

Mrs. Lottie Gifford, a nonagenarian and life-time resident of Hillsboro, remembers back on her family, her town, and the events of her life. Mrs. Gifford was recommended to the museum as a prime oral history candidate by her daughter, Mrs. Grace Hughes, a member of the Washington County Historical Society. In fact, Lottie Gifford herself has been a long-time member of the society. Many ill-informed people believe that anyone past the age of 75 is too feeble-minded to offer anything of social-redeeming value to a younger generation. Not so with this woman. Her mind is probably as clear-headed as it ever was. In the words of her daughter, "Her wits are as sharp as a steel bear trap!"

She began the interview by telling of her parents migrating from Illinois in 1877. They were among the many pioneers coming from the Mid-West to Oregon to start life anew. Mrs. Gifford remembers her Father saying, "We heard that money grew on trees and we were going to come to find some of it." This was the idyllic conception of the majority of settlers about the State of Oregon.

Before the family settled in Hillsboro, Mrs. Gifford's Father worked on the Witchhazel farm, owned by an official of the Southern Pacific Railroad, a man by the name of Mr. Brandt. Although the present area of Witchhazel is now covered with housing developments, at one time it was a rather large and prominent farm.

Most of the interview deals with Mrs. Gifford's personal experiences. Hillsboro was a very small town of less than 500 people during her childhood. She recalls many of the citizens, businessmen, and neighbors who populated the area. While she was not a prominent or outstanding member of the community, Mrs. Gifford's experiences and events of her life are typical of the "common folk" of the community and are worth preserving.

April 27, 1978

Lottie Gifford

Track 1

- (0) Introduction. Born January 19, 1880 in Witchhazel. Parents came here from Illinois in 1887. Why did they come here? Came by train and boat.
- (10) Mother knew Mrs. Barlow. Settled in Oregon City. Father in Civil War?
- (20) How long did the GAR meetings last? How long did they live in Oregon City then move to Witchhazel?
- (30) 1 train a day for each day. Hired at Witchhazel to work on farm. China men hired to work. What kinds of crops growing?
- (40), Talks of Canyon Road. What happened to farm after dad worked it? Moved to Hillsboro after 40 years. School was on 13th and Main. How did Witchhazel get it's name? Did father come back?
- (50) Talks about town of Hillsboro. 1890 I was 10 years old. All born on farm. Mostly farm and in 1890's. Father worked in woods.
- (60) Describe island where father worked. Do you remember steamships coming up river?

Track 2

- (0) What did they use Jackson Bottom for? Planting and pulled onions. Who did you work for? Tells story about farm and leaving and sleeping in woods hiding from indians.
- (10) Indians around in 1890? Condensary growth to Hillsboro? Speaking of doctors.
- (20) What did you and your husband do at hotel? Ran it and did everything. Train hurt business. When was hotel built?

- (30) What happened to the old Tualatin Hotel? What kind of Patrons came to your hotel? Full meal for 50 cents. Flour mills big affair?
- (40) When you were young did you come down to mills? Coming of canneries? Expalin. Worked in cannery got seasick. Pay scale like?
- (50) Speaking of Burt Mallings. Other prominent men? Did you^x have any business with courthouse? Do you remember the Redwoods?
- (60) Embrie family what was there big thing? Sewell family was sheriff. How about the roads? What shape? Dances?

End of Interview

LM: Mrs. Lottie Gifford. Born on January 19, 1888 in Washington County and grew up in Hillsboro. In the following interview ~~it is~~ taking place on April 27, 1978 at their present home in Hillsboro. Mrs. Gifford~~s~~ remembered^s back on her 90 full years of life and the events there^sin.

LM: Good afternoon. To start off the interview I would just like to ask a couple of personal questions. What I mean by that is your age and when and where you were born?

LG: I was born on the WitchHazel farm on January 19, 1888.

LM: Could you tell me where the Witchhazel farm is now?

LG: The Witchhazel farm is between here and Reedville.

LM: All right, you weren't, in other words I would like to ask about your original family and how they arrived out here in Witchhazel or settled? ^{in witchhazel} Could you go back to . . . ?

LG: My parents came from Illinois. My maiden name was ^{spelling} Wahn. My father was George Wahn and my mother was Emma Wahn. They came to Oregon by the way of San Francisco and the ocean in 1877.

LM: You mentioned that they came from Illinois. ~~Where~~ were they from Illinois originally?

LG: Yes, as far as I know they were from Illinois.

LM: You don't remember ~~to~~ much about your grandparents then? Hear them being mentioned?

LG: No, I only remember my mother's father Jacob Shade who was my grandfather. He soon came to Oregon ~~because~~ ^{My} grandmother had passed away and he remarried after he came to Oregon.

