# TUALATIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

#### THS Tape #16

#### Interview with Clayton and Kay Nyberg.

#### Kathy Newcomb, transcriber

CN Clayton Nyberg

KN Kay Nyberg

- KL Karen Lafky Nygaard, interviewer
- LM Loyce Martinazzi, interviewer

## Side 1

- CN ... group of people. Uh, everybody helped out.
- KL Yeah. There were blackouts, weren't there? I can remember blacking out for the news.
- CN Yeah. Because they thought of the invasion when that first sub -
- KL Yeah.
- CN Was sighted off the Clatsop.
- KL Yeah.
- CN 'Course that was-
- KL Yeah.
- CN That was scary. All the fire, fire, the fireman's dance was canceled.
- KL Oh, really. Yeah.
- CN Because of the blackout.
- KL Uh huh.
- LM What year was that, Clayton?
- CN That would be '40, '41.
- KL '42 probably.
- CN '42, yeah. '42. (various voices)
- CN '42 was when they get into it. Then they'd gotten over here, and they were starting to send the balloons over. But people were very cooperative. There was no instances of any problems as far as getting involved with uh, with the uh, the aliens in ----
- LM Were most things canceled? During the war? Like...

CN No.

Counter at 12

- LM Like the ball games.
- CN Oh, yeah.
- LM Were they canceled?
- CN Oh, yeah.
- LM But the, but the fireman's ball, was it....
- CN Yeah, they'd always have it.
- LM Did have it except that one year.
- KL Now what, what things were rationed? I can remember gas and coffee and sugar?
- CN Yeah. And I think that was about it.
- KN Shoes.
- LM Shoes?
- KN Oh, yes.
- LM? Hmmm.
- KN And the reason that, Clayton, was meat ..... I don't know, because we had our own.(Several people talking at once.)
- KN Clayton had sinus so bad. And then your legs were, varicose veins. But he'd been working down in all that, uh, you know, weeding onions, and doing all that, on his hands and knees, and for years, until you went up to the county, wasn't it, you had sinus problems. And then when he got up off the ground and doing things –
- KL Yeah, yeah.
- CN It finally got it cleared up.
- CN If you haven't had your sinuses cleared, you haven't lived. (Laughter)
- CN Especially the second time. (laughter)
- CN They try to find the same hole. (laughter.)
- LM I don't think they'd be, they'd have you up to the doctor's office, would they?

Counter at 29

CN The thing is that once you're done, you don't touch the stairs or the street. You're about that high off. You're feeling so good. (laughter)

- KN But they don't do it that way anymore.
- CN I know. That was quite something; that was tough. But of course everybody helped each other. There was no...no demands on being paid. We had, we had things happen. Of course, (someone coughs) the boys would send home friends of theirs; and come visit, and so you had to entertain. We'd take 'em off on whatever was going on.
- LM Uh huh.
- CN Some of them were crazy for --- And of course they were under stress, and they'd come out of Aleutians and various places. So I was here, and I'd be the one to send them out to Tualatin Valley.
- KN Well, you mentioned the blackout. Yes, we had, ... As I remember we had the pulldown shades and they were a dark green. It seemed to me that all the shades at that time were, used to be green, is that right?
- KL That sounds right.
- KN And we had those shades and , yes, we pulled those down. And you were not allowed to, the only lights you could use after, I suppose, sundown were parkers. And I remember going to the coast---
- KL You had a car?
- KN Yes.
- LM Ooooh.
- KN I remember going to the coast and, uh, we got down there kind of late and we were trying to find a place to stay, and it's pretty hard when you don't have any lights.
- KL And I bet no lights there on either.
- LM Yes, there were no lights. Yes, everything was dark. (mumble of voices)
- KL We do so much at night now that we didn't used to do. We lived more according to the sun, I think, in the old days.

(Varied comments.)

- KN You could see if it was a rock or a mud puddle.
- CN A lot of the times when they were flying the mail on this line here, they had the cities, painted on the roof of the buildings so they could know where they were.
- KL Oh, for, oh, for heaven's sake.
- CN So the big barn had, had uh, Tualatin on it.

