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This is an oral history interview with Mr. Harry Shellworth of Boise, Idaho, being conducted by Elwood R. Maunder. This is April 1, 1963 and the interview is being made at the Los Cocos Hotel in La Paz, Baja, California.

Now, Mr. Shellworth, in just starting off on this interview, I would like to say that in the first interview we'll concentrate your attention on your family background, your education, your adolescent interests, your teachers, your church, your early work experience -- all that leading up to the time when you were in military service. What we especially want in this first interview is to learn as much as possible from you of your life in the formative years of your youth. People who were your friends, personal experiences which you feel had the most influence toward your adult life.

Before we start let me say a word of appreciation to you personally and to and to Mrs. Shellworth and to the Weyerhaeuser Company for making this series of interviews possible. The value of what we together produce in the next few days here in La Paz will be measured by historians for many years to come. Historians have sharp eyes and critical minds and their appraisal of what we transcribe on tape, later to be transcribed on paper, will be noted in many books and articles for many years. I know from our preliminary conversations and exchange of correspondence we have had that you are concerned, as I am, with setting down here for the benefit of the record, details of western American history which are not always clearly or adequately recorded in books and magazine articles which are already in print, or even sometimes in the documentary record. So please give me answers which will reveal as much as you can about the truth, the truth about people, events, institutions, organizations with which these questions concern themselves. Now the format of this thing is that I pose certain key questions and you make your answers to these. From time to time I will break in upon your answers to ask for more detailed information. If at anytime I appear to be cutting you off in your discourse on any given subject before you feel you have recorded what is an adequate answer, please don't hesitate to let me know and then we'll go back over it and fill in what you want. Those who read what we record in this interview will obviously think of many other questions that I don't pose to you. My job is really to try to anticipate as many of these questions as I can and for you to provide as full and complete answers as you possibly can.

MAUNDER: First of all, then, let's take the vital statistics and find out where you were born and when and a brief sketch of your family background.

SHELLWORTH: I was born in Comanche, Texas, May 20, 1877. My father was Julius Ferdinand Shellworth and his father was John Shellworth. His mother was Nellie Pauline Ferdinand, the daughter of a Prussian army officer. My father with his father or grandfather, I'm not well enough acquainted with history to say which except it was in Cromwell's time in England, that he became involved in politics and found it healthy to get out of England when he could get out alive because there was a political crises. He married this Prussian woman.

SHELLWORTH: Yes, in 1877.



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MAUNDER: When did they come to the United States? Texas?

SHELLWORTH: My father came over with his father after they left--I'll have to give that a little thought--my father's father got him out of trouble--because of his Prussian mother he was subject to the draft in the Franco-German War of the 70's, and his experience before had been with the British Board of Trade which has pretty much the same background of what we call foreign office work now.

MAUNDER: He was in civil service work in the British government?

SHELLWORTH: Yes. He went from there after things were settle in England to New York City--and this I'm not quite sure of--my understanding is that with some ~~other~~ discussion with the family, that he joined him there. My father left to escape conscription.

MAUNDER: Your father left Germany to escape conscription and came to this country. That would have been in the late 1860's.

SHELLWORTH: Yes, around that time. So my mother was born Mary Luticia Campbell. Her father was Scotch--one of the Campbell family--and her mother was a Holland woman by the name of Rudorf. She came with her parents bound for Louisiana to a place somewhere new Orleans (I'll have to fill that in)--and their ship was captured by LaFitte's pirates and dumped on the Galvin Shoals. Their ship was taken and the pirates took everything they wanted. They gradually got their way back to New Orleans and then after she married Grandfather Campbell they came to Texas. My own birth is recorded in the church records of the Presbyterian Church in Comanche County. My actual birth was on a river boat in the Sabine River, between Louisiana and Texas. My mother said she really didn't know whether I'm a Texan or a Louisiane.

MAUNDER: In other words you were born when the family was en route between Louisiana and Texas.

SHELLWORTH: Yes, in 1877.

MAUNDER: Why was the family moving from Louisiana to Texas/?

SHELLWORTH: Well, after they were married they lived in Texas, but they went to a reunion in New Iberia, near New Orleans, and I was a little ahead of my time and they were hurrying home and I caught up with them on the Sabine River. That's family stuff, or course.

MAUNDER: That's all right.

SHELLWORTH: And I know that mother made a complaint about my running away from home and father told her, "Well, he was born traveling."

MAUNDER: How many borthers and sisters do you have?

SHELLWORTH: Six brothers and one sister. I was the oldest. My sister was nearest me and then there was a long break between the others. My sister and I were very great chums.

MAUNDER: And are any of your brothers and sisters living now?

SHELLWORTH: All but two. Eve died in infancy. My brother, Leslie, died about 10 or 12 years ago. The others are still living.

MAUNDER: Well, you're a healthy, husky lot.

SHELLWORTH: Well, I come from a long line. My mother was the youngest of my parents and as near as I can get the information straight--there is some questions among the members of the family--she died in her 78th year and my father died within 16 days of his 96th year. My grandparents--all but one and I don't know whether it was the Dutch woman or the Prussian woman --were past ninety. ~~I /My/grandparents/all~~ One of them died in their 80's. I ~~got~~ have a pretty good background there.

MAUNDER: You certainly have. With the trend going the way it is you ought to go to 120. Well, now tell me a little bit about your boyhood in Texas.

SHELLWORTH: My grandfather had a few slaves and there was never a time that any one of them couldn't leave except in the season when they were needed.

He was known all over Texas as Uncle Charlie Campbell. The family was related to the (Nances) and the Garners, both. My mother's brother, Joe, Married Matilda Garner. He was known all over Texas. For instance, I went back in '37 to the meeting of the National State Foresters Convention. After it was over

Well, we had quite a trip after that and ended up at Beaumont and I met an ex-Confederate, General Kirby, and I was telling him I was born in Texas. My grandfather, two sons and one son-in-law were with Sam Houston in Jacinto in the Texas Rebellion. You see, Texas came in as an independent republic. When I told him about that old fellow--he was connected with a big lumber company in Beaumont Texas, and I never had such royal treatment. He knew Uncle Charlie, my grandfather.

MAUNDER: Well, as a boy growing up down there was that Comanche you left?

SHELLWORTH: Well, no, we moved to Taylor County to Buffalo Gap, near Abilene, Taylor County, and my father had been a merchant in the San Antonio country near the border and then Shellowrth and Tyler and then he came to Taylor County and started up a cotton gin, a cotton seed mill and a cornmeal mill, and he bought what was the first cotton picker in that territory. But he over-reached himself and went broke. The thing that you have there from Hidy gives you the rest from there on. He had to help his brother and another brother's widow to move out to Texas. The economy of Texas was just gone. I can remember as a kid in the plaza of the town of Buffalo Gap we still had bluecoat patrols and I was born 11 years after the war. Of course, they were supposed to be there for the Indians, but they had other reasons for being there. I saw my first bluecoat uniform--I remember very distinctly

as if it were yesterday--the big, black sombreros, the yellow handkerchief around their throats, and the yellow strips, black leather holsters and black leather boots that appealed to me and I was over there talking to them, trying to size things up. My mother came out of the store across the plaza and she damn near jerked my arm out of my shoulder to get me away from those damn bluecoats.

MAUNDER: There was a strong feeling of animosity felt in your family toward them?

SHELLWORTH: Well, in that little town of Buffalo Gap there was a fellow by the name of Jack Milyuns and he represented the Indiana Texas Land & Cattle Company and they bought up all the tax claims and all the federal business was done with him as the postmaster. When the bluecoats came into the plaza and tied their horses up to the hitching post they would talk to Jack Milyuns and nobody else and the people in the town rented boxes because they didn't want to talk to the damn Yankee postmaster to get their mail.

MAUNDER: Did that feeling of antagonism go on in your family for some time?

Was it something that was talked about in the family?

SHELLWORTH: Yes. Mother was especially bitter.

MAUNDER: Had she undergone any hardships during the Civil War?

SHELLWORTH: The whole family had, yes.

MAUNDER: What had happened to them?

a number

SHELLWORTH: Well, they lost/of their cousins and brothers at Shiloh. The treatment of the southern people was terrible. I left there before I was ten years old, but they were taxed and they were treated worse probably than any other civilized nation was treated after the war. They even had niggers in office. And that has gone through my life.

and try to get out and they would forget all about the hole where they came in. And he went around and blocked that and then went in through his corner and got inside and cracked their noses and shook them outside. And going hunting for wild grapes and that sort of thing. I remember that distinctly.

MAUNDER: This is an antagonism that you have carried on . . .

SHELLWORTH: Yes. That's probably the reason I'm such a bitter states rights man.

MAUNDER: This is a part of your philosophy because you feel--

SHELLWORTH: --and I remember mostly that I liked to be outdoors. We had these little southern rivers and running freshets that were almost dry except a dribble in the late summer and the big pools in them there were depressions and I remember hunting for big trout, for big frogs and what we called crawfish. That sort of thing. And trying to catch pessum--and this old buck nigger, Uncle Bill we called him--he was a great big buck nigger-- and the family just loved him and his wench was called Auntie Cloe and was a wonderful cook and I remember her distinctly because she made hot gingerbread in great big pans about three feet square and about that thick, and she cut it open with a big butcher knife and gave it to you in chunks.

MAUNDER: What were your special interests then, as a boy, were they hunting and fishing?

SHELLWORTH: Well, I liked hunting--we built one of these log traps, very low, not more than that high--

MAUNDER: About three feet high--

SHELLWORTH: Yes, and down below was a cut gate through a couple of those logs. And we'd go out in the woods and make a little trail of corn ~~clear~~ clear inside the pen--you had one corner where you could lift it up to get in and then he'd get on his bone-wing turkey call and call them and they'd come along and go right into that, but we'd be on top of this countree and when they got inside he'd jump down and have me go with him and both of us yelling as loud as we could. The turkeys would lift up their heads and try to get out and they would forget all about the hole where they came in. And he went around and blocked that and then went in through his corner and got inside and cracked their necks and shook them outside. And going hunting for wild grapes and that sort of thing. I remember that distinctly.

MAUNDER: Did you take any interest in sports other than hunting and fishing when you were a boy?

SHELLWORTH: No, I don't remember anything. I remember that I was very much peeved --we had our gardens and we raised peanuts and I know on Saturday when I didn't have to go to school I had to hoe that damn goober patch and I have never liked goobers since then.

MAUNDER: In other words you didn't have a lot of spare time apart from school--

SHELLWORTH: No..

MAUNDER: ..you had your chores to do.

SHELLWORTH: Yes, man, and besides that we had to walk one-half to three quarters of a mile to Buffalo gap to go to school. I remember one time I saw a snow --the only one I ever saw in Texas. I just missed school and hurried home and the snow was all gone.

MAUNDER: But it scared the heck out of you.

SHELLWORTH: Yes. Then, of course, you realize I was past my tenth birthday--nearing my tenth birthday Wyoming. We got there and there was snow on the ground. It was covered. It was the first time I ever saw it.

MAUNDER: What were you doing on that occasion?

SHELLWORTH: We were going to Walla Walla, where my uncle, Gus Shellworth, had a sawmill. It was on the Tocha river near Dayton. We went to Walla Walla first and we lived there about three years and that was 1890. Father was crazy about horses. He knew everything there was in the American Stud Book and knew the American Stud Magazine by heart and he just talked horses all the time. Aunt Ellis financed him to go to Boise, Idaho had just

become a state--and start a livery business there. And he had been working in a livery stable in Walla Walla. As I say, he was a real horseman.

