

Conn:

Spoon

Buster Henderson

This is a story by Buster Henderson. March 10th 1990. Here we go.
But anyway, so of course the road, the road that must of been something
eh? The roads that you traveled on would be?

Oh the Carbo Highway was just a trail then. It took us two weeks.

Two weeks to come here?

Yea.

Oh for goodness sake, and well that, 'cause Cambells came in 1928
or something didn't they or '28 or '29.

Something like that.

So you came, you really were in your, just neighbors right next door
to each other.

Yea.

Two weeks!

We got as far as the rock cut down here and then we bogged down in the mud and we walked up to Ted Cambells and he came down with the horses and pulled us out and that first winter we spent in that log house with a dirt floor with flour sacks over the windows and it was thirty, forty below too.

Well that house was still standing there for a long time yasn't it?

Yea, and we lived in it.

Because it seems to me yhen we used to come and visit you, it was
still next door to you.

Yea I put a, built an addition on to it and finally we got a new house built.

No you had, because your new house, no you built your ney house after we got here I guess or not?

Yea I think so.

Oh it was eh, for goodness sake. So there are, gee that must have been hard. So what did you live on that first winter?

Well we got, managed to get credit from Seargent's and they saw us through until we got on our feet. Got a few cows and we'd trade beef for groceries.

Oh I see. So then, and then of course, eventually you started logging you said.

Yea.

Poles, poles and stuff? So what did you use for a vehicle when you didn't have one or did you get one finally?

Oh we had that old '29 chev ton half truck.

Oh but I thought you traded it.

Dad had two of them.

Oh!

He traded the one off for the farm and We came up with the other one.

Oh so when he traded for the farm that's what he left here at that

time.

Yes.

And then he came home, came back some other way, whatever way that was.

Yes.

Oh so he left the vehicle and had that paper in his hand for the land.

Yes.

~sn·t that something? A farm for a truck. So you had the vehicle.

Yea.

Oh my goodness. There must have been some real stories. Did you, go do trapping at all or anything like that?

No I didn't do much trapping. A little bit.

So it was 10gging and cattle?

Yea.

And of course everybody grew a big garden T gness..

I worked out in the bush for, well I worked for Hagens for five years.

Oh yea..

Old Mr. Hagen.

Is that right, so like 10gging was it?

Yea, poles taking out.

Poles. And your dad was more or less on his own or he did his own.

He just stayed on the farm.

~taye~ on the farm.

Cleared land.

Oh I see, yea so of course you cleared the land like for pastures and stuff?

Yea, it was all cleared by hand then.

Oh really?

There weren't any CATS around.

Gosh! Cleared by hand so you would, he would the stumps and all that?

Yea, we used powder to blow the stumps.

Oh boy. And then you'd, so then did you used to burn the stumps-
in your furnace afterwards?

No.

We used to do that at home. It's wonderful heat. It was very great. They were kind of dirty to handle you know but they were great. So cleared by hand. So then, well my goodness. So then, well then let's see, that was 1936 you see, you came, yea and your. so yOU would be what, eighteen years of age?

Eighteen, yea.

Oh my. So then the next thing you know, you're a, going to go an~

I suppose they were a lot of community things that went on were there?

Yea there seemed to be alot. There were always house parties and stuff like that going on.

I understand Love's had, used to have the big Christmas part, and Cambells had the big New Years party or something and then of course there were picnics.

Oh yea they used to have the first of July picnic.

First of July and then there would be . . .

Oh they even had rodeo's too.

Oh yea, rodeo's. Well they were, that was, they were at Kispiox first of all.

Yea and then they had them at the grounds too here.

Later. So did you ever take part in them.

Yea, I used to ride in the odd one.

Did you? What you ride? Broncos?

Yea. Bulls and steers too.

Steers. You mean riding steers? Really.

Yea, well cows.

Oh yea, oh that must have alot of fun. Course there'd be the big dance, did they used to have the dances too?

Oh yea.

And then well I understand the Kispiox had a re~aDd. di~hey
have dances there too? At Kispiox?

Oh yea they used to have real good dances, yea. They had a good orchestra there. Wild Wood Orchestra.

Wild Wood? Is that what they called it? Oh Wild Wood. Is that
right? So then when the war broke out, you didn't have to go to
war?

Yea, I was working at the Red Rose Mine and I quit and joined the army.

Db you did join the army?

Went over sea's.