- LM Oh, really. Gosh.
- KN I plan to do that for my \_\_\_\_?
- KL Now, who, who came out and painted "Tualatin" on it?

- CN Well, aeronautics.
- KL I see.
- CN And they painted it on there, and so, then they wanted, they wanted us to take it off. But finally, they had to threaten us.
- KN Oh, really?
- CN I think, I don't know who painted it out. Somebody painted it out.
- LM Well, why did they want you to take it out?
- CN Because of the Japanese flying over it. Should heavily ?raze? it.
- KL Oh, I see.
- CN You could talk to Fred and he could tell you a lot of things.
- KL Fred Daufel?
- CN Yeah.
- KL We'll be talking to him, by the way, next week.
- CN Well, all the fire department, course it was a leader in the community(?). Well, one evening, got a call --- and come into the fire station immediately. And we went in, and they explained to us that something was going on in the community. That they, they wanted to find out what was happening, and would we participate. So, sure, I'll stand guard; I'll have to stand duty during the nighttimes. So you're going to have to have these alternating days or once out of three, and --- The first night out we had no idea what we were looking for, but we took off, and, uh, William was driving the car –
- KL Uh huh.
- KN Thibeau.
- CN And we were, we headed down the highway.
- KL What, what uh, did they tell you to look for?
- CN Lights. In the sky.
- KL Oh, I see, oh, in the sky.

CN Lights in the sky. That there would be, there was something going on and it was out of the ordinary.

KL I see.

CN So we took off and we went up Boones Ferry, and, uh, we got out there, and Dan Andrews pulled in to his house, and we had swung in behind him and they wanted to know what was going on. And we said, well, we got this whatchacallit, class to come in and stand duty, to watch and see what was going on, and so......We were talking, and all of a sudden there was a big flash toward Oregon City, just like a beacon. And it shook us a little bit, and we went back to the fire station to report what was going on, and the deputy sheriff of Clackamas County was on Meridian Road at the same time, and he was shocked by the same flash, and it was towards Sherwood.

KL Hmmm. Where? Could you tell where it was coming from? Counter at 99

- CN Well, it was just a beacon, just something \_\_\_\_\_? like a searchlight that shines a cone up in the air. So we, when we started comparing notes, well, here it is between the two of us, between 65<sup>th</sup> and, and uh, Boones Ferry.
- KL Hmmm.
- CN So it shows on 65th, uh, that whole series of events. We've got a lot of, we saw time and time again when this happened. One night Fred said, there were five ---Fred and I \_\_\_\_?\_\_\_ that night, we were on Elligsen Road. And, there was, uh, we were just sitting there, talking. And I think there were two outside the car, three in, and there was, they were packing guns, they were so concerned at that time. And, uh, there was the biggest display you ever saw, right to the north of us.
- KL What?
- CN Light.
- KL Display of light?
- CN Yeah. Just like a great big searchlight.
- KL Hmmm.
- CN So we, uh, kind of stood there and pretty soon here comes a guy walking down, wanting to know what we were doing there. Well, we said we were just parking. And we got out of there. And the FBI later told us it was a good thing that we did, for we didn't know

what they were doing, you know. So, we saw several....one was over on 50<sup>th</sup>, between 50th and 22nd, right over in there. Some lights were in the area over on Beacon Road. One night there was, there were, I don't know how many FBI people that were here, in this fire hall.

- KL Hmmm.
- CN And all the time they were here, nothing happened. Everything was black. Took them out, staked the whole place out. Nothing. Absolutely nothing. And I, I guess I stayed on that night. But, all of a sudden that sky lit up, and I called Bill up, and I said, "You'd better get over here." I said, "Things are breaking loose." And I said, "You'd better ---"
- KL These other fellows had left?
- CN Yeah. All of them had left, cause everybody'd gone home. And boy, I'll tell you, here come these FBI people, these security people in there, and said, "Uh," and said, "Boy, better get the chief over here." So I called him up. And he said, he said, "Clayton, go back to sleep!"
- Counter at 138
- CN So then I called him up, and I said this happened. And the federal people, whoever they were, came in, said, "Get him here." So I called him up, and said, they said "Get here, come in, keep your lights out." So he came over and then he came across the railroad track down below and another turn of the railroad track, uh, turned in by the church, into that building. There was the biggest flash -- went right straight up, just right straight up the railroad track. Just, no one can figure out where it came from, and everything shut off. There were no more lights that night. There was nothing anymore, there was no jamming. Suppose there had been some jamming of communications. And the next morning, next morning, on radio, they mentioned over the radio that there was something happening -- and almost lost the commentators -- almost got him fired. But then it wasn't two or three days later then they put in triangulation to find out where those were coming from.
- KL Uh huh.
- CN And then, in the triangulation, they were able to pinpoint the locations of some of those.And that was, there was more after that, that we got ---