- LG: Late in his life he was County Treasurer of Clackamas ^{County} ~~Co.~~ Oregon. Their home was in Oregon City.
- LM: You mentioned that they came from Illinois. Why did they move out here to the West? Did you ever remember them saying?
- LG: I think I ^{heard} remember my father saying ~~me~~ that Oregon had been advertised as "Money Grew On Trees" in this location and so he came to find some of it.
- LM: This advertisement was this in the form of newspaper ads?
- LG: I don't know.
- LM: How did he come across then from Illinois?
- LG: They came by train to Sacramento. My father came first. ^{They} ~~He~~ came to Sacramento by train and down the Sacramento ^River to San Francisco and then on the ocean to Portland. My father was here about six months before my mother came. I had a brother and a sister that were twins and a older brother ~~that~~ had passed away before they came. They located in Oregon City.
- LM: Your father was married way back in Illinois then?
- LG: Yes
- LM: Why was that your father came before your mother?
- LG: To see if he would like this part of the country. Which I guess ~~he~~ he did.
- LM: You mentioned sort of a interesting incident about your mother and father coming out and passing.
- LG: Mother had mentioned that she didn't want to come up on the ocean by herself but on her trip out she had made friends with a family, and the man had assisted her with the children some and so she thought if they could come she could come.

(10) LG: So she came on and my father left Portland ^{for} ~~to~~ San Francisco to meet her so they passed on the ocean. My mother had a relative in Portland, ^{I just don't know,} ~~and~~ she called him uncle Sal. He took her in hand until my father got back. They located near ~~in~~ Oregon City. I heard my mother talk of Mrs. Barlow of the Barlow Trail. Earlier settlers that came by wagon train.

LM: She knew Mrs. Barlow then?

LG: Yes

LM: Why do you think they settled in Oregon City originally? Was that sort of a starting point?

LG: That was the ^{central} place. ^{That} ~~It~~ meant more than Portland. It is a older city than Portland. Portland wasn't a very large city at that time. I heard my father tell that he could have bought lots up around 7th or 8th street in Portland and it was all timber. He thought that would never materialize so he didn't invest.

LM: What year are we talking about here when they first came to Oregon City?

LG: 1877, ^{So} this would be in early in 1878.

LM: Just as an aside you mentioned your father before he came out here that he was in the Civil War is that right?

LG: Yes, he was very young when he went into the Civil War ^{at} ~~towards~~ the very end.

LM: Did he ever mention any stories about the Civil War or what ~~reg-~~ ^{reg}iments that he belonged to?

LG: I have it somewhere but I just couldn't tell you.

LG: I know that most of the other men in the regiment had measles and they had just ~~barely~~ ^{hardly} got over it and they went swimming in the river. He said he didn't go. Many of the men passed away. It killed them. So he wasn't in very long. Of course the Government was giving pensions to the soldiers but my father wouldn't apply for it because he thought he hadn't been in long enough to think he should be drawing a pension until later in his life than he took the pension.

LM: But he was qualified?

LG: Yes he was qualified but he wouldn't ask for it because he thought he hadn't been in long enough to earn it.

LM: How much was his pension then?

LG! Very small. I don't think it was any more than \$10.00 a month to begin with.

LM: When did they start collecting? When they retired or when they get out of the service?

LG: This was a good many years after the war before my father asked for it.

LM: This question might be jumping up and down in time but did he keep ties with the memories of the Civil War or other fellow servicemen?

LG: Yes there was an organization here of the ^{GAR} ~~GAR~~ and the Woman's Relief Corp. My mother belonged to ^{woman's Relief Corp} ~~that~~. They took a part in the activities of this organization.

LM: Were there a lot of men in the GAR here in Hillsboro?

LG: Oh yes quite a few. They used to meet ^{what was} ~~at~~ Willings store and was located ~~at~~ where the U.S. National bank is now.

LG: There was a building there and they used to meet in the upstairs. I don't know whether it was the Masonic Organization ~~that~~ owned the building.

LM: What was some of there activities? Was it more of a social organization or did they ~~have~~ have a political base?

LG: I think it was more of a social organization. Of course they always took a part in the decoration day and the Fourth of July. ~~A GI~~ ^{GAR} used to hold their conventions at Fourth of July time. They would congregate ~~and~~ ^{They} had tents that they would live in for five or four days. During the Fourth of July celebrations they would hold their meetings ~~by the~~ ^{and} campfires.

LM: Most of the people that belonged to the GAR along with your father, were they originally from the Oregon area ~~or?~~ [?]

LG: No, they were from the other states because this state was quite young at that time and of course they were pioneers living here in the early days and I have no idea how many.

LM: That is interesting. I wonder if some of these men once the war was over they decided right then to move out West and come towards Oregon.

LG: I really don't know that. Of course many people came earlier in the 1840 wagon trains that came. ^{Great} Many located in Oregon and ^{of course} some went to California.

LM: How long did the GAR meetings last ~~once~~ people. .?

