ago he says, Mr. Fuller, he says, it's a piece of art, the man that laid that, and all these years, he says, to stand like that, there's some pictures in between. That's me and my daughter. And see some of the.

JB Oh they're huge.

FF He says, I have got in recorded in the town record at Warren, and never, not a stone would ever be removed

or touched as long as wood grows and water runs.

[24.27]

JB Oh!

FF That's gonna stay there. And, you know the funny part of it is, ain't funny, the foundation, that's a, dad said to have a wall stand you got to have a foundation to put the wall on, so he dug down a ditch with the horses and a scraper, down into the ground about three foot deep, and then he hauled in stone, there's stones under that wall, that you can't see, it was so big it took a pair of horses and a yoke of oxen to pull one stone on a boat.

JB Wow!

FF In that place into that wall underneath, underneath the foundation. And then, instead of being, dirt right up back of me, he said if you dirt right up back of it, the frost will heave it and push it out, that's why it's, so in years before that, when he, dug a lot of stones out, that's.

JB And this is your, your.

FF This is dad's old view, back of the old house now and that barn.

JB Gosh this is a wonderful photograph too.

FF And.

JB This is the barn that you, with the barn raising.

FF Yeah. And you know it was, well he used to plow and raise corn and then he'd, seed it down, and we to go around, with the cattle, yoke oxen and.

JB I should move this.

FF Oh I can, I can go in and talk to you, don't need to sit there. He used to, when he seeded down a piece to oats, and to grass, after he got it seeded, we've always had to take a six thine manure fork, and the oxen with a tip cart, and go all over that seeded piece and pick every little stone that we could pick up on the fork. And haul it out and dump it, dump them in a pile of the pasture. So I had the nice job, that summer building the barn, as he was laying wall, to go there with the oxen and cart and pick up all them, a lot of them little stones and bring them in and then we, like the stone wall, building a wall here, instead of putting dirt up against, on the backside, he put about, well three foot, nearly three foot wide in back of the stone was those little stones. [26.43]

JB Ah ha.

FF And those little stones, you see water and wash could work down through them, if the dirt, the dirt would hold in the freeze and then it would push the wall in, like you see so many old stone walls, that were built, must of been a good _____, but they pushed and caved in. [27.00] And so all in back of that wall out through it, all filled in with little stones. Until he got almost within about a foot of the top of it, and then he filled in with dirt. And that's why that wall stands like it does today.

JB It is a spectacular. And you don't have any idea where he learned, he had to have learned from somebody.

FF No just his own pick up.

JB Really

FF Oh yeah. Yeah that man could, he didn't, people didn't teach him much, he I don't know how ever he got his knowledge but he did. And you know when he sold the farm to my brother, Lauren, he came down to Rochester where I was living, in 1950, or no 1930, and then in Rochester village there was a hall, it then was called

Pierce Memorial Hall, and right side of it was a church, well the town at that time, we had three churches there and so they decided to put that church into a library, which it is now. And I don't know if you're familiar with Rochester village now, but that library was right next to that Pierce Hall. So they was, the I don't know who did it but they wanted somebody to, lay a stone wall, a little wall about a foot high or so, from the corner of the church on a circle out around by the driveway it went into Pierce hall, and out in front of the street, frontage, then they was gonna fill it in and have better grass growing on it, and that like, well they talked with two, three different people about doing it, and everybody said, well a little wall like that, they didn't want big stones, they wanted small stones, it couldn't be done unless you cemented it. Well I was working at the time for Walter Severy, which is, was a selectman and a road commissioner, and I worked for him seven years on the road doing road work, and so, he'd heard me tell about what my dad did, and so he went up and talked with my dad, and dad said well, I'm

too old he says to lay that _____ wall now, well he says, [29.06] if you'll just oversee it won't have to put your hands on a stone, just tell people what to do, so he took dad down there and showed him, showed him what they want to do and dad says, well, he says I'll tell you, he says, in the first place, I'll do it he says, I'd like to do it, as long as, he had been there not so long and let's see he was about eighty years old, and he says but he says you've got to do things I want them, well we'll do anything you want.

[29.40] Well he says you've got to go by hand and dig a ditch down in the ground for a foundation, so he had them dig a ditch I don't remember how deep but quite a little ways down and, and they filled it with good stones in there, so neat you'd never see them and then he built that little wall and they filled it in back with dirt, and it was built on a curve, and ain't a drop of cement used and that was in 1930, and that little wall is just as perfect today as it was then.

JB Well this wall here is, I've seen it actually, I've driven by the old place.

FF Have you?

JB Yeah.

FF Oh yeah.

JB So I've seen the wall, and it is. Something else, that I have, I didn't realize it was your father, I thought it was your grandfather that did it.

FF No, no, dad. See when dad bought that whole place, like the old house in 1882, there was just that old house and a, and just one little old barn, a few cows and that like, and so that's what he did. And then of course I showed you the, houses went up to Montpelier.

JB Yes.

FF Yeah.

JB Now are these photographs, are they taken from negatives or are these the originals.

FF No those are taken just, just two, three years ago. I take friends of mine over there, to see the old place, some of the people come you know and that like, they're so interested and I take them over there and then we, we just take out cameras to take the pictures.

JB Yeah no this, this old, this one of the original house. That, is that an original photograph?

FF Well that was a, my niece got a.

JB Ruth.

FF Ruth got a, some how when she was making up the.

[31.41]

END OF SIDE ONE

SIDE TWO

FF I was intending to go and look them up, but I didn't, they're around somewheres. [.12] The old house, and the buildings. And, so, but the wall and that like, they're something that I've, taken myself.

JB Yeah. Yeah. I can tell the newer ones. But I just was wondering about the old ones and. Cause I've been thinking about, you know as we work on this project, how to illustrate it. And old photographs, immediately come to mind, so I was thinking in terms of copying some. [.56] (short pause)

FF Make sure _____.

JB Don't worry. [1.10]

FF _____.

JB Well I'll come back again. [1.14]

FF So I. _____, there's some old pictures of Ruth. [1.26] _____ this was, _____

one of my ideas down on my farm to have a syrup label.

JB Oh yeah. [1.36] Isn't that nice, now this one of,
haying is on your farm, right?

FF Yeah. Oh yeah.

JB That's quite a load of hay.

FF That was. That was in the forties. [1.54] Around
forty, fifty. Along in there. That's when we did
everything by hand.

JB Yeah. (short pause)

FF _____.

JB No worry. [2.35]

FF Old age.

JB Ah! (shuffling of papers continuing)

FF I wish I could find that envelope with the old papers.

_____, and bigger pictures. [3.03]

(short pause) _____, and I got things
back in place. (short pause) (shuffling some more)

(tape off and on) [3.32] He was quite a _____ to
play tricks and I don't know as I told you before,
that he took his, sister and her good boyfriend, they
went to a dance, with a, dad always had a, well he had
a pair of driving horses, and a two seated sleigh, a

double runner sleigh, and my mother lived right near, there, and so, after he dropped my mother been to, in the wintertime the snow was deep and they used to roll the roads, and my, his sister's boyfriend they wore a derby hat, and of course it was pretty cold and they set in the back seat, and wrapped up with blind, robes around them and that like, and they used to wear long scarfs, I guess, and so to keep his ears and his head warm and that like, there was, cuddling up pretty close and she wrapped that long scarf around his head a couple of times and they was sitting in there bag, and of course in the evening dark, and so after dad let my mother out, he thought it would be fun to tip them out into the snow, with their heads tied, did I ever tell you.

JB No. [4.46]

FF And, so I've heard him tell about it, my mother said, so many times, she says he was miserable, mean, so of course they was prit near home, to where he was gonna take this fellow, so he let the horses go off to the side of the road, so that the runner would drop off and just as, of course he was prepared, and just as it

was gonna drop off, and tip over, he hops out into the road and stops the horses and by that time, the sleigh tipped up and they went out head first right into the soft snow, and dad said, you know of all the kicking and scrounging around they went out head first, and that scarf was around there, tied to his neck and that like, and he said they had quite a job in the snow to get themselves readied up into place as he called it. And, and boy he says, if his sister ever known that he did it on purpose I guess she'd of want to killed him but and she asked him what happened, and he says gosh some how he said, them horses shifted track, he says and got off the road. [5.46] But he did it on purpose to, but he says it was fun to see them a kicking and scrambling around on their snow feet up there and they _____ . Ha! Ha! [5.55]

JB This was Laura.

FF No I don't, I don't know which sister it was. But, I don't remember, because he told.

JB That's funny.

FF He told at the time but, that's what happened.

JB Was he quite a practical joker?

FF Yeah. Yeah. Yeah and did anybody ever tell you about, and did anybody ever tell you about the showing Fred Cardell the sheep? Well the man, the farm just below him, I lived, the house went to Montpelier, this Fred Cardell was, this is funny, hard of hearing, and he was a wonderful cabinet maker, and he had all kinds of nice carpenter tools, you know to do things with and that like, small farm and Leonard _____ bought it, but he was an old [6.34] fuss budget that dad called him, if anything didn't go right, the first thing he'd do is, he's come up and see Lija. Named him, by gracious _____ this happened and so on well, this particular time, one of the particular times, I'm gonna tell you first about what, they had the thunder shower, and it hit the barn, didn't burn it but just hit it, so after the shower was over he come, walking up and he wasn't gonna my dad drive down and see it, and dad said it didn't burn it did it, of course he could see it, no but he says I wanted to see, he said, it spit some of the rafters he says and jumped around and knocked pieces of wood off, and oh he says it so dad went down to please him and look around and sure

enough it hit and it did plow a road down the rafters and you know, knocked off some corners, nothing serious but the next day or two afterwards, he came hurrying up again, and then something else happened and so he said to dad, he says, I want you to come down and see my tool shed, he had one of them great big wooden carpenter tool chest with everything in it, right in place. Very fussy. [7.37] A cabinet maker. And beautiful chisels and everything. And this was what was so funny, I told this story and I laugh about it, so dad went down to see it, and dad says, the light didn't come into that tool chest and it stirred up the tools some and jumped around and it split some of the wood handles on the chisels and one of the chisels with a thin blade, turned blue, it hit it, so hot it made it change a blue color. But this was what was so funny, dad looked at it, and that like and when he got around he said, by gracious Harry, Lija he said, I don't know how that electricity got in and out of that tool chest, it was locked. [8.15] Ha! Ha! Ha!

JB Ha! Ha! Ha! Oh dear!

FF And then one time, poor dad built the old barn of course, under the cow barn, an old fashioned barn, under the barn floor, was oh probably you could walk, around under there, bent over, so dad used to, raise a lot of sheep and he had them in the wintertime penned under the barn floor, and there was a little light that would come in from the window underneath, and he had a big slanted rack, v-shaped rack, to put the hay in, and he had a big trap door, lifted up out of the floor, tipped it up to put the hay in, in the meantime, he kept the old buck up in the barn floor, and dad played with the old buck, and bothered him and that and we him so that dad if he, looked, whistled to him, he looked at him, and dad pointed his finger at him, and the old buck would start for my dad, come for him, and dad would wait until he got almost to him and step quick sideways and he'd run his hay into the hay mound. [9.12] Well he played with him, you know and had a lot of fun, so this particular time, Fred came up, there for something and dad just fed the sheep and the rack was full of hay, and he said to Fred, would you like to see my sheep, and he said, yes. Well dad

said I just fed them, he says, he'll get down on, bend down on your knees and I'll open that trap door and he says you can look down in there and see them. So Fred was right in front of the trap hole, on his knees bent over and of course being hard of hearing, dad's whistled the old sheep was a farther into the little barn floor, and he saw dad and dad pointed his finger to him and he came right over and he, nailed Fred right in the rear end and pushed him right down through the hole, and the old buck went right down with him. Ha! He was running along and gee he was surprised too and dad said I got a big kick out of him, he said I looked down in there and he says the old sheep, and Fred was wondering around in that rack, and he said all I could see was eyes, he says it wasn't just, it scared the old buck too but dad says it was fun, he says to see their eye shining down there and finally Fred crawled up out, by gracious Harry he said, what made him do that, dad says, funny he never did that before. Ha! Ha!