- KL So what, I forget my question now -- what, they invited us, this as being in the Tualatin area?
- CN Oh no, no. It was all over the area, We were just one of them. They began to triangulate. And then when they investigated, they found out that things were going on.
- KL So how wide an area was it going on?
- CN Well, I don't know, clear out to the coast, I guess. That night, that night that sky was crisscrossed.
- KL I see.
- CN Like ribbons.
- KL I see. Now when you were up on Elligsen Road, and you said somebody came by and asked what you were doing, you didn't recognize the person.
- CN No, no.
- KL Some strange person?
- CN And of course the federal people, the people who were dealing with it said not to get off the road, because they would have high, high uh, voltage lines. You were apt to get killed, so we stayed right on the road. We never got out.
- KL So what would have been the source of the light. What would have, what would have ---
- CN Oh, they used them on the high lines.
- KL To tap into the electric power somehow?
- KN They were known ones at Hillsboro, out at Hillsboro. They had them in wells, and I think that was Gaston, and Yamhill, up in that area, they found. And these were, uh, the thinking up there was that they were German people, up there.
- CN Course they're over here on the dairy over here, on the corner, they, that was supposed to have a radio transmitter in their well there.

- KL Mm.
- CN Because they would fly, they would fly this area, trying to catch 'em. 'Cause they would hedge hop and they would try to find the well, the transmitters in the well. But it was, there was no ---
- KL And this is, right after Pearl Harbor, would it have been? Or... You remember the year?
- CN No, we started before Pearl Harbor.

- KL Really?
- CN It was ahead of it.
- KL Oh .... really?
- CN I'm sure it was before.
- KN I doubt that.
- CN I don't know the time. I think it was October.
- KL I see, I see.
- CN And then I went down to the college, and when I was down there, and they had a big cruise and it was blacked out down there. That was in ----
- KN You went down in January.
- CN January, first of January.
- KL Of what year?
- CN '41. See, I won a scholarship for, uh ...
- KN In 4-H. He had one for college.
- CN To go to college. And I just got the one term, the winter term. And then I had to come back, Warden left. .But down there, they had that big fire in that National Guard Armory, and that was something to see, and everything was blacked out, and ----

- KL Was any of this ever recorded, like in the Oregonian?
- CN Nothing. Nothing. Never. No way. I did it once at the annual conference in Salem. I told them, uh, I was the only one who spoke up against it. They came over and talked to me. I don't know what kind of repercussions might come from it. I, but, uh, they were nervous. Uncle Bill, William, most of the firemen -- I wouldn't be a bit surprised if your dad got involved too.
- KL So what was your theory on that? Or did ---.
- CN Well, evidently it had to do with the Japanese, and they --

KN Signaling.

- CN And they moved them out.
- KN Signaling. That's why they would have ...

- CN (Words unclear....) lights right straight in. They found too, that there were areas that---, they finally had to go out and disk up their fields, cause they found that there were mustard fields that were lined up as a part of a target to Portland.
- KL Mustard, what d'you mean, mustard?
- KN Planted so that there were arrows.
- KL Yeah? Who could have planted those without the farmers knowing that they were planted?
- KN They did. They planted them themselves.
- KL Farm... Area farmers?
- CN Yeah.
- KL Japanese farmers?
- CN Well, whatever. Whether they be Japanese, Germans, Swedes, or whatever, who knows?
- KL Planted so they line up to the airport, you say?
- CN Well, they have fields that pointed right in.
- KL To what, to the airport or to Portland?
- CN Well, you see, they were afraid of them coming in off the ocean (jumble of voices) come awfully close if you understood what they were doing with the balloons. Down in ----

Pause in the tape.

