

Kathleen Phillips/TC1993.0012
Mad River Valley Project/VFC1991.0004

KP Kathleen Phillips
JB Jane Beck
Place Burlington, VT
Date 07/12/1993

JB Who you are so that.

KP Um hum.

JB We get the right level.

KP Okay.

JB I am with Mrs. Phillips.

KP Yes. Kathleen.

JB Kathleen Phillips.

KP At 76 East Avenue, in Burlington, Vermont.

JB And it is July 12th, 1993.

KP Yes. That's right, you got the date on.

JB Good. Now, tell me a little bit about where you grew
up and.

KP All right. [.38] In Warren, Vermont. Right near the
covered bridge. In Warren, I have, we had, that's
near the river there, had a nice little home, and we
used to keep a cow. And I used to always have to get
the cow. [1.01] And, and tie her up, I was telling

Charlie about that which is funny. I had a, a, you want me to.

JB Yeah.

KP The cow was black and she had big horns, and my father had always said, be sure and fasten the cow up when you put her in the barn because she might get into the grain. So, I wasn't, I don't know, I certainly don't believe I was more than, eight years old, but I might of been more, I don't know, times flies. And I go to the pasture and get the cow and bring her back, and put her in the barn, and when she got in them, the barn, where the stall was, to be fastened, she would yank her head, shake her head right over, and frighten me terrible and so I would run out of the barn, but I remember that my father informed me that she must be fastened, and he, I was well, he said anything you wanted to listen. So I would go back in the barn, and I'd cut my hand on the cow and pet her, and her head and say now, Flossy, be good, and Flossy would stay still, and then I'd fasten her up. Now that was what I did. [2.21] You know for many years. For a long

time I did it, for more I guess, eight or nine years, quite a long time, my sister was small but he didn't ask her because she was shorter and so on and I was stronger and that's why I didn't. So that was the way we did and we always had a big garden, you know, a lot, my mother canned a lot, and a, it was pleasant on the porch well it's, the house was small but it was pleasant. And, my father had a black, was a blacksmith, [3.00] and he had a blacksmith shop which was across from the river, it's not very far from the house across the river.

JB Now what was your father's name?

KP A. Harlow Able. Harlow Able. Harlow Able. And then later on he studied winters and so on and he a, learned how to repair cars. And he also worked winters over to the saw mill which was, a one side of, of my house as our house, there by the large mill, my father used to keep the machinery to repair here in the winter.

JB And which mill was that?

KP Well it was the saw mill, I don't know who, the Wakefields owned it, I don't remember the name of the

other people but there's a very nice big mill, saw mill.

JB That was Edwin Wakefield?

KP Yes. Right, Edwin Wakefield and a man by the name of Palmer. That was, well he was a graduate of a, a medi, an academy.

JB Um hum.

KP And, he got married and he was supposed to so they kicked him out and so he lived there in Warren.

[4.21] He run the mill there, Palmer. And Wakefield, and of course it was Wakefield. And they had a nice home there and the mill yard and they kept a horse and, and a, as I say they employed quite a few people in the saw mill. And did for years there. And a, so that's all I can remember as I say, then of course it caught fire, and every thing burned. I never remember I had to go up to bed, and I was the first one to discover it in the family. I had my little light. I went up the stairs and when I looked over there, the house, that whole thing was on fire. And of course it was a terrible, terrible night, and my mother lost all the homemade breads she made and gave them coffee and

had to put quilts and everything on our house and wet them, it was a very, and of course in those days there was no fire department at all, just volunteer work, and but the, it saved our house. We were pretty well scorched, but. Of course those people the Wakefields lost the big mill, their home and the whole thing, it was a very, serious thing that, at that time cause, of course it put a lot of people out of work and so on. And a, you know, that's it.

JB I knew Ello, who I guess was their granddaughter or daughter?

KP Yeah. Um, hum.

JB She married, she married twice, she was Ello Benoit, when I knew her.

KP Yeah. But I so many, I was trying to think what her father's name was. Howard, it was a.

JB They were very musical.

KP Yes. [6.11] So my father was too.

JB Oh he was!

KP Oh he played violin he played for dances and shows yes. And he was very good for many years. And he used to sometimes in competition with Wakefield, I try

to think what was his name, what was Wakefield's name?

The one that, of course, Mrs. Palmer, that is Edith Wakefield, she a, gave some piano lessons, she was pretty good on piano, and then of course and then she worked with her brother there, _____ I know what his name was, [6.46] but I don't know, I don't remember names like I used to, I try to.

JB There was Red Wakefield.

KP No I don't. I'm trying to think what, well maybe it will come to me anyway. Of course Edith his sister played the piano, and a, for her brother and they played for dances some but my father also played for, for many dances.

JB Did he know many songs?

KP I don't know, he, he could _____ up and he'd, he in those sort of shows [7.24] he could do them. And Nellie Gills, don't, not ever remember hearing about them, there's a, I don't know where they came from, I think they might of come from off up in East Montpelier, some place there, around, they came into Vermont, they were known as a, Nellie Gills, and in there was a play, it was a very nice little show and

it was a clean show. And, my father played for, and another woman, Mrs. Greenwood, they played for, the shows a lot and a, then there was a, a Pete Lamorter, he played drum I think it was, and sometimes he played with them, the three of them, but sometimes it was just two of them. And they went all over, go to Rochester, all the towns, and, and put on these, these shows, these, they were nice little plays you know all of them, they were, clean, clean shows you know.

JB Um hum.

KP And of course the, those days we didn't have movies and it was a great comfort to go to something like that.

JB Oh yeah.

KP And every body liked those. Yes, and we had those for years, as I say my father played an awful lot, on those and then Howard.

JB Did all his children.

KP Howard, Howard was, wasn't it Howard Wakefield?

JB I think that's right. Yeah.

KP I think it sounds like Howard and his married, the wife a, her father's name was was Paquette. He was a

creamery man, and a, married and Ellos' grandfather's name was Paquette, I think.

JB I think that's right.

KP That sounds like it was. And of course a, the Paquette's and this is I remember she, they were nice people and they were, I think it was a butter maker, there in Warren, and of course you used to have a pretty good business, butter, butter making, [9.29] in Warren. Oh, oh, it was right next to my father's shop you see and this creamery, and oh the farmers from every where came there, with their I guess they sold cream. Oh and a, they made butter and they had them in these huge boxes and they sold it every places. You know. Very, very delicious made they made, it's quite a trick to see them make the butter, they had a, a thing in the back, oh I don't know the name of it, where the, it would catch, where the water would come and they'd catch anything, it was coming down the stream, like a chunk of wood, and oh dear, I don't know the name, I know what the name is, they had one at the creamery, they had one over at the saw mill, for the Wakefield's there was two of them.

JB Sort of a strainer like thing?

KP Well it was a great big thing. And it was a big projection.

JB Um hum.

KP And it was a, held a lot of water and a, oh I know the name but, just one of those things, I, as I say, as you get older, you can't remember sometimes the names of things as you did in your younger days. But anyway, they made butter and they used water from the river to make the butter. And I used to be fascinated to see this huge thing, this great big, oh, about, about half the size of this room I guess.

JB Um hum.

KP Where the water came in [11.08] there, as I say it, but it would catch all the, anything that would be coming down the river. Which wouldn't be much, unless there be a stick of wood or something like that. And it was, fascinating to watch them make butter and my father's shop of course I would get in the window I remember I wasn't very, more then four, five years old, and he would hold me up. And I was always very curious. And see them, clean that thing out you see,

and it had a big rack thing or something, cleaned that, and then as I say, the surplus water went to the, it went into the creamery to make the butter. Of course today you couldn't make butter out of that water but you see the water was purer, there were not sewers in the stream. [11.52] And so, they over, the mill of course they had one, it's funny that I know the name of those things, but anyway that's what they did for a long time. And to see them make the butter, I used to want to make, watch them make the butter. Well there was a fellow by the name of, Chapman, his wife taught school, he was black and she taught school there for many, many year, she was white, but of course was only half, or a quarter black, but anyway, of course my father wouldn't let me go over there, he said, you know because he didn't, of course people in those days kind of, weren't too fond of blacks, good enough, my father was, I'll take you over. [12.43] So he let me go over cause I wanted to see him make the butter. Butter was fascinating, it was fascinating! Oh I was so excited, to see that, the machinery, and the cream went in, and you know, to

make the butter and it was such tasty.

JB How did they do it?

KP Oh they had all kinds of machines and then they had a shelf where they, oh it's like, I can't really describe it, it was a lot of machinery, that has made, much of it was made out of wood, but a tray of course for but the, it was a machine that chugged it, and so on. [13.18] And a, it was fascinating, but it sold lots of butter there for a long time. And a, then, finally of course, Paquette came there and then after a time, they didn't carry the _____, they didn't take the awful amount of milk but it was a great thing for all the farmers there, because a, then they'd take the buttermilk some of them took the buttermilk home for their pigs and for various things of, you know, and a, and I used to, see those, see all the wagons coming in and this, and of course my father used to repair it, excuse me the wheels and all sorts of things, for the farmers and that's a what they did, and slaves and so on, he made, he used to, it was his business, he did a lot of, he got a lot of work those

days and that was the way it was there. Then, a, my dad and ____ would go down there. [14.31] They tried to get me to do that and I didn't, I got to put some money in there, but I, I know. The dam went out, they wanted somebody, some money to fix it up, but, well I had quite a little, I kept fooling around, I could of, understood but I was a little bit disgusted, there's a lawyer in Montpelier, and finally I told him, that I sold the, the creamery was sold and nobody used it, and so finally I told him, I said, "you talk with, Doctor Brooks," his father was an owner, I had the, so they the creamery dissolved after awhile, when it did but it was a great thing to watch that, as a child, and I'm.