LG: Oh they lasted for a good many years. I couldn't say how many years but our relief corp^s just disbanded not ^{more} longer than five or six years ago. The relief corp still met but the GAR most of the men had passed on by that time. Of course the relief corp^s had taken in younger members, I belonged the last few years.

LM: What was the relief corp^s?

LG: It was auxillary to the GAR and we carried on with our decoration day services and that was mostly I think.

LM: That was here in Hillsboro that auxillary?

LG: Yes, well they was different over in Portland maybe they had a couple of groups and McMinnville and many towns had a branch of it.

LM: You say your parents ^{first} settled in Oregon City on the Clackamas River. How long did they remain there?

LG: I couldn't tell you how long they lived there. Not to long ^{I think} because my father went from there to the farm ^{at} in Witchhazel. He lived there for ten years and farmed.

LM: He lived in Witchhazel ^{for 10 years?}

20) LG: Yes, Of course he was so tired there. I think the owners name was a man by the name of Brant^t. He was an official in the Southern Pacific Railroad. The equipment that my ^{father would} ~~dad~~ needed ^{need} on the farm he would send ^{out} on the train. We had one train a day each way. The ^{train} ~~train~~ would stop and leave whatever he would send out. ^{Five}

- LM: You mentioned that he was hired out. How did this come about?
Did he just apply for certain employment?
- LG: I don't know about that how he was hired. I suppose they perhaps needed some^{body} ~~one~~ to run the farm.
- LM: Was it quite a big farm out there?
- LG: Yes, I ~~don't~~ have ^{no} ~~any~~ idea how many acres was in that farm but it was on either side of the Southern Pacific track. Some was on the ~~south~~ side. The barn was on the ~~south~~ side and the home was on the ~~North~~ side. At one time they had some land ~~that needed~~ to be cleared and China~~men~~ were hired to do the grubbing. I don't know how many acres, that has been so many years ago. They moved from ~~the~~ farm when I was ~~three~~ ^{two} years old.
- LM: You mentioned that it belonged to a man named Brandt from the Southern Pacific. Did he live there ^{at the time?} ~~at the house?~~
- LG: Oh no he lived in Portland.
- LM: So ~~a man~~ ^{men} such as your father would do the work that was on the farm.
- LG: Yes he hired somebody to run it ^{to put} ~~and bring~~ in the crops and harvest them.
- LM: What kind of crops did they have growing out there? ^{was it} ~~were they~~ grains or something?
- 40) LG: I think ~~a~~ lot of it was grain. I had heard my father talk about taking things to Portland which took a long time. The old Canyon Road was not very passable. They had to plank part of it down in the canyon.

- LM: Was there ^{access} ~~access~~ to ^{his} ~~this~~ farm by railroad? You mentioned that the train would stop. .
- LG: The railroad went right through the ~~middle~~ of the property. Just ^{as} ~~like~~ it does now.
- LM: So there was ^{ready} ~~access~~ from between the farm and Portland then to haul crops?
- LG: Yes, they used to haul in with their teams too. I don't know how much freight whether they ^{run} ~~ran~~ a coach along with a freight train or passengers, I really don't know.
- LM: What ^{ever} ~~ever~~ happened to that farm? Did Mr. Brandt ~~sell~~ sell out after a number of years?
- LG: The farm was there for a good many years but I don't know who owned it after that.
- LM: How about that area now? Is it still farm land?
- LG: Oh no, I think it is all residential. It is all residents down through ^{that} ~~that~~ now. The old house is gone and the barn is gone and I think that road where the nursery is on part of the land on the south side of the tracks.
- LM: You mentioned ~~your~~ your father moved after ten years when you were..?
- LG: He moved to Hillsboro and he worked in the woods for a great part of his life.
- LM: Why did he make that move? He want ^{ed} ~~to~~ to own his own land?
- LG: I couldn't tell you. I don't know. He didn't own his own land. He purchased a home and some property on East Main which is East Main now. Of course we had no street names at that time.

LG: But it was East Main ~~that~~ he purchased some property from Mr. Warren and some from Press Jackson and he built a house and a bar~~n~~. It was my recollection is when I started to school from which would be about 13th now, out 13th and Main. All the school that was here didn't even have a name on it only the Hillsboro Elementary School which is now David Hill School. That is where I started to school and of course there was no school bus ~~then we walked.~~

LM: ^{busses at that time. We walked.} I just have one short question back before your father made that move. I am curious how did the town come about the name of Witchhazel? Did you ever hear about that?

LG: I have ~~know~~ idea how it got it's name. It still keeps the Witchhazel School ~~is~~ right at the railroad crossing which was there at that time.

LM: You mentioned that your what older brother and older sister?

