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Interview with Bernard Hindle

I'm Bernard Hindle I was born in Vermillion Alberta, April 1913. After a visit in Vancouver with my grandmother we came up here to Hazelton, by way of Prince Rupert; we came on this ship and up by train. My father came several months before we did, to get settled here, and we lived in New Hazelton for the first two months in this area.

Q: What kind of work did your dad do?

In the spring of 1917, we moved out to what was known for quite a few years is the Hindle Ranch just above Four-Mile Bridge.

Q: Four-Mile Bridge that's towards Kispiox?
And, you moved into town from there?

No, we moved to the ranch from New Hazelton, and we had much shorter summer seasons then, and when we made the move it was in three feet of snow.

Shortly after we moved down to the ranch the first Four-Mile Bridge went out in flood.

Q: What year was that?

In the spring of 1917.

Q: Then was that replaced by a bailey bridge?

No.

During the remainder of the high water that spring our only means of getting into town was by canoe.

Q: Why did you come from Alberta to B.C. to Hazelton?

Well, it was through a real estate deal, my grandfather made they taken this ranch as part payment for a house in Vancouver and they just gave it to dad so

And he gave it to you?

No, it was sold, that's where Stewart Forsythe lives now. We stayed on the ranch until I was six years old.

Do you have any brothers or sisters?

Just one sister.

Is she still alive now?

Yeah, she was here last summer, she'll be coming again this summer.

We moved from the ranch temporarily renting the small farm across the hospital, so I could walk to school, it was a little too far from out there.

Wasn't there a ferry that came across the road from Kitwanga to Hazelton?

Yeah, but it couldn't run in high waters, and at that time it was only a big canoe. Incidentally it was one of the biggest dug-out canoes ever made on the Skeena River used as a ferry, it would have several tons of freights across in one load.

You wouldn't have any photographs of it?

I forget what they call it now its like the one they had done at Cedarvale for so many years.

Where did you attend school?

I started school in fall of 1919, In a one room school at stood just about where Rose Morrison's house is now, in fact its part of her house the lumber was used.

How high were the grades?

To grade eight, we went from grade one to grade eight and in one room school and the peak and enrolment was 48 pupils in one year. We had one teacher for 48 pupils in eight grades, and that of course we didn't have a high school until after the time I graduated from what we used to call public school, and then we had a room in the old Sargents Store, that had been the post Office.

WHERE WAS THAT AT?

It stood just about on the back end of the parking lot; the parking lot of Silva's Store, it used to go right across the whole back end of the lot but before, Well before we came the front half burnt off it just snubbed it off and had the store sitting way back from the street there, and in the early days we used to have a separate butcher store, there in Hazelton which was on what's the name of it, "Oh Clifford Street." Just right near where Mae Simp... or not Mae Simpson

Clara Simpson? On that street where Scotty Smith is?

Where Harry Simpson used to live, yeah and when they closed that down Sargent's moved in the older building, small building which had housed the Omenica Minor Newspaper.

Was that paper privately owned?

Pardon, yeah they attached that to the back of the store and became the butcher store of Hazelton. For a good many years, and up until that time most of the buildings of Hazelton were still standing, along the street

From the corner where Alice Maitland's Speciality Shop is right up to the other end there is only two of the original buildings left on that street where Mrs. Panter lives and the old, in what we used to call the Newick House is the boarding house where the teachers used to board and, one of the first buildings to burn down was the Lamson and Hubbard Store. That was the second building in from the corner where Alice's it it would of stood, pretty much where the what we had for a drug store building was at the time, and when that burned down it was only, it only had a three foot sidewalk between it and the hotel, and our active bucket brigade saved the hotel from burning.

The hotel was beside the store?

Yeah, the hotel was right on the corner, the Omenica Hotel, and then there was several other stores there was Hill's Shoe Store, and the last operating saloon in Hazelton, the McDougall's Saloon. Incidentally, I was not very old, but I had a drink of gingerale in there before they shut it down.

And, I forget there were several other buildings, there were a couple of Chinese Hotels, I know one stood where the building they are now renovating for the band offices, stood, one by one they burnt down.

What about the Chinese Community, was there a big Chinese community in Hazelton?

Not a big community but like all Pioneer communities there were a few there because they provided a service that other people just wouldn't do. In those days we didn't have no water systems, and about three or four old Chinese were the water system, the old cola cans on the stick over their shoulder, and the let's see now.

Did they have laundry service too?

There's one house on that lot now the one that's next to the Band Council Building, used to be the Provincial Police Residence.

Where the Old Laundremat used to be?

Pardon; It was moved from just the other side of Sargent's store the upper part of the lot where the Inlander Hotel is now, it was moved from there and at about the same time the jail was building was moved and that became the Marshall Bros. Trucking Headquarters up on the corner where the present building is, it was torn down afterwards the present building erected, but it was moved from there, and that used to stand down at the other corner, then going around the block was a building that stood where the Health Centre is now, and that had been in the very early days a private residence but it became the Forestry Headquarters here in Hazelton, Forestry Headquarters here in Hazelton, Forestry Office. The original Forestry Office was on the lower end of what is now the Sun Rise Cafe lots now. Along with the Gov't agents office we had that in Hazelton in those days.

Were they side by side?

Yeah, yeah they had about four buildings cross ways on that lot. It was all built in practically solid. Now, now going around the corner down the other street or directly across from where the jail building stood or just about where the library is now was the Cunningham Buildings there was three big buildings one a store and two warehouses and they stood crosswise on that lot there and the 1936 flood took the two warehouses buildings out.

Was there another street behind the library is now?

Well, those river lots were full 120 ft. lots and the 1936 flood took about half the length of them off along the river bank.

Would that be the same time this bridge went out that was down at K'san?

No, and that incidently where the Cunningham Warehouse's were was the steamboat landing, that is has for up river that the steam boats came. We came just a couple of years too late to see the last of them come up and going along this street there was the Ingenica Hotel that was about a 30-40 room hotel, which stood about where Helen Eng's store is now. and down on the corner where the Catholic Church used to be, they had a little Catholic Church there by Blackstock's place, they had a fairly big harness repair shop there

In those days it was pretty all horses sleighs, buggies and wagons they had a harness repair shop there Across from that was the Livery Office like a taxi stand today, where you go there to get a ride to the station or whatever and in where Emma Greene's house is was the old What we used to call the Big Red Barn, that was the Livery people's barn where they kept their horses and then people coming into town would use the stalls and put their horses in for overnight if they wanted to, and then there wasn't too much up the end of the street that time it was just along where the Police Station is and the Mountain View Cafe was just an assortment of bachelor cabins along that street.