JB Now did you have a big, were there a lot of you, a lot of brothers and sisters? [15.35]

KP No. I had just the two of us. My sister and I. I was the bad one, she was very nice. But I was always bad. When I was, I was an awful, I was a terrible curious, I don't know how my father coped with me, but I, he could manage me much better than my mother, because he knew, I wasn't bad I was just curious and

about every thing. [16.01] And a, of course, the business down there, I was the one that, well, they were after me to get some money out of me and so on. I could of helped but it was one of those things that, um, well, they were trying to take that, lot and so on, I, I just straightened that out, I just stepped, _____ going but, [16.28] it was a, a, of course Warren was, the way it was, I was telling of course that what's his name?

JB Charlie.

KP Charlie was awful kind of, I said I remember, I was sure I had just gone to school, I know I would, I don't believe I was more than six years old, but I was always nosy, and so I remember that I stopped to the shop to see my father, and he did, if he didn't sometimes he used to, make a, he'd shoe a horse, make, he made shoes for horses, and sometimes he put something on them, on purpose, and make an, a lot of fire, sparks, and that was, I would go out of the, I'd have to get out of the house, I'd be scared, and I'd get out of the shop, and I said to him, later, years, "you did that on purpose didn't you?" "Yes, I did."

I said, "and why did you do it?" I said, he says, "the men were talking filthy." He says, "and I didn't want you to hear it." So he says, "That's the way I did it." Well, that's for years there. But a, you know he used to shoe horses, made, make horse shoes, he knew how because he was, really had learned the trade, so he was a, very helpful, my father was always.

JB How did he learn the trade? [17.52]

KP Well, I think he learned in Grandville, an old man. And I'd forgotten how long he stayed there and that man, an old Frenchman's his name was Parish, and in Grandville he learned the trade, as a young boy, he went there, you see there were a lot of lumber, concerns, and up in Grandville, they were cutting a pile of lumber, timber, and of course my father hurt his back, but it bothered him for a long time, and one year, he was kind of, he didn't do much, because shoeing those big horses, one thing that a tickles, and I told a, Charlie about it, I guess I was about

six years old, I stopped from school, and I wanted to see, I want to see if what my father was doing, so I stopped and, and in the corner on the fl, was a great big, piece of wood, a great big, and I said, this great big frame, oh what in the world, and of course I wanted to know what it was, and in the frame was an oxen, and a great big heavy straps, that oxen was fastened in that big box, I said, oh, well, I wondered what in the world, so I watched my father of course the shoes were built like that, you know, the, the shoe that went on and off, just like that, [19.14] and so we had to shoe that ox, you know, put those shoes on, and of course they used them sugaring, later on I found out what they used them for. Because a sugar places, if a, if something happened to the ox, it died, or hurt its, I mean broke its leg, or something, why then they could kill it and used it for meat. For beef. So they used them instead of horses and of course they had so much snow in those days, very deep, you know. And an ox would stand still of course a horse is very, active and they wouldn't stand still but an ox is just right there and they used them

once in awhile, to a, put them in a frame to make them, crap up and down, for wood too. Well I watched him, do that, shoe that, and of course I said that to somebody, they said I was lying. I said, "I wasn't lying. I can remember." I saw him shoe that, that oxen. And he did, and a, then I don't know what happened later on but a, he got out of the frame probably you had to know him, well then, Frank Hartshorn, who lived up in Lincoln, his father I think was a professor, I think he'd been to Norwich, and he used to, there was a school up, way up in, way up on Lincoln Mountain Road, on the road there was a school house there, and I guess it's still there now. And a, my mother went to school there. And all the young people and farmers, embarrass her and of course he was, well he had better schooling, he knew more books and so on, than the average run of teachers. And so, he stayed up there and he married a, she was very religious, his wife was and she was a very nice person and a, so they had, two boys anyway, I don't have much else, I remember this Frank and his brother lived in Montpelier, and Frank was.

JB Arthur. Frank and Arthur. [21.22]

KP I a, it was Arthur. Well anyway, Frank so, he was a, well a little odd but he had a wonderful memory on the Bible. Oh he knew it from Z to Q. Well I remember that, I went up there one time, I saw him out in the field, he had, he was bare footed and he had the ox, and he was plowing with those ox, oxen. And of course, those days are gone but, I saw him do it so I know, I don't lie. Well anyway, as I say Frank's, he's very accommodating he said, I know one time he took me down, I walked over the Lincoln Mountain Road, and when I was, during the 1927 flood business. And he took me home, down to the, because he said my father was always doing something for somebody for nothing, and he did, well, anyway that was a, there is something you won't ever see again, in these days, is somebody plowing with an oxen, and that's what he did. And I don't know how many others but several people had the oxen around there that is, a people that lived on back roads, because as I say, if it broke a leg you could use them, but of course it was expensive and, if something happened to a horse. And it wouldn't stand

still, that was part of a, that was, one of those things I used to watch. And so on. Yeah.

JB What was it like during the 27 flood? [22.48]

KP Well I taught in Huntington and I came over, I hired somebody to take me to _____, and I walked over I never was afraid, walked over, one time there's a, a steps ahead of me, this fellow, but he didn't I was a little bit nervous but I didn't when I got way to the foot of the mountain, I, he came forward he was out on to _____, and was all [23.16] right but, I walked over there alone, and a, over the mountain. I never was afraid, I was always that way. And you know today, I, you couldn't do it at all. And I never had anyone ever bother me in the world, I've travelled an awful lot of them, I never had any man, some people _____ them, but they never bothered me. [23.37] I said, I told, I don't think they know I was a woman, (Laughter) they never bothered me.

JB Ha! Ha! Ha!

KP I never had any problems at all but I used to travel around where everyone, I used to hike up all the mountains and so on, like the great walker I am. I

was a, I was kind of an odd person I guess because of course I knew different trees, and I, so my son was in college up there he says, _____ taken it, he says you know more about that trees than I do.

JB Now how did you learn about the trees? [24.06]

KP My father.

JB Tell me a little bit about it.

KP Well I go to, on Sundays I had, I didn't like to go to church, and my father saved my neck by, and he didn't go to church ____, he had a, kind of trouble with the, urine sometimes, and he just stay out the whole hour sometimes, so that was his excuse anyway, my mother always had to go, if you had to go and two hours and I hated it, oh, nobody hated it like me. And, well of course I got, she punished me a lot of times cause I wasn't very nice. I couldn't sit still and I was very bad. [24.44] And I imagine, but he would feel sorry for me, so Sunday afternoon, of course she wanted to rest and she wanted to get away from he I imagine, I imagine I was a nuisance and so he'd take me. And we'd go for a walk. And I think my sister went along, but she wasn't interested, and in the lumber yard all

these trees, there was birch, all kind of birch, you know spruces, and ash, all kinds of trees, well, he'd tell me which was which, and of course I learned that way. And I also got so I could tell them trees, in the woods, I got to where I could, I just learned that way you see that was my way of learning, and but he was the one, my father was the one, but a, things are like that, you know, but a, he was, he was very understanding, and he wanted to, well I don't know, I probably annoyed her, but you see he was, took her, took me off, off her hands and and that, I enjoyed that, I walked a lot, I you know, I wanted to, I had to do something, walking around. And I'd, lumber yards and various things, and I learned that's that and in the woods [25.56] I got to where I knew my, oh but I can't remember now like I did when I'm telling you. That is, and herbs, he knew, he used to, I got to know a lot of, I know quite a few. But there, plants, let's see his, my father's grandmother was a, she took care of people and she, made a lot of medicines, and things like they used to do, and a, she always made him go, gather the herbs and the things,

and she, and he and his brother. And so my father remembered, and then of course when I was in the woods, he'd tell me what they were and I learned that way. My sister don't think she, I don't know that she ever cared.

JB Now what kind, I'm quite interested in, in the different remedies, and so forth, do you remember any?

KP I wish that, I'm so heart broken over that. When I stayed with my, my grandfather Ables, in East Braintree, had a store, an awful nice country store, and of course, she was a graduate from New York State, she taught school, my grandmother did, but the old grandmother was, my grandfather's mother, she was a, a different type of person all together, and of course a, my grandmother had lots of books, and they were, they were high school or college books, and she was a, you know, in those days, that's where she went to school, probably to college, cause her sister graduated and, and her son was a, in Glens Falls, he's an architect, he got a wonderful job. [27.45] But the, you know they both taught school. But, so that's the way I, _____ started. [27.57] So that's how I

learned on the things and what I want and I never get it, and it makes me so mad. I had an uncle, who was just my age, he was born when my grandmother's change of life, and he was the biggest nuisance, and they had, and grandmother's, this book, oh it belonged to old grandmother, oh, I don't know where she got it, to some of her people were well schooled, and she had a brother who was a, who wrote a history books, and this book oh, God help us I want that book so much, and in it, where the pictures of different herbs, and medicine, that they made from them, and it would be so clear that you could tell, if you looked at that picture than looked out and the ground than you'd see it. Oh, and I want it so bad. And my uncles came and they took that away and I was so mad I could of shot him. Well when I, I tried to get it after he died and nobody paid any attention to what I said, and it made me so provoked, I always wanted that book. And they knew I wanted it. And I was so mad to think that my uncle took it, I could of always, because if I'd gone to my grandfather, and said, I want that book that's your mothers. He would of given it to me, but I

didn't think, you know, what it, what it would show up again, but it never did, that was the most wonderful book I never have ever seen anything like it. And how the print was so good, you could tell, what they were by looking at that book.

