

Claire L. Alexander
Hist 320, Oral Histories/Rural
women

Tape Summary

23 June 80

Tape 33, Side 1 and Side 2, 000-015

Lillian Yangel

interviewer: Isabel Miller

(1 minute = 009 on the tape)

July 12, 1975

<u>Tape Minutes</u>	<u>Heading</u>	<u>Description</u>
000 - 037	Personal Data	Biographical data. Born 1912, Elk River. husband retired Potlatch Forest, Inc.; married Elk River 1936.
037 - 049	Education	primary teacher two years; during WWII substitute and taught all subjects, all levels.
049 - 065	Skills/Job Experience	likes to cook, sew; worked in drug store during childhood; cooked for fire patrol.
066 - 085	Hobbies/Clubs	Extension club, Arizona for winters; church activities, Red Cross, Girl Scouts, PTA, incharge of bond drive during WWII.
085 - 115	Airwatch (WW II)	familiar with silhouettes of planes; not much air traffic, scheduled time for duties, women took day hours; feeling that you were 'doing something for the wa r effort'; trip to Fairchild AFB, fun & useful; to call if anything suspicious.
117 - 164	Rural Life	knowing everyone in area, getting involved; trips to Arizona are with friends; thinks it would have been interesting to live in urban area to experience cultural advantages; most people she knows have lived similar lives to hers; no garden, cans food though, one advantage of smaller place; when young, depended on what could be raised in garden, fresh things kept in root cellar.

164 - 228

Childhood

Feels sorry for youth of today because of their dependence on 'wheels'; was more dependent on own resources for entertainment; too much free time today; sooner you learn to work, better off you are; felt she didn't have enough time to play. Childhood recreational activities: hiking, sunrise breakfasts, fishing picnics with community families, had old victrola for dancing parties; jam sessions, active church groups; high school students helped in primary grades; many school activities for all.

228 - 246

Courtship/
Marriage

courted 7-8 months, known casually for several years; didn't go too much on dates since it was during the Depression would go out with groups of young people husband had a Chevrolet coupe; reason for marriage - 'the thing to do'.

246 - 286

Teacher's Pay

\$80 a month first year; \$85 a month second year; quit teaching when she married because she 'didn't have to work', man's place to support family; enjoyed teaching but happy to just keep a home; forced back to teaching during WW II, not many qualified teachers in area.

286 - 305

Marriage

smooth transition to marriage, set up housekeeping in Boville ; give and take necessary in life.

305 - 322

Medical

In Elk River, Potlatch Lumber Company took 'care of its own', hospital facilities for company employees. Now services not available.

322 - 337

Childhood

Raised when communications with world were limited; now the whole world is at their (youth of today) doorstep.

338 - 377

Recreation

travel, fish, mushrooming, likes woods; cards; rather old-fashioned - likes things to entertain rather than cause to worry, watches the news, likes to read.

378 - 430

Children

worked teaching during the war because of war needs, not personal needs; no children of her own, had brother's children, neighborhood children to

Travel

enjoy, not to worry about; Very few in Boville travel, probably due to lack of interest; she travels because of her upbringing; concept of saving toward travelling because of like and interest.

430 - 483

WW II and
Depression
periods

during Depression, all were in the same category - little money to spend; during the War, had the money but couldn't travel due to gas rationing; During Depression, small towns 'took care of their own', the Company gave food and money to those in need; gave transients whatever she had, never afraid of those men.

483 - 494

Safety

In Arizona, sure to lock doors and not go out at night; usually locks doors at home at night and when gone.

494 - 523

Activities

averages at least one trip weekly, still involved in church activities, spends 4 months a year in Arizona.

524 - 566

4 H Activities
(in youth)

4 H cooking, made cookies once a week for father; on way to elocution contest, brakes failed on Model A, superintendent had to 'turn it over'; trained to eat what was put in front of them; more training then than now.

566 - 705

Entertaining
in the 20's

even casual entertainment, used best linens, etc.; high school girls did sewing, made favors for bridge parties to earn pin money; dipped flowers in paraffin to put in desserts; no paper plates used, fancy china, fancy tablecloths, etc.; House shined from top to bottom; Bridge club usually 4 - 6 tables; evenings with men 10 - 12 tables. started University in 1929, not home much then. Entertainment probably wasn't as elaborate during the Depression, but it still occurred. Aware that there was a lot less money but they still got together because there wasn't anything else to do. Everyone brought what they had. Today, people get out and go more, started changing after WW II. Always something to do if you wanted to go find it. Advent of cars changed trend from social functions. talked things over; lived in Boville due to husband's work; still there due to established home.

705 - 729

Decision
Making in
Marriage

carrying it too far; everyone deserves freedom, should be a matter of choice; men should have as much time to themselves as women do.

729 - 773

Women's
Movement

773 - 797

Importance
of Work

we all must take on responsibility; if you don't learn self-discipline through work, it is difficult to function as adult.

797 - end

Money

influence of the Depression - feeling of importance of savings; credit pushed onto newer generations; doesn't believe in too much credit; Raised to save some of what you got, especially in days before Social Security, pensions, had to save for retirement; People today depend on the government.

Tape 33, Side II

000 - 005

Money

Taught to save.

006 - 015

Misc.

Taking of ID picture, tape kept in
archives; signing of release forms,

End of Interview