Funding for this transcript provided through a cooperative project of the Montana Committee for the Humanities, the Women's Studies Program, and the Maureen and Mike Mansfield Library.

Summer 2000
Mary Melcher: Mrs. Stafferson, you told me that your parents were from Sweden, is that right?

Florence Stafferson: Yes, both from Sweden. But they came to this country when they were both very young. My father, I imagine, around 21. My mother didn’t come until later. He sent for her. And he came to live there until I was about three or four years old.

MM: You lived in Iowa?

FS: Yes. And then we came west to Philipsburg, but he didn’t like it, so we moved to Anaconda. That’s where I was raised. I’ve been there for 60 some years. And now I’m 91.

MM: So were your brothers and sisters born when you moved to Anaconda?

FS: No. My brother was 14 months younger than I, and I can well remember we took a trip to Sweden when I was five and he was about three and half.

MM: You took a trip to Sweden?

FS: Yes, yes, to see my mother’s mother. My mother wasn’t very well, so they took a trip to Sweden. I can remember landing in Philipsburg...No, what’s the name of that town? Well, it’s in England. And in those days, the graves were in the churchyard, and I stood up on the little fence, and I looked up—and I was just so little—and I looked up, and I said to my mother, “That goes clear to God.” Then we visited there for one year, and then we came back here.

MM: A whole year.

FS: We were ten days on the boat coming. You know, that’s a lot of time. I’m 91 now, so I was only about five—four or five.

MM: So did your father run a store when he came to Anaconda?

FS: Yes...No, he worked for Clotier (?)—it was a grocery store. He worked there for quite a while, oh, for several years. Then he started up a grocery store, and then in little while he’d start up another one. But they were all in Anaconda.

MM: Did you learn how to speak Swedish before you did English?
FS: Well, my father was Swedish, but he didn’t allow us to talk English in the home. We had to talk Swedish. That’s where I’ve learned to talk Swedish. My mother, she always had that little accent, but he was well educated. He was supposed to be educated for a diplomat, but when he came to this country he tried to practice law, but it didn’t mature so much. He started a store instead. But he was a very educated man. My mother was, well, she had to work since she was nine years old. Then after we came back we lived mostly in Anaconda until I was married, and then we lived on the Bitterroot for six years.

MM: When you were growing up what type of chores did you do around the house? Did you have certain chores?

FS: Well, I did whatever they wanted me to do. But my father wanted me to help my mother instead of going to work. And I worked at Simon’s Store (?)...No, McCollons Store (?). Then I was a seamstress, and then I worked in Anaconda at bookkeeping for quite a while.

MM: When you were a child did you and your sisters and brothers have certain chores that you did?

FS: Well, I was nineteen when my sister was born. And my brothers—there was two boys in between, but they are dead. My sister is still alive, but I’m 19 years older than she is. She’s in her 70s.

MM: What type of social events did your family participate in? Did you go to dances in Anaconda or anything?

FS: Oh, yes. We went to lots of them. That is, I did when I grew up, not my mother...She was busy with her family. But I went.

MM: Did you ever go places with your whole family, with your mother and dad?

FS: Oh, yes, picnics and camping. Anaconda, at that time, the smoke hadn’t ruined too much of it, and we’d go out to the valley almost anywhere we could find to camp. I know whoever is listening, why, they’ll realize that those years back it was very pretty in Anaconda, like around here in Missoula. Missoula is pretty.

MM: So how smoky was it there when you were growing up?

FS: Well, we were talking about that. That smokestack is supposed to be the highest in the world, but I understand there’s one in Japan that is a foot or two higher. But anyway, people when they first opened the smelters were over on the other side, way over. I guess you’ve heard that. Then they moved over on the other side, on the right side, I call it. When they opened up, they gave a great big party for everybody. They made a kind of a shed to entertain the people. They had food for everybody who wanted to come. Then the smoke that goes up
there is well...it’s enough to kill the vegetation, and that’s why Anaconda is...It isn’t very much right now, but still it seemed like home.