LG: Yes I had four brothers and the one sister. Of course the older ones had to walk to Reedville to go to school. It was all ~~timber~~ between our home and Witchhazel and Reedville. My sister said you could just stand on the railroad tracks and look down ^{through} ~~on~~ the timber. ^{The opening}

LM: It is quite different today. What was there to Witchhazel at ~~that~~ ^{down} that time ~~what~~ you heard?

LG: Nothing just nothing there ^{just} ~~except~~ farm land because the farm near Reedville was the Ladd and Reed farm. Other than that I don't know anything coming this way from ~~from~~ Witchhazel. I was too young.

(SIREN IN BACKGROUND)

LM: Did your father ever go back to the farm?

LG: No, he never went back.

(50)
LM: You were talking a little bit about what Hillsboro was like when you first made the move?

LG: Hillsboro was a very small town. I think perhaps the block from the courthouse to first street. . Well on fifth street was the Congregational Church and I don't think there was much residents beyond that and coming towards First street was the businesses. Mr. Cave had a ^{tin} ~~ten~~ shop, ~~and~~ Mr. Hare had a hardware ^{as I can remember.} Mr. Greer had a grocery store and the Tualatin Hotel was run by Mr. and Mrs. Wagner.

LM: Was that quite a big hotel for it's time?

LG: No, it was just a wooden. I don't think that it was even a two story ^{a fair, I'm not sure} ~~up there~~. On the corner of ~~Second~~ ^{Waring's} and Main is now the ~~Waynes~~ had a hardware store or a mercantile store and ~~ac-~~ ^{ac}ross the corner the ~~Shoemacks~~ ^{spelling?} had a store. Of course the Courthouse took up that whole square ~~like~~ ^{as} it does now.

LM: This is back in the 1890's that we are talking about?

LG: Yes this would be around the 1890's because I was 10 years old. They was what they called the ~~shenet~~ ^{row} ~~row~~. A row of houses between First and Second on Main Street. Of course ~~I~~ don't remember those. I heard my mother talk about this lady that had quite a reputation, grandma Wood that lived to be a 121. She was with my mother when one of my brothers was born and she was an old lady at that time.

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corrector

Gifford was
born in 1888.

LM: Is that right? That was here in Hillsboro?

LG: Yes that was here in Hillsboro. The children were all born on the Witchhazel farm. But she was from here.

LM: Did you have a chance to meet this woman or has she passed on?

LG: I don't think I personally did because I was just a girl. I knew her daughter and her daughter. I think she was Bertha Olson's ^{great} grandmother. I knew the family.

LM: The people that lived here during the 90's when you were before you reached teen age years was it mostly farm land in this ^{surrounding} area or did people have residential homes at that time? Or was it just the businesses?

LG: I think it was mostly farm land. The population wasn't more than 400 around 1890 because we only had the one school. There was no high school here. ^{I don't think}

LM: Where would they go to high school? Or would they ^{go?}

LG: They wouldn't go. A little bit later I think they added a ninth grade on to the grade school.

LM: That was considered all the education that was needed ^{then?} ~~that~~.

LG: Of course they had the academy at Forest Grove ~~that~~ you could go there. I think they called it the Tualatin Academy. But the time that we left here I was 15 and there was no high school here at that time. We moved ^{out} into the country out in the ^{Farmington} ~~farming~~ area and lived a year.

LM: About 1903 sometime?

LG: Yes because from there we moved to Portland because there was no work that my brothers could do so we moved so they ^{might} ~~would~~ have a chance to work. ^{and}

(60) LM: When your family first moved here to Hillsboro back in 1890 what did your father do then?

LG: He worked in the woods. He was a timber faller and ^{that's} ~~that is~~ what he did most of his later life.

LM: What parts did he work in around in here or did he travel?

(60) LG: No they worked to the ^{south} ~~trout~~ on what they call the island out here and I don't know ^{where} ~~what~~ else. He was gone quite ^{a bit} ~~abit~~. He worked in Southern Oregon in the mines. Some of the men here had interest in gold mines ~~an~~ Southern Oregon and they hired my dad to go there and work so he was gone quite a little ~~while~~.

LM: So ^{my} men in Hillsboro had interest in mining?

LG: Yes, I couldn't tell you who except Dr. Linkletter had an interest but there were others to.

LM: Several men here went down to Southern Oregon then is that right?

LG: I don't know who went besides my dad.

LM: You mentioned that he was a woodsman and he logged here at the island? Could you describe what this island is? Where it is?

LG: Well it is on the Tualatin River and I think when it overflows it leaves an island and it still does. The bridges out there you see. It was covered with timber of course this whole ~~cou-~~ ^{country} was mostly timber you know people ^{I guess} ~~just~~ made their farms by cutting the trees and grubbing. This ^{part} ~~spot~~ from where we live down East Main Street ~~down towards Tenth is all big trees.~~ ^{up to about} ~~was just nothing but big~~ ^{fir trees.}

LM: That is really amazing.