- KL Down in the hole.
- CN I'm sure it was before.
- CN They evidently found this happening, and they couldn't figure out what it was. And they wanted to find out.
- KL Hmmm. When did they move the Japanese families to Eastern Oregon or wherever it was? That was ---
- CN That was right after the war in '42, I think. They'd gone away, I don't know. You'd have to research that.
- KL I remember one family in Sherwood High School, I can't remember what year that would have been. '42, '43.
- KN Well, see, it was like December '42 or December '41 when the war started. So, what, you were in school there at the time?

- KL Yeah, I was there from '41 to'43. And I remember, this one Japanese family ---
- KN I don't remember the ---- there were several Japanese.
- CN Where was that?
- KL At Sherwood. And I remember we had a nice little going away party for these ... you know, without thinking ... what an awful thing... and what they were going to... but that was the only case I remember it specifically. But the families here, the Sasakis were moved, right, and relocated, weren't they?
- LM Uh huh.

CN I don't know.

KL There were two of them. There was the Okazaki. I don't know if you remember them or not. (Some discussion of different names.)

CN Okazaki.

KL Okazaki

- KN Iwasakis were up at Hillsboro. I was working at the, as secretary of the high school at the time, and I had one Japanese girl, I had a girl help me every period; they'd go round and collect the slips for the absent ones. And, um, I had one Japanese girl that was working for me, and the principal said, you have to get her, get her out of the office. And I didn't, you know, you wouldn't think that there would be anything that would be that ---
- KL Hmmm.

KN But she had to quit working in the office.

KL Hmmm.

CN (mumbling) My grandmother was waiting by the light, and she knew something ---

Counter at 272

KL Who was her, who was this, this grandmother?

- CN Hmmm, (long pause) I remember, I know what she looked like but I don't remember. (several voices)
- KL I was just wondering if there were any things we hadn't covered; any, just like little anecdotes. I'd like to collect those, memories, of, you know, near accidents on the farm. Oh well, or, and how you, not that you have much time, but childhood memories. I know Herb used to come down, he'd go swimming in the water in the quarries or in the river, or both.

CN Or both.

KL Yeah.

KN We had a, there was a park back by the river, right where the freeway bridge is.

KL Oh, there was?

KN And there was, (other voices, including CN) When they were working down in the onion fields and that, why, you went in at noontime, even, didn't you, you went swimming?

CN Yeah, sometimes two or three times a day, just go down, just to cool off, before a meal.

- KN The schedule was that Clayton would, uh, work the ground or plant or cultivate during the day. And this, and then, and there would be the ones, this was like doing the lettuce. And then, the boys that were hired, would be hired, would go through and cut, cut the middle out, so that there was no --- I guess Pop did that, cut the middle out, and so that they, too, because they would use (comments from Clayton), the seed, the seed would be all the way along. And then just so that they'd be, and then the boys would go along and they were supposed to leave only one plant to a place. And so that would happen until 5 o'clock. And at 5 o'clock then was supper time. And then after 5 o'clock, we'd go out and cut the lettuce. So it would be cut and packed and then, and loaded on the truck, and then delivered so that it would be to early market, like 3 in the morning.
- LM So you took it to early market?

CN We didn't have that then.

LM Ooooh.

KN And sometimes he'd have to reload that load, because he took in for other people.

Counter at 319

CN I cut, cut in the morning many times, too.

KL Ernie Heimbach, being Mr. Heimbach's son.

CN Had that all the way to Tigard.

KN Off of Hall.

KL Yeah.

KN There's that drive. Kathleen is still there. And, uh, uh, many times, well yes, it would be, we'd be there, what, 'til ten o'clock at night and sometimes it'd be midnight. And then the next morning got up and there were the cows to milk before you went out. So, but that time, at that time there were not as many cows.

CN No.

KN They were, what, down to about...

LM Well, how long, how long in the season did you --- all summer long?