JB Ha! Ha! Ha! Oh, dear!

FF So that's what dad used to like to do some of the

things he'd play little tricks on somebody. So that was interesting.

JB A lot of that I guess happened down at the general store, as well.

FF Oh yeah. Yes. Yes. Playing checkers and telling stories and doing things like that, and another interesting thing happened to me, when I moved to Rochester, in 1927, from Massachusetts, _____ to John Lyon's farm, John told me that, [10.52] there was a couple of neighbors up above that had just one horse and a cow, and they was elderly people, and he says, they'd like to have me of course everything back in 1927, and that like was done with horses you know, but he says I've, for several years now, he says, I cut the hay and put it in the barn, for them, for their cow and their horse, and he says, so he says, they would like, I know they'd like to have you do it because he says, I've done it such a long, and he says it taint a small job and so I says okay, I'll do it. [11.22] So, and this Jim McGowan was the first one,

lived neighbor and the first neighbor, and he was a, oh retired blacksmith, Farrier, an awful nice fellow and, on just beyond his place, to the left, was another old fellow he was, civil, I'm sure he was a civil war veteran, and so he had a, beard, it was a white beard and he was elderly but he couldn't do much of anything, but he could drive his horse to town and that like, and he'd tell some outlandish stories, which there was no truth in, and his old white beard, and that of course, so I went up and this Jim McGowan, I went up there to do this, oh I can't think of it, Senior, Al Senior, his name was, hay, so I took my horses _____ machine and I went up in the morning and took my dinner with me, and well I mowed this whole little farm, all over that, before noon and cut it all down and then I put my horses in and petted them down, went on the piazza and set down to eat my dinner and Jim McGowan came up there to he was able to do something, and so he came up and do a little trimming of the _____ side, around next to the fence post and that like, so we was setting on the porch, and so this Jim McGowan said, to Albert, he said tell

Mr. Fuller about your going up in the co-op, up in West Rochester, there's a portion of the woods up in there, I don't know why they call it the cooperation. [12.48] And they lumbered it off and that like, and after they lumbered it off, raspberries and blackberries come up good and he said tell Mr. Fuller about going up there was finding a lot of blackberries. So he says oh yes, he says there's a place up in there, where there's a big berry patch, blackberries he says, and it grew those great big long sheep tit, sheep tip blackberries, long sweet ones, he says, and he said I took a couple of gathering pails to get a sap in, which are bigger then ordinary pails, and he says I went up there, one day, he says why I got out in the middle of that patch and why he says, in no time, he says I had them two pails filled right up full of blackberries. [13.27] So then he says I picked them up and was gonna walk out to the field and when I started to walk out, I looked up and he says there was a bear the way down in front of me, standing on his hind feet, looking at me. And, Jim says, well what did you do, run? And Alfred says run he says, how

could I it was six foot of snow on the ground. Ha! Ha!

JB Ha! Ha! Ha! [13.49]

FF And he told that all in good faith.

JB Ha! Ha!

FF And then another one while he got, he got him to tell about going over to Forestdale which is the other side of Brandon mountain, there, one nice sun shining day to get a pig, a little four weeks old pig, so he had his old horse and he had a buck board wagon and right back on the seat, he put a wooden box, to put the pig in and then he, made some little slats to put across the top, put him in there and then just put the nail in, just hold him and then the pig could get air, and, and couldn't go nowhere, so he went over to Forestdale and got the pig, visited with quite a lot of the people and started back well coming up the other side of Brandon mountain, it clouded up and come up a thunder shower which was black, it was black and stormy oh boy, he says and I just hoped I could get over the mountain before the storm cause he said I didn't have any, coat or anything, and my shirt sleeves and he says we, as soon as we get it up to the

top of the mountain he says it hadn't rained, but it was thundering and lightning and cracking, and he said I, helped the old horse trot down the mountain which I don't usually trot a horse down hill, but he says I trotted her down the hill to get away from her, and he says, and I could hear the rain coming on the leaves right behind me all the way down the mountain. [15.00] And he said, boy he said, so when I got down to Roberson corner there used to be a mill right up there, where you turn to go over Brandon mountain up there at the time, Allen had a mill and Roberson corners, he says the shower was over with he got off the mountain then he says the shower was over so he said I pulled over down there and walked the rest of the way home, and he says, the sun come out, I got home, on _____, and I went out to get my pig out of the box and he drowned. [15.30] He says, I kept just that head, of head in the shower, he says the water come into that box, in the back of my seat and he says I never got a drop of water on my shirt. Ha! Ha!

JB Quite a storyteller.

FF Isn't that something.

JB Yeah.

FF And how could anybody tell a story like that and think anybody is gonna believe it, but he did. [15.53] Ha!
Ha!

JB Ha! Ha! That's great. Oh.

FF So.

JB Yeah there were, in many ways storytelling is a lost art.

FF Oh yeah.

JB And you heard so many more of them, people took the time to, I mean, I guess it was homemade entertainment.

FF Oh yeah. Yeah. And, they used to, well call around and I guess sometimes they'd get a little hard cider, and they'd tell some pretty funny stories you know, and but it didn't cost anything. And they didn't do any harm. And they'd always tell something great, outlandish stories, in fact my brother could, Earl could tell some outlandish stories too. Ha! Ha! Ha!
[16.38]

JB Who were the good storytellers in Warren?

FF Well, Norm Roberson used to tell some. And, I'm trying to think. And, Ed Wakefield.

JB Yes.

FF And he died from, that was back in prohibition time and they used to boot leg liquor in and he got a hold of some bad liquor and it killed him.

JB Oh my gosh!

FF And a wonderful man, too but he used to drink quite a lot and get a little liquor down and he could tell you a lot of, I guess quite stories and he was a wonderful violin player, and his son Howard Wakefield, took lessons and he was a wonderful violin player too. And.

JB That was Red.

FF No that was, Red was Howard's son.

JB Oh, so your.

FF Ed was Howard's, Ed was Red's grandfather.

JB I'll be darned.

FF Yup, and Howard used to play for, at an auction and dance, he was good, he, and I know he told many times, that he was, well he was a, blacksmith, he worked in a blacksmith shop, and that like and you know, and that like and Mildred Teacher told him he'd never make a

violin player if he didn't give up his hand in iron and doing blacksmith ship work, but he kept it up and bout he was, what I called a good player, and he, Howard's son could play too, Ed, did you know him?

JB Um, yes. He was also known as, no wait, is that Red? Red and I knew Ella, Elloe. She was a good storyteller.

FF Yeah. [18.35]

JB So that's interesting to me, so it really the ability to, tell a story.

FF You see Howard, Howard came down from Warren, and worked for the plywood place down in Hancock for years, and he'd, he was a, had to _____, he planned up quite a few things in the mill so that they could, put a, double saw, I don't know what it was, but I remember the time, he and, had them put another saw so that, instead of sawing that one piece of something at a time they could saw two, at the same time. And he was pretty, a pretty handy man.

JB But the grandfather was Ed.

FF Ed.

JB And he was a, can you remember any of the stories, or?

FF No I don't remember any dad used to tell, I remember he used to, because he used to get a little down and he could tell some pretty good stories, and another fellow was, they called him hot Elliot, Ed Elliot, up in heath Warren, he'd tell quite a few stories.

JB Now was he Fred Elliot's?

FF No, he was, they was related, but I don't know just how it was. But he was related. And hot Elliot lived on the road, from out Warren down to, towards where the, the lighters are. And, so, he was, he was quite a fellow. And, but I can't think, and then of course later there was a, oh, used to run the stage there, he was an auctioneer. Oh I know the name just as well as my own, he run the stage for quite some time. He was a horse jockey and quite a trader. Ain't it funny, it's gone from me. Back here a couple of years ago, I could think of, it's one of them names you'd know right off.
[20.39]

JB That wasn't, Mrs. Bissell's husband?

FF Yeah.

JB Charlie Bissell.

FF Charlie Bissell. Yeah. Charlie Bissell. Yeah. Ha! Ha!

And, he used to tell some quite stories too. Quite a talker. Another character, he didn't tell stories he was, very honest and sincere, but kind of a nervous man and that like was Arthur Hartshorn, Frank Hartshorn.

JB I've heard a number of funny stories about him.

FF And, I know, one thing was after Art moved up there to Montpelier, and then he built a little barn, out there and had one cow, and his horse, and Frank was very, religious, well in fact Arthur was religious and knew the Bible from, better then I guess some of the ministers maybe and Frank, the same way with Frank, would never touch any hard cider or anything, and Arthur would. And so this was amusing to me, and dad that time Arthur, had been up for awhile, he built into the corner of the barn, a little three quarter barn and then he used to take his sweet corn and stuff and, and cut it up, chop it with a hand chopper and put it in there for a little silo. And, then also he used to, take, and get cider, put it down the cellar, and make a little tough cat, one time Frank was up there to see him and then he'd come back and he was,

used to tell dad, when you see me, he used to him long, and I know that time he come back and he said, well he said, well yes, yes, yes he said, I went up to see my brother he says, he says you got quite a place up there, it's pretty ingenious, yes, yes, he says, but he said he got one thing I don't know, he put up that little silo there for corn, and he said I think he took some of the juice out of his, and made some beer, ale beer he said, or something you know, he said, I don't like that, I don't like that she says.

[22.42] Ha! Ha!

JB Ha! Ha!

FF And when he bought his car, a Model T car, Frank did, an old Model T Ford, and his wife was a German woman, and she was pretty tight I guess, and Frank told this one time, I heard him tell my father about that, he said that, every, he was going downtown, she'd never ride in the front with him, she'd always ride in back, and on the way down from there, put the lincoln down to Warren village, he said to her, he says, when we get downtown, he says I got to put in five gallons of gas and get a quart of oil. And she spoke up, she says

my God, she says, every time we go out, I'd say five gallons of gas and a quart of oil, five gallons of gas and a quart of oil, she says, and he said, I stopped that car, he says, you know right in the middle of the road, and I turned around and I says to her look here Mrs. we aren't gonna spoil a five hundred dollar car he says for 25 cents worth of oil, no, no, no, he says we aren't gonna do that. He says, I stopped the car right in the middle of the road and turned right around and told her. Ha! Ha!

JB Oh, dear!

FF And, another time I remember _____ Meeker as a kid, [23.45] I'd go to Bristol for something for my dad, and Frank was plowing up there, on a field right near the road, there, it was very slanted with oxen, and as I went along up above the house there, and I stopped and he sees, and if you see somebody that, he didn't see nobody, he always would stop, hello, hello, hello, and he stopped and he come running down, yes, yes, and he says, awful nice to see you, how's your father he said, I haven't seen him in a long time, no, no how's he doing he said, and I, talked to him, and I

says and then I says well, kind of plowing the side of the hill, yes, yes, yes, he says, I'm rolling down the hill. You couldn't plow any other way of course, he says I was turning down the hill he says, eventually he says, I'll get that rolled down and make it level. Ha! Ha! Which was, ha, ha. _____ But.

