

# **VOICES FROM THE PAST**

## **NEWSPAPER WORK IN SUGAR CITY**

By Nettie Garner

November 17, 1971

### **Tape # 9**

Oral Tape by Harold Forbush

Transcribed by Louis Clements

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Upper Snake River Valley Historical Society

## INTRODUCTION

The Library of the Upper Snake River Historical Society in the Teton Flood Museum contains over 600 video, cassette, and reel-to-reel tapes. These oral interviews have been gathered to over the past years from individuals throughout the Snake River Valley. I had the opportunity to catalogue this collection over the past couple of years and was amazed at the information containing therein.

I decided that it was unfair to the public to have all of this historical information on a tape and only available to a few who had the time to come to the library and listen to them. The library does provide a service in which copies of the tapes can be made, and during the past few years, many have come in and obtained a copy of a particular tape. The collection has a lot of family stories, some pioneer experiences, a few individual reminiscences of particular parts of history, and some recorded individuals have a personal knowledge of a historical event.

I spent a lot of time trying to come up with a name for this series of stories that would describe the overall text of the message contained herein. Since they are transcribed from the actual voices of those who experienced the history the name, Voices From The Past seemed appropriate. The oral history in this volume of Voices From The Past has been taken from the interviewer with it being recorded on tape. Since Idaho's history is so young in year, the oral history becomes greater in importance. Eyewitness accounts rank high in reliability of the truth of events, although the reliability suffers as they interviewee ages or the time between the event and the interview grows. As the age of some of the cassette is progressing into the time period of deterioration of tapes, all are currently (2002) being copied onto audio discs (CD's) for preservation.

I have selected this event as one that occurred in Eastern Idaho which was experienced by the person or persons being interviewed. There was such a vast amount of information available in the library; I had to reserve many of the tapes for inclusion in future volumes. The tapes are being transcribed in order of importance according to my thinking.

Transcribing from a tape to written word is a new experience for me. I have done this on a very small scale before but to attempt to put the contents of a conversation down on a paper requires a great amount of concentration. I have taken the liberty of editing out the many "a's" that occur in an interview as well as other conversational comments. Then comes the problem of the book a challenge from the point of view of making a correct transcription and yet an interesting story. I have made a few editorial changes in view of this problem.

I would like thank the many people who have taken the time to arrange for the oral recording of an individuals story. The information obtained in this manner is, in many cases, not available from any other source. One of the pioneers of oral history in Eastern Idaho is Harold Forbush. Despite the handicap of being blind, he travels around the whole Snake River Valley visiting with people and taping their responses. He began his career of taping while living Teton Valley and serving as the prosecuting attorney there.

His lifetime interest in history got him started and since then he has been a major contributor to the collection of stories in the library. He continued his oral history recording after moving to Rexburg. After retiring from being Madison Counties' magistrate, he moved to Idaho Falls for a time and now has returned to Rexburg to continue as occasional taping session. He is to be congratulated for his lifetime commitment to the preservation of Idaho's history.

There are many others who have done some taping including several Madison High School students. Most of the student tapes are not of the same sound quality as the professional oral history collector, but the stories they have gathered over the years have provided a special look at the Depression, war experiences, farming experience, and many other subjects which can't be found anywhere else. Many thanks to them.

There are some tapes in which the interviewer did not identify themselves. These unknown records have provided several stories which have helped make up the overall history of the Snake River Valley and I thank them even if I cannot acknowledge them personally.

I hope that as you read the following stories you will be inspired to keep a record of your own either in written or tape form so that your opinion of what has happened in the world or in your life can be preserved. Many think their life has been insignificant and others would not want the years and find each other to have its own contribution to my knowledge of what has happened. Idaho is an exciting place to live and is full of stories which are unique to our area. Share them with others.

Louis J. Clements.

Through the facilities of the Upper Snake River Valley Historical Society the following interview is transferred from reel to reel tape onto C-90 cassette this 11<sup>th</sup> day of February, 1984.

HF: It is a pleasure for me to have this afternoon Nettie Garner come to my office at 68 East 1<sup>st</sup> south here in Rexburg. This is the 17<sup>th</sup> of November, 1971. Were going to be talking of her experience in sugar city and possibly after she moved to Rexburg. Is Nettie Garner our full name, Sister Garner?

Garner: It is Nettie Mae Garner but I have always used just Nettie Garner.

HF: Would you state when and where you were born?

NG: I was born in Ogden, Utah in 1884.

HF: Your parents, who were they?

NG: My fathers name was William F. Garner and he was the son of Phil and Mary Edwit Garner born in Ogden, Utah June 5, 1852. We lived there many years. My mother died there and then he remarried Luella McQuiston.

HF: Now would he be a brother to John Garner?

NG: Uh hum.

HF: What were the other Garners, now John would be a father to Earl and you are cousins?

NG: Yes.

HF: When did your father, William F., come to Sugar City area?

NG: He came there in about '96, '96 or '97, I think?

HF: Did he homestead?

NG: No, no. When he first made up his mind to come up here, he lived in Ogden. He's just finished our new home. It was a home that he and my mother had designed. After she died he went ahead and built it as nearly as like she wanted it. It was one of the good homes in Ogden, beautiful. We were there but Uncle Johnny was living up here. He owned sheep. They used to come down there real often. But he came down and persuaded my dad to move up here and go into the sheep business with him. A cousin of mine who lived just two doors was Ben to go into business with him. So they came up and formed a partnership. I was just a young girl and didn't know all.

HF: They all would be your father, your uncle, and Ben Critchow.

NG: They came up here and Uncle Johnny wanted to take his family and move to Ogden and move into our home and us stay up here for the winter. Mother, of course, was a school teacher and she could take care of us as far as our schooling was concerned. Then he'd come back in the spring, he just stayed for the first winter to get onto the thing and get the sheep going good. Then we'd move back. It was a very hard winter.

HF: Let's see, you would have been about how old?

NG: I think I would have been about 12 years old, I believe?

HF: '96 or '97?

NG: Yes. So anyway it was such a hard winter and Uncle Johnny stayed down there and dad tried to make things go. He, just, his health failed him. Everything went to pieces and he lost the sheep. He went broke. He was retired. We went broke. There wasn't anything to do but stay here. We put a mortgage on our home in Ogden and lost it. We stayed up here and my mother went to teaching school, here at Salem.

HF: Her name was Luella?

NG: Luella.

HF: Luella Garner.

NG: She taught school down there in a little old log room. I went to school there and she had all eight grades right in that one room. She got \$35 a month for teaching.

HF: That was on the Salem town site, wasn't it?

NG: Yes. Course, Uncle Johnny, they moved back up here. I don't know if there are any pictures but they were all little old log homes with dirt roofs then. They were comfortable home inside though.