Do you know anything about the Public school when it was Amalgamated with Indian school, the Indian day school?

Oh, Polly Sargent was the instigator of that if you get that to her she could tell you because she did all pretty all the arranging with the gov't and to have it done she was the one spear-headed that

Well Tom and Polly, Tom was school Trustee then and Polly was the one who really wanted it. And that was well in fairly recent times because you see I'm going back nearly 70 years when I'm telling you some of these stuff, and then coming up the other street, where the Indian Offices now are in, just in the corner where they left it clear. he was first and only native business man in Hazelton for quite a few years. After he passed away that became a Livery Taxi Stand, Livery Headquarters for quite a few years until it finally burnt down So that is a picture the The Hudson's Bay Store now I'll start up by the Anglican Church which is one of the oldest building in Hazelton, because they celebrated there senteno about 5-6 years ago, and down the street just a little bit and across from on the riverside well where, in what they call it the park now you know where the Memorial Monument, that was where the Hudson's bay store was, it was a long, typical at the time,

it was a long narrow building, a counter right down one side and all the grocery stock was in behind the counter and the outside was clothing up along the wall on the ceiling was pots and pans and frying pans and everything else and and that I can't remember the exact date when that changed over. You might through the if you see Steve Preweda, you might get him to write into the Hudson's Bay they'd have all the records of the changes archives they have a kind of a company museums deal, they might be able to get the you know more exact dating on that but it was, not long before the 1936 flood that they moved the Hudson's Bay Store up to the corner where it is now, that building been demolished and they after several years of operating in there, then they built the second store, which is now the furniture warehouse for the Bay and they also for quite a few years had a little butcher shop and that's what the little lean-to on the side is and of course they built the present store, the Hudson's Bay residence is the one where Jeff Wilson lives and that used to be down on the river lots but after the flood it was moved up to its present spot sold to the Sterritt family, to begin with.

Would that be Charlie Sterritt?

Pardon, Well I don't know Walter lived in it. Walter and his wife were the ones who took it over and lived in it and then one of the boys got it. Gerry and when they moved to down south, they sold it to Jeff Wilson. But and the Anglican manse, that in the early days was a log building which is being demolished it was demolished here when the Anglican church sold the two lots for the new post office but the old manse building that was right across the line partly on what they sold and partly on which they still retained and but it was only being used as a kind of a storage house you know some of the lean-tos and attachments had been torn down were just the main structure of the main building and the present manse was built oh in the 1920's I believe the building now that is now the Sun Rise Cafe used to be Hotter's Pool Room down on the river bank, main portion of it, they managed to save it from the 1936 flood by wrapping a big cable around it and anchoring it there, and it just hung on the river bank and the back-end of it down river.

Was that the original SunRise Building

Pardon the main part of it, then they built the lean-toon the you know that used to be the dining room, the main part of it is the old pool room building.

Where did the bank used to be?

The original bank in Hazelton was down on the end of the lot that Harry Webster has now, well it's sort of his garden patch now that was originally the Union Bank before the it became the Royal Bank, that operated transferred ownership to the Royal Bank people and oh in around 1920, and then when things got a little bit slack to slack here they closed it down we had no bank all for quite a few years. That bank building use house the bank district Registrar's Offices.

Those were people that estimated claims and that is that what they did of miners?

Pardon no he recorded and things like that he wasn't really a minor in associated with any company he was a government official

He just kept records then?

Yeah he kept records of the claims that were staked and later that when the road to Smithers got improved, they closed that office down to.

Can you tell about what Sally said mentioned about your coming to school in a canoe?

Oh yeah we did, we had a couple of hair raising experiences there one time we it was after they put the big ferry in as we called it it was one that cars and reasonable loaded trucks could cross on, and it was designed with two, like two separate boats with a deck across the top, and it hung on a cable and across the river and the way they got the power to cross the river was just to angle it in the current and the current and the current took it across one way or the other and one spring when they were putting it back in the water they used to have to get out always in the winter, there putting it back in the water. My sister and I were crossing in a little row boat hanging on the cable and they crossed it on the same principals so they didn't have to do the oars, pulled across and we were just coming in the other side there. When the big ferry broke loose it was on sloping skids and it came down within about 5 ft. of us when the skids broke and it just stopped with a crutch. Otherwise it would have broadsided us knocked us half way across river, and one other time there I just about had to try my hands with the oars the old ferry man was drunk the day we went home, he fell in the river but he hung on to the boat and managed to keep his feet on shore just enough to hold us there until he could get back and climb in the rowboat again

But that canoe was about the old canoe the big one was 40 ft. long and 8 ft. across you can imagine the size of it and of course that worked the same way just in the current they used to haul tons of hay, feed and stuff like that quite awhile before we had a really good road down river, and pole camps running then and that was the big industry in Hazelton through the 1920's to oh about 1940 or later was the cedar pole industry must of been of 10-15 camps you know where they just worked the mills and many of the coal camp operators would pile their poles on the river bank in the winter time and then in the spring after high waters they drive them down the Nass Y which is down below Skeena Crossing the poles would float down there in the river and that was quite a sight to see that river just half full of cedar poles.

What did they do with the poles?

Well they were telephones poles, hydro poles things like that and they went out of here by the thousands.

That must of been when the railroads coming through then?

No quite awhile after because they didn't have these mega

projects in those days and the power was just transferred on the lines, like you see here cedar poles there weren't any metal towers then. and of course there were telephone lines all over the country and B.C. was the cedar producing province so there's B.C. cedar poles right across Canada and in down in the U.S. Cedar Creek there were two pole operators used to pile their poles there and there would be a pile of poles oh 25 ft high and 150 ft. long there were two piles like that and that was a lot of poles.

Then they had one place where they put the in just down from Four-Mile bridge and they went down in the shoot into the river the poles would dive right under the water into the canyon and come bobbing up half way across and a friend of mine Frank pipe was down there at the bottom of the shoot keeping it clear so that the poles coming down wouldn't hit the ones already in the water and he was pushing them out and getting them out and getting them out of the way and he wasn't quite quick enough one day and he was standing on one and another pole came down and hit it and he went right up in the air and right into the water.