JB Now this was your great grandmother that made the medicine?

KP Yeah. Yes, my grandfather's mother. Yeah. Yeah. Yes.

JB And she took care of people and.

KP Well yes, she stayed in my grandfather's family, you see my, Farley and my grandmother, well she didn't, well she had some kidney problem and she didn't work hard like the old grandmother, she was the one that, her name was Martha, oh she was a, my father and my, she brought up the, I said, she brought up the first three and she did a better job than the grandmother. She was a religious person and a very different person, that's his mother, she was very. And a, yes, and she went all around, doing for other people. And probably got nothing, no money, that's what she did around, yeah she was very capable. I've always, well.

JB Did she used to tell you stories or?

KP No, I didn't know her. [30.40] She was dead before I, she was dead before I, I ever saw. Saw her, but a, I don't know, she died when my father of course, always thought a lot of her and a, his sister and a, there were three of them that, the one who's a mill right, that was the oldest one on my father's brother. And then my father and then his sister Grace and she was a beautiful girl. And then they all, and of course respected but she got to be where she was blind, she couldn't see and of course in those days you didn't do anything to cataracts but she was a very capable, a very smart person. And her, well, I found out later in life, of course when I stayed with the Dillinghams, when I was in Montpelier seminary, in the library, but of course I was so, I was young I didn't know, I, there was a history book I loved, and I, used to read it, and of course I didn't know, it's grandmother's brother that wrote it, and I didn't know that, until, my grandfather told me, he said that was the trouble you should of gotten and grabbed that book, I said, "well, I didn't know." You see, nobody

told me. But a, so she was, she was very smart, the old grandmother was _____ people. [32.06] But I thought of it so many times that. Yeah there was a, I'd forgotten what the last name was, I've got it in my book. What the name was. But a, she married this Able, of course, and had a, had a large family. And my father, my grandfather, was so young he couldn't go to war. But.

JB This is World War One?

KP Yeah. No the Civil War.

JB Civil War.

KP The Civil War my the father of the family died and the other boys, they went in the Civil War and they died.

And a, so she lost her family that way, it was during the Civil War. Yeah. But she was a very capable person. [32.52]

END OF SIDE ONE

SIDE TWO

KP Yes it was. And of course as I say a, it was one of those things that, one of my grandfather's sometimes he would, tell us, but he was young, you see he had to

stay back, he and a, or two or three of them, they were too young and they couldn't go to the service so into the service, yeah. I don't know, of course this my uncle how he thinks he knows it all but, he did, he I said I think my grandfather said, they were, she had thirteen young ones. And he said, "oh, no, there's eight I don't know how many children she had." But a, he was so sure that there was only eight, but I'm quite sure, of course I stayed there a couple of summers with my grandfather and I get some information from them, I've got some, I've the book and I told my kids to, I've got the search some where, it's up in the attic, but a, and of course.

JB Now would your grandfather tell you stories about.

KP Once in awhile. [1.16] Once in awhile he would I guess, he was a, he was a good fiddler. He was a good musician, he had a sister, that lived in, they said that's very musical, they lived in California, they a, one time, one of the relatives, I don't know that was grandmother's I don't know is that was grandmother, my father's grandfather's mother's brother or relative I think, one summer when I was over there and I wasn't

very old, I might of been thirteen years old, one summer this man came, after my grandfather _____, and [2.00] now he was an architect and no he wasn't, no he was a landscaper, in California, I think it was, and grandfather says he'd not as keen as my mother was, and but, he was, he certainly knew plant life and back, but I used to go around with him some, just show me, he'd show me things like that, but it was so many, many years ago but, I remember that grandfather would say he's kind of a bore, he says he's not like my mother, that he likes that stuff and he knew stuff. So that's whom I ever, of course my grandmother's, family lived over in New York State, she used to go every summer, and I stayed with my grandfather, once or twice, and but a, the, yeah they were, she was there and they were Dutch I guess, German Dutch.

JB Ah ha. [3.14]

KP Yeah.

JB Well I'm interested in that you know, some of the, the stories that say your grandfather would tell, just because it pushes it back that, that much farther.

KP Yes. But I wish I can't seem to remember right off hand, but, as I say of course, one of those things that my, my father's, oldest brother, this, he was a wonderful person, he was awful kind to me, his son just died, that Gordon Able, was his only son he had, and a, they were, and he was a nice, an awful nice person, every body liked him, anyway but, no my grandfather, I've got that book I don't know where it is I can't find it, I was gonna look, I probably put it in the trunk some where, so somebody wouldn't get it. But it's a, [4.23] there's an account of some of the things that, they did, you know, but the, it's one of those things. Yeah.

JB Yeah the whole way of life has changed so much.

KP Oh every thing, I can't believe it, can you? And what are we coming to, what are we coming to, it makes you wonder from day to day, and the, it's one of those things, there's a, I was looking my paper got wet this morning, because I told you it's half past nine, I've never slept that late. And what happened I don't, because I got up at, I thought if somebody was trying to get in, I would be down here but I don't

know whether it was a coon, I just don't know. But of course, I'm, well I'm not afraidy cat, you see I've, I've been very, I've taken many, many chances, in my life, but I've been very lucky. I've worked several different men have worked for me but I've never been bothered with anything, they've always been.

JB Well it sounds like you've hiked all over every where.

KP Oh, I have. I don't know how many times I've been up.

I've been up to Camel's Hump. Yes, I've been once or twice. I've been up there. [5.40] I've walked over, Roxbury Mountain, I've walked over Lincoln Mountain, and a, I walked, my husband and I went off up in Maine, up to, oh what's that place? What?

JB _____? [6.00]

KP Yes. And I didn't, I was afraid to go up there, that was an awful time, that was an awful hike. I was so, I stayed down the foot, of the mountain that time. But a, my son, my son had walked all over _____ mountain, [6.16] he could of put his name in the paper, somebody said why didn't you have it, I didn't know when he was real young, he walked over _____ mountain, and someone said why didn't you put his name

in the paper, well we didn't. He a, he went with his father up, _____ and [6.32] of course you know to go there, you got, you know all about it, you, it's owned by the lumber companies, and you got to get a permit, and we had, he had to write, and get the permits before we could go, before they would let us go in there, and then we went through there and then finally we ended up in Canada. I don't know whether it was Quebec probably, but way up in the, way, way up in the northern part of, of Canada. [6.58] You see you kept going, but went way up in Maine, and you keep going on that road, until you come to it, and that's the way we did that. That was a nice trip, I remember. Way up in there. But a, he liked to, my husband liked to travel.

JB When you grew up in Warren, was it mostly a mill town, or a lumber town?

KP Yes. [7.21] Yes that's what it was. Yeah. And, yeah there wasn't any, there weren't any other industries that I remember. Of course, big farms, in East Warren, of course had a lot of beautiful farmers,

and you'd see the Elliots', he had a lot of money, they called him Hod Elliot. And a, I was, I talked with his grandfather just recently, down there in Warren, Mrs. Peatman of course, she was granddaughter.

And a, but a, I've heard these stories and I guess they were true, that the old grandmother was so stingy, that they of course took the cream to the creamery and, got their money, but they used buttermilk, or anything to get along, of course buttermilk can, you can do lots with if you know how, and of course those old people knew how to do those things, that we don't today. If we could ever go back, to make the foods and do the things that they did, but we don't know how. We just don't know how. Now I think of it when my kids were small, and I'd like to go now, I said to my daughter, I'd like to go back down there to Weston, of course you take Weston, Vermont, of course when they first began and I used to talk with West Orton, and I was surprised that he even talked to me but he did. You know, he was the one who started down there, and we used to get what we call muffin mix, that was composed of various greens, in a

bag, and of course during the war we didn't have any money for meat, and so this dentist told me, give your children all the cereals you can because he says you've got to supply a lot of meat, so I used to go down there, and I remember West talked with me, and I, I got those, those bags, of meal, I loved, excuse me, of grain, and I used to make the nicest rolls, out of butter milk, I don't know as I could do it anymore.

[9.25] But, oh those rolls are good. And I, that's what we had to eat. Often times breakfast, you know.

But they used them for a long time, and of course a, there were country stores and so on. A country stores they didn't have much. When you go back to stop to think, you couldn't get a loaf of bread. I remember mom used to always make bread on Saturday. She'd make a, you know, for the next three, four loaves, or whatever she made, for the next week. [9.59] And so that's what we had but you couldn't buy your bread. I don't think, half the time I don't, I don't think there was any bread to buy. In the stores you know. Once, very rare thing. So every body had to do the things, that you think of what they used to cook, and

how they could cook and I think of it so many times of, there used to be an old lady that came here, oh she made the nicest donuts. I loved her donuts. And I can just see her now, she was in her eighties. The last time she was here, she says Kay I don't know that I can, fry those donuts or not. And then she says, "I'm gonna have a nap this afternoon, and I'm gonna change my shoes, and she, oh she was awful clean and slick as she come down the hall, slick you know, well she says, you know, I slept awful well today. I can do it. [10.50] And she made those donuts oh my husband said, "just one trouble, she doesn't make enough."

