

IONE ADAIR
with Bernadine Adair Cornelison(sister)

First Interview

Interviewed by:

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Oral History Project

Latah County Museum Society

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I. Index

IONE ADAIR

Moscow, Collins; b. 1883

school teacher, homesteader, postal clerk, tax collector. 2 hours

with: Bernadine Adair Cornelison (sister)

minute page

Side A

- | | | |
|----|---|---|
| 00 | 1 | Adair homestead was between Bovill and Collins. The girls rode stride saddles. A bucking horse and divided skirts. An Indian horse with ears and tail bobbed as a punishment. Slippery trails. Father insisted they ride stride saddles, although some townspeople wondered. Mother was a good shot, but too busy to ride much. |
| 11 | 3 | Elk River Falls. The Trumball family. Invited to spend the Fourth of July weekend there, the girls were the first to catch the fish Trumball had planted. Bernadine treed a native pheasant. Her .38 special revolver, a constant companion in the woods. |
| 20 | 6 | Arrival of Bovills to graze cattle; they soon had a trade with homesteaders. Trustees of the Collins school. A surprise visit from the county superintendent, when Miss Adair had dismissed school at Collins to come to the Bovill girls' birthday party. |
| 28 | 8 | Adair farm location. The family made the trip to Collins in one day, stopping for lunch at Anderson. |

Side B

- | | | |
|----|----|---|
| 01 | 9 | Packrats chinked their cabin with potatoes. House-lining. Mother didn't enjoy homesteading, but did it to help. A friend would stay with her in the upstairs loft. Beargrass mattresses in the barn. |
| 08 | 11 | Her experience of the 1910 fire. The hazy conditions. As she and her friend prepared to seek out other homesteaders, a fire crew arrived and enlisted their help to cook for them. Potatoes and bannock. Moving with the crew. Concern when short-termers joined the crew - two men and her gun insured their protection. Pay. Excitement of the situation. Trying to stay clean. Parents didn't know what had happened to her. |

Side C

- | | | |
|----|----|--|
| 01 | 17 | Return from firefighting to Moscow, via the train from Avery. They took their clothes in salt sacks. |
| 10 | 20 | The Adair's pet bear at the mansion. He got loose in the house; he climbed a maple tree. Discovery of the bear. The bear became University of Iowa mascot. The bear ripped a visitor's trousers. The bear's playfulness. |

Ione Adair

minute	page	
Side C (continued)		
19	23	Mr. Adair bought the mansion by selling his homestead to the Madison Lumber Company.
24	24	Mrs. McConnell never had her picture taken. The Adairs supplied a Kodak snapshot of her in recent years. Mrs. McConnell was shy and did not like political life. She stayed home when he was governor; daughter Mamie acted as his hostess in Boise and met Senator Borah there.
28	25	Story of Ben and Bill McConnell (continued).
Side D		
00	26	More about the McConnells. The unusual lives of the sons. Governor McConnell was a politician. McConnell daughters.
11	29	How M.J.Shields talked to himself.
13	30	A birthday rhyme on getting old.
14	30	A horse drowned in the soggy depths of Forty-Nine Meadows. Trapping with Mr. Carter and "Sylves", the dead horse. Father told the girls to exercise in the winter.
20	32	Carter gave a stagecoach ride to a drunk who was amazed by the moonlight.
(24 minutes)		

with Sam Schrager

June 8, 1976

II. Transcript

This manuscript is derived from a tape interview conducted by Sam Schrager with Ione Adair and her sister Bernadine Adair Cornelison. The dialogue took place in the Adair home in Moscow, Idaho on June eighth, nineteen seventy-six.

IONE ADAIR

Moscow, Collins ; b. 1883

school teacher, homesteader, postal clerk, tax collector

2 hours

with: Bernadine Adair Cornelison (sister)

minute page

Side A

- 00 1 Mother preferred convenience of home to woods life: she was tubercular. The girls enjoyed woods and wearing overalls. The family hack. Mother usually had a woman staying with her. Quiggly the dog got sick after father clipped her. Family fishing and hunting: mother an excellent shot, which made father proud.
- 09 4 Pleasures of outdoor life in summer. Collins store served homesteaders. Women's swimming suits. Dating the Victorian Era – Victorian fashions. Fishing streams with father.
- 19 6 Mother raised on a farm near Swan, Indiana. One of Mother's hips was enlarged from work. Mother's dresses. Father was an orphan raised by a minister. Dancing and card playing were taboo; dates had to leave at ten. Two girls were not allowed to play at the Methodist service because they'd been to a university dance the night before; dislike of violin music. Bernadine's desire as a child to get under the saloon doors. Father had one drink with his hunting friends on New Year's Day. Adairs made a batch of dandelion wine during prohibition; the sleuthing of Frank C. Moore, county attorney. (continued)

Side B

- 00 12 On Decoration Day they buried the wine under the bushes, then cached it in the cellar. Father made the wine because he was afraid they wouldn't be able to get any if they needed it.
- 07 15 Bernadine resigned from the Methodist Church because of the damnation they preached at revivals, and Father let her, despite his dream that she wouldn't go to heaven. A boy who swore at his father for omitting the grace before meal. Emotionalism of revivals. Bernadine's arguments with the Sunday school teacher; she was independent. The parents convinced her by letting her make her own decision.
- 13 18 Homesteading community east of Clarkia. Father knew the locator. She taught two terms at Collins to pay costs on her claim, living with Abe Frei family. Locating of homestead cabins. Strength of Griffin, the drayman. Living in the winter – a homesteader on snowshoes. A homesteader who took advantage of others; a trick on her. (continued)

Ione Adair

	minute	page	
Side C			
	00	26	Scaring a homesteader with a cougar sound. Naming of Adair Creek. Distance between homesteads restricted community life. Chicken for Easter dinner. Myrtle's birthday party on the cabin roof, with pepper in the boys' fudge; the boys' will on cigarette paper. Carter helped them through the winter as a hired hand. How she started cooking for the fire crews. She returned to the homestead after the fire because the land wasn't burned; she was there three successive summers. How Bernadine was entertained on Ione's homestead. Beaus visited the girls on the Collins homestead.
	27	37	Loss of their homesteads after testifying at Wallace, because the government took the word of its investigator, who said people couldn't live on those places.
Side D			
	00	38	Her later meeting with Ashley T. Roach, who confessed he was wrong as a government inspector to speak against her homestead. The homesteaders lived up to the law. The homesteaders planned to sell to the lumber company. Price for timber. Father's purchase of McConnell Mansion.
	10	42	Run-in with Frank Robinson in Bolles' drugstore.
	14	44	To wear divided skirts for riding stride-saddle was most unusual. Getting across boggy meadows in spring. Quilt pieces from the conductor at Avery.
	19	46	Father broke his muffler touring with his Pike's Peak car. His love of the Pike's motor. How he was converted to a closed car. Bernadine's idea to have the horn inside the car.
	28	50	Hardiness of deadly nightshade which grew at the Mansion.

with Sam Schrager

September 2, 1976

I O: ... ^{took up} a homestead between Bovill and Collins, just about half-way
 between Bovill and Collins. And we started ^{out} going out on the homestead when
 we were in high school. That was always our summer trip. They took us out
 to the homestead and settled us up, and there we were for the rest of the
 summer. It was a very nice trip. We ^{always} had plenty of company around us. I
 always looked forward to the trip. My two little sisters, Bernadine and
 Marjorie, Marjorie was right around three years old. Bernadine was just
 a little older than that. Mother ^{ad} would dress them in what we'd say our
 pantsuits nowadays. That's the only way you can say it. I stopped to think
 "What would happen if some of the old church goers that went to the
 Methodist church and to the Presbyterian church and the Episcopalian
 church would step out on their front steps some morning and see these
 congregations coming down dressed up in pantsuits." Would that be a surprise
 to them?