MAUNDER: Now you had moved from _____ to Walla Walla and the reason for your going was what, a failure in business?

SHELLWORTH: And a three year's drought and they never routed the cotton pickers out of the shed after the _____. The sheriff took them.

MAUNDER: In Walla Walla your father went to work for his brother?

SHELLWORTH: For William Hall. He had an opera house there and a livery stable and a Jewish banker by the name of Ankenie had been a friend of his and they jointly financed dad to come to Boise and start the livery stable there. It was the beginning of statehood. He came home in the summer and it was right after statehood and mother and the children followed him and reached Boise October 12 of 1890.

MAUNDER: Now all this time, of course, you were still of school age and going to school and do you recall anything in particular about your school days that had any influence on you.

SHELLWORTH: Nothing I can recall. In fact, I can't even recall the school building except that I knew that I went past where dad was working in the livery stable to go to school. I have a hazy memory as to where the school was.

MAUNDER: Do you have any recollections of any of your teachers that you had when you were in school?

SHELLWORTH: No. I got acquainted with Quint Walter and Fred Moore, sons of a banker there in Walla Walla--Binker, Boyer, Moore & Moore--was afterwards governor of Washington. He had a beautiful home out of Walla Walla and on Saturday afternoons and Sundays I was out there quite a good deal. Sometimes stayed out there as a visitor overnight. I liked it very much. Starting in # with my eleventh year, I think it was, I was a cash boy in Schwabacker's general dry goods store in Walla Walla.

MAUNDER: And what was a cash boy's job?

SHELLWORTH: In those days he carried the package up to the desk to be wrapped and they had one of these trip wire things and the clerk put the money and the ticket in that and shot it to the desk. And he brought the package back. And he did errands for around the store.

MAUNDER: This was your first job?

SHELLWORTH: Yes. I was somewhat past my eleventh year--the summer after my eleventh birthday.

MAUNDER: You did this job during summer vacation?

SHELLWORTH: Yes, and I remember distinctly that I got three dollars a week and I felt that was a hell of a lot of money.

MAUNDER: Well, it probably was then, too, for an eleven year-old boy.

SHELLWORTH: I also sold newspapers there and in my thirteenth year I became a telegraph puncher for Western Union. And when I came to Boise I had a letter of recommendation from the operator in Walla Walla and I got the same job in Boise. The very next day after I got to Boise.

MAUNDER: Did you run your messages or ride a bike?

SHELLWORTH: Oh, we didn't have bikes in those days--had those big old high wheelers with a little wheel behind and I didn't want go get on one of those. No, we walked.

MAUNDER: Well, now you mentioned to me earlier today that you came from a family that was a strong southern presbyterian background.

SHELLWORTH: Yes, democrats. I think mother was proud, very, very proud of me and my sister of the First Presbyterian Church and in her mind it was that the presy terian church had defected during the war on the nigger and question/north of the Mason-Dixon line were just a bunch of white-skinned niggers.

MAUNDER: Well, how did she feel about going to such a presbyterian church when she got out to Washington and Idaho?

SHELLWORTH: I imagine she didn't like it/^{very}much but she got used to it. And it happened to be that Uncle Gus's widow was also a presbyterian.

MAUNDER: Was your father a strong church man or was it just your mother?

SHELLWORTH: No, he was not particularly strong. He went with mother occasionally. Not always. I left home for the first time--the first time I left--I was about sixteen years old. I went to Sunday School every Sunday and I went to evening prayer meeting. I went to Christian Endeavor Wednesday and I went to another prayer meeting Thursday, and I just got kind of fed up on it.

MAUNDER: You must have been a real religious young fellow. I think you mentioned something about your mother wanting you/^{to}be a presbyterian minister.

SHELLWORTH: That was the trouble between us and father told her one time when she was bemoaning the fact that she couldn't do anything with me--and my sister told me this story--she had heard them talking and said that finally father answered her and said, "Well, Molly," that was his pet name for her, "that boy turned out to be just as stubborn as you are."

MAUNDER: You obviously didn't want to be a minister, but did you have any ~~14~~ ambitions or any ideas for what you did want to be in those days?

SHELLWORTH: Well, I do remember that I felt I'd like to be just like that at first and then I remember very distinctly I went to Abilene and I remember several details of that trip. The third child was a baby left a home in Uncle Bill and his wench and sis and I had the back seat in this old hack--the old fashioned southern hack--they call them ~~p/h~~ phaetons up here. So I saw the first train I'd ever seen in my life--one of those old bell-topped funnels and a coon went out and rang the triangle after we heard the ~~whistle~~ whistle. We were down on the platform and the train came in and I was just thrilled. People got off and got on and finally the whistle blew again and

and he waited until the train was underway and then he ran alongside and he had on a hat and a long coat--one of those old Prince Albert coats--and he swung on that and let his legs swing out and I was just sure that night that when I got to be a man I was going to be a railroad conductor. That I remember very distinctly. I saw my first white potatoe--Irish potatoes we called them. We got a dollar's worth and I'm sure the sack wasn't more than a twelve pound sack. Those were the first white potatoes I ever ate.

MAUNDER: And $\frac{1}{2}$ that was a luxury to you then?

SHELLWORTH: Oh, yes. We had yellow yams, white yams and Jersey sweets and all that sort of thing, but white potatoes with butter and cream mashed into them was something.

MAUNDER: Did you have any other heroes besides this conductor--or in your father--you said you looked up to him a great deal.

SHELLWORTH: My father talked to me like I tried to talk to my kids. Right straight $\frac{1}{2}$ on the nose. There wasn't any fancy stuff or babying. Some of the things he told me--well, like I showed you today and when he said it it cracked like a whip. He didn't waste any time.

MAUNDER: There was a strong bond then, between you and your father.

SHELLWORTH: Yes. I wasn't the least bit afraid to tell him the truth even though I knew I was going to get a spanking for it. When I came to Boise on October 12--it was towards the weekend--I know it was within a day or two and I went up to the telegraph office and showed this letter to the operator there. He told me that he had a boy there that he was just tickled to death to get rid of and wanted to know when I could go to work and I said "right now." I went to work and it was Sunday. The only reason I didn't have to go to Sunday school that day.

MAUNDER: I would imagine that kind of raised little haggles at home, didn't it?

SHELLWORTH: Yes, but we needed the money.

MAUNDER: You little bit of earnings then as you worked went into the family accounts?

SHELLWORTH: Yes. The telegraph operator--there were three of them--three brothers--Wilson--Alk Wilson and Jim Wilson and Fred Wilson--Fred Wilson was just a boy a year or two older than I was. The other two were quite a bit older. One was the main operator daytime and his brother was the night operator. And they were my first employers in Boise and as I said before I sold papers on the streets in Walla Walla so I sold papers there, too. And these two boys operated a small package delivery service with their messenger service on their own. They had one of these little dandy push carts that they used to use around the baggage depot--and small packages, I could push those out and deliver mail packages. Most of my stuff was letters--notes and flowers from Beau Brummels to their gals.

MAUNDER: This began in a way a long association with the newspaper business?

SHELLWORTH: Yes.

MAUNDER: Did you take any interest in the news itself or were you only interested in selling papers?

SHELLWORTH: I was only interested in money as a paper boy. And I started to work--we had the station and because of the political condition in the northwest, Clark ~~and~~ Montana moved a paper in there called the Evening

Sun. And ~~that~~ was the editor. I sold that in the evening and the Statesman in the morning. I did pretty well because the town was flush and it was in the days when anyone in Idaho looked on ~~it~~ ^{any} kind of paper money as just a damn greenback and insult you if you offered it. Everything was hard money, silver or gold. And ~~with~~ with few exceptions, I'd say

50 per cent at least, maybe more--that what they handed me for the paper was considered the price of the paper and I soon learned that.

MAUNDER: In other words they might give you anywhere from a quarter to--

SHELLWORTH: --anywhere from a dime to a dollar. In fact I got elected page.

MAUNDER: Yes, I've seen/that story in the Hidy interview.

SHELLWORTH: Yes.

MAUNDER: Were you interested in reading at all at that time? Did you read any books that influenced you at all.

SHELLWORTH: Everything in regard to history and geography, yes.

MAUNDER: History and geography. Do you remember any books in particular that you read as a boy that made a great impression on your mind?

SHELLWORTH: Not as a boy. In fact, I didn't do much reading as a boy. I was

just too busy. But later on in life I did. Nearly all travel stories.

Quite a bit later I liked great speeches and anything in travel. You could

see the world. You might say that was the leading urge. I'd come from

that river valley where as far as my eye power went

I saw nothing but level ground. We came out here and looked at those

mountains back of Boise and the basin and the changes in life--getting 30

cents a day picking cotton and most of that was stuck in my trail bag by

old Uncle Bill--and to come out there and make ~~\$\$\$~~ \$600.00 in the first

six months that I was in Boise that was pretty good.

MAUNDER: Yes, I can imagine.

SHELLWORTH: And it was in my early adolescence and these fellows talked to me

as if I were a grown man. It just swelled me up beautifully.

MAUNDER: Tell us a little bit about Boise at that time in the '90s. What kind of a town was it?

SHELLWORTH: It was a wild, woolly western town, and I mean everyone of them with emphasis. They had to have--claimed to have 2500 people in order to

to get statehood and I don't believe they had anything near that except in the wintertime when all the people came in from the ~~mountain~~ mountains, and the sheep ranges and the placer mines and woodcutting. Our fuel was wood and was cut in the Boise basin and rafted down the Boise River and piled out where the junior college is now and sawed and delivered to your house in 16 at three dollars a cord. That same service today would cost you \$60 dollars. There were river pigs and lumberjacks and we had two troops of cavalry at the Boise barracks; there were five power houses, there were twenty-nine saloons and all but three of them were gambling houses and the underworld was boss. Doesn't make any difference what anyone else tells you, I lived on the streets a lot of the time, I knew these people by name and they were boss.

MAUNDER: They were called the

SHELLWORTH: Yes and Fatty Arbuckle was nothing in the world but the cheapest kind of a spittoon wrangler in a saloon, and he'd do his funny antics there with these big tall spittoons to have these fellows at the bar toss him a piece of silver and he ~~became~~ became Fatty Arbuckle.

M: One of the first movie stars.

SHELLWORTH: And some of the stuff, as I say you couldn't put in, for instance, what I know and think about Jack Dempsey. I think I told you about that.

MAUNDER: No, you've never told me ~~about~~ about Jack Dempsey.

SHELLWORTH: Well, there was a fellow by the name of Doc Rankin and as I say this is dynamite, you got to be careful how you handle it. We had horse races every weekend in the summer that good weather would permit it. What we called the Fairview Race track which is now right in the city. Then in the wintertime we had boxing and most of it was with bare fists.

MAUNDER: Try to lead the missionaries away from the straight and narrow path.

SHELLWORTH: And that's now the hotel. Well, and then the decent

And this Doc Rankin ran an athletic park called Boise's Riverside Park and he had a bunch of these young pugs --we called them ham and eggers-- they got their food and a bunk and every once in a while they'd pick up twenty-five or fifty dollars in a Saturday night fight --something like that and that's where Jack Dempsey got his start as a prize fighter and he was absolutely . . .

MAUNDER: He was absolutely what?