[24.30]

JB Ha! Ha!

FF But that was his way of talking, yes, yes, yes, he says.

JB Well did he also play the fiddle?

FF Nope. Arthur played a, horn, a trumpet and he used to mainly write music. And he was pretty clever. [24.47]
But Frank, was, was an awful worker, oh yeah, and another thing what I think it was, one time he had a nice, he used to have oxen and he'd train them and they was real handy and he had a pair of oxen that he wanted to sell, and he thought they had some younger steers coming along, so he left word down to John Spaulding's store, if anybody come around looking for oxen, he had a pair to sell, so this time run along

and somebody came in and John Spaulding told him, Frank Hartshorn up the foot of Lincoln mountain had a nice pair of oxen for sale, and so the fellow went up and bought them. And, he come back down after he bought them, of course he didn't take him right then, he had a, but he come back down and thanked John for telling him about them, he said, he got a nice pair, he said, but that's an awful funny man up there, and John says, well, he says you know, I went up there and he says, yes yes I got a nice pair here, and he, and he says you want to see them yoked up, and he says he went to work and he hooked them up, and showed them what to do and he says, and I says, well they're good, what do you ask for them? And I forget it seems as though it was, two hundred and twenty five dollars, I think it was that figure, for them, he says, I'm asking two hundred and twenty five dollars, yes, yes. But he says, I got to bill to pay, he says, I'll sell them for two hundred. And that man come down and laughed to John he says if he kept still I'd of given him the two hundred and twenty five just as quick as I would the two hundred, but he says he got a bill to

pay and so two hundred and he'd sell them for that.

Didn't give him a chance to see whether he'd take them or not. Ha! Ha! Oh, there've been a lot of funny people.

JB Well that's the kind of thing I think that people find interesting, and often gets left out of history books.

FF You know them old characters. They were sincere, Frank was, and another time he went to work for somebody. Hired out when he was young, and they showed him how they wanted to clean out the stable, you know, he says, it was an old fashioned barn and they had take the manure and throw it quite a little ways, or I don't know just what the particulars was, but the story was told, the story that I heard, so the fellow showed Frank, how he wanted it done, he showed him _____ and then he told [27.02] Frank so Frank took this fork or whatever he did and done just the same as he did, threw a shovel and he turned around and passed it to him to use it again. Ha! Ha! the fellow says no, he says, I wanted you to keep you working and but he, ha, ha.

JB Oh, dear. Ha! Well I guess there were, a number of

characters.

FF Oh there were. There seemed as though there were a lot of them, and I guess I told you about the, oh, I can't think of the name right now, but killing a big hedge hog.

JB No. [27.45]

FF Another one in Warren there, a fellow maybe I'll think of his name, but anyway I've heard my dad tell about him many of times. People was around and he would tell, and he was always, everything he did was bigger than anybody else, he said one time he was out hunting, and he saw this big hedge hog up in the, in a tree and he says they do a lot of damage to them trees and that like, and he says I shot him he says, and he says when I got him, he says, weighed him he says he weighed three hundred and fifty pounds, and he was in the house there at home, and he said didn't I old woman, and she no, and he says, well what do you know about it, you wasn't there. Ha! Ha!

JB Ha! Ha! [28.21] Ha! Ha!

FF Ha! Ha!

JB Oh dear!

FF So there was, all those characters. Unbelievable.

JB Yeah there was a, I guess it was, maybe Earl told me, about was it Atkins who or somebody up there on Lincoln mountain had gotten into trouble, and the law was trying to pick him up and he put a notice on the door that, some terrible disease or something and.

FF I don't remember. It could be. There was, some of them people would do, scare some people away, you know, and they used to.

JB And the sheriff didn't dare.

FF And they got away with too you know.

JB I bet they did.

FF Yeah. Yup.

JB Yup.

FF And, this is changing the subject, but getting back on to my track a little was a kind of interesting. When I went to Lynn, when I went to work, and I don't know, I guess I told you I went to work for the foreman of the gas and electric company on the gas department and then he took me over to the barn to hitch up a horse, and I don't think I told you that the old horse was _____ horse, and all the help that they tried to

drive him, they couldn't do anything with him. So, of course I didn't know it, I went over there and of course, Pat, they called him later, I hitched him up and he showed me what to do to load up the coke and take it, to different stores, deliver five hundred bags a day around to different stores, and so this particular days we're getting, well I went to work there first of January and this was, I don't know some time in January, I come into, Lynn, down to the foot of Union Street, and Exchange Street there's four, five streets come together, and there's the, the street car right down there and the railroad went over and it was all cobblestone streets and right there, in that square there was no snow. And, also during the winter they had a little shanty that set up there, for the street car starters, that stayed in there, and they blow over and it had a barn and sometimes when the street car wanted to switch it to go up to Union Street, they'd go out and try to track over, so the street car would go up there and that like, they called them street cars, starters. And they always had a, a cop, directing traffic there, so I come up

through and I only had fifty bags on, and was going up through on Union Street, to a store, and I didn't know, it was the first time I knew the old horse wouldn't pull. [31.32]

END OF TAPE ONE

FF And of course there was quite a lot of traffic there, when was, different _____, cars was running too, and that like, and when it got cleared up, so I wanted to go straight ahead, the cop blew his whistle, and motioned, signaled to me to come along and I spoke to the old horse because them steel runners on the sled was, setting on them stones, they started just a little hard, so he went up and put his shoulders into the collar and he stuck his head up he says no I can't

do this. [.36] And I slapped him with a line and he wouldn't do anything, and I got out and tried to lead him and he wouldn't go anywheres and the cop, came down, Mister Humphrey, I'll never forget him, he was a big Irish man, and well if ever, and I was young and down there new and pretty green and bashful, he come down there, and he balled me out, in great shape, coming in there and with a buggy horse and I tried to tell him I didn't know he was bucking and he said don't try to put that over on me, he says you're driving and you knew he was bucking, and oh he laid me out, I felt like fifteen cents. [1.13] Well, in the meantime the street cars started, it got there and they got a bar under the back of the sled and they pushed and I spoke to him and he felt he'd give a little, and he went and the cop warned me, he said don't you ever come back here again, I said, don't worry I won't if I get out of here. Well I went along, I was pretty embarrassed, and kind of mad. So I went home. So that night on the way home walking home from work from the Lynn Gas and Electric you come through Broad Street, and there was a big building there and

then part of it was a harness shop, so I went in, and Mr. Hudson run it, and I went in and I asked him for, if he had one of them bow, black snake whips. And he said yes. [2.01] And of course I'd been told that you couldn't lick a horse down in the city, if anybody'd see you, they'd arrest you. See no matter what happened so but I wanted some _____ one of those black snake whips, has a little short stock on it, covered with leather, and a little handle on it, and it, you could, coil it up and put it under your coat, and or anything like that. But it had quite a long lash, and that little, quite a lot of sting to it, if you took it out and snapped it good. And so I, I bought it. [2.36] And I went down the next day wanting to work, and I kept it under my coat, and I put it under the blanket on the seat of the sled, cause I didn't want anybody to see it. And those, all those other drivers was driving there, and in the meantime, every once in awhile, when I come in at night, some of the other drivers would say, well how's the old horse going, I says fine, well you wait till you get a little bear ground, and you'll find out, well I begun

to wonder then, cause I knew then, after that night, I knew what the trouble was but I says well everything is fine, I didn't let on, that's the trouble, so I went over and I put a hundred bags of coal on, and I had to go to West Lynn, so I drove up into the, going up that way, I swung out of my way and went into the freight yard, out to West Lynn, a lot of tracks, side tracks and that like, I went in there and of course in between the tracks, was cinders, and I drove in between the tracks _____, just for [3.33] parking and that like for cars, kind out of the sides and there, and stopped him, and then I spoke to him ago, and he leaned into calling and he said, no I can't ever pull this out, so then I got the old thing out and I begun to, use it in different places and then I'd use it here and there, and he didn't, and I never saw a horse was so tough as he was, he didn't seem to actually that he felt it, I guess he'd been licked enough so his skin was tough, well anyway and then I'd look out and see if anybody was coming around like the back, well I tried everything so finally I, snapping it across the end of his nose and the tip of

his ear, he got uneasy and he, he started up and took a load and I, jumped on and let him go out with it, I said this ain't what he used, this ain't gonna cure him, so I put the thing under the cushion and went along about my business so that night going home, I took it back with me, and I went into the shop and I told the fellow I says this ain't what I want, can I change it, have you got a sand _____ bit, [4.30] and he says I think so, but I don't get much call for them but he says I think I can find one and so he went looking around in the drawer, and he pulled out a sandhurst bit and as a matter of fact, if you make me think of it, I've got it hanging out in back room, I'll show it to you, I bought that in 1920, 22. And I still got it. And so, and then I down in the city, they always in the bridle, on one side has a little bit of a little snap, so that you could unsnap the bit, and take it out of the horses mouth so if you come to a water tub, you could take the bit out and he could drink better. [5.10] And then put the bit back and snap it, so I bought another snap so that I could have two snaps so I could take the bit out completely.

And put this one in and then when I come in at night before I got back so the other drivers wouldn't see what I had, I could take that bit out, see and also, using that you had to have a nose trap, it's a four ring bit, and so, and the little strap goes up over the nose, and then the center piece got up into the top of the bridle. [5.38] So and I bought one of those nose straps purpose and the bit. And, so the next morning when I got out on the job I drove up into the freight again, and I put that bit in. And, and I asked the old horse to go and he said no, I can't make it, [5.55] so I took one reign and just wrapped in around the reign stake in front of the stand and took out and out of the and step outside and that bit you use it as throw, like a throwing line, we called it, you take it and get back the end of a long reign and start snapping that and in that bit, in the center of it, there's a, I'll show you, there's a link and on that link is a, is, it's made and welded in there's a big rounded lump of iron spool around it, and with the nose piece over it, it holds that right, that lump right up into the roof of the mouth where the wrinkles

are. [6.29] And so if you have a, a line in the big ring, this is holding up, no you go out and you start snapping that thing and then every time you snap it, it makes that thing come up and bump them in the roof of their mouth. [6.41] Well after a few minutes, it don't feel good I guess, and I used that a few times and he was surprised and then he begun to get uneasy and to think he wanted to go and I said, woo, and then I'd snap it, and by and by, after a few minutes, he said to say woo if you want to, I'm going out. And he got right out and he started right out. And I jumped on and picked up the reign and stopped him and I went out and petted him and told him what a good boy he was and turned around and pulled in there again. And, he got off right on the side of him and when I spoke to him to go for a, just as I spoke to him to go, I'd give at it a couple of snaps and boy, he decided he'd go out quick and so, well to make the story kind of short, and then when I got ready to come in at night I took the bit out, and put the other bit in so the other drivers wouldn't notice anything, and the harness hanging up in that stall. And so it run along