We had a fellow his name was Omar Leveque, French-Canadian fellow he had done a lot of river drive work in the province of Quebec and he was more or less in charge of the river drive here for quite awhile

Also during the flood 1936 - no I mean it flooded in 1918 no 1917 we had an expert canoe man he was related to Richard Claremont an uncle or second cousin or something of Richard Claremonts and he took my dad's farm machinery across the river in the canoe during the peak high water dodging driftwood and everything else.

I remember one night I was down fishing for trout at the eddy of 4-Mile bridge I saw an empty canoe coming down the river broken loose from somebody up at Kispiox and on a few minutes later I saw two fellows in a canoe then they were coming down as hard as they could go. You know sort of high water current carrying them and them paddling as hard as they could they were really moving and they caught the canoe before it got down near Hazelton.

Q: Do you know who they were?

No, I don't never did know it was kind of picturesque in a way because it was getting quite dark and all I can see was a silhouette going by.

Was that how people got from Kispiox to Hazelton?

Oh no, we had a road here then during the time the bridge was out that was about the only way you could get across I believe some of them crossed higher up and came.

The Kisgegas trail, was sometimes used by the Kispiox people they crossed in their canoes in Kispiox and they walked in from Kispiox on the trail.

Incidentally they used back pack all their supplies under the village of Kispiox of Kisgegas over that trail I don't know why they didn't use pack horses but they hired people to carry it and I heard two of the Oldtimers in the B.C. Cafe one day talking about their days of packer for Hudson's Bay, before they would hire them they had to be able to carry 200 lbs. in there plus their own camping gear.. and they were little men to I can tell you who

they were Johnny Moore and Tommy Jack.

They were reminding of those old back packing days and I sat there and listened to it.

Where would they pack from?

From Hazelton from the Bay Store here in Hazelton

Where would they take their packs too?

Kigegas.

Did they have a store at Kisgegas?

No, I don't think they did, they just people who ordered and the trappers who'd come in and ordered their supplies and Johnny and Tommy would pack it out for them.

I should tell you a little about the hospital I guess it was established in the around 1890 I'm not sure of the date but maybe you can check up at the hospital and get the record on that. The late Dr. H.C. Wrinch and a Dr. Austerhout came out here in the early days as missionaries.

So they weren't Dr.'s originally?

They didn't come out here as Dr.'s then?

No, but Dr. Austerhout was a Dr. of divinity he wasn't a medical doctor he earned a doctor later as a minister. But Dr. Wrinch decided that it wasn't much use trying to save the souls of sick people who were going to die a year or two later, so he went back and got his medical degree to try and keep them alive. and he was in his days a fantastic doctor. Today now general practitioner will not do surgery or anything like that well Dr. Wrinch had to do the whole thing or never got done, and Hazelton was a medical centre for the Northwest B.C. in those times People came from Prince Rupert and faraway as Prince George to come to the Hazelton hospital it was actually the first hospital centre in Northern B.C.

How did they decide that Hazelton would be the centre?

It Decided by the Hudson's Bay Company on the account of the fur trade here it was a terrific place for furtrade and that was where they settled in all like here, Fort St. James and so on just to stagger their have their establish them so it's not too far apart so for the trapper's to get to.

Another thing that was interesting here in the early days they didn't use money they used tokens, they were made out of aluminum; in different values, and it was a way of keeping their money because trapper's coming in and selling his furs and he'd be paid in tokens which were only good at the store that he sold the fur to. It had another very good aspect though it virtually useless in trying to steal them from anybody because the storekeeper knew who they paid them out to and if anyone wondered in with any more than one or two of them to buy something, well they were immediately suspect. So that it was a lot safer than trying to keep money when we had no bank or any secure place to keep

it. When the one of previous high school buildings burnt down which had been the old C.B. Smith Store. There were two or three burlap bags full of those tokens go burnt up in it. The aluminum thin wafers of aluminum would it take the intense heat of the fire. I have one of them incidently. I'll show it to you after we get through talking. It, there were a few of them scattered around here when they tore down old buildings and I happened to get a hold of one. A five dollar token.

They had different values for them?

Yeah, they had them up to about \$50.00 and I just got a hold of a five dollar one. I never knew about it at all till after the fire, when someone was bemoaning the fact that they all got burned up. I could quite ready have had a set of them in the attic of the what had been the C.B. Smith store. We used that for a high school for a couple of years.

We were fortunate here in Hazelton for all of prettin' near allof the original town eventually burnt up. There were very little loss of life in the fires. Just the one Chinese hotel, there were one or two people burnt in that.

That old fire bell, you could hear that for about five miles at least. I don't think there's anything in the world that could make the shivers run up and down your spine like that could do. Cause in those days, we all realized the danger of fire. Everybody possible pitched in to, you know to help save the building if they could and most of the time they couldn't because, You know they couldn't climb around with their buckets But they would save the buildings next door. When the Omenica hotel burnt down, there was a Sargent's had a big warehouse because they handled a lot of feed and grain for the farming people here, flour and all the rest of it. and that stood just about where Beertema's store is now. Not quite that far away.

When the Omenica hotel burnt down over on the opposite side of the street, quite a ways away, they had to put wet blankets all over that store to keep the roof from catching on fire. The warehouse I mean they say when Sargent's original store caught fore, it was about fifty below zero or colder. One of the fire fighters burnt one hand and froze the other.

But we used to get, the coldest I could recall is 55 degrees below zero. And it was most unusual to have a winter without that kind of weather, at least two spells of it. Now if we get 30 below for one night we've had a cold winter. Spring break up didn't come till well into April. Now people are planting gardens in April. You can see the difference climatic situation.

The first year we moved on to the what was known as the larkworthy place, that's the little farm across from the hospital The market for vegetable was extremely good. Dad planted a lot of potatoes and when we went to bed on the last day of September it was just pouring rain, just a torrent it was coming down. We woke up in the morning 20 below zero. That was that, the potatoes stayed in the ground. We used to get a more decisive change from one season to another, similar to that. Cause once the first came, usually the first of October, it never thawed again stayed frozen. We had the first snow, to stay on the 15 of October which we don't anymore. Sometimes we even wonder if we're even gonna have a snow for Christmas. There was quite a depth of it in those days too. Very sure on the flat about three feet.

I was on a winter ice fishing trip up the valley we we're on about seven or eight feet of snow. Made our camp, sighted a big hump in the snow so we leveled it off, found it was pretty solid underneath that was where we had our campfire. Then we put a big mat of spruce bows then we put the tent right on top of that we didn't try to get down to the ground.

