

INTERVIEW SUMMARY-TAPE INDEX

NAME: WARREN, Myrtle
DATE OF INTERVIEW:
LOCATION:
INTERVIEWER:
REEL NO.

TAPE MINUTE	MANUSCRIPT PAGE	SUMMARY OF CONTENTS
0-7:00		Pictures on grandparent's home. Book of father's that he carried all the time. Personal Data Sheet.
7:01-11:10		Husband a school teacher; parents' feelings about Myrtle's marriage. Planning number of children - lost one child - had no medical attention. Had child at home.
11:11-17:18		Reasons for marriage. Husband going to school in Moscow. School during childhood days.
17:19-21:05		Childhood life with brother-- chores around the house. Gathering gravel as a child.
21:06-30:20		Raising chickens - trying to make money towards support. Quilting, crocheting, knitting abilities.
30:21-39:50		Current interests - plays, T.V. Discussion of country living. Various reading materials. Making homemade ice cream.
39:51-44:30		Doing volunteer work - getting out and working.

MYRTLE CRESSLER WARREN

Syringa, Kamiah, Lewiston Idaho

b. 1900

cooked in private household, housewife, volunteer work

minute	page
	1 Discussion of an heirloom painting. A handed down book given to her mother by a miner
	3 About the miner
	4 Meeting her husband. Her parents feelings toward him
	5 A miscarriage. Childbirth experience.
	6 Putting her husband through school, moving to Kamiah afterwards. Literary Society, Christmas programs in Kamiah.
	8 Childhood chores. Her mother developed her interest in plants.
	10 Helping to support her husband and children. Quilting
	13 Depression experience. Admiration for Kendrick woman who had just published a recipe book
	16 Gathering ice to make ice cream
	17 Volunteer work. Cost of buying a house

IV: I feel like I'm a card dealer dealing out interviewers.

MW: Yeah, that's the way card dealers do.

IV: I was just with Agnes for two hours and she's a wonderful person.

MW: She is a wonderful person.

IV: She kept saying, "I want you to go meet Myrtle, she's a wonderful person."

MW: Yeah, I met [her] over at the hospital. Her and I worked over there together, that's where I met Agnes. My husband, Todd, over here, he met her daughter. He liked her daughter real well, the one that's out in the orchard.

IV: Can I ask about the paintings?

MW: Yeah. That's painted in 1815, hand painted. They didn't have cameras in those days, you see, and you sat for your portraits, you know. Just like we do; we go downtown and sit for our pictures.

MW: Oh, they had beautiful frames on it at one time, but the horses give out so they took the frames off and threw them away.

IV: Can you imagine what the frames would be like?

MW: They were beautiful frames, but I have never seen them. Wherever they went, wherever we lived as a family, they hung that up, the picture, they hung it up. My cousin and I was talking about it and I said, "Well, you know what it means to me, Ethel?" She said, "No." And I said, "Well, it means home to me," I said, "you know, wherever my grandparents lived, why, they always had those pictures hanging up." And that meant home to us. And she has one over in Portland. She has a painting and her's is a lady, a woman with a bonnet on. This is Sam Cordis and the other is ...

IV: That's just beautiful!

MW: Well, yeah. They should be kept, and my children that live in San Francisco, they want it, they said they'll take care of it. So, I'm glad to know that they want it and will take care of it.

IV: They'll take it.

MW: Yeah, that's right. You know, we're not here on earth very long and then somebody else will have to care for it.

IV: You want to know, don't you?

MW: I don't care who has it just as long as somebody will take care of it. It's just the idea that somebody will take care of it.

IV: My father's got a book that I love by Charles Dickens; it's A Christmas Carol. He read it to us every Christmas when we were young and I said I wanted that book and it's so old now. It's so worn, so he told me when he died I get the book and I was so excited that he would give that to me.

MW: Here's a book that I'm interested in too. Now, my mother was a very young girl way up this Clearwater River. Why, there was a miner there that just mined and he was out there and good land sakes away from civilization all together, and what do you supposed he did? He got that and gave it to my mother when she was about 15. And you know I think an awful lot of that. Now, there he was way out there in the woods. It didn't make any difference where he was, he still had a little culture.

IV: He sure did.

MW: He loved the finer things. If you notice in there in some of those, he underlined them.

IV: It doesn't say when the book was published, does it?

MW: No, I don't know anything about the book. I asked my mother if I couldn't have it on account of it was so old and he had given it to her. I imagine, you know, he liked her and so he give her that book.