SHELLWORTH: I don't know if I want it to go in there--~~it~~ just a low mouthed, dirty pimp.

MAUNDER: Is that right.

SHELLWORTH: Cheap as they make 'em. That was quite a town--I came there in 1890! And it was in the first ten years and probably more likely in the first five years.

MAUNDER: Well, Dempsey wouldn't have been a fighter much before 1910 or 1912 would he?

SHELLWORTH: Oh, yes, he was there from that time.

MAUNDER: You see, he didn't come along--he was champion until--

SHELLWORTH: I know, but he was a ham and egger for a long, long time before he--

MAUNDER: --got up into the big time.

SHELLWORTH: And it was in the '90s I'm quite sure of that--just how early I don't remember. The power houses would hire these cabs--my father brought the first three hard top cabs to the town. Where you could roll the hardtop back and they had these imitation leopard skin rugs and these power house madams would get their ponies and go down Main Street Sunday afternoon from Sixth Street where it was a red light district clear down to the presbyterian mission and then turn around and come back.

MAUNDER: Try to lead the missioners away from the straight and narrow path.

SHELLWORTH: And that's now the hotel. Well, and then the decent

gals would have their Sunday parade upon on Lake Street or down on Grove Street which was the residence district of the town. By they never came up on Main Street on Sunday afternoon.

~~MAUNDER:~~ MAUNDER: It made a difference which way you were going on Sunday, didn't it?

SHELLWORTH: Yes, and Fred Kayo came back--that was quite a bit later--

MAUNDER: Fred Kayo was with the Payette Lumber Company. Was he one of the early managers of the company?

SHELLWORTH: The first. They opened up their office in the Sun building and that was in 1902, I think, and they bought their first timber from the state. It was practically 32,000 ~~shat~~ acres of timber on state land with a twenty-year cutting contract. And after that they started conscripting-- mostly with Santa Fe and North Pacific--Santa Fe was in California where they were consolidating those old Spanish estates in the Forest Service and Northern Pacific _____ and he was there during the beginning of that time. But he wasn't fit for that job to say the least.

MAUNDER: How so? In what way was he not fit?

SHELLWORTH: Well, he was strictly a way down east--what we used to call "blue serge gents". You see, there was a great influx of southerners to the northwest after the war. In fact, one time they had a Fourth of July setup in Boise and my father was well known as an ex-confederate soldier and the _____ wanted him to join the parade--and a day or two before they found the parade plan and there were about 50 of these confederates signed up for the parade and they found that their place in the parade after them came the GAR but the Confederate soldiers were the tail end of the parade so they didn't join.

MAUNDER: But there were a lot of former southerners.

SHELLWORTH: Yes. In fact we had relatives there. Jeff Davis in Boise today has a fourth generation. You know the gals we've been talking about-- the Davis sisters--

MAUNDER: The southern influence then, in Idaho, generally is rather strong.

SHELLWORTH: Yes. For instance one of the ~~gold~~ gold fields we called _____ because they were all southerners and that's about 110 roughly 150 miles north of Boise. And then in Boise basin, which was bigger there were a lot of southerners. A lot of them there yet.

MAUNDER: And this influx came in the years after the Civil War when they were suffering depressed conditions in their old state. I gather from reading through some of your letters and memoirs that you have rather a strong nostalgia about some of those old days and the community as it used to be compared with what it is now.

SHELLWORTH: Yes, because you were what you were. Your money or anything else didn't make any difference. You were the kind of a man that you were to other men.

MAUNDER: You don't feel that this is true today.

SHELLWORTH: Not so much so, no. It's wearing away. No there's so damn much sham and struggling for place and power, and then if your word was good, why you were good. If it wasn't you weren't worth a damn. And that's gone away, a lot of it.

MAUNDER: What things do you see today that give you cause to feel this most keenly--in what areas of life?

SHELLWORTH: Well, in everyone of them. Even in church. The man with the money is buying his way. A man was known then by his reputation, his personal integrity--that was what counted. If that was backed up by ordinary I.Q. or better, he was that much better.

MAUNDER: How does this change in the complexion ^{or} of the character of the community demonstrate itself to you in other ways--let's say in the city of Boise for example.

SHELLWORTH: You have now so many ~~conflicting~~ conflicting interests with more numbers in each segment of it and each one is howling for his share of the meat.

MAUNDER: And wasn't that true back in the early days?

SHELLWORTH: It probably was, but in my outh I didn't notice it. I could go anywhere and do anything that a ^{kid} could do and have help and of course, I was flattered--all kids are.--being talked to by these big men--I was proud being called Tex and I was known as Tex downtown and up at ~~the~~ school my nickname was Shelley and of course at home it was Harry. It was just those three different levels.

MAUNDER: The three lives of Harry Shellworth.

SHELLWORTH: I remember going downtown one time and we went past the old Banford Saloon and the owner of it was Russ Beamer who at the same time was United States Marshall.

MAUNDER: There's a conflict of interests for you right off the bat.

SHELLWORTH: He was a tall handsome fellow--he owned that saloon and he had a common law wife--a power house madam. Well now, women/^{in the upper classes} know these things, and I was with my mother, in fact I was walking alongside of her and he had come ~~up~~ out and said "Hiya, Tex" and I said "Hi, Russ"--great scott if you think I didn't catch hell when I got home.

MAUNDER: They wondered what kind of company you were keeping.

SHELLWORTH: Mother just went up in the air and I said, "Well, Ma, he's a business-man, that man's my customer." It didn't make any difference to her. I shouldn't have any customers like that.

MAUNDER: You were doing traffic with the devil.

SHELLWORTH: I learned to keep my own business to myself.

MAUNDER: Well, that must have put you in the way of some rather colorful and interesting people, though.

SHELLWORTH: Oh, it did, it did.

MAUNDER: Tell us a little bit of some of this. Now, I know you've recorded some of this before, but I'd like to hear some of it again.

SHELLWORTH: There were some fellows that were in the habit of walking downtown and getting what they called a snort of bourbon and then walking back home for breakfast. One of them was old Walt Baxter--he made a barrel of money in the basin and was living it up at home and he couldn't have the things he wanted at home so he went downtown and got his drink in the morning. And the other was an old Indian fighter, Tom Ranahan, and another old Indian scout, too, I can't think of his name--they met at the old Bamford saloon and sat up against the bar and in those days the bartender handed out the bar towel and you had good whiskey there--you could depend on that--he wouldn't have anything else. One bartender, Jimmy Lawrence, had a sign ~~out~~ out on the sidewalk with a spider web with a man scrambling in the ~~grip~~ grip trying to reach a bottle of whiskey and you went inside this bar and he said he ^{sold} had the best whiskey in town--and he didn't drink the damn stuff, but he sold the best and only the best. These fellows were discussing--~~Boise~~ Boise because of these extreme conditions was the second state west of the Mississippi to have women's suffrage--and the second or third to have prohibition--and the reason they got it so easy was that we had to have more votes to have a second congressman--so everybody else agreed that Idaho had to have women suffrage to get enough votes.

And these old fellows were discussing it and I remember distinctly because I was a kid and I was curious about these things--I liked to listen to them-- and I don't remember which one said which but they were trying to figure out what the classifications a man had to have to vote. They were entirely agreed on the fact that no woman should be permitted to vote. And then there was the question of education and of character and they thrashed that all over and they couldn't get to any point they agreed on, but finally this old timer, Ranahan, said, "Well, by God, I've got to tell you that when a young man can take a snort of whiskey without grabbing for water and coughin' by God they ought to let him vote!" And that was the end of the argument.

MAUNDER: But this desire for larger representation in the national congress ~~and~~ and the underworld to open the gate to women's suffrage opened the gates to closing down their operation. They weren't very far-sighted, were they?

SHELLWORTH: No, they weren't. So Reddy Scott, he was Russ Beamer's partner and handled the gambling end of the business--about that time--I don't know about this except by hearsay--he told Russ--he said, "You've got to buy me out or someone else will, I'm through." And Russ of course said, "What's wrong with you, are you crazy? We've got a mint." "yes," he said, "I know we've got a mint now, but we've got women's suffrage and we've got the churches and I'm getting out and going to Alaska. And you can bar ~~it~~ or someone else will." ~~And~~ And he did. He sold out to Russ.

MAUNDER: When did prohibition actually take place?

SHELLWORTH: Well we had state-wide prohibition in the election year of 1911-- effective New Year's Day, 1912-- and they set _____
Before that time a year or so. I remember that because I was in Idaho City
on
when we went/prohibition--even before the federal government did--I was there

and there were two saloons in the town--one fellow took all his stuff and buried it in an old mining shaft and then bootlegged it for a year or two after. The other fellow decided he get it out of the way--his name was Joe Shanahan and his bartender had his arm off at the wrist and it was covered with a little rubber tubing--and he could get the glasses of the bar--it was a marvel--Joe Shanahan went off first and they had two pool tables--old fashioned pool and Clay Bolger was sheriff and Joe Lippincott--they were there with the rest of the town that night. It was the last day of the year and I was up there paying taxes for a lumber company and the county attorney was Dusty Rhodes--so you see why this can't be printed--and every time that clock on the bar got to be twelve O'clock the county attorney would get up on the bar and turn it back an hour or two. Somewhere ^{was} about half-past eleven when the sun was shining and we were still there--everything was gone then--Shanahan went down first and Red saw me standing over there--I was taking in the show and he said, "Shellworth, deal out the rest and then we'll go home." So I was the last bartender in Idaho City until prohibition ended. Down in the cellar under the stair way there was a basket of Champagne--full liters and eight bottles, so he said, "Don't waste that on this crowd, take it home with you." So I took it home with me.

MAUNDER: That was a lot of champagne. Well all this experience in your boyhood and early young manhood bringing you into contact with the so-called underworld political maneuverings in Idaho gave you a lot of insight into just how politics work.

SHELLWORTH: Yes, the tolerance of other people's rights. When you come right down to it there's just one principle--it's harmonizing as near as it's possible. You've got to do it, that's all. Any time you do anything else your work is futile.

MAUNDER: This principle seems to govern the activities of most legislatures now.

SHELLWORTH: Yes, they've got to do it. If you give any one segment control-- you see what prohibition did to the United States--you're knocked out clean for a longer time than you ever would if you tried to get at it by harmonizing things. In other words, all men feel about the same. They don't want to push anybody around and they don't want you to push them around. The question *is that as a boy* state forestry board-- this committee on the primitive areas will give you the typewritten factual background for this sort of thing. We got there by harmonizing-- taking and leaving. You get all you can for yourself and leave the other fellow all he could get and you can't do that. It doesn't make any difference how many flowers you put on it, you can't, that's the case.

MAUNDER: Did you feel there was ever any need for regulatory action on the part of government in order to hold certain things in ~~life~~ ^{line?}

SHELLWORTH: In an educational way first. You've got to prepare the way and the educational way is a lever for hamonizing things. You can talk to men with reason, but you can't shake your fists in his face. If a fellow comes to you and tries to talk to you about a thing and you listen to him and see where you can get together, you're perfectly willing, but if he comes shoving his fist in your face your going to hand yours back the first chance you get.

MAUNDER: ~~What/were~~ Who were some of the men that impressed you besides your father?

