

## EMMA CHRISTENSON SHIRROD

Rimrock, Genesee; b. 1885

farm woman.

2 hours

minute page

Side A

- 01 Preparing sheep wool for use.
- 02 Christening of Emma Shirrod's brother near Deary. A trip to Jansville to visit the Halseth family.
- 08 Grandfather's brother died of cholera at sea. Family background in Wisconsin. Father came West in 1876; he could have taken land in Spokane. Two Christenson children died of smallpox at Steptoe. Boat trip to Walla Walla; mother's family. Mother and grandfather take homesteads near Genesee. Mother sold her homestead right to get horses to see fiancé, sick with typhoid fever in Walla Walla.
- 19 Mother said they were too dumb to be afraid during Indian scare (1877-8). Mother walked over hills to get mail. Moving from old to new Genesee.
- 25 Her birth in 1885 - the doctor came from Lewiston with a team, and also checked uncle with typhoid. Her experience with severe typhoid fever (1905).
- 28 Grandfather's fatal heart attack after a day's work.
- 31 Flour from Colfax or Pomeroy - a year's supply. Trip to Lewiston and back took a day - she wanted to drink from the river. Father's death.

Side B

- 00 Brother's prolonged sickness and death.
- 04 Brother's first sight of gang plow.
- 07 Their barley stack burned late in the fall of 1893. Early farming techniques.
- 09 Early childhood memories: grandmother's death, candy, Fourth of July races.
- 12 A "Jew doll" from Louis Levi. Genesee stores and goods. Local wildflowers.
- 19 Kitchen furnishings and utensils. Mother bought one loaf of bread. Helping out; mother was sometimes sick.
- 27 Seeing Indians with their travois in long processions on the trail, run-ins with Indians. Allotment of reservation by Alice Fletcher.

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minute      page

Side C

- 00                      Ownership pattern of Indian land near her home.
- 02                      In 1912 she ran for county assessor on the Progressive ticket.  
Sentiment for prohibition.
- 08                      The saga of meeting her husband: moving to Genesee and working.  
Tuberculosis of Mr. Shirrod's first wife. Emma Shirrod's  
*sojourns* in California. Courtship: going to Chatauqua,  
Fourth of July and camp meeting with Mr. Shirrod.
- 21                      A car accident after a premonition.
- 26                      Their honeymoon in isolated snow country on a North Idaho lake.

Side D

- 00                      A presentiment of a disastrous trip to Spokane. Another  
presentiment before a broken wrist. Crying spells before  
father died.
- 10                      Fire burnt down their house in 1925. Their purchase of another  
place. Success through hard work and savings. The  
Depression didn't affect them much.
- 21                      Taking a business course at the college in Pullman. Her  
spinal trouble at that time led to a cure in St. Louis. She  
hurried home when her father became sick. Family illnesses.
- 26                      The Shirrod scholarship fund for college-bound students from  
Genesee.
- 30                      Her allegiance to Nez Perce County.

with Sam Schrager  
January 21, 1975