IV: It looks like he's underlined things that really meant a lot to him.

MW: Yeah, that's right. He underlined clear things. Sometimes I read the things that he underlined.

IV: This is interesting. Does it tell you a little more about him?

MW: Well, yeah. It tells even as simple a life as he led, he still had a little culture, you know, the finer things in life. Even if they were miners and lived a rough life.

IV: Things were important to them.

MW: Yeah. It's old; I don't know if it's worth anything, but that doesn't make any difference. And I must write this, you see, he writes this on here: "To make habitually a new estimate, that is an elevation." All those little things he marked, but there was one here that especially that I liked. One here I liked real well was in love.

IV: There was one I remember hearing.

MW: All the world loves a lover?

IV: Yeah, that's it.

MW: You wouldn't think that even a miner would have things like that.

IV: Isn't it a pretty cover, too?

MW: Unusual. This looks like a piece of leather here and this funny board, and there's not a thing written in it, not a thing. No date or anything. Why don't people put dates on things?

IV: I don't know.

MW: I've got to write something in that because you know that's too bad. Now my children won't have any idea; they wouldn't have any idea where that come from without I told them.

IV: Right.

MW: There isn't a thing in there. And if it wasn't for me, my mother telling me where it come from, I wouldn't know where it come from either.

IV: What was your husband's name?

MW: Harry Warren.

IV: How did you meet?

MW: Oh, he come to my house every noon. He was a schoolteacher.

IV: He was a schoolteacher?

MW: Yes, he taught for 22 years, did nothing else, didn't want to do anything else. He just liked teaching school.

IV: Did your parents like him?

MW: No.

IV: They didn't?

MW: No. They had another man that was better fixed than he was because he just taught school. But I didn't think anything about it. You can never tell; children don't always do like parents want them to.

IV: That's right; that's still happening.

MW: I think, though, the reason Dad did it was that he was a finer one, that was all. He liked the finer things of life and I suppose most of us do, I don't know. Sometimes, now, I feel like just throwing all this stuff out and just living in a, you know, just simple because I've lived that way and I liked it. But, of course, I'll just live here like I have. You wonder sometimes and I think parents do that because they want their children to have ...

IV: They want the best.

MW: Yeah, that's right, they want the best for their children and that's the reason why they do that, because their finances look a little better than this man. Well, this man, they wanted me to marry, well, he was quite well to do at that time, considering. Of course, Harry was just starting out teaching school. He thought the other one was better, he didn't say too much about it, but he let you know.

IV: Did you and your husband talk about how many children you wanted to have?

MW: No, we thought we'd have two or three, three or four; but, we only had that one. I had kind of a tragic ... I don't know, I lost one afterwards. I didn't have a doctor and I thought maybe there was something wrong. I never had any more children. Now,

whether that miscarriage caused that or I wasn't supposed to have them, of course, I never knew. When we were living out on that mountain at [unintelligible] and it was about 30 miles from town and it was about zero weather and we had about three feet of snow and the doctor wasn't going to take any trips. He'd had to come horseback. We had roads in those days, but they was underneath the snow and they didn't plow them out like they do and they didn't have cars. Cars got stuck in the snow, so they just didn't get over there. So, he didn't come out. I let him know, I wrote to him or had somebody phone for him, I don't remember. I think I wrote to him that I was ailing and he just wrote back and said he thought I had lost a child and he never said anything about coming out.

IV: Did most people have their children at home, then?

MW: Yes, they did in those days. They don't allow them to do it anymore and it's not good.

IV: Was your husband able to be right there with you when you had your baby?

MW: Yeah, he was there. Of course, he was gone in the daytime, but he was there at night. Now, we had plans; we had the older child, you see, and we had plans on Harry going up to Moscow and going to school the next winter. We did make it, we went up to Moscow and went to school the next winter and I was supposed to

have the baby up there, you see, and have it in the hospital. But, I lost the baby before I was up in Moscow. We planned, you see, we planned lots of things.

IV: Yeah, you plan things and then things happen.

MW: What is it, the best laid plans of mice and men all go astray?

IV: Can you think of any particular reasons why you got married? Did you have reasons why you wanted to get married?

MW: No, we didn't have any. We were just in love, I guess. We went down here in Lewiston, we were married there. We lived up the, uh ... I've been outdoors working. We lived way up on Bear Ridge at that time, that's where he was teaching, on Bear Ridge. He taught school and went to school, taught school and went to school. And when this baby was to be born, we were going up to Moscow. We were saving up money, you see, saving up money to go to Moscow so he could get more education. I don't think he was getting a degree at that time -- he did finally get a degree, but not at that time. We lived up in Moscow the next winter. I wasn't very well all the rest of the winter. That next winter, I wasn't very well, but we lived up there and he went to school. He worked awful hard. He got good grades but he worked hard.

