

This is an interview with Minnie Badgett on June 20, 1975. The interviewer is Dale Anderson in St. Maries, Idaho.

DA: We've got a lot of questions for you to answer and then you can just talk
ok?

MB: Ok

DA: Your name?

MB: Minnie Badgett.

DA: Your maiden name?

MB: Scott.

DA: Any nic names?

MB: No

DA: Is your real Minnie or is it short?

MB: No that's my right name.

DA: Date of birth?

MB: Feb. 23, 1901.

DA: Place of birth?

MB: I guess you would call it Santa.

DA: You're a real native.

MB: I was born where you go over the crossroads, you know one that goes over
to and the other one to Santa, not that house, there was another
house but that's where I was born.

DA: You were born at home then?

MB: Yeah that's the way they used to do it and actually I don't know how in
the world those people ever lived. They'd be sick and everything; take
me now, I was premature, I weighed 4 lbs. and there was a nurse that
lived somewhere that helped monma all the way through, she was pretty
sick with me, I guess and then she took care of me and lived.

DA: Were there very many premature children that lived?

MB: Not to my knowledge; of course there are a few mothers that I've been
told about that passed away from difficulties. I was at home when I was
born, I had to be. They homesteaded all around the country here. When I

was a kid I remember we used to go and some of them would be; but the homesteads were made of logs and they would and fit those logs together and it was just amazing the work that was done and that's all. They just homestead all over the country quite a ways apart but they would be the old roads, you'd have to go to them. You take one of these buildings, they'll collapse, they'll go down but those old homesteads went from the bottom up and the bottom logs would rot; there was no foundation or anything, you built them on the ground unless they would happen to have a rock or something to put underneath the bottom log otherwise they were just built right on the ground and they would decay from the ground up. You see they would settle down and settle down and the roof was made of shakes, cedar shakes and the roofs would get holes in them, those doggone things stood for many many years. It used to be interesting what them old homes did. And you see where they dug out, where they had their garden; it's just now if they had a place where there was pasture maybe they would have a cow, not too many of them and they would have a horse.

DA: I need some information on your background, what is your mother's maiden name?

MB: Francis Rothrock.

DA: Her date of birth?

MB: I believe it was 1877.

DA: Place of birth?

MB: Perdleton, Oregon She was an old resident own there, her folks were.

DA: Is she still living?

MB: No

DA: Date of her death?

MB: 1938

DA: And what year was she married?

MB: In 1884.

DA: Her occupations or jobs?

MB: She was just a mother.

DA: Your father's name?

MB: Frederick Scott.

DA: Would you give me your mother's first name?

MB: Francis, her second name is Omelia.

DA: That's pretty.

MB: I've always thought it was.

DA: Date of your father's birth?

MB: Now that I don't know.

DA: Do you know where he was born?

MB: He was born near Logan, Utah.

DA: The date of his death?

MB: He passed away in 1959, in March.

DA: Was your father older than your mother?

MB: He must of been possibly five or six years older than her, so that could be just an estimate of his birth. I should know but I don't.

DA: And your father's occupation and jobs?

MB: He was a ,logger and farmer, small farmer.

DA: Sisters and brothers?

MB: I had five brothers and five sisters.

DA: You want to give me their names?

MB: Hazel, brother George Scott, Minnie Scott, Addie Scott, Walter Scott, Pearl Scott, Edith Scott, Bill Scott, and Nina Scott. And the twin brothers one died in an hour and a half and the other one died at birth and they weren't named.

DA: Now for your sisters, we can just go through and you can give me their married names.

MB: Hazel French, Addie Lincoln, Pearl Chamness, Edith Smith and Nina passed

passed away when she was three years old.

DA: Your husband's name?

MB: Ralph Badgett

DA: Date of his birth?

MB: 1898

DA: Place of birth?

MB: Pendleton, Oregon.

DA: The date and place you were married?

MB: We was married in Walla Walla on October 7, 1921.

DA: And the date of his death?

MB: October 29, 1961.

DA: And his occupations and jobs?

MB: He was a farmer.

DA: Children's names?

MB: Vernon Badgett; he was born in Emida in 1922.

DA: Did you have your children at home or did you go to the hospital?

MB: He was born at home in Emida, we call him Ike. Virgil was born in Farmington, Wash. at my mother's home in 1924 and Velma was born at Sacred Heart hospital in Spokane in 1926.

DA: Let's go through them and you can give me their occupations.

MB: Vernon is at home and he helped with war work. He took up missionary work and worked as a missionary for about 9 years. Now he lives down in Huntington Park, California now and he's helping as a purchasing agent for three hospitals down there. Virgil is a logger here in St. Maries. Velma works for a Sears farm store in Spokane. She's worked for them for over 20 years.

DA: What type of work does she do?

MB: She's an assistant manager.

DA: Your education?

MB: 8th grade and a couple years of high school, it was very inconvenient in those days and the money situation wasn't good either.

DA: How did you go to school befor ?

MB: Well we lived not from the school in Emida.

DA: Your only hardship then was getting into high school?

MB: Yes; it was just hard and they just couldn't make it, that's all.

DA: Ok skills

MB: I don't know that I've got any; just housekeeping, I guess.

DA: Jobs that you've held?

MB: I used to work in logging camps and worked in homes.

DA: What did you do in those jobs?

MB: Waited tables and when I worked in homes I did whatever there was to do.