HF: Your father stayed here and your mother tried to keep the wolf away from the door by teaching school. As a young lady can you recall some specific impressions of little memories that occurred before 1900, maybe your home, or maybe little episodes, or experiences that took place when you would still be thirteen, fourteen, or fifteen along in there?

NG: I know that during that time we were so broke that it worried us children. We understood it. We had a nice place in Ogden. Dad was sick.

HF: Did you ride a horse down to school or did you walk?

NG: No, we had a little old car. In the winter, and that, it was quite a little distance and we had horses and a bob sled that we would ride in. Then when winter was over and the spring months came we had carts, carts and horses. One horse to a cart.

HF: A one horse cart.

NG: We would go on that. There were sometimes in the winter that they had the sleigh something like a cutter, they used to call them cutters. They could get that and ride right over the fence tops straight down from our place to the schoolhouse in Salem.

HF: What was your first job after you finished school?

NG: I didn't finish school, I didn't go to college, and I can tell you that.

HF: Did you attend Ricks at all?

NG: No. I went there, I was going there later on but dad died. Before he died he was sick all the time. We just felt that I had to get out and earn a living. I did anything. There was neighbors around. You'd help them and things of that kind. I came over then and was going to go to school.

HF: To Rexburg?

NG: Yes, to Rexburg. Oscar Kirkham was the music teacher there. First thing I did was, he said, "I will pick you right straight." My sister and I both had really good singing voices. My dad did too. I took several lessons from him. Then there came a chance of a first job. Sugar City was quite a thriving little town. They had several stores there and everything.

HF: You mentioned that other day that you managed the telephone service?

NG: Yes, I was going to say then, of course, the sugar company came in there. They were going to build a factory. I was a little older then, of course. They started the factory and the telephone company put in a private switchboard for them over there. I took care of that. I run that and took care of it.

HF: Now was this in the factory building?

NG: No, it was in the town site building where the school house is today.

HF: Was this downstairs?

NG: Downstairs.

HF: Which corner?

NG: It wasn't in the corner. It was the east side of the building about in the middle. Cause right down on corner, on the north corner, was the stairs that went up to the printing office. Mr. Andrews came up when Sugar City started to go. He established the "Sugar City Times."

HF: Was his brother with him at the time?

NG: No, not right then. A little late on his father and mother moved up and, or course, this brother. He was just younger than Lloyd quite a bit. He came up and lived with them. I forget, I was going to bring that picture taken of the "Sugar City Times." It shows the old press.

HF: What did he have, the one press?

NG: Yes, he had just one newspaper press. He had the single press, the job printing press.

HF: What size of linotype over there. It was case type. The picture shows the casings all up there. There they are in little cases about three or four inches square. Each case has a (?) type in it. We had picked that type up and that what they called a stick. It was a little affair that you held in your hand and you could adjust it, the size of line you wanted. Then you would pick the type to fill that space. It was all hand set.

HF: Then after you went to press on one set and you wanted to make a new paper would you have to melt all this down?

NG: It was a matter of distributing it. That was type that was used over and over till maybe the face got worn and then you'd have to buy new forms of type.

HF: It was a matter of distributing these letters...?

NG: Distributing them back in their various boxes.

HF: Where you wanting to have them?

NG: There would be box A, B, C, D, and go right down the alphabet. Then on one side was numbers that went clear down. Then on the bottom was the caps. There was boxes for the punctuation.

HF: This type of printing was called what, what kind of printing was this, box...?

NG: no, no. it was newspaper printing. It was all done by hand. It was hand printed.

HF: Hand printed.

NG: And set. While this bag newspaper press, have you ever seen those?

HF: No.

NG: Well, I am sorry that you can't see that picture.

HF: Well, we never had the linotype at Sugar. After we worked there for a while, a couple of years, then Lloyd had a chance to buy the newspaper over to Rexburg that James Wallace had at foreclosing on it. We did the publishing for the mortgage sale. Then we went out in the front, and stood there, and auctioned it off.

HF: Here in Rexburg.

NG: Here in Rexburg.

HF: What was the name of the paper that Mr. Wallace had?

NG: It was the "Rexburg Standard."

HF: It was the "Rexburg Standard." Did they call that the "Current?"

NG: No. The other one Arthur owned. There was two papers. Arthur Porter owned the other one and it was the "Current Journal."

HF: The "Current Journal" and Mr. Wallace had the "Standard."

NG: He had the "Standard" but it had been foreclosed.

HF: We are proceeding a little too rapidly here. First of all, let's go back just a moment. Your first experience at working was with the telephone company there in the town site building. Were you the sole manager of this little office?

NG: Oh, yes. There were two of us girls because we had to have someone to change off. We kept the office open and the switch board operated up until 11:30 maybe 12:00 at night. It would start in the evening. Then Mark Austin, daddy, Cutler, and those people who were at the head of it, they do all their callings about that time. We had day calls at all the time.

HF: Did they have a special connection over to the factory or not with that switch board?

NG: Yes. I don't know about that but the operators would put the call in here and I'd call up.

HF: I see.

NG: I am trying to think if we could put in long distance calls form there. Yes we could because mark Austin used to annoy us so. He'd put in along distance call and then where



would want to talk to so-in-so Burley while you are getting him somebody else. Now if he doesn't answer then you can get me someone else. Now you know he was in bed.

HF: He was quite a businessman.

NG: Oh yes, at a rapid pace.

HF: In other words, would he talk real fast?

NG: Yes. And he was so definite about everything. I would say, "Mr. Austin, we only have two open lines. I can get you two people, that's all. But one is busy." We used to have a hard time with it. Anyway he would talk and talk.

HF: Now another girl would help you. Who was this young lady?

NG: Her name was Lisa Allred. She married someone local. Who was it, I know she came to see me one day and said you don't know who I am, do you? I said, "No I don't." She had gotten heavy and big.

HF: Now did you stay with that particular job for a year or so?

NG: Oh, yes. I stayed with it a couple of years anyway. Mr. Adams used to come in. You know how it was in little places. You all come to see each other when you went by. The post office was there to...

HF: In the same building. Before the "Sugar City Times" was established there hadn't he been out in Market Lake, Roberts?

NG: No. He started a paper later on out there.

HF: I see. At that time he had come up from Utah.

NG: From Nephi, Utah. He worked for the newspaper down there and was the manager. He just figured that was a good opening for him there.

HF: In Sugar City?

NG: Yes. But then he came over and bought the "Standard" out. Then, of course, he closed up the Sugar City offices.

HF: So the Sugar City office, I know there was a special edition in 1906 and a Christmas edition in 1908. He must have been over there for two or three years?

NG: He was. I couldn't definitely say for how long but it was quite a while.

HF: During those later years you worked for him?

NG: Yes, then you see, I went up there to the office quite a bit until he propositioned me to come in and learn the printing trade. I didn't take to it very much because it was really a task.