IV: Yeah, I'm trying to help my husband through school now.

MW: Yeah. Now, I could've worked if I hadn't of had this small child. I could have worked. But in those days, you didn't hire and in those days they didn't have places [where] they were kept like they do now. And I could've done it that way but I didn't. We just went up there on top of that mountain and we only paid \$5 a month rent, so we could save money. But, of course, we spent it all, too. The next winter we spent it all. Then, we went to ... and then it was getting hard times and the schools themselves consolidated and then, he went up to Moscow, and then he went up to Kamiah, east Kamiah, and he taught there, but they were going to consolidate. They were getting better roads, you see, so you could go into Kamiah.

IV: How did he feel about consolidation?

MW: Well, he just took it as a matter of fact, and I think he thought it was all right. I don't remember him ever saying anything.

IV: I did the [unintelligible] at the presentation.

MW: Yeah, I remember that. It sure made me think of our days.

IV: I just love reading about those days.

MW: Yeah, I do, too. I enjoyed those days. We lived simple but just the same. You don't have Literary Society. Have you ever read anything about Literary Society?

IV: No, I haven't.

MW: It's just simply, they call it Literary Society, but I don't think there is any society to it. They went every so often and had programs in school. Now, you see, they didn't have television and radio -- nothing. We had nothing except for what little music that people did themselves. That's all we had. So, you see, we turned to little things and we had programs. Now, when we were on [unintelligible] Creek, we had Literary Society every so often. I don't know whether it was once a week or whether it was once a month. I can't remember. But they had programs, they had little dialogues they called them dialogues in those days, and now I think they call them something else.

IV: We call them dialogues, too, the thing we did in the presentation between the two sisters right at the end -- we called that the dialogue. Now, you are right, I don't think too many people say dialogue.

MW: What do they call them? They call them something else.

IV: Readings?

MW: No, they aren't readings. Readings are when you do it by yourself. Yeah, we had readings and they had little ... where you had news. You'd get up and tell the news that happened all around. You had to be awful careful; they had to be edited because sometimes people put mean things in there. You had to be careful what you read. Well, we always had them, but you ought to stay away from them as much as you can. I remember on [unintelligible] Creek, they had people that wouldn't speak to one another, yet they'd be in a dialogue together. There is something else they called the dialogue, these little short plays. Yeah, something like you did down there, only the grown-ups would do it and they called it Literary Society. Then come Christmas time -- they'd have millions of big programs. Oh, they would have a great big program and every child had to take a part in it. It didn't make any difference whether he knew anything; he had to do it.

IV: Did everybody enjoy it?

MW: Oh yes, because that's all they had. Now at Red Fir, they had lots of programs and they had people there, they was from other countries and they'd see them there all the time and there was pretty, beautiful music. We all enjoyed that because music was something, you know, that we didn't have. You didn't have it in your home unless you made it yourself.

IV: Did you have brothers and sisters?

MW: Yeah, I have a brother.

IV: When you are thinking back to your childhood, can you remember, like did your parents treat you differently from your brother?

MW: I hardly remember anything.

IV: Did you do the same chores?

MW: Well, he did outside chores and I did inside chores, but we learned how to do one another's chores, so if something happened and he didn't get home, I would do his chores. Like taking care of the cows, we all pitched in and did it. And if somebody went away or was away doing something or didn't get home in time, well, we could all do the chores. I can't ever remember feeling that I was ever put out. I can't remember that at all. And underprivileged -- I never thought I was underprivileged. Now you hear that word an awful lot. And this low income -- it was never thought -- we never said that either.

IV: Sounds like you were pretty self-sufficient.

MW: We were, and after we went on payroll wage in 1910 we had neighbors, they lived just exactly the way we did. The money,

they might have managed it differently, but we never had that high or low income, or underprivileged. I never heard that word until we grew up.

IV: Do you think your parents have influenced you in any way in your way of thinking?

MW: Oh yes, I think they did. They taught me how to work and I think that's important. Now it was simple things because I have very little education, but they taught us how to do simple things. Like spading, we knew how to spade, we knew how to hoe, we knew how to pull weeds, we pulled, we knew one weed from another. We could go out in the woods and tell you all the different plants and everything. I remember going up to Glacier Park and people were asking me because they knew that I come from out in the woods and they asked me the different names of plants and things and I was right because my mother taught them to me. And her parents were mining people, but they studied the plants and they liked them.