We had the... it wasn't really a flood that took out the first four mile bridge. It was just a creek thing.. a big cotton wood log, sort of semi up ended then rammed in between the pylongs the support of the bridge and twisted them out. The bridge just fell down. And the old bridge they had to shore that up, the one prior to the present one. We went I worked for the prblc works for awhile then, we just buried the bottom part of the post in concrete so they couldn't crack up.

The only time I ever saw Scottie Smith scared was coming across we were hauling lumber and the bridge it ahad a bad restriction on it actually. Somehow or other we put about two tear too much on the load of lumber and that was a lot of weight. Green spruce lumber. We got down to the bridge, stopped at the bridge, stopped usully tighten up the chains every once in awhile. Scottie counted the rows of lumber "we got too much of a load on here " he said, And "oh" he said "we'll try anyway." So we tightened up the chains and he told me to go across the river first he said we go through there's no use both of us going." So we.. I walked across the bridge, and I saw Scottie coming he had a hold of the wheel a scared look on his face and he had it floor boarded. The old bridge just going like that But it held surprising because the beams of that bridge were so rotten you could pick them out by the hand full. Buttthey did have what they call, well there were re-enforced with heavy planks on each side of them, bolted through. But it was sure a patchwork job.

Why did they call it 4-Mile?

It was approximately four miles from town. The way the old road wandered around, it took four Miles to get here, now its not quite that far, about three and half or something like that. In those days it was four and ahalf.

This bridge went out in 19... 41,42. The bridge across to South Hazelton. When we first came here, we either had to go around by South Hazelton and come across that bridge, or go down into the canyon at Two-Mile were the 2-Mile Creek goes down over there and cross the bridge there. The Hagwilget bridge was built but there was no road on this side of it. When we first came here. That was a tough haul down through that canyon. You gotta go down one side and up the other.

When they had the 1936 flood, I was standing on the four mile bridge one day; it was the old bridge, the four -Mile bridge was 12 ft. lower than the present one. One of the houses from Kispiox Village went under it and knocked a tin chimney on the bridge. I was busy trying to get off the bridge. I thought the roof was going to hit it. Bobbing up and down and I actually saw a cotton wood tree, about a 70 foot log I guess, in the canyon there and the branches had been broken off, but the whole log was there, and that just went underneath the bridge, just barely cleared the bridge and it stood right up one end, one of the whirl pools pulled the one end down.. It stood right

up, just like it was growing there. If something like that hit the bridge, we would have had a new one a lot sooner.

Yeah, I could remember the in the days when they made the dug out canoes. The last one I saw made was up at... oh what do they call that road here, going out to Kispiox? It used to be a nasty crooked little hill, where they had several accidents 8 miles from town. Well anyway, an old fella was down in there making a canoe, I guess it was one of the last dug out canoes made right out in the bush where the tree fell. That's one thing that amazed most of the white people was the perfection of which those canoes were made. Perfectly straight and perfectly shaped and everything without any instruments or measurements not even a tape measurer to measure anything with. It was fantastic the way they used to do it.

Do you know who made the canoe they used to go across the river here?

The Ferry One?

Yeah.

No, I don't I was so old, my sister used to have to cross in it you know after spring break up when they put it in, when the ice was breaking up. We had big sheets bounce into it, it just bend the side right in. It was so old and rotten, it was just spongy. The only thing that held it was two or three layers of tin nailed on the outside of it. It was about as big as some these coast war canoes were in the early days. I don't know where they got such a big cotton wood from. It wasn't a cedar. Had it been a cedar, we thought may be it was brought up river, but it wasn't it was a cotton wood.

Whatever happened to it after it was replaced?

Oh I don't know. I think they just let it go down in one of the floods. It's something that should have been, partially restored at least. Put under a roof and kept as long as it would keep.

People here are awful that way, there were a lot of old things we could have had a fantastic museum here, you know, if it hadn't been for that. And another thing that really broke the hearts of a lot of us, the Indian artifacts that went out of here. They were virtually stolen. Some of them were a lot of them were like when, Old Kaldo, when people moved from there. They left a lot of there artifacts there; blanks, carved things, an stuff you know. They say there's hundred of em pieces of that stuff down in museums in the United States. But they do have a law that people can properly indentify that stuff and claim as belonging to there family they can get it back again. The tourists used to come out of here with all kinds of things. When I worked in the post office there. I got a funny looking parcel in the mail, addressed to the post master of Hazelton. so I opened it here it was the beak off of one of those totem poles at Kispiox. and it... a note in there saying they took it as a prank. You know and they got a guilty conscience so they sent it back and asked if I would see somebody to have it put back.

What types of entertainment were there?

What? entertainment, oh, local concerts and quite a few more dances than we have know a days, Especially when they got a few people around here that can play instruments. Actually we owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to Moses Morrison. Because he went out as quite a young man and studied music and he came back and started what was known as the Wildwood orchestra in Kispiox. They were rated as one of the best dance orchestra in Northern B.C. It was through his initiative his teaching that they got started and slos the Brass Bands we had some terrific Brass Bands here. But I, one of the few, in fact one of the two I believe; the only white people to ever attend an authentic Indian show or concert or whatever you call it. That was up in the old Gitanmaax Hall. Not the one that burnt down, but, a still older one. And it was built like an arena. The seats were down on both sides, it was quite along building, seats on both sides, and act was put on right in the middle. A little bit fenced off one end kind of a change room, dressing room. An' they'd all come running out and put there actoon. It was very interesting. And I saw the last open air dance. You know, the open air ceremonial dance well I saw the last one here in Hazelton That was held on that little short street there on the other side of the Hudson's Bay. That was fantastic, that was when we really had the regalea. Head dresses with the goose down in and all the rest of it, you know It was very impressive.

Hazelton too was a jumping off point for packstrains. I don't know who all, there was several people owned pack train here at that time. And I can recall one time they were loading a bunch of rich bitches, or whatever or whatever you call'em To go out on a holiday trip up north. They had this one horse packed down by the old Hudson Bay Store. It started tried to buck the pack off. It bucked so hard it did a half somer sault and it landed right on the pack and a boy about my age, I was only about 8 or 9 then said Oh the Victrola, here they were packing a great big gramophone way up into the bushes I thought that was ridiculous. Some of them people didn't hesitate to spend their money.

Did you know Cataline?

I've seen him, just once where the Kispiox turn off takes off. Standing there with his trop coar on, big broad rimmed hat on and that was only time. I did meet a man who had been his partner before he came up in Quesnel one time. And we sat, the ole fellow was quite interest that I had seen Cataline you know after they had been partners for years, packing into the Barkerville gold fields and so that was quite interesting.