SAM: It would be, huh?

I A: ^{certainly} It would be a surprise to them. My father put us on saddles, stride-saddles,
 as soon as we were large enough to ride a horse. We always had our own
 horses. We wore divided skirts. ^{And those were, well, they were just divided skirts, that's all.}
^I we went out one time with a man
 by ^{McPeke} the name of ^{McPeke} from Clarkia run a pack train from Clarkia out
 into the Forty-Nine Meadow country and back into the Grand Mother country
 and all of that part of the country over in ^{towards} Avery and we stopped and
 had a meal at what was called White Rocks Springs. It was a very pretty
 little place. The white rocks I suppose were ^{not the} granite. It was ^{just} that white
 rock that was all through this section of the country. We had ^{that} one
 horse that had this idea that when it was given something to eat, ^{that} he
 could do exactly as he pleased. So the first thing he did was to start
 up-hill bucking the ^{McPeke} pack off just as hard as he could buck. And he bucked
 and he bucked. ^{McPeke} started after him, but he couldn't catch up with him.
 The horse was always ahead of him. He tried and finally he said, "I guess we're

going to have to use your skirts this time, gal." ^{so my} Father took the back part of my divided skirt, and McPe^{ke} took the front part of my divided skirt and and we walked the trail following the horse, ^{til} we caught up with the horse, and unloaded my "cargo" back onto the old horse again. This time, he wasn't given anything to eat ^{on} til he got through. Oh, they were mean things, those horses. We had one that we called... it was this old, what was the one that you wrote the story about (asking her sister)

BAC: Bob.

IAA: Bob! Bob was the story of an Indian pony. McPe^{ke} had bought him from the Indians ^{using him} just for a pack horse. The Indians had run a race with him just a short time before that and lost. And the Indian ^{was} so disgusted with ^{the} horse, that ^{he} bobbed his ears and bobbed his tail. Now, you know what that would mean to a pack horse. Bobbed his ears and bobbed his tail. ^{I was} Now, unfortunately, ^{the} the one that was chosen to ride the old pack horse, out to Clarkia the next day when we came out and it rained hard. And if you know how rain on a horse's ears could go when he had no ears, ^{to work.} you could just imagine how ^{the} the horse's ears would work with that rain, trying to keep it out of his ears. It was awful. ^{And his tail was bobbed} And his tail was bobbed right short to his body so he was an uncomfortable horse. But he did take me up the hill. They ^{absolutely} simply did not allow me to walk up the hill. So I had to stay on my horse, regardless of what happened. But Bob took me up.

SAM: Why would they bob the horse like that?

IAA: The Indians liked their horses. But when a horse betrayed them, when ^{he} he ^{was} betting on him with a bet ^{and} he didn't keep up his end of the line, he ^{got paid} for it. That was old Bob. He was a strawberry roan, and a beautiful animal. Just a beautiful animal. And sure-footed, fortunately for me that he was sure-footed, because it was raining that day and the ^N wooden trails just got very, very slippery.

SAM: Did you have much control over a horse when you were riding side-saddle?

I A: I didn't use side-saddles. We used stride-saddles. Dad said, "If you were going to ride horses, you're going to ride horses like men ride horses. You're not going to run any chances of any means." He said, "If you're going to ride horses with me and go with me to the places I go, you're going to ride stride-saddles." So we all had stride-saddles and we all ^{rode} divided skirts. ^{well, just} And the first people that saw us riding in town thought daddy was a little bit off to have his daughters riding around town on a stride-saddle. No one was riding stride-saddle. My mother, she had a horse in Kansas and she had a horse when she came west. But she rode side. She was used to the side-saddle and she rode ^{the} side-saddle. But mother had too many house duties to take care of on the homestead to do very much riding. We took some little side-trips around over the country, but she didn't ride the stride-saddle.

BAC: She was a good shot, though.

SAM: Your mother?

I A: Mother was a good shot. Daddy got her a ^{LITTLE} single barrel shot-gun and there used to be so many ^{of the} wild pheasant up in ^{around in} that section of the country. Just ⁱ the wild bird. And she could pop one ^{of those} of those birds off at any time. ^{We'd go out.} Always get a bird. Come in with a string of birds and fish. At that time, the fish were coming above Elk River. Elk River was the town that was put in after Mr. C. O. Trumbull's father took up the homestead up at Elk River as a homestead and took his family out ^{to} in that part of the country to live. And when he first went out there, there were no fish in the upper portion of the stream. See, there are two falls down below. Have you been down there, ^{below the} falls?

SAM: I've never seen the falls, just pictures of it.

I A: You have seen the pictures of ^{them} it. The upper falls is much ^{the} higher, and it has worn out as it goes down, worn out a very deep basin underneath where

the water hits it. And here about, oh, I imagine ten, twelve years ago, there were a couple of youngsters from Lewiston were up in that part of the country, and one of them decided ^{that} he was going bathing in that pool, not realizing there'd be an awful suction under there. He was drowned. They rescued the one boy, but the one boy was drowned in the pool. The lower falls ^{was} not as high and not as steep. We have pictures over at the house. (Here she points). My sister and Bernadine and Lou and I were seated at, were standing rather ^{on} the rocks of the lower falls. It's a very good picture of the falls. I have ^{that one} it somewhere around, I don't know where it is now. Somewhere around, I have a picture of the falls.

SAM: Do you remember Trumbull's family?

I A: Very well. C.O. Trumbull attended the university here and ^{Carrie} ~~Carrie~~ McConnell Bush, the governor's youngest daughter and ^{Louella} ~~C.O.~~ were quite chummy. And Mrs. Arnette had asked us ^{all} to go out to the cabin with her at ^{Breakfast} ~~the~~ Creek. Her father owned a bunch of meadows up in through there and run cattle on the ^{meadows} ~~meadows~~ in the summer. So she liked to go up and stay ^{on} the cabin, and she invited my sister and I to go up with her. ^{Louella} and Carrie Bush and ^{me and} we went up to spend the summer with Carrie, and when Mrs. Trumbull found out that we were in that part of the country, she said, "There's a Fourth of July coming along and I'd like to have the whole bunch come over and spend the weekend with me on the Fourth of July." So we went over and spent the weekend with Trumbulls', the Fourth of July, and Mr. Trumbull said, "We're going to give you a real treat." He said, "I sent back..." I think Pennsylvania, ^{was} his home state and ordered stocking for the Elk River for planting in the creek, and he said, "They came in this spring and I planted them, and no one has been allowed to fish in there until you girls." And he said, "I'll fix you up lines and poles and you can have your first fish." So we got fish enough for ^{the} family up there. ^{They were the} first fish from Elk River. He was determined to let us have all we

wanted.

BAC: They were trout, weren't they?

I A: Uh, huh. *Yes. C.D.* I think graduated from the university here, but I'm not positive of that, because ^{he had} an impediment of speech and stuttered quite badly, and went back East to some school for correction and when he came back then, he went back to university again here and I think, finished from here, but I'd have to have ^{one of the} old books to *...*. There were no daughters, there was just C.D. and his father and his mother, and there was an older person with them, but I don't know just who they were at that time.

SAM: Did people go to Trumbull's as a resort?

I A: They did in later years, ^{they did the} because Trumbulls' had quite large cabins built around and they used to go there a great deal for their, in the summertime. It was beautiful woods, and the fishing was wonderful. You could just catch anything you wanted and if you were hunting, you could have all the birds you wanted if you could get out and find them. We always had plenty of birds. ^{In fact,} I had a picture of Mr. Owings ^{with the} when he was coming in *...* hunting trip with our father and he has his birds hanging down like this with his gun and his birds down. I think he had sixteen or twenty birds on that one string. He always took my mother along when he went hunting because she was such a good shot. Bernadine wasn't a good shot, but she could tree the birds. ~~We~~ didn't tell you about that the other day, did we?