DA: So you did have some skills in that.

MB: I don't know, it didn't take much.

DA: Your interests, talents and hobbies?

MB: I used to crochet and embroider.

DA: Have you ever entered anything into a fair or won any awards?

MB: NS

DA: Do you knit?

MB: The only knitting I ever did was what momma used to knit. I used to knit what she had already started.

DA: Is she the one that taught you how to crochet and embroider?

MB: Yes

DA: Do you belong to any clubs, groups or societies?

MB: I belong to the Grange, The Eagles, V.F.W. WWII; the Grange has a ladies club and the WWII has a ladies club and then there's another club and I call it the No Nothing Club.

DA: What does the club do?

MB: Oh we just go and they just serve a lunch and we just sit around and talk and embroider or crochet or whatever they want to do.

DA: That's more of a club just to get together?

MB: Yeah, that's just to get together.

DA: Have you ever won any awards or ribbons?

MB: No

DA: I do have a list of questions about what we'd like to know and you can probably go from there. How about telling us a little bit about rural life; the advantages and disadvantages.

MB: Well I think it was interesting; well I lived farther away from town when I was small and we lived not too far from the schoolhouse in Emida, dad bought that place by the school in Emida. And of course, now this was in my time and you go back earlier in my time and the people got the mail in Santa and Emida had no name there was nothing up there excepting homesteaders and this come from an older settler that told us and I used to ask questions because I liked to know. I stayed with this lady one winter, and helped with the chores, her husband was away in the winter, working and she wanted someone to help so he come up with one of the older brothers, well the brothers were in the woods working and I said maybe I could help her. So I had a cow to milk and there was a younger girl there, I had to horse I had to saddle up and get ready for her to go to school on and the cattle to feed and some of the horses to feed and while I was there I talked with her an awful lot because she was an older settler there, her folks was; now at the time Emida was going to get its name, see there wasn't a post office there. There ware more people there so the way they wanted to name it, well they figured the oldest settlers that was still living there was named Emida. So this lady was an East family so her name was East. And E was for East, Mi for miller and da for Dawson. I thought it was interesting though. Most everybody had a horse to ride and horses to drive and neighbors helped neighbors in them days. I can remember my dad and some of the others lived with me would butcher a beef and they would divide it and perhaps there would be some family

that didn't have too much food, well then they would; these men and whoever would butcher it and would divide it. They would take meat and they raised gardens and they would take vegetables too, to people that didn't have very much to eat. And the clothing the same way, with left over clothing they would help with that, too. Maybe some of them could sew and even sew for them, a lady that didn't have a sewing machine or if she were sick or something. Now when a tiny baby would come along, they just took care of her. I just shudder everytime I think of it because it was tough.

DA: You originally lived in Santa?

MB: No Emida

DA: But you were born in Santa?

MB: No I was born at the crossroads going up there but Emida had its name ahead of this, but I think that would be called Santa Cruz that would be where they would get their mail.

DA: Was it a little community where you were raised or where you just kind of out in the country?

MB: Well there was just one house there and the house sat down this way from where that house is now that sat at these crossroads and I don't think there was anyone close there except anyone who lived over in Santa. But it didn't make any difference, neighbors knew neighbors and neighbors helped neighbors.

DA: How far away were your nearest neighbors?

MB: Well it must of been over in Santa or there might of been some other houses around there, too at that time, I don't know.

DA: What did your brothers and sisters do when you were children?

MB: We worked, we worked in the garden and sometimes we'd go help other people after we was old enough to help and do whatever there was to do.

DA: When you were younger what did you do for recreation?

MB: We used to play ball, girls and boys used to play together, we had a ball diamond that we would play on, we'd read and we'd fish. After we were older why, the girls would get on horses and we'd ride horses. And then we'd have our parties at one house or the other and play games.

DA: The baseball teams were mixed, males and females?

MB: Well it just depends but ordinarily it was because there would be boys and girls at the homes where they would go and they would just go out in the yard and play.

DA: Have you noticed a change in the fishing since you've grown up?

MB: Oh yes we used to go out and fish anytime we wanted to and then you see them other laws now. Them ~~ste~~^{re}ams up there where we used to fish now have a sign that is restricted and says no fishing, which is alright, it's a good thing and then with the game, you know if people wanted to go out and hunt they would get their deer and bring it in. But there used to be never any elk, not close in anyway and then later years there was elk.

DA: Was it easier to catch fish then, you know just going out and the time spent?

MB: I kind of think it was because it was just families and the kids that wanted to go fish would go fish, you see there weren't; for that reason there would be more fish in the streams.

DA: Were you or yours sisters and brothers expected to go on to school?

MB: Well, really, no because it just wasn't available.

DA: What types of skills did your brothers and sisters have?

MB: Well they were so doggone busy with doing things, they didn't have any skills. They always helped do what work there was to do.

DA: What did your brothers do, did they get into logging?

MB: Yes they all logged.

DA: And your sisters?

MB: Housewives and baby tenders, I'd say.

DA: We want you to talk about your courtship and your early married life.

How long did you know your husband before you got married?

MB: Oh about two years.

DA: Where did you meet him?

MB: In Emida; they moved from around Pendleton, Oregon to Emida and they knew my mother's people down there. In fact Ralph used to chase around with some of them in the same age group, that would be my mother's uncles' kids and aunts, however. we knew the family real well and when they come out here to Emida and with momma talking with them they felt like they sort of knew her but they had never met her but they did know a lot of their family people.