- CN Yes. I always had an acre open and ready to plant. I'd just keep it worked and keep it worked, and I just put in a hundred rows every week, and just keep on going ---
- KN We had a planter then. The same, he used the same planter as the cultivator. It was the same, the three rows ---
- CM Just a little, uh, tractor, a two wheeler. Had an outfit with a seat on it, then they have one with a hole in it
- KL Now, did you buy the seed or would you save the seed?
- CN Oh yeah, we'd buy the seed. We never bothered, of course, they were doing well. Had a lot of different varieties at that time, some of them weren't too good. And of course the real problem in those days was that you'd buy fertilizer, pay the taxes. I'd like to really plant some lettuce sometime in an open field, and buy the commercial kind and use all the fertilizer –

KL (laughs)

CN That would really, just sit back and see what it would do.

KN But, and at that time too, there were three dozen that were packaged to a crate. And during the winter he would go to the groceries and pick up these little crates.

CN Two times a week.

KN ... and store them. And then those had to be --- and, and so they had to be cut so that there were some of those outside leaves on.

KL Yeah.

CN That was, that barn that we moved --- I'd fill that up with crates in the winter time.

Counter at 362

- KL Oh, sure yeah, yeah.
- LM Why, I remember I used to have a strawberry crate route, where I'd go around and pick up the strawberry crates, California crates, all season, April, May. Have my little old car just full of them.

- KN Well so, and if you cut a head too short, you know, well then you couldn't use that. Like, what we get now in the groceries, why, there just, there just were, you had to have all these extra outside leaves on them. And at the home there, Clayton's home, why, lettuce was a salad every meal.
- KL Oh, yeah.
- KN At every meal, there was a lettuce salad. And Best Foods mayonnaise. (chuckles)
- CN Come from the garden.
- KN And it was excellent. And it was those short heads that, of course, got used up. But there was one he would take 'em up to the store, also, and they sold them for just as much as if they'd gotten them from Portland. They didn't give the people the benefit ----
- LM Oh, no!
- KN --- of the cheaper prices.
- KL Hmmm.
- KN Even in those days, they didn't have the cheaper prices.
- KL Back in the 30's when, now Zira was the one, the one that raised the family after your mother died.

- KL And it was, ...?...like all farm families, you had a big breakfast and then the big dinner at midday, and then ---
- CN We had everything.
- KL Big everything! Can you remember what you ate, typically for each of the three meals?
- CN Well, bacon, eggs, or eggs and whatever, ham, our own cured ham, and potatoes, and ---
- KL For breakfast?
- CN Yeah, and then for lunch, you'd have potatoes and gravy and everything, and dinner, same thing. Boy, you were burdened!
- KL And a lot of vegetables?
- CN Oh, yeah. Carrots and beets and turnips and whatever.
- KN And Zira, the family garden plot was down in the, down in the --- (several voices at once)
- KL Oh, I see.

CN Uh huh, uh huh.

- CN It was a going concern.
- KL Yeah.
- CN You really, and, of course I remember Mom taking us boys down there, Wilbur and I, when I was 8, and Will was 7. We managed from then on.

KL Yeah.

- CN Of course, we'd go to the garden and pick when you come home out of the field ----Counter at 415
- KL Yeah.
- KL And Zira probably canned as much as she could.
- KN Oh, yes, yes. We canned from that garden, yes.
- KL And you had your own meat. You had your own, uh ---
- KN And at that time, they did have the lockers uptown.
- KL Yeah, right over by Hospice (?)
- LM When did Hospice (?) have that meat locker? When did he get a locker? Did he have that real early on?
- CN Oh, real early, Oh, it would have been '36 or '37, then on.
- KL Yeah, yeah.
- KN And that was wonderful, because when I would go grocery shopping, I would go to the locker, and I'd pick up, you know, just one of everything.
- KL Yeah.
- KN And that's what you ate.
- KL Yeah.
- KN Just had a variety of whatever was in the locker.
- KL Phyllis was remembering that you just hung your key on a hook right out there, so anybody could help themselves to anyone else's key, but ---
- KN But nobody did.
- KL You had trust.
- KN Yes, that is right. I'd forgotten that. (several comments at once)
- LM It hit me just then. I could just see it.
- KL & LM (mixed comments) You dashed in and dashed out, hoping that the door somehow wouldn't be closed, that fear! (laughter)