quite awhile and I used that a few times and I didn't have to use it anymore, he'd pull for every time no matter when he got so there was snow getting bare, and I had to go horse, you get right going there and you love me and jump off and start walking up beside of him, and speak to him and boy I'm telling you he was moving, and this was what was so funny. He got to the ground down there to the Lynn Gas and Electric Company it was all covered with cinders and with a lot of steam pipes going through all, in the ground, well there was snow outside but, out through there by the office, and that like was getting pretty thin, so this particular day we got loaded up and at noon time, and there was two loads of fellows ahead of me, with a bulk coal on, and I come out with a hundred bags on the sled, behind them, well when he got out to that bare spot, by the office, oh probably it was, probably was, oh prit near as long as this house, and so when they got ready to go across, them other driver, stepped right down on to the, behind the horse I was and they took the end of the reigns and they got down there and of course it did pull a little hard with a

ton on there and the sled, and they took the end of the reigns and kept slapping the horse on the tail and they made him clear across, clear out in the snow before they stopped. [8.53] And, so one of them pulls out there, they went by a little stop, and stopped his horse and instead of going on he weighed, well luckily Pat Higgins my foreman, just came out of the office, to see us there and this other fellow, Jim McGrady, had a white horse, and he done the same thing, and when they got across they stopped, and I don't remember what it, which one hollered back and said, hey, Fuller, you want we should unhitch and help you across, cause they tried to drive the old horse in the past you know and he wouldn't do anything for them, and they knew I was gonna be stuck, I said no go ahead I'm all right, [9.30] well they said we'll wait for you, and my boss was standing there heard it, on the steps there, with his black overcoat on, so they got across I spoke to him we went and I got about half way across and I said woo, and they hollered back, oh you made a mistake, you should of kept him going, you'll never start now, I said, don't worry, I said my father

always told me if a horse couldn't start a load he's on a, shouldn't be made to pull it. And I let him rest just a minute, and I stepped off on the right hand side of him and I spoke to him you know, and he put his head down and he groaned, and boy he took that and went across just as nice as could be and got on the snow, and I says, wooo, then Pat spoke up, ah, he says, ah he says, he says now I know the troubles and it isn't you dam drivers he says, you fellows don't know nothing to drive a horse, it takes a boy from the country to show you how to drive a horse, he says, you all said that horse was bucking and everything else, and he says it proves to me that that horse is not bucking, he says here's a young man from the country come down here and he hasn't had a minutes trouble with that horse, he says you fellows don't know how to drive a horse, he says go along about your business. [10.36] And well them fellows was so mad, to think that horse pulled and so when they got over to, feed the horse for dinner, he says what the, what did you ever to do to him. I said, what do you mean, what did I to him, I says, I don't do anything to him. I never

let on what I, I wouldn't tell him you know on a bet.

[10.51]

JB Ha! Ha!

FF But that old horse would pull every time.

JB That's a great story.

FF And then, this is another interesting thing, later on it got to be spring time, and if we had a surplus of cinders, at the top, accumulate, we had a field out there, we used to, haul them out, they did and dump them, and so he had a cart, with a horse in with a tip cart, bought it and you could go and fill it up and drive up onto the pile and dump it see, so we got a quite a big mound of cinders which we'd use later on, when the, you know, another time when we need them and his brother John was, hauling with the truck, and that's before I had the truck and John was driving the old Packard, [11.33] so I had this driving up this cinder pile and right up for quite a ways up and then go up to the top and swing around and dump it over the sides, and the little horse would take it and going up that hill with a tip cart and a load it, I know it

would raise up the collar so it would pull up against the front of his neck which isn't good because, but way back it would make the old cart tip up. But he always went up with a full load of cinders on and _____, and I could be so, he, Pat they [12.02] bought a Ford truck, and so they told me they said we're gonna put another fellow on to the, your horse or hired another fellow and we're gonna have you drive the truck to deliver cinders and coal and so on, it's better then to go around the city with a horse and faster. So, this new fellow, took the horse and he, I don't know he just, two, three days, haul cinders into the pile, one day he got half way up the ramp, and the little horse, I guess a different driver, I don't want to do it any more, and he stopped and backed up and tipped the cart over and broke the harness open and, and well after was kind of mad, and give the fellow to old Harry so they told me, and fired him. And, the fellow, he says why is he bucking, well you can't tell me he's buck, he says Fuller drove that horse he says all the winter here he said and I see him pulling he says that horse is not bucking. [13.02] So, I guess

they had a little experience with that old horse, I never known what they did with him afterwards but, I guess they put him back in the barn and they kept him awhile. Ha! Ha! But, ha, ha.

JB Oh that's a great story. Well, you came back up here in 1927, and then you were in Rochester, until 1930.

FF 36.

JB 36.

FF In 1936 I moved to Randolph.

JB And that was when you bought your farm?

FF No, I got an expense, a lot of years driving, well I drove truck for this Higgins and they later got a big, white truck a new one and I took the old Packard and delivered some _____ around and.

JB Delivered what, milk?

FF Cinders. Oh yeah. For filling and then sometimes I had to take that old Packard speedometer and set it, speed set, locked it, twelve miles an hour and go way, way down to Rhode Island, the edge of Rhode Island with a twenty barrels of tar.

JB Oh my heavens.

FF And that old thing, hard rubber tires and when it was empty it rode like a, oh worse than an ox cart.

[14.10] And so when that bouncing around like that I probably didn't help my kidneys any but, it didn't bother me too much and then I came to Procter, and two years I was on that farm and then, John wouldn't rent it anymore, so I moved in Rochester village, and bought a truck right after the flood and I did, road work, trucking for seven years, working in the gravel pit, and back on the back road, graveling and putting in culverts and so on and so forth, so I did that, so I was doing road work for seven years and two years I was on the farm. And during that time, my kidneys got to bothering me, and so I went to the doctor, and then finally ended up he told me I got to get off of the truck, and I'd be better. [14.56] And so that's why I, moved, I took over, I bought out a Raleigh route, cause a man was retiring and he had run it for years and I had nine towns to travel in, peddling Raleigh products, from house to house, of course I didn't have everybody's house cause they didn't all buy, but I went around. So that is from 1936 in February, 1936, I

moved to Randolph, and so I took the route a little earlier than that, when I was living in Rochester, but Rochester was way the, one end of the road, I had a lot of what I was way off over in Stratford and Thetford and somewhere there and then drive home at night. I was still getting a lot of driving, so I decided that it would be more central from my location if I moved to Randolph, so I rented the place that I bought down in Rochester, and I rented a place in Randolph and that's when I moved to Randolph in 1936. And then I stayed on the Raleigh route through 42. And, July 1st 42 and then I bought that farm in 1942. And so I had to give up the Raleigh route, after awhile it got so, that driving on that was in a car but I had a lot of, carried a lot of products with me all the time, and loaded it didn't ride so good and bad going and that like, and it got so I was troubled again and so the doctor says if you want to, at your age if you want to get over it, you'd better quit and get out on to the ground and do, and be on the ground and quit it, so that's how I happen to, sell out my business there, and go and buy a farm. [16.46] So

that's what happened.

JB And how many cows did you have, how big a farm was it?

FF Well, when I bought it there was a hundred and eighty five acres, more or less and then I bought part of a farm next to me so when I sold out I had two hundred and, let's see, gee I should remember, two hundred, well, about two hundred and eighty eight acres right around there, I've forgotten now. And, when I bought it, they was only milking fourteen, fifteen cows there, when I sold out, I was milking forty-seven to fifty cows, and I built a new stable in 1963. Which I probably showed you the picture of. [17.29]

JB Yeah.

FF And so, and you saw the stable, finished with the, with the paneling, yeah. Yeah. So that's.

JB So you were on the farm for.

FF 25, 25 years.

JB 25.

FF Yeah. Yeah. And so while I was there of course then I, went to doing more horses teeth and, and there was not too many then, cause I was busy on the farm, and did some and I, went and well we used to buy a few horses,

for people and, and did a little trading on the farm
and so on and so forth.

JB Yeah cause one of the things I think that you learned
quickly about farming is, it's not just farming it's
the extras, that bring in a little cash.

FF That's, yeah that's right. And I was, fortunate in 42,
times with money was pretty short, you know, there was
a war, and when I took over the route, money was
pretty short and business was pretty bad, but, I,
Gertrude my wife says, you better do it, and so I got
a chance to buy this farm that I liked, just through
happen stance so I went there to, made up my mind I
was looking around for a place and I went that day to
his place and he was, he had some trouble with his
lungs I don't know emphysema, or something and he
couldn't breath good, he been out using a hand cedar,
sowing grass seed, and stuff and I went there and he
bought fly spray from me and I just, so if he wasn't
there, or anybody around there, I used to go down to
the barn, and see if his can os spray needed filling
and then I'd fill it and the next time, well I'd tell
him about it, so, I just come right up out of the barn

and he come out of the field, and this is funny, he was kind of nice man but he was, kind of breathing hard, he says Mr. Fuller, he says, would you do me a favor? And I says, sure if I can. He says, I've got to sell this place, well that's a coincidence, it never could of been nicer. [19.43]

JB Absolutely.

FF Cause I loved that barn, and it, it was a basement barn and a stable built up and you drove into the top of it and there was a barn shaped just like Bodette's barn, _____ and everything, and boy it made a funny feeling when _____ and I says, well I says, [20.00] how many acres you got? And he told me. And, he told me some about it, and I, and then I says, how much you want for it? Well he was kind of, well he'd always rub his hands together and he says, you know he says, I'll have to, you'll have to come back, he says I got to talk to my wife, he says I don't know just what, what I really want for it. But he says I got, my son is here with me but he don't like farming

and he says, so he says, that's it. [20.34] So I came home that night, and I said to Gertrude, I says, I found a place we can buy. She said, where is it? And I told her, cause she used to once in awhile ride with me on a trip and so I says, I'm gonna go back in a day or two and in the evening and see him and get a price. And she says well I've been, but I don't know too much about it, well I says I know how it looks of being around there that like, I says it's a nice farm, it lays good and a beautiful barn, the house needed a lot of things done to it and so we, anyways, we a couple of nights later, after I come home, we ate supper, we drove over, and talked with him, and went into the house and when we went into the house, Gertrude I'm telling you was, kind of sick, because we, the house we bought, in the meantime we bought a house in Randolph up near the hospital on south street, which was fee and settled estate, and it didn't have a bathroom in it, it had just a, well it had a little bathroom, a half bath, you might say, there's no bathtub, and but they had a toilet and a bowl. And so, well we owed it, during that time on the Raleigh

route, you know was these five, six years, we put in a bath, and we also put in a new heating system, and fixed the house over, a lot, and made it kind of nice and so she went over there, and there was no bath room, at all of any kind you had to out across the piazza and into the, out through the woodshed to go to the outhouse, and they didn't have any hot water in the house, the water run from the spring into a box in the sink, lined with copper, and the overflow from that went down to the barn. [22.22] And they, all the water went out, if you wanted hot water they had it on top of the cook stove, in the kitchen, the wood cook stove, that's the way they had their water. And, they had the little pantry, just a little pantry place, a little place was narrow with the shelves in it and a door, and they didn't have any furnace and there wasn't any cellar. Just down to the foot of the stairs, there was a little small corner, they dug out, to keep potatoes and apples and that like. [22.51] The rest of the cellar you, the dirt was so near the bottom it, well where I bought it, to make sure the foundation was there, I went over and asked him if I

could look it over and sure I went over and I took an ice pick, and I went down the cellar and I got on my belli and I crawled around and checked the sills, because the house set right up on the ground and it looked so they might be rotten, but they weren't, it was old, old maples and so, there was a lot to be done and no bathroom and no hot water, and the only way the heat they had a big stove in the living room a wood stove in the living room and then in the kitchen was a kitchen, cook stove, I don't know how those people kept warm, there was no storm windows and the door, to go on to the piazza to go out through to a shed to go to the bathroom was a wooden paddle door and it had been cracked and they had it taped up with adhesive tape.