DA: What were some of the things that you did when you were dating?

MB: Oh they had dances around Emida and they had programs and they had their Sunday School and church there on Sundays. There wasn't very many cars. My brother had a car and sometimes we would go out car riding wouldn't get too far from home. The roads weren't too good either.

DA: What were some of the reasons you got married?

MB: I don't know, I just wanted to.

DA: What did you expect out of marriage?

MB: Well I expected what I got. I think if some of the girls today would be more serious about their marriage and really feel like they want to settle down and make a home, I think there would be less divorces. But some of them, they're just not grown up enough and they just don't want to take responsibility.

DA: You were almost 20?

MB: I was 19.

DA: About what ages were most people getting married at that time?

MB: Around 18--20.

DA: That sounds pretty good.

DA: Did you all talk about raising children before you got married?

MB: I don't know just never gave it much of a thought.

DA: Did you have a certain amount of children that you wanted to have?

MB: No

DA: What affected the number of children that you did have?

MB: Well I don't know, I enjoy them, they're all married and I have grand-kids.

DA: How many grandchildren do you have?

MB: Seven

DA: Any great grandchildren?

MB: One, one little boy

DA: Where did you get your knowledge about childbirth and child rearing?

MB: Oh it just sort of come natural and from doctor books, most every home had a doctor book and it would tell what to do for different disease and explain what to do. In them days there was always a way to get out but not a good road to go on.

DA: There was a doctor in St. Maries then?

MB: O yes. As far back as I know.

DA: But like where you lived, there wasn't a doctor, you had to come to St. Maries.

MB: Yeah we used to go to Tekoe quite a lot because it was a better road. It would take you over to Farmington. It would take several hours to go one way with the horses. If you had cars, why then it don't take very long to go.

DA: What do you see as the future for your children and your grandchildren?

MB: Well I don't know, that depends on time and as soon as they are old enough to go to work. Now Judy, that's my daughter's girl, she went on to school and she's a technician and she lives down in Texas now, that's where she lives. She's working with some doctor there in Technician

work and she likes it and she's getting along alright with it. Then Vernon, that's the older one, he has a boy and he's 15, he's kind of at an unsettled age, his mother and dad planned for Brad to going to school but that's a question, you never know what they're going to do. I have a son living here in St. Maries and they have five youngsters, the oldest one is, Kevin will be, he was born in 53 so he's 22 now and he's running a truck for a company. Now those kids they would cgo out and pull weeds and when they were older, they'd mow yards, those kids would always want to work and earn money and they're a pretty good bunch of kids. Now Kevin went over and worked in the sawmill after he finished high school, then he worked down here at the plywood mill down here because he wanted to be closer to home and he was a littlbe bit older at this time then and so he started working with the pole Company here and running the truck and that's what he does. And Dale, another boy works with Mr. here helping him repair machinery and such as that and patched tires for cars and he graduated from it and Bill took over, which is the way I put it and they got bigger and got other jobs and got more money. When Bill was 18, he graduated from high school a year ago and then he's been running a loader down here at the Pole Comapany and driving the truck. He went to Orofino and went down to Pasco to load poles and he's been to Montana, but they haven't sent him on any long long trips yet. Both boys are getting along good. Berry, that's the second one he joined up with the Navy so he's over in Japan. But he has written me every week or ten days since he's been gone and I sure appreciate it. I'll have to say it whether I would like to or not, that mother is meaner than I'll get to Jakes people. She wont have anything to do with any of us. Maybe she'll speak maybe she don't , she's just an oddity, and the kids know it too. Of course she try to keep the kids away from me like mowing the yard

MB: I wish it were different but I can't do anything about. She's just one of those people that's selfish and jealous and would do anything to her husband's people.

DA: Did you teach your children how to crochet or embroider?

MB: Well I tried but the girl wasn't interested.

DA: Did you just try to teach Velma?

MB: Yeah I tried, she wrote a little something on the embroidery that I was doing and she worked pretty hard with her school work too. She rode the bus here in St. Maries to high school in Emida so you see their time was pretty well taken up, too. She learned to sew and she liked to sew. After she finished high school, she wanted to go to Spokane and get a job and go to work. She'd go up for a month and come back. She went up with another girl and she'd come back home to visit but she wouldn't come back to stay anymore. In two years she's married.

DA: What's her married name?

MB: Jeames.

DA: Did she have any children?

MB: Just the one girl, well she had a boy but the little boy died of leukemia when he was eight years old. He lived about 10 months after he got it, the doctor gave him 4 but he lived 10 months. They gave him blood one time.

DA: That must of been hard.

MB: Oh yes, those things are hard, you know. You try to do something and hope there is something and you see it's just, well doctors do wh t they can. Ralph died with cancer also, he filled with cancer. My dad died with cancer.

DA: C n you compare your life as a child with that of your children; how did it differ?

MB: As far as kids was concerned, they had more than I had. But they raised

the kids in the depression time and it was kind of tough. We raised a garden and milked cows and when the kids was old enough to help why they helped do the work and what there was to do there so we made it ok.

DA: How did the depression affect you, was it because of that that it was

MB: alright?

Oh yes

DA: Did the depression affect many people around this area?