- LM So, you don't remember a time before the lockers.
- KN Well, at home, uh, sure, I'm sure Clayton does too, we canned beef.
- CN Oh yeah.
- KN And seems to me it was three hours, I think. Was it three hours that you boiled it? And we had these big, that's where you see those big copper boilers, were used for canning.
- KL Yeah, sure.
- KN And, uh, then, uh, the ham was smoked; and, uh, bacon, it, it was put in a salt brine until the egg floated.
- KL Oh. Hmmm.
- LM Interesting!
- KN And, and ---
- Counter at 457
- KL So a raw egg would float?
- KN I think there was saltpeter that was used in the, somewhere in the process. My mother did it.
- LM Now, what did you mean by the egg floated. That proved it was salty enough?
- KN Then it would be salty enough. And so this, I don't know how long this was put in this brine, but then after that, then, it was smoked.
- KL I see.
- KN And that's what was in that picture, is a smokehouse.
- LM Oh that's what that is.
- KN The one by the chestnut tree; that's the smokehouse.
- CN The chestnut tree that's in the access at the exit, that's that tree.
- KL I see.
- KN That's the smokehouse.
- KL Now let me write that down.
- LM Okay.
- KL Is that the chestnut tree that grows there?
- CN Yeah.
- LM Ohhh.
- KN And now this is the, this is the chicken house that's right there, that's uh,

CN Yeah.

KN That's out here, yeah.

KL OK, so that's the chestnut tree.

LM And that's the chicken house.

- KL And is it still there? The chicken house is still? I see...
- CN What? What?
- KL Out here. The chicken house.

KN Got moved.

KL Oh, I see. Got moved. Yeah, right.

Counter at 486

KN And, uh and so anyway, then it was smoked, and then, with the wood stoves, why, that; I don't remember the bacon so much. But I remember the ham would be put in some water on the back of the stove, and, uh, and so that, to get the salt out.

LM Oh, yeah, that was parboiling, wasn't that parboiling? Or just soak it in water?

KN Well, it was on the back, so it would have heat, to get it out.

- KL Uh huh.
- KN And I don't remember if that happened to the bacon or not . But, it seemed, as I remember, the bacon was pretty salty. And in our home too, we had, uh, we had meat for breakfast, at least three meals a day.
- KL overlapping both saying, "three meals a day".
- KN Yeah, uh huh, and, uh, but you had meat for breakfast. And I think, it seems to me we always had hot cereal, plus hot bread of some kind --- muffins or pancakes, or some kind of biscuits, some kind of hot bread.
- CN Yeah, didn't want anybody to get fat.

LM, KL and KN: No, they didn't get fat. No!

- KN People weren't fat like they are now. And they walked a long ways. They burned it ---Well they had, I mean, we worked. Everybody worked.
- CN Take you up and down those roads down there, down there. Think how many ---
- LM Gosh, you went ----
- KN How many miles you went in a day. And, and the --- (several jumbled sentences)
- CN Packing crates.

KL Yeah.

KN Uh huh, uh huh.

LM Oh, the canning, I want to get back to the canning of the meat. Do you cook it first or do you cold pack it?

KN Raw, raw packed. And then of course, there was salt that was put on it. And I don't remember. I think that that probably was done in the quart jars. I don't remember doing, I'm not sure whether we did meat in half gallons.

- CN I remember putting the smoke in the smoke house, getting that ---
- KN Getting the fire going so that...
- KL How would you do that? How would --- What would you burn that would make ---
- CN You put, you put ---
- KL Wet wood?
- CN No. The most important is that you get in there and salt that stuff down.
- KL Uh huh.
- CN And trim it, take the bone out to that one joint. Then you put salt on that, keep working it to a certain point; then they would take and drive and put a needle in and put it through the hock, and hang them up and start smoking. Why, we used ---
- KL And you had the whole fire just inside the smokehouse? At the base?
- CN Yeah, down at the bottom.
- KN You'd get it going but then ---

Counter at 552

CN Lots of logs ----

KL Yeah.