JB Ha! Ha!

KP And he says oh they're so good, everything. And she'd make ginger cookies oh they'd melt in your mouth. [11.02] Everything she made. And now, and they knew just how to make it out of nothing. I thought of it so many times, yeah. It's a, we can never they had a lot of good qualities of course, making rugs and every thing that we just don't have it.

JB Now did your mother make rugs and quilts and?

KP She made, she made some quilts but, I made the rugs.

I'm the braided rugs and these rugs are mine.

JB Oh!

KP I make them.

JB Oh they're wonderful.

KP I, a nice rug, my daughter has down in Frederick, oh I like that. I don't, I guess she, well one of her, one of her kids is bound to have it when she dies. Oh it's, I, it's a, a kind of a rose and there's blues. Oh it's pretty. I. She had it in her dining room. And it was all brand new material. I just made one. I got it half done, for the other daughter, and it's nice but, it needs to be bigger, but I gave it to Betty. But the other girl kind of wanted it, she said she was hoping to get it but. [12.11] No, I, I used to make rugs more, I made some quilts, I've got, I've got one now that's not finished but, I was getting so I understood very well but my daughter, the one down to Fredericks she makes quilts, but of course I, my ideas of quilts taking the old patterns, you see my grandmother, my father's grandmother, had a whole box of the old, old patterns, and when she died, her

daughters had them and they didn't want them, and the one in Northfield, and she was 80 something then and I says, " what are you going to do with that Aunt Martha?" "I don't want it," she says, "you want it?"

I says, "sure I'll take it." So I had a whole box of those patterns. And I, I made a lot of quilts from them. That is I, you know they were. They were usable. These that Ruth makes are just shows. Those new, new, what they make are just shows, they're not usable. But the old timers, you know they had to use them, that's all they had.

JB What was the favorite one you made?

KP Oh I don't know that I know, I don't remember, I was trying to think of that and I just gave it to a woman in Grandville. Oh I forgot. [13.37] I've forgotten the names of some of them. Of course the Ohio ones are all right. I made those. The stars. But, I had one that, put your name on the blocks, that was kind of pretty. You know, put your name on a block, and.

JB Um hum.

KP And, I don't know if I could. I can name off hand some of the names of the quilts, but I had a, several

different kinds, yes and one kind, I've got that old quilt, Betty took it, cause she didn't want to, it came from up on the farm, it was always on her spare bed, and it's the strips, little small strips, it was put together in a certain way, that it looked like a, a oh dear.

JB Sort of a log cabin type?

KP Yeah but it isn't log cabin, but it looks something like log cabin. The way it was put together is was just little strips. It's a, it was up there on the, and then on the, just hand quilted and on the underside, was this awful coarse material. I don't know what it was, the material was there or not. Of course this flax that we use in Vermont, and of course you probably seen them do that.

JB Yeah.

KP It's quite a trick. [15.11]

JB Yes.

KP And a, to see them I saw them to the Tunbridge Fair, because of course I've got that quilt but, my daughter has it and it makes so fierce. My granddaughter took it on me, that was up in the attic, her husband wanted

it, and but I didn't like her to have it, she took it, I didn't like it very well. She, she knew I wanted that. It's my grandmother Ables, had a quilt one way it's flax and the other way it's wool.

JB Oh.

KP You hear that and you're, well. What was the name for it? [16.00] Them have a name for them. Oh dear. Oh dear, I think I can't say it, one way went flax, what was the name for them? Well, oh, well it will come to me anyway. And I've got it, and I wanted them but Ruth's got it down her place. I guess she's afraid someone will take it. I said it of been all right here if you left it. [16.27] And, it a, the granddaughter, she see it and she, she took it down, I didn't like it very well, a little bit of, I told her, I said, that's kind of dishonest, I don't like that very well. Lindsay woolsey, that's what they were called, Lindsay woolsey.

JB Yes.

KP And you'll find them, they were very rare. And this was composed of their own dye. I had the whole color, that was, where they got the colors from different

vegetables. And there was not, any dye, from anything else, everything.

JB Wow!

KP And it was an unusual quilt. Blanket. It was very, very nice and it hasn't got, it did have one or two moth holes but not much, it was very pretty. Yeah.

JB Gee!

KP Yup, but a, it was one my grandmother Ables', some of her family. And.

JB Do you remember your grandmother spinning at all?

[17.26]

KP No. No. They didn't do that no. No. The only thing is I do remember a relative down to the Tunbridge Fair that was a relative. And she was spinning flax. And I know my husband got awful mad at me, because I went to see them spinning flax and I was so fascinated of course I had never seen it in my life. And this is in Tunbridge Fair, and I went in there and she was a relative of my mother's side of the house, and they had soaked it of course, and what a terrible job it was to make the towels, _____ and the bedding.

[18.13] But this, I think that the inside of that old

quilt I've got, it's awful coarse material. But I don't know, I don't think it's linen, I'm not sure. Betty has got it in her house, down there, she took it home because the antique was very antiquish. And she, so no one would take it. But, it's a fascinating thing I had, in my life I had never seen them, _____ flax, and I just stood there and my, I stayed there and my husband got sick of it. [18.50] Finally he, he, I see he was getting kind of ruffled up, so I, I moved, I got away. And his mother was there somewhere around the place. And I sneaked away, I went back there, and when he didn't know it, I pretended I was going somewhere else but I was sneaking, I'd sneak back, so as to see, because that's the fascinating thing how did they ever do it. You know it takes, it looked like nothing, they say that the, the flax, the stuff that you can get from marijuana, can be put into flax. I don't.

JB Oh is that right.

KP I don't.

JB I didn't know that.

KP I don't know if it's true or not, I heard that the

other day, yes. But, it looks like a weed that you don't want to be bothered with. That's all, you see that, _____, you know, [19.40] I wouldn't want to be bothered with it. But it does of course made their towels, and probably their sheets, every thing, I had one of them, one piece of cloth here was a, to go over a feather bed, and it was, that material bed was awful coarse, I never knew what it was, but it was not very much ordinary cotton. But I, for a long time I kept it. But of course as time goes on I, people kept saying, I kept too much so I, I got rid of it.

JB Ha! Ha!

KP But it was, of course those feather beds you know all about feather beds. I don't have to tell you. They took the feathers from geese, and of course you don't, that made you, and I, my father's sister, had a moose feather bed. And I had it. And I took it, and I washed the feathers, little by little, and of course it didn't help my breathing but it got so I did try to, and I made a lot of pillow out of them. And there's one, one grandson said, "I want one of my grandmother's pillows. I don't want these modern

pillows. I'm." So he comes and it's, and I got it all fixed with nice new ticking, and someone says, "what did you give it to him for? " I said, "well he wanted it." And he, I said, "he still has it." And he, he wants that pillow. He says, "I don't like these modern pillows, they're no good." And it was very nice and I made quite a lot of, of pillows with that, with that feather bed. [21.18] But it was a.

JB Well I can imagine you needed them too, I mean, you grew up on the farm without electricity.

KP Yeah. Goose were, but they had geese you see. And you had to take the, the only thing they put, was take the best feathers that's all. And the, I hated to ever, to ever try to make a, if you ever try to make a bed, a feather bed, there's no, my father's mother had one, I didn't like it, they're nice to roll, to sleep on, you try and make it, why, it humps there and you can't do it, you got, you got, she'd say, "raise it up. get the air in." Just so. Then you'd shove it and keep working until you got it smooth. Otherwise, when you made your bed it would be lumpy. A low here and high there, and of course it took quite awhile

before I learned. My father's mother showed me how to do it, I didn't know, but a, of course I, all those old places, had feather beds. You know, that's what you had. You had to have them that's all to be comfortable on, they were, of course they were nice in the winter, and the summer but, summer had started I guess, I had them anyway.

JB What were you talking, you talked a little bit about food and so forth, what, what kind of meals would you have? [22.38] You start off with breakfast, was that a big meal?

KP Well some of them I never, we never had a, they used to have potato and meat, and sometimes if they were working in the woods, of course a regular meal, but I can't remember of course, at home, of course we had a, toasted we made toast on the woodstove. You know, had one of those wire things, and we had toast. But of course, they made rolls, my mother used to make awful nice rolls, even, didn't go to Weston, I know one time she made something, people say, the nicest rolls and I, it was during the War, and cause my father couldn't get any flour, he went down stairs, down the store but

you couldn't buy any. All out. They were all out of sugar and I think she used maple sugar. And maybe they made, they had some trees around there, well I said if I, my mother said, I've got no flour, [23.57] I don't know what we're gonna have for breakfast. I said, and she, the room right off the kitchen, they kept the grain, for the cow and the pig or anything we had, you know, the kind of a, I don't know what it was called, but it was a mix of some sort, and she says, "there's just one thing I can do," she says, "I'm gonna used that. I'll make some rolls." She made some rolls, that's gonna go feed a cow, and they were the nicest rolls, they were, I told she can do it again, they were, she didn't, of course she didn't know, but she says it's all I've got to make rolls.

JB Um, hum.