SHELLWORTH: George L. Shoup. He was an old Indian fighter and he was the last territorial governor after statehood between July 3 and the November election. And he was governor for a part of the ninety-day session of the legislature which made him United States senator and then his Lieutenant governor, Norman B. Willey, became the governor for the rest of the term ~~and~~ and was re-elcted next bienrial. And after that William J. McConnell --he was due the short term and he senator deal--and that's a thing I've

never seen in the record. They elected Shoup and McConnell with the understanding that they would draw straws for short and long term. McConnell got the short term and when his little over two years was up he came back and became the second elected governor--Norman B. Willey was the one that stepped up to Lieutenant governor.

MAUNDER: Now, these men you knew first as a boy selling papers ...

SHELLWORTH: and as a messenger boy and page in the senate.

MAUNDER: Tell me something about some of these men.

SHELLWORTH: Shoup was a reserved fellow. He was dark and his reputation was just beyond reproach. He was a western man and he was face value straight through. And as I think back on it one of the things he did for me-- he was a little bit--amused isn't the word--he really got a kick out of my southern lingo--and I remember on one occasion he just had a bellyache laughing because he'd asked me if I'd done something he asked me to do and I said, "I gotn't done it." He just laid back and roared. And then I got my first suit with long pants--I think it was my 14th birthday and I came up Sunday--he was in his office on Sunday and he talked to me a while and spoke about my new suit and invited me to a lawn party that they were giving out at his house. He had three daughters and the youngest was about my age and that was the first party I went to. All the way through my life I was a typical kid, there's no question about that. While I think of it now, sometime in the next day or two I want to over with you these things you have in the room--there's some letters that I've got there from John S Up the 1000 in Colorado later when I was about twenty-three or twenty-four yearsold and I want to take two or three of them the Philippines. It's a marvelous thing and the Army secured it and paid the Geochell's blatly for completing it and there were a lengthy number of those atlases. He gave me 1/4 one of those atlases and I want to send

~~OUT~~ out--I want you to read them and then I want to take them out because some people here from Colorado know his son and I want to send these letters to his son. You see, I started out with these scrapbooks and I'm sending that stuff back to the people that have the greatest interest in it--cleaning it all out.

MAUNDER: In a way Harry, it's too bad for you to split all that stuff up and send it hither and yon all over the map. It really ought to be all together in one place, let's say in the Idaho Historical Society in Boise or the University of Idaho in Moscow.

SHELLWORTH: You see, I was ~~at~~ on a four-state level with the Statesman.

I think Everett Edwards was a statesman in my time and have been wonderful friends and they know about this visit down here with you right now and I think you have a letter that sets forth that your Society gets the first crack at all this. After that the Statesman, after that the Boise Historical Society--but this other is a thing which will have no great difference in it if you'll let it go. John F. Shaproth was ~~Appropriations~~ Appropriations committee chairman in 1902 and also on the Committee of territories. He went over to ~~take the same land~~ because they wanted to know something about what ~~of mine in~~ had done with their money and the letters to him, th4re, they're personal and don't have any political history. But he gave me some information. He got ~~the~~ / and B.C. the Department of Mines to give me information about Alaska--I was thinking of going to ~~in the~~ River and that gold rush but after I got that information from him I gave up the idea and then he gave me an atlas that was built by the Catholic friars in Manila in an observatory there in the Philippines. It's a marvelous thing and the Army secured it and paid the Catholic bishop for completing it and there were a lengthy number of those atlases. He gave me ~~one~~ / one of those atlases and I want to send

it to his son and with that I'm going to send these two or three letters. They have no significance on the rest of the material. They just happen to be in the package. When we go look at them I'll let you read them.

If you want them for this you've got first chance, otherwise I'll send them to him. You see, I got this stuff in a hurry. We were getting ready to leave and at our age that kind of thing is a hectic job.

And so I didn't have time to do much eliminating, especially the clippings that people have sent me. I never took the time to take out the different ones.

MAUNDER: Tell me, is there more back home?

SHELLWORTH: A little, but very little.

MAUNDER: And is there any at the Statesman office?

SHELLWORTH: No, all of this has been in the Statesman office and I went down there and got it.

MAUNDER: What use have they made of it?

SHELLWORTH: Any use they wanted to on the fourth of state level, you know what that is. And they've had some editorials I think you'll find in there based on the information they get. They're taking the same lead on this wilderness area stuff now that this work of mine in here--and remember this, when I say "mine", I mean Ben Bush, state forester, Dick Rutledge, federal supervisor and Archie Ryan, Department of Interior Lands,--we four worked together.

MAUNDER: You've been in the harness together for many years.

SHELLWORTH: Thirty-seven years. Dick is dead, Ben is dead, and Archie Ryan the last I heard of him, he was mayor of Boulder Dam, but I haven't heard anything from him in a half-dozen years--as far as I know, I don't doubt it, that God has all three of them.

MAUNDER: Well, I think we'll break this now, it's 7:30 and we can pick it up again tomorrow and have another go at them.

This is the second in a series of interviews with Mr. Harry Shellworth at La Paz. This interview is being made on April the 2, 1963 in Mr. Shellworth's cottage at Los Cocos hotel.

MAUNDER: You wanted to add a note to what we had yesterday.

SHELLWORTH: George L. Shoup, governor and senator, an old pioneer friend--there were several men who influenced me and by reason of their example and my admiration for them and their fine treatment of me and I thought probably it would be better to let that door lock as we go through and bring them into the conversation.

MAUNDER: Did they come later on in your life or were they in your growing sequence?

SHELLWORTH: //111/ In the sequence.

MAUNDER: All right. Well, today we're going to be concerned with those years after you left home and follow along through the experiences you had going to sea and going to Alaska and to the Philippines and then finally bring you back in chronological order of time to your return to Boise and your beginnings in the lumber business.

SHELLWORTH: Well, except that we sort of unfinished that first period in which the friendships of these men had the influence that showed up in later years.

MAUNDER: I see, well, let's start with that shall we?

SHELLWORTH: The first one was a man who was known as "Alphabetical Pride". His name was B.P.-Boss Pride. He was a politician and a believer in accomplished fact. Well, he was a big man, a handsome man and had personality.

winning man and the story of that you'll get as you go through--and for some reasons hasn't been made a record--but I know it's true, because I was page in the house and I became page in this way--// I think I've told you this before.

MAUNDER: Why was he called "Alphabetical?"

SHELLWORTH: Well, his friends named him that --some in admiration and some because they didn't like him. He was P.D.Q. Pride --Pretty Damn Quick. ~~And that's somewhat of an~~ He went after things he got and he was one of the men that I believed to be under the influence of Clark of Montana. Correctly, I'd like to say something for you particularly about those files. You've got two packets that are the reports of the Secretary of State for two biennials. This man, George Curtis, secretary of state wrote in his annual report a history of Idaho territories and so forth and he was an Oxford man and his report is the record--academic--he either didn't know or didn't include many of these things underneath that make things go through.

MAUNDER: In other words, it was a chronological record of events rather than the explanation of why the events took place.

SHELLWORTH: Another thing, ~~I've~~ I've protected my stories from incredulity because I wouldn't blame you a damn bit if you didn't believe some of them. But I've got the dope and in this other report of mine I've mentioned this same thing. I say that if that report was made with the personal experiences of men of a different type of mind than academic, you get a rounder, better story of the things that occurred and as you'll find further on-- in my opinion as a newsboy--I don't say this is a fact--I say it's my opinion--Alphabetical Pride, Dan Career, the editor of the evening paper and a man by the name of Madden who ran first to fance bars and then the breakfast house for men in Boise were three agents of Clark in Montana.

MAUNDER: The mining engineer.

SHELLWORTH: Yes. He was determined that Idaho's first delegation would be mining men and the story of that you'll get as you go through--and for some reasons hasn't been made a record--but I know it's true, because I was page in the house and I became page in this way--~~I~~ I think I've told you this before.

I was selling papers and this fellow, Alphabetical Pride gave me a dollar for it and asked for change. I had already been used to taking whatever money they handed me for a paper and so I handed him back his dollar and said, "Keep the paper, Mr. Pride."

MAUNDER: He asked you for change.

SHELLWORTH: Yes he had been playing poker Sunday morning with three or four or five of the big men in town, financial businessmen, politicians, I knew all of them. They were all customers of mine and they gave him the damndest horselaugh a man ever got.

MAUNDER: You handed him his money back.

SHELLWORTH: And I made some quip, some remark--I don't know why I did it, just one of those kid tricks. But it paid off in this way--he got so that ~~he~~ anything a messenger boy could do for him he called on me. There was always a good tip in it and his favorite expression was, "You keep your damn mouth buttoned up!" And then he asked me if I wanted to be a page. I didn't know what a page was, but I knew anything he offered was all right.

MAUNDER: You put yourself in the way of these messenger jobs then, by hanging around where he was.

SHELLWORTH: Yes. I was elected page and I didn't know anything at all about it. He told me to go down to Dan Career and have him print 50 cards I think it was for republican candidate ~~for~~ for page. I said, "Mr. Pride, I'm a democrat." He said, "It doesn't matter. Just tell Dan to print you 50 cards, 'Harry C. Shellworth as candidate for page in the house' and then come back ~~and~~ and I'll tell you what to do with them." Well, in a day or two I came back with the evening papers ~~and~~ and I waited in the hotel for him to come out. I knew he was in there having a drink with his crowd before he went to dinner ~~and~~ and I stayed longer than I expected.

But the economy of the state is largely dependent on mining.
It was late, 10:00, something like that and he came out and said,
"Tex, what you doing here this time of night?" He was a blustery old
buzzard and I said, "Well, here are these cards you gave me." And there
were one or two men with him, I don't recall just who they were, and he
said, "Oh, yes, tomorrow I'll tell you what to do with them." And so
the next morning when I got through selling my morning papers and got
back home in time to get breakfast and get over to school and I came in
and I knew something was in the air. Dad and Mother looked at me grinning,
and finally Dad said, "Well, you've been elected." And I didn't know
what that was and they said, "You're running for page, aren't you?"
And I said, "Yes." "Well," he said, "You/ were elected." They had a
caucus the night before and all the attaches were selected including
m myself as page in the house. That's all there was to it.

MAUNDER: How many pages were there?

SHELLWORTH: Two in the senate.

MAUNDER: Was there one republican page and one democratic page?

SHELLWORTH: No, they were all republicans. Well, that is, they were all
supposed to be republicans. 'Course in my Mother's house there were no
republicans. But then when they came to this vote--George L. Shoup,
William J. McConnell, were elected to the United States senate with the
understanding that they were to draw straws for long and short terms.
In other words, McConnell's standing up in the north with the mining men
was strong and Shoup's was good, but not as strong as McConnells--but
Shoup's popularity was more than McConnells south of the river.

MAUNDER: What was the economic area there, more agricultural?

SHELLWORTH: Mining north of the river and clear down into the desert part of
growing
the south. It was crop/principally, and small farming and a few pioneer
irrigation projects that were small.

MAUNDER: But the economy of the state was largely dependent on mining?

SHELLWORTH: Yes. And at that time three transcontinental lines were building through north Idaho with their big crews and their contractors and at least three of those outfits were represented in that first legislature by the contractors of building through north Idaho.

MAUNDER: At that time, however, the lumber interests and wood-related economy was not a factor of any importance?

SHELLWORTH: No, because most of them ~~started~~ started their fighting right after that. Most of them started fighting because of their use of script. North Pacific script and the California and Mexican scripts--Santa Fe--Aztec Land ~~and~~ and cattle Company.