JB Gee.

FF Well it wasn't a very desirable place inside to look at and so anyway, so I looked around and he gave me a price, and we came home and well Gertrude, we talked it over, and I says well, it's a, it's a good buy, and cause I says that barn and all that, and I was buying everything, what cattle he had, he had fifteen milkers

and seven or eight heifers, and a pair of horses, and all the tools, buying, cleaning out everything, and I just as soon tell you, six thousand dollars. [24.27]

JB _____.

FF And a hundred and eighty five acres more or less.

JB Wow!

FF And, the thirty eight hurricane, ruined the sugar place, it, for the time being blew over a lot of trees and plugged the roads, so he had a sugar house and an old evaporator but he told me, of course that went with it, but he said, you can't hang on about three hundred buckets, cause the roads are all. Well I wondered why he didn't go and cut them out, you know, but he didn't, he wanted, well he wasn't too well, and so, that's the story, so I went home and Gertrude and I talked it over and that like, and she was awfully nice and accommodating for the benefit of me, she said, well, if we can manage it, she says, we can fix the house up, I says you're darn right we're gonna fix it up, I'll guarantee you we'll fix it up, we're gonna have a cellar in there and we're gonna have a furnace. Well, it meant a lot of work but I was young then, I

could do work and so, coming back over, and the next day after he made up our mind it took us, oh about a week to chew this thing over amongst ourselves and she told me what to, plan she had for a plan so she could be there so I went back over and I said to Mister Sheldon, I says I think I found a buyer for your place. Oh goodie, goodie, he stood there and he rubbed his hands together, he says anybody that I know, and I says, I think so, I says I'm interested in it myself. Well he was some surprised and I told him I got to get off from the riding, and get on the land. And, so that was the start of it, and then I, well, I bought it, for five thousand five hundred and we moved there, the first of July, no, yeah, the first of July in 1942.

[26.30]

JB Gosh.

FF And, quick as I got through haying, got to, they had it partly done when I went there and so I went and took over and got through haying. I said the first thing we're gonna do, I said we're gonna get a, pound, dig out underneath this cellar and have a furnace and

have some heat. And so I went on the north side of the house and it was built up on the bank, and wall in there and that like, all dirt, and I said I'm gonna dig right out in there, and do the cellar, and then the neighbor, Mrs. Eddy's brother owned that farm at one time, and they lived next door, up there, this was funny. She, when I started digging out there, and right below the house sometime or other years back, there had been a building there with a cellar hole, and that, that right below the house was used for a pasture, and there was that great big hole, so I went in there with one horse and a scraper, and started scraping and drawing that dirt out, and dig down there and dumping it in that cellar hole filling that cellar hole up, well I'd worked there a couple of days and got started, got into the, under the house a piece when Mrs. Eddy came down, and she says Mr. Fuller, I hate to see you work so hard, she says, so foolishly, I says what do you mean, well she says, you think you're gonna put a cellar under this house, and I says, yes. Well she says, if there could of been one put under here, she said, my brother would of put it

in here. [28.00] But she says, you know it's all ledge up, it was ledgy up the other side of the house, on the south side of the house, and the ledge up in the pasture and that like, and she says, and she says it's all ledge under here and she says you can't get it. And I says I've got so far, I'm gonna keep going till I can't. And she says, you're wasting your money, cause you're gonna strike ledge. And it was funny, I dug that whole cellar out, and I, I didn't find any ledge until I got almost to where the, the cellar stairs that they had for the fruit and the potatoes. There was ledge up in that corner, but the rest of it, I never struck any ledge at all. Went in there with a horse and scraped that all out, and then of course I, hired a fellow to come and, and the old stone walls only went down under the sill about two foot. And dirt, so we set up a, form right in front of the, on the dirt, in front of the, what wall there was and filled it with cement, right up and covered the cemented it over that wall right in and then went out and leveled it right off to the sill. And you know that's the only house or building that I ever saw, was

all hand hued beams, and they was all maple, and hard wood, maple and beech, they usually hue, they usually use soft wood, there's spruce or hemlock, or pine.

JB That's right.

FF And them maple, them sills was twelve inches square, hand hued and they was just as hard as iron. I'm telling you. And so, well that house was built like a barn upstairs, the upstairs was just one bedroom finished off, the rest of it was all, but it had posts in the, the timbers of posts had braces, they was mortared in with pins like a barn. And it had this pearl line plate going cause there was long rafters, and it had these pearl line plates under the center of the rafters, oh it was built some, and the wind would blow, you couldn't, you wouldn't never, well you could feel it coming through the cracks, but I mean, the house was so firm. So well built. And put together with pins and that like. So I dug that whole cellar out and then I, put in a foundation, the chimney ended on the kitchen floor, and it was, a nearly new chimney because the old one got bad and they put a new one in,

my neighbor Cliff Lyon, a few years before that put a new chimney in for them, he was a good mason, he was a farmer and neighbor to me. For 25 years. And, so I says well we're gonna have a furnace, we got to have that chimney come down into the cellar so I, made a platform and filled it with cement, and I got Cliff to come up and build from that, cement, block, up to the floor, and join the chimney together, and when during this time you get a lot of advise, you start doing something, and the neighbors will come in and tell you what you do and you can't do. Several people told me, you never can join that chimney together because it will ruin, everything else because you can't hitch them together what will, it will drop down and you'll be in trouble and well, I says. [31.33]

END OF SIDE ONE

SIDE TWO

FF And we chiseled a hole in that chimney, on two sides, big enough to put a six by six, timber in through, and then I set one in a block, and then I put a jackscrew through on the other and put my level on it and I had the one on the block a little high and then I put the

jack screw under it I, and the level and I screwed it up, and I made a mark on the wall in the kitchen on the wall paper, and that like, where the chimney was, and I jacked it till I made that whole chimney, move that mark a little bit, and I said well, we can take the floor out from under now the chimney is resting on this timber. [.48] And so we cut the floor out, and he done a marvelous job with that come, he come laid the first he put the tile in, it had tile in it, he come up from this block in the cellar, up with his tile and when he got up he made it just, and made a little less mortar, in between the brick, and come up and when he put the last layer, and he had to tap them in pretty hard, and after it set a couple of days, we took the jack screw out and that, never lowered that mark on the wall a bit. [1.17]

JB That's amazing.

FF And so then I, had a furnace put in, and then put doors on, and it was all, the inside wall was cemented, and I used to keep my car down there and I had room for, a lot of wood for the furnace down there and that was, and then I went and put a bathroom in,

tub, shower, and put a bathroom in and we tore out what was the pantry, and made a pantry in another store room that they had, made it into a bedroom, and in between the bedrooms was the bath, and then the kitchen and the living room, and that's the way we fixed up the old house. [2.02]

JB That's terrific.

FF And it was, a nice old place.

JB It must of been hard to sell it I would think.

FF Oh we hated to, but I, was getting older and I was having, during that time in 1966, it was in the sixties, rather, we everything had to get bigger, prices were going up, and this and that, and you had to produce more to live see.

JB Yes. [2.30]

FF And in the meantime I bought this addition to the farm, which was the Eddy farm that woman come down and told me, told it, her brother passed away and her husband had passed away and they sold the farm to somebody that, young people couldn't make a go of it, so my neighbor Ed Conant and I, bought that old farm together and we split it up, he had part of it, I had

part of it. That's where I got the additional acreage from what it was when I bought it. [3.02] And so I got so I could keep more cows and in the meantime I was renting part of it, up this way about a couple of miles, Pete Jake's _____ barn, [3.11] and so, he wasn't gonna build again and so, I rented part of his farm so I could cut, have forage enough to cut, to keep more cows, see, and so I got bigger and then in 63 I, they was, crowded about, couldn't use the basement barns anymore, for sanitation and so I built a new barn. 86 feet long, and you saw the picture of the inside of, it was forty milkers and twenty on the side, and put in a trench cleaner and bulk tank, and I got that so when I sold out, I had forty seven milkers that went with the place, and I think it was eighteen, nineteen, heifers. [3.58] And, two tractors, a bailer, and of course one time an old tractor and no bailer, or anything else and I had all modern machinery, that you needed to use, and spreaders and everything else, so, when I sold out that's what I sold out.

JB Now you, you used horses for awhile on the farm.

FF Oh yes I used horses, these were all horses when I

bought in 42, I used horses for everything until 1947, I bought a second hand Ford tractor, and I used horses and tractors some together then and then in 1950, I stopped using horses only for sugaring. To gather sap with. And then I, I got, went to, got a better tractor, and from that I kept a getting more stuff so when I sold out I had two, two tractors. A bailer, and everything, to do with. So. [5.13] And.

JB That's quite a story.

FF So it made quite a difference on the farm and.

JB Yeah.

FF And so I.

JB Well it's interesting to me, to hear the changes, and how people made them, what a difference the electricity made.

FF Oh yeah. And that place we hadn't had electricity only a few years before that. At that place.

JB Now did your father's place, did Lauren put in electricity, or?

FF Yeah. Yeah. My father, when he, well I, just before I left home he bought a delco plant, made his own

electricity, thirty two volts down in the basement of the barn, set up and made a room and sealed it up, and had this little engine run and generator, and generator and batteries, delco batteries, and she charged it and well we thought we had it made when we got that we'd been before that, we had, every time we went to the barn at night, we had to carry a lantern in our hand, we'd go into the barn and we had different hooks, in the ceiling to hang the lanterns on, and of course well, they didn't have too many fires, it's a wonder, but they, you know, lanterns are bad and sometimes they, don't burn good or something and they get tipped over or something, but dad was always pretty careful, every lantern wasn't set down somewheres we had to hang up, which was a good thing. And then when he got that delco plant, boy we was, I thought we was in heaven cause you'd go in and turn a button and we had electricity. And so, but we never had any milking machine or anything when I lived home. But, and then of course my brother they run the farm and then when Lauren bought dad out, he had the, the electricity was available then, and he had to, place

all wires and put in electric lights. [7.12] And of course I guess I told you they had to, have a telephone, they used to have to run their own wire. It was Lauren wired it up, and then everything was modern electricity and so on and so forth.

JB Boy the difference all that must of made.

FF Oh! Quite a difference, I'll tell you.

JB And you must of, it must of been almost awe, you know when you went from a lantern to being able to throw a switch. [7.41]

FF I know it, boy you can't imagine it. How great we thought that was, boy we was on top of the world, and then not to carry a lantern in the morn, there was times, believe it or not a kerosene lantern you know what they're like, probably, and the wind used to blow up there on Fuller hill sometimes in the wintertime and snow blustering, and another thing that dad did that I didn't like to, we had, we'd do it for chores at night, clean the stables and water and feed them, and then we had to go down and have supper and then after supper, cold windy, get your clothes on and go down and do your milking. Well, I always after I

farmed I always done everything before I come in for supper, and when I got through supper I could, take my overalls and things off, and eat my supper and then the rest of the evening was to myself, but that wasn't the way dad did it, but you know some of the times, them kerosene lanterns mother used to keep them clean and new wicks in them and everything, but there was times when we was trying to carry a lantern to go from the house to the barn and the wind blew so to blow the thing, blow the lantern out, and we'd have to go back to the house and go into the house and get a match and light it up again. And then when we went to the barn, we'd try to carry the lantern kind of in front of us so the wind wouldn't get at it so much, so we got into the barn. [8.54] And boy I'm telling you the wind would snow and fly up on that _____ something. [8.58] Something terrible at times. And it's pretty good when we got into that new barn, you didn't feel the wind. That barn was warm and it's all built, all boarded and then papered under it and then clapboarded. And all the cattle in there, you'd go in there to a nice warm, sit down and it was quite a treat.

