

LADY KORB

<u>Minute</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>
4.3	Beginning of tape.
5.1	Advantages of living where she lives - close to the city.
6.4	How she feels about her life in the country.
8	Being a sick young child.
9.1	Living alone.
9.7	Description of home and apartment.
10.7	Financial situation; where husband worked, where she worked.
12.7	How things were done in the kitchen where she worked; coming of electricity.
14	Baking dinners and lunches.
16.6	Picking huckleberries and napping on a log.
16.8	Where she loves to be.
17.1	Relationships between people in camp.
17.3	What they did.
17.7	Looking for work at the CUB at WSU.
18.2	Financial income; social security, acreage, rent.
18.9	Amount of land she owns.
19.1	When she was a child; family life, financial situation, what they did for fun.
21.1	Kids' relationships.
21.4	Having iceskates.
22.4	Going to school.
22.6	Beong rheumatic, missing school.
24	Brother's schooling.
25.6	Father being a minister, activities in the church.
26	Singing in the choir; brother & sister act.
26.3	Orchestra at home.
26.8	Going to Capital Beach for a day.
27.5	After high school; going to college.

This is an interview with Lady Korb on June 19, 1975 in St. Maries, Idaho. The interviewer is Erma Wood.

LK: Well I have many advantages of living as close to town as I do, only a quarter of a mile from town and especially since they have paved the road up to my house, it's almost like living in town and I have this wonderful valley to look at. I call it My Green Valley. Of course there are many other homes out in the valley, they had to sub divide some of the valley and so it really isn't as much my green valley anymore as it used to be. I wouldn't trade my life in the country for any place in town. I never have ever wanted to live in town. I grew up in a city and never liked it even at that time although we lived on sort of the edge of town but every chance I got I went to the country to my uncle's and my aunt's and my grandmother's and would spend the whole summer with them whenever I had the chance and my mother let me go quite often because when I was three I had the measles and my father always said they settled in my heart but they gave me rheumatic fever and a bad heart also. The bad heart came from the rheumatic fever so I was quite a sickly young child so they kept me away from my brothers and sisters. My mother would send me to other places where there weren't other children so I enjoyed this life on the farm and had all the good wholesome farm products and all the milk I could drink, and things every summer. Right now I live all alone, my husband has passed on, he left me many years ago and my children have grown, I have two boys and my children have grown so I live here on my place all by myself. I have a big nine room home and it got to big for me by myself so I made me a small apartment in another building that I had on the place and it's very comfortable for me and I rent my big house, I made a duplex out of my large house, so I have income to help me that way and it's very providing.

EW: Did you want to say something about your garden?

LK: I have nothing to worry about financially. Like I say I have my place rented and I worked for a number of years after my husband passed away

for the Potlatch Timber Company, I worked for them and their camps, mostly at Camp 44 near Avery, Idaho. I enjoyed it very much up there, I was part of the kitchen help. Sometimes I was first cook, sometimes I was second cook, sometimes I was baker and sometimes I waited on the tables it was according where we needed the help the most, wherever I worked. If we had somebody that could take over the kitchen better, the work there was quite heavy, the big pots and pans. When I first went to work for Potlatch, we had 150 men to feed three times a day and of course that's very heavy work and everything was done by hand at that time, although we did have electric lights but we didn't have any electrical equipment but in the later years they brought in the electrical equipment for us so we didn't have to cut any bacon by hand, we didn't have to slice any meat by hand after that. We also had a machine to do our mixing, a mixing machine, we mixed our bread and all our cakes and our cookie dough and things like that. Everything that we could mix went into our mixer and we mixed everything that way which was very nice and helped us very very much. But we baked everything that went on the table. We would have hot rolls every evening. We made all of our own bread for the men's use at the table, and for their lunches we had all that lunch meat to slice and we put it on platters and we would put it out in the morning and the men would come in and build their own lunches and we had coffee sitting there for them to fill up their own thermos bottles, they filled up their own thermos bottles and make up their own sandwiches. We had plenty of sweets there and they could have doughnuts, they could have pie, cookies, cake or sometimes we even had colors for them and they would build these lunches and always fresh fruit, they had fresh fruit to eat also in their lunches and we had canned fruit, if they had a little jar they could fill their little jar and have canned fruit. They would do this in the morning before breakfast, then they would come in and eat their breakfast and oh

