

JEAN WILSON RINGSAGE
STINER RINGSAGE

Mrs. Ringsage: Park, British Columbia, Alberta; b. 1905
school teacher, nurse, homemaker

Mr. Ringsage: Park, Alberta; b. 1890
farmer, miner

3.9 hours

minute page

Side A

00 A man with flu cured by Stiner's father.
Diagnosing illness with a special apparatus.
Hot ~~fomentations~~. Cupping was used to drain
blood from Stiner's tubercular mother. Influence
of mother's death on father.

10 Beating a man who got whatever hold he wanted
on Stiner. Working and travelling with a
drinking man in southern Idaho; Stiner didn't
let men know he could wrestle. Handling two
men who attacked him on a pleasant day's walk.

26 Hunting to feed yourself and others. Getting
a deer in southern Idaho. A wolf intercepted
the wounded deer. (continued)

Side B

00 Getting the deer. Falling through ice on the
Raven River and getting out. Walking through
snow.

14 Her aunts were trained in Boston. Aunt Margaret
shocked visiting sisters by being a chambermaid
rather than a nurse; her preference for
boyfriends over marriage, after mother's
experience; she had to smoke in secret. Stiner's
grandmother tried to hide smoking from
children. Margaret's ways.

27 Gift giving when visiting a custom. Brother's
opposition to Stiner taking Park place; help
from stepmother. Gifts from Aunt Margaret.

Side C

00 Caring for half-orphans in the family. Mother
helped cousin raise children after wife went
insane. Rather than missionary work, family
helped each other, without being showy.

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Side C (continued)

05 Intimacy of country dances compared to loneliness of young today. Love and realism in marriage. Birth control methods. Depression and spread of machinery forced acceptance of smaller families.

20 Work open to women was limited, but working women didn't feel socially inferior. Her ambition to be a "kept wife." Lack of creativity in most work. Sharing experiences with friends. Women didn't do outside work in Canada.

Side D

00 Men taught during depression as steppingstone. More work for women in Park.

04 Her dependency and resentment changed to acceptance and religious centering. Stiner worked for love, not money. Men's need for liberation from wives' problems. Tendency to try to make mate or children over into image of perfection.

13 Her religious experience transformed her life. Thankfulness dissolves agitated feelings. Reservoir of God's power.

21 Her religious order has no name - its beliefs and practices, in small family groups. Her awakening to dogma. Bible study like feeding in a pasture. Types of meetings. (continued)

Side E

00 Sunday meetings in homes. Sharing thoughts from the Bible: "it spoke to me." Role of preachers to show life of Jesus, and the simplicity of his teachings. Turning thoughts to love; overcoming extremely difficult situations.

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Side E

13

Her earlier religious group affiliation congealed into doctrine; her full acceptance of current faith. Many in the faith had bad experiences in their churches. How the members refer to their "way". How she became involved through a meeting at Park (1939); a woman who first heard them when she was thirteen. Commitment of preachers. Recognizing other "friends"; friendship with another member. Problem of involvement in social change.

Side F

00

Dullness of third generation's life stories compared to first. Finding out about father on a trip through Canada: his travel on the Frazier River.

18

Her family's colonization of Prince Edward Island in the eighteenth century. Learning Yankee ways. Uncle a southern doctor in Civil War.

27

Lathe for mud walls was four inches apart. American know-how in Canada came from their experience with machinery. Ukrainian ability to get by because of their mud buildings.

Side G

00

Hard times on the farm in Alberta; her refusal to sign banknote. Loss of grandparents' clock.

09

Family problems in Park caused circumspection on her part. If you were for Roosevelt you had friends.

14

Aunt's great disappointment because she became a farm wife instead of using her brain. Aunt Amy saw the poverty in her future. Her move towards reconciliation.

17

Mistreatment of cousin's bullet wound caused his death. Admiration of Stiner by neighbor family. He would have been quite successful if they'd had the breaks. His pleasure in breaking mean horses.

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Side G (continued)

24 Fixing wagon wheels; burning the wheel onto wood.

30 A Southerner who segregated the black on his
 threshing crew, making him eat outside in
 the cold. The English accepted this.

Side H

00 The man's wife was more prejudiced than he
 was. If Stiner had been black, he would've
 lost his place. They treated Indians on
 Central Ridge like whites.

05 Wrestling on threshing outfits - they liked
 to try Stiner out because of his reputation.
 "Calf roped" was calling "uncle." He never
 wrestled with Idaho's champion wrestler, by
 mutual agreement. He would never hurt anyone
 wrestling. Helping an Alberta wrestler train
 for a championship fight.

17 Riding rails.

(18 minutes)

with Sam Schrager

November 7, 1976