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TAPE THREE - SIDE ONE AND TWO - LILLIE AHERIN - TENTH INTERVIEW - 731-330

TAPE METER SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

- 731 Interview starst (in middle of conversation). Short comments about narrator's teaching job; **xx** She would have gone on to school and gotten her teaching certificate; but, she felt it necessary to stay at home with her mother while father and brother travelled to other towns and built elevators. School teaching was narrator's only job. Lillie grew up on a farm in Iowa **then moved to** Lovilia, Iowa. Sold ice cream to mothers as a child.
- 778 Interests and talents: Has **read icks** always read lots of books all her life. Also has done plenty of quilting from necessity. Lots of crocheting. Always attended church. Interesting story of "box suppers" for which Lillie often won prizes. Entertainment: Magic Lantern Shows, apparently a prototype movie theater. Dances - narrator loved to dance at birthday parties. Picnics with neighbors. Narrator describes the way Fourth of July was celebrated: everybody attended, men and boys made speeches, horse and foot races. Was a great time for all. Brief description of county fairs.
- 881 Narrator's childhood completely different from childhood nowadays. There was a schoolhouse every two miles and they were the center for many community events. People come from miles around in wagons and buggies and to these meetings. Lots of small towns when Lillie was in Iowa -- all built along roads or railroad.
- 913 Courtship. Drove around with husband in his buggy. Drive into town on Sundays to buy fruit -- ffruit was a special treat back then.
- 923 Fashions and trends. Narrator always wore a hat. Dresses were very full and down to the ankle. Had some white dresses but they **we** were very hard **to** and time consuming to wash and iron. Never wore a hoop skirt. Had butto shoes and silk gloves. Describes a silk umbrella she used to have. Brief description of "top" buggies with fly nets for the horses -- very stylish buggy.
- 955 Narrator met husband, and kis Dan, and his brother at a dance in Iowa. Describes that event with an amusing story about a beautiful fan that Lillie used at the dance. Honeymooned in Spokane at the Roser Penny Poor Hotel. & Narrator married because she wanted to. Husband's family were prominent farmers, sold horses in Chicago, raised and sold cattle. Husband's mother from England; Lillie's mother's family probably Dutch, thinks her mother spoke Dutch. about
- 1043-end of Expectations for marriage. kith Because husband Dan wax owned land, Lillie Side One. thought they would be independently w3althy. However, had to work very hard son the with the land.
- Side Two Describes how husband and others dug a well. Very difficult job, took 002 several months to dig 16 feet, worked days and nights. Then got a windmill for the well. Describes how she got water before the well. Had a cistern from which Lillie pumped water and carried to house. With the well and windmill, they got very good, ice cold water easily.

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Brief description of a very small house, 18' x 28', that Dan built. Possibly their homestead house in the Big Bend. Ran Husband owned 640 acres of land. Dan's parents divorced, father bought some of Dan's land and lived there.

- 044 The Black family one of their neighbors in the Big Bend. Brief account of usual progression for homesteading families: buy land, farms build a house and barn, then farm. Dan eventually bought the Black's house and added it to their own, Made quite a big house, Painted it, put in new wallpaper, big screen porch.
- 056 Childbirth and medical services. There were doctors, but closest hospital was in Spokane. All children born at home. No family planning. Narrator comfortable with the number of children she had, but childbirth was difficult. Within one week after birth Lillie at work again as usual. Usually a doctor and a neighbor woman or girl attended births.
- 088 When Dan retired, they moved from the Big Bend to Spokane. Son, Kenneth, born is Spokzne. Within two years they moved to Genessee. Lillie breastfed all her children. Amusing half-story connected to breast feeding about neighbors who were in show business.
- 121 **Exercit** c Comment about friends who moved to Splkane. They were very poor and got furniture from friends for their place in Spokane. Now they have a piano and carpet.
- 131 Taking care of family. Narrator feels she did what any other women had to do in those days. Cook meals for family and hired hands, raising a big garden, raising chickens. Did some milking, but generally husbnad and boys milked. Sold the cream and milk every morning. No refrigerator so had to keep milk in the well. Describes how good the butter tasted from their fi first red cow. Before the cow, Lillie had to use canned milk.
- 156 Brief description of making sausage in Genesee, how much better it was than sausage nowadays. Marr Describes how she made is to cottage; made is a sausage her own soap -- could make it very pretty and white. Also baked lots of bread. Storing meat: would butcher beef in the fall when weather started freezing so they could store it outside. Also canned meat.
- 191 Had many hired hands, boys and men. Depended on the season and what the family was doing. Narrator cooked for all the men.
- 202 In Krutch, Washington, after Lillie married, she made some money cooking for a neighbor.
- 215 Life on the farm different from **atder pix** city life.-- hard work required. Narrator notes that if there's a refrigerator and an electric stove to use, farm life **gam** is very good. No comparison between life of a farm wife and life of a city wife.
- 247 Magazines: subscribes to <u>Good Housekeeping</u> and -- likes that very much. Also the <u>Digest</u> (probably <u>Reader's Digest</u>). Used to subscribe to <u>Better</u> 5 <u>Homes and Gardens</u> but stopped because she can't work in garden anymore.

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- (247 Newspapers: <u>Genesee News</u> and <u>Lewiston Tribune</u>. TV: Likes to watch the continued) "Lawrence Welk." Sometimes watches "All in the Family," but is too predictable.
- 261 Narrator's feelings about feminism. Women should not ask for equal rights. Some things women can do that men can't and vice versa. Women make better nurses than men. Men better for lifting things. Women shouldn't be in the army because menstruation too big a problem.
- 274 Life now compared to years ago. Narrator feels it would be hard to go back and live the way she did in the past. For example, no electricity back then. Had to keep eight **x** kerosene lamps cleaned and filled all the time. No washer or dryer.
- 293 Things narrator most commonly discussed with husband. Price of wheat, what section of land to work on and how long it would take. Husband did not confer with narrator on business deals, but they always talked over other big decisions. If Feels mutual decision making responsible for people enjoying ea h other.

310 End of interview

313 310-313 blank. O.K.