IV: I just love plants.

MW: I do, too, and I used to raise hundreds of them but I don't raise them anymore.

IV: They take a lot of time.

MW: Yeah, they do, and I thought I had to have a certain kind of gravel and put gravel in the bottom of the little pot, see. I did a lot of little things that was unnecessary, I guess. But I wanted to do it right and I enjoyed handling the dirt. My husband fished and wherever we could go, he went fishing and I gathered stuff for my plants. I gathered certain kinds of coarse gravel and I gathered this dust for, sawdust, to do in and, you know, you learn lots of things about dirt. Sometimes, I got ticks on me, too. I don't like ticks.

IV: I don't either. Do you think there was any one thing or something special that you've done to support your family? I don't mean necessarily financial support, but anything to help out.

MW: I turned everything I could make into a dollar. We raised chidkens and lived off the land. Now, I remember we lived at [unintelligible] during the depression and that was back in '35 or in '29, the markets all went broke. From that time on it was kind of hard for several years there. We raised everything we ate. Well, I liked it and it helped our finances. And I remember our grocery bill when we lived in [unintelligible]. We had an acre of ground and we were paid about nine months out of the year, and I know that we always raised a garden. I can remember in the summertime when the garden was on and the chickens was laying eggs, lots of times our bill for the month was under \$5.00. But

we were careful and we lived off that. We had an acre of ground and we had three or four apple trees and then we had strawberries and we had raspberries and the chickens and we lived off of that. That's what we lived off of. We did that because it helped our finances.

IV: Did you ever enter any of your quilts in the fair?

MW: No.

IV: You never did?

MW: Never thought I had any that were good enough.

IV: You would've probably taken first prize.

MW: Well, I took some lessons down at the "Y" about quilting and I enjoyed every minute of that. There was a woman who had given lessons on quilting and she had beautiful quilts, too.

IV: I would love to learn how to quilt.

MW: It's just practice, practice, and practice.

IV: You have to have patience.

MW: Yeah, that's right, a lot of patience.

IV: It's all handwork, isn't it?

MW: Well, I'd rather it would be. I make mine all handwork. That's a real quilt. If you're going to quilt a quilt, it's easier to quilt it when it's hand quilted. If you sew on the sewing machine you have to sew through that and that's too hard. It's so hard that you can't get in there to it.

IV: Do you do other things besides quilt? You crochet, too, don't you?

MW: But I do crochet, too. I've got a sweater in here somewhere. Oh, that's crochet, I was looking at one thing and you were looking at another. That's knit and I've got another one over there started. I knit one for my daughter-in-law. I've got a white sweater in there I did.

IV: Did you embroider these?

MW: Oh yes, and see, that's padding all around and I've got stacks of those.

IV: Do you put this one on?

MW: I put it on the sewing machine. No, that one is crocheted on.

IV: You have so much talent!

MW: That's crocheted on, but I have some where I quilted them on.

IV: We'll have to get you some to enter in a fair. Did you make this quilt? Did you make that pillow?

MW: Oh, yes. I ought to make some more, I guess; and I knit that afghan over there.

IV: I love the colors, it looks so warm.

MW: Well now, there are pieces that are left over, those pieces. One time, I made my jacket out of that green and I made a jacket and of course I had pieces left over, and you don't waste pieces.

IV: Isn't that neat? I love the quilt you have that uses the different pieces of dresses.

MW: They are all my clothes, all of them are. Sometimes, yes, they meant a lot to us.

IV: That's your family right there on a quilt?

MW: That'r right, and I have a quilt in here that I put all my

places that I lived. That's the top -- I lived there one winter and that's the [unintelligible] Creek. And this is about up the river, about 35 miles. Yeah, and I embroidered this. That's where Harry and I first met and that's where we got married. And then we come down here and lived and went to school down here. That's Kamiah. Now, this is when my son was in Alaska. That's Stites, we lived four years in Stites. We lived on [unintelligible] Creek one winter. Now this is where my son lived in [unintelligible]. My daughter-in-law wants this. [Several more sentences which are mostly unintelligible.] This woman was married about 40 years, so I had to make a bigger quilt. But, that's a good thing for people to make; if you're young, a family, and they are nice to have.