HF: What were some of your duties as a printer?

NG: Just all around. I set type. I run the big press, and everything there was to do.

HF: About how many subscribers did you have?

NF: I don't think we had over...

HF: 100?

NG: We had three or four hundred subscribers. When we come over here there wasn't too many. We had to work that to get it up.

HF: Now as I remember, Nettie, the paper came out on Thursday. So you'd go to press maybe two days before?

NG: Oh, no. We got out our type set and we wouldn't get the paper out till the night before. That is why there was so much night work. We quarreled over that because Lloyd insisted. I just said you made a bit of working nights and there is no need of it. I said "It makes it hard on me." He did when he got to Rexburg but he just wasn't satisfied.

HF: In other words, you'd print Wednesday night and it would come out Thursday morning.

NG: We'd print it and fold it by hand. Everything was done by hand. There was just no machinery much.

HF: About how many pages would you have in that paper?

NG: Oh, we'd have about four and sometimes extra advertising. But we always bought what we called a ready clinch.

HF: That came from another paper?

NG: Salk Lake City. The "Salk Lake Western" newspaper.

HF: That would be an insert into your local paper?

NF: It was the paper they sent us. Two pages on one side would be printed and on the other pages on the other side it would be blank. We'd run that through.

HF: Oh, for the local paper.

NG: All the local stuff would come on this two pages without any print on.

HF: Did you go out and gather news and advertising or was that pretty much up to Mr. Adams?

NG: No. I did a lot of that, an awful lot of that.

HF: But he would also do it?

NF: Oh, yes. That little press, the small one. We did letter heads and envelopes and statements and all kinds of things that way.

HF: Birthday greetings, I imagine?

NG: Yes, yes.

HF: Announcements for the Church?

NF: Yes. Anything like that usually went into the paper. It was gratis, of course, there was no charge on anything like that.

HF: Did he often go up to St. Anthony or out to Roberts to gather news?

NG: Oh, yes. He didn't go to Roberts much. He used to go to St. Anthony because, listen, at that time it was Fremont County and St. Anthony was the county seat.

HF: Actually, Nettie, as a young lady living there in Sugar City, St. Anthony or Rexburg, where would you got to do your shopping?

NF: Oh, we usually went to Rexburg. It seemed like Rexburg was, well St. Anthony always was more of the out of the Church town. It wasn't a church town like Rexburg was. We'd come here to conferences and everything. They did have them up there and we had a lot of good friends in St. Anthony. There was Burt Miller, an attorney, and people like that. They would all come down to the printing office. Then, of course, after we'd bought over here and we moved over here...

HF: Did you come right over here because of the paper?

NG: Yes. I was working there and he said, "We'll buy that over there." I said, "Well, it might be then if we do that, that I'll get better pay and I'll put so much of my wages in the paper."

HF: So up until that time in Sugar City you were just working for monthly wages?

NG: Weekly wages, we were paid weekly.

HF: Would you care to mention the type of wage you got?

NG: I don't remember now what we got but it wasn't very much. It might have been nine or ten dollars a week. Not over that. It wasn't the best.

HF: Then once you got to Rexburg it was agreed to put some of your wages in the paper?

NG: Yes.

HF: Then he bought Mr. Wallace out. Do you know how much?

NG: I knew then but I wouldn't dare to state price now. It was very reasonable I know. It was quite funny, they all had quite funny; they all had quite a laugh about it. They came into me in the office along Main Street next to the coop.

HF: Where the Coop stands where the C. W. & M. Company stands. Then right following the C. W. & M. company going east there was all kinds of little buildings along there. Where the printing office was, was terrible.

HF: All wooden dumps?

NG: Yes, yes. When I went into the printing office, where we were the floor was so terrible and rickety. If it rained very hard water would come in.

HF: Were the buildings located right against the road, pretty close to the road?

NF: Yes they were right on the sidewalk.

HF: Of course, at that time it was a wooden sidewalk, wasn't it?

NG: Yes, yes it was. It was on the south side too. Oh I remember I was going to tell you C. W. & M., they handled farm equipment and stuff of that kind. There was an old plow out in front. I know that Lloyd came running in and he said, "Say you're part of this sale. Come out here." So I went out. We did have a picture and I don't know where that is. I was kind of sitting on the plow a little bit when they took out picture while the sale (for the newspaper) went on. In fact, I think Lloyd was the only bidder. He gave his price and took it.

HF: Now what equipment did he have there in Rexburg to work with?

NG: It was much better than in Sugar. We had linotype here. The press was about the same, the newspaper press. He had two job presses.

HF: Were these all located in one room?

NG: Yes. It was sort of narrow and quite long. Then a little ways back before we got the linotype there was a partition there with a wide door on one side that you could go through. It kind of segregated it from the front part. There were cases of type all through there and especially the type we used for job printing, the big type. They didn't come out with the linotype then with all this stuff on it.

HF: Was a lot of this after you came into Rexburg? Did you still do a lot of handwork or was it pretty much...?

NG: Oh, yes there was quite a bit of handwork. You had linotype.

HF: That was powered?

NG: Yes, that was powered.

HF: By electricity?

NG: The presses were powered. The dog presses were powered. Yes, with electricity. As the seasons warmed up we headed down here. I was there not long back right after they got this big new press.

HF: Down here at Mr. Porters?

NG: Yes. I really and truly just laughed to go through there and see the change.

HF: Who assisted Mr. Adams in this new venture in Rexburg?

NG: We always had a pretty good linotype man.

HF: Do you recall his name? Do you recall any names?

NG: There was McGowan and I don't remember his first name. The picture I've got of the home, oh, what did he call him? Maybe John would remember, I don't know.

HF: Did your duties change after coming into Rexburg?

NG: Oh, yes. I went out and assisted in the advertising and got the local news and that. Lloyd usually wrote the articles if there had to be an article written on anything.

HF: The editorials.

NG: Yes, the editorials.

HF: Did you do some of the printing though too?

NG: Oh, yes.

HF: While in Rexburg?

NG: There wasn't a machine I couldn't run. I run everyone of them.

HF: The linotype?

NG: For three or four years I run the linotype. It was a broken down one. Just as soon as he could afford it he got a new one. They are terribly expensive. Then when it got here, Lloyd got into politics more than ever. So I was left with it. When we were here, there was a good many years when I practically run it all. I have a letter on file over home; I know I've got it that, which we got from the Western Newspaper Union. They knew me and all of our salesmen and that, those people knew me real well. We got the letter from them and I never let Lloyd see the letter. I thought it might offer him. They went on telling how bad they felt to think that he had sold out as many years as he had been there. They were familiar with him and they had done business with him. They had enjoyed it al. Then they said, "We are wondering, all of us, if Nettie will stay with it. " They said, "We do hope she does because we know, we've been there enough, that she practically can run everything."