SAM: I don't think so.

I A: When I had this little cabin out on the Forty-Nine Meadow country and Bernadine was spending the summer with me and we started off down to the spring and it was the first time I started off without my revolver ^{around} my belt. Mr. Sedsy ^(?) that lived with us over here at the house, gave me a .38 special revolver and he said, "Now when you go out on the trail, no

matter where you go at all, you carry this gun strapped around your waist. And you always carry it with one empty cartridge." He said, "That way, if anything happens, if you're climbing over logs or anything like that, and anything does happen, and your gun goes out of the cartridge, you are protected with the one." So I always carried the one extra shot along with me. We started out to the ^{spring} that morning and I forgot to take my gun. We got about half-way to the ^{spring and up one of} these native pheasants... if you don't ^{know} our native pheasants here, you don't know how curious they are. ^{IF} They get up above and if anything disturbs them, they immediately hit for a high spot. And ^{then} they'll watch from this high spot for whatever is bothering them down below. And so, my sister says, "Well, you go back and get the gun and I'll tree the bird." And she watched the bird. And she stood there and made little noises. Just enough to keep him busy. She barked at him just enough ^{Noise} to keep him entertained while I went back to the cabin and got the gun. We had bird that evening for dinner, we liked the

bird. She treed the bird. We've always teased her about it.
OC: we were each successful. She got the bird and I treed it.

SAM: Were the Bovills there when you were out in that country?
first

I A: Oh, no. They came in much after that. The Bovills came in quite a bit afterward. Some of the old papers had an article, and I might have the article in the basement, but I haven't gone through ^{bunch of} that old stuff. I ^{was} ^{some of it to discard} ^{seen} trying to go through it and get it sorted out. Bovills came in when the two girls were ^{about} eight and ten years old. Dorothy and Gendolyn were about eight and ten years old. And Mr. Bovill took it up as a cattle range. He was from England and taking in this part of the country, he decided ^{that that} would make wonderful cattle range for summer time up there. So he brought ^t cattle down from Canada, and shipped them in and used them. And they had only been short time until so many people began to come in and build cabins around the town ^{that is} near the town, ^{and to help take care of it} they soon built up quite a trade for the homesteaders ⁱⁿ through that section of the country.

Mrs. Bovill was the superintendent, not the superintendent, but the trustee of the school district up there and Mr. Frei the man who^{where} I had my rooms at the hotel, was another trustee. And his brother-in-law, Mr. Wallen, ^{that} lived on Wallen's Meadow; you come to Wallen's Meadows before you come to our home-
stead, before you come to Collins. Clara Ransom Davis was the county superintendent in Latah County and when I finished high school, I wanted to teach. That was my idea, that'd it'd be a good idea^{for me} to go into teaching. And so, I went up and talked to her and she said, "Well, I can't, all I can give you is a permit." She said, "I can't give a regular teacher's certificate, ~~all~~ I can give ^{you} a permit until the next examination comes. Then you'll have to take the examination and if you make the examination, why then you can have your certificate." But she said, "I'll do that for you because you know all these people out there and I figure it would be perfectly all right if we would do it that way." So she gave me my first certificate. And I went out in the spring, soon as the water went down so ^{that we} could get through the roads up there decently. Mrs. Bovill sent word up to me that she was giving a party, a birthday party for her two children, and she'd like very much ^{to have} ~~for me~~ to come down. She said, "Dismiss your school and come down this afternoon, and spend the afternoon with us." Well, that sounded like a good idea to me, so I got on my horse and dismissed my school and started off down the road to Bovill. About half-way between Collins and Bovill, I met the county superintendent and the friend of hers coming out to visit my school. I dismissed my school. I had ^{eight} youngsters all scattered over hell's five acres out there. It was a mess. She said, "But I've driven all this day." She said, "It took me ^{two} ~~all~~ days to get here." She started out, she had a single horse and buggy, and the friend. And they stopped I think about, well ^{it's} right near where Deary would be now. It was the old Joe Wells place at that time. And they stopped at the old Joe Wells place and stayed all night and drove in the next day. Well then, she was expecting to

start back that evening and get caught up on her way home, so she wouldn't have to take the full day coming on home. So there was nothing ^{For me} to do but get ahold of one of my youngsters and corral the rest of them and we finally got them back into the school ^{enough} ~~in that~~ we could demonstrate that we could at least teach school. And, oh, I missed that party. Here I had three of the trustees of the school of all had permission for me to stop to dismiss the school and go on down to the party.

SAM: Do you think Mrs. Ransom was ^{out} put out to see you coming down to Bovill?

I A: I don't doubt that. I think she was thinking of all the time it took them to make it from Moscow to Deary, and to make it from Deary on in to that section of the country. I think she was very much digusted to think that any teacher would have ^e the audacity to dismiss her school and go off like that, ^{PARTY} to attend a birthday party. Of course there's the fact that it was one of the trustees of the school that was giving the party and had asked me to come down, and had give ⁿ me permission to come down. So I felt perfectly all right, as far as I was concerned, but she didn't like it.

SAM: When you went out and the family went out to the homestead did you ride horseback out there, or did you take a hack?

BAC: A ^{red} surrey with the fringe on top.

I A: He had a farm out here. Let's see if I can locate it for you. It's on the road to the airport when you go down past ^{place} the Hagedorn, and over across country to the airport. And my father's farm was right on the corner as you make ^{your} quick turn and start back west again towards the airport. So we always had horses and we had buggies. Being a doctor, he used single horses or ^{he used} a double team if he was going any distance at all. We always had horses. I can't remember when we didn't drive or ride. We'd both ride horseback and we'd drive horses.

SAM: Was it a two day trip for you to get there?

I A: We usually left here about four o'clock in the morning and that seems very

early. And the roads were very poor, so you took your time to it. ^{Our}

first stop was usually at what's called the Anderson bridge. Now whether that's the Anderson bridge still now...

SAM: I know where that is exactly. Not too far west of Deary.

I A: No. ^{And} we'd stop there and feed the horses and take care of the team, and then pack up again after we'd had our lunch and fed the horses and usually we'd make it on ⁱⁿ the next day to Collins. We'd make it later in the evening to Collins. We always made it in time, but once we had a big surprise ^{and went out} there. My father had given Frank Wallen, had this homestead and farm down on what was called the Wallen Meadows, just up...

(End of Side A)

I A: ...west of the, yes you're still going west when you go to Wallen Meadows.

And then you turn, go to the northern direction for Collins and the Collins country. I have ^{it} in my own mind, but it's very hard for me to tell you unless you have these old places as we remember them. At any rate, Frank was going out one spring, and dad said to him, "Frank, I want you to take a sack of potatoes ^{out} and put in the cabin for me for my family when they come out. Just put it inside the cabin, I think it will be all right." And Frank said ^{why yes,} he'd take it ^{AND PUT IT} out there ^{AND HAVE IT IN} the cabin. So he took the potatoes, and put them in the cabin and when we went out, we began to look around for potatoes. Only, we didn't see anything that looked like potatoes. We didn't know what to think about it. And all of a sudden we noticed little bumps along the cracks in the walls, you know how these cabins are chinked the you remember how ^{the} cabins are chinked in. Dad had made mother's especially attractive because she didn't like to be out there anyway. So he had the lining put in it, house lining. The whole cabin was lined with this house lining that made it much lighter. Then we could decorate it as we pleased, fix it up. Anyway, we had the cabin lined. One of us happened to discover that there was bumps in the lining along the wall. We began

investigating and we found that the packrats had packed all the potatoes that we had, and carried them in and put them along the chinks in the cabin. We got most of our potatoes back and they were still usable, but we had to steal them back from the packrats.

SAM: What's house lining? Oh, it's like a cheesecloth.