LG: In the early days they kind of divided the years between Hillsboro and Cornelius and Forest Grove ^{with their} ~~for~~ the Fourth of July celebration and that is where they held their Fourth of July celebrations, ^{ADD that is where they held their Fourth of July celebrations} was in the Warren ~~Grove~~.
^{When I was perhaps seven and eight years old.}

LM: You mentioned that your father was a woodsman and there is a lot of timber, ^{I would imagine there might have been} ~~and I would like to know if there was~~ a mill around here?

LG: I don't know. I can't picture a mill until later years. We had a mill ~~start~~ ^(here down) on Third Street, ~~next~~ to the railroad tracks there was a mill but that was later years. So I don't know where they took their lumber earlier than that.

LM: Would they have hauled it ~~off~~ on the Southern Pacific line and taken it into Portland?

LG: I don't know.

LM: We are talking a little bit about the Tualatin River. Do you ever remember, this might be before your time now that I think about it? Were the steamships coming up and down the Tualatin River? Did you hear about that?

LG: I don't know how far they came but they used to come up the river but I don't know how far they came. I don't know if they came this far or not. ^{But they did.}

LM: It is something that you don't actually remember yourself?

LG: No

LM: You mentioned about your schooling. There was only one school here at that time?

LG: Only one at that time. You can see how this part of the country had grown over the years. The number of schools that we have now. I mentioned yesterday about the churches. We have the Congregational Church and Methodist and Christian and the Baptist Church where it is still down ~~here~~ ^{the} ~~camping~~ ^{here} sight. ^{Catholic} ~~The~~ organization that I think owns ~~it~~ ^{is} the Baptist Church ^{and the Evangelical Church} so we had five churches here. The Catholic Church came here, ^I ~~and~~ wasn't very old when they first came here.

LM: Was that something that all the families attend church ^{on Sunday mornings} or was that a strong part of the people that lived here?

LG: No they ~~didn't~~ ^{did}, I always went to Sunday School ~~but~~ and I had my ~~youngest brother~~ and I used to ^{go}.

End of Track 1

(0) LM: ^{The} When Jackson Bottom was flat land, I mean timber land. Once they cleared it out, what was that area used for as farming?

LG: They use it for onions. They ^{used +} plant onions. I used to weed onions down there. The ground was very hard and it would overflow in the winter and when the sun came out it would just baked ~~the~~ ground. They would plant there onions and then we would crawl on our knees and take the weeds out. So that is one thing when I was just 13 years old.

LM: Was that something that a lot of the children did? ^{oh perhaps} Pulled onions.

LG: Yes, pulled the weeds.

LM: Boy that must have pretty hard pulling just by hand!

LG: Yes it was. The ground would be hard but that was one thing that we could do that we could earn a few cents.

LM: Did you have any tools at all when you did this or was it just . . .?

LG: No you just pulled them by your fingers. I know I always wanted a new dress, ~~and~~ ^{my} mother sewed. To get a new dress for the Fourth of July Celebration ^{I'd weed onions} we ~~had~~ to get money ~~enough~~ enough to buy it.

LM: How much were you paid?

LG: ^{oh dear,} ~~Ten~~ cents a row I think and those were pretty long ^{rows} ~~rows~~.

LM: Who was it that you worked for? Do you remember the farmer?

LG: It was Mr. ^{Tupper} ~~Tucker~~. He lived on what was formerly the ^{Loose} ~~Lose~~ family that built that house. Mr. ^{Loose} ~~Lose~~ was County Clerk here ~~at~~ Washington County for quite ^{few} ~~a~~ many years. ¹ ~~good~~

LG: He was a son. I just don't know what happened to that family. But Mr. ^{Tupper} Tucker lived there and he farmed that Bottom land.

LM: Did you ever turn up any Indian arrowheads while you were down there?

LG: No

LM: Did any of the other children turn some up?

LG: Not that I know of. I used to go to this lady's house she was Mrs. Williams. She was Fred Sewell's grandmother. I ^{used} would go and she would tell of the earlier days here when they first came here and how they would go to the woods at night for fear that the Indians would burn them out. They used to go ^{out} and sleep in the woods.

LM: Is that right? That is in this area here?

LG: Yes. The property that was the Williams farm is where the nursing home is ^{out} down here. It ^{got} has a new name now and I don't know what it is. That was the Williams farm anyway and her home was the big house that sat in the middle of the block at between 4th and 5th. That house has been moved and is still over on 6th ^{Street.} st.

LM: When she would tell these stories about ^{having to} leaving their house in the city what would these Indians do?

LG: Well they would come and burn their houses. At that time they didn't live in town they lived on this farm you see because they hadn't cleaned it off so they would just leave the house and go ^{out} and sleep in the woods.

(10)

LM: They would come back and not know if the house would be there or not?

LG: Yes but I guess it always was.