KP And we didn't have any bread. Well you know, we couldn't make it, if you didn't have any flour. And so they were, the minute, I think she called them middling, I don't know what was in it but, it was all kinds of grain. It's ground up, for the cow, and it was in nice clean sack, and it had never been in the

barn, it had been right in that, right off from the kitchen, it's all clean. And it was an awful nice rolls. I never had before, I thought they was good. But she, she had to do something, so that's what she did. Middling yeah. But a, see the old timers they had to, but, I don't, of course we had eggs, we always had eggs, and we used to have oatmeal a good deal, of course that was grain it was cheaper. But, sometimes we had bacon and eggs, sometimes ham, oh we had such nice ham. My mother knew just how to fix it. And a, they used to put it down, one of them big crock jars, oh I loved it so much, you can't buy it in today. And those, she put that as section you know in the brine, I don't know what was in the brine. I've got the recipe, that's some where I think but she put, she put the ham in that brine, in a great big, stone jar and she used stones some, great big stones and washed them and put that down and weight it down, so it wouldn't bob out, you see if it bobbed out of it would spoil it. [26.26] And, then in, in the dead of the winter, they took it out of that brine and than had a barrel out on the, a wooden barrel and they took that husk

from the corn and I liked it better than that other stuff, just corn husks, and smoked it, and this took quite awhile for it to smoke. Oh was that the nicest flavor.

JB Oh I bet.

KP I'm telling you, you can't, and then I thought of it so many times, my father, oh he'd always have such sharp knives, and he'd slice that so nice. And oh, and you take a piece of that ham and some eggs and oh I'm telling you it was, breakfast you wouldn't find any more. But those days are gone but, he knew how, see a, she was, my mother was very neat and very tidy, and a, so they had a hog, and so they put it down, and oh the nicest salt pork, oh if you could have some like that. [27.29] And great stone jars you know, that's salt pork, and I put, I don't know they have salt, what else they had but, oh it was good, that salt pork, well you take it out of that brine, and, and she'd bring it oh, it would make the nicest baked beans, oh. Everything was so tasty and you'd take that, and dad of course used sharp knives you know, he'd slice that ham, that salt pork, and I see it now,

and see that old fry pan on the back of the stove, a wooden stove and she put water in, and put that, that salt pork, in the water, cold water, and of course it was just a little heat in the back, you know, and so it steamed, you know, but it's right on the back side of the stove, and a, it cooked slowly, that's, it would steam and of course what it was doing is taking the salt out of the, out of the salt pork, and so, then she'd pour that off, and sometimes, if she taught it was too salty, she might put some more cold water on, but if not, it would be all right, then she'd take it and roll in flour, and put it in the fry pan, and cook it slow, and oh was that good. That salt pork, and my I would eat some of that, my sister wouldn't touch it. Oh that salt pork was good. And oh I'm telling you.

KP Yeah, you never get it anymore.

KP Oh I know and that was, and oh she'd make the nicest gravy. And she, wasn't really gravy you know. Milk gravy, oh that milk gravy. And then she'd make Johnny Cake. Some johnny cake, and baked potato. And it was

good enough for anybody and I used to love it, you can't get those things today. They just can't find them, it's not available. And if I got salt pork, it doesn't, of course that was nice pork, and she was so neat and slick you see those big slabs would be in that stone jar, stones jars were wonderful you can't buy them anymore. [29.34] I've given them away to my family, and with that brine. And what was in the brine, was salt and water, salt and water what else I don't know. Because I didn't, I was too young to know. But a, but when she took that salt, a chunk of that salt pork out of that brine, and bring it up as I say, and slice it, and then cook it that way, but a, no it's, you have salt pork today it's nothing, nothing, and your baked, and that had the nicest flavor for your baked beans. You know, take that maple syrup, oh and I just wanted to, one of the reunions up in, over in Bethel, I had an aunt, oh I _____ with this day, [30.20] I know where her daughter is and I talked with her daughter and I said, "I would like for once more to get hold of some of that, that, those baked beans." Oh, and there was

nice salt pork in it. She puts some slices of that in and oh, oh. Flavored and that maple syrup, sugar, she used sugar not syrup, and oh I'm telling you. That was and if she happened to make brown bread too but, that was.

JB And how did she make brown bread?

KP Oh I got to where I knew how. I've got some recipes now. Well take this grain, like I'm telling you, different kinds of grain, we used a, corn meal, and there was whole wheat, and different kinds of grain, and then you put molasses, and spices and you cooked it, and I don't remember, I don't think there's any egg, and than you put it in a, we used to have cans, tin cans, and poured it and greased the can, put it in there, and then put it in hot water, and it would steam, cook all, all day in that, and then you took it out, oh was that good.

JB Um.

KP That's the way they made the, the a, the last of my doing it here, I have a great, I have a, an aluminum double boiler, and I would, of course I had the water underneath, and I put it in this double boiler, and,

and grease, and it was very good. Not probably as good as the, as hers but it was very good. But those days are, I don't suppose I could do it anymore.

[32.10] But it's a, there's a woman in Warren they said she did to the day she died, and she lived to be about a hundred, every day she wanted a slice of brown bread. And that's the way they made the brown bread, they steamed it you see.

JB Um hum.

KP But a, you got buttermilk, sour milk was used a lot, many times the sour milk, I used a pile of it, I got to where I was so good on sour milk, oh.

JB Oh my mother-in-law has this recipe book and she always talks about sour milk.

KP You had better. [32.47]

END OF TAPE ONE

TAPE TWO

KP A lot of your milk thickens up like it's gonna be cheese.

JB Yes. Yes, that's what I thought.

KP And, [.12] you take it and a, then you can make things, oh, I thought of it, people have told me so

many times I think of it and, and my niece comes here now. That her mother wasn't living, I used to make cakes and the, I, oh I used to make those chocolate cakes that melt in your mouth. Oh! I take it with sour milk. And oh they were good. And I make them, someone said well how can you make them so quick. I would, I made them quick and a I used chocolate, and a, I could use cocoa sometimes, but usually chocolate. Oh they regular, regular, regular chocolate.

JB How about puddings, did you make puddings?

KP Oh yes. Yes I, I would like to now. [.57] Chocolate puddings. But you see, you a, take the whites and beat them, I used to beat them up separate and then fold them in at the last just to make it nice and fluffy. I used to, I used to be able to cook, that's the way I got thru school. It is, I'm not kidding you. Yes. I stayed with well to do people. It was Dillinghams. He was the, same as Leahy and so on.

JB Oh really.

KP Oh, yes, I stayed there. I stayed there for two years.

JB Um hum.

KP And, that's the way I got by, I, you know they, they did things for me, yes. I didn't have any money, I didn't have anything, but you see I, I, she would tell me, how she wanted me to cook, and she was, she had high blood pressure, and I would go out in the kitchen and I could follow, I had taken school, I had a wonderful _____, [1.57] had a _____, way head of Montpelier seminary, I shouldn't say that, but in Waitsfield, oh they had this girl she came from God knows where, [2.07] she taught home ec, wasn't the University of Vermont, she came from away, and she was tops, oh that girl knew how to cook. And tell you how to cook, and she had classes, another girl and I both of us, we put on a banquet for them, we got, we learned so. We learned how to can tomatoes, we learned how to freeze ice cream, by ourselves. I don't know but we weren't very old, cause I graduated around 17 or 18, so I wasn't very old. And we, we a, they told us how to can corn, how to do all these things, why we learned you see in the school. And they really learned, you really learned. It wasn't just roughing, and I got the old book now. I said to

somebody the other day, "now I've written, I used it,"
I said, "you know the recipes in that old book are
just as good as they can be. And they're absolutely
accurate." [3.10] And they are. But a, we made also
_____ things you know, in those days of course made
pies and, everything all kinds of cakes, oh every
thing. But in those days.

JB Did you make a, things like wine and a?

KP No, I didn't no anything about wine. My mother did.
She made dandelion wine. And it was good. It was all
right but no I never made any wine, I made jellies.
In those days. I do now. But, I used to make a,
jellies and things like that and we had currant jelly
and we had a, there was this, my niece said the other
day, she came yesterday, or Sunday. Well see Kay, my
the currants. And I'd been fighting for that and I
lost. Of course at home we always had currants, you
know what currants are?

JB Yes.

KP And.

JB We have currants.

KP So I had the currants and of course mother had white

and red, and I had been fighting down there, I lost, one of my big ones, the Russians was always down there stealing it anyway they lived down next door. [4.22]

And in the Case parkway, they'd steal those all the time. They were good. They're right on the fence and so they, reached right over and steal them. But this one I've got a, something in a different place, and they're currant bushes and she showed me the red ones, I said, "good." They're not white but they're red. But you take currants and I liked them for pie. I, my father, my son didn't, and my husband didn't like them, but I loved currant pie. I made one just with, about six years ago for my niece in Hardwick and my daughter. And I did have good luck with the crust and every thing. You take currants and of course I got that one seed in them, but oh they, you'd do it just right. And oh they are so, so nice.

JB Yeah. Yeah.

KP I like them better than raspberry for a change. But a, my husband didn't like the currant bush but he liked raspberry. But a, those.

JB Now you said your mother came from Waitsfield, did her

family go way back there? [5.22]

KP No. No, no. She's from Bethel, her folks lived way up in God sakes I'm telling you, you could never find that place.

JB In Bethel.

KP Oh, her people lived way up on the hills. Up in Bethel _____. You ever up in there? [5.36]

JB Yeah.

KP Well, her grandmothers, is buried up there and I don't know, I just, I took my daughter, my other daughter, and we went up there to see, about two years ago I guess it was, my other daughter lives in, the one where I stayed, Frederick, so I went up there to the old farm, and my, he's my age, he lives there with his dog, a dirty dog.

JB This is your cousin?