I A: It's heavier than what they call cheesecloth now. Cheesecloth was quite a bit thinner than this house lining. The house lining was unbleached muslin type of material. You could just tack it on and take it in in strips, I imagine right close to a yard wide. You'd tack it down. We did a good job of that when we ^{left} to fix it in the winter. We had to fix it all up for the mice, for the rats. They had a good time on that.

SAM: You said your mother wasn't so excited about being out there.

I A: If she could help by living out there... if she could assist in anyway getting his homestead right, applied on that, she was willing to take the children ^{out there} and live ^{out there} during the summer months. She didn't enjoy it. She did the very best she could, kept us out there, took care of us so ^{that} we always had plenty to eat.

BAC: Plenty ^{of} company.

I A: And we were comfortable. The cabin had an upstairs, it had a loft that was high enough that when you were in the cabin ^{that} you could stand without bumping into the ceiling. We had two beds upstairs, and mother and we always had some company for mother, some friend of hers that would be with her during the summertime ^{out there}. She would stay with mother in the upstairs apartment, in the loft. We had two or three beds upstairs. And then, as the family increased and more friends came in, dad had a barn built ^{just} across the road from the cabin. He had this barn built in through there and had this meadowgrass, beargrass, do you know beargrass? You know how good a mattress a beargrass mattress is. We'd make beargrass mattresses, ^{getting it} down on the meadow and down around the edge of the

mountain and make mattresses, and ^{sew} up gunny sacks and make ^a good, big mattress ^{out of that}.

BAC: And pine boughs.

I A: Oh, yes. Pine boughs to put underneath it to make it springy.

BAC: Would you like to rest a little? Have a cup of tea? (To I A)

I A: Me? I'm not...

SAM: We could maybe later.

BAC: You wanted to hear something about the 1910 fire, didn't you?

SAM: Yes.

I A: I have to go back so far. In 1910, the fires were all through, you'll find in the papers, all the papers are referring back to the year of the fire of 1910, all through this section of the country. Long in August, you'll find ^{most of} articles in ^{the papers referring} ^{you back to these}. Mrs. Durham had a homestead and I had a homestead ^{about} ^{two and a half} miles the other side of her place and Mrs. Taylor wanted me to come over and spend ^a week with her. We used to change around so's to get company to different homesteaders around here. So I went over to stay with Mrs. Taylor. During the daytime, it was quite cloudy, hazy. Of course, we'd never been in the woods and never had been near the fire, had no idea, really, what to expect in that section of the country and we didn't know the reports they were getting from out here that there ^{was} no trails going in that were open, that you could get into where these homesteaders were, or anything like that. My father got quite excited, and he went as far as Clarkia and tried to get someone from Clarkia to take him out to the homestead to see if we were all right on the homestead. They wouldn't allow him to go on in, the rangers and that wouldn't allow him to go on in. So, he said he'd just have to wait til he got word from there. I got up one morning, and it was quite hazy. Usually in the morning it would clear off a little while, and then that haze would drop in again. So that began to worry us about that

time. I got up one morning and saw a deer^{out} across the edge of the meadow, and why I ever thought I wanted to get a deer is more than I ~~can~~ know. At any rate, I fired at the deer, but my aim was anything but good, and old Betsy wouldn't help me out on that, ~~either~~, when my arm wouldn't get the direction. ^{And Mr.} deer went running off the other way. I didn't have a deer. Shortly after that, Mrs. Taylor got up. She said, "I don't like this haze. I think we ^{ought to} go back over to the other homesteaders and see what they think about this hazy condition that we're having." Well before we got things pack^{ed} around and in the cabin to go, there was a knock at the front door of the cabin and Mrs. Taylor threw a robe around her and went to the door and here was the ^{head ranger,} forest ranger for that section of the country, and he wanted to know if there ^{was} any trails going any further east than where we were. We said the only trail ^{of is} we know one that ^{goes about a} mile and a half ^{east,} Mrs. Taylor's cabin. We had been worrying about this hazy condition and it'd gone over where the cabins ^{were} clear and out from under the timber more and had gone over to stay at what was the Kit Cawkins(?) cabin. We decided to stay over there till we ^{could make} up our minds to go back over to the other homesteaders or not. There they were, the ranger and everything. And he said, "We have a crew of fourteen men ^{out} here and they haven't had breakfast yet." He said if we go over to ^{your, to} Mrs. Taylor's cabin and get a fire started ^{will you} get something ^{for these men to eat while we} pack on in to the fire. So we said we would and they said they'd take anything that we needed from there and I suppose they had a cook ^{along} with the camp, but they lost him along the way and they thought he'd catch up in a day or so. If we'd just take over, ^{that} they ^{would} see it was taken care of, that the government paid for it. So we went over with them. And that was our first experience with the fire is going with the packhorses and going with these men and packing across the river and getting a campfire set up, and cooking potatoes for fourteen men. Do you have any idea how many potatoes men eat?

BAC: You made the bread, too.

I A: They eat an awful lot of potatoes. We had, they give me a bucket, and I'd take it down to the creek and scrub these potatoes and bring them ^{up and hang them} over the hooks on the fireplace and boil the potatoes. And sometimes there'd be boiled potatoes with bacon and gravy or anything that you could get. Can of tomatoes was awfully good out that way. The men liked tomatoes very much. Especially if you can get bannock. Do you know what a bannock is?

SAM: I don't think so.

I A: A ^{bannock} is these old timers and the old campers always had their flour sack, so that when you opened it up inside of this would be a soft mass of dough. They would use the sourdough for starting it and then they'd put it into this flour and then mix it up and that would be ^{the} raising for your bannock or your bread, or whatever you used. Sometimes you could fry it ^{FLAT} in a big frypan and brown it on both sides, cook it til it was thoroughly heated and done through. Then you could use it with gravy or ^{WITH} tomatoes or use it with tomatoes and anything else ^{that} you could think of that you could get someone to eat, never hungry. If they were hungry.

SAM: Did this crew make this cabin their headquarters for fighting the fire?

I A: No.

SAM: It was just on their way through. [?]

I A: We went from our place to Mrs. Taylor's place, that was her cabin. When they said they had to break trail and go on about three miles farther that they thought that they were detecting the begining of the fire there and they wanted to know if we would go over with them if they gave us transportation and all. ^{So} We went with them and we slept that night, well, hardly that, because they tied their horses, they put a log across and tied ^{the} horses to these logs, ^{that is,} ^{across} these rails between the trees and then they fixed us a bed this side of the horses. If you've ever slept in a barn, you know how restless horses are and you didn't get very much rest. Well then the next time, they took us about three miles farther than that. This time we had to cross the main Little North Fork of the Clearwater up there. So this

time they had took in a tent for the ladies and put up a tent for the ladies. They put it on the,,, which would it be... it would be on the right side of the creek. They had gone out that afternoon and brought in sixty short-termers from Missoula, Montana and brought those in for firefighters. So they decided that they would leave us on the other side of the creek and they put the prisoners over on the other side. We did that.

BAC: You had fourteen and sixty to cook for then. Two people.

I A: We had, ^{we} stayed across the street, across the river, for two days. And then the ranger decided ^{that} he'd move us across on the other side, the same side as the prisoners, ^{this side but} that he would leave someone at the prisoners camp all the time. But we told him we didn't want to stay on that side of the camp with the prisoners. He said that would be all right then, he'd try and get someone. Well ^{they} brought in two young people, one by the name of Collins. Eustas Collins was one. They were two English boys that'd just landed in Spokane and saw a sign on the window 'Firefighters wanted. Register here'. So they went in and registered. And they came out to the camp then. When they registered they brought them out to our camp. So ^{we} asked Mr. ^{Roche} if there would be any objections ^{to} having these two little Englishmen stay in the camp with us. Leave two off of the firefighting camp and stay with us. He said no, ^{that} he didn't. He wanted to know if there was any reason why and we told him yes, there'd been one or two of these Negroes that had been sliding back into camp after they'd been gone for maybe an hour or so and came back into camp and just hung around camp. And we didn't like the idea, and we wanted to know if they wouldn't leave us a couple of guards I ^{suppose} you'd call it, companions anyway, and stay there and ^{he said} they'd be all right, if we could have those two boys. So we took the two boys. They both had very good voices, singers. We enjoyed them very much.

