

WALT BENSCOTER

NORLA CALLISON

minute	page	
Side A approx. 01	2	January thaw. Weather changing: loss of timber? Weather would now make horse-farming impossible. Spring wheat no longer a good crop. Federation: a good spring wheat. Wet harvests, chalky wheat. Hogs don't fatten on wet wheat.
16	9	Current wheat prices. Shipping charges. Storage charges. Pea and lentil prices. Bean soup out of split beans. Fanning mill to clean grain. Self-subsistence. Prune dryers and apple orchards.
21	11	All the ridges and towns had their own baseball teams. One-room-school teachers used all kinds of discipline, including buggy whips. Grown men with mustaches in the school. Advantages of one-room-school. Students didn't act up much.
29	16	Halloween tricks. Cow in the schoolhouse.
Side B		
00	17	Skating and coasting parties. Coasting on a barrel stave. "Shank-pony" courtship. Sleigh-rides. Harvest Ball in Kendrick Temple.
08	21	Shivaree, a serenade with shotguns, tin cans, and a honsefiddle. Pinochle parties and literary. Kitchen sweats with a squeezebox and fiddles. Dances in Sam Bigham's granary. Stuart Thompson's floor breaks through during a dance.
14	23	Thrashing machines on American Ridge. Meyer machine, company machine, Clem machine, May machine, Ball machine, Thomas machine. Martin Thomas never used the whistle on his machine til Norla's dad tied it back during lunch. Shareholders in the company machine. Change to bulk wheat. \$4 per day for a man, a team, and a bundle wagon.
24	28	Nobody ever locked anything up til Perry Huddleston moved onto the ridge. Perry gets caught in a trap in Wade Keane's root cellar. Wade "just kicked his ass."
30	31	Two churches on the ridge: Nazarene and Methodist. Church built for a community church, but Methodists squeezed others out.
approx.		

Side C

approx. 00

32

In early Prohibition, Troy and Kendrick were closed by local option. Pat Malone could "take care of most of the whiskey around." Whiskey from the druggist. Jimmy Durbin whiskey: "Don't buy booze if your kids need shoes." Bottle of formaldehyde mistaken for bottle of whiskey.

04

34

American Ridge got its name because everybody got along fine. Charley Jessop cheats a man named Happer out of his land; Hammer broods on it until he dies.

06

35

Homesteaders came for the Promised Land, mostly bachelors. Water was important. Breaking the bunchgrass sod and sunflowers with a footburner. Indian cayuses for \$10 apiece.

(approx. 15 min.)

with Rob Moore
7 December 1973