JB What's the worst storm you ever remember up there?

FF Gosh. Well I don't know as I can think of anyone, in particular except, we used to have some, a lot of bad, snow storms and a lot of snow come and then the wind would blow and drift it, and sometimes it would take, take nearly a day, to get shoveled out and rolled, so we could get the road, from the house down to the village. And one time we had a bad storm, my mother, the first of February she was, had pneumonia, and we had a nurse that come stayed with her, twenty four hours a day, and of course that pneumonia was a dangerous thing because they didn't have drugs and fever, and no way to handle pneumonia, they I don't know what they give them and that like, but it had to run till the fever went down and then when the fever dropped down, well then they was live, and after the fever went down, the people would be so weak, and then they stayed in bed and mother was in bed and, we had a big snow storm come one night and then the wind blew and drifted the roads and Doctor Warren, in Warren, his name was Doctor Warren, had to come see my mother twice a day, and the morning there was no way of

getting there with a horse and sleigh so he took his little case and jumped, put a saddle and he come by horseback. And now the doctors they won't even come to your house if you're dying.

JB That's true. [10.50]

FF And, but he came up there and treated my mother and she came out of it, that was one of the bad storms was, I don't remember how much snow we got, but a bad storm and I know it, took us nearly a day, after chores, with the four horses on the roller and I and my brother, and well Claren was home at that time, and we all shoveled went down through and, and we had to do a lot of shoveling the drift was, it drifted up so high that you couldn't put the horses through them, you had to shovel it and lower them down some quick, before you could put the horses through. So, that was quite exciting.

JB Did you use to get I know I think you told me your mother used to go out and, and.

FF She was, I don't know what you call it, she used to go a lot of times people into their house when they was gonna have a baby and she'd, be like a nurse, you

know, I don't know what you call them.

JB Practical nurse, I guess.

FF Yes.

JB Or mid-wife.

FF Mid-wife. Yeah. And she used to do that and, and there again I don't know how in the world, but money was hard to get hold of and bringing up the kids and that like, and then one winter, she for a long time took on a, a old fellow down the village, Mr. Lifford, he used to run the hotel, there was a little hotel there in Warren village, and he was bad off and she, she went down there days for I don't know a long time and, and helped to take care of him, well when he was real bad.

[12.38]

JB Um, hum.

FF And, so and then she'd come home and cook up stuff and we'd get our own meals, and now one thing Lauren, my brother was awfully good at, he'd, he was about like a woman he could come into the house and he could get things around on the table and do some cooking and, and get the meals, my father was the most unhandy man around the house, that you ever saw, as I heard mother

say, he couldn't boil water without burning it.

JB Ha! Ha!

FF And, nope, well that wasn't his life. Oh, she said many times, she said, if he had to live alone, she said I hope he never has to, if something happened he has to live alone cause she says, he's starve to death, he wouldn't, he couldn't do anything to feed himself, and that's about right, I don't know that he would, he you know, he couldn't do anything like that, but outside stuff. [13.36]

JB Were there any bad sicknesses, or accidents?

FF Well, yes of course we had some, and not in particular was one was well this might be a, quite an interesting story, about Pearly the boy my folks brought up, I don't know what Earl ever told you about him or not.

JB I have, Earl never did, I have heard you know that, that he was very badly hurt at some point, but I never heard the whole story. [14.05]

FF Well, Pearly, I don't know how old he was, when he, what happens to his folks he was a native, he was Pearly Atkins, and he was a half brother to Bill, so

of course Bill made her home there and so then Pearly, I don't know what happened to his folks, I can't remember cause I, it was before my day really, but anyways he was a young fellow, I don't know just how old he was, seventeen, eighteen, nineteen, somewheres along in there. And, he was up helping my uncle Amassa, thrashing, and so my Amassa was dad always said was a like I mentioned one poor gamine, sloppy, it used to make my dad so disgusted to see him drive down with a horse and with the pole straps on a pair of horses hitched up to having them in the noose, they was dangling around and, and he wore, in those days they used to wear, lace up, leather, winter rubber bottoms and leather tops, he'd have one, two of the hooks hooked up and then he'd skip all the rest of them and come to the top one, and tie a knot and then the strings would be hanging down, slopping around and dad said I don't see how anybody can go around with sloppy stuff, every harness that dad had and I really, a crime to go to a show and see people the way they hitched up and everything, I just drive me crazy cause that's the way I was brought up, well so, it never

should of happened and nobody should ever try to reach over a belt and do something on a machine when it's running, that's dangerous. You clothes will catch and that like, but anyway he was a, Pearly would reach over the belt, it was spinning, to oil some bearing, and that belt caught his clothes, and stripped him, pants, well plain speaking, you can cut it off the tape when you make it up if you want to, but tore his testicles right off. [16.23] And, why that fellow didn't bleed to death nobody knows, and had ripped his clothes off, and that like except the bandage around his neck stayed but it stripped him you know, and so they put, wrapped some clothes around him, and that like, and he stood up, he never fainted away, he stood up in the back of a buggy, and they brought him down to my mother, and somebody helped to hold him but he couldn't sit down you know, and, and they had to, had him wrapped up I guess, with towels and a blanket and he stood up in the back of a buggy and rode down to my mother. And my mother, being what she was, did him up and cleaned him up the best she could and they took him to Roxbury and put him on a train and went to

Burlington, and they fixed him up and that man lived.

[17.18]

JB How old was he when that happened?

FF About 19 years old.

JB Gees!

FF And now I'm telling you, how that ever, that man ever lived from it and nobody knows.

JB The pain of.

FF Why. And, but he came out of it and lived a good long time but it made his whole life different. He never had hardly any whiskers. He had just a few, so he once in awhile would have to shave a few places but his face was smooth like a, lady's face. But it, hurt his disposition. He was, but as dad says, he wasn't to blame for it, but it effected him I suppose and that like, he told that he days that he was the most irritable fellow to get along with, he wouldn't, you couldn't please him if, no matter. Well we got, used to him and that like and then later on he got up an went by himself, but he worked out and worked for people, and well, I guess probably he maybe was a little different with his other people, you know, and

he worked for years driving the horses, pulling lumber and stuff for _____ Parker over to Roxbury, oh had a good hand with horses and a good caretaker, and but he never got married, and.

JB How long did it take for him to recover?

FF Well, that I don't remember.

JB Gosh!

FF I don't remember that.

JB He was how much older than you?

FF Well see he was, let me stop and think, he was, Pearly was, about, I think Pearly was around, nine or ten years older than Earl, Earl was born in 1888, and Pearly was born, well he was eight years, Pearly was born in 1880. [19.23] And.

JB So you weren't born at this point?

FF No. No, no. All I'm telling you is I, I didn't see it, I didn't know anything about it, and then that picture, of my dad in front there, Pearly is over back of the horse.

JB Um, hum.

FF Well apparently that is after that had happened. Because it was gonna till somebody come there and was

gonna take a picture, and those old fashioned way, they had to put, well _____ was gonna take a picture and a fellow set up his tripod and then he got, put his head under a black sheet, and I wondered what he was, why he had to do that. Well, they was having their picture taken, Earl and Lauren and that little dog, and Pearly was over back on the horse standing there and if you looked over close he threw his hat on the ground, back there, and he didn't want his picture taken. And dad says you step up and well so no he wouldn't, so he went around back of the horse just to see his head, but he, he was you know that way. If you wanted him to do something he didn't want to do it. And so, but I don't know how long he was in the hospital or anything about it, but how that man ever lived.

JB It's just incredible.

FF It is. Well he didn't.

JB None of the modern drugs, none of the pain killers, can you imagine.

FF And well, you just stop and think of it as a serious, why he didn't bleed to death.

JB Well, I know.

FF And he had one rubber boots and when they got him down to my mother's there, I heard, this is what I heard told me, he had enough blood so that when they took his boots off, they poured the blood right out of him. [20.57] And my mother, being what she was, she, taped him up, or tied him up with, blankets or pads or sheets or what I don't know and then they wrapped him up and imagine the time, and to take him by horse over seven miles over to Roxbury and put him on the train and go to Burlington, and from the train, get him out of there and to take him to the hospital.

JB It's incredible.

FF And he came home and lived through it and lived till he was quite an old man. [21.27]

JB Just incredible. Yeah that is a.

FF That is something that and well a lot of persons won't hardly believe it but it's the truth. That's the truth. But as I say, it effected his disposition and but we knew how to handle him, now this was funny,

when I come up from Lynn and rented John Lyon's farm, he was a good hearted fellow, he'd do anything, he thought everything of me, I don't know why, he give me a lot of things, in fact I've got a, Waltham watch, the one trouble with Pearly he'd give, if he had an extra dollar and he, he liked somebody he'd give them everything he had. [22.06] And my folks tried but he'd do just this, well it's my money. And I've got, an old stem wind watch, Waltham, I think it's 21 jewels that he gave me when I was a young kid. And things like that. You know a good hearted, well anyways, when I moved on to the farm, there in Rochester, and went there and of course, they bought cows, there was only one cow cause John sold out, and I bought my herd and that like and I needed. I needed the help cause I had a sugar place with, up above there and let's see we taped, I think between twelve and thirteen hundred taps, and the evaporators was, weren't too modern, even better then 27, so we had two evaporators in the sugar house, we had one that boiled, when he got down to a certain, point, we used to draw it off from that evaporator and finish it up in the other one. [22.56]

So we had to have help and any rate, Pearly came down, he'd been working for Mark and he didn't have a job he came down and let's see when he, Pearly always liked me, cause I guess I was the youngest kid and he'd do everything for me, and he said, he said, why don't know if I, could use some help and I said yes I can. And he had a horse at the time. And, this was, I hadn't been there long, this was before the flood, and in November, and so he went to work for me and I hired him, and of course in the meantime Gertrude, when she was up there summers, and that like, she knew about how he was and I told her, and he was awful good to Gertrude he was, nice to her, and so, I said we got to, handle him, if he don't want to do something well I'm not gonna tell him to not, I haven't got to. So anyways, well he worked there, this was funny, I don't remember just what, what happened something come up, and he'd tell me that he had before, he'd get disgusted with me and he'd tell me I was the meanest man he ever worked for, and this particular time, I don't know, I don't remember, I didn't pay no attention, and he was gonna get through so he went up

to the house and he packed up his suitcase and Gertrude felt, my wife felt kind of bad, she says, what have you done, you shouldn't of, I said, I don't know, I don't remember now what it was, but, and she says he isn't gonna stay and she says it's too bad, and I says, don't worry, he ain't gonna leave. She says, he isn't. Well she says, he packed. I says that's all right. She told me this while he'd gone down to his suitcase to, his buggy and he'd get his horse cleaned up and harnessed and so I said, don't worry he ain't leaving. She says he is, he took his suitcase. Well, I paid no attention to him, he cleaned up his horse, harnessed, hitched it up, and I went down by there, to say good bye to him, and he got all in there, and that like, and I says well good bye Pearly thanks for all the things you've done, I appreciate it and I says, take care or something, I don't know, and talked to him, and he set there a few minutes, the next thing I knew he jumped out and started on hitching the horse not a word said on his, put the horse back in, went to work. [25.13] Ha! Ha! Ha!