- KN See, that hole is there?
- KL Yeah.
- KN At the top, see that hole?
- KL Yeah, yeah. What was I going to say? Down at the bottom ---
- KN Kind of a difficult time.
- KL Yeah.
- CN Used vine maple, use vine maple.
- KN And apple.

- CN And apple...
- KN Cherry. Your fruit trees were wonderful for ---
- KL Now would you get a fire started with kindling and paper and stuff to get it started? Then put these things on it that wouldn't burn, they just smoldered?
- CN Yeah, wet wood, freshly cut yeah, just kept it ----
- KN I don't know how many days, but it took quite a few days.

- KN Well, so you ask about the canning. And so then there would be this layer of, of quart jars for meat. And then there was a wooden piece with holes in.
- LM Yes, that you put on top of that.
- KN That you put on top of that and then you put ----

END OF SIDE 1

# TUALATIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

THS #16.

Side B: Interview of Clayton and Kay Nyberg Transcriber: Kathy Newcomb

CN Clayton Nyberg

KN Kay Nyberg

- KL Karen Lafky Nygaard, interviewer
- LM Loyce Martinazzi, interviewer

This is side 2 (B) of Tape #16

- KN Well, so you ask about the canning.
- KL Uh huh.
- KN And so then there would be this layer of, of quart jars for meat and then there was a wooden piece with holes in -
- LM Yes, that you put on top of that.
- KN Yes, that you put on top of that. (More background comments.) And then you put, you put another layer of jars, because for it to do for three hours, why ----
- KL So it would kind of hang in the kettle?
- KN Your, your boilers, you see, were like that. (several background comments)
- KL Oh, yeah.
- KN I think mostly those boilers were used for meat. Otherwise, our, our fruit, fruit we would do open kettle. Bring it to a boil and that, and then put it in. And so we used half gallon jars for fruit.
- KL Uh huh.
- KN But I don't remember, I can't remember, it seems to me we even did for meat, but I don't think, I think we must not have.
- LM Now for vegetables, you'd have to boil it three hours?
- KN The same.

KL Uh huh.

- KN You see, your acid in your fruit is what ---
- KL Yeah.
- KN So you don't have to do that.

- KL So meat for three hours and vegetables for three hours.
- LM The meat was delicious.
- KL Oh, yes. (Several mixed voices)

- KN The, the juice would thicken for gravy and...
- LM? Did you, did you put any water in it?
- KN Yes, you'd put water in.
- LM Fill it up to boiling?
- KN I'm not sure as to, you know, whether it was an inch or a half an inch from the top, because, I'm, that part is gone, but, uh ----
- KL Ernest McKenzie?
- LM Oh... was it good?
- KL Apparently very good.
- KN I have taken it to, we've taken it to the cannery, and I, I would like to call and see if -- now they open with the asparagus. And there's only one place that will do it now. And, see if they're still --- if they, it must be two years ago, or maybe, that we canned our last, and had a few cans down there. And uh, uh, I would like to get some stew meat and have it done because it's wonderful; it is so tender and it's so nice to have in the way of ---
- LM Don't you have to heat it for half an hour?
- KN Not if we have it commercially done.
- LM? Oh, but I mean, when you did your own home canning.
- KN? Oh yes, you had to bring it, boil it for 20 minutes....(voices) vegetables and meat, boil it for 20 minutes, yes, because, people would get, just even tasting something---
- LM They'd get botulism.
- KN Yes, they'd ----
- KL Hmm, I'm glad I didn't get botulism.
- KN That would be in the paper.
- LM Oh, you must, oh, but she probably did it in the pressure cooker.
- KL I'm sure she did.

- KN I've been told now, I was concerned that they, 'cause like tuna, they said, oh, you still have to boil it for 20 minutes. But I thought if it was done in a pressure cooker, you know, you didn't have to.
- (Youngster at the door.)

CN Who's here?