MAUNDER: In other words, they were exchanging railroad script for public land _____

SHELLWORTH: Most of them segregated the land as soon as ~~it~~ it was filed on and some of them didn't segregate it against the homestead until the _____ came or until final receipt came and the Northern Pacific was best. It was in lieu of other lands so that was the big thing in their purchase--the temperance _____ and all of those things came in sequence after that. It was the time of life when a young fella was doing a hell of a lot more thinking than he was given credit for. In my life I've often wondered ~~if~~ why people of ordinary I.Q. or above ordinary I.Q. think _____ are young fools. I was entranced with the fact that these big men talked to me like a man. I was only thirteen and a half when I was elected page.

MAUNDER: Were you a big boy for your age?

SHELLWORTH: I was the runt of my family until I was sixteen years old and then I just began to grow like a dandelion. Well, after these two men were elected, they decided that they would elect another man to succeed

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Elwood,

According to Defenbach (Idaho, Its place and its people), p. 445

"The election of Dubois was by joint ballot of the two houses, without each having previously taken a vote separately, as required by law. Some of Mr. Dubois's Republican opponents took advantage of this technicality and by combining with the Democrats succeeded in securing the passage of a resolution declaring the election of Dubois illegal. The resolution also directed each house to vote separately for a senator on February 10, 1891, in his place. On the 11th the two houses again met in joint session and proceeded to elect William H. Claggett, by a vote of twenty-eight to four. Seventeen Republicans were present and refused to vote, and five members were absent. The twenty-eight votes cast for Mr. Claggett constituted a majority of the two houses, however, and Governor Willey signed his certificate. A. J. Pinkham, secretary of state, refused to countersign it or affix the seal of state. The contest was then carried to the U. S. Senate which decided that Dubois was legally elected and permitted him to take his seat."

Shellworth has some of these things so muddled, and I don't want to change his wording too much--maybe we can fix it up in the final draft.

Then there's the clipping from the Statesman that he gave you-- which I think is probably more correct.--~~Good old~~ Good old "Boss Pride" probably did have Dubois elected. They were just shady politicians that's all. ~~L/W/G/L/A/D/~~

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whoever drew the short straw--which was McConnell. They didn't know that then. They elected Fred T. Dubois. Dubois wasn't accepted by the mining people at all. And he wasn't very much liked by the mobs, but in the trading back and forth, Dubois was a shrewd politician and he got that vote.

MAUNDER: Well, how did he get his support? From what quarter did he have strong support?

SHELLWORTH: From the people in the southeast who didn't like _____ which resulted later on in the _____ and that sort of thing. You had these two elements together. As soon as they found out who drew the short term, ~~Mc~~ Bill McConnell, his nickname then was _____, they (Dubois) decided that inasmuch as they'd elected him/before they knew who he was succeed, they decided that that was illegal and the Democrats succeeded in securing the passage of a resolution to name a new man to take McConnell's place. That was William H. Claggett, who was a mining attorney for Clark in the north in Montana and the mining people in north Idaho--strictly a mining attorney. Well, the two went back there, and the two houses met in a joint session and proceeded to elect William H. Claggett. Of course, Dubois won out and the ~~legisl~~ legislature couldn't have any legal basis for backing up on the wrong vote. Finally when they thought they were ready they had a joint session of the house and senate in the house chamber and here's a significant thing: they weren't satisfied that their majority on either side--Frank Fenn, who was speaker of the house--his son and I were really ~~the~~ pals--sent a call to the house....

The clipping from the Statesman that he gave you-- which I think is correct.--GMA/MA/ Good old "Boss Fride" probably did have Dubois. They were just shady politicians that's all. J/A/CLAD/

And I got to thinking things over and I said, "I couldn't go out to Hot Springs five miles from town." So I went back and told him what I had found out. And Dubois was elected by two or three votes. But the session didn't formally adjourn for the day. They j~~o~~ just ~~th~~ threw their journals for the day and their lists in the air and they just hooted around like a wild Texas ^{Bunch of} ~~cattle~~ and they started out and went down the street a full block to ~~W/Street~~ 8th Street down that two blocks to Main and down a half a block to the Capital Hotel. We went upstairs in the dining room on the second floor--everything had been cleaned out there wasn't a stick of furniture in it and there were a lot of tubs filled with all kinds of liquor--I don't know what kind it was and they just milled around like a stampede of cattle and the two great big tall men Ramsey and Briggs, both from the southeast of the state, and someone yelled, "Who elected Bill Claggett?" And someone yelled, "The Kid!" And these two big tall fellas threw me up on their shoulders and they just milled around me in that damn place.

MAUNDER: All this, of course made you feel very important?

SHELLWORTH: Yes, I was just a 13 and a half year old kid.

MAUNDER: Was there any kickback from the opposition later on?

SHELLWORTH: No. The senate decided in Washington that Claggett had no right to the office and that's all there was to it.

MAUNDER: He had no right to the office and the other man was installed as the senator.

SHELLWORTH: Now, that accounts for one friend. The other was Frank Steunenberg. He was from Caldwell. At that time we had eighteen counties and Caldwell was in the same county as Boise. Steunenberg ^{I liked} ~~was all right~~. He was a big man and a very quiet man.

Maunder: What was his background?

SHELLWORTH: He was a livestock man and agricultural man and from that into a banker. And I never heard the man tell any kind of an off-color story or utter one single oath in his story. You could almost take him for a minister. He was always very nice to me. I was very fond of strawberry taffy. I went into Old ~~Ad~~ _____ candy shop one day. It was a little two-room building down where the _____ store is now. The two windows were up high and were just four-paned windows and they were generally so dirty you couldn't see through them. And the door had four panes in that. Well, I was in there getting my nickles worth of strawberry taffy and the doorway was darkened by the shadow of a great big fellow and I knew he was one of the representatives and I was just getting my candy. He asked me what I was getting and I showed it to him and he bought some vanilla taffy in the same way and he pushed my nickel back. We went out and we walked up to Seventh about two blocks from the capitol both of us munching candy. That was the start of a friendship between us and after that every so often- he'd call/ off my stool there at the speaker's desk and I'd come down and he'd put that in my pocket. We got along beautifully.

MAUNDER: What was his political relationship to the rest of this crowd, now?

SHELLWORTH: I don't know that I can definitely answer that. I know that he was thoroughly respected and that he was strong in the financial committees. I don't remember whether he was chairman or just a member.

MAUNDER: He a relatively higher position later on though.

SHELLWORTH: Oh yes, Ada County then was quite a power. For instance, we had two representatives. There wasn't any other county in the state that had two representatives. Yes there was, too--Latah County. We kids didn't go home for lunch, we'd bring our lunch with us and we'd go up in the unfinished third story--an old Tudor type building--with those big

windows sticking out and mansion roof and all that sort of thing and we went up there and that was unfinished except there had been a lot of loose boards--12 inch boards laid along there for runways. We'd taken those and made a square where we could sit around and a table out of some boxes to sit on and had our lunch up there. One day none of us had noticed that there was to be a shorter session--instead of being an hour and a half as usual, it was an hour. We got so engrossed in our game--we were playing what we called Jackpot poker. There were no hands above a pair of Jacks or better and it would run up to Kings and Aces and then back down to Jacks. I remember distinctly because ~~it~~ I won the pot--there was \$.78 in the pot and the ante was a copper. We had to wrestle like hell to get coppers because you couldn't get them anywhere except the bank or the post office. And the limit was 5 cents. I drew an Ace and a joker--the joker was wild and I've forgotten the other cards except one of them was a face card--and I drew two cards and I got another Ace--and that meant I had three Aces. Well, when it came around to me I don't remember the exact routine, but I know at least one fella passed and I put the limit, a nickel, into the pot. I'd forgotten that this little square we had was limited in its width and I stepped off on the lathe and it happened to be just above the entrance into the house down below me. It didn't break through, but it cracked and the house was in session. We had overstayed our time. So they sent ~~John~~ ^{the sergeant at arms} hunter, up to see what was going on and all four pages followed him down the steps just as fast as they could get. When you came in this way there was a doorway into the cloak room and that _____ into the hall. And Joe Keith, the other page, ^{went that way} and I followed in right behind Joe Hunter. And when he stopped Frank Steunenberg was right next to my right on the aisle. Hunter made his report that the pages were up there having a poker game and had forgotten all about opening time and Littleton

REPresent the and they'd have to represent it. That they wouldn't say anything unless it was in the record and then they'd have to put it in. Well, they were just having one hell of a good time with me. Then I went back to Reed again and he said, "Well," and he named the two women Pat Harris, an old time friend of our family and Cherry --she was the ~~father~~ sister of our second congressman ~~for~~ Idaho to Washington. I went up to them and they said that they had corrected all the record and it wasn't in their power to touch anything at all. It would have to be done by the chief person. I was just sweating blood. The next thing the paper ~~dit~~ came out and there wasn't a damn thing in it. Years after, sometime in February of 1909 '99 and Captain Fenn asked me if I remembered and I said, "You bet I do, I was sweatin' blood." He said, "Well," Reed handed me the first lead pencil memorandum before he handed it to the clerk who was going to the records room. I penciled it out. Years afterwards, Father told me that John Hunter told him about it and what a great joke it was and he promised he'd never tell me.

MAUNDER: How long were you a page in the house?

SHELLWORTH: It was almost ninety days. The first session of the state legislature.

MAUNDER: When that session was over, what did you do then?

SHELLWORTH: I was selling papers all during that time but I had to ^{give up} ~~get~~ another ^{with} my job ^{//} in the telegraph office during that ninety days, but when it was over I went back, but I had to go to school. And they fixed it so that I could be the extra boy - deliver small packages.

Price next to _____ the man from Alturas County jumped up
 and ~~made~~ said, "Mr. Hunter, whose ^{'s} winning?" "Well," he said, "Tex has
 got four aces and it wasn't four aces it was three and he said, "He got
 excited and stepped off the ^{over} plaster." ~~And then~~ Then the man who was chairman
 got up and he seconded the motion that we be allowed to finish the game.
 And the chairman of the education committee jumped up to second and Frank
 Fenn, his family and ours lived a block apart and the children played to-
 gether all the time and he said, "Both gentlemen are out of order."

All disciplines of the attaches of this house are the sole business of
 the speaker." And he said, "Mr. sergeant-at-arms tell the gentlemen that
 whenever it's convenient we'd like to see them on their stools again."
 Frank Steunenberg stopped my candy _____ right there--for a week or
 more. Finally, one day he called me to come down and I had another
 package of strawberry taffy. He gave me a lecture on gambling. He was
 a great friend after that. Of course, when I went to the Philippines with
 the army--^{oh yes} when this thing occurred, Dan Career represented the press of
 the evening paper at the press table--he was the editor, and a man by
 the name of Rounsville, night editor of the Statesman was there--and I
 was afraid my mother would get that story. Hunter lived next door to our
 house on Washington Street. Charlie Reed from Caldwell--he was a protegee
 of Steunbergs--was the chief clerk. So as soon as I could get things
~~broken up~~ ^{between times} I'd ~~run~~ ^{went} around to see that this thing
 was stopped. I was afraid it would be in the papers. I went to Reed
 and he said, "Well," he said, "the minutes have already been sent in
 to the ^{group} clerk." I'm telling you this because later in the Philippines--
 years afterwards--Hunter was captain of my company--told me the ~~rest~~
 rest of the story that I didn't know. So I went over and talked to
 Rounsville and Career and they told me that they ~~were~~ were there to

Sib I'd go there and stay a few minutes before school time right after breakfast and do what I could and then I'd go after school and stay until 9:00.