IV: I've got a bunch of clothes and dresses that my sisters are giving me. They are out of style and I hate to get rid of them and I think that I'll keep them and make something with them. It would be neat to make a quilt out of all of them.

MW: Yes, if you can.

IV: You are still quilting now? Is that what you do when you relax?

MW: Yeah. That quilt that I showed you in there on the bed, I just got done quilting that. I'm making that for a friend of

mine and I did it that evening and I enjoyed it.

IV: You make something like that and it's so beautiful and it's so precious and you give it away.

MW: Well, that belongs to somebody else, anyway. It's all finished except for the ruffle. She just lives up here a ways, but they own a place way up the Clearwater. They own a place up near where I used to live. When my husband died, she was nice to me and invited me up. After you've been married 50 years, it's kind of a turn around thing when something happens like that. So, she invited me up there and I was up there a couple of times and I offered to do that quilt for her. That took about a month or six weeks, but I just did it when I wanted to. I didn't work at it too much at one time but I enjoyed it. Now I'm hunting around for another one, I'd like to make another one. I'd like to quilt another one and I quilt it on a hoop. I don't put it up on the frame because it kind of takes up the whole room. And another thing, you can't do it very good by yourself, you know, you can't turn the things very good.

IV: Do you watch TV when you quilt?

MW: It runs.

IV: What do you like to watch?

MW: I don't care too much about TV.

IV: Do you ever watch movies or anything, or do you ever watch "The Waltons?"

MW: Yes, and that's something that put me in mind. My son and I were talking about that. He lives in San Francisco and we were talking about that; it's supposed to be a depression picture and he said, "Well, Mother, they lived a lot better than we lived in the depression." Now, you see, he remembers -- they lived in a better house than we did. We have the same principles as they have, a lot of little unusual things in there that come up. The "Little House on the Prairie" is the same way. And we'd have lots of those good principles, you know, well, we lived that way. Yet they had better things. I think they had a better home than we did. Boy, we lived in horrible places! Now, I don't mean that it made any effect on our personalities or anything. We were always striving for something better. We felt that way. I don't think we ever thought of it; we just lived from day to day and strived for something better. If we got a chance, we'd take something better. Now, when Harry and I come here 32 years ago, the bank had closed on us and we were flat broke. We had saved up a little money and we come down here to Lewiston and bought this piece of ground with an old house on it and we knew the house wasn't any good, but we lived in it just as the same as anybody else would. Tried to keep it clean and neat, tried to be neat. I can't remember us dwelling on things like that.

IV: Do you ever watch any of the musical shows on TV?

MW: Yeah, I like music better than I do some of the shows.

IV: Do you ever watch "Masterpiece Theater?"

MW: Yeah, they are filmed in Moscow someplace, don't they?

IV: I think so, yeah.

MW: Some of those plays. I like those where they discuss things, the events of the day. I like those, but lots of people don't care for them. I like "60 Minutes." That gives me ... they gather it and it's all there so I can know it.

IV: Do you like wildlife shows or shows about animals?

MW: I watch every wildlife show I can.

IV: Sometimes on Saturday and Sunday on nights they have them on for a couple of hours.

MW: Yes, and I watch every one of them. I love those because I have lived outside, I suppose is the reason why. Say, have you heard anything about this Carla Emery that is writing this book? Carla Emery gave me one of her books; she's writing on country living.

IV: I haven't even heard about it.

MW: Well, it's very unusual.

IV: Where does she live?

MW: She lives up in Kendrick. That's one of them, \$12.95 for that.

IV: It's on recipes?

MW: Well, she has a few recipes in there, but it's mostly on country living. She tells about how to do everyday chores while you are living out. Of course, she's run into a snag; she wants to make kind of a commune up there in Kendrick. She wants to buy four or five hundred acres of ground and make a commune, but they don't ...

IV: Does she still have copies? Does she sell them?

MW: Yeah, they are \$12.95. I'll have to write her name down. She's in Kendrick?

MW: Yeah, Carla Emery, Kendrick, Idaho. No box number, really. She tells about home brewed beverages, all about how to make them and she gives a few little recipes, not too many.

IV: But there's a lot of history in there, isn't there?

MW: Yeah, and salt rising bread, she tells all about that.

IV: How old is she?

MW: She's just a young woman. In here somewhere, I think there's a picture of her. She's just a young woman. Some people don't like it; they say she has copied too much stuff, but now I admire her because she is trying to do something. To me, it means what she can do, what she has accomplished. That's a picture of her and her other page here is the other family. I think she has five children. Louise gave me that book and I was telling them about her and somebody says, "Well, she don't take care of her children; she neglects them." You know, she has that opposition.