Oh you did go over sea's, I didn't know that. Oh for goodness sake.
e

But I came back, can't remember just when it was I came back but before the war ended because dad, dad was dying of leukemia.

Oh my.

And through the legion he got me sent home because it left mom alone on the farm.

Oh I see because of the farm.

So I got back.

Db I see. Well so you went to the army, was it the army?

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Yea it was in the artillery.

Artillery. What was the number, do you ...

Regiment?

Or whatever. What did they call you, section or group or whatever?

Oh I was in the seventh field regiment.

Seventh Field Regiment. That's O.K. You never know.

Artillery.

Artillery. O.K. and your dad at that time was dying?

Yes, when I got back I didn't even recognize him. He was just skin and bones.

And how long were you over sea's~

Three years.

Oh you were there three years already. So you were just in England
like is that it?

Yea I was, I came back just before the invasion, in fact we were all down on the coast, just ready to go and I got word I was going back to Canada. 'Cause I'll never forget that, all the guys were clapping me on the back and wondering how I did it, got back to Canada.

Oh my, this is before de-ep, is that it?

Oh it was after de-ep.

After de-ep.

I was over there when the apparade was on.

Oh I see. So that was before the what do they call that invasion,

Oh Dunker.

Oh, oh was it Dunker invasion, no, no there was another name for
~t I thought, I can never remember it .

Oh the D-day.

No no, the invasion, where did they invade at.

France?

~Yea. Yea I know it was in France, or France or Belgium or somewhere
eheYeawell anyway it's O.K. it, because they were celebrating it,
remember they were celebrating it a couple years ago or something ..
0-k..mt. (-

And dad, I think dad, when I got back, he died about a year after
I got back. He was back and forth to Chaunacy two or three times.

Oh so he was in the last war.

He was in the Bore War too.

Oh really.

And the first Great War.

Oh my goodnes~. Oh my goodness. So no wonder he ended up with ~
health in the end eh.

Yes, it's the hardest thing he ever did in his life, when he asked me to come home, or got me to come home.

Oh because he didn't want to ...

No, he figured, you know I'd gone that far, I wanted to see it through but the only way he got me was through the legion, he got the legion working on me.

~h for goodness sake. Well, well that was nice. I guess you hated to leave too, with all the ou.

Yes I sure did. You know, I'd been training for that long ...

And just so anxious to get in and that was really what, just a year before the war finished wasn't it?

Yea.

To get there for the end of it eh?

Yea.

Well, well, well. So then your dad, so your dad must have died sort of right after, just about when the war ended.

Yea, just about, just before it ended.

1945 then I guess. My goodness. So he had leukemia. My goodness. Oh boy. So he really must have suffered did he?

Yes.

Lost alot of weight. So then you had to take over the farm.

Yea.

yea. That was, that's where, it's the same thing that happened to mine. My brother, my dad died of cancer in 1930 and he had to come home and 100k after things. So then that was it, that's where your. outside world ended you might say. So then you must have, must have been shortly after that, that you met Betty, I guess.

Yea, it was 1949 I guess.

So you were married 1950 and your mother was still up here?

Yea. Then she moved down to Surrey.

After you got married?

Yea. Shortly after.

O.K. and then you continued to have, to farm, cattle and then of course logging too.

Yea.

And that was, it was falling mostly.

Yea.

So did you. you must have worked for different people.,

Oh yes. Worked for quite a few different people. Mostly for Norman Hagen.

Mostly, yea.

And his dad before that. Five years for him.

Isn't that njce.

Then I worked for Cancel at, out of, up the Nass, falling there.

How do you spell Cancel?

CAN C E L.

Oh just one L.

Columbia saws I guess.

Oh, C0lumbia. O.K. In the Nass, and that was all falling also?
So that in those days when you were in the Nass, you would go there
for the week like?

Yea, come home on the weekend.

Come home on the weekend. So anyway. Well and I guess that must
have been a big day when, was Heather the Oldest wasn't, isn't she?

Yea.

Heather is the Oldest. Heather and then Duncan is it?

And Joanne.

Oh Joanne. pb yea and Joanne and Duncan.

And then Elaina.

~laina and then?

Robbie.

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Robbie

Shelly

Oh yea, and Shelly. I forgot about her and Pam.

And Pam. I think that got them all.

Yea with seven of them. Yea 'cause Pam was born just about, well she was a year old when we came. She must have been born 1962. So I guess there must have been lots of adventures with the kids. Just simply raising them I suppose. Well Betty, Betty was a nurse, was that right?