LM: They never thought of staying and ^{protecting} catching them then?

LG: I suppose they just didn't have the facilities to protect themselves more than likely.

LM: Was that something she talked about? [?] Were the Indians violent or. .?

LG: No, I don't know that they were I never heard her tell anything that they had done only that they were afraid and that was all.

(10)

LM: Were there any few remnants of Indians still around Hillsboro back in the 1890's when you were a child?

LG: No, none that I can remember.

LM: That is quite interesting. Something that I understand that really helped Hillsboro grow into a bigger ~~and~~ bigger city was the coming of the condensary down there.

LG: Yes, I ^{think} ~~thought~~ that had a great deal to do with the growth of Hillsboro because ~~that~~ ^{it} gave quite a bit of employment to people and then the ~~fammers~~ farmers would bring their milk into the condensary.

LM: When was that ~~constructed~~ do you remember? Or what time it was?

LG: I don't remember what time it was but it is where the dog food plant is where they make dog food now. It is the same building same place.

LM: It must have been around the turn of the century or around this area?

LG: I imagine so. I moved ^{from} ~~up~~ here in 1903. I lived in Portland ~~for~~ four years and I was married while living in Portland. In 1909 we opened the Washington Hotel. Dr. Tannese built the building. My husband and I opened the Washington Hotel ^{spelling?} and lived there for five years. Grace my oldest [†] daughter was born while we were living there.

LM: This Doctor Tannese was he from this area here?

LG: Oh yes he was one of the early doctors. We had Dr. Linklather and Dr. Bailey and they were the three doctors. I don't remember the earlier doctors. I know there was a earlier one but I can't remember the names.

LM: ^{Bowby} ~~Ovy~~ was that name that was talked about?

LG: No I don't remember that was still earlier before my time.

(20) LM: What did you and your husband do at the hotel then? What was your responsibilities?

LG: We ran it [†] it was ours, we furnished it and ran it and I did everything. I worked in the office, I waited tables, I made beds, We also included a bakery. I worked in the bakery many times in the front counter. We were there for five years and came out with much less than we came in with.

LM: Why was that?

LG: That was do to the Southern ^β Pacific running the electric cars up Main Street. They took the traveling people back to Portland rather than spend the night in Hillsboro.

LM: Was that something when you first started the hotel business they would stop ^{ther} ~~in~~ at your hotel?

(30) LG: Oh yes, that was before they put the electric cars up Main. Dr. Tannese made themselves an apartment in the hotel and they lived at the hotel. He finally built a home in Portland and ^{They} ~~he~~ moved ^{to Portland} ~~there~~. Dr. Irwin took Dr. ~~Tannese~~'s practice here. ^{Tamasee}

LM: When was the hotel built?

LG: It was built in 1909.

LM: Was there several other hotels in the city at that time?

LG: No, I think that the one over on ^{Second} ~~2nd~~ and Washington burned ~~and~~ ~~of~~ course that done away with that one.

LM: Was that the Commercial Hotel? Or some other hotel?

LG: I guess that was the name the Commercial because the other one was the Wagner Hotel. That was the Tualatin Hotel.

(30) LM: What happened to the old Tualatin Hotel?

LG: I think they just closed down. I think Mr. and Mrs. Wagner were getting ^{along} ~~on~~ in years. ^{Their} ~~There~~ family was gone and I think they just closed out. I don't know if that was at the time that the ^{Wells} ~~Wells~~ bought that property and put their store.

Dr. ^{SP?} ~~Tannese~~ had built the building across Main St. from the ~~Hotel~~ and there was a merchantile store back in there. Mr. Wright was one of the owners. ^{Their} They use to put ~~there~~ money in our safe at the hotel at night. The Doctor had his office upstairs in that building. The Commercial Trust used to meet ^{at} ~~in~~ that building.

^{in the}

LM: When you mention a mercantile store what exactly is it?

LG: They carried everything.

LM: Sort of like a dime store in a way?

(35)
LG: Well not exactly a dime store but they had dress materials,
millinery shop,
and all kinds of ready made clothing. I know Mr. Wright
gave me a beautiful hat at one time for taking care of their
money for them at night. When Mr. Allan ~~that~~ was the other
man's name and they sold I think to the ~~wheel~~^{wells}'s that is
when they first came to Hillsboro. They ran that store for
a good many years before they built the new building up on
Main ~~St.~~^{Street} where they were located for a good many years. I
think Jake and Morris ~~Wheel~~^{Wells} were just young fellas around
17 and 18 years old when they came to Hillsboro. I think
Jake is the only one living now.^{first}

LM: What were the kinds of patrons that came to your hotel? Were
they traveling people?

LG: Oh yes mostly traveling men that made there routes every so
often.

LM: Were there ^{sometimes} prominent citizens or political candidates that
would stay at your hotel?