HF: Now this was after he had sold out the "Standard"? Is this what you mean?

NG: This is when he had sold out the "Standard" to Burt Moore.

HF: In other words, Mr. Adams, after running the "Standard" here for a number of years, he sold out to Burt Moore?

NG: Yes, to Burt Moore. His dad was very prominent in politics in the state. Burt was the city editor of the "Post" in Idaho Falls. He decided he'd like to, when he knew Lloyd wanted sell, he came up and bargained with him and he bought. But Burt was a city editor and he didn't know a thing about running a paper and making financial end of it and that. He just didn't know about it.

HF: Can you give me an idea, just roughly at least, about when this was, when Mr. Adams sold out the "Standard"?

NG: Yes. She and I went over and we went to school in Florence, Italy. I was the oldest one of the bunch. He knew I was going to Europe. I wanted to get ready for it and it was going to take a lot of money and I just got to this Elizabeth Yoder School. The girls got their credits so they could go right on to college when they got here. I didn't want to do that but I did want to take some classes. So I signed up to take History of the Renaissance and Art Appreciation.

HF: There is Florence?

NG: Yes. But the other girls took all the other subjects they needed for credit. So that was in 1929 and '30 and so I know it was after that.

HF: So all during those years, possibly from 1910 up until 30, covering twenty years or so, you were in the newspaper business here in Rexburg. Who was your competitor? Who operated the competing newspaper during these years?

NG: Arthur Porter.

HF: Arthur Porter, Jr. He called this the "Current Journal." Where was he located at that time?

NG: I think he was on Main Street until they put College Avenue through there. Then he went on College Avenue. Where Warren has the book store now is where the printing office was.

HF: Prior to that time?

NG: Prior to that time, I think it was on Main Street. As soon as we could find a new location and that we moved out this place. There was an old place that they had the laundry, which was a pretty good building. That was up on Main Street right at the end of the block, right across from the courthouse.

HF: Then is that where he moved?

NG: He moved there. We operated there for quite a while. Then he bought the ground down where John has the paper now. He bought some ground there and put up a building of his own.

HF: That building where John is now was one which Mr. Adams erected?

NG: Yes. Course John has made it larger now and remodeled it.

HF: That is the original...?

NG: That is the original "Rexburg Standard."

HF: You think the "Journal", "Current Journal" was published somewhere on Main Street?

NG: Yes it was. John could tell us that for sure.

HF: But once they opened up College Avenue...

NG: Arthur was still operating, I think, on Main Street. Remember when Rexburg had that big boom and then it went broke. Property sold for a song. Arthur Porter bought all those buildings along there for, I think, \$2500.

HF: What, along...?

NG: You know where the avenue is, where his book store is, right up to the end there where Sorenson's place is. All those buildings he owned.

HF: He owned al those?

NG: Yes. There might have been one section of it, but he bought them and rented them, you see.

HF: As business houses.

NG: Of course, they changed hands. Arnold Williams, he was governor for a while, and Shorty, what in the dickens did we call him; his partner had their cleaning establishment there.

HF: In the Porter building?

NG: Yes, on College Avenue.

HF: Well, now would Mr. Arthur Porter, Jr. operating the newspaper business at this location where the store is now, himself pretty much take the major hand in the operation of the newspaper?

NG: He raised his boys in thee to help. They naturally became newspaper people.

HF: In other words, Art Jr., art the third, what did they call him?

NG: They just called him Art?

HF: It was Mr. Arthur Porter, Jr. wasn't it?

NG: Yes.

HF: Then his son was Art. Just Art?

HG: We always called him Art.

HF: John was in there too.

HG: John was in there too. John was one of the older boys of the family.



HF: And he probably was very foremost in working with the paper?

NG: John had the kids in there and they all worked.

HF: How about the girls?

NG: They worked too. He had a large family and all of them worked in the newspaper. I was going to tell you. I was there all those years and at one time I think I was considering, that is I had worked longer at the newspaper. I had been in the newspaper business longer than had been anyone in the United States.

HF: Is that right.

NG: Yes. Alta Carlson used to do the sports news for us. See Lloyd sold out. He just went out of it and opened his law office. I was left over there running it. She says, "Say we've been talking about how long you've been there." So she sent it in to the AP. Wrote a big story about it. It wasn't long before I got letters from all over.

HF: I imagine you still have some of these letters, don't you as a kind of keepsake?

NG: I don't know if I have or not. I kept them and kept them but when I moved I wasn't able to do everything. You just don't know the stuff that has been lost.

HF: After Lloyd sold the paper to this Mr. Moore, of Idaho Falls, did he decide to have you continue on?

NG: Yes, Burt came and wanted me to help him therein the paper. So I did, I went down and helped him. It wasn't long before Burt was in debt. We didn't owe a dime when he sold that paper.

HF: Really good shape.

NG: It was in good shape. If we hadn't been in the red so bad, all our paper was shipped from the paper house COD. Lloyd, I said, you just got to do something with Burt. There won't be anything left. So he did as a lawyer. His dad (Burt's) got him a good job. So he left here then. He went with the army and had a desk job. Then after that then John wanted to buy it. So Lloyd negotiated a sale with John.

HF: You're pretty positive that this was in 34, or in the thirties?

NG: Well, yes I am sure it would be. I know John would know when he bought the paper.

HF: Well, yes I am sure it would be. I know John would know when he bought the paper.

HF: Can you give me an idea, maybe, of the number of subscribers that built this paper up to? I guess that would be kinda hard?

NG: Yes, we had in the neighborhood of 1500 I would guess. That was quite a bit for them. It wasn't bad.

HF: How many pages?

NG: It would vary. There were always at least six pages of home print and then maybe four pages of ready print. We always used ready print.

HF: Still using the ready print out of Salt Lake.

NG: Yes, we were.

HF: Did he do quite a lot of job work?

NG: Oh, yes. We did a tremendous; I was going to tell you about, I am glad you asked me that. The state, you know, we had a Republican Legislature and Governor and that for a good many years. Lloyd knew them all. They came there and I know personally every governor from the early days.

HF: Do you remember Alexander Moses?

NG: Yes.

HF: The Jewish Governor. Do you remember him?

NGL: Oh, yes. I remember him. There was the one year that it ran so close. I know for six weeks because I had to make, they canvasses, they had to count those votes three times before they came to a conclusion. The Republican governor won by ten votes. That was a miracle. Being that close they kept asking for another canvass, you see.

HF: Now in all these years, when the Legislature would meet every two years, he would be there most of the time of the legislature, wouldn't he?

NG: Oh, yes, yes. You see he was Senator from here too for a long time.

HF: After Madison County became a county?