KP Yes. And his name is, Harold Luce.

JB Oh, the fiddler.

KP He doesn't fiddle I don't think. Harold Luce.

JB No.

KP He dances. But anyway I don't know maybe he does, I never knew it might be for all I'd know.

JB And he's your first cousin?

KP Yeah. And a, he's a boy, he _____, he couldn't exist [6.35] only he's got brothers and sister and they're wonderful cooks, and of course, he gets meals on wheels and they're not adequate so they, supply it of course, there's no question. Whether he's still there I don't know, each day I think my God, they'll have to get, get out of there. Well that place is old, old, old and he used to be a nice syrup and he gave me a lot of butternuts on the back porch, I got to shell them some but, it will help me. And I gave him some things. And a fruit basket I gave him some old clothes that my husband had that he wanted and so on. So, he gave me all those butternuts. Well you know I went in there and they had _____, old dirty _____, and his sisters come up [7.20] and they shovel them out and clean them out, for a little while but it doesn't last very long. I don't know. [7.25]

JB Ha! He never married?

KP Why no. But he did, he took care of his folks. His father lost his legs and he waited on him for years and oh yes. And a but a, now he's by himself.

JB Now how did they come to settle up there? Do you know?

KP Oh they always did, I don't know. From her father, her father was a, I don't know. Her father was a farmer and he worked for a tanning factory for awhile, he was a good mason, build chimneys, plaster anything, that was, he had a business enough that that was a large family they lived up there and, and the old grandmother years on, she kept chicks, turkeys, and then she had, a tumor in her uterus and she died. And left six kids.

JB God!

KP Yeah, a terrible thing. And a.

JB This was Harold Luce's mother. Grandmother.

KP Grandmother. Yeah. And that's right. But a, when I went up there, to see Harold, I couldn't get, but I tell you, and I would like to see inside, of course my mother knew, there was an awful old house, there was a cellar was a stone cellar, and they made butter and sold that, and they said it was clean because it was, whoever lived there, made, had it made of stone. And you know it's, the floor and everything. [9.05] So

it's nice and clean made out of stone. And flat stones probably. But in the kitchen, there's a dutch oven in there, there's one of those old timers, so my mother said and she, my mother would know, because a, it's all closed in now, it's all shut in, but that's what it is, and they were able to bake bread and everything in the darn thing.

JB Gosh.

KP Until the last few years. Yes. [9.35] And a, it's all cased in with cupboards. So you wouldn't know of course when I'd go in I didn't know, but my mother knew. It was, a relative, an old relative of theirs. Of course it was, he lived there so my mother knew. But a, there's that house is old, it's very old. But a, he lives there alone. And he doesn't have any money I guess in lumber, I guess he's got plenty of lumber. But a, this a, his sisters, Mrs. Purington is one wonderful, and a.

JB Mrs. who?

KP Mrs. the youngest one, Purington.

JB Purington.

KP Yeah. Nice, he's an awful nice guy, anyway they do

everything for them, all sorts of things. Oh she's outstanding. She's a wonderful person, that's his youngest sister. And the other sister, Irene, she married a, now wait a minute. [10.44] Oh I know. Edgar. Butterfield.

JB Oh. I know them well. In Middlebury!

KP Yeah. Yeah. East Middlebury.

JB And so she's a Luce.

KP Oh yes.

JB I didn't realize that.

KP She's one of the, she's one of the younger ones.

JB She's the nicest woman. [11.03]

KP Yes, and that's sister of hers is a, tops too. That's the one I'm telling about.

JB She was okay, now, she was telling me okay, it makes sense, her brother the hen house used to be a hops house.

KP I presume so. Yeah. Yeah and of course a, she doesn't drive but the younger sister she's a, she's a wonderful person that, that my soul she's a wonderful cook, and she's a, of course, Puringtons is nice, Purington stayed here just a little while.

JB Now is Purington from Lincoln? Over there? [11.46]

Is that Mary Purington?

KP No, no, he came from up near John, up near my place, they were born up in there. Right next to my place. There in Huntington. And they're, they, he's an awful nice fellow, he worked for the, the telephone company for many years, and oh they're wonderful to, to a, to Harold.

JB So now Mrs. Butterfield is your first cousin?

KP Yes and.

JB And Harold Luce's sister.

KP Yes. Yes. And they're all our first cousins. My Uncle Morse's children.

JB I'll be darned.

KP Oh yes, yeah. But of course a.

JB It's a small world. [12.26]

KP Yes that's right. Ah hun. Yeah. And then of course a, (ambulance in background) there's another sister, and she a, she's very helpful, let's see what's her name, I know what her name is too. Just when I want to say it I can't. There's Irene and there's a, Sally, well then the sister near by there, and her

brother. And Harold's got a brother that lives near by. His wife just died, she was a school teacher there for a long time. [13.10] And a, she got.

JB So there was the musical tradition in that side of the family as well.

KP I don't know. [13.18] I don't know. I don't know, I don't know anything about Harold.

JB Cause it was your, now this is your mother's son?

KP Yes, right, right. Um hum. Yeah. Yes some of them.

JB Your mother was a Luce.

KP Yeah that's right. Yeah. Of course the Luces' go way back. As you know.

JB Now.

KP You know the Luces' were Irishman.

JB Oh is that right?

KP Oh yes. One of them settled in that area, one was out there in Waterbury, and there's one in Boston I think there was three brothers, they were Irishman, they came from Ireland. Yeah.

JB How long ago?

KP I don't know, it was in Vermont history, I got that old Vermont history book, I think it's in the attic.

It goes way back. [14.08] It told about it. About some of those Luces'. Yes. I had that, it goes way way back.

JB Well I was talking with a, Guy Livingston, remember him?

KP Guy Livingston.

JB And he I can't think.

KP Was he the one that was a teacher?

JB No. But his, grandmother's uncle, remembered the first four wheel wagon that came into Fayston I guess it was.

KP Um hum.

JB And he told about this old guy carrying first one piece over the mountain and it came up, I guess on the lake, and then he carried it piece by piece over and then assembled it.

KP Um hum.

JB But it took him you know, ten days two weeks, to bring it all over.

KP Yeah. Of course all the road weren't ever good you know. No road was good for anything, you know.

JB Well you must remember the McCullough turnpike?

KP Yes I did. Well I used to go over there. I slept up there. [15.17] Ha! Ha! Yes, I haven't forgotten John, and Betty. And John had a boyfriend and they rented a certain place up on the mountain, we drove that up as far as we could, and they slept and of course Betty and we were gonna be made kind of a tent but tied to our car, my husband never was very brave anyway, and in the middle of the night, there was some noise, it was an animal of some sort, and of course it frightened him, and Betty was gonna go right in and I said you can't sleep in there the boys have, that other boy, wasn't my brother, my brother I ain't gonna sleep with him, she said. Well she had to come back, I say, you got to stay with us. Whether you want to or not because John's got a boyfriend, so anyway, we stayed there that night, and it was up in McCullough, just before they built it, you know.

JB Now who were John and Betty?

KP My kids.

JB Oh your kids.

KP Yeah. Betty of course she was staying right, but of course John had this other boyfriend and she, she

wouldn't of minded sleeping, her brother would look out for her, but she didn't want that other boy, cause I wouldn't have that.

JB Ha! Ha!

KP So she was got out of luck I'll never, but her father, we were right tight to the car, and he never was any good, we were slept up on Camel's Hump and the, the animals woke us up in that tin house you know.

JB Um hum.

KP And a, Jack went out and took the flash light, and he threw some salt out, so they, then they behaved themselves. And shut up, and so we slept the rest of the night. [17.07] We slept on bells, or something, yeah. Yeah. We used to camp around some. That was McCullough turnpike, it was before much, excuse me I got to go to the bathroom.

JB Yeah. And I'll. That's still the farm.

KP I've got about four hundred acres. Three, four hundred. They're gonna cut lumber up there.

JB Oh they are. Now this is in Warren.

KP No, no, no, no. Huntington.

JB Oh in Huntington.

KP Oh yes, it run across. I just a, Charlie's going at it.

JB That's where Charlie's logging.

KP He's been right at me all the time, he wanted that, he wanted it. I, they say he's very honest.

JB He is honest.

KP And they said that he does a good job. My son-in-law said if you have one that doesn't do a good job, get him out of there, don't have him, cause he says, they, you don't make any money. [17.57] And so I don't know, Charlie has been talking with me, he's wanted it as far as I could see. Another fellow called the other day and I, I didn't know his name he talked with me and I told him, I couldn't hear, on the phone this other fellow, he called but a, apparently he was in competition with Charlie I didn't know what his name is, Moonier, something I can't remember it, the last name. But anyway that's it. So. Yes, it's one of those things we have to put up with something.

JB So this is the farm and you and your husband had?

KP Yes and we bought on some other land. See we had two farms.

JB So did you have many cattle then, or? [18.37] Or cows?

KP No, no his father used to have a small farm. No. And then so on. And the brother had lots of hens. And there was ferrets, a thriving business and the brother was killed in the woods, and he was in his twenties.

JB Oh!

KP Oh yes, and a.

JB How did that happen?

KP Well he was up in, just outside the, down this, on the road, he's down the road a little ways, near Hanksville, village there, and he was up on the mountain and he and another fellow I don't know, they don't know. Some say that the other fellow was, was stub, when they fell the tree that, it knocked, anyway it hit him over the head and killed him instantly. [19.27] But it was a terrible stroke, a terrible shock.