Yea.

And nurse at the hospital?

Yea.

So this would be, yea just like Bill got, I guess Nil was working at the hospital too.

That's right.

These farmers would get a hold of these girls. So and of course Betty inaudible She certainly made all their clothes didn't she?

Alot of them.

And I know you were the big gardener. So anything special about the kids as they were growing up. There wasn't any, you know standing things? Good or bad? There weren't any big sicknesses or accidents or anything like that?

No, not really. They were all pretty healthy.

Yea, veIl that's good.

The biggest thing that happened I guess, Shelly fell off a, she was horse back riding and fell off and broke her arm.

Oh really. And I guess, yea I suppose you vere happy to see Duncan born after tvo girls eh?

Yea.

Well three girls really. Elaina vas ...

Oh Duncan comes after Elaina?

Yea.

Oh I see so Duncan and Robbie are run beside the other?

Well Robbie is next to Pam.

Oh yea, yea so Shelly.

Shelly is older than Robbie.

Oh yea so it's Heather, Joanne, Elaine (Elaina),

And then Duncan.

And then Duncan and then. . .

We tried for another boy but it vas **a** girl and .•

then you got another bo •

We finally got another boy.

It's O.K. so anyway. 'Course now, school was a big thing wasn't it.

Oh it sure was.

So e did the o to school?

The school was across the river.

That's where they all went to school?

Yea.

Oh I see. Well did they go, no that's just where it is now, where they used to be?

Right now? Yea.

Oh I see so who vas there. the fjrst teacher there? Do you remember any of thejr teachers? Betty. Betty would know them I guess.

Yea she would.

So did you have to take. • •

Mrs. Shrader taught for a long time.

Oh I see. Oh yea. Mrs. Shrader taught here.

And then the Visserman, Christine .

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Yea Christine Visserman.

She taught there too. And Mrs. Idey, you remember her?

Oh.

I think she taught there.

Idey. So Mrs. Idey well she's Christine's mother-in-law or something isn't she? Oh I don't know. Anyway. And then so shortly after that is was Dee came along but Dee Wood came in 1962 because. • •

Oh that's right, she taught there.

Yea, Dee Wood 'cause that's the year we came, 1963 and she's already~ here a year. So how did they get to school?

I used to have to drive them.

Oh boy. So oh boy.

ICause lid pick up other kids like there was, Gable Louey had their place and there were three, I used to pick up two or three kids there, right take them around.

Oh yea, so it was Hendersons and Cambells were already grown up I guess.

Yea.

Hendersons and Gable, Louey was his last name?

Yea.

So Mary and all them went there too? No.

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No it wasn't Mary.

Dorethy.

Dorethy, Dorethy's kids I guess.

~h yea, Dorethy's kids yea. Oh so Gabriel Louey didn't live here
an that time.

No

It would be Dorethy MCPhearson.

Yea.

L see. So, so that's when the MCPhearson kids started to school
then. For goodness sake. So if they didn't get there, they didn't
et there.

No

Boy, and so I guess, did they have Christmas concerts down there?

Yes.

Guess so. That was a big thing and well for goodness sake what else
is there? There must be.

Then of course when the kids got out of public school here they were
bussed into town. High school in town.

Yea well they get, I think, I remember who was it? Did Pam go to
school here or did she go on the bus everyday?

She went on the bus.

So, because I remember, I remember, Robbie I think did too because
it seems to me I remember Betty saying what a long long day it was.

Yea, when they were smaller.

Yea. So Robbie and Pam both started school there?

Yea.

Oh yea so they went into Johnfield then and the high school.

Yea.

So then of course. Oh boy. Well and then of course you continued
logging, logging of course. Well then of course you sold your house
ah
too didn't you?

Uh huh.

So that was, you sold out oh I don't know. What year did you sell
out? And then you lived down the road here for awhile. Anyway you
sold out. 'Cause that was the time you thought you'd go into town
and then you ended up being up the valley.

Yea we were going to move south, we went, we toured all through the
Kootnies and the Okannogan and looked at all kinds of different places
but I was still working then and I couldn't see where I could get
much bush work down in that country. It was all fruit country.
So we ended up back in the Kispiox and no home and then we rented
the old teacherage, remember we stayed in there?

Oh yea.

A couple of years and I knew about this property Bill Love's but
there'd been quite a few people trying to buy it and they wouldn't,

and this lady, Mrs. Kimble her name was.