NG: Yes. Now I've got the picture of that up there. It was after we came here that they all got together and decided that we should have this town divided because it was an awful lot of territory to go over. We didn't have cars and that like we got now. They decided to divide it. But land, when they divided it they created Jefferson and Clark County, that's over to Roberts, you know. Teton County, Madison County...

HF: Do you remember when Mr. Adams was quite influential in getting this done for all these counties?

NG: Oh, yes. He was quite prominent, Mr. Adams was. Now I'll tell you, where that old edition of the "Rexburg Standard," they always put something in now for ourselves. At his funeral, John gave his life history, John Porter. He may have that write up yet. That gave a pretty fair story of the things he done. He was very influential, just a lot of stuff he was involved in.

HF: Did you enjoy working for Mr. Adams as an employer?

NG: Oh, yes. We differed more on the way he just didn't want to do things till the 1st minute. Like a story that had to get in. We would wait and wait for him. It didn't amount to much but then as soon as he got his law office and went over there, Albert Blackburn, for years, he's dead now. Maybe you remember him.

HF: No, what did he do?

NG: Run the linotype. We took him when he was a little tiny boy. He used to come up there and play in the back quite a bit. His sister came up one day and wanted to know if we couldn't give him a job in there. She said he's ambitious and that and he's not doing any good running around during school vacation. So we took him in. Lloyd said he was going teach him starting right straight on the linotype. I said he was too young. He says there will be nothing official about it. He can be learning. He did. He was a bright boy. You bet he was. He would always go to school in the winter and then come up and work after school and Saturdays. He was just fine until the latter several years he was there and started drinking. Then I had an awful time with him missing work. I would say if you do it again I'll just have to let you go. There were several days he would just go right off. I would have to phone to Idaho Falls to send up some men to help me. They would work. They thought they were good. They were union men and everything had to be just so with them. After Albert would sober up and come back to the office, I would say Albert I just can't stand it any longer but I don't want thee men. He said he would pitch in now and we'll get the paper out. After he got to work, he was so much better than they were; I just thought it was better to put up with him.

HF: When did you go to work for the Porters, following the sale of the "Standard" paper? It wasn't too long after that, that you went over to work for the Porters?

NG: Yes. I am trying to think of that. Now let's see, after John got his, then I didn't go down to work for him anymore. He kinda wanted to know if I could prepare the books. He wanted to know if I would keep on with the books, taking care of the books for him. See we had a lot of foreign advertising and that's the thing that has to be done just so or you don't get your money. I did, I prepared them on that. Then Arthur came up to my house one day and wanted to know if, oh I was going to say, we had all this job work. We were on the political side and we had all the towns work. All of that binding and finishing, I took part in every bit of that. I would get some help for gathering the books and that. Anyway, he wanted to know, they has a county job here, a tax one. They are kinda hard to look after the numbers and all that. You have to be on the job. He wanted to know if I'd come in and finish up the country job for them because they had never done it

and get it ready to deliver. SO I did. I went down to the county job for them. So it wasn't a few days till he came up. Arthur Porter. He came up and wanted to know if I wouldn't come down and work there. He said there was many things I could do there. I said, "We'll fix it so you won't have to come every day for a while." So I did. Then he wanted me to take over the books in their place. I said no because it was just too much detail. Before that, the war broke out and they came and got me to run the ration office. I ran the ration office during the war.

HF: Now this was the Second World War?

NG: Yes. Then all that time I did that I took John's books over there and I could work on them in the ration office.

HF: Now this was the ration for sugar and what else?

NG: Pretty near everything you had. There was butter, sugar, gas, tires, stoves, just scads of stuff they had on that and a lot of it there was no need of. We had plenty of it here.

HF: Where was your office at that time?

NG: It was there on College Avenue. Do you remember where the old post office was, right there on the corner where the doctors office is now. Well, here was the post office and we had the little place next to it. Then later on...

HF: To the north?

NG: Here was the post office on the corner. We were in a little place north, on the north of it, right on that avenue. Then later on, it was so crowded in there that we moved over on the other corner south. The corner south from the post office.

HF: Oh, over there where those apartments are?

NG: It's where those apartments are; I think Webster owned the building at that time. We had our offices in there and stayed there until the war closed. I stayed till the last one. I closed up the office.

NF: So you just had to walk across the street, literally, to be with Mr. Porter again?

NG: Oh, yes. Of course, John's office was up the alley and that. Because I didn't work for Arthur then, I had the ration office but I did John's books for him. Then after the ration office closed, that's when Arthur came and wanted to know if I would do the country job. Then when I got that done he came and wanted to know if I wouldn't come down to the store and work for a while.

HG: By that time was he still printing the paper?

NG: Oh, yes. They were getting out the “Journal.” John was getting out the “Standard.”

HF: But he wanted you to work in the store, then didn't he?

NG: Well, he wanted me to work in his printing office there finishing up the job work. There was so much binding to do and all that. Bookmaking. So then he come one day out there and said, “I know you're busy out here but were just at school opening and how the kids come in. So why don't you come in the store and get he lists and so forth.” So I went.

HF: How did he start his store out, I mean, what did he put in?

NG: He had just a little room like this (Forbush office) in the front with a few books and thing in.

HF: He started out with books and I know that over the years he has catered to suppliers like genealogy. Did he start out that way?

NG: He might have had some f that in there then. It might have really complemented it.

HF: But it was books and supplies?

NG: Yes. Then, of course, as it grew bigger he decided to have a bigger store and that. He owned the stuff there and moved people out and extended the store.

HF: Did he have anything in the basement in the early years?

NG: He used it for storage. He had all kinds of stuff down there. Then Art came home from his mission and then they decided that art would buy the paper out. So he let art have the paper. Then later on as he grew older, you know, and he couldn't do so much. He let Warren have the store. He turned that over the Warren. John still had the “Standard.” He was having kind of touch time to make it go for quite a while. But he did because, he, pretty near always when it came to pay for that thing you had to be with the winning political party. There was where you got your work from.

HF: In other words, Mr. Adams paper down through the years was always the Republican paper?

NG: Yes, Republican paper.

HF: The “Current Journal” operated by the Arthur Porter, Jr. were the Democrats.

NG: That piece that he tells bout was really god. I said, “You get that and bring it up because it does give a history of them during the time we had the struggle and it was Rexburg. Oh, at one time it was really going and then all at once it just went to pieces.

HF: What was the thing that created the boom? Was this during the late teens or twenties?