MB: I think it did now you take with us now we were farmers and you know you can raise some food and so on and so forth although there were some farmers that got discouraged. Well we were in debt and others were in debt also. Ralph was able bodied and also his dad and so they would go and get whatever work they could get to do. If they could log they would log and then they shut the logging down, just boom all at once. Then we went out with the thrashing machine and went out with the hay baler and money that way and we had a few cattle to sell, we'd have some pigs to sell, we'd have some chickens to sell and we raised a garden and even in them days we did help other people sometimes and I will add to this now and I'm real proud to say it although I don't want to brag and say that other people didn't do but now there was three places above us, now they had the same opportunities we had and they weren't as deep in debt as we were, they lost their farms to the mortgage companies. What we did now was go and tell them ahead of time that we didn't have the money to pay them their interest and we'd say that when we had the money we would pay it that way we never had any difficulties. There was two other people that had the mortgage companies and they had borrowed some money from individuals, or from banks not individuals. When they would want their money and go there they'd go in a rage; we didn't do that. Some of the same people owned a mortgage on our place that owned one on another place. So then people come in to collect; them people just went kind of a rage with

and this is the first time I'd ever even met these people at all. I knew we owed them money but I didn't know who they were. Luckily dad was out with the hay baler, down below Emida a ways. Ike was a little kid, he was about four at this time, he was the older one. So anyway they come there and of course they were kind of shaky and I told them were Ralph and Grandpa were working. Then I said you could go down and Ike knows where they are and you take him with you and you can talk to them and I'll have dinner ready for you when you come back. You see there was no place to eat there and a lot of times I cooked dinner for a lot of people. They kind of hesitated a little bit, one way or another and I said Ike will go with you, he knows where they are and you can see them and when you people come back, I'll have dinner ready. So they went, it was the man and his wife and his mother-in-law were the people that we owed the money to and so they went and they came back and I had the table all set for them and they was hungry, too; and they would stay their with me and the kids for quite some time, I don't know I think they give the kids each a quarter, I believe. Everything was just fine and whenever they would come in we'd have a nice time to visit and no, we didn't have the money to pay them and so I didn't give it to them and we had no trouble with it that way.

DA: What affected you more, the depression or the war?

MB: I didn't like either but the war was really the hardest.

DA: Which one?

ME: World War II; Now Jake the son that lives here, he was in World War II.

The other boy didn't pass so he didn't go. He was a little kid, just kind of funny, he'd play out in the yard sometimes. Well Ike the older boy my folks used to come around, they lived out in Farmington for a while and then they moved over to Sanders, wherever dad did logging and so they'd have Ike with them quite a lot. He was gone maybe two or three

weeks at a time and he would be sad when they made him go home. Jake was just a little timer and I'd go around the yard and call, "Come Jake." Ralph and his dad would be out working on machinery and they both had the habit of putting things together and Jake thought maybe this would be alright so they'd take him with them sometimes and he'd play around where they was working. So then we called him Jake and still do. That was interesting raising kids.

DA: Why ~~did~~ ^{don't} you describe kind of a typical day when you had the children here? Just say at any age group, just describe what the day might be like.

MB: Oh it was real interesting. The kids would do one thing or another, they would play around or whatever they wanted to do.

DA: Did you sew for them?

MB: I sewed for my kids, yes but the grandkids I never sewed very much for them.

MB: By the time the depression wasx over you could buy so that's what I would do. I'd buy a lot of different clothing for them. Judy, that's the girl that was in Spokane, her dad and mother both worked but I don't know, I was visiting Ralph's folks that lived down around Walla ^{a Walla} ~~Walla~~ and this cousin she had married again and she had a good car and he had a car and they didn't want both cars so she said to me that "I'll sell you my car." Of course I had a car and I thought that would be nice because Judy was just ready to go to college and she needed a car to drive to college. Dick had his car, Velma had her car and I thought it would be nice if everybody could drive back and forth to college . She wanted to sell the car for \$600 and pay when I wanted to. I figured I'd pay when I took it. Anyway I called up to Spokane and talked to Velma, my daughter and she said that Judy already had a car and so then I didn't take that car for her. Well then when Kelvin; of course you see the boys are beginning to work one place or another and they needed transportation and so I bought; Jake and Kelvin and I went to Spokane, well Kelvin made a few

trips up there. Jake when he'd go up for machinery or parts of something, he would look around; then Kelvin decided there was a car up there that he would like. I told him to get something that was good and not get some old rattle trap.

Well now Berry he got a car I guess it was \$1700 cash I paid so there was no payments to make. At any rate Berry joins up with the navy and he has a girlfriend here, real sweet girl, I think a lot of her, so he's come to me and he said, "Grandma what shall I do, shall I sell the car or do you care if I let Shannon use it?" They finished high school and graduated together and she was taking nurses training in Spokane and she stayed at the Sherwood Hall up there and there's no bus on Sunday. So then he was home and he had the car and he'd take her up and take her back to Spokane and now he's going to be shipped down to San Diego and I said, "well I think that Shannon could use the car, so I think it would be nice to let her have it." So then he let her have the car then to drive back and forth, he was down in San Diego awhile and came back and he was down in San Diego again. Now he's over in Japan and she still has the car. She's out of school for the present time and she's working down here at Mike's Drug and her mother is working up here at the nursing home but she has the car. I think it's real nice for her. She's not a run around you know, some kids if they had a car like that, they would go. She's not that type.

DA: Does she come by to see you?