Another interesting person I met, and I certainly regret not having a tape recorder in those days. He was recorded to being 108 years old, when I met him and he lived to 114. The old fellow lived in Kispiox, he had a house right across from Elsie Morrison lives. Right in close to where fish hatchery's. Well I rode out with him from town one day and he harnessed his own horse at the age of 108., and go out cut his own wood and everything else.

Do you know his name?

No No, I didn't ask his name and I sure regret that there were no such things as tape recorders. He said he was a boy of 14, when the very first white man came to Hazelton. They were scouts from Hudson's Bay Co. picking out places where they would establish their fur trading post Hazelton is one of oldest Bay headquarters in the north of B.C. It was quite a set up they had there, the old stone, it had built as a block or block house where they stored there ammunition, and in the summer it made an ideal cooler before we had electricity and refrigeration, because the walls were 3 ft. thick of cement and rock the heat couldn't penetrate and doubled up the roof. It was fantastic crew (that built it.)

Off and on we've had industries here, cedar pole was one of longest term enterprise, then we had mining, Silver Standard Mine was operating when we first came. They used to ship high grade ore, not the concentrate the way they do now. They crushed the ore down and did what they called water separation, like gold in a sleuth box, that was the way they used to separate the ore in those days. Then they put it into bags those days, 100 lb. bags, and that was the way they shipped it out. And that was running at full blast, when we first got here. My parents were very friendly with the manager and his wife, and we used to visit them quite often. Then that closed down, the monetary ups and downs governed the lifestyles. Sometimes the mine would close down and sometimes it would run. More or less the way it is now. And of course we had Silver cup mine which was pretty productive. It was on the north end of 9 mile mountain. And 3-4 miles east was Sunrise mine, it never produced it was always a development situation. They claimed there was ore there, but it was a costly business to put a road through the mountain, first a trail had to be built and tractor would go through later. The Mohawk was a good little mine, but when its vein went right through the shoulder and that was finished it was very good ore, I went and checked it out. Big chunks of ore 1/2 lead and 1/2 silver. Good high grade ore, but then again they had to ship it out they didn't have mills in those days like Silver Standard, did later. I worked at the Silver Standard for 6 years as a mill operator. We had some pretty good ore there. One claim up there with his story. Two prospectors staked it and it was in part of Silver Standard Hill. And later Silver Standard took over after the two old fellows had died and that turned out to be the richest vein the Silver Standard ever turned out. It was known as the Black Prince claim. They were offered \$40 000 and \$20 000 was a fortune in those days. One old fellow took off into the bush and the other guy couldn't sell his percentage. So they died poverty stricken, when they could've had the 20 000 each.

STORY

I remember another funny incident about an elderly Indian fellow who went to the store a little too late. He saw the store light on and went to the window. He heard an argument in Gitskan, but there was no else in the store to argue with, "Who are you arguing with?" He said "No one, I got to learn to be mad too. I've been around here since 1900 and I got to learn how to argue with an Indian in the Gitskan language.

In those days many native people couldn't speak English.

STORY

I was on a trip to Babine Lake one time to remove a diseased appendix there was no nurse, so he took a young fellow from the village, to help perform the operation.

Several months later, he returned to see how the old man he operated on, was doing. "I don't think you're a very good doctor," said one of the natives, Dr. Wrinch asked the old man died? the one I operated on?" "Oh no, the brave (nurse) died." Dr, Wrinch got a kick out of the incident.

2nd tape

You asked about the depression and it didn't hurt people in this area quite as badly as it did in some, because most people owned property at the time and there were a lot more backyards gardens then there are today some of the people just squatted on government land and built themselves a little house and cleared up a land a little garden plus we had pen and chickens just to supplement the relief money. The money allowed for people to live on is \$9.00 for the head of the household, \$6.00 for the wife, and \$3.00 for each child per month and you live for quite fruitly and plainly but you didn't starve, and another thing to the Game Department in Fisheries relaxed their regulations considerably so you can go out and catch yourself a fish or buy one and it wasn't all that difficult, and also the hunting wasn't to carefully watched and a lot of people with a bit of initiative could get by quite comfortable.

I know one couple who built a little house by going around the deserted mining camp and so on and rustling little lumber and so on they built a two room house for 40.00. It was quite comfortable to I'd been in it quite a few times.

But during the depression we just worked in whatever we could get a few days here a few days there and of course I was fortunate because my father was working during the depression. We were living on that most of the time on that little farm across from the hospital, and I did market gardening for 2-3 years. I did rather well at that because people did a lot of home canning. We had two good sized berry patches. We specialized in vegetables, specially for pickling, a lot of people made a lot of their own pickles. So we did rather well in fact we got our first Model(A) Morgan in one year. Dad's salary was \$105 a month, for looking after the hospital and farm. Half a dozen cows and so on. I got the odd job because it was a paying season and we each got a head of the field crops. I'd work a few days, hoeing turnip patch or something like that and we managed quite comfortably actually, some of the other people weren't as well off. The depression didn't make all that much of a difference because times have never being that good around here. That was one of the tough periods for everyone because it lasted so long. It wasn't just being laid off for 6 months, It lasted for 10 years That was a long time for short rations. The one thing the highways department did try do was ration out work the work week about every second month for the highways department, then someone else would WORK THEIR week to get a little extra money for clothing like i say people around here didn't suffer as much as they would in the city because I don't think anybody around here had to pay rent. So it didn't make a difference, I know some of us envied the native people because trapping was in it's hey day you might say almost then. The prices were coming up and there were lots of furs. Some of the native people were coming in with several thousands of dollars worth of furs was like being a millionaire to some of us. In those days they used to go to California for their holidays.

So things weren't all that tough here.

Mission Point is just across from town or K'san that was after the 1st plane landed here. That was a platoon equipped plane and it landed on the river. But they discovered the field was large enough for smaller planes to land on. For a while we had quite a few land here and a fellow came through when he was on a trip to Alaska, tailor craft one of those smaller planes on mail carrying contract. He took off from the field one day, he was just about over the China Grade Hill and the motor konked out on him, he just glided back and the only trouble was that he landed on the roof of a big barn over there he spilled off and broke a wing. Fortunately we had a fellow working down at the Hudson Bay and he had been an aircraft mechanic and he and the airplane pilot helped repair that wing.

They had to fly down to the states, Seattle to have the plane tested government tested and it passed the test and the fellow had flew off.