the stacks of pancakes they would eat. Then we had such good times in the camp, when we weren't busy working we would take time off and almost every day and go out in the woods a little bit. There's sometimes the rest of them would pick huckleberries all around me and I'd lay on the log and have a little nap because I was tired and I would rest. But just to be out in the woods is what I liked to be. I could've stayed at home which is what the company provided for all of us and we had families in camp and we were just like one big family, the women and children. We'd go on picnics and fishing and then in the fall several of us would hunt together and in the spring we would mushroom together and we just really had a good time all the years that I spent in the camp which was 25 years I spent in the Potlatch camps. When Potlatch closed their camps I was looking for work and I was able to secure a job as a first cook in the Student Union Building at Wash. State Univ. in Pullman, Wash. and I stayed there until I retired. So I built me up a good social security and with my social security and my rent money I am able to get by real well now. Then I have a small acreage, I have sold part of the land, I did right away when I first became a widow, I couldn't farm all of it so I sold all of my bottom land that was under the dike, I sold all of that so I just have 30 acres left and I had some hay land then to sell each year, the hay off of. When I was a child, my brothers and sisters and I we used to have lots of fun. My folks couldn't afford; there was four of us, my folks could not afford to have everything for all of us so one brother got a pair of boxing gloves and we would all put on the boxing gloves and take turns and in boxing. We had one pair of skates between us and we'd take turns on our skates. We had one bicycle between us and we'd take turns on that bicycle and we had a baseball outfit and we would play baseball out in the street and my father would play with us. He was quite a man to play with the children and he always looked after us and we children always

stayed home, we weren't allowed to go anywhere. Anybody could come, he didn't care how many came to our house, they could come and it seemed like I was the only girl and when I got a little bigger or when I was strong enough I could go out with them. I might be the only girl and all the rest would be boys and my dad, but I had a lot of fun anyway. We would play and nobody ever bickered to mach about anything, like it was their turn to have this or their turn to have that. It seemed like we always got along alright, but when it came to ~~roller~~^{ice} skates, I don't know how come we had more ice skates but my two brothers and myself each had a pair of ice skates and we could go ice skating by ourselves. In those days ice skates were not what they are now. The ice skates, we had to fasten on to our shoes, whatever we had, nobody had shoe skates in those days and so those skates didn't cost very much money. It seemed to me like they only cost about a dollar or a dollar and a half or something like that. We were able to get them, probably some of them were hand me downs from somebody else. We used to go to school, our school was five blocks away. My brothers and my sisters and I, we'd go to school and being a little rheumatic, I used to get arthritis a lot and sometimes I'd get it in my legs in one leg or the other and I couldn't walk very well so they'd take my hand and start running and I'd have to go on one leg and go to school. But I didn't want to miss any more school than I had to and I used to cry when I'd be sick and couldn't go to school, I'd cry. After I was in about the third grade, they had a teacher come around and teach the children that couldn't get into school. So I was able always to make my grades. Sometimes I passed what they called on time and I had six weeks for them to make up their mind whether I was gonna be able to make my grade or not but I always made it and they never put me back ~~once~~. Then my little brother was so smart he kept skipping until finally he was up with me but he kind of lived to regret it. Here, not very long ago

we had a family reunion and he was telling our nephew, "if it hadn't of been for your father," he said "I never would've passed, because I skipped all my fractions and I didn't know them and I never would've but my older sister married and her husband was a timekeeper and he knew his arithmetic and he taught us both arithmetic." And Howard to this day, he retired now but he taught all his life in one school, he never went from the very first school. He was at the Jefferson High School in Dallas, Texas all of his teaching years he taught high school there and he never forgot how our brother-in-law helped us through our arithmetic and especially him. Of course, my father being a minister, we had many activities in the church; we had church we all sang in the choir although I can't carry a tune in a bucket but I sang in the choir and my brothers played in the orchestra and my sister would play the piano sometimes, she always played the piano in Sunday School then there would be someone else take over the piano for the orchestra sometimes but we always had an orchestra at home and there would be different ones in the neighborhood that would play instruments and they would come down at least once a week and play and so much fun that we had around the piano in the evening and it would always be in the evening and sometimes it would be in the afternoon that they would come and they would play and congregate and such times we had playing and we never thought of money, had very little money, we never even wanted to go to money. I remember when my mother would give us a quarter and we would go out to a place called Capitol Beach and spend our quarter and a street car check and we sit out there all day and have a good time and then get on the street car because we couldn't spend our street car check for anything, only to come home on. So she knew we would always get home alright. When I got to the high school, I went on to the University, my health was so much better then during my high school years, I health began to improve quite considerably