MB: Oh yes; she eats dinner. Well since just after Berry went down to San Diego and he'd been in Seattle for one weekend and she'd drive down. Sometimes she'd walk down and we'd eat dinner together. Now she comes and picks me up and we eat dinner at one place or another. She don't have very much time to eat an here she; Saturday, I thought I was gonna surprise, sometimes I would cook and she'd come here to eat and so I

invited my sister to come over and a couple of other ladies to come over and eat dinner and so then she said one day I won't be able to get off until 2 o'clock. And I said that would be just fine, well I just think I'm gonna have dinner ready and pretty soon she calls and "she says well Minnie^e,
momma just called and she says she's gonna come down and eat with us. And I said, "that would just be great, tell you mother to stop by my place and you come over to my place and I'm gonna have dinner on the table here." And so then here mother came down and we all ate dinner together. I sure enjoyed her, I don't know her mother too well, I know of her. But we had a nice time in what little time it was. They just had to eat and go, not very much time.

DA: Do you gather with your family a lot, the ones that are in town?

MB: Not too much, there all working in one place or another. The girl, she's 17 and she works down here at this auto place, in an office there. And Sammy he'll be 15 and he's working up here at He's re-
pairing bikes, motorcycles and lawn mowers. As soon as they are able they just work. Of course Jake took the boys with the woods with him and let him run the loaders and run different things, they never drove truck, I don't think. In fact he never let them drive those trucks until those kids were old enough to drive. It was just natural for them.

DA: What do you do for recreation and relaxation?

MB: Oh crochet some and embroider some maybe and I'll visit around in one place or another. And at these clubs we have potluck dinners and we go one place or another, we just kill time.

DA: What was your recreation like earlier?

MB: There wasn't too much up there.

DA: When did you move from Emida to St. Maries?

MB: In '62.

DA: so you really haven't lived here that long.

MB: No; but then we still had the farm in Emida. We sold 1400 acres, when Ralph began to get bad we had timber and there were three fires that started in the timber and it would be destroyed and we didn't know what was going to happen. It was timber all paid for, we bought it from Lumber Company, they logged some off and come along.

They figured it was a man set fire but they didn't know. Now McGoldick had a camp that was across from us maybe about a mile and so Ralph and Gramps saw the fire so they went over there to that fire and I think Ralph went out so far and then reported it and it was right in the hot summertime. So then they had to get men to come and fight that fire and Ralph and Gramps were right there on the job and then they were there all night to save a railroad bridge, to keep that bridge from burning by staying there and some men would say, well the hell with it, they got lots of money they can afford it and they would go. At any rate they did know that Ralph and Gramps did save that bridge by staying there all night fighting fire and I didn't know where they were and there was no need for me to go out and try to find them as the kids were small. They could come home better than I could ever find them so; and then they brought food to them. Some man reported it and told them that they were there at the bridge but I don't know how they found them there but anyway they brought food to them there. They were afraid if they left the bridge would burn. So everytime they would see them out by the road this Mr. Lammers would stop and talk to them and that went on for some time and they moved some logs for them as well and he would stop then and camp down there, it was the beginning of this real tough time. There was no work there was no markets there wasn't anything. Lammers would come along and he would stop and talk to them and he wanted to sell him 40 acres so we took out 40 acres and oh managed some of the saw mills around to put in timber and sold it very very cheap.

DA: How much did you sell it for?

ME: It was \$250 an acre and that was some timber that had never been logged. That's right it was \$2.50 an acre. Some of it around, I think it was \$9.00 is about as much as you would pay for any of it. There had been some where some logs had been taken out of it and some that had never been touched. 1400 acres of it that way, it was all joining and it was good timber. But then those three fires in it well we figured it was man made because there was a jealousy. We'd get this, "ain't you gonna put some logs in, we need work, I thought you were gonna log it, I want a job." We couldn't put the men in the woods to work and Ralph couldn't get in the woods. We had to put some men in that we could trust and take some of the timber out but it come to a little bit beyond that and there was three fires. They got a hold of them before they were very big. The foresters would see and so they sent their men down to fight the fire. Then we decided, Well maybe we'd better sell it and save difficulties and so we sold that 1400 acres. We didn't get much out of it because there just ~~wasn't~~ ^{wasn't} that much price at that time, you see and later if we would of kept it, it would of been worth a \$100,000.

DA: Is that out at Emida?

MB: Yes, we had some joined farm ground and we had some timber on part of it. I sold the place in '66 so I could get on social security. It was hard up there and I'd have to get someone to fix the fences and we'd spray the thistles, I needed someone to do that and cattle break in. It was just a hard job and the inside fences I let them go to heck, I never tried; it was just to darn hard to get labor to do it. Well Badgetts bought it in 1919 and we bought this other through the years as time went on and two of the ranches that we bought a few years earlier had gone back to the mortgage company. That was some years after the people had given them up.

DA: I just c n't get over buying land for \$2.50 an acre,

MB: Yeah we paid \$2.50 an acre for it. It was worth more money than that and he would of never sold it to anyone else at that price. But they was moving all that timber out and McGoldick's timber was all they had left in there, the kind that would sell. Other's went up there and tried to buy part of that and they wouldn't sell it to anyone.

DA: That's really interesting.