Oh yea.

That owned it, she had it for years and she was keeping it for her son or somehthing and I know quite a few people had tried to buy it. So I thought, "Well, I'll just get in touch with her." So I got her phone number and address from Norman Hagen 'cause he'd logged the place off.

Oh yea .
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And I gave her a ring just in case and she said, "Well there's three other people ahead of you that have you know inquired, wanted to buy the place, but," she said, "That was a few years ago and I'll contact, I promised that I'd give them first chance, so I'll contact them, if they don't want it then the place is yours." About a week later, she phoned and said, "Well if you want the place it's yours." 'Cause these other people had got other places in the mean time.

nd her name vas Mrs. Kimble?

Mrs. She was a minister in the Pentacostal Church.

She vas a minister?

She knew Jack Williams and she'd been up here years ago I guess. She knew Norman Hagen well too.

Oh for goodness sake. But she never lived ere?

No she just came up here I think and got this property.

There's no building on it.

Yea there was a nice log house on it.

Oh there vas.

Somebody burned it down just the same year as I bought it I think.

Ah for goodness sake. Because you could have lived in it I suppose.

Oh yea, it was in good shape, real good shape.

And somebody burned it down? Oh for goodness sake.

It used to be called the George Williams, it used to be a Williams place. It was owned by a native fellow from Kispiox.

Yea, goodness sake. George Williams vas the native fell0v?

Yea.

For goodness sake. A 10g house, imagine that. So then you had to build a house.

Yea.

Oh boy

Then I got, Leon Colmes built it.

Oh yea.

Marvin Darvey did all the finishing like the cupboards and everything.

Oh yea.

The doors and the windows.

Oh that was nice. So that would have cost you something to get a house built.

Not in those days it didn't.

So then you lived there for how long then?

Ten years.

ten years. And you continued to log. well did you ever have a garden there?

Oh yea had a big garden.

Lawn and garden.

And I guided in the fall for two months every fall.

Oh yea

For Love brothers and Lee.

So then how long did you guide?

Twelve years.

Did you really? Ah my goodness. Well you must some adventures about y~ur Q"uiding.

Yes.

Oh yea.

I enjoyed that, it was kind of a break from the steady falling all

the time.

Oh yea. So it was mostly Americans was it?

Yea the odd Canadian and some Germans or Europeans.

Yea so, 'cause mostly the animals that you got usually were what, caribou, moose and stuff like that?

Moose and caribou and goat, grizzly.

I see, yea and grizzly. So then you'd have to, did you have to go there with Bill to get, to fix up his cabins once and awhile? Or not so much his cabins but the wood and all that.

We'd go in early usually, about a month ahead before the hunters came in and cut wood and get the cabins all ready and cleaned up. Cut trail.

I guess so.

So I put in close to three months every year.

Three months every year.

Two to three months.

Yea, and special adventures? That you have any particular persons, that you particularly remember?

No, not really. That I can remember.

I mean I guess your job as a guide would be to guide a person onto an animal and let them go ahead and get it.

Yea.

Or did they ask you to get one for them sometimes?

No, not really, we weren't supposed to. Unless the animal was getting away wounded.

Oh yea.

We'd shoot it or something like that.

Did you have any close calls with grizzlies or anything like that?

No.

But you must have got some grizzlies doing it, while you were there, did you?

Well the odd one.

Mostly moose and caribou I guess?

Yea.

~o then you would, of course it was your job to skin them and all that too,

Yea.

Skin the animals and did the people usually take the meat.

Some of them took the meat but it was, especially towards the last, some of them would even come up with tr~cks with refrigeration.

Really?

Took the meat but most of them didn't bother. We used to, if it was handy, the leg or something we'd pack it out and then have it wrapped and froze for me and that when I came out from guiding I'd have all my meat.

Oh so you got your moose meat like that.

Yea. Goat and caribou.

Oh isn't that nice.

So I never bothered hunting myself.

I guess not. And so the fellows used to course keep the heads and all that? Trophies.

Yes.

I guess there were alot of trophies eh?

Oh yea.

Lot's of heads. Heads and antlers.

Capes.

papes, yea I guess that would be the goats and the, goats and well the bears eh? Well no I guess they'd cut the capes for the caribou ~oo.

The cape is just a part of the hide that's back to the shoulder, so they'd make a head mount.

Oh yea. So that's for the moose as well.

Caribou and moose and goat.

