

GEORGE LEPARD

Potlatch; b. 1899

grocer

.8 hours

minute page

Side A

00

Birth at Craigmont. Father an early doctor; his education came from practical experience with another doctor. Father graduated from Omaha Medical College (1895) and came to Idaho for opportunity. He found out that father had his teeth knocked out over the sale of a cow, contradicting the story father told.

04

Father followed building of sawmills. Father bought property at Onaway and set up drugstore and a place for livestock, since he couldn't buy at Potlatch. Mr. Lepard went to school at Potlatch and worked at grocery business until depression. Father's showcase and chocolate candy for kids. Father always went with team to help people when called, regardless of what they owed him.

09

Parents moved to Potlatch in 1906. Beginning of Potlatch. WI&M Railroad was called "Washing, Ironing and Mending" or "the stump dodger." Importance of railroad. Day's round trip for passenger train. Engines for passenger and freight trains.

15

Potlatch as a "one-man-town". Houses rented nominally. Potlatch churches. Description of sawmill. Reduction of work force. "Company doctors": Dr. Gibson and Dr. Thompson.

24

His wife married him to get rid of him. His house in Coeur d'Alene is on site of Fort Sherman.

29

Disappearance of Harris boy. The mill was shut down a day to look for him; it was thought he fell into a mine shaft. (continued)

Side B

00

In 1964 he turned up in Princeton inquiring about the family. He wanted to leave his estate to his relatives knowing he was dying of cancer. The memorial service for him in Spokane.

05

Company built school for town. Recreation at Potlatch. School plays; he got a nose bleed in the play, "Potlatch Day". His magic and juggling.

(15 minutes)

with Sandie Giffel

February 14, 1974

Note: This is a duplicate of a tape in North Idaho College Library; donated to the Latah County Museum Society by Mr. Lepard's son, George Lepard.