MB: Now Jake and Rose, we still have that timber, Jake was working up on Creek. We were living here in St. Maries and he was driving back and forth and their house was for sale, it was a nice little house. He never had any money al hough he worked hard and earned good money. So Ralph asked him and her if they wouldn't like living in Emida and we'd buy that place for them so they didn't have any kids at this time and so we bought this - little place for them and gave them the deed and title for it and they lived up there for about two and three years. Then they had two little boys at this time and then she's gonna come to St. Maries and get away from the God damn Badgetts so Mr. that's the man that owned the store then he told us about it and Bladgett asked her what she was gonng to do with the two little badgetts.

DA: Who fixed up the house for you?

MB: Oh I've had different ones, now Mr. Fly, the man that lives over here, he has a nephew that lives in Spokane, come down and really did the work, he did the ceilings and put the paneling in and he did a lot of work.

DA: What made you decide to live in St. Maries?

MB: Well I didn't want to live up there at the ranch by myself and Grandpa had cancer he wasn't well either and he'd be in and out of the hospital and so then we rented here first and to be down here before he passed away. We lived down here and rented about six weeks before he passed away. Then we kind of looking around to buy something and this was up for sale

and so we grabbed it, that was after Ralph passed away.

When I was a kid we used to come down and we'd bring beef, or pig or chickens, come to St. Maries and so dad used to bring; when he'd come down he'd bring maybe two of us kids with him; however we took our turns in coming into St. Maries and Boy that was a treat! We'd drive down and put the horses in livery stables here and take us to a restaurant and eat and that was something. Our dad was really good to us kids and when we'd come down; it was across the canyon and this tree had a tongue through it, right through that tree. This was in stagecoach days and a big freight with four or six horses, however big the stagecoach was, they would carry the mail, at any rate this was a freight wagon and they had well trained young horses on these rigs because it was a hard trip and they'd go up here to what they called a half way house and they changed horses and away they'd go. So at any rate, they was coming up towards Clarkia and of course they needed young horses that were tough and could take the trip and so they were coming down from up there, they would be mining up in _____ Creek and they had a lot of big machinery up in there, this was in the 1900's, I don't know the year but it would be in some of the early days and this story was told to me; the men were coming down they had either four or six horses on this freight wagon, they were coming down a hill and they had _____ or something that rattled in the rig and it scared the horses and they started to run, so the men couldn't hold 'em and there was a turn they would have to come to, you see and he said, "Jump, jump, jump," the driver said to this other man. This man jumped out from the wagon and then this other man jumped that was driving and he said, "go horses, go" I can buy more horses but no more Joe" The horses missed the turn and went down in the brush, they were going at a high rate of speed and the tongue went through the tree and I was told and I do believe this to be right that the horses were

that the horses were all killed and it just sounded reasonable, although some tell me that the horses weren't killed. And that tongue was in that tree and that tree grew up with that tongue in it. When we come to St. Maries we liked to look across and see the tongue way up in that tree. Not now and it went on that way for several years and it hadn't been too many years since that tree was cut down and they cut the tree down and took it down and put it in a museum in Boise and I've been told since that they took it to New York with the tongue in the tree. What I was told they cut the tongue partly off, it was still through the tree but it wasn't the tongue that we used to see and that tree grew.

DA: It's too bad they didn't leave it in Idaho, I think that's where it belongs.

MB: That's the story I got, it might still be down here in Boise and I'm not saying they did ship it, I guess if you ever go down to the museum in Boise well you can see whether it's there or not, it might possibly be there. There's a lot of things but I'm gonna tell you now while you are here where you can get a lot of information that's already written down, that would be out of "Our Country" here. That would be from Wallace, Kellogg and all down the way here, there used to be mines there and you will hold your breath when you read some of those stories.

DA: What we're doing, is we're getting women's lives. We are going to go up to the Wallace, Kellogg area sometime next month, we're going to be interviewing women up there. We feel like there's a lot of history that's written down and a lot of it is basically about the men. And so we're interested in finding out what the women did and we think that's important and we think that a woman's viewpoint is important, we just hate for it to get lost.

MB: That's right. Well now there's a place over here in Coeur d'Alene, I had bought some of the books. One was a Steamboat on the River I had that

book, then I had ^{other} books that I bought, you see that would be the early day history. It gives the names and the dates of happenings and over at Coeur d'Alene is where I bought some of them books and I had them here. ^{and Ralph's folks} Some of ^{would come;} them come from North Carolina, some of them come from Iowa to visit me some from Walla Walla, Pendleton, Oregon and that part come and then they've all been interested in those books. Grandpa's brother was here last fall, and his wife, they go down to Santa Ana to spend the winter and then they go back to Corning, Iowa, then in the summer they have a son that has a big farm and the son lives on the farm and they sort of help him and they were here last fall, they stayed here for four or five days and then I asked him if he like to read something interesting and so he read some of them books while he was here and then I let him have the rest of them. Then he took them home because he was interested and the people there in Iowa would be too and that gives the dates and that gives the names.

DA: Have you travelled much outside of Idaho?

MB: No, not too much. Ike lived in Kansas City and we went there to visit them a few days, Ralph and Gramps and I. Then they lived at Lenmen, South Dakota. They moved out before Ralph passed away but he never went there to visit them and so I made trips there, sometimes I would visit them over there. Then Ralph and I took a trip, they lived down in Huntington Park or fifteen years or so ago before they started this other chasing around.

DA: What state is Huntington Park?

MB: California, it's the sub of LA. We went down there and visited with them, Ralph and I.

DA: What did you think of LA?