Yea. Oh boy so that would be, that would be 10ts to keep you busy.

yea, we were kept pretty busy.

Well did you have to get like if you went out, when you went on a
days hunt, of course there was always a lunch packed I suppose~

Oh yea.

And then did you, you'd have to make a fire and all that for lunch
e
i.s it?
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No. We usually, we packed thermos.

Q9if see.,

Coffee or tea.

:30 nobody wasted time on that, they just simply ate and went. That's
interesting. Did they, did any hunters hunt with bows and arrows
and stuff?

Towards the last we got alot of bow hunters there.

Is that right? And they were able to get the animals too?

Well not so much as a fifle, rifle hunter. •Cause you know the odds
were against them but they did pretty well.

So then if they didn't get one with the boy, you'd shoot it for them?

No. They just went without. They didn't complain either because
they knew that the odds were against them you know with hunting

with a bow because you have to get pretty close to the animal, it takes alot of stalking. You have to get the wind just right.

And so the only time you shot anything was when there was a wounded animal.

Yea, if it was getting away wounded.

And you shot a few of those I guess.

The odd one, not too many.

Yea, so you must have, did you ever correspond with any of those people?

No. No I don't think so. I have had some hunters that came back. But you meet alot of interesting people. There were two hunters to a guide usually.

Oh there were two hunters to guide.

Unless they wanted, some of them would specify, they wanted a guide to themselves of course it would cost them more money.

Oh ea.

But every ten days you'd get a change of hunters.

Oh I see.

So you met alot of different people.

I guess so. Were any of them real corks to get along with?

The odd one but most of them were real good people you know, they're nice to be out with.

Did you ever have any that would just want, all they want to do was take pictures?

No.

Usually wanted to hunt.

Some wanted to do, did alot of fishing.

Oh yea, so of course you did fishing too.

Oh yea.

po, what kind of fishing did you do up there?

Just lake fishing. For rainbow.

Op yea. Oh I see. So I guess they got to be pretty good size too pid they?

No the fish weren't all that big but some of them up to three pounds I guess.

Oh yea. Did you eVer have, did they eyer request to have wild meat ~nd stuff at camp.

Oh yea, they, yea .

. They had alot of wild meat~

Yea we used to eat quite a bit of wild meat.

Oh that must have been nice. And of course it was mostly, who was mostly the cooks then? I guess it was Francis and Lil.

Well when I started it was Francis and Lil and Marsella.

Oh yea.
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I was with Wally, I guided with him and Marsella, Wally and Marsella, at the time that I guided.

Well they were sort of like on different camps is that it?

Yea.

Oh I see.

And then when Wally quit, when Wally sold out. Then I went with Bill and Lil.

Oh yea.

And then I was with Jack and Francis for awhile too.

Oh yea.
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So they had quite a few different cooks while I was there.

So then, like if they were, so they would have, they would divide like, they would divide different camps like Bill and Lil would be in a certain place and Wally in a different. Oh yea. So you were there with Jack and Francis too. Oh that's nice. So you had lots of fun there. I guess evenings were alot of fun. Or maybe everybody was tired by that time.

No. We used to, Bill, Lil and I we used to play crib at the evenings.

Oh yea. All the hunters of course had their own cabin?

They had their own cabins.

eo they'd have their supper and then they'd go whatever they want?

Tell stories I guess. Have a few drinks.

Oh yea. All the hunters would go to their oyn cabins after and I
guess they were glad to relax and so you were, well I guess the cabins
are big enough like you, there was a kitchen and places for you _
all to stay?

Well when I first started guiding, they didn't have any cabins hardly
and so we built these cabins later.

Is that right?

Now there are cabins, real nice log cabins at all the camps.

Oh yea.

But we, we used to have, that's one reason we went in early, to set
up all the tents for Amos and everything and Ray 'cause it was all
tents, the hunters slept in tents.

I see, so tent frames?

Yea and I did too, I slept in a tent.

Oh yea.

The last few years we had nice cabins.

Oh yea. So, well that's, 'cause my goodness, so you must have started
coming, gOlly, that would be quite a few years ago. My goodness.
Must be what, about fifteen years ago then, you went hunting.

Yea I guess it is.

'Cause my goodness, Wally must be out of there for at least, I don't know.

He's been out quite awhile.

Yea. And so anyhow, so you

Yea we'd be about fifteen years. I think I only guided one year after we moved into the new log house down here.