MAUNDER: Did your work as a page interfere in any way with your going to school?

SHELLWORTH: I had to give up going to school.

MAUNDER: In order to to this did you have to have your parent's permission and that of the school?

SHELLWORTH: Yes. I got that easily enough because of our financial condition.

They were very glad to have what little help I could give them.

It was certainly to my advantage from the education point of it.

MAUNDER: At that time you were in the first years of what--high school?

SHELLWORTH: No. I think I was in the seventh or eighth grade. I quit

school early in May ^{of my} ~~the~~ second year of high school. I was getting

awfully damned tired of going to church when I wanted to go fishing.

I ran away from home. I ran away from home three times. The

~~My sister told me one time when I came back,~~

MAUNDER: When you left the first time how old were you?

SHELLWORTH: I was passed the seventeenth birthday. I went to Portland first

and ^{before} ~~when~~ that winter was over I went down to San Francisco and when

I landed there I had something less than a dollar.

MAUNDER: You ran away with a little of your earnings from the paper route.

SHELLWORTH: The next morning after I had paid the flop house two bits for a

bed and fifteen or twenty cents for breakfast I had less than fifty cents

left in my pocket. But in the restaurant I picked up the paper and

/a/ta/vje/ and the steward of the old Santa Anna line which is now the Grace line was advertising for steward's men on the Santa Anna ships--there was the Santa Anna, Santa Clara, Santa Rosa and Santa Barbara. There were four and they were taken over in the first World War and got in trouble with the government on the settlement and some stockholder trouble, I don't know the real inside of it--anyway there was court action and the people who got control of it sold it to the present Grace line and their ships still carry the Santa names.

MAUNDER: Did you get a job on board ship?

SHELLWORTH: Yes. I went down there. I had worked in a grocery store -- my work in those days was smoked and salted meats, pork and bacon and ham, salt pork and that sort of thing. It was quite a chore to take care of them and I had learned how to wipe off the mold as quick as it showed up. Every other day I made the inspection of the bacon and hams. I wrote a pretty good hand up to my limits I was a good mathematician. So this steward--a big old fat frenchman--I went to him and told him what my qualifications were and so he sent me to work checking these supplies that were coming in right on the dock. Some meat came up and it was torn and I said to him--they had those canvass covers and I said, "Those ought to be sealed right now, they're moldy." And he asked me what I knew about it and I told him. "Well," he said, "you just take this thing here and check this stuff in and these other boys will pack it in." He told me he would sign me up for seventten dollars a month and meals and uniforms, bed and laundry.

So we went in and he looked over the sheets the way I had worked them up and he seemed pretty well satisfied. "I'll make you yeoman, that will give you five dollars more." I stayed with him all that fall and ~~th~~ part of the next spring and then he got transferred to a new ship, the Santa Clara and he took me along with him and I got a little raise there.

MAUNDER: In this period were you sailing with the ship, too?

SHELLWORTH: Yes. San Francisco to ~~the same fellows,~~ and all these ports down here including this town right here, La Paz. We anchored outside of ~~left us in the~~ over here. The channel wasn't deep enough for us yet. We dropped thirty feet. And we had a steam launch and lowered it and put these small boats behind and took our passengers and cargo back to Fort ~~the alley from each other for some part of a year and something~~.

MAUNDER: Your job aboard ship was that of yeoman to keep the records of the ships stores?

SHELLWORTH: Yes. My sign on my should here was a quill and a key. I kept the records. That got pretty tiresome. I had seen the country down here and I wanted to see some more ocean, too. So we got back and the Klondike Rush had started. That was in '97 and it was well under way and I went up there.

MAUNDER: How did you go up?

SHELLWORTH: I met a young fellow in Portland the winter of '895-96 I think it was. He studied law. Well, we teamed up and we had one hundred and thirty dollars between us. That bought our supplies and a sled and we figured we'd get dogs--we had a little money and we'd get dogs. Those dogs went to \$100 apiece and we didn't get a dog, not one. But we went on ahead with

~~They had a twenty-six foot tide. I remember when we got there they had~~

the others. We just pulled the sled by ourselves and we got as far as Summit City and we got hijacked and robbed from Silky Smith's gang of every damn thing we had including the mackinaws on our backs. I had a slug in the back of my ear that took a month to get the swelling out of.

MAUNDER: Well, how many guys jumped you?

SHELLWORTH: I don't know. It was broad daylight and we saw these fellows coming along and we assumed they were the same fellows, but when we came to they were out of sight--we didn't see them. They took our mackinaw coats and left us in the snow. Funny coincidence there, years afterward when my son was three or four years old, a neighbor across the alley from me, a contracting carpenter, we got to talking one day. We'd lived across the alley from each other for some part of a year and something came up that we discovered we had been in Alaska on this run. "Yes, I know about that," he said, "I put five dollars in the kit that was raised to send you back to Juneau." He went over and got an album that he had about the story of this trip and he pointed out the tent where he was and our tent hadn't been a hundred feet from him when we started up the hill that day. Here I had lived alongside of him for nearly a year and I had gone duck hunting with him.

MAUNDER: Your visit to Alaska and the gold rush was short then.

SHELLWORTH: Well, we got back --

MAUNDER: You never got any gold?

SHELLWORTH: No. They raised a purse for us at Summit City and worked us back through to and at high tide only an empty ship or one partially loaded could get up as far as to the docks there. They had a twenty-six foot tide. I remember when we got there they had

these old fashioned trailers that you see to put baggage in. They're similar to the ones we have today, but not as well made and there was a ^{stiff} ~~stick~~/on there and they told me it was one of Silver Smith's principal/ gangsters. I know I said to Clem, I said, "I'd like to kick the blankety-blank off into the tide."

MAUNDER: Silky Smith and his gang were really running Alaska.

SHELLWORTH: Well, we went back and found this same ship that we'd gone up there on--the George W. L---- loading to go back and we went aboard and Clem, I think he was . He just couldn't take it. In fact before we got started up that hill he wanted to crybaby out and I talked him out of it. He had more sense than I did. We went back and I worked both of our passage away. He got sick and stayed sick all the way to Portland.

MAUNDER: Did you lose track of him then?

SHELLWORTH: Yes.

MAUNDER: You haven't heard anything from him since.

SHELLWORTH: No. I borrowed the price of a telegram in Seattle--we stopped there on the way down to wire his ~~father~~/ father and mother --some little town in Oregon. I think it was Corvallis, but I'm not sure--that we would be in Portland on that ship and they were to meet him there. I didn't have a cent left in the world. But my work on the ship paid for his passage and mine both. I washed enough dishes on that trip down to pave La Paz with ~~pl/d~~/ ~~pl/d~~/ porcelain. The old steward, when this fellow got off at Portland, said, "Do you know that your pal/ had ten dollars in his pocket." I said, "No, I didn't think he had." He said, "I know he has--a ten dollar gold piece."

MAUNDER: He was holding out on you.

Well, that brought you up to about 1897.

SHELLWORTH: Yes. I went back and I went to work for the wholesale grocery house in their warehouse down on the railroad tracks --filling orders from the warehouse to go into shipments all over the northwest.

MAUNDER: And this was where?

SHELLWORTH: In Portland.

MAUNDER: This was still on your first trip away from home?

SHELLWORTH: Yes. The first long trip. I went home the following Christmas --I stayed there until Christmas and then I came back to Portland and went right back into

MAUNDER: What was the attitude of your family when you got home?

SHELLWORTH: Oh, they were trying their best to keep me at home. But I had a big urge to see things. I wanted to travel. I didn't want to stay still.

MAUNDER: You did this traveling on your own--you weren't with a ~~buddy~~ buddy or a pal?

SHELLWORTH: No. So I went back there and I don't remember exactly whether it was March or April, but I was in the old Fredericksburg Cafe one night with a young fellow by the name of Gleason. His father was ship chandler and he was chairman of the athletic committee in the _____ Club. I was doing a little amateur wrestling. While we were there the news came in that there was a sinking of The Maine. I was getting a little tired of running this truck for the wholesale grocery warehouse anyway. So I decided that I'd join the navy and see the world. I wrote and told my parents and they brought

SHELLWORTH: Yes. There was Frank Steunenberg and Frank Fenn.

all the pressure they could bear on me to come back there and go with a regiment I had been a member of--the Idaho National Guard.--to rejoin my regiment and go with them to the Philippines, which I finally decided to do. But I really wanted to go to sea again. Well, I got back in time to join the regiment early in May of '98 and our regiment left Boise--Steunenberg was governor then--and Frank Fenn was Captain of my old militia company--the former speaker of the house. I had worked for Falk's in their store and I knew a little something about working in men's clothing because I had been clerk in there for a few months at different times and so Frank Fenn took me down to the state house and opened up all these boxes shipped to us from Leavenworth, I think--of clothing and uniforms --and I was working on that and old Frank Steunenberg came down--he and Frank Fenn had kept up their friendship through the years and he had just been made recently a governor of the state. He sat on a great big table that had all these clothes packed up like you see them in the old time building stores--big long-legged man he was swinging back and forth on this high table--I was checking off invoices and making out receipts and Frank Fenn said, "Why don't you give one of these to Harry," and he picked up a pair of/quartermaster chevrons. and Frank Steunenberg said, "That's what I've been intending to do all the time, that's what he's doing now."

MAUNDER: What were you, a quartermaster sergeant?

SHELLWORTH: Yes. And the beauty of that was I didn't have to answer roll call and check every night. I was apart from the rest of the men.

MAUNDER: You had learned a little bit in the political world, hadn't you?

SHELLWORTH: Yes. There was Frank Steunenberg and Frank Fenn.

And Frank Fenn was the first United States forester from the entire state of Idaho when Teddy Roosevelt created the forests. And I could have gone with him then if I had wanted to. But he knew my runaway habits and he said quite plainly that he want me to go if I wanted to _____.

So that's how damn near I came to being _____.

MAUNDER: You went off to the Philippines then ^{with} a regiment.

SHELLWORTH: Then I came back and I had --the insurrection broke out

the end of February in '99. We were figuring that in a very short time --
we were enlisted

we ~~would enlist~~ for the duration of the Spanish-American War--and were

entitled to go home--and we were figuring on going home right away.

Along in the last week of January--the ^{filipinos} ~~Philippines~~ were sore because we'd kept them from ravishing the city of Manila. That was what they wanted.

They finally got out and just made up their minds they were going to come in and take it.

This is the third interview with Mr. Harry Shellworth at La Paz on the afternoon of April 2.

SHELLWORTH: The personalities I gave you--I got up to Frank Steunenberg.

MAUNDER: Steunenberg was quite an important political figure who met with a very untimely end.

SHELLWORTH: Yes.

MAUNDER: Did you know the intimate details of that story--any details that have not already been written?

SHELLWORTH: Yes, I know quite a bit about them. Stewart Holbrook had his story about orchards. He gave me credit for a lot of information.

MAUNDER: Did Stu get most of his inside information on this Steunenberg matter from you?

SHELLWORTH: I think probably most of it was what a fellow in Boise who knew a lot of people would hear.

MAUNDER: Hearsay.