LG: I suppose but I didn't get acquainted with them. We had per-
manent renters. Several of the men in business here rented
by the month. We had when they were surveying the city we
had the surveyors that stayed there.

LM: ~~Were they~~^{was it} considered one of the finer hotels in Hillsboro?

LG: Oh yes it was a first class hotel. I don't know if I still have a menu or not but I think I do. Of course then prices were very reasonable you could almost have a full meal for 50 cents.

LM: It is hard to imagine anymore!

LG I think we had about three waitresses that worked steady and then we had a chef and a pantry boy and a dishwasher.

LM: Getting back a little bit to the city of Hillsboro itself, you mentioned that there was a couple of flour mills here. Were they quite the affairs?

LG: Yes, they was located along the railroad tracks south between ^{Second} ~~2nd~~ and ^{Third I think was} ~~3rd~~ was the Climax Mill. Mr. Millanie[?] had a mill and warehouse that was part on one side of the street and that would be on ^{First} ~~1st~~ street. See our depot ^{when} ~~there~~ the passenger^g train was down at the end of what we call the end of ^{First} ~~1st~~ street at that time. Mr. Millneys^{AMC?} mill was just ^{SP?} across the track from them to the north. So of course that took care of a great deal of the wheat that was raised in this part of the country because they made flour.

LM: The ^ffarmers from the surrounding area would come in with there flour? When you were little did you ever have a chance to go down to either the mills or the condensary and see and talk to the farmers that came in?

LG: Oh no, ~~that was~~ I wasn't interested in that at that time.

LM: How about the coming of the ^{canning} ~~business~~ ^{cannery} here in Hillsboro? Could you tell me a little bit about that? What you remember.

LG: Well let's see Grace ^(her daughter) was about 17. She was born in 1913. I would say about 1925 that I ^{can} remember maybe a little earlier than that that the cannery located here. I think there first cannery was a building down in the East end of town and Mr. ^{Masling} ~~Malling~~ I don't know whether he owned that to begin with or not when they went where they ^{are} are now or where they were. ^{of course} ~~But~~ that made ~~it~~ quite ^a different ^{difference} because they took almost everything there. Strawberries and peas and pears and cherries.

LM: There must have been quite a bit of activity around?

LG: Oh yes they employed a great many people. It made work for lots of the younger people.

LM: Did you ever work in there?

LG: Yes I did. I worked part of one season I didn't work very long.

LM: What was that like working in the cannery?

LG: It was very hard to begin with. You worked on the belt and I was seasick at first until you got used to it. I got used to it so I could work. I worked on the cherries and then I worked nights one time. I just worked the one season because I had a family and had my parents in their later years so I had all I could do to keep house.

LM: I would imagine ~~that~~ people that worked in there were usually women and children. Was that mostly?

LG: Mostly women I think of course it took men in the really working part but women worked in the food.

- LG: I know that Grace worked there ^{at} one time. She would work all day and then go back and work in the evening. She was working for an education. She was working for money to go to school.
- LM: Was it something like you said it was like an assembly line in there?
- LG: Yes in an assembly line and there would be ^{four} ~~4~~ or ^{five} ~~5~~ women working on the belt and taking off the bad ones. The motion of the belt just like you were seasick.
- LM: Was this something that you could easily fall behind in? I mean you working ^{on the belt?}
- Lg: If you kept at it you could get over it.
- LM: What was the pay scale working in the cannery?
- LG: I don't know. I don't have any idea anymore what they paid. I didn't work there long enough.
- LM: Did you ever meet Mr. Mailing?
- LG: No I never met him. He was a big man. I knew him by sight but I never him.
- LM: He lived here?
- LG: They lived here and then built a beautiful home over at Yahat's over at the coast just right above the ocean. It was a beautiful home and I think it is still there but the Mailing's were gone long before this.
- LM: I understand that there was something in the newspaper just a couple of weeks ago where they were going to take that out and make condominiums out of that.

LG: I presume so.

LM: Did you ever have a chance to go down and look at that house?

LG: Never right down to it but have ^{been} many times near there.

(50) LM: We are speaking of Burt Mailings. ^{Now} he was considered one of the prominent people here in Hillsboro. How about some of the other families that you might have come in contact with or heard about? We were talking about ^{a few of them yesterday} ~~it~~ yesterday.

LG: Mr. H.B. Gates was he owned the water system here. Then Mr. ^{Tongup} ~~Tung~~ was the ^{United States} ~~U.S.~~ Representative, ^{and} they lived on the corner where Selfridge Furniture Store is.

LM: Did you ever have a chance to meet him?

LG: Oh no I was ^{only} ~~just~~ a little girl. I knew the family I knew the youngest girl. She was just a little bit older than I ~~am~~. I knew her when we went to school ^{here}. Of course the son's ^{Tongup} Thomas ~~Tung~~ and Burt ^{Tongup} ~~Tung~~ were here for years. The Hare family. ^{attorney}

LM: The Hare family, were they lawyers also?