IV: They look pretty healthy to me.

MW: She has that opposition, you see, but still, I admire her because she has accomplished something.

IV: She's doing what she wants to do.

MW: That's right, and maybe somebody will profit by it; maybe they'll profit by what she tells them.

IV: I'd like to get a copy, I think I'd like to read it.

MW: I have read it because that's quite a book. Yeah, you would have to start at the first and read every bit of it. I haven't got that far yet. It was given to me just this year. Louise gave it to me. That's my husband's niece that lives up in Peck and she had volunteers come and help her put it together. Louise went up there and volunteered a while and I think that is why she got the book. But to me she's accomplishing something.

IV: I think so, too.

MW: Now, whether it's right or wrong, I'm just not going to criticize it. I don't know, I admire anybody that does that. I have a book here, I enjoy this book, this one is put out by Boise Historical Society. You see, my mother was born in Boise and I knew a few people down there. Decker's and Tate's lived in Boise and my cousin over in Portland writes to them and hears from them. My sister-in-law gave me that book and I like it. That's an historical; it's early-day recipes.

IV: Ice cream.

MW: Yeah, we used to make our own ice cream.

IV: I've got an ice cream maker. It's a modern one, but it's something that you have to make your own ice cream in.

MW: Now when we lived on the river and the snow got deep enough, we always cut our ice and buried it in the sawdust and had an ice house.

IV: You didn't have to go out and buy a ten pound keg of ice.

MW: No, but you had to dig it out of sawdust. We had a little cabin and we put the ice in the center and we put the sawdust all around the top and in the summertime we had cows, we milked a few cows, and we'd have ice cream every once in a while in the summertime. It was real good because we had plenty of cream and plenty of fresh eggs. Sometimes, we made it with a custard base and sometimes we just made it with a liquid. It was real good.

IV: Are you in any groups or clubs right now?

MW: No, I don't do much of that. I always thought I wanted to be in a garden club or something like that, but I always neglected. Right now, I'm doing a lot of this volunteer work and that is good.

IV: What kind of volunteer work do you do?

MW: Well, I volunteer over at the hospital and I volunteer over at the museum and I volunteer down at the senior citizens. That just about takes up my time.

IV: That probably keeps you busy.

MW: That's the reason why I do it, and I do more of it since my husband's gone. I do more of it because when he was here, why, we had our interests in one another. He loved to fish and we'd do that. And he kept the yard up better than I do, and there was always these little household things to do. Now, I don't seem to see any household things. When you are married a long, long time you kind of have to reorganize.

IV: I think it's better that you meet people and you are just a wonderful person.

MW: I try to do that on that car. There are some people that I visit and they are so depressed, so upset. I wonder if I would just stop going everywhere and sit up here and shut myself up in this house, I wonder why I wouldn't be depressed. I bet you I would get depressed. I think anybody would. I'd love to get those people out more because they even talk about killing themselves.

IV: Are these older people?

MW: Yeah, they are older people and some are kind of ailing and they say they don't have anything to live for. After all, you get to be our age, your children are living. But there are lots of things to live for; there's a whole world to live for. You can have flowers and plants in your house. There are other people, friends and neighbors.

IV: You just can't stay inside like that. When I first got married, I didn't want to do anything except keep house and after a couple of months, I was bored and I was feeling awful, and then I got out and worked and met people and this changed my life.

MW: Yes it does, it just changes your life. When we first come here, we bought this house, this house and lot. I went to work in the hospital and we had a ten year contract and I wanted to pay that off because I didn't want to pay more interest. So, he started school and I worked at the hospital and we paid that off in five or six years. Then, we tore that other house down and built this house on it and then we owed on this house, \$17,000, to build.

IV: You can't find a house for \$17,000.

MW: It cost us \$17,000 to build and we had \$10,000 saved up. So, we had \$7,000 to borrow. So, I went back to the hospital and worked; I worked extra because I wanted to get on Social Security and most of it was to get this house paid for so that when Harry and I, come time to retire, why, we'd have a place to live, a place that was paid for. Then, I worked over there and I was getting \$50 and he was getting \$150, so he was getting a lot better wages than I was, and we had another ten year contract and we paid that off in three or four years. So, you see, that pays interest. I tried to get my children to see that, but they don't see it.

IV: I'm learning. It's so hard when you are trying to explain something. You take it in one ear and it goes out the other.

MW: We enjoyed working together and paying for these things.