JB Did it effect his brain at all or?

FF No I don't think so cause he was.

JB Just totally.

FF The nerves or something you know, his disposition and every day I don't remember at the time but sometimes I had something I had I wanted him to do and he, flew mad, and told me I was the meanest man he ever worked for, and all that, and he wasn't gonna stay there any longer and I says okay, go ahead. [25.38]

JB Hum.

FF And, I paid him what I owed him, packed up and then he never, got all hitched up and then, the next I knew he was off unhitching and put the horse in the barn and I didn't say a word, and mention it, he went back up the hill and he put the horses and I said, Gertrude I told you. She says, he ain't leaving, and I says no, he put the horse back in, what did you say, I said I didn't say anything to him, just that I wished him good bye and wished him well. But, the poor fellow wasn't to blame for it. [26.04]

JB Gosh. Well can you imagine going through anything like that.

FF I know it. And.

JB It's just an incredible story.

FF And you know this is, this is funny, it showed while he was there, that winter, I was getting out some wood and logs well it was, some big maples, up there, that they cut, I don't know why they cut it, they left it, good logs for wood, it was big ones. So we went up with the horses and he loved to drive horses so, he'd drive the horses and he was a good hand with horses, and so we rolled this big log onto the bob sled it was a big one, oh it must of been, three and a half foot through, the top end, twelve foot long, and it stuck up on the bob sled pretty big, and we got it on there and tamed it, and I said go ahead down and he says no, drive your own dam horses, I'm not driving. [27.00] What's the matter? God I ain't driving you want to _____, they're gonna. He didn't have the most courage and on anything that was a little dangerous. Cause that log looked so big to him, he wouldn't drive them horses down off from what we called it the mountain. On that bob sled, okay. [27.15] So I get up and take the oxen and I go down, and we went down, unloaded it

and come back and put on a load, another of logs,
nothing said, and when he got loaded up he walks up,
takes the blankets off of the horses and pulls them up
and throws them on a load and pick up the reign and
the way he goes.

JB Ha!

FF But.

JB Well there must of been some bad logging accidents too
I would think.

FF Oh yes. Yes. There was, one that was now over on that
dam Cardell place that my dad bought afterwards. Years
in fact, well before I was born, but a fellow was,
bobbing logs down through to come out on to Route 100
and somehow he, with the logs and it was, it got
slippery or something and, and the load slued off, I
don't know just what happened, but I heard him tell
about it, and he got thrown and broke his neck, killed
him. Yeah. So they did have bad accidents and a lot of
people used to, well they used to have, I've heard
mother tell about different ones, getting badly, hurt
in the woods with an ax, lance off and cut their leg

and you know those kinds of things, of course they didn't have chain saws everything was a cross cut saw and that like. And, well I'll tell you about a, an accident and the things I went through with, kind of, well one amused at the time, I was, that winter, that year, Gertrude's folks, was living, her folks come up and the stayed until after Christmas, over in the Dan Cardell house, and so of course Gertrude we was going together and she was out, and they stayed up wondering. And, I was gonna take the cream to the creamery. And she was coming over cross lots, to go with me, cause she liked to go with me, every where I went, for some reason and so, I had the, so anyways I had this, four year old mare, and it died, I got it from dad of course cause he raised all of them and it was quite often, I'd have one and I'd get it, grown up and get it trained, come, you know cause I trained in my spare time, you know and that like, and then we'd have a young colt or something would come along from a mare that I liked, of course they're young, and I'd say to dad, boy I like to, I'd like to swop that with this other one, well, I'd trade him, cause there was

no money exchange, just dad would say, if you'd rather have that one, well, of course he got the best end of the deal because I'd of had the other one and got it going good but anyways, I had this little, little mare, she was a nice little, wants a little but she was nice little driving mare, spirited, and so driving was beautiful and that like, and so, the last few times that I used her, I said well, I'm gonna use the lighter harness instead of the regular harness, that we drive them in, and I was young and I wanted to, when I went into the village I wanted things to look kind of nice, and she was pretty prompt and so I put the light harness on her, and I was gonna take the cream in the old pung sleigh, [30.35] and so, a few days before that, some time before that, Loren had a call going downtown and something happened and he broke out the road, or something he got off the road a little, and, and went to get the roller roads built up to get back on the road, he had to line it when he did, he got his front leg over in to the shaft and broke the shaft off, and the colt didn't do no harm or anything but so, dad always had up, oh in the horse

barn up over head, extra shafts, and sleigh runners and what not, and so, he went up and brought up another set of shafts to put into the sleigh, well on the shaft for the. [31.18]

END OF TAPE TWO

FF _____, but anyways, [2.30] so he put those shafts on, they'd been up over there for a number of times and on the shaft, the hole back to go through somebody nailed on and took a piece of leather and tacked, _____ it to the shaft and then made a, brought it back double and fastened it again, so there's a loop, and you could run your whole back through there and then wrap your shafts and that was it. [2.56] Evidently that leather been there so long, it got dried out, and it was terrible rotten, looked all right, or else dad wouldn't of used it so, he put it into the sleigh, well, that particular morning, the good guardian angel was, looking after us I guess, and Gertrude hollered over, and they had a, back then they used to have a, I don't know what they call it but horns, kind of a horn, you ever see one that you could.

JB Yeah. [3.25] Blow.

FF And then.

JB Sort of call through.

FF Yeah. So, I was going down to the barn, and she watched from over there, she could see from the windows people happening my way, so she come out there and she course we didn't have a telephone over there, and she hollered over that she didn't want to go to the creamery with me. Okay. Well I got around, and hitched up and went to the creamery with her, and then, cans full, eighty four pounds of cream in the can, and the can cover they drilled a little hole in the center of it, just a little hole, and it had a little wooden plug in it, so when, you try to put the cover tight on a can that's full of air, it will squeeze out, so you take that little plug out and you can drive with the cover on tight so it wouldn't work off, and then put the little plug in, so I hitched up as nice and could be and went down across the flats, went down by the Fred Cardell place, and we never let

the colts trot down hill, we always made them walk.
And went down that little grade, and we'd go down to
what they call Dan Rowal flat down at the end of my
dad's farm, a little flat and I, we turned, she
trotted along and when they pitched over, I say woo,
easy girl and she come down into pitch, down, quite a
little grade that was, and went down a little ways and
there was a turn, a little turn in the road, and there
was a lot of little, popples, and young trees growing
up probably, tall as that lamp or a little more. And,
it was good sleighing, it was in December, and but the
roads were, the roads weren't built up high, we hadn't
had snow enough so they were built up too high, but it
was nice sleighing, so when it got to that grade, I
saw whoop easy, easy and she set back in the britches,
and the first thing I saw that cross bar was going
right up to her rear end, [5.25] well I, quick thinker
I knew why I was in trouble or gonna be, so I raised,
before I struck her, I raised up and rapped the lines
around my hands well to make sure they wouldn't slip
and I, and I come back on her, and just as I did that
cross bar come up against her hind end and she started

kicking, she jumped and leaped and kicked and when she did, she took the top of the dash off, went up flying up by a piece of wood up by my head and every time she come down bounded she'd leap and in the meantime why she kicked so well, by that light harness and overdraw check, was light, and she bounced on it so hard, it broke and then they'd let her head down, otherwise if that check had broke, I could of kept her head up and controlled her better but that give away. Well, now maybe I didn't take a wild ride down there, and when we made that little turn in the road, we didn't stay in the road and I was setting in that sleigh with a can of cream between my legs and sawing there with both hands, and that sleigh went up on the bushes and it tipped up and it threw me out, and the cream out. [6.31] Right out into the road, and I was dragging, I hung on and she dragged me down the road for quite a little ways and I don't know how I ever made it to, loosen up my reigns and come up behind that sleigh, on to my feet and then take her with one reign and pull her into the ditch and stopped her. [6.51] And, when I got her stopped, she broke one shaft, and the sleigh

was caulked up and she had her hind legs straddled the other shaft, if you can make that in a picture.

JB Yeah.

FF And I had her head pulled right around to the dirt and into the bushes, and she just couldn't go any farther and now I'm telling you she was a wild one to unhitch. Every time I made a move she'd jump trying to go somewheres, but I kept that one reign tied and her pulled right around cornerways, and then the snow in the ditch, and I worked hand over hand until I got up and I could unhitch the tugs and unhitch the other hold back, and got her out of those shafts, and then I led her back up, and in the meantime that can of cream, this was, my dad was kind of disgusted, I never liked that too well but, was laying oh his side and out that little hole, forty six pounds, I'll never forget it, forty six pounds of cream, during that time, went out that little hole into the middle of the road. [7.52] Well of course as quick as I got up there, to the can I _____ up and I went [7.57] back home leading her. Sleigh in the ditch. And, I

told dad what happened and he says the first thing he says, did you spill the cream? And I says well there's some of it gone, I don't know how much. And, well so I put another harness on her, and hitched her into the bridge sleigh that dad made purpose for breaking colts, low down, lay in a seat in it, and long horn beam hard hack shafts that kicked they couldn't hit anything and if they got mad and threw themselves onto it, they wouldn't break. So I put her into the bridge sleigh, and she was pretty nervous, all day, and I went back and took what cream I had and took it down to the creamery. But, you know I don't know how in the world I ever took that and went out head first with the cream and a buffalo in front of me and landed out to the cap, tipping over, hanging to the reigns and then, she dragged me and I got around and got up and I, and took her down to the creamery. [8.58] And, you know, for quite some time afterwards every time when we got down to that certain place where she was stopped, she'd try to go to the other side of the road, she remembered where she was stopped. And this was kind of interesting, George Long lived out to the

foot of the village, and he came up that day later, to see dad about something, and I don't know who told him something about it and dad said something about a lot of ruining that cream and he says, what's a little cream Lija, he says, if you could see the, marks in the road, where that horse was leaping, and where they went down through there and the bushes bent over and he says, why that boy hung onto to that horse and didn't let it get away he says, what are you kicking about. Ha! Ha! [9.45]

JB How old were you then?

FF Well let's see that was, I was, let me see, I was, I left I was 20 years old.

JB Gee.

FF And the year before I left.

JB You must of been some sore the next day?

FF Oh, I was so lame, my arms, and you know, of course she was young and her mouth was tender, but I, if you want a horse to run with you, you don't want to _____, you want a sod, a bit, and I was a young courtly little fellow too, and I sawed that bit enough to her, boy I get her stopped so when she was stopped,

she had blood dripping out of her, out of her mouth
from that bit tearing her cheeks.

JB Yeah. [10.28]

FF And so anyways, so I thought, dad felt kind of bad
about forty six, oh the cream but what about me I
could of, got hurt.

JB But you were glad Gertrude decided not to come.

FF Oh that's why I say, must of been a guardian angel
over us. [10.47] Cause if she'd been in there, I don't
know what would of happened, she'd of got hurt cause
and went, she'd of been on the left side, cause you
always drive from the right, she'd of been the one to
gone over and the can of cream on top of her, and
probably me too and I don't know what would of
happened.