JB Hum!

KP And of course it's, his parents had to put up with that and we all did for years. And a, so it's one of those things that a, so I should of sold it, I made a

mistake, that I didn't sell it. And of course part of the land is in Huntington and parts in Starksboro and part is in the Gore, and they raised the prices terrible in Gore, I didn't have to pay very big taxes for years, but when Madeleine Kunin got in there she got in there with D_____bly and I don't know what was the matter with them, I didn't have any _____.

JB They taxed the gores.

KP Yes.

JB I guess.

KP Yes, yes and made, I have no use for it. Because nobody there it does any good. There was just a lot of people poor as turkeys. [20.12] You know and we own most of the land, and I didn't bother anybody. And I could of sold a lot of land, so there could of been a lot nuisance there but I never did. I could. I had chances too. So anyway, we bought on, some land, extra land, and so it was, I got two places in there. Quite a lot of land, and as I say, I wasn't for cutting lumber. But they've been at me so I guess that's it, I, one of those things I don't know, whether it was a smart thing to do or not but, well of

course, I have to go in a nursing home I'll use the money all right, but. Otherwise, I didn't have to have it right then and there but. Of course, my kids are far away they're not interested. They're not interested no they've got, half down there in Maryland which is a foolish thing to do but you can't tell them, anything, John is gonna want to get out of there. And I think he can go in eventually.

JB Now you have two, or three children?

KP I've got three. I've got two girls and a boy. Of course John isn't anybody who knows John, John is a very easy, well he is, he's an awful nice guy, if you know him, but he wants, he'll visit with you and so on, but I don't mean he's, but he's not a show fellow.

And but a, [21.42] anybody who knows him, they like him. Of course I can get along with him any old way.

I wouldn't care if I was living in a shack, it makes no difference, I can get along with him. Anyway, you know, he doesn't a, he'll just get right up and wash the dishes, wipe them up and put them away, and you get your meal, he'll get your meal for you if you want

him to. [22.04] If you want him to. He's all right and a, as I say, of course the girls are very different. Ruth runs this clinic, she's made a fool of herself, she had a nice man, and I don't know why they didn't get along, he was a, he's a, a civil engineer. He worked there for a long time, he overworked and she did too. They had, hadn't been for that I think they'd had a little more common sense. It's made it hard for him and I, I think, I think she's making a mistake. Because now they don't, he's with someone else and I expected he'd but of course I liked him, I still like him, and they all know I do. I don't care what they say, I want to, I went out with, to dinner with him and the other day and I think Ruth, she was working there or maybe she'd of liked to have gone. There that was. I don't know what was the matter with them. It's a foolish thing anyway. People break up today, and they don't know what they're doing. [23.05] You know what I mean. Because we all have our feelings, you lived with someone 20, 30 years, you know all the good points, but you also know their nasty points, and what are you

gonna do, got to overlook, overlook the nasty things and get along, because you need each other. You know you can always trust them, if they were trustworthy and so on, and as I say, but, she's got to run this clinic, and there's too much, and she's trying to work more, and I've told her but she won't listen to me. She has a, she works for the Martin Marriatte concern, of course the old folks were a, came from _____, you know, [23.48] that's what they are, awful nice old folks, they were wonderful, they had these two boys, and they're the ones who run the business, and I don't know which one is the both of them are just, or just one of them, but they're with it, they're the business men, they had two sons, and well she runs this clinic, it's nothing to do with, with the abortion, she has nothing to do with that at all, she doesn't want to have anything to do with it. But it's a, if you work there, you got to hurt your hand or your finger or your sore throat, you go to this clinic, and she diagnosed this tests and so on, and if it's, if it's something that's looks bad, some of the tests are bad, well then she refers to a doctor that's near by. And.

JB This is in Florida?

KP No, this is in Frederick. Outside of Frederick, between Frederick and Washington, DC. [24.41] It's one of those places. And so that's what she's done for a long time and I, she's working too much, it's over sixty years old and I've told her, I told her to cut it out, but, she keeps working. She's gonna wait until she has a heart spell. And then she can't go, but it's a terrible cause she works so hard, and a, so the other girl married a doctor and of course, his people are well off, and well off, and have a place in the Virgin Islands, got a place down in, down here in New Hampshire, a camp, and he's well taken care of financially. Of course here was a doctor had Robert in the first place so, they've got children and they're, I try not to bother them, I try not to bother any of them, because a, well she and Jan wanted to go in ____, I don't want all of them and of course Ruth, I stayed down to her place [25.35] but I'm not gonna bother again because I think that she likes her freedom, I think of that as the first place in, and I

think there was, the first thing she wanted her freedom, she thought she did but I don't know, of course she gets through I think she's gonna change her mind a little. And of course John, has got a, his wife is, she's a nurse and she works in the hospital she's a doctor, she's got a doctorate in nursing. Of course she's got, all she can do, that is. She's got a good job. It's good pay. And so and they got, they've got four children they had just three, and this last one was a after thought. She's the one that they're having to send to college before long, so that's it. But, they're all schooled, now all of them were, yeah, they've all graduated from college. And they're a nice family, but a, of course Ruth's are too, Ruth had five children.

JB Gosh!

KP And worked like I, I don't understand, I can't understand people, he had all that, well he has a, a government man, her husband, big pay, I said the two of you, I said, you, I can't understand whats the matter with you. I said, "I just can't understand either one of you." I said, "here you could be

travelling, and taking life easy, and here she is working." I says, "it's the most asinine thing I ever heard of." I said, "all these years I would never have thought of it." And I told them right out, and he's not, why, if he weren't no good, he's, why he's a, smart fellow, and he's a nice fellow, he never drinks or carouses, and it was nothing, not, they just disagreed on a simple things I guess. I don't know. But that's the way it is but that's my family, so it's a, they don't care anything about it here, of course, Ruth's husband, _____ stay a week at a time, I like Jerry now, [27.35] I don't care. They, this we, I got, she knows I don't, I said, "I don't care." Whether you want them here or there. I'll take him. Every time I, I always, I like Jerry, he's all right.

It's just, and when she said, she said, I was kind of mad cause she says, "my mother thinks I'm kind of to blame," I said, "well, yes I do."

JB Ha! Ha! Ha! [27.59]

KP Well, oh you know up there. Well, sister was not a good student either. Oh dear. You know what a.

JB Oh you mean deaf and dumb.

KP No, no. Oh they have them in schools, they give their troubles.

JB Oh I know.

KP They can't read and write.

JB Yeah.

KP Some of them, even Rockefeller.

JB Yes. Dyslexic.

KP Right. Dyslexia. I think that man probably had it. And May and I used to talk about it. [28.44] I said, "he's an awful like _____ person and a very respected citizen and wonder why he can't read and write." She says, "I don't know. I tried hard." "I taught school up in there," she said, "but he couldn't." There's no question about it. His sister, in Warren village, Ello Chapman was always a, going around with a strap, she was an old, she was too strict, and his girl she was giving the strap to that girl, it bothered me, when I heard about it, and probably she had the same thing, both of them. In that family two of them, and I thought of it and May of course she knew there was something wrong. Cause she was, you know, smart enough to know. And I have often thought of, I wonder

what happened to him. But he married a girl, who was a good musician, a very likeable person, and I don't know, he had, I think he had, one or two children. But he couldn't read and write, I swear he couldn't. I, just, I always figure it's just like this, something like that.

JB I'll be darned.

KP His father and mother looked very normal. Yeah. But in those days you see we didn't know. One of those things.

JB Yeah. A learning disability.

KP You didn't know.

JB And often they operated just fine.

KP Yeah. That's what it was. But, a lot of things May would, I would discuss with mother, well we'd stay with us, she'd stay til late cause mother, didn't like it but I, I just don't, ask me a lot of things. Of course because I knew she knew. And she was very active in the grange, and she knew about a lot of things, I used to like to visit with her, she lived, right near the basin over to the.

JB Yeah, I've been there.

KP Over to Larrows.

JB Yeah. I've been to the house.

KP Yeah but, May was a, of course a, she and her brother
run that farm up there.

JB And he was blind.

KP Yeah. But she, they run that farm for years. But she
must of helped him quite a lot.

JB Oh I.

KP In order to get along. [30.49] And then of course,
she, the people had a time when she, had to, Fuller
had that.

JB Lauren Fuller.

KP Yes. He was always a stinker. He always was and she,
good thing she didn't get him. I think he was nasty.

JB He must of broken her heart though I would imagine.

KP Oh what a miserable thing to do. I never, because a,
of course a, I never liked him anyway, I never liked
him, I used to go to dances, and one time, someone
said "did you pay?" And I said, "I didn't tonight."
And he goes right down and tells the man I hadn't
paid. Oh I could of brained him. None of his
business, and he was always a stinker. So I thought

of it so many times, that's God's way. Because she was far better than he was. He was a stinker. That's what he was, but, the boy I guess is very nice.

JB A nice man, yes.

KP He went to Montpelier seminary, I think, yeah. But they had a nice farm there. My father you see knew all those farmers.

JB Well now the Fullers had quit a farm didn't they?

KP Why yes way up on the hill, in Jericho.

JB Yes. Fuller hill. And I guess his father was a great horseman.

KP Well the mother was a very attractive woman, I don't know who she was, but she always had beautiful clothes. She could always get them on nice, she was very, very nice looking woman. But a, he was just an ordinary man. But a, I remember, I stayed there one summer, up there to, the other Fuller, Amy, let's see, Ames, Amos, anyway they. The farm up above there.