Well I don't know why they chose Mission Point, maybe that was intended to be the hospital grounds. The Hazelton hospital, then they gathered some land where the hospital is right now which was donated to them by an early picker, named Mr. Charleston. That is why the Mickelow place is cut off and small and the other section is large and that area was picked because it was more central. You see Doctor Wrinch had a lot of visits to the surrounding villages, Glenvowell and Kispiox, and the chosen site is more convenient.

Glenvowell had started as a break off from Kispiox, they were originally one people village. Then native people took their religious differences so severely, to keep peace they divided into two villages Salvation Army people went to Glenvowell and United and Methodist of people stayed in Kispiox. And the official survey of Glenvowell was done by Mr. Glenvowell. They named it after him in 1914, I talked to one of the oldtimers who had assisted.

When we came here and moved to the ranch in 1917, we used to go down to Glenvowell and meet the Commander Officers, who Capt. Jackson and his wife. That was a quite a while Salvation Army was here quite a while, I don't know how they got away with two different church groups. At that time there was only the Anglican Church that the Gitksan people went to and it was of the reserve. It was pretty much the place it is now, but the original was across the street. And through out the feeling of displeasure of amount of discrimination created at the natives of the Anglican church performed their own church service, that was on the hill, Jeff Wilson step-father was the minister, he wasn't ordained but he held services. So he was the first and only church army and I don't know, but just after I think the Salvation Army came around. One of the early officers, Capt. Halvorson the officers never stayed to long for some reason.

WHAT TIME DID HAZELTON START IT'S GROWTH

Well that happened to long ago, but in recent times it was the big sawmill in South Hazelton. It would grow and shrink and grow and shrink as time went by. It would gain promise and close down. It was just in the last few years that became a nice sized community.

That was the thing about all the Hazeltons when we first moved to New Hazelton, they had just about every facility you could ask for cafes, hotel, telegraph office, tailor shop and that just about died. They got down to just 1 hotel and dining room. Then again there growth temporary declines were a result of mining. Silver Standard closed in 1919, the old Hotel wasn't used anymore it was too large to be used and was eventually sold to the Silver Cup mine. They did have camps about a mile down the mountain (from mine). The mine was at timberline. It was cold and snowy up there and difficult to get water, so they built it down the mountain. I've been up there and they used to have a tram line that some of the men used to ride up in buckets, that's how they used to get the ore down.

CAN YOU TELL ME ABOUT TELEGRAPH LINE

I don't know when it started but it ran right up to Telegraph Creek and passed to Alaska. Communication was the purpose of the line before radio. In fact radio closed it down. When they got radio it was obsolete, they had cabins about 30 miles apart 2 men stationed at each cabin one cabin each so they wouldn't get what is called Cabin Fever. Cabin Fever is when you live together too long in a cooped up place. And the cabins were within calling distance, it worked out quite well. These halfway cabins if the line broke they would have a cabin every 30 miles to stop when they were looking for damage. The weather was too severe that they had to have stoppages. They had blankets like you wouldn't believe so wouldn't have to carry them and when the line closed people just grabbed what they needed. These were big blankets, the other was an elderly couple and they were there for years and years, I went to school same time as one of their daughters came into town to get her 7 and 8 because her mother didn't think she could keep her up to date,

They moved away a long time ago and I got letter addressed to them, they must have been dead for 30 years. The letter had been written in BIG shakey lettering as if some old person wrote it. So I just enclosed a letter saying they had Bruce Robinson's children are great great grand children the two older ones.

HOW WERE SUPPLIES KEPT STOCKED?

They were packed in by the local packers. They contracted so many for the amount of cabins. They were only taken in once a year so they had to shop carefully but after a couple years, they had a standard list to go by and would just add a few things-whatever.

An old timer named George Biernes he was one of the contractors and Phillip Wilson had a contract for a few cabins and Dave Wiggins the ole black fellow George's right hand man Roy Wilson stepfather-Phillip and Mr. Wilson up here were very big man., quite a bit alike. The Wilson's out Kispiox were more cannery people they, Roy's stepfather was sort of a contractor, they would ask so many people for so many blocks.

HOW DID THEY GET DOWN TO THE CANNERY?

By train, eventually I don't know how they did before the train in 1914. I never did ask them, but I don't think there was much of a fishing industry They really had a tent town in South Hazelton when it was time to go down because they run a special train to take them down. All their household belongings went down with them in those days. It was extremely tough on the Kispiox men because they would bring all their family to South Hazelton on horse and wagon, then bring their horse and wagon home, then walk in the next trip.

DID YOU KNOW MOSES MOSRRISON?

Yes, I knew him for years. I told you yesterday Moses went away to music school.

DO YOU REMEMBER WHERE HE TOOK THESE COURSES?

He went to Vancouver for two years. His right hand man in music was Joe Starr. He took over the band instruments.

WASN'T THERE ANOTHER BAND OUT KISPIOX? NORTHERN LIGHTS?

I believe that was after the Wild Wood Orchestra

but wildwood was real dance music Roy Wilson, Jeff Harris, Chris Harris, and Moses. I used to go out to dances when I was a teenager, they used to have a some dandy dances out Kispiox.

DID THEY PLAY ANY SPORTS?

Oh yeah they played a lot of ball ever since I can remember Baseball, football, wasn't all that popular then. Baseball was the big game and they used to have darn good games. A lot of those players could have made the big leagues. That was very much the thing to do, as for the depression nobody had work to do so they had lots of time to play.

WHAT WAS THE COST TO TAKE A TRAIN TO PRINCE RUPERT?

\$9.00 fishermen had a lesser deal, and had help from Indian department because some of them were pretty broke when they went down. The ones that didn't have their own trapline some of them had a fishing boat and trapline boy did they ever make good money.

WHAT TYPE OF CLOTHING WAS FASHIONABLE?

Well there was something from what I first remember a little girl from two years old to a grandmother dressed identically long ankle length dresses and sweater or lumber jack mac. No bell bottoms just plain a lot of people wore moccasins. A lot of us wore them at school. Two older women made a lot of their own clothes because the stores couldn't handle clothes, in bulk and it was difficult to keep the required sized. There is something about Protestant Reserves, they had ministers wives and sometimes a woman teacher misses school and they taught the people on the Protestant reserves a lot about housekeeping, sewing, cooking and all that stuff the Carrier people missed out on for a long time cause they had the priest come from through and some of them weren't all that cooks. Well it's not until the amalgamation of the school here that the native people smarten up their dress so they look like everyone else. You never seen a lady wearing jeans. They stuck to wearing jeans. They stuck to wearing their long fashioned dresses. Like all Europeans.