MB: I like it, it's nice, there's so many interesting things. Ike and Audry are back there again now, they live there and so I'm going down to visit them before to long.

DA: Would you ever want to live there?

MB: I don't think so. No I like the smaller towns better, I think.

DA: You were talking about haveng a garden, did you can and freeze things?

MB: We had no freezers and we had no refrigerators. No we raised our vegetables and we had a cellar so we put them down in the cellar. It was a house and some of the houses were built with cellars, which is where people kept their vegetables.

DA: Did you can?

MB: Oh I canned fruit but I didn't can vegetables.

DA: Did you dry anything?

MB: No

DA: Have you ever made soap?

MB: Yes

DA: Do you still do it?

ME: No

DA: When did you do it?

MB: I don't know, it was out in Emida; momma used to make soap and then some of the older ladies did and then they'd buy some soap. Mother used to like that soap so she used to make soap. I made it a time or two after she passed away in '25. I'd be doing other things, that's a job making that soap.

DA: Did you buy the lye or did you make your own lye?

MB: Bought the lye, I wouldn't even know how to make it now.

DA: My husband and I have made some soap and it was fairly simple to do.

MB: There's a simple way to make it and then there's another way. We used to put it in some big container and then we'd stir it and stir and stir and stir it. Did you make it that way?

DA: We just heat the fats and have the lye solution and just pour it all together and we'd probably have to stir it for 30 to 45 minutes and that

was all. Of course we only made a small pot.

: Well you see that would soon cool and that would be alright. If you're making more it would certainly take longer to cool and keep it from separating, that's quite a job.

DA: Are you involved in any church activities?

MB: Not at the present time, I just didn't want to get involved in things. If I want to go I want to go and so I joined up with these different things but I don't have to attend if I don't want to. I don't want to be involved in anything. I had that to many years.

DA: Were you involved in community activities when you were younger?

MB: I had time for the washing, scrubbing and cooking.

DA: And you enjoyed that sort of thing?

MB: Oh yeah, you just have to do the work on rotating everyday. T s had to be done so you just go on from one thing to another, keep the work done up and there's always some special stuff.

DA: What modern convenience have you enjoyed the most?

MB: I don't really know, I believe a washing machine. Bought the first washing machine, it was a Maytag. Let's see, Velma was about a year and a half old, in '27 I guess we bought it, it was a '26 model and it had an engine on it then, we had no electricity up there. But it saved a lot, heat the water in the wash boilers then put it in the machine and wash. Other than that way, there used to be a wooden tub and you had a wheel you would turn. It had a stick up that would, you'd stand and you'd put your clothes on a stirrup, I guess you would call it, underneath and that revolved your clothes around.

DA: Is this the only sewing machine you've ever owned?

MB: No, really that's the only one I've ever owned, because the other sewing machine is Ralph's mother's.

DA: This is just a peddle one, right?

MB: Yes. After our house and everything we had burned up in 1950 out there in Emida and after we come to St. Maries, all I wanted a sewing machine for is just to do mending and little things so I bought this second hand.

DA: It's really a pretty machine.

MB: It sew good, it's an old old timer.

DA: Do you watch TV very much?

MB: In the evenings quite a lot, also sometimes in the day time.

DA: What shows do you watch?

MB: I like the animal shows and I like Lawrence Welk and a lot of those shows.

DA: What do you think of a lot of these police stories and detective stories and things like that?

MB: A little bit of them is alright, they're educational but as far as that shooting and all that, I don't care about, you read enough about that in the papers.

DA: What magazines and newspapers do you subscribe to?

MB: I got this Modern Life, Prevention and the Reader's Digest and Modern Maturity. I used to take the Idaho Farmer, but you can only read so much.

DA: Do you read a lot?

MB: It just kind of depends, sometimes I do and other times I don't.

DA: When your husband was living what were some of the most common things that he ever asked you about?

MB: I don't know.

DA: Like decisions about the farm and buying more land? who made those decisions?

MB: He usually always did. He always did.

DA: But it was mostly his decision?

MB: Usually he kind of knew what he could do and what he couldn't do. Sometimes his dad didn't agree with him.

DA: Did you ever disagree with him on big decisions?

MB: No; I don't know I think when a man is home all the time they follow along every day and they know the money situation comes to them and they can figure out what they can and can't do and the living for the family.

DA: Is there anything else that you would like to tell me?

MB: No that's about all the stories I know excepting maybe a little short story about something or other.

DA: We've pretty much covered most of the questions on here.

MB: It must of been interesting.

DA: Well it's been interesting for me, I've really learned a lot. I'm from Georgia and I'm interested in learning a little bit about the state. Talking to people develops my interest more, I'm ready to go out and read a history book on Idaho now.

MB: That is true, now like down in Oregon when I was visiting with my husband's folks down there, it's more interesting to find out more things and what they did because they came there in an early day in Oregon. Both of Ralph's people, grandparents, they come from North Carolina.

DA: Is there anything about your life that you would change?

MB: I don't know; of course living alone you've got to make different adjustments.

DA: What are some of the adjustments that you've made since your husband passed away?

MB: I don't know, just living alone and eating habits, he used to cook quite a bit. Just to feel free to come and go as I please and its' different when you have a companion to go w th all the time and then you're just alone. Of course I companion with a quite a few ladies, we have nice times together.

DA: Are there many people here that you've grown up with?

MB: No in fact there's no one around here that I grew up with. All the people I know are the people I've met since I've been growing.