BAC: Tell him about those tomatoe cans.

I A: This one Negro that was, as I said, came sliding back into camp every once

in a while. One day he came over to the camp, where Mrs. Taylor was standing and I was near the table with her and he said "Miss Adair, do you carry that thing around your waist all the time?" I said, "Yes I do. It's with me day and night. I always wear it." "Can you shoot that thing?" And I said, "Well, I think I can." I said, "You want to put a sign up there?" And he said he would and I said all right. "You take that tomato can, ^{there} with the big red tomato on the side of it, and you put ^{IT} out on the end of the table, and I'll see if I can hit it." So I got Betsy all ready and I said to Betsy, "Good Lord, if you ever helped me, help me know." I said, "I want to hit that tomato." And I shot and hit ^{the} tomato on that can. And he looked at me and he said, "You can use that thing." And I said, "Yes I can use that thing." I said good-bye and that was the last time he ^{ever} came into camp, never came back into camp after that. So I proved that I could use a gun if I had to.

SAM: Were many of those prisoners Negroes?

I A: Yes, a good many of them. They came in from Missoula, Montana. They were short-time prisoners ^{from} the camp ^{coming in from Missoula.} The majority of them were Negroes of the camp that they brought in. That's why we were just a little bit leery, we always asked one of the men to leave these two men with us because if we were going to stay there, we ^{felt that} we should have the protection. Mr. ^{Roche} found what these Negroes had been doing and sliding back into camp and just lazing around instead of fighting fire, he decided that something would have to be done about it, too. So he did.

SAM: What were the work conditions like for you?

I. A: After we got these two men ^{in there} to help us, then they kept us supplied with wood and all the fuel for the campfires and for the, you had to cook over the big fires, there was no other way. You cooked ⁱⁿ a bucket or a kettle or some container large enough to ^{take care of} a mess of potatoes or vegetables of different kinds that would take care of that many men.

BAC: Didn't you have to make lunches for them at noon?

I A: We had to fix ^{IT WASN'T A} big lunch, Bernadine. It was a pancake. It was a sourdough hotcake, you fried them in the morning and gave them to the men with bacon or ham or a slice of meat, and that's about all you can give the men that they could take out for ^a lunch. And then we'd have dinner ready for them when they got back in in the evenings. We got paid for forty-one days and some extra. ^{I've} I forgotten what the little extra was for. The government paid us that for cooking for those men for a month.

BAC: How much were you paid?

I A: Forty-one dollars and some cents, that's what Uncle Sam said he owed us when we got through.

SAM: Did you find that to be exciting or just a lot of hard work?

I A: No, it was excitement. A great deal of excitement because ^{you} never knew when you got up in the morning whether the wind was bringing the fire your way or taking it some other way. And you always had guards out. And in case the wind changed, they'd come back into camp and notify us, and we'd have to cross the river and go on the other side and stay until the wind had changed ^{IT'S POSITION} so they felt that we could go back to the other side of the camp, where we had been before. It was exciting, very exciting. You never knew whether you were going to be in your own bed that night or whether you were going to be on a ^{grass} bed across on the other side.

SAM: Did you have changes of clothing or did you have to stay in the same clothes for days and days?

I A: We had to wear the same clothes for days and days. We, I usually used my riding skirts and when they'd get to ^Q dirty and smoky and greasy, I'd try to rinse them out down at the stream and get them dried out and press them out as much as you can with your hands while they ^{re} still wet. Under-clothing you did very well if you ^{could} keep your underclothing clean. You certainly did need it when you're out like that.

BAC: Well, once the fire was close enough to you, that when you came home, your eyebrows were singed and your hair was singed. ^{she was carrying a little knapsack. Father and mother had no news.} Many people were burned to death.

SAM: You mean that all that time, your father and mother didn't know what had happened?

BAC: Yes, there were lots of people being burned to death.

I A: They didn't know exactly where we were or what had happened.

BAC: Nor did you.

I A: Nor what to do. They were keeping these rangers out in these distant ^{points}, they tried to keep the people out in this part of the country notified as nearly as possible. But when you, you can't tell when it... We stopped in, a man by the name of Flowers had a homestead ^{quite} next to Mrs. Durham's. He was coming out to town to bring an uncle of his from Iowa, an old gentleman that had spent the summer with him out there, and he wanted to take him back and put him on the train to Iowa.....

(End of side B)

I A: ... when Mr. Flowers went down to take his uncle, that we would go down to Avery and see what information we could get, or if we would be able to get ^{any} information out to our parents from there. So ^{we} walked, and it was twenty-eight miles from Mr. Flowers' homestead into Avery. We walked this twenty-eight miles and we got down to the bridge at Avery, which crosses the St. Joe River, and just as we were starting across the bridge here, Mr. Flower~~s~~ was stopped by, well, I suppose it was an official, officially stopped because he was in uniform and he said, "You can't go into Avery." And he spoke up ^{he} and ^{he} said, "Well, we can't go back where we come from." And ^{he} said what are we going to do? Said he wasn't sure about that. ^{He} said, "Well, we'll go over here and see what information we can get, what we can do for you."
So we went across with them. There was a big smiley man came up and he said

"Where are you in from?" And I said, "We're in from the Forty-Nine Meadow country." ^{"dah"} He said, "I know you. My mother's ^{For} been sending pieces, making quilts to you all winter long and she said ^{will drop it} off ^{there} at Avery and you get it, you make quilt pieces out of it." And I said yes, that's what we've been doing. I said we'd been getting quilt pieces and I said you must be Ben L. Baird. And he said, "I am." He said, ^{"A"} All right, I think we can do you pretty well. He said, "We'll put you on top of this caboose here, on the back of the train and the caboose at the end of the train and ^{he said,} we'll put you on the back of this caboose." And he said, ^{think} "From the looks of you, I think you'd like ^{will} a bowl of hot water and some soap." We said we sure would.

So he put us on the top of these caboose things and we crawled up on there and he said, ^{there's} "Now ⁱⁿ there's nobody coming through here but me. You don't need to worry. You just go right ahead." So we got a good bath, a good sponge bath and ^{good} clean clothes on that night. He said the next day we're going to go down towards Tekoah and he said there's one bridge out down below here, and by the time we get to this bridge, they may have it built across so ^{that} you can get across. ^Q otherwise, we'll just have to take you across the best way we can. He said we'll put you on the train that goes into Tekoah ^{from there.} After we'd had our bath ^{and} he took us down to another place where the railroad men all ate and they gave us a good meal and he told us ^{that} we could stay on the caboose ⁱⁿ that night, Mr. Flowers would stay and his uncle would stay on the caboose with us, so that we would feel more comfortable. He said, ["] You'll stay all night and tomorrow morning we'll try and make it across this bridge down into Tekoah. So the next morning we got up and after hotcakes with the railroaders, we went on down and ^{walked} walked across what was left of this old bridge. Some of the timbers were still there that you could step from one to the other and make it across. At any rate, we made it across and got on the train that took us down to Tekoah. We got into Tekoah and ^{we} we asked about what time the men started, what time the railroad started for

Moscow. He said, "Well, sorry, but you just ^{watched} the train starting ^{to} Moscow start ^{to} Moscow." He said, "You missed it." I said nobody told us that we had to be on the lookout for that. He said that unless someone had ^{knew} that you were coming, that I couldn't have made that. But at any rate, ^{we} went in ^{to} talk to the man at the depot there. And he said, "Aren't you the two girls from Moscow?" We said yes. He said, "Well you don't need any money, ^{all you have do do is} to get on, the train ^{will} take you down there. You don't need any money. ^{We'll vouch for you.}

^{So} we made it on to Moscow then. We came up Third street here, walking up with hobnail boots on, ^{how} they did rattle on those sidewalks when you ^{id} come up. We made it ^{up} home. Myrtle was very much worried about ^{her} mother because ^{her} mother was still back out at the cabin. So Myrtle stayed with me then until ^{her} mother got ^{down} into this part of the country. They finally got everyone all sorted out and put in.