LG: Will Hare was a lawyer. Mr. Hare had a store I think a hardware store of sorts. Mr. Houston was an attorney.

LM: It seems like there was quite a prestige then for a lawyer ^{seem} ~~to~~ ^{command} respect.

LG: I think on account of the courthouse being here brought attorneys here. Of course they was a great many of the Segrists and the Arh**e**balds are older families here. The ^{Shutes} ~~Shoots~~.

LM: How about the courthouse over there was that something that you came in contact with? The various ^{county} Government Operations?

LG: No I never had but one of my brothers was County Recorder at one time for just a term. He was the one that was the school teacher and ^{he was} County Recorder. I never had an occasion to go there only to get a birth certificate. ~~Hank~~ ^{Frank} Peters was an attorney, ~~and~~ the day that I got my birth certificate when I got through he said well I could have vouched for you. Known the family for a good many years. In those years they didn't register the births, they didn't keep any record of it. I think we all had a problem getting birth certificates in later years when relatives and friends were gone.

LM: Do you remember the redwood trees over there by the courthouse when you were a small girl?

LG: Oh yes I remember them. Of course they were small at that time because they hadn't been there that long. The courthouse was quite new. The old courthouse I think used to settle over on Main Street between ~~2nd~~ ^{Second} and ~~3rd~~ ^{Third}. The courthouse was quite new and of course the trees were ~~new~~ ^{new} at that time all but the redwoods.

LM: Those redwoods are you amazed by ^{Their} there growth? Or do you notice there growth?

LG: Oh yes and of course they have had ^{perhaps} 80 years to grow in since they were planted. The Heidel's owned the property where the museum is and all that land to the North of course we had no high school there then. All that land through there was farm land.

(60) LG: Mrs. Heidel and Bertha and one of the boys had a bakery up town. They had a big family quite a few children. The Boscalls was I would say lived on 8th and 9th on Main was ^{their} there home and Wes Boscalls had a shoestore at one time in later years when we had the hotel. ^{Grace} ~~Base~~ Boscalls was one of my teachers at school. Sixth grade teacher. So there was a good many of the ^{early} good families here. The ^{Embrie's} Embrie's was located kind of North East I think they had a farm and then they moved into town. I remember the youngest girl when she first went to school we were in the third grade. So I have fond recollection of the Embrie family.

LM: What was there position in life? Were they farmers themselves?

LG: They had been but I don't know what Mr. Embrie done after they moved to Hillsboro.

LM: How about the Sewell's family? You mentioned them earlier.

LG: They had a farm out North too. Of course when Mr. Sewell when they moved to Hillsboro Mr. Sewell was sheriff. I don't know if he was here for more than one term or not but I imagine he was. Of course Fred his son was in his later years was owned the mortician.

LM: Did you work on the Sewell farm or did members of your family work out there?

LG: My oldest brother worked there. I don't know how long ^{he worked there} but one time Mr. Sewell asked him if he could drive a four horse team and of course he said he could which he never had before.

LG: But he took the four horses and took a load of something to Portland. So he made it all right.

LM: So he was hired then?

LG: I suppose.

LM: What kinds of things did they grow out on there farm?

LM: Did they grow hops and things like that?

LG: In later years I think they had hops.

LM: We talked a little bit about Hillsboro Main Street. You told me about the physical appearance and characteristics. How about the roads themselves?

LG: The roads were not in very good ^{shape.} conditions. They was planked ^{Fourth Street} Then I would say maybe ~~4th st~~ up through town because at the time we had the hotel and they took up the plank and put in the concrete road. Up ^{til} that time it was a kind of a water would splash up through those planks and it wasn't very good. Mud roads mostly.

LM: Do you remember them building any of the planks roads there or were they already constructed by the time you were there?

LG: Oh no, they was after we were in the hotel that they took up those planks and put in the hard surface roads.

LM: That must have been quite a chore [?] for you?

LG: I don't know where they brought the men that worked on it from.

LM: Were they local men? Or out of town?

LG: I don't know.

LM: How about some of these older buildings that you were talking about? Are they falling down or are they still pretty much down there used for different purposes?

LG: The building at 2nd and Main on the North East corner that is still there. That is where the clothing store I think in the corner. Used to be Johnny Dennis had a grocery store in there that I can remember. But most of the other buildings have been and are all pert near new buildings now.

LM: You were talking a little bit about the last time we talked about some of the dancing.

LG: On 2nd street on the East side of the street was our opera house where the traveling shows would come through and in the mean time they had dances up there they had a dance floor. Downstairs I think was the livery stable.

LM: I think that must have been something that was quite important it seemed like a lot of people did that was go to dances.

LG: Oh yes.

End of Track 2 and end of Interview.