NG: Two or three people came in here with some money and they started things rolling. I'd have to think about that a little bit before I could give it to you. But I know it was after Lloyd came over and bought the paper. We were thriving pretty well. We had all the dry farms opened up. You know they used to be just sage brush. They were just sheep pastures up there. Steve Hunt was one of the outstanding statesmen, Republicans, here. They all liked Steve, he was very fine man. I know one day he came in the office and he said you fellows can turn that into dry farm land, if you want. You'll find out before you die you spoiled a good sheep pasture. He never thought it would go. But I'll tell you what brought about the break. They all got up there, men came in, you know, and they had to run them with horses. They just couldn't run a big place that way with horses. Finally they just left it. They left their plows in the field and everything and got out. Then later on they got tractors and stuff of that kind and run it with power.

HF: They had machinery with power equipment?

HG: Yes. The power equipment was what put it back on its feet. Then when they drove wells and got the water going they could raise anything. They had raised potatoes and a few things up there lower down this way and it was the greatest ground in the world but we hadn't the water. We had to depend on the rain. If it didn't rain it just went to pieces.

HF: As we go along here, we recalling to mind, leading citizens in the community. You've mentioned that Mr. Adams was a very foremost individual politician and really active in community affairs.

NG: Oh, yes he was.

HF: What can you tell me, what's your reaction about and of Arthur Porter, Jr.?

NG: Oh Arthur was too, but Arthur was more of the reserved type. He and Lloyd got along just great. They were very good friends. I know that Arthur was over in the Legislature for two different terms, I think. I know that Lloyd worked for him hard.

HF: Arthur was more of a quite type, man?

NG: Yes. He was a very poor public speaker. I don't know whether you heard that or not.

HF: A good public speaker.

NG: Very poor. There were a lot of things that way that hindered him. Lloyd says that over there he's brilliant. The minute anything goes on, he knows in a minute, the depth of it and what they can do with it. And he's got brains enough to see both sides of the slate.

HF: But Lloyd was a very good speaker, wasn't he?

NG: Yes. He was called on, this one paper I have right now, the "Sugar City Times". I run on to that and kept it, I had all of the papers of his speeches at the Republican Conventions.

HF; now if you recall during those years that you were helping Lloyd public the paper, can you call to mind other public minded individuals? Now you mentioned this Mr. Hunt.

NG: Oh, yes. Steve Hunt, Ross Comstock.

HF: Now Ross Comstock was affiliated with the First National Bank?

NG: Yes. He was there when it went broke. Don't you know when we had that bank crash and all the banks were closed and everything? When First National Bank went under they sent men in as liquidators and receivers. All those receivers did was sit around and do nothing. They took in the money and they got good pay. Oh that agitated Lloyd.

HF: You mentioned Henry Flamm. Now these would be the uncles to Russell and Ed and Kenneth. Now they operated the mortuary and the furniture store.

NG: Oh, yes, the furniture store. Then, of course, there was Jim Graham. He was a very outstanding citizen.

HF: What did he operate?

NG: He had the Graham furniture and hardware right there where the Johnson Drug Store is now. He was a staunch Democrat, being from the South. But he and Lloyd were inseparable. There were the best friends. That is one thing that I can say. It didn't make any difference if you got brains and are a good man, why let get together.

HF: He was very tolerant in that regard.

NG: What he looked at first was the welfare of the people in the community. He wanted to build that up and make it so that it was safe for everybody. He said good men and knowledgeable men aren't all in one party. He and Ben Ross were the best of friends. Ben was a staunch democrat Governor. Every one of them, I never saw the time that one for those people ever come to town that they didn't get to the "Standard" office. The minute they got here there was a visit.

HF: They always came to Lloyd's office.

NG: Oh, yes. They'd come over there and I knew them all. If he wasn't there they would come over to see me.

HF: When the "Standard" was up on East Main, I didn't quite get the picture just where it was, across the street from the court house?

NG: There used to be, course all of that is torn down and rebuilt now. Years ago there was a large building and that was the laundry. They used to joke us that the paper was getting so dirty that they move in the laundry with it.

HF: So you moved into the old laundry building?

NG: Yes. Lloyd had that fixed up.

HF: Was it quite nice in there then?

NG: Oh, it wasn't bad. I had a nice big room. We had our machinery with plenty of room for it. We had a peach of linotype man. We used to get those transients who came through. A lot of them would like to house up somewhere for the winter and get a safe place. They just wanted to wander in the summer. But his man's name was McGowan. He was a brilliant person. I could go in with anything and could say, "McGowan, this has happened at. They held this meeting and the critical subject was." He would set down at the linotype and wrote the story.

HF: Do you think he worked when the press was across the street?

NG: Yes he worked for us there. He drank terrible.

HF: You had mentioned that Mr. Blackburn worked for you?

NG: He never come to work for us till down here where John's got the place. We had this other fellow, Mr. McGowan, up at the other place. WE finally had to let him go because we come in one day. He said, "Nettie, please, when I'm out like this, please, don't stay in the office along." I said, "Why?" He said, "I want to kill you so bad I don't know what to do." I said, "Why would you feel that way?" He says, "That's just the way it affects me." What he did, he had a very fine back east to see her folks. They went back. He was down to the station to meet them; they were coming in that evening or afternoon. And they had a train wreck and killed them both. He says they all ran; it was just before they had to stop at the station there. When he got in the coach where they were the first thing he saw of his wife was her body therein the chair but her head was cut right off. He said he just can't get over it, no way.

HF: He tried to drink his sorrow...

NG: Yes, he tried to. I was just too bad. Finally I told Lloyd, Mack's been up, and I am a little upset about it. I used to be; I could talk to any of them and talk them out of it. I didn't feel scared. But he was so sincere that day that I thought that would be terrible. I said, "Let's not talk about that."

HF: Now Nettie, do you recall some of the attorneys in town besides Lloyd? For example, Cappie Ricks.



NG: Cappie Ricks was very outstanding character. He was one of our best friends. He had his office across the street. He used to spend more time in our office.

HF: Now was this after you had moved to the present site?

NG: Yes, that is when we were down where John is.

HF: And Cappie Ricks was across the street to the west?

NG: He had an office across the street to the west. He's come over there to air his troubles to us.

HF: He and Lloyd were good friends.

NG: Oh, yes. Very good friends. Dr. Shoup, Bishop Ricks from Sugar City.

HF: Now let's see, Dr. Shoup was from Sugar City.

NG: Well yes, that is where he practiced. Very fine fellow, Dr. Shoup was.

HF: A very close friend of Lloyd?

NG: Very close friend, Bishop Ricks and that. I can't imagine that a bunch of those fellows in those days that they got to drinking. Dr. Shoup just ended up, he just died. There was Dr. Walker. He was a very good friend of ours. He and Shoup were very good friends of mine.

HF: Dr. Walker and his wife?

NF: Yes. But they moved from here to California. I know one night they came rushing up, they had asked me out to dinner. He came rushing up and said I would have to take a rain check. I have just got a wire from California and they've brought that darn, no good Shoup, who was down in the south end. He's caught a bug of some kind and he's dying or something and they want to come as quick as I can. So they left that night. But everybody liked Dr. Shoup, when he was alright. He had scads of friends.