WHAT KIND OF HEATING WAS USED?

Wood stoves almost exclusively.

WAS THERE ANYONE THAT SOLD WOOD?

Yes, Marshall Bros. were the wood distributors they had a whole lot up on the processed road across from the Salvation church right beside where Marggie Green used to live and they had 100's of chords. I know that Harry, Bill Webster and I took out over 200 chords of birch, that was during the depression.

CAN YOU TELL ME MORE ABOUT OMAR LEVESQUE?

Omar Levesque, he was a man of small stature and very wirey and active. Cause he used to ride down the river using a pole, sometimes he'd double them up and hold them together with his feet and it didn't matter how deep the water was.

DID YOU KNOW HIM PERSONALLY?

Yes, I knew him and his wife. They moved to Terrace after the river drive had stopped and logging stopped around here and he moved to Terrace. He was there till he died.

(Q) Did any new teachers come along?

Oh, we had new teachers every year "Just one?" Yes, and in the public school and in the high school. And their magnificent salary in those days was 70 or 80 dollars a month.

But then board and everything else was a lot cheaper. They certainly made 80 dollars a month, but we only had to pay a dollar a day for board. That was in the 50's and everything was a lot cheaper then. You could buy a good suit of clothes for less than twenty dollars. Mrs. Newick ran the boarding house at the end of the street, across from the big yellow house.

The two teachers and about two of the telegraph operators used to board there. That's quite a whole household.

Mrs. Newick ran the drug store and done so for years. Cooper Wrinch had graduated as a druggist so he took it over. Then the Newick family had to move out so they bought the big house there and turned it into a boarding house for quite a few years. And about the time they quit Carl Drake and Elsie came here and she started a boarding house for the few people that wanted to board. There was one other too, I can't remember their name now, she had a boarding house next to the Anglican church. Oh, she had about two or three boarders there.

(Q) What did the boarding houses offer? Was it a room and then you eat together?

Yeah, just like living at home practically. A lot of people like that, it was a lot less expensive than maintaining a cabin or a small house of your own.

(Q) When did the first T.V. come out?

Oh, not too many years ago. When it first come out on the market there were a few people that had them. But we didn't get much of a reception because of the; till we got channel 9 out of Terrace. It was a hit and miss thing that people try to get once in awhile. One of the main entertainments here in town for quite a few years was the old Theatre, the Hudson Bay Hall.

(Q) So it was the Hudson Bay hall?

Yeah, it was in behind where Neil Sterritt's house is, sort of between that and Philip Morrison's house. I don't know how they got that piece of property but they had the Hudson Bay hall. They used to have some dandy dances there you know. It was a community centre actually in those days. Card parties an' dances. Those were the days when people more or less had to make their own entertainment. There wasn't much else to do. I listened to the first radio that was in Hazelton.

(Q) Was that Bill Dawson's radio?

No, Sargents.

(Q) Dawson had a radio too didn't he?

No not for a long time. They had the, an old direct power plant at the hospital. They couldn't use the radio over there because of the interference that, you know how to get it on the radio here once in awhile when someone has their motor that is ~~isn't~~ condensed properly or something like that. I know they borrowed a radio from us. It must have been in the early '30's to see, run tests to see if they could put condensers on the machinery. And it ruined their radio so that, it never was the same anymore. That was THE home entertainment then. I can remember the old phonographs too, the old cylinder. It operated with a needle that went across, with a big tin horn to them.

(Q) What year did you get married?

1948. May the eighth we had the same anniversary date as my parents had.

(Q) The dances were they only on special occasions?

No, they used to have about two dances a week in Hazelton and two in New Hazelton. They would just come in and They'd... the local orchestra would play for them. In those days they used to serve refreshments. They would get together. They would bring some buns or sandwiches an' cakes. And for a dollar to go to the dance. Danced all evening and had a nice little treat. It was more or less a co-operative affair. It wasn't commercialized all that much. The old New Hazelton hall stood about where that garage building stood that Willans put up. And it had the store and trucking business. When we first came here, the Spooner family was running the cafe. They gave up the cafe business and they turned it into the community hall. It was a nice big building, somewhere to get a start.

(Q) Do you remember of any bank robbery?

No. Several brake ins at the store, they blew the doors off the safe of the Hudson Bay one time. Just blew it right off. Sargent's was blown over a couple of times too. Not a bank robbery. The one at New Town it happened just about

Three or four years before we came here. Up until a few years well when the Silver Standard Mine was running they took that big chunk of ore, a huge big piece of ore, the minister of the Methodist Church crouches down behind that with his six gun blazing away at the robbers. There's a rumor that some of that has been stashed up on the hill in New Town but nobody's been able to find it.

(Q) Do they have an estimate as to how much was taken?

I imagine they did. I never heard how much it was. But it would be worth ten times more than what it was then, because a lot of the money was in gold coins. Five and ten dollar pieces of gold. They didn't have all much paper money in those days.

(Q) Which hill was this?

Which hill?

(Q) Yeah, that they think it's buried at?

Going up what they call six mile hill up toward Smithers. One of the robbers just cut across country. Apparently the bag got too heavy and cashed them under a big rock and nobody has ever been able to find it. He took the paper money and that sort of thing. But they say he cashed the bag of coins. He may have come back for it or had someone come back for it for him but nobody knows. You see that over the top of that hill, once you get over the foot of the mountain. There's a lot of big rock, oh about up to 10-15 feet in diameter that he could have put something like that underneath the edge of. Big rocks that rolled off the mountain years ago. One thing that we don't hear anymore is the terrific slides that used to come down off of Rouché de Boule. You know where that one kind of a gully cut down? Every spring there'd be a big lot of rock loosened up by the frost and they'd come tumbling down. It sounded like thunder.

(Q) Wasn't Silver Standard Mine in behind Rouché de Boule?

No, that was the; well the Rouché de Boule Mine was up on top, behind the peak you know. There's quite a valley in behind the peak and then you get up to a still even higher peak. And the Rouché de Boule Mine was up there. Dad worked there when he first came out here. He kept _____ of it. The little locomotives that they used to haul the ore. They brought the ore down to the road at Carnaby by aerial tram. Buckets coming down on a cable. I don't know if you can still see it or not, but it's not that long ago the old tressel was still visible up top of the mountain.