- LM Let's turn it off. (Apparently a temporary stop in the tape.)
- CN The feed store was right on the northbound lane of I-5, right in the, uh, apparently it only operated for about 3 or 4 years.
- KL I see.
- CN But it was, Elwood Dunmire had it for awhile, but then we used that for a lot of storage later.
- KL So that was right on Nyberg Road
- CN Oh yeah.
- KL Which side, north or south?
- CN South.
- KL I see.
- CN It sat there, and we husked corn in it ---
- KL I see.
- CN A long time, and ---
- KL I see.
- CN --- stored stuff.
- KL But it was certainly where you sold things.
- CN Yeah.
- LM Now, did you sell just your own things, or did, were you a dealer?
- CN Oh, no, no, that was before the Camps came in there.
- KL Oh, I see.
- CN With their feed store.
- KL There was a feed store over by the ---
- CN By the drug store.
- LM Now, did you sell dynamite?

CN No.

- LM Who sold dynamite around here?
- CN Well, that was usually out in Sheridan. That's the only place that I remember doing it.
- LM? Did Eagle (?) sell dynamite?
- CN I don't know. That's what, what's-his-name, Neimar?

Counter at 57

- LM Oh, uh, August.
- CN Yeah.
- LM So I've heard. Did you ever get a hold of ..?
- KL Yeah, in fact I'm going by there on my way back.
- CN Who?
- KL Uh, talked to E. R. Earlegal(?). Uh, Frances lives in Aurora now and what's the other one, lives in Sherwood and –
- CN Clarence?
- KL Clarence is out of town for a month or so. And Joe Leedle's name is still in the phone book, and I called there, I think it was his brother, and he's been dead for four or five years but they haven't taken the name out of the phone book yet. I doubt if the Elks in there, uh ---, anyhow, I ---
- KN Earl's son.
- KL No. Cause he said they kept, just kept the name in the phone book. I don't know why. Anyhow, Earl,.....

CN What?

- KL He said, "Jim's dead". Yeah. Anyhow, Earl has, was going to call us, because when they dismantled the building, I guess, where the industry's going in, they found an old phone book. He didn't say from what year, but there's like one page. He saved it, and he's going to call, and I'm going to go out there now and get it.
- LM Oh, wonderful.
- KL Yeah. And he's going to try to find some other stuff. I asked him about the sisters place. And he knew about it; they farmed it. And, uh, but, he thought, he's

going to check with his other cousins and see if he can't connect with some pictures.

- LM Ooooh, good. Did you know anything about the sisters' place, Clayton?
- CN No.
- LM Up past my dad's place, the Leveton property?
- CN No.
- LM Well, the reason we're interested in it is that Blanche Durst has a, you know, Duffy Hamilton's mother, has a painting from her grandmother or someone that says, painted at the sisters' school in Tualatin. So I've done a lot of research. So far I haven't found anything about a school.
- KN I know that.
- Counter at 81
- LM The sisters bought it from Billy Greenwood.
- CN Yeah, the sisters' place --- (rattling of papers in background)
- LM Yeah, my dad did tool
- CN No time to do it in.
- KL Yeah.
- LM Uh huh.
- CN Wilbur worked for Harsch.
- LM Oh, yeah?
- CN --- put in all his posts and fence.
- LM So did this Harsh buy it from the sisters?
- CN I guess so, I don't know.
- LM Because I remember it being called the Harsh place too.
- KL But he said a Bill Wampler lived there.
- CN I imagine, it's hard to remember, they kind of run it down.
- KL Yeah.

## Counter at 93

- LM Did he have any pictures of the buses? Early buses?
- KL Did that, yeah, that's in the family.
- LM 'Cause I have some at home.

\$6-23

- KL Yeah, doing something.
- LM Something more.
- KL Yeah.
- LM It has been just tremendous. Did you mark down how many we've got here?
- KL Yeah, I made a note of that.
- KN Well, how long do you anticipate having them?
- KL None that we have known.
- LM Ummm, so, have them back in ten days?
- KL Okay, \_\_\_\_\_. It takes awhile for them to make copies, um, they have to go through the, make a negative and make a picture of the picture.
- LM Uh huh.
- KL So that takes some time, and uh, \_\_\_\_\_ could take them over right now and have copies made.

End of recorded area -- tape blank from this point on

Υ.