BAC: Did you tell him that Avery was under marshall law and they had ^{to} switch ^{up} ^{Because the fire would keep chasing you?} up and down the tracks during the night? ^{They} swithced the train up and down between fires?

I A: It was under marshall law. They'd taken all the women and children out of Avery at that time, that was a division point. They took all the women and children off and ^{just} left a few men there as guards. So that's the reason that Ben L. Baird was very particular where he put us. He gave us a choice seat in the caboose. It was exciting, not knowing where you were going nor what you were going to do. When we left the Meadows that morning to walk down to Avery the only thing we had to put our clothing in was a little salt sack. Like you used to get little sacks of salt. So I put a brush and a comb and pair of clean stockings and a handkerchief and a bandana in my sack, and ^{Myr} Myrtle fixed hers up equally good. So we had clean ^{clothes,} stockings to put on that evening, ^{and all} when we did get a chance to get cleaned up. It sure felt good after

walking the twenty-eight miles on those dusty trails.

SAM: You must have felt like a different person when you got to Moscow with all the things that you had seen and done?

BAC: So did the family.

SAM: The family did too? What do you mean?

BAC: We were rejoicing because we had had no news and just every paper had an account how men were burned to death.

SAM: Would your father stay in Moscow during the summer with his practice while the family was out at the homestead?

I A: He came out every weekend or tried to come out every weekend and spend... He'd drive out Saturday afternoons and come back Sunday morning or early Monday morning. He'd usually spend a couple of days out there with us so that mother had company and she could enjoy dad's company and would go hunting with him and all. He liked it very much. That's where we had the bear I told you the other day, that the bear got away. Was I telling you about the bear?

SAM: You told me about the bear in Moscow. Is that when he got away?

I A: Dad had him out in the back yard over at the big place, ^{had him} anchored out there to a tree. He got away somehow and dad came home at noon to feed the bear, and found him on the top of mother's dining room table, looking at a glass that went ^{on} the top of the table. My father yelled at him. "Burt, get off of that." And ^{but he} Burt got ^{but he} slid across the top of the table. It did leave nasty spots. The thing started off when he went up the stairs, the big stairway over there and he went up the stairs and dad after him, trying to catch him. And the bear could go up the stairs faster than dad could. He...

(interruption by outsiders)

...Said he could go fast either way. But at any rate, he got him down and got him tied up again. The next day, he came back, and here was the bear loose again. This time he got loose and went to that maple tree ^{which is} just

south of the bay windows out here on the front ^{parlor}, what we called
 the front parlor. He went out there and the bear had decided to
 climb that tree. He got up the tree all right, but then he got
 caught ^{up in the top,} got his chain caught around the little limbs ^{and things,} and he couldn't
 get loose and dad couldn't get up to get him. So dad says, "There's ^{that}
 only one way I know to get a bear out of a tree, that's to call the
 Fire Department." So he called the Fire Department and told them he
 had a bear up a tree up there, wanted to know if they had any good
 climbers that could come and get him. And before long, the whole
 caboodle of firemen were up and they made a big todo about getting
 this bear out of the tree, and so forth. They had pictures of the big
 bear at the time, but I don't know after all these years ^{I don't know} whether I
 can ^{still} find them or not.

SAM: Where did the bear come from?

I A: Mr. Birch, a friend of dad's, was a hunter and he was hunting out on
 Moscow Mountain ^{out here} and he found the den with the mother bear and the
 little bear in it. The bear was small enough, that when he put it in
 his coat pocket, he had a big overcoat pocket, he just ^{tucked} it ~~down~~
 down in ^{that} overcoat pocket and he brought the mother and the bear
 both down together. ^{He put} The bear, as I understood it, went to a butcher's
 shop. The little bear came to my father because they thought dad
 would like to have that little bear. So dad liked to have the little
 bear, but as the bear grew older, he began to show vicious streaks ^{that}
 and we were afraid ^{that} he might attack my sister, little one played
 with him so much. Dad was afraid he might injure her in some way,
 so he wanted to get rid of him and Pete Griffith was the head of
 the athletic department in Moscow ^{up here} at the university and he wrote
 back to John ~~Middleton~~ who took his place at the university when Mr.
 Griffith went east, and told him ^{that} he'd like to get a bear for the
 mascot for ^{the} Iowa University. Dad said, "I have a bear he can have."

So Middleton and some friends of his packed the bear and put him in a cage till they could ship him and they shipped him back to the University of Iowa. And they had him there for three or four years and they said ^{that} he finally began to show the real bear traits, ⁱⁿ still wrestling with these athletes. He decided ^{that} he was still a bear. ^{they} finally got to the age where they said they had to get rid of him. So they had him ^{just} stuffed and he's in the museum at ^{the} Iowa University. To the best of our knowledge, that was the report that came out, *from there, anyway.*

SAM: Wasn't there a time you had a visitor from Spokane who had a run-in with the bear?

I A: Yes, I did. I was telling you that the other day, I think ^{when you were in.} My sister's beau came down ^{to visit one day} from Spokane. And he liked the bear and ^{he} was having a pretty good tussle with ^{the bear}, not knowing what to expect and the first thing he knew, he'd slipped with his pant leg from one end down to the other, ^{just} slipped it clear down. Well, my father was a much larger man than O.E. Dad hustled around until he found a pair of trousers he thought he could keep him in until we could get him down to the, (Mr. Yangle's?), and see if he couldn't get the trousers patched, so that he could go home that night. That's what they did. I mention Mr. Yangle, Mr. ^{Chet} Yangle was the, ^{son} of Mr. Yangle, the tailor here, and he was the one that fixed the trousers for O.E. so that he could get back up to Spokane on it. That was ^{Chet} Yangle's father.

SAM: Did you girls play with that bear regularly?

BAC: He was quite playful and he loved water. We had the hydrants that came up in the yard, you know. He'd stand there and he'd spray himself and if you went to turn off the water, he'd put his paw in. *Just drench you.*

I A: He knew exactly how to do it, too.

BAC: What are some questions you wanted to ask her?

SAM: One thing I was going to have you tell me about was how your father came to buy the mansion.

I A: My father was in the bank, went down to the First National Bank and he was well acquainted with the cashier at the First National Bank. The cashier said to him, "Doctor, how'd you like to have a big house?" And dad said, "I'd like to have a big house." He said, "My wife's been wanting one. The ^{little} cottage we're ~~in~~ in is ^{much} too small for the family." We were living up on Third street at that time. And he said, "I would like to have a larger one." But he said, "I can't afford to make a change." And there was a man standing right near him and he said, "Doctor don't you have a homestead up near Bovill?" And dad said, "Yes, I took up a homestead when ^{this} Homestead Act went through." He said, "We've been spending our summers out there ^{at least} every summer since then." And Mr. Pearson says, "I'm Mr. Pearson from the Madison Lumber Company." That was the beginning of the Potlatch ^{lumber} Company in this part of the country. It came out here as the Madison Lumber Company first. Then they ^{started and} opened up the big mill at Potlatch and bought up all that timber up in through there ^{for} the Potlatch Lumber Company. Mr. Pearson said, "I'll go out and look at your place. If it's anything I think we can use, would you like to sell it?" My father said, "Yes, I would." He said, "I'll buy it for you on one condition. If you get a larger house, would you let me have a room? I'm so tired of living in hotels. I'd just like to have a room in a home." Dad said, "I think my mother can take care of that all right." She had plenty of room up there. So that's the way it was. Mr. Pearson gave dad the offer for the property and dad took up the offer with Madison Lumber Company which paid for the timber on the claim and they had it... One of the requisites was ^{that} as long as my father or the family wished to spend the summers on the homestead, ^{that} they had the privilege of living

on the homestead for [redacted] the summer using it for a recreation home. So that's why we kept it after it was ^{proved upon and after it was} sold and we still had the property.