HF: And he was a good surgeon, I guess?

NG: Oh, he was a marvelous doctor. I'd say he was. With his drinking and his women chasing he just took a turn for the bad.

HF: Now Charlie Pole...

NG: Charlie Poole, the attorney. He was the county attorney for a long time. I like d Charlie. He and Lloyd were rally good friends. I didn't know of any of them what Lloyd was friend with them.

HF: He got along with them all? I believe this to be so. He was just an outstanding man.

NG: You see, they were bound, especially in politics and that. You'd have your enemies but I thought that he especially got a long good with them.

HF: The opposing parties?

NG: Yes. And he and Arthur were particularly good friends. There wasn't hardly a day that Arthur wasn't over to the shop. He was one of those dry wits. He'd say things, I just laugh. He wasn't a man to laugh out loud much. He'd just chuckle. He'd just laugh and couldn't really satisfy himself. I liked Arthur really well.

HF: Now between the two men, they were pretty much the same age weren't they? There wasn't a lot of difference between them?

NG: Yes. Lloyd was the youngest of most of any of them. He was younger than most any of the men he went with and in politics. Nathan Weekes was one of his really good friends. He was outstanding. He was a Senator from here for a long time.

HF: Tell me, do you remember A. J. Hansen? He was the probate judge and he was a patriarch.

NG: Yes. I remember him. I think I have a book somewhere with his picture in.

HF: Did he get around in the community very much?

NG: Well, he wasn't one of the very outstanding and that. But everybody liked him and he was well known.

HF: You mentioned Ross Comstock.

NG: He was one of our good bankers, you know. But the bank at that time was having all these troubles coming on. I remember, I went, I had a niece living over in Twin Falls, I arranged to go over three or four days to stay with her. I thought in case I don't get back Monday I better take money I had there in the shop and get it in the bank. By the time I got over there it was a minute after three and the doors was locked. And of course they knew me. I beat on the door and they come and opened the door and let me in. I think it was seven or eight hundred dollars. I deposited that day. They didn't know it or I think they wouldn't have let me in. Anyway on our way down, when we were driving the highway down here and they were surfacing it. I was scared of that darned Ford. I hadn't driven to amount to anything. It seemed to me like it was getting to hot. The rocks were a flying but we were going slow. Pretty soon this big car comes around us and the rocks hit

our windshield. I looked up and said, "Why Winnie, that's Ross and Ralph Comstock. I'll sure tell him what I think of him, when I get a hold of him." I thought he might have stopped and thought they could have helped us.

HF: Was Winnie?

NG: Winnie was my niece. They live here now. She was going with me. When we got down there (Pocatello) we registered at the Bannock Hotel. I'll tell you what it was. They lived in Twin Falls, and she had been up to stay for a few days and we both were going back together. So when we got registered, we called her husband at Twin Falls and told him that we were there at Pocatello and come on over. We weren't driving alone any longer. So he said alright. We had to wait there and it was a little late when he got in. So when we got through we went over and sat in the lobby. There was the main entrance and then you went up steps into main lobby. I looked over and I said to Winnie, "There are Ross and Ralph. They're having a bank meeting." I looked around a little and saw Mr. Bell. He was one of the main guys. I said, "They're not having a good time. Look at her expressions." So we stayed there and I kept looking and looking. I went right over and sat down where I could see them. After a while I went over and called Lloyd up. I said Lloyd I just tell you that I am afraid the banks aren't going to open on Monday. He says, "How do you know that?" I said, it's serious, I know that. All you have to do is sit here and look at it. You don't even have to hear a word they are saying. Just watch them. So he said, "For Heaven on earth. I can't imagine that." I said, "And there I just deposited all that money." Course we had money there and saw it all go. He said "If you get anymore call me again" because we had money there and saw it all go. He said, "If you get anymore call me again." I called him after a while. It was eleven o'clock at night. Bill had got there, that was Winnie's husband, and we had to go. I told him they were still in session. We had a fellow here running a restaurant at that time by the name of Carl Lang. He was a funny, journeyman guy that everyone liked. They liked his restaurant. I knew him really well. So he says, "I'll go get Carl and we'll get his car and we'll drive around to see what we can see." So they did. Along about one o'clock in the morning Ralph and Ross Comstock got home. They went in the bank and Ross had that loan Company at the time in there. They were moving stuff out of that loan office. Wasn't much they could do about the other places as they were all sewed up for the day. They took a car load out of there and took it to his house. They could have gone into the bank and maybe taken some of the typewriters and thing of that kind. But he took an awful lot of stuff out of there. Lloyd said, "I'll just lay low but I will be down here dang good and early Monday morning." He was. He said he watched it all day Sunday. They were at the bank all day working. So Monday morning, course the bank didn't open. Oh there was quite a tadoo. That just simply took the props out of everybody. Doctor Gill was alive at that time. Maybe you remember him.

HF: The Dentist.

NG: He had a lot of money in that loan company. That was tied into the bank someway. He lost his money. Oh they hated Ross, they all went after him. I understood, later on, that he had met with those Salt Lake people and he knew he was going to be short

because of the crops and all like that. It was a bad year. They went along with him and everything was all right if he got this loan. He could tide himself over. He could get some collecting done from the dry farmers. They just called up and said they had decided against it. He couldn't get it.

HF: So he had to close?

NG: He had to close.

HF: Now this was the bank that was over there on the corner where the Idaho Bank of Commerce is now. Now, as we come to a close, I would like to have you comment something about your own family. I know you have mentioned your sister with whom you took piano lessons with Brother Kirkham here at the college. Did you have other brothers and sisters?

NG: Oh, yes. There was Lyman, Lawrence, Eva, myself, and Ray. There were five of us. Then my mother died and my father married again. In the second marriage they had Jim, who died. He was the oldest. The others were (?), Mabel, Bertie, and Alice. Alice is living on the farm up there that when we first moved up and moved out of the old log house of Uncle Johnny's in a little old place up the road to Teton. Till dad bought 80 acres, Dave Browning is a relative of ours and where the ranch is. He owned 160 acres in there and dad bought 80 acres from him. Then he built the little log house. All we had was two rooms in the log house. From then on they built it up. But it's really gratifying to go out to see that place. Just everybody comments on it. Our family is the only ones who have ever lived in it.

HF: And Alice...

NG: Alice is there alone. They are all married and gone but her. She is sickly and crippled.

HF: What is her name, Alice?

NG: Alice Garner.

HF: Did she never marry?

NG: No, she never married.

HF: Now would this be, just before you get to Teton.