DA: Is there anyone around Emida?

MB: Georgelle's; the rest of the people have come there now Georgelle, he's the oldest resident there in Emida. They came there when he was a boy and then they was away for a while and he grew up there and went to school there

DA: Do you like life better now than when you were growing up?

MB: Oh I don't know, I just kind of accept it as it comes along.

DA: What do you think about the modern conveniences?

MB: I think they're great, I think it's nice to have them. On the other hand I will say, now not damming the girls. I was going to say if some of the younger ones had some of the work to do they'd have an awful time, like the old washboards and they'd have an awful time. I think if some of them did have more work to do at home I think it would help them quite a lot, for their home life. Because they have everything convenient, no where to go, their husband working and all they want is a car and away they go. There are women that are good but there are some in my estimation that could be settled down more, and they have plenty of work at home.

DA: What do you think a woman's role should be?

MB: I don't know, everybody had all different ideas and different things. Some of the professional ladies with their professional jobs and so forth, of course now they live differnt than what I do, or people, I'm gonna say different classes because we do have different classes of people and I think the ladies are more so than the men.

DA: Did you ever consider working other than having children?

MB: No I never had to and I phad plenty of work to do right at home.

DA: Did you help raise the garden?

MB: Oh I didn't bill myself with it. I used to go out and hoe some. And now like the hay, there would be the baler or thrasher or something and I'd take the kids and we'd go out and we'd chop hay or something, I didn't have to, I was just doing it to help out and then you see when they come

back with their machine they would come back and they'd get hired help to do those things. A lot of times I had a big bale of hay chopped when they got back.

DA: Have you kept a garden?

MB: No I planted a garden one year since I've been here, there's just a small space there and the dogs come in and it just seems like they just tear up everything and I never even pulled a carrot so I didn't plant no more.

DA: If there were some young woman considering moving out to the country, say to a small town like St. Maries, would you have any advice to give her?

MB: No I don't know that I would. Even the younger boys, now Jacob there they could have a nice garden, they've got plenty of room and all but they don't and I like I say the kids was always working in one place or another by the time they was old enough to work and earn a little money.

DA: How do you feel about your granddaughters working as opposed to staying home and raising children?

MB: I don't know that's their choice. Now Judy, the one in Texas, she had a babysitter with that youngster and now to me if a mother would stay home and take care of their little kids that's far better and I think they are closer. Because you see you take a little kid and the mother goes to work and she goes to pick her little kid up, she's tired from her work anyway and the little kids been away all day and when they first get home after they've been away, you know they are anxious to get home and there's a tired mother there with that little youngster and they are just not with their kids enough.

DA: Have you ever been to Texas?

MB: No

DA: Have you ever had the desire to travel around the United States?

MB: Oh I've thought about it, I'd like to go but I don't want to go alone.

DA: Is there some place you would go?

MB: Well not in particular, no. I have a sister that live in Redmond, Oregon and her and another lady took off and they took that tour of the Pacific and she's a and she's had open heart surgery and she's not too good but the doctor told her she could be gone for a couple of weeks and take a trip. So they went on and this lady has travelled all over Europe, South America and United States; she's a Russian and she's travelled every place, I like her real well, I met her down there. They took this trip and they were gone 16 days, she just got back and she had to see the doctor and I think she was in the hospital a couple of days to get straightened out better. She's had 16 or 17 open heart surgeries, they made a fub dub up on the big surgery and then they sent her back to Boston, Massachusetts twice to make corrections. A nurse would go with her and her daughter; the arrangements were all made, they'd get on the plane and away she would fly away with her daughter with her and they'd meet her there and then she'd go to this hospital and they'd take care of her, they had a thousand rooms there in that place, it was a big big place and so they flew her back there twice. The doctor was down in Bend, Oregon.

DA: What kind of activities did you participate in when you were growing up?

MB: We used to sœigh ride and we used to go out on the ice and we'd play different games out of the snow, make fox and geese trails and deer trails and different things like that and we'd go romp around in the snow and throw snowballs at one another.

DA: Did your children do those same sorts of things?

MB: Quite a bit the same, you see we were out in the country a little ways and other kids would come to our place and play. This Mr. Asbury that lives here in town he used to come over and he'd stay there with the boys quite a lot. Robert Johnson, he lives over at Coeur d'Alent, he's married now, he used to come there quite a bit and stay and Ralphs brother's boy used to stay (end of tape 11 side 2) there with us a lot, they lived

down in Emida, their boys were about our boys ages. We had kids around there all the time. I don't know our kids stayed home and then other kids would come there. They wouldn't go down around Emida, there was nothing there for the kids anyway so the kids would come up there, they had nice times together. I'd make candy and they'd pull taffy and maybe popcorn, eat apples, they seemed to enjoy it, playing in the snow.

DA: Did you make the taffy for them to pull or did they make it themselves?

MB: Sometimes they made it and sometimes I made it, it worked out better if I made it.

DA: I've never been to a taffy pulling.

MB: When I was a youngster they used to have the taffy parties and used to have the taffy pulling and the mother would make a pan of taffy and until you can start to pulling it and then give each kid so much and you'd take it and roll it on a table of flour and then they'd cut it and then they'd pull it and pull it until it turned white, oh it used to be a lot of fun.

DA: What are some of the other things you did that are kind of like that?

MB: They played different games in the house.

(end of interview tape 12 side 1)