SAM: And Mr. Pearson came to live...

I A: We always went out and spent our summers there.

BAC: That's the way daddy bought the house.

I A: That's the way ^{dad} got the big house, because Mr. Pearson said he was tired of living in hotels and he wanted to get out of hotels. If he would buy the property ^{would dad be able to take care of this property} and make the exchange, and dad said, "Yes, I can do it that way." So they did. We have the picture of the banker down here, W.L. Paine and his wife and his two children. They spent a week with us out there on the homestead.

BAC: Mrs. McConnell stayed out there one summer too. ^{That's the way they got her picture.}

SAM: Stayed out with your mother?

BAC: Uh huh. ^{WAS her guest} And Mrs. McConnell, when they were getting things ready for the museum... Tell Sam how you happen to have Mrs. McConnell's picture. Mrs. McConnell was camera shy, ^{not one of her family had a picture of her.} and we had this little Kodak picture that we took out at the homestead. She was very dressy. Even out ^{there} in the woods she wore (Unintelligible) around her neck. I think I have a picture of her. There was this picture of ^{Mrs.} McConnell and my mother and my little sister. So we took that at Mr. Ott's. He thought Mrs. McConnell's picture made a very nice picture.

I A: He used the little picture.

BAC: It was tiny.

I A: Isn't that queer? None of the McConnells had a picture of their mother. None of them had a picture of their mother that they could use. They were trying to get a picture of all the ladies, the governors' wives back in the older generation, going back, and they were trying to get them and they came around and asked if I didn't have one, "Don't you have anything?"

And I finally happened to think of this old album that I had, just a little Kodak album ^{just} to paste your ^{pictures} in and this one had shown Marjorie as a small youngster and mother standing beside Mrs. McConnell and Mrs. McConnell standing between the two. It was a very fine picture of her. So we got the picture of Mrs. McConnell.

SAM: What kind of a person was Mrs. McConnell?

I A: She was a timid, a shy person. She just didn't like political life. And when Mr. McConnell went down as the governor, she didn't want to go. She had her home here and she wanted to stay in Moscow. She had her friends here. She didn't want to go to Boise. And she was not politically minded. But she was a shy woman, just timid. And none of the children ever were.

SAM: Which of the daughters went down and acted as hostess for him when he was governor?

I A: She went down. Mamie went down and worked as a hostess for Mr. McConnell when he was in Boise. And she did the honors there and Mrs. McConnell took care of the home here.

BAC: She met Senator Borah there. That's where they were married.

I A: Course, she met Senator Borah ^{was} while she was working for her father in Boise. He had two sons. Young Ben and he was ^{they were the} peculiar ^{youngsters}. Young Ben went back east and whenever ^{Ben} Ben went anywhere, young Bill went with him. Ben was a large man and a fine looking man. And Ben and Will was a small man. And just, well, you'd never take them for brothers at all. Ben wanted to ^{go} back to a medical school and so they put him in a school back east ^{in a medical school} and he graduated from ^{a large} school there, I think it was Rush, but I'm not sure. At any rate, Ben graduated. And when Bill came west, after having been back with his brother in the east, he decided ^{that} _^ he was going into mining instead of becoming a doctor. So he went in and investigated the mines and did all he could to try and make up his mind one way or the other. And then the older one, when he came west decided to

I A: get up and make it into the saddle, but he couldn't make it, so what he did was to turn the horse loose and let the horse go back, if he would make its own way back. So he did, and Ben lay out there for two days. I think it was over two days in that drizzling rain. And as a result of that...

come to Montana and join the ...what was it...

BAC: He never practiced medicine.

I A: Well he decided when he came west he started west, and he came as far as Montana and ^{decided} he liked the woods, ^{and all better} than he ^{did} the idea of being a doctor. So he went into the forestry work. Ben was on a horse... let's see if I can get it straight, Ben was on a horse and started off on some side ^{of} trips of some kind, and the horse slipped and fell and threw Ben and caught his leg under the horse so that he wasn't able to get ^{out of} to help himself and he tried to... see insert

(End of side C)

SAM: ...tuberculosis.

I A: ^{Yes, he took} Tuberculosis. And he was... at that time they were living just back of the Methodist church. There is ^{an addition} of the Methodist church. It's been built on since then, just back of it. Between ^{that} and what was the parsonage. Between those two places. A man by the name of ^{Griffen} an attorney here in Moscow and a couple of sisters that wanted to come west and live with him that year. So he built this house just back of the Methodist church and the two sisters came and lived with him. And when they went back east then, he rented the house, and the McConnell's were the first people to live in the house. Then they moved the house up on the corner of Polk and Jackson? No. VanBuren. It's the next ^{street} up. VanBuren. And they moved the house ^{up} on the top of the hill ^{farther}, and McConnell's still lived in that when Mr. Bush and Mrs. Bush were married. And they moved ^{then} up on the Burns place, up on B street.

SAM: What happened to Ben?

I A: He died. You mean Ben the brother?

SAM: Yes.

I A: Ben the brother died. And as far as I know, Will the brother was dead, but

no one seems to be very...

BAC: He just took off.

I A: He was just one of these people that did as he pleased, that was all. If he wanted to work in the mines, he ^{wanted to} work in the mines. He was in the a fire at some hotel in, it was either Wallace or Kellogg ^{at} one time he was quite badly injured. He limped quite a bit from the injuries in this, from this mine. But we never saw him only ^{just} once in a while he'd appear home. Come in and see the family and then off again.

BAC: They never knew where he was.

I A: When they lived down here, back of the Methodist church, it was just before Ben died that Will came home and he said he ^{just} decided he wanted to come home and see what the family ^{were} doing. And very soon after that, Ben was dead. And then they always felt badly about that because it seemed like every time Bill would come home, there was always some tragedy afterwards. Once, later, when his father ^{when they} lived up on VanBuren and Third street in that house up there, and that's before his father died. Just before his father died, Bill appeared on ^{the} scene one evening, just decided to come home and see what the family was doing. It was a ^{only} short time after that that his father was dead. He just wanted to see his father, ^{wanted} see how he was. Bill was a queery. He just had different ideas of life.

BAC: Would you like a cup of tea?

SAM: Sure.

BAC: I thought you would like a cup of tea, but I've let the teakettle burn dry.

SAM: Do you remember Governor McConnell very clearly? I'm wondering what kind of a fellow he was.

I A: He was a straight politician. He was a politician from one inch to the other. That was his business and he was. He was a jolly, a jovial man. I think you've seen his pictures. ^{lots of those} As I say, Mrs. McConnell was a timid

little woman. She didn't like to, politics. She didn't like the life.
The politician's life.

SAM: But the daughters were all together different. They took after the governor, would you say?

I A: Well Olive took after her father. She was inclined to be short and chubby, and took more after her father. Mamie was Mrs. Borah, and she took after her mother. She was more timid, not as timid as her mother and she felt that she could take care of things for her father down there as well as her mother could. And that she would be able to do it. And she was. And she took over very well. Every ^{body} was very fond of Mrs. Borah when she was in Boise. And Olive was a little short and chunky and Carrie, or Caroline as we always called her, was short, I think she was only about five-two ^{n't} five-two and a half. And quite thin. She did have very good health. She had... I can't think only of St. Vitus dance and that isn't it.