(Q) Were there any mines that didn't have trams and used lets say maybe rawhide to shoot down the side of the mountain?

No they...most had some kind of a road into them because everything was horse and wagon then. There were a lot of places

where a horse and wagon would go instead of a truck. That's... they hauled most of the ore out of the Mohawk Mine. The one you can see from just up by Two Mile there. Right on the shoulder of that hill on the south end of Nine Mile. It was just a vein that went right through that little part of the hill and it came out the other side and there was just no more. And up the Nine, what they call the Nine Mile Road, then up to Two Mile Creek was the American Boy Mine. That didn't amount to much more than a prospect. They did ship a little bit of ore out of there. Someone that could tell you more about that is Charlie Olson cause he lived it. Farther up around the north end of the mountain of course was the Silver Cup Mine. They had big trucks to haul from there. But they had a tremendous amount more quality in those too than they do now because now when they open up a mine, they have a mill. They mill it right down to concentrate almost ready to smelt. In those days it was half rock you know it used to have to be separated. Pounding it with hammers. Then I worked up at the Red Rose Mine in Skeena Crossing. Yeah they closed it down. Not because they wanted to grind the shalite better. Tungsten from Spain to keep Germany from buying it. Then They closed down this mine. Then they opened it up again just after the war. But they as far as I can see from the... having worked there they're using the wrong procedures. They were losing a lot of the values. You see when did there for shalite. I was one of the mill operators and we were getting 97-98 percent up with and chemicals at all and then when the next outfit took over they started to grind it finer and put through floatation and got a little bit of gold value and copper value out of it. And they loosened up the shalite, you know, the best kind of steel

THEY JUST DIDN'T MINE FOR ONE THING IN ALL THESE MINERS?

Well they were more or less conglomerate ore, there were different veins of it metals. They were mixed in to one foot. And they had different ways. Floatation was the most sophisticated way of separating. Although we used to separate the gold. Concentrate it from the shalite that always keep the water separate. We had tables there that we called willfly tables. They were surfaced with battleship lineoleum and then on top they had a series of half-ground wooden strips put on. And the table of the tip down in the end and over to the side a little bit. And the strips got shorter and shorter as they got down lower. And they'd just vibrate like an eccentric an off-centre pivot and it would throw all the heavy stuff along the top. The gold a little streak of go along up at the top and the shalite would come off the end and all the dirt and that's the way they accepted it.

That was a wicked place to work though, they had a broad mill there were 3 inch round 4 feet long steel roads, and they put about 20-25 of those in the mill and that's what garfed the ores of those things bouncing around it sounded like there were about thousands of blacksmith's with hammers. It was unbelievable.

In those days they didn't have these ear protectors like they have now. I had to quit there because I just couldn't stand the noise, I had my ears injured in the air force and I just couldn't take the noise. I tried the Silver Standard and that was different that was what you called a ball mill and it didn't make that clanging noise it was just a drumble like thunder and it didn't hurt the ears that much.

Yeah, there was quite a bit of prospecting around here, then they did quite a bit of prospecting Ward Marshall and his partner Harry Simpson staked claims upon that mountain across from Kispiox but they the veins weren't quite big enough to entice a company to mine or grade.

Molybdenum, ... Moly... but there just wasn't enough of it. I think the company did it for a few thousand dollars for an option of the profit a little bit more than the local.....

We never did have much plaster gold around here I don't it was too broken and plaster gold was mainly carried down to the glacier part and these mountains are not worn off enough to indicate that the that anything scraped off the plates are useless.

In places where they do find the gold kind of table top mountains where the tops are knocked right off of them where each of them were.....(mumble)

There's one area going through the Yukon where all the tables are practically sawn off at the top of there of the mountains where they are perfectly flat no peaks on them at all but their quite high.

The difference in money that people can earn when they built the previous hospital here their wages were 40¢ an hour for ordinary workers and 50¢ an hour for carpenters because they used their own tools and the contracting price for that building was \$75 000. You can only build a good house for that kind of money. That gives you some idea for the economic changes most prominent.

Illustration you can have actually. Yeah, I worked on that job there for the summer they built it. That was built the same summer that the Hagwilget bridge and the previous bridges there and that dumb hospital job (mumble....) (from Hagwilget on) I worked for 2 bits an hour because I was an apprentice. \$2.00 a day but I don't know, during the depression that was the same as 20 at least.

ABOUT HOW MANY JOBS DID YOU ACCOMPLISH?

Oh i just did odd jobs like during the depression there was nothing steady. So that just left me up until 1942 before I started looking for a steady job, and then I worked for Marshall Bros. for I guess for a total of 4-5 years, the forestry for 4 seasons and then I worked at the hospital for a year, highway department for a year and then I worked at the mine for 5-6-years and 19 years as postmaster.

I had a couple of years af fill-inns as bartender(mumble)

A couple of years when Harry Webster was running the old Hotel for Sargents I was.....mumble.....)

DID PEOPLE ACTUALLY GO OUT OF HAZELTON FOR THEIR HOLIDAYS?

Oh yeah.

WHERE DID THEY GO?

Most of them had families and friends or someone they could visit.....mumble..... Some of them took time off to go fishing or hunting or whatever they like to do around here, and I did for the first 10 years.....Mumble.....)

v Holiday periods weren't all that long in those days most of them were about 2 weeks.

.....Mumble..... for very long. But we used to oh but we'd go up to the hotel for a barbecue and go to Smithers and sometimes follow the baseball, go up and watch some baseball games for a day. Probably have 2-3 games in one day until the playoffs. That would save a lot of travelling.

THERE'S SOME OTHER PEOPLE WHO MENTIONED THE TELKWA BARBECUE, WHAT WAS THAT ALL ABOUT?

It was a little bit like a rodeo, it had horse races and not so much of the bucking bronco stuff that it was interesting the highlight of the Telkwa Barbecue was the barbecue beef There was a couple of big slices of beef and a couple of slices of bread. The beef was just like a beef steak and oh it was delicious, put barbecue that's what they called pit-barbecue Smithers fall fair that was something that you all the ladies would enter their jams and jellies and flowers and vegetables, all the rest of it just to get in on the prizes.

The old fair building is still standing there, I don't know what they use it for now used to go into Smithers I can't say.....mumble..mumble.....) and they had horse racing they had(mumble) back road races)

WHAT WAS PIONEER DAYS LIKE IN THOSE DAYS?

You mean here, they haven't been at it for too long, they just sort of I don't know they ferried them a little bit one year they had some people dressed up in old costumes