JB Hum.

FF But, the next day, dad says well, we got to break her
and not to keep anything against her, so, my brother
Lauren we took her out and we put foot straps on her
front feet, you probably don't know what those are,
particularly but, you put a, a pad around them and
there's a ring in the bottom of the pad, and you put a

couple of little straps around their front feet on their ankles, between their hoofs and their ankles, with a little ring in it, and then you put these used ropes, or long lines whichever, and you buckle it into the ring, in the center of their belly, go down and run it through the ring around them, the padlock and come back up through the ring and out, one for each foot, one rope goes one side of her, the other the other for each foot. [12.05] And back behind him. One person could handle them ropes. And then, when they act up, and that like they rare kick or go off, when they go into the air, pull those ropes up, when they come to come down, them their knees are folded, they don't land on their front feet, they land on their knees and on their chin. [12.26]

JB And it hurts.

FF Well they don't like that landing and it surprises them too. And don't hurt too bad, cause they'll let us know but. So, we fixed her up and Lauren was a pretty rugged fellow and he handled the foot straps and I took the reigns and dad took an old, basket, and we went up in the, up in the yard and drove around and

she walked a little, but she wasn't use to that legs on there, but she could walk all right, tied them up and she was a little nervous, and not bad, we drove around in a circle a couple of times and stopped her and then spoke to her, and as we went by dad threw this basket out towards her at her hind feet and well boy she jumped into the air, and kicked, and when she came down, she landed on her knees and her nose. And, then she bounced around into the air but she still had to come down, and dad says to Lauren he says, she was stopped on her knees and her head down, he says, _____ we lay her down, [13.32] hold them tight, had her down and I had her down and I held onto the lines, but I wouldn't let her get her head up, and that rope was around the side of her, her outside of her leg, we give that a quick snap, and took her run her feet out of her and laid her right on her side. Well now I'm telling you she squirmed and kicked around but she couldn't of, if I pulled her head up, she couldn't get up, and dad had his little whip and while she was down there he, give her a little just not bad, a little lick her, up under her belly, around there a few snaps

and that like, and we said, woo and then we rolled that basket right up to her you know, and we let her on her feet, you know, and she had one other spell. She tried it a little, and from that time on, I don't care what you through at her, and touch her, she'd freeze right at the stop, the basket would go up against her hind feet, she'd stop right there. We took her, wooden stick or something, put it on her hind legs when she was walking and up around under her tail and you couldn't make her kick, that was the end of it.

JB That's is amazing.

FF Yeah.

JB That's, that's terrific. [14.41] I mean, and who would know about that today, I mean, that's the kind of information that just, those kind of stories, don't get passed on.

FF No. And, and we didn't have to, do, hurt her or anything, he just used a little whip on her there once when she was down, and but you know, she just simply froze in her tracks, when she sees something coming toward her, and after that, I know that if you driving

her in a sleigh or buggy, and the cross bar went up against her, if you said woo, I know she'd stop. And there would be no kicking. [15.20] Ha! Ha! But I had a kind of a wild, ha, ha. Ha! Ha!

JB Is that the wildest ride you've ever had?

FF That was a, about the, yes. It was. That the wildest scary ride that I ever had. And, my, I never.

JB That's amazing.

FF I never forgot it. Oh, I've had quite a little experiences and I had the same thing happened here since I moved up here. I was breaking the colt for Cliff Brailey, the Welsh. I've got pictures somewheres. Some of these catalogs showing, and I had her driving beautiful. And in the cart and that like, and this Welch's are spirited little things, anyways she was, and I had her driving a pony cart and _____ that night I'd been over to the [16.18] college down around the barn, driving her, and when I came back, Warren Thompson the professor, and later retired but, was living in an apartment teaching over here, and during that time of handling colts, when he was

around, he says, gee he says you don't ever have any problems with them, you make it look so easy, he was from Boston he didn't know any better. So, anyways that particular night when I come back, I got out this side of the store, a little ways, and right there by the first house this side of the store and the road drops off quite a little bit there, he was walking and I drove along, and I said woo and she stopped, and I says would you like to ride? And he says, oh yes. So he got onto the little cart, of course a pony cart, and they're up, when you sit on the cart, you're right up near their rear end, and he got on, he was quite a big heavy fellow and he had on a light blue windbreaker jacket, and of course, we break colts, don't everybody do it, but we always broke them with no bridle, Earl and everything will tell you, we'd break them with an open bridle, so they see everything, and when they're breaking them, and got things so you could handle them, so then, they aren't scared, if you break one with a blind bridle like a lot of them do today, there's a stable up in Berkfield, but he always, drives them in blind bridle

and everything.

JB What do you mean by, you said an old bridle.

FF Open.

JB Open. You mean with no?

FF No blinders.

JB No blinders.

FF They can see what's coming behind them, and they can see everything just a bridle with a bit in it. And a check.

JB Yes.

FF And so, she had an open bridle on of course, cause that's the way we'll break them, and he got onto the cart and if he had set still I know he'd been on, she was a little bit looking back at him cause she wasn't used to seeing an extra one on the cart, but she was under control. [18.04] And I had confidence in her, but what did he do, when just as soon as we started he had to raise up and lean towards her and pull his coat tail down, well when he did, it scared her and she kicked, jumped in the air and kicked, with both feet, well, we'd been all right if he'd of set still. But, of course in the meantime when she done that I had a

good tight reign on her, and I begun to churn her like that, and she was going ahead and bouncing and she was looking with her left eye on him, and I see we was getting to the edge of the road, she wasn't going too fast but bounding, what would I do to tip up so I just reigned her to go down straight and not tip over.

[18.46] And I had her under control, to that point, but what did he do, jump out. [18.55] And when he did, when he jumped out on that left side, of course I was setting on the edge of the seat, in the pony cart and then slanted, that cart tipped up and off I went head first, he went off and jumped off and he broke his ankle. And I went off head first and of course then she was scared and jumped and started kicking, and the cart tipped up on its side, and well there's a, if you was out there, you'd see just this white house the first one there before you go down to the camp, sets this side of that where it's happened, and there's a stone post down in there and a little, apple tree or something I don't know how old but heck we ever went between the two but we did.

JB Ha! Ha!

FF With the cart up side ways and she was dragging me.
Cause I went off of course and she dragged me. [19.42]
With the _____.

JB It's amazing you didn't cut your head wide open.

FF I hit my head on something, it just _____ it a
little but I didn't know what. [19.46] But that was,
but anyways there again we got through by that stone
post and that time I was on my feet again and I had
her stopped. And the cart was a laying with, on one
wheel and the other up on the wheels spinning around,
and, and there was one shaft between the shaft that
was, she bent one shaft was an iron pipe shaft, she
bent it some and her hind legs would straddle the
other shaft. Well, I of course talked to her, and I
kept her head up and, and in the meantime a horse,
Warren was hollering help, help, help! And I says I
hollered, I says, somebody will come. I was having to
attend to her, and I had a job to tend to her, to get
around and get that cart righted up. And when I did it
had fenders on it, and it bent them so the, they was
rubbing on the tires, but I got her back into the
shaft, I didn't break the shafts or anything, I got

the thing, got it up, straightened up, and I drove her home, walked behind the cart, with the wheel rubbing pretty heavy on the fender, I didn't ride I'd of rode home other ways but I.

JB Home here?

FF Yeah. [20.47] From here home. (telephone ringing)
Drove her home. And, in the meantime somebody come along, and pick Warren up, took him down to the hospital he had a broken ankle and if he had just sit there and rode everything would of been all right.

JB How long ago was this?

FF This was, let's see I come up here in 36, 66, this was oh 1968, I guess. And so, what I was gonna say was of course then I said, well I was talking to old Gertrude, and I says, poor Warren, and I says yeah but I says if he'd set still he, if he hadn't jumped out, or if he'd of set still it wouldn't of happened. Cause she'd of, gone along all right. [21.23] So I said tomorrow, I says, I've got to break her of, so she won't kick, so I took her, I've some pictures somewheres in a magazine here I guess, and so I took her out, and put the, foot straps on her, and I had to

work, well alone really, I needed a helper.

JB Yeah.

FF But, it happened to be, that day, that it happened, friends of mine, his wife from Haverill, he had been, worked for the telephone company 47 years and he had the heart attack, and he was, had a bad heart, and so he couldn't do much, he could drive his car, but you know he couldn't do, he was on an awful lot of medicine, they came up that day, so the next morning, I come alone, I told Cecil what had happened, and I says, tomorrow morning I says I'm gonna take her out and I'm gonna break her not to kick. And I says, he said well I know, I wish I could help you, I says, no, well you can, I says I'm gonna have you do something, so I put the foot straps on her, and took her out, and drove her around the lines and of course I had to do my driving with one hand and handle the foot straps with the other, of course she was a pony but she was about, thirteen hands high, so I took her out in the back yard, drove around a couple of times, let her get

used to walking with the foot straps, they feel funny, they ain't used to something on their feet, and I says, I wonder what made her kick, except I says, let's see, I says woo, that's the first thing I know, my cart was in the garage, and I had an old quilt, to sit on see, folded up, I says get that quilt, and put it over my shoulders, cause I tried a few other things and she didn't seem to mind, you know. So, he brought that old quilt out and threw it over the back of my shoulders, and I took it kind of under my arms, and I had my reigns and one hand on my foot straps, and I was right behind her, and I spoke to her, to go and she had the bit on and when she moved and I moved with that thing, boy she, went into the air and come up with both hind feet, you know, well, of course the, the quilt fell off from me but the next thing she knew, she was on the ground. I had her down there, with her front feet and that like and she wasn't big enough so but I took the ropes and snapped her under her feet out from under her, and had her laying right out, well she kicked around some but I pulled her head right up, with the one reign right up beside her, so

she can't, they can't get up unless they get their head straight. [23.54] So I held that line, I said, Cecil take that quilt and throw it on to her, I says, she was laying down, and kicking around, I says I think she'd cold, I says cover her up. Ha! Ha! And he threw that blanket on her, well you know she laid there, and scrambled her feet and thrashed around, and she was so, mad and that like, she even, ayeee, squealed right out. And I let her lay there, and I held put that quilt on to her, and then she kept a kicking and I had to even, I said get my whip, I says she needs a little training, and I had her lay down there all the time, by that time she'd kicked a blanket, got the, and so I just give her a little touch of, with the whip, a plank firm under her belly, a few cracks, and tried that, and I said, now throw that blanket, throw that quilt on to her again, and he did, and she laid right there, of course her head was up, and then I let her up, and we did that once more, and I put her right down the second time, and from that time on, I'd drive around and I'd say to Cecil, throw that quilt to her, he'd pick it up and when she

went by he'd toss it to her, and what'd she do? She'd stop and freeze right in her tracks. So then I said get a piece of bailing twine, and hitched it onto that old quilt and we tied it on to the back strap of her harness and let her drag it behind her, and you couldn't make her kick up after that. [25.14]

JB Incredible.

FF No sir you couldn't make her kick up after that.

JB Woo! Those, that's a.

FF I've got a picture somewheres with her laying down out there in the backyard.

JB Oh really.

FF Yeah Gertrude come out and took a picture. Ha! Ha!

JB Oh that's great. Oh that's a, won. [25.31]

END OF TAPE THREE