NG: Oh, yes. That is the house we live in when we boarded all the factory men. It is on the main road. Now listen, as you go up there is that square road. One turns this way and goes east to Teton and the other goes to north over the bridge to St. Anthony. It is right in there that she lives. Her mother, later on my step mother, her oldest boy, Bad (?), who was alive then, sold them a little bit of ground to be able to put this house on. He is dead.

HF: Who is Minnie Garner?

NG: Minnie Garner was my cousin. She was my father's, brother's girl. They were up here long years before.

HF: Was she John's daughter?

NG: No. She was Uncle Fred's daughter.

HF: She was Fred Garner's daughter.

NG: Fred, Minnie Garner, her husband was Uncle Fred's boy. Her name was Minnie Black. And an outstanding woman she was, a beautiful girl. She lived to '96, I think.

HF: It's a marvel, isn't it?

NG: Yes. She had a big family. She worked hard. I don't know how she ever put up with it.

HF: Did she teach school?

NG: Minnie didn't. Flamm had this first big dry good store, mercantile in Rexburg. It was down where the Bank of Commerce is now. All of that was in there. Minnie worked for them for years.

HF: Before she was married?

NG: Yes. My Uncle Fred, his oldest daughter that had married Jim Pincock. They were up here, there was a lot of Pincocks come up here too. This brother Will came up to visit them. Minnie was out there visiting them too. There is where she met Will and she married him. That made her Minnie Garner.

HF: That's interesting. Now your mother, of course, is remembered as a school teacher by so many, many students.

NG: You know we celebrated her fifty years of teaching but it was actually fifty-four. She was going to retire and they came and begged her back to take care of study hall. She was reckoned one of the very good teachers in this Valley. So that year the state, education association, decided to write her up and give her a nice write up in their magazine. Arthur had called over, from Porters there, and asked me if I got the picture of mother, to bring it over. They got the cut. You didn't make pictures, cuts, then. You had to send to Salk Lake to get the cut. He wanted to know if the cut had come so they could print the piece of the paper about other. At that time one of the Associated Press men had come through. They all come to see us, and I was out talking with him, when this call came. I said, "Would you wait just a minute here. I want to take this cut over. It's for my

step-mother. She's taught fifty years in school and they're giving her a boost in the state." He says, "Good night. When I came back, no show it to me. That's news." He put it on the wire. Within two days, it had a write up and her picture in every paper in the states. She got letters from people who had gone to school from Honolulu and everywhere. It was quite outstanding.

HF: I'll bet that was. We'll that's interesting.

NG: I've got the write ups up there where they gave that, the interviews. There is one. I told them where she lived and all and sent them up there. They went up there and interviewed her.

HF: Nettie, you've lived though. I've work awful hard in my life. Let me tell you, you work in a printing office and go through the years I did before they had the modern machinery. Right now it's hard work. John gets tired out. But to go through what we did and the hard winters. I'd go out soliciting and everything for the advertising and that. It would take a long time to help write it up. I'll tell you it's been long years.

HF: But working in the public eye that way you got to know a lot of people.

NG: Oh, I knew lots of people. I know now, and I am ashamed, how many will say Nettie how are you. I haven't seen you for so long and I don't know who I am talking to. It's just awful. "We'll I knew you." I'll tell you another place where I got a lot of advertising. It was in the ration office. Ruby Raybold, the one that runs D and R Jewelry stores, she was my niece by marriage. Her husband was Verd (?) Raybold. He died a couple of years ago. She said the other day when I went in. She said, "Nettie, it just tickles me to death. You just don't know the people that come in and we get to talking. Then some way or another your name will come up. They say, boy we'll never forget her in the ration office She was so good to us."

HF: Gave them an extra pound of sugar.

NG: I used to tell the state man when they came over, if you can show me where it is necessary to deprive these people of that stuff when we've got it. All you've done is create one of the worse black markets that ever were for sugar tires. I said if you can show me where we are short of it, I won't let them have it. But I said, I am not going to sit back there and see them with a family and they haven't got butter, and they haven't got the other tings in the house and that. I said in the fall fruit it is put up to provide for the winter. I am just not going to do it. Two of the state men tried to put it over me. They just got really mad at me. Then I found out in reading some of the bulletins, they couldn't tell me anything to do. Our local chairman was the only one, Dave DaBell was the local chairman and we got along just fine. So I never had any trouble with them. The poor boys would come home from war and all we were allowed was five gallon of gas. I said they come way down here from that ranch. They'll use it gong home. But I sneaked them a little gas. George Larson, he says, Nettie I would never have stayed in business if you hadn't been good to me. He couldn't get piano's from the piano company, you know, and

other instruments. So he would go all over the country to get the old ones and change them and sell them second hand and that. He couldn't have done it without gas. Kept him in business. Kept him a living.

HF: Kept old Rexburg on the move.

NG: Kept old Rexburg on the move.

NG: When they had their ward reunions, I'd see they got sugar. You bet I would. I know Bishop Wendell Stucki, he come over and said I don't know what to do. I said, well, what do you want? He says, one hundred pounds of sugar. I said you got shopping to do? He says I got a few things to see about. I said, all right, go out and then come in before you go home. By that time they had found ration books from those who had turned them in and moved away. I just took coupons out of these and got him his sugar. We finally got through and the war ended and I called up and said, well, because I was the last one left in the office. I said there are one or two things here and I'd like to buy. We had a type write here that I like awful well. They couldn't sell it to me because I was part of the setup. I said get it up here and put it up for public sale. I'll get a man from the courthouse I know real well to bid it in. So he did and he sold it to me. We could do that, you know. I said it is so ridiculous how you are doing it.

HF: Now Nettie, as we close, I'd like to know now where you live and with whom?

NG: I live at 27 Third East with my niece, Mrs. Donna Derr. She's a widow.

HF: And you have another niece in the Jewelry store?

NG: Yes, she is a niece by marriage.

HF: So you have a quite a close association with two nieces?

NG: Oh, yes. After I quit the book store and went home I would go down to Virgins.

HF: At the Jewelry store?

NG: Yes. I'd call up Aunt Ned, were going here and there on a buying trip. I went down there an awful lot. I know when I was eight years old, he says, listen Aunt Net, Clayne and I been talking. Were not going to be disgraced by having you come down and work at eighty. I said I am still on my feet. He says, let's keep you that way. It was right after that, that he got sick.

HF: I want to tell you how much I have enjoyed visiting with you and your enthusiasm as we have talked about former days in Rexburg and the businesses and activities that existed herein this wonderful little community. It has become quite a center now. It'll continue to grow, I'm sure.

NG: You know, I've told them. I've done quite a bit of traveling. They've always said you just won't be satisfied with Rexburg. I said listen, I've got the first time to go anywhere that I wasn't glad to get home. When I got home I was happy.

(This concludes the cassette tape-These tapes have been converted to CD format and are available for listening or having copies made at the Upper Snake River Historical Society library in the Rexburg Tabernacle.)