Yea, for goodness sake. Yea because you say you bought that one, lets see, you said you sold it, the property, oh you didn't say what year, you didn't remember what year it was. But anyway. Well ~ of course you lived their ten years ago, I mean if you lived their ten years and it's what, it must be five years since you left there.

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Yes it's going on five years.

Isn't that something? So it's like, so like fifteen years ago tha~ you had, fifteen years ago, that's 1990, 15, that's five, 1975. About 1975 is when you moved in there. And then as you say you were there only about a year so if you hunted for about, guiding for how many years did you say?

Between ten and twelve years.

Ten or twelve years, well lets say twelve years so that would have been oh 1963. Oh you must have been guiding from when you came here.

When I first came?

When we first came.

Oh when you, yea I think I started just about then.

Yea so from about 1963 to about 1975 or so. Well good for you.

In fact they, they bought, Loves they only had part of that territory and the~ bought Kitchener Lake and Stoff Lake after I, I'd been guiding for them for quite awhile. They bought it from two brothers that owned that.

Isn't that something? Well that makes it very, very interesting.
Now what else that's interesting? So, so that made it, yea and of
course Betty, and then of course when you sold here you really want~4
to go to town is that it or something like that? When you sold up
here?

Well we were going to move to, to Smithers.

Oh yea.

We stayed there for awhile and moved back here. Ended up in Hazelton.

Funny how it goes eh?

Yea.

So then itil 1985 or something, yea I guess so if it was five years
?go, so for five years well you've been in Hazelton for a couple
of years haven't you?,

Three years.

Oh three years. So it's about, three years so you've must have got
here in 1982 I mean 188 no 80, 187 or something like that~

Yea.

So you went through about three years of turbulence. I know that it's really hard. You know it's sometimes, people say oh they went away and then they wonder why they ever get back especially sometimes when there's a death in the family, people do that and I remember there was a person, oh I can't remember her name and her husband had died and she went on her way and then she wondered why she ever left Hazelton 'cause she'd left all her friend eh? So anyway. So then you more or less retired.

Uh huh.

From 10gging, that why, just about done eh? Well how 10ng have you been retired now?

Let see now, three, four just about four years.

Four years.

Yea.

So that'll be 1986 you retired. You must have been still 10gging.

I worked 'til I was 67 and I'm 71 now.

Oh yea.

But just turned 71 in February.

Oh yea. So'oh yea so then you reti~~d~~t~67. Well aDd ~hab's from ~alling.

Oh yea well I didn't do much falling that last year, all I did was

we flew in with a helicopter and looked at that timber, remember they were going to buy up, get up north.

Oh yea.

Hazelton was trying to get and they didn't get it, the Sustat.

Oh you mean, oh the Sustat, oh yea.

We flew in with a chopper and flew allover that country, even up into the country where I'd guided. Duti Lake and all through there.

Yea that's Duti, that was Duti, Duti was it? That's D U T Y?

Yea. D UTI.

D UTI, Duti Lake, what's the other one? What's the other lakes
that there are, that you guided up there?

There was Kitchener.

Oh yea, Kitchener.

And Stalk.

Oh ea.

And Tatla-tooey.

Tatla-tooey.

And Tootatty.

Tootatty, I know that.

And they had a camp on the Firesteal River.

Oh yea, gosh.

And they had other, they had Slamgeese but they sold that, and Stevens and they sold that too, to Doctor Stachio.

Yea he bought some of that.

That used to be Loves's territory.

Oh yea, did he have a big territory?

Yea they did.

So that last year you were, as you say you did alot of cruising and stuff like that.

Went into more country in that week we were up there than, 'cause we were flying every day in the helicopter and we'd check, fall some trees and check them out for age and rotten.

Oh I see.

And height 'and everything.

And then afterwards that didn't come this way after all.

No.

But you got the trip.

The land right around the grade, alot of the times I've, B.C.R. grade there.

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Oh where, oh where the railroad was.

Yea the old railroad grade.

For gosh sakes.

And checked timber along there. That was interesting. We stayed in a fishing lodge on the Sustat River there.

Oh.

Big lodge there. Alot of fishermen stay in there.

That would be Gary and Bet Lember's place, was it?

He's from down Vernon I think, this fellow.

Oh I see, oh maybe it's a different ...

Like I don't remember his name.

Oh, oh I see. No, no it wouldn't be Gary.

They had a nice lodge there.

Oh yea. So who was it that you flew with?

Was Okannogan,

Yea but I mean what company?

Well that was for Westar.