SAM: Not epilepsy?

I A: No. It was a nervous affliction and ^{body} was quite nervous. But it wasn't epilepsy or anything like that.

BAC: She had poor health but was always up.

SAM: I don't want to stay too long.

BAC: She's ^{beginning} to sound pretty hoarse.

(BAC offers SAM tea)

I A: There's so many things I could tell you, but I don't know where I ^{could} start and where I could stop.

SAM: I'd like to come back again and we could talk some more if it'd be okay with you that would be a good way to do it. (break in TAPE)

I A: Mabel ^{Gano} of the ^{Gano's}. Now whether she was a relative on (Mabel's ^{side}) side, or whether it was Ward's family, the name was Warren and whether she was on the Ward's side or whether she was on Mabel's side of the family, I don't know. We used to be up there a great deal.

BAC: I think the next time you come in again, she should tell you about how they spent their time on the homestead and about the winters there, they were out there all winter.

SAM: Definitely. I'd like to hear that:

BAC: Snowshoes and daddy insisted on us having exercises.

I A: What's that, Bernadine?

BAC: About old ^{Sylvia} [redacted]

SAM: We can do that the next time I come in. There's one story that maybe you could tell me now, because I thought it was a great story when you told me it before, and that was, was that M.J. Shields you followed in town? That was a great little story.

BAC: And I know the one about the boom, the man on the stage. Did she tell you that?

SAM: That story was about M.J. Shiedls, right?

I A: M.J. Shields, by God. He used to wear one of those hats. ^{Men} [redacted] those big beaver hats, ^{they} looked like (plush [redacted]) crowns. He always wore that when he walked with a cane. We used to chase him up and down the street here, you know, keep behind him. Just far enough behind him so we could hear what he was saying. Yet not enough to bother him. He be walking along the street, "I'm M.J. Shields, by God. I'm M.J. Shields, by God."

SAM: Would he be hitting his cane on the ground?

I A: Uh, huh.

SAM: Each time he said it?

I A: Emphasizing it. He had his own idea of his own importance. He was talking to himself as he walked up the hill.

BAC: Well I know she's had a great lot of experience and that she's enjoyed it all. I think these last couple of years she hasn't been able to get in her garden like she ^{do} like to, but she has marvelous memories.

SAM: There was a story that you told me when I was here before, I'm trying to

think what it was about. I think it was about driving the car out when you lost the muffler.

BAC: When you lost the muffler coming up from Lewiston, I think it was. He wants to hear that story again.

I A: The muffler on the car.

SAM: I think we should save that for next time too. That's a long story too.

BAC: Do you listen to "60 Minutes" on television?

SAM: No.....(pause in tape).

I A: Particularly she wrote to us saying that she was forgetting at forty^T-two and so I wrote back to her and I said, "Forgetting at forty-two? When you are eighty, what will you do? More things to remember, more things to tell. After all, Phyllis, b^{ir}thdays aren't hell!"

BAC: That's the kind of things she ^{does} right off the bat. I think it's wonderful.

SAM: Do you still have any (tape pauses here).

I A: Called the Forty-Nine Meadow country at that time. Those are boggy meadows. They never dry out. ^{They'd be} almost like the Irish peat moss, I would imagine. You step on, ^{when} a horse starts across those, you know very well that he's either going to go down or he's going to come up someplace else. And you hope he comes up someplace else. The, there was a bunch of boys here in town at one time, three brothers went out on the Meadows. They decided that they were going to have just a pack, put on a pack and pack the horse and leave him out there. They just take care of the horse and see that he had plenty of food to eat, but they weren't going to feed him anything ^{ON} til, ^{just} grass and so forth. Well, they got those horses, the streams are down, how can I tell you about ^{that}? The little streams are as they go down, work in underneath and it's soggy underneath. And this horse went to go across the creek and didn't make it, and his hind parts went in under the edge of this bank. And the boys couldn't get him out.

So they decided they'd do their own packing then. So they left the horse there. When Mr. Carter ^{we} got a man to stay out there with us and do odd jobs and come out once a month and pick up the mail for us out at Avery. He decided that it ^{would} be a good idea while he was out there during the winter-time, to fur-trap. See if he couldn't get mink and otter and enough ^{that} with the price of them ^{that} he could make a little money on the side. So he decided that he could use Sylves. Sylves was what the boys called this horse up there that they had ^{had} that got away from them and went under. So he decided that the day ^{that} he was going to use Sylves was the day that he was going to let us go on the trail following him. And he would walk ahead and Myrtle and I would come behind. We would ^{pull} a bag of Sylves back of us and that would kill our tracks and his tracks would be obliterated by our tracks and all. So that's what he did. He'd set his trap and ^{then} we'd go on ahead and pull this old piece of horsemeat over our tracks and so ^{IT WAS} not a very nice job. But still we did it. We thought we could do it and we wanted to get out, we wanted to have the exercise. My father said, "You are not going out there and sit down and eat hotcakes for morning, noon and night and come back a blob of flesh." He said, "You have to exercise." So we told Carter that we had to exercise, on certain days he had to take us out on these trips when he went. Sometimes it would be a fifteen mile trip around.

BAC: Sometimes on snowshoes.

I A: We'd get our exercise. So Carter would say, "Sylves goes today." Sylves ^{the old guard with} went today, Myrtle and I went today. We tracked ^{the} this old horse.

SAM: He would bait the traps with Sylves, too?

I A: Uh, huh. He would bait the trap with the horsemeat. Sylvester's meat, and take care of it. He was the one I told you about the moon story.

SAM: Would you tell me that story again?

I A: ^{can} you remember ^{it, do you think.} ?

SAM: That one I only remember part of.

BAC: I think she shouldn't tell it.

SAM: Alright. We can leave it til next time.

I A: This man, Carter was running the stage between Santa and Clarkia. And up the Santa and Fernwood, ^{now} those are little stations between Clarkia and St. Maries. The only way that you could get, at that time, to St. Maries was by stage. You had to know the stage line when it was coming, and so forth. Carter had the stage driving up there for one winter. So one day, one winter's day he came in to the station and ^{said that} he had to go up to Santa to pick up a couple of teachers that were coming back ^{down} to Clarkia to try to make ^{then on} down to this part of the country by coming into Avery and to Clarkia and Bovill and ^{on} down this part of the country. And that was their only way of getting through there was to make that stage connection. So he said he'd go up and pick them up. He went on up and he picked up these two teachers at Clarkia, at Santa. And on his way back, ^{as} he came through Fernwood, the next little station through which is principally three saloons and a hotel that was usually ^{what} all that was there. He came by, this man out in front was waving him down. He stopped to pick him up and to see what he wanted. The old fellow wanted to go down to Clarkia. Carter knew that he'd been imbibing too freely, he didn't dare put him in the cab with the ladies. So he decided to boost him up on the outside sit him up with Carter beside of him. Well, this old fellow was just overcome with the sight when he got up on the high seat and looking out across these meadows, ^{through} and the shadows on the trees and all. It completely overwhelmed him. He didn't know what to do. He reached over, he just simply ^{had to express} himself someway. He reached over and he put his hand on Carter's knee and he said, "Carter, ain't it funny, ain't it damn funny on a nice night like this, ^{is} when you don't need no moon, why thar she hangs."

BAC: I just love that.

I A: Carter said he came very nearly falling off the front seat. "On a nice bright night like this when you don't need no moon, why thar she hangs."

BAC: I've wanted for years to write that into the Reader's Digest. I think she'd pull out a hundred dollars with that. She just doesn't want to fiddle around with that.

SAM: I'm going to go. I don't want to stay any longer. I enjoyed very much talking with you, but I don't want...

(End of side D)