SHELLWORTH: And, for instance, Orchard when he was in prison my father-in-law was warden at the penitentiary. My brother-in-law, Sinclair, was secretary of state to Steunenberg when he was governor. He was from north high school and Steunenberg sent him up there to advise him as to what to do. I think probably from what I know of the two men that Steunenberg had a very great deal of confidence in Sinclair. Barton Sinclair had been a schoolmate and I'm not sure, but my impression is that he

MAUNDER: Did you ever have the feeling while you were close to the political was a roommate of Bill Taft. Although he was a southern democrat when Taft was president he made him treasurer of the province

SHELLWORTH: Not in the slightest. in Luzon. And he didn't do g very well. He was a belligerent and was

MAUNDER: He was his own man. not very good and the native underlings got away with some

SHELLWORTH: If there's any man that I know who had full confidence in his MAUNDER: He was discredited.

SHELLWORTH: Yes.

MAUNDER: He came back to Idaho

SHELLWORTH: Yes. I don't believe that he was anyway in guilt. I think he

just didn't know how to handle men and ~~to~~ how to ~~with~~ watch them and that he was a little bit too trusting. Now that made me cognizant of the fact that as I told you before my background in Texas was strongly democratic as his but I was republican. And I was satisfied that Sinclair figured that I was a

reprobate not to be a democrat especially when were

And so, there might have been some prejudice on my part towards Fenn
and I'm quite sure was on his part towards me. A lot of that information
came to me through family. Of course, like a lot of this
stuff and my prejudice try to
evaluate then. I know now that I've had them, and when I was
I didn't. We had no militia at that time. Our regiment was
I was in it. Steunenberg called for a military
federal government and then Clarkson jumped into it and he went back
people charging them with
and responsible for this and he just said squarely to the committee investi-
gating him, "I take full responsibility. There's nobody else responsible."

MAUNDER: Did you ever have the feeling while you were close to the political
scene there that Steunenberg was in any way beholden to the mining people?

SHELLWORTH: Not in the slightest.

MAUNDER: He was his own man.

SHELLWORTH: If there's any man that I know who had full confidence in his
integrity--there was no better man than Frank Steunenberg. His whole life
he claimed to be somewhat more religious than the average man. His wife
was even more so. Of course, there's where my prejudice comes in, when
he asked for a pardon for Orhhard. As far as I'm concerned I just don't
understand those trends. Which is another way of saying that I don't care to
care to have anything to do with them. He pleaded for the pardoning of that
so and so that murdered her husband with in their own back yard.

You've got to evaluate those things yourself. You can see that I have prejudice.

MAUNDER: Was her attitude founded upon her christian principles?

SHELLWORTH: Yes. It was a great deal more a part of her being than her intelligence.

MAUNDER: Well, now I think we've covered pretty well those years in which you spent away from home and bring us down to the point at which you were married and go on from that point a little bit. You came back from the Philippines to get married, is that right?

SHELLWORTH: Yes. Let me just kind of figure things out. Another man in that period with whom I made my friendship in that time and in after life I had a great regard for him than I did at that time.

MAUNDER: Who were some of these?

SHELLWORTH: One of them passed out of the scene and ~~he~~ died fairly early is Littleton Price, an attorney from Haley which then was Alturas county. That county has now been divided up into five or six counties. ~~He had~~

MAUNDER: Is this the man who was the attorney for the mining company?

SHELLWORTH: No, he had no connection with it whatever. But in the legislature as a page he was very nice to me. He was the man that jumped up first and said, "Let them finish their game." And he took that sort of an attitude toward me. And there was several of those that actually didn't come into my influence once but I always remembered them. And they remembered me. Some of them at some delegation to congress or to legislature years afterwards they would hunt me up and say "Littleton Price told me to come on over and see you--and we want this bridge or we want this ferry - or so forth and we need state help and we've got so many votes

And I know of one instance where several of those little mountain county votes got a road which a lot of people were interested in beside themselves. They swung their votes back and forth in a tight election so the chance influence _____ inspection of United States Senator.

MAUNDER: In exchange they got their roads?

SHELLWORTH: Yes, that's legislation.

MAUNDER: Now, I'll tell you what I would like to concentrate on in this interview if I could, and that is this: I would like to pick up now your beginnings with the lumber industry in Boise, trace that and ask you some questions relative to your work with the lumber industry and in particular with the Boise Payette Lumber Company and the work that preceeded that.

SHELLWORTH: Well, when I came back from the Islands that would be in 1904. I had kept up correspondence with an old schoolteacher and I was ~~not~~ not telling people in any way but we were just kid sweethearts. And her father had been the territorial treasurer. He had been one of the first mayors of Boise; he had been prominent merchant and was a man of standing and of influence and character--everything that you could admire. His wife was a Christian Scientist and as kids why I was strutting my stuff, you know, writing letters to her. I'm sorry I didn't save a lot of them because there were a lot of descriptions of things that would be very good now. She was going through the conservatory of music and it was a school in or near Boston. She wrote that she was finishing that June and that her parents were coming there to commencement. They were going to take a long train trip from Boston to the east coast and the south and to New Orleans and around to San Francisco to last two or three months. She had relatives in Alameda and wanted to know if I would be back in the States. I had written that I might

be back in another year because that was the time the ships had to be painted and the barnacles taken off and I knew we had to come back for the cleanup and scraping job. I would probably be back in the late summer or early fall. When she wrote me this I told her we had no cable, no communication across the Pacific at all. Our information went from Manilla by steamship to Hong Kong. From there it was transmitted by various sources through _____ I think was the first place to have long distance telegraph and then to London, then to New York and then to Idaho.

I gave the address to the skipper's wife in San Francisco and told her that she could get the information from her as well as anybody and probably better than she could even from the sailings lists or the captain of the port as to what the prospects were. When we came into port that was in September of 1904 the quarantine officers came out on the tug with the ~~cl~~ captain of the port and from our stay on the Italian coast we had to go through quarantine. But we had a doctor who was very efficient and who ~~sh~~ stood very high in the profession and he had been in and out of the port many times and he had the compliments of the quarantine people. When that tug floated alongside I saw this gal~~l~~ down on top of the bridge deck with the skipper's wife and the captain of the tug and the quarantine officer. Well, that changed my mind a hell of a lot about everything. The quarantine officer came up and conversed with the doctor and made just a formal investigation and passed us through. The skipper came up and this girl and about a month later on the way home I realized I hadn't proposed to her. But she had my ring on. I said, "Skipper, you can write me off of this boat. I'm going home." They were all laughing. The skipper's wife, ship doctor's wife and the first mate's wife came aboard

and we went to Winters Point and went into drydock for scraping and cleaning up and I had bonded liability. It took me about two or three weeks to get the feel of that. So these ladies told Ida that they would chaperon her and she'd have the bridal cabin on the social deck. And her aunts agreed that was all right. And she came aboard. We lived there for about three weeks. Then we started for Boise and between Portland and Boise was when she reminded me I hadn't proposed to her. She and her two sisters all three died of tubercular trouble and she died within less than five months after we were married.

MAUNDER: She must have been ill when you were married.

SHELLWORTH: Well, she didn't seem to be. At least I didn't think so. I did see after we were married that she wasn't in good health. Her oldest sister was a spinster and she was the youngest and the middle sister married John Blake who was _____ partner. When I came back to Boise they wanted to know if I wouldn't come back and work for the old outfit. My sister's brother-in-law was head of the capital state bank and they had two receiverships in the grocery store. So I took that first because it was pretty good pay. I decided that I would go into the grocery business. Blake came to me one day and he said this outfit was coming in and Fred Kato the manager of it had been replaced. And a gentlemen from Minneapolis was to take over and that the man that had to do the office work well, they were going to let him out. He had done some indiscreet things that didn't fit the company at all, although afterwards was investigated because claims were taken out and each member After the whole thing was settled the lumber company bought it but they

never received any attention from the government whatever. One reason I made that decision was that Doctor Springer, Major Springer, the surgeon, was the doctor of my regiment in the Philippines. And he came into the store while I was working and I was coughing. He said, "I thought you had too damn much sense." In those days a man who smoked a cigarette was a cigarette fiend. Men smoke cigars or pipes. The powerhouse ponies and juvenile delinquents smoked cigarettes. And I said, "You know I don't smoke." He said, "I didn't think so." He said, "The first time you get a chance over. I want to look you over." He knew that these two girls were dying of tuberculosis. He said that I had a measles cold, a respiratory infection, and that he could cure me in ten months without any trouble if I'd do just exactly what he told me. Well, I had promised my father that I would stay a year. I had no intention whatever of staying here there more than a year, but I wanted to get rid of that trouble before I went back to the tropics. Then Blake came and told me about this and they wanted a man to take my place and you'll be out in the open most of the time. This was early in the spring. My first wife died in March. and I got in this backboard

MAUNDER: That was in March of 1905. trying to buy her claim--"By damn! I'll

SHELLWORTH: Yes. You'll have a little office work--principally office boy ^e is what it really ~~was~~ was. Kepp the office open and keep up the journals that was all. By the first of May you'll be out in the open. That's the way it worked. I had no intention whatever of staying. I liked it. I liked the outdoors.

MAUNDER: Well, now you were in the office for a very short time and then you were on the outside. What were you doing on the outside?

SHELLWORTH: I was a commissary clerk and timekeeper cruising timber.

Ken Murray, an old timber cruiser taught me to run compass for him.

We were short of compassmen and I started out on that and then I began to pick it up. I just gradually drifted from one place all the way up.

The first thing I remember we had a difficult case. It was a piece of timber that was wanted in Garden Valley. It was ^{owned} ~~wanted~~ by a woman that was

quite a character --evidently short about it and long-legged--very tall and we went in to the--she was telling me all about her troubles when her

husband died and she raised these two boys. She had a great big chair to sit down in and when she got up she just almost reached the ceiling.

And this old cruiser was with me--he was a fellow that had a peculiar way of keeping his mouth shut and then splurting out something "by damn!"

She was telling us what a terrible time she had had and she went out and

called these boys Clarence and some other name like that and they came in

and they had beards down to here and when old Jim and I got in this buckboard

to drive back to Boise--I had been trying to buy her claim--"By damn! I'll

bet that man's glad he's dead!" I told her that we were

until midnight--I had met her a time or two before. ~~At~~ / About this

time *it had a site value* much more than

it timber value.

He gave me full credit for everything. The personal admiration became mutual. I realized there was some things about the West that you just didn't ~~didn't~~ sense. You just didn't get them at all.

SHELLWORTH: Nevertheless, we were very keen on it. Some 80 odd acres in one lot.

And I said, "Career, we'll go out and you walk through with us and we'll show you how we cruise. We'll make you a final offer.

And we did that and she was

and I said, "Well, sometime when you get to thinking about it you let us know and we'll give you that figure anytime you want it in the next two or three years." we hardly got to town when we got a letter from her and she wrote it to the lumber company

Payette Manufacturing Company and said she'd like to have young Shellworth come out and see her again--she'd like to talk to him again. I went out there again and talked to her and we walked--I know those people in the back country and I knew some people in Idaho. So I made that purchase.

MAUNDER: Was this the first major purchase that you made?

SHELLWORTH: Yes. After that when we got those cases sent me out.

MAUNDER: You got the reputation for being a good timber buyer.

SHELLWORTH: Yes. So much so that some of my friends called me ///

"Timber King." Hoover was very

He gave me full credit for everything. The personal admiration became mutual. I realized there was some things about the West that you just didn't ~~change~~ sense. You just didn't get them at all.

MAUNDER: They had no hopes of a big market outside of their own region?

SHELLWORTH: For instance, on this sheep trail thing. We had to win that test or we were out. There wasn't hardly any parleying or bowing and scraping at all. We just had to win it. Then his wife was a school teacher. She was a beautiful woman. I've probably told you that before.