Oh Westar. Yea so they, so that's. Well, well, well so you did all this checking and that was your last year more or less.

Yea, that's about all I did that year.

Yea and then it was time to take it easy. Well my goodness it's,
you just didn't get, get your hobbies organized eh?

No.

Buster, that's, I guess they say a person has to really get ready
for retirement, they really do you know.

Well I've never given it a thought.

The people that, because it's ...

And I haven't any hobby or anything so it's pretty hard, you worked hard all your life and your sitting around.

Yea. So you'll have to do something about that. You have to, well
join this cribbage outfit or something, well just to play a couple
of games of cribbage, I love cribbage.

I used to.

So anyways, well if you get, because you should go to the Senior
Games with us Buster next October. Because you would see how these
people take part in all these different things you know, it's just
amazing but, but you have to first of all, did you ever, did you
ever la darts?

Oh yea, I played alot of them, especially when I was over seas.

Well we have a dart board in the legion, you must belong to the legion.

Yes, yes.

20 there's a dart board there and we have to get her going, get you
and see who else we can get going because we need people to play
these things and the things are there.

~

Yea.

You know to play with so maybe we'll get organized here and get you
to do that and because otherwise you just do odd jobs eh, whatever
you can get anywhere eh? I guess this house sitting is very popula~
too because people like to go away and then have somebody look after
they're place. So anyway but of course you couldn't go to Australia
right now.

Well I have my passport, that's a start.

~Good for five years anyway.

Yea.

What do they charge for passport now.

\$10.50

Oh \$10.50, oh well.

Dh that's just for your picture. I haven't sent away for my passport yet.

Yes because it used to be \$12, probably \$20.

Yea I think it's still ..

Still \$12?

No \$15 I believe.

Oh fifteen. Oh I see cause sO, yea I know.

No I still have to send that away I just got the picture taken yesterday.

Well good for you. Sure you get it all organized. That's nice, it's
nice to have a passport anyway. So anyway in the meantime Heather
married Ben, how do they spell their last name~

S I K K E S.

So they been, Heather and Ben they have two children, girl and a
boy eh?

Yea.

And so Ben is a mechanic and owns his own business right?

Yea.

I guess he's busy there eh?

Oh he sure is.

I guess he's a good, good guy. And they've been to Australia and,
and back again.

Yea. They were a year.

Yea, one year. One year in Australia. And Joanne, she, she's in
Australia right now?

No she's home.

Oh she's back at Telkwa?

Yea. She was six months in Australia.

Oh yea and she has one girl.

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Yes.

Gosh she must be growing up.

Oh she is, yea.

So, so she's just staying, housewife for present I guess.

Yea.

And then Duncan is the, Duncan and what's her first name.

Connie.

Connie, have a boy and a girl and he's also logging, logger anyway,.
logger and flyer I actually I guess he planned to get his, well Jean
plans to get his commercial license, I don't knoy if Duncan js o~
not but maybe right now he's not thinking about flying or an.ything.
And he's also a aviator I guess you could, yell.

Pilot maybe.

Pilot. Pilot and a logger and then who's next?

Elaina.

Elaina.

She married an Australian.

Yea and her husbands name is?

Mark.

Mark. And their last name?

Robertson.

Robertson. And he's a, computer ...

He has his own company.

computer company.

But he used to be a computer programmer.

Oh yea, computer company.

He calls it the. He was wondering what he was going to call this new company and they had a boy, a baby boy so Betty said why not call it Markinson. So that's what he calls his company.

One word?

Markinson, yea.

Markinson, isn't that something. Well that's nice. So they have
. . .

Four, two boys and two girls.

Two boys and two girls. I guess the girls were first were they?
Or I guess it doesn't matter.

The girls are the oldest yea.

~re the oldest, yea. And then lets see, that's one, two, three,
four-

Shelley I guess.

\Shelley, Shelley and her husband's name is, what's her husbands name?

Oh

You'll think of it, what's her last name?

That darn name escapes me.

Oh that's O.K. you'll think of it later. So what does she have,
two, three children?

Three, three girls. Oh Norman Schwartz.

~orman Schwartz. Oh.

And they live in Prince George.

Schwarz, so it goes S C H

S C H

WAR T Z eh? Oh yea, I know some, bunch of Schwartz but they're
don't su to live in Alberta anyway.
And they live in Prince George so, so what does Norman do?

He has his own skimder and works in the bush.