and I went on and went two years to the Univ. of Nebraska and then I went teaching and I taught two years and during that two years, well in fact the first year, I met a man and the more I saw of him, of course the more I liked him and finally at the end of my teaching the end of my second year, we had decided that we would get married. So on June 18, 1924 we were married and my girlfriend wanted to get married at the same time, they wanted to get married in Council Bluffs, Iowa, she and her friend. So we all went over there and had a double ring ceremony in Council Bluffs, Iowa and we had so much fun because the minister's name was ringer. We kind of laughed over that because we said he had a double ringer that day. The other couple, the man's name was Victor Slussoman and the minister stumbled over his name and I giggled and my husband giggled and my girlfriend frowned at us and everyone giggled when he stumbled over his name. At the time Victor had a cough and it wasn't long before he was bedfast with TB and he didn't live very long afterwards which was a very sad thing for all of us. My cousin told me, "she said "well I hate to say it, there is always one when you have a double wedding who is never happy, if something happens to one of the couples. I was real glad in a way that it was them, although I felt sorry for them. I was glad it wasn't me that had the bad luck and then I was married a year and three months and then I had a baby son and he was so beautiful, I thought. So tiney and the doctor I had been going to, the specialist was out of town the night he was born and we had to have a strange man, a strange doctor come and I didn't even make it to the hospital because I had just seen the doctor just two days before and he said it would be all of two weeks and so when I took sick we didn't know what was the matter exactly and my husbands said it was something you ate so I stayed at home I waited for the doctor to come and when he came I was holding my baby to keep him from being born. So the doctor said, "well we're gonna have a baby righ now," I said, "Oh

no, I have to go to the hospital." And he said, you can't go to the hospital." So my baby boy was born at home, I never made it to the hospital and the next day he found a nurse for me and sent her out to our house and she stayed with me for ten days. In those days you always stayed in bed for ten days with your baby and then you wasn't able to get up and do very much. So I found out after I had that baby that I would never have any more children so right away we didn't want to raise this boy by ourselves so we tried to find another boy or another child and as it turned out it happened to be a boy and he was older than our boy. He was ten months older than our boy but we were able to get him so the two were almost like twins. What one did the other one did and they got along beautifully there was never any dissention among them; no fights. When I was growing up, once in a while, we kids used to bicker and fight and I can remember my dad making us kiss and make up and you know that was the worse thing we could do was kiss each other and make up. Not knowing anything about childbirth, I'd never been around a brand new baby but one since then and one of my tenants had a little baby girl and she came home from the hospital the very next day. I guess she was in the hospital one full day after the baby was born and then the morning of the next day the second day after the baby was born, that next day, she came home. I was working at camp and I came home from camp and went over to see her, and she said "oh I'm so glad you are here, you can bathe the baby." I hadn't even bathed my own baby when it was that young but I bathed the baby and I was frightened almost to death, for fear I wouldn't do it just right and something would go wrong. Sally lived through my bathing alright, her mother had varicose veins and had to stay in bed for awhile so she depended on the neighbors to come in and bathe the baby each day. The lady that lived in the upstairs apartment seen that they got something to eat and I guess Mrs. Hartman got out of bed a little bit, too,

to do a little bit but she had to spend most of her time in bed; ^{until} Her
veins got a little bit better. Then this boy that we raised, I sent him
on to the Univ.; my husband had passed away before he got through the
Univ.; he had only started his first year at the Univ. when my husband
passed away. So I finished sending him to the Univ. Of course the war
had come on and he'd gone to war, both of my boys were in the war. My own
son went as a sailor and my foster son went as a soldier boy and he was
over in France and Germany and when he came home he wanted to go on to
school and so we seen to it that he got; of course he got some on his
GI loan and that helped immensely and by my ~~helping or~~ working for the
Potlatch Forest I was able to help him through the school. He became a
teacher and at this time he is teaching in Corvallis, Oregon in one high
school there called the Corvallis High School. They have three high
schools there and he will be 51 this November and he has four children,
two boys and two girls and I just received word today that his second
son just got married. They are a beautiful Christian family, they've all
been saved and the girl that Clayton just married also gave her life to
the Lord so we are ~~l~~very happy for them. The oldest boy is married to a
schoolteacher, they seem to be getting along just fine and his oldest
daughter doesn't want to go to school, she goes to high school but she
doesn't want to go on to the Univ. She's falling in my footsteps, she's
got a job in a kitchen, helping cook at the Country Club there at Cor-
vallis and she loves her job immensely. She worked there in the later part
of March and she has already saved over \$400.00 So we think she's doing
just marvelously. Then the little girl is 13 years old and she is of
course is getting along just fine. She has a bicycle to ride and one of
her girlfriends that lives right close has a horse and they get on this
horse and ride and have a good time on that.

And for relaxation, I love to fish and hunt and work in my garden and