MAUNDER: Who were the men in the lumber business with whom you were most intimately acquainted in those early days and who among them influenced you the most--brought you along in the business?

SHELLWORTH: Something just came to my mind--for instance, another job I had--Bill Deery represented what we called the Potlatch Lumber Company of Potlatch, Idaho. His company and our company and all the other companies had bought a lot of twenty-year timber --contracts on state land. When the canal was brought through they coast lumber as far as it could take the place of soft pine was on the market and could go through the canal and went by us to Newark and Baltimore and come back as far as Ohio before it met the railroad rate from the other inland empire to that same point. And that put the Inland Empire twenty years off the source. All of the best organized financial people could carry through on that. There was a lot of consolidation during that period.

MAUNDER: What was the reason, Harry, that the stockholders entered the lumber business in southern Idaho?

SHELLWORTH: Because it was near a market that was sure to have a big retail local market right at the mills and the Snake River Valley through irrigation.

MAUNDER: They had no hopes of a big market outside of their own region?

SHELLWORTH: They did until the canal was brought through. You see,

when they under our laws of the Constitution that was all before Teddy

Roosevelt's time

I was down there in the Santa Ana if we'd have time we'd gone

muleback across to the head of that canal and seen

the dredges covered with mud still in the other side

of the hill. They hadn't started it yet. That thing took twenty years

out of the waiting period. Otherwise the would have

gone from Minnesota west in the regular order. That stopped them

for twenty years. Then all of the timber in Idaho--almost all of

it was owned by non-resident corporations. You see what a heap

of prejudice that was for politicians. Didn't make any difference

which party it was--the one that was out claimed that the one that

was in was granting favors to foreign residents who wanted to

get the stuff out of the state without the attraction

MAUNDER: Where was most of this ownership located?

SHELLWORTH: Most of it in North Idaho. Aside from the Barber and the

Payette Lumber Company there was no big ownership in South

Idaho. And on the other hand, speaking from the strategic stand-

point, we were scouts against a population of electorate that was

entirely opposed to every segment of our electorate in Idaho figured

that theirs

so when you come to legislation and election of officers they were

the least bit favored in that development--they were easy marks.

When they found that they were not going to be able to cut this land

~~but~~ in regular order they started buying the underneath their contracts. Then the question came up as to whether under our laws of the Constitution they could do that and require those rights-- and all that sort of thing.

There was seven democratic attorneys--two of them happened to be friends of mine one a very close friend of Tom Martin.

and the contention was that he bought those lands at the Constitutional minimum of \$10.00 per acre and that they were worth a great deal more. As a matter of fact, you couldn't have sold probably five per cent of it at a dollar an acre under the terms.

But that didn't make any difference. When you've got an election coming on you get ~~but~~ prejudice and ignorance against it. You could

~~but~~ play on it just like a piano. So the democrats said that they were robbing the schoolchildren of the state of their birthright and

all that stuff. ~~XXY~~ And they were getting away with it. Deery at

the Potlatch Company--I forgot their --we had practically 30,000. We had 31,689 plus acres and we wanted to buy that

and what of it. Most of it was in Boise Basin and in so nugents who had got through with the Western Federation and got the Western Federation people to turn over a million dollars. That financed the democratic party in Idaho for years. And he wanted to be a United States Senator. Of course, this is my honest opinion based on the information that I had at the time--but I could go on the stand and swear these things. But I'm telling you on the nose that I know they're right. I believe in them.

I began to get a little reputation for success with the legislature-- that early. Deery came down and he was a blunt sort of fellow-- one of these men who ----- --and he got a little on edge because he came in and told me they had all these things in big long envelopes --a whole batch of them and telling me what I was to do with them. I was only getting \$60.00 a month then anyway. I wasn't I didn't care whether I stayed here that much longer. So I just told him, I said, "Mr. Deery, I don't want those. I just ----- as best I know how and I'm very glad to do that. But I don't want those. And he said, "You take that and do just as you damn please."

MAUNDER: Just as long as you produced results.

SHELLWORTH: Yes. So we got to be very good friends.

MAUNDER: How did you proceed to accomplish your mission?

SHELLWORTH: Well, I got them to drop the Payette Lumber Manufacturing Company out of their complaint. Then ^NWugent got ahead and put it back in. He had this money to become senator with and he got it back in but in the meantime there was a judge Ailshie and his son married the daughter and the lone child of Calvin Carl who was the editor of the STATESMAN. He asked--and that was the first showing of weakness--he asked to be relieved of sitting on the State ~~but~~ Supreme Court--three members then, they have five now. Because he had been the agent of some owners of this land up in north Idaho and it might be a point of prejudice. The truth of the matter was .

if he wanted to run for United States Senator and he wanted to run against John _____ . So he dropped out of that. I talked with him--I had more nerve than any damn kid should have--I just went up and talked with him and he explained it to me just _____ but I didn't believe a hell of a lot of it. When the thing came up the court held that when we owned that land all the rights of occupancy for ten years and when we bought _____ and the land under it to the timber went with it.

MAUNDER: What would you say was the one significant economic involvement that permitted the company to ~~survive~~ survive?

SHELLWORTH: I would say that the--there's a new birth in this nation every damn night--but you don't get a new acre of land in the whole damn United States in ten years. That timber's there and it's growing and its value only increases with the increase in population and you can't beat it and the men that are financed to hold out until the time comes are bound to win. That's my belief.

MAUNDER: It was a losing proposition --

SHELLWORTH: It started with _____ taxes, fire protection all of that and then when they began to buy heavily there was more or less competition or at least stiffening of prices with small owners. It was just all the natural laws that come into that sort of thing.

MAUNDER: ? The people who really made the money were the people who nephew Bill Haynes, who was their local man there and it was just a case of giving a nephew a little job to do. He probably could have

sold stumpage rather than those that manufactured lumber.

SHELLWORTH: Yes, that's right.

MAUNDER: Well, now I've encountered in your papers, Harry, some little correspondence you've had with young Andy Cook, Jr. in which he makes mention of the deal that his father had made years before with you on the whole Valley opposition. When did this come in and could you tell us a little bit about it?

SHELLWORTH: Well, great scott that forest was standing there hundreds

Here was a case of a Pennsylvania family owning substantial amount of timber. . .

SHELLWORTH: His father was A/In/ in the Senate

Anthony Wayne and they lived in Cooksville, Pennsylvania. In 1937

In 1940 when the Paramount moving picture outfit filmed "Unconquered"

they went to Pennsylvania to the scene of that. They had to have some scenes and some other scenes that they came

West for. They got permission from the Cooks to go through the property of for that stuff and

during that time they told young Cook that they were coming West and they were going to meet me. I had previously

to MGM for "Northwest Passage" and to the International for

"Hudson Bay" and another company "Days of the

North". I knew a good deal about

Before this conversation came up he and his father and mother came

out to New Vintas in Vintas Valley every summer. They had a

nephew Bill Haynes, who was their local man there and it was just

a case of giving a nephew a little job to do. He probably could have

cows but not much more

We had in '19 I think it was--1910 and 1919--the butterfly burn and ponderosa pine--the defoliators--

MAUNDER: Two attacks, one in 1910 and one in 1919?

SHELLWORTH: Yes, 1919 was the big one--1904 was the first one.

Hopkins came out with a whole damn bunch of those Federalists and they spenga whole summer there and they were just as sure as God made little apples that everything was going to be gone in a year. Well, great scott that forest was standing there hundreds and thousands of years and it had never gone to hell in one year before and I knew damn well it wouldn't do it again. But people worried because that defoliation is a terrific thing to look at.

MAUNDER: Not only that but the country went through some pretty serious things with the chestnut blight and blister rust.

SHELLWORTH: Here's another thigg--it attacked the overripe ponderosa needles pine--I didn't know that then--in the top ~~leaves~~ of the tree. The butter~~filed~~ flies had laid their eggs and there would be as many as a dozen on the underside of a needle. And when those caterpillars hatched they started eating up those leaves all the way down. Then they got off on dead wood--dead trash--and went through the rest of their cycle. The next year there would be more of them. But in that year--the third or fourth year--these little black a hell of wasps muddroppers we call them--they would take those flies and fill each cell of that mud nest with a caterpillar and put the old there with their egg in it and that was the year it eased up.

away from, because it was good sense not to have him raise prices

And then they had spiders. The main thing in the life cycle--that tree that had been defoliated this summer, for instance, could not be defoliated next year--there was nothing to defoliate. So they had to have new trees and they had to go far enough away to get an overripe, mature tree--one that had been struck by lightning. There was a chemical sap in that that made it possible for them to become epidemic in the woods. I learned that the hard way. And we had a character Ross _____, he was a big man with a big voice. He drove the stage from Council to Warren, the mining town. He was saying that when he got up in the morning to call the stable men to get ready for breakfast--he went out and called so loud that the roosters as well as _____ heard him and started to crow. He was that kind of a big, blustering fellow. After that he'd go out and ring a little quadrangle on the proch for the dude passengers to get up and have their breakfast. Well, he had eighty acres and ~~he~~ we had 200 acres and the Forest Service 240 acres, right on the hill above his a large percentage of over-mature trees. This was 1919--I had gone through two ~~but~~ previous butterfly burns. We had a man by the name of Cavette--his son became Admiral Cavette of the United States Navy--Cavette was a little high-strung nervous type of a man, but he was a hell of a good sawmill man. And he was a good buyer. I made it a point in my buying to play fair with him. I'd go and ask him what he wanted for his mill around his place or where he was going to move or stay away from, because it was good sense not to have him raise prices

on 10,000 acres when he only wanted a hundred acres. So we got to be pretty good friends. He told me he had to make a loan. It was time. I said, "Well, we've got eighty acres up by Ross Creek now. Why don't you get that and start in." Just at that time, I got a letter from the Forest Supervisor at McCall, Payette National Forest--he'd like to talk to me the next time I came to McCall. I went up and he said, he had this 240 acres on top of the hill above us and the down hill which Ross Creek wants and they wanted to know if we would be interested in putting up a sawmill and cutting it out. They would give us a price. We were to do the extras slash disposal that was necessary under ~~the~~ their regulations. and I said, "No, this isn't possible, why don't you get Cavette?" They hadn't thought of it. So they went over and talked to Cavette and they came back and told me that he was accepted. ~~The~~ Theirs was on top of the hill and ours was in the center and Ross's was below. Ross and I talked about it before--"Ross," I said, "Your just as crazy as hell. I can't buy your timber. I'm too damn

You think I'm going to buy your timber and pay the taxes on it and fire protect it for twenty years and give you a twenty-year price on it you can go to hell." Well, that was the only way to talk to that fellow. We figured on selling that timber back and letting him clean it out

for a dollar a thousand on a specific contract for slash disposal. I said, "I happened to know the Forest Service people would be willing to do the same thing." He says, "I know, I was talking to them." And I said, "Well, you just go ahead--"

MAUNDER: He was trying to unload--

SHELLWORTH: Yes. So they got that and kept it busy for two or three years.

MAUNDER: They kept him out of your hair. Would you have anything more to say Harry about these two questions that I've posed to you a few minutes ago. One on your understanding and appreciation of the reason that the stockholders had pilanderings in their business in southern Idaho and the other one the significant economic development that permitted the company to survive. You've spoken of the continued growth of trees and the eventual coming of value