Oh yea, skidder business and then Robbie is , his wifes name is

Debbie.

Ah Debbie, pardon?

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----inaudible---- was Bardusy.

Oh yea Bardusy.

You know Bardusy's I guess.

Not, not, so many people I know kind of by, by looks. And they have.
ree children?

Yea. Three girls.

Three girls also?

Yea.

And then of course Pam is the last one eh? So she's just going to
graduate.

She's in Pasidina.

Pasidina.

She graduates with her B.A. in I guess May the 18th I think.

In May. Well that's nice, Pasidina California. Well that's, that's
a record of a family eh? It made up f@r the fact that you were the
only one anyway.

Yea.

Well it's a, it's very, life is interesting. Oh yea and so Robbie
he plans to go to Australia.

Yea, that's great. And Pam does too I guess .

. And Pam wants to go to Australia. Well you better get to Australia
and have a look at it. You have half your family living there.
Well that'S really interesting. So, yes its, you have to get this

business going because otherwise you'll have to start collecting stamps or something, you know well, do you remember what's her name? They lived just below, they've sold out of course, Bruce Campbell cuts the hay there, hays down there all the time, what's her name?

Oh up above you mean?

Yea. You know, well I'll tell you who bought that place, Fosters.

Fosters.

Yea Fosters •

That used to be the old Hedner place, one of the Hedner places.

Yea that was the Hedner place but the people that owned it, do you remember the Americans?

Oh yea .

•Well they owned it for quite a long time and he was, he was, he worked in the parks or something and she was a school teacher and boy they, of course they had a different way of life altogether like you know but just the same, he still collects music, he does music, tapes music and she was doing rocks and he was you know, they were all organized so they prepared themselves for retirement you know and had things to do. Well that's that's great. So I don't know what else we can add to that except we'll have to add lots more when you get to Australia. Your mother of course, she died, she lived a long life eh?

She was 84.

84. And she just died recently didn't she?

Yea about three years ago.

O.K She died about 1987 I guess eh? So she just simply lived on

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on her pension down there I guess eh?

Yea.

Yea and of course she used to come here, she used to visit regularly
didn't she?

Oh yes. Come up with my uncle every, her brother like every fall.

What was his name?

Charley Indursby.

Oh yea, yea.

He's come up here fishing and hunting, Mom always came along with

Yea but what was his wifes name?

Alice.

Alice. Oh yea. So they used to come up all the time. And he'd
come hunting this way.

Uh huh.

Yea I guess she, she used to come every year I guess.

Oh yea, did for years and years.

Oh yea, every year, every year for years, yea. And what else is
there? Well that's really. Yea Charley Andersby. Wasn't one of
them in a bad accident or something?

Ah hunting accident and they were out hunting at Williams Lake, he mistakenly shot his son for a moose.

Ooooh yea. And then he was never, it really affected him.

Oh yes, it sure hit him pretty hard. That was the end of his hunting anyway. He couldn't even look at a gun anymore, he'd start to shake.

Oh I see. I know there was something because he, did they come up here after that?

Yes they came up here but never, he didn't hunt anyways.

Oh yea, oh my. Gosh. Shot his own, oh yea that must have been something.

He never was the same after that.

Where was his son? I mean how Old was his son?

He was about 20 then.

Oh I see so he was ...

He was married.

Oh my. So they just didn't get organized themselves and where theL were going I guess eh?

Well they'd split up I guess, he was sure he was a moose and he mistook him for a moose anyway.

Op boy. And that was the only child they had?

No they had other children.

I knew there was something that happened and I couldn't remember
what it was. Seemed to center around Charlie. And I wondered what
it was.,

He lived to be, he was 80 when he died.

Oh and he's gone now.

Yea. And Alice is gone too.

Oh they're gone.

She didn't last long after Uncle Charley, she just, it seemed to
hit her pretty hard.

Oh sure. Yea, yea they're both gone. Well, yea they've got to make
room for the new generations. Oh my, I remember being there, a~
your mom's place one time, I can't remember, maybe we just visited
her. I can't remember the details but I remember being there. She
had a nice, wasn't it toward White Rock or some place.

No it was in Surry.

Surry, she kind of overlooked ...

A Bay.

~bay, yea. A real pretty place, so I guess the property is all
sold.

Yea, sold. I haven't been down since but it's all high rises.

I was going to say, probably a big high rise on top of it.

Dou-plexes I think that's what they built there.

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Yea, oh yea. That's interesting. Well.