JB Yes.

KP There were two of them.

JB Yes.

KP And he was well off, where I stayed, she was a school

teacher, and they were really, well they were all together different. But they had, plenty of money, I, both of them.

JB They were brothers I guess.

KP I think so. I think so. Yeah. That's right. And I thought of it so many times there was, I stayed there during. [33.00]

END OF SIDE ONE

SIDE TWO

KP No she wasn't well, she had, of course some of the family don't believe it but, _____ Ella was all scared up, he said she must of had TV. [.16]

JB Oh!

KP Some of the _____ have said no, so I don't know. But a, one of those things that, he had to, she went to the doctors and so on, you had to pay you see you didn't have anything free at all. And so she had, once or twice she had operations and so on but, he worked all the time, and so, I used to work when I was able to.

JB So you were, would you sort of hire out during

sugaring? Is that?

KP Well I've forgotten, we had four weeks, they paid me so much a week I've forgotten.

JB Um hum. And you, you sugared at the Fullers.

KP I stayed up there and did house work, that's what I did. She was a, she was a school teacher, and this or that, Amy Fuller's the name, but a, she was very pleasant, a very intelligent woman, but as I say, of course I do dishes, and sweep or put the regular work that's all, and a, so I stayed, I think whether I stayed all four weeks, I don't remember. [1.14] Of course I always was working. I could, I could never remember when I didn't work. I used to work Saturdays.

JB Amesey.

KP Ames is right. And I stood the, I went to, on Saturdays, there's this school teachers, her name was Parsons, she was a, she was a very pleasant person, she had three or four kids, and I used to on Saturday, and I don't, I did what work I could but my father told me not to do the mopping, you tell her no you don't want to, he said, "that's too hard work." So he

told me what I, he says, "you do all the other things, but tell her you can't do it." And so I'd work on a Saturday, I guess they paid me fifty cents. [2.08] And on top of that I was, I was janitor, and to think my mother would allow me, I just never could understand it. There in Warren village. Why, I went to high school when I was in Warren, thirteen, how, I was doing the janitor work there. Carrying those trunks and things upstairs. Why. You think of what young people did, and I, and I did. [2.33] And my sister was so young she couldn't start the fire down stairs. Half the time I'd have to do that. Sometimes my mother came over a little, but my mother I think shouldn't have done that, or else done it herself but she didn't. That was where, I think that was her mistake. But we, I don't know more than a year or not, but. Of course you had to sweep down those stairs, it was too much hard work, but. It was those days you, you had to work.

JB Floyd Fuller is still alive.

KP Oh he is. He was the, he was the youngest one. I think.

JB He was the youngest. And I spent some time
interviewing Earl Fuller, who was the oldest. [3.14]

KP He was a punk.

JB I gather he was.

KP Yes a tricky.

JB That's what a lot of people said.

KP Yeah but I tell you, some thought, she was the one,
the mother was a probably.

JB Tricky.

KP Yeah. That's where they got it. I don't know, but
there weren't any of them, those two, were both of
them stinkers. Floyd he married a kind of a likable
girl, I don't know what ever turned her, how he did
turn out, I never did know, you don't.

JB He was quite a horseman I guess.

KP Ah ha. [3.45] But a, I don't know what he was like
a, he was a younger and fairly good looking fellow.
But Earl I knew he was a stinkeroo. And a, we know
that the other one was. Yeah. But somebody said that
they saw the mother's side, I don't know, I's sure of
course we knew that Amos, Fuller.

JB Amesy.

KP Amesey was all right, he was good. I can just see him slopping around. [4.15] He never was slick and neat, he was dirty so hay, but the other Fuller, Floyd's father was neat and slick, but she was very slick and so on.

JB That's what Bob Gove always said, he talked about how neat Floyd's father was, and how messy Amesey was.

KP Oh yes. Amesey you never knew. It might be his pants fall off, he, they weren't fastened on I don't think he cared. He was that way always, with him.

JB Floyd told me the story of a, his foster brother, who I guess got catch in a, the workings of, what were they doing? Some kind of, oh, and he apparently had his testicals pulled off and then they, Mrs. Fuller wrapped him all up and they carried him over the mountain, in a wagon, and then put him on the train to Burlington, and he lived.

KP Well one of them. One of the boys hun?

JB This was an adopted, I was trying to think what his name was.

KP I see.

JB I'm blocking it. For the moment.

KP Yeah.

JB But can you imagine that hardship. [5.38]

KP Yup. Well as I say.

JB Pearly. Pearly.

KP Oh _____ Fuller. [5.42] My he wasn't, he wasn't
very too smart anyway.

JB Yeah.

KP I remember that.

JB But he was about seventeen I guess when that happened.

KP I'd forgotten, it's a long time ago. I remember I've
seen him, all those old characters, that's one of
those things that's, yeah, I don't, I would of never
thought of it, imagine, yeah but, yes they had.

JB And Belle was married to Arthur Hartshorn.

KP Well she was, a pretty nice person I guess.

JB She also was adopted I guess.

KP Art, Art Hartshorn was different than Frank. He was
a, well he was good student, he was very different but
Frank was odd, cause Frank married a German, she was
an awful, those girls are smart, both those girls
graduated from Boston University, both of them and a,
you know, one of them married rich, Frank Rich, I

wonder where she is.

JB She's still around but I think, _____ isn't so good any more. [6.49]

KP (Noise from road) Whether she's up, it doesn't she come to Warren I wonder.

JB She does. Her daughter, what's her name, um. I can't think of the first name. Hartshorn. Suggested I come see her, to interview her, and then she said no, she doesn't remember much [7.14] anymore.

KP She was a very bright girl, Frances.

JB Frances Rich.

KP That's right. And then the other one's name I, Pauline I think, it seems as though it was Pauline. She graduated.

JB Well now one of the.

KP She was up in Maine.

JB Now there was a Hartshorn, Arthur I guess, who used to write songs, like the Yellow Painted Hack.

KP I wouldn't doubt it any. You see his mother, was very religious, she was a, an awfully likable person, she used to be in my grandfather's Luce's apartment. She married a man by the name of Hill. And I don't see

how in the Gods they got along those days, on washing, they never had any washing machines, they had to wash every thing by hand, or rub board. And I thought I remember that old lady, she wore those long wool skirts, because you know, it was so cold, why they must of been filthy. She was trying to wash them. I don't know that she managed or not. But they put them in her tub you know, but I thought of her so much. And she was a, she played the organ pretty well and [8.21] sing, oh and she made a, I had a book of her for many years, where she had written. That's where Art got that.

JB Oh she had written songs.

KP I think so. The old mother. She was a very smart old lady.

JB Do you still have that?

KP I don't think so. No. I don't, I could look over but I don't think so but, she wrote songs, as I remember and she was a great singer.

JB Ah!

KP Oh yes, she was.

JB Now this is Art's mother.

KP Yes. Yeah. Frank's mother.

JB I'll be darned.

KP As I say, the father, Hartshorn, I think he went to Norwich University. But I don't know, that he taught or what, but I'm quite sure he's well educated. And he used to teach up in there, of course my mother learned a lot from him, my mother was a good, penman and so on, my mother was a good student. So they all of them up in there, the school was nice you know, I've thought of it, woman you probably knew Turner. There was a girl, she was a, she was sister to one that married, the Ann that married Parish. And that, she was a, graduate of Castleton I think and she taught up in that school for a long time, I think her name, I had _____, it was Egrid, [9.40] Egrid Turner, I think that was her first name, she was a, she taught there well probably quite a few years. Two, three years anyway. She was, before she was married. She was I think and she was very good. Both the girls were, well I've tried to think of Norm Robinson.

JB Oh right. Yes. [10.03]

KP He had a nice home, didn't they?

JB I think so, now he's somebody I didn't talk with, but was told to go see.

KP Well he a, that's the old one. He had a nice farm. Down that road and he had if that's the one.

JB I talked with a Bertha Tucker, remember her?

KP No.

JB And I talked with a, oh, um, she's the sister of, there's a big farm.

KP Mable. No.

JB Yes.

KP Mable Tucker.

JB No. Um.

KP Fred Mobisses they live over there. Did you ever meet them? They're nice people. [11.02]

JB No. I didn't meet them.

KP Well they're living I think. The last I knew. Out in East Warren, they were nice, the one there that, the family.

JB Now there's another woman I interviewed who adopted one, she was talking about the Germans that came over to Warren and her brother was adopted from a German family, and she told the story of, the German guy came

over and married a local Warren girl, and then some how she learned that he had another family at home, and she sort of died of a broken heart. And then she left three young children, two, four and six or something like that, and he worked in the mill, and had a mill accident and lost his arm, and then couldn't earn his living, and shot himself. And um, the three children were then adopted, by various friends, and this woman who's name I can't think of, was the daughter of the family that adopted this young boy. [12.27] I don't seem to know whoever, who you're thinking of now but of course, the Mobises family, there were quite a few Mobisses' there for a long time.

JB Yes. Yes.

KP He was German.

JB Yes.

KP And she was German too. And there was quite a, some remains of them there probably now. But of course there were a, John Mobis was a nice old man. [12.48] Everybody liked him, he's a, I think he was honest, and a nice person. I didn't know much about her but,

she was a typical farm woman.

JB Ah ha.

KP A hard working woman, yeah. Yeah. That was all those
German peoples. [13.07]

END OF INTERVIEW