

During the early part of June, 1978 I was contacted by two different people telling me of a man who lived at the base of Cooper Mountain in south central Washington County. This man, apparently just bubbling over with stories of his life, neighbors, and the community at large, and wanting the stories to be told after his lifetime, intended on writing them down in book form. Finding this difficult to do, and having heard of the oral history program at the museum, he decided it would be much better to tell the story orally.

Therefore, on June 22 and 23, 1978, I took the Tri Met bus from the museum east out the Tualatin Valley Highway and got off at 209th, whereupon I walked south down to McInnis Road and the home of Don McInnis.

The interview was most successful. Mr McInnis told about the events of his 78 years around Cooper Mountain, Hazeldale, and Reedville. (Refer to index for a more complete summary of the information on the tape). During the second half-hour of the interview of couple of old-time friends and Reedville residents, Oscar Pierson and his sister Clara, came by and contributed stories.

During the approximately 150 minutes of recorded interview, a tremendous number of topics were discussed and touched upon to make this oral history both informative and enjoyable.

INDEX TO TAPE
DON McINNIS
JUNE 22 and 23, 1978
ACC. NO. LOH78-222.1, 222.2, 222.3

TRACK 1

- 0-10 Interviewer's introduction. Narrator's introduction. Born in Northern Washington in 1900. Moved to Hazeldale. Father started Hazeldale store in 1908. Hazeldale farmers. Logging on Cooper Mountain.
- 10-20 Hauling wood. Sending cordwood into Portland via the railroad. Farming. Raising potatoes and selling them to the city people in Portland.
- 20-30 Trips to Portland in horse carts and buggys. Rough road and weather conditions. wet and muddy roads.
- 30-40 The fire and burning of the Hazeldale store. Hop raising. A Community Hall at the top of the store. Saturday night dances. Basket Socials.
- 40-50 The town of Hazeldale, i.e. blacksmith shop, schoolhouse, store, and a collection of houses.
- 50-60 Neighborly and community assistance after the burning of the store. Introduction of Oscar Pierson and his sister Clara. Talks about being a roadmaster, working with a team of horses and building county roads.
- 60-70 The building of Tualatin Valley Highway, 1918. The story of the building of Canyon Road. Riding the Red Electric, Southern Pacific.
- 70-80 The two room school in Hillsboro. The train stops along the Red Electric line.

TRACK 11

- 0-10 Continuation of the story of the Red Electric. Farming. Dairy farming. Dairy horse teams. The self-sufficient farm, i.e. cows, chickens, pigs, etc.
- 10-20 The exchanging of farm labor. Digging potatoes, shocking wheat. Oscar Pierson talks about the Ladd and Reed farm and Reedville. The Witchhazel farm. Hop growing. The end of hops with the coming of prohibition.
- 20-30 The area people going down to Independence and picking hops for extra money. The story of Pat Kelly buying the Reed farm. The murder story.

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TRACK 2 (CONT.)

- 30-40 Breeding stock on the Reed farm. Working with draft horses. The raising of hay, grains, i.e. wheat, oats. Threshing.
- 40-50 The Witch hazel farm. Race horses. Hawthorn farm. The Reedville Championship baseball team. (1921)
- 50-60 Reedville and the Reed farm. Miscellaneous comments from all three narrators.
- 60-70 St. Mary's Church taking over the Reed farm in the late 1930's. The Fourth of July celebration in Hillsboro. Horse and buggy days. Seeing the first airplane, the first car.

TRACK 3

Part 2 ends here

- 0-10 Chinese workers clearing the land. Chinese working on the Ladd-Reed farm, clearing stumps.
- 10-20 Stories about the "Chinamen" Blasting powder, clearing land.
- 20-30 Physical appearance, i.e. clothing hair styles, etc. Chinese eating habits.
- 30-40 Tualatin Indians and Indian artifacts. Evidence of Indians along the Tualatin River. Ferry boats along the Tualatin River.
- 40-50 Prohibition. Mr. McInnis going into a saloon in Beaverton as a small boy. Saloons, moonshining, and stills.
- 50-60 Draft horses. Farming with horses as opposed to tractors.
- 60-70 Horse plowing, description of. First tractors.

TRACK 4

- 0-10 The Ladd Reed Farm. Don McInnis working as a hired hand on the farm during the summer of 1919. A typical working day.
- 10-20 Race horses. The round barn. Jacktown, Andrew Jack and his sons.
- 20-30 Farmington, its "rise and fall." The disappearance of the small stores, and blacksmith shops.
- 30-40 Cooper Mountain farms. Milk cows on the mountain. Scenic views.