MM: Did it stink very much in Anaconda?

FS: Oh, yes, very much. When the wind would blow a certain way and come over Anaconda it would almost choke you, and it would hurt your eyes. But it was home to us, and we stood it.

MM: Did you have any books or musical instruments in your home when you were growing up?

FS: Piano.

MM: You had a piano?

FS: I took five years. I can’t play much anymore.

MM: Did you go to somewhere for lessons?

FS: No, there were several wonderful teachers right in Anaconda. Miss Carlson (?) was one, and I was nine years old when I took it from her. And she’s been gone for a long time.

MM: How did you celebrate holidays? Did Anaconda go all out for holidays?

FS: Yes, especially with Fourth of July. I remember one Fourth of July they had bunting wrapped around the (unintelligible)...I don’t know what they call it. And they had bunting all around—red, white, and blue. It started to rain. Then it started to snow, and the snow was about a foot deep. They were ruined. That was on the Fourth of July. Otherwise, why, they had always a big parade. They don’t now, but they did then. And a circus. Whenever a circus would come to town, why, we were all right there. And that’s something you don’t see much anymore.

MM: Not as much.

FS: No. Have you seen a big circus?

MM: Yes, one I think. Did you celebrate birthdays in your house?

FS: Very much so. We would have a cake. We didn’t always have a party, but they always had a cake and a nice dinner. I come from a very...it wasn’t a wealthy home. It was middle. I was well taken care of all my life. I never had to work unless I wanted to. I liked to work. I do yet, but old Father Time has got me.

MM: Were there many churches in Anaconda?
FS: There what?

MM: Were there many churches?

FS: Yes, there was. The Methodist Church really was the largest one, but, of course, there was more Catholics than anyone. But my folks, we were raised in the Methodist Church. It still stands. The year is on the block in the church...1800...I don’t know, I can’t remember, but it’s an old church.

MM: You went to grade school there in Anaconda?

FS: Yes, I did. The school was just a block from our house—Lincoln School. Then when I was in...Oh, I don’t know...I was up in the grades. I can’t remember. It burnt down, and they had to put up a new school.

MM: About how many children went to that school?

FS: Oh, well there were three stories. I imagine there were a couple of hundred.

MM: Was that the only school in town?

FS: What?

MM: Was there only one school?

FS: Yes. No, no. There was more. There was a high school, and then there was a school up in the west part of town and another school in the east part. That was after Anaconda grew a little bit. This was when it was just a mining camp. It was after I was a little bit older.

MM: The early 1900s probably.

FS: Yes.

MM: And you went to a couple years of high school.

FS: I took three, but I didn’t go back anymore. I should have gone, but I just couldn’t. I wasn’t able to. I was threatened with TB.

MM: What kind of socializing was there when you were a teenager?

FS: Well, there were house parties for teenagers, and they played games. Now, they’d call them silly. But we had a lot of fun. At that time, we had to make our own times. Now, time is spent in the cars—in automobiles. We didn’t have a car. I didn’t even have a ride in a car until I was 18.
MM: When was it that you started going to dances?

FS: My father was very strict. He didn’t want me to dance, but I danced anyway. Oh, I imagine I was 19.

MM: Why didn’t he want you to dance?

FS: Well, he didn’t like the idea. He was brought up in an old-fashioned way. They didn’t believe in dancing. But I did.

MM: And you liked it?

FS: I made good work of it too.

MM: How old were you when you started going on dates?

FS: Well, I was about nineteen. I think I was nineteen.

MM: Were you ever chaperoned on a date?

FS: No. There was another girlfriend that was raised in my mother’s home, and she and I were pals, and we would go together. If she had a date, I went. If I had a date, she went.

MM: She was raised with you or in your house?

FS: Well, her father was there, but her mother died when she was nine years old—I was her same age. When she got a little older, they sent her back East. Then when she came back she was sixteen then, and she was ready for dates then. But I wasn’t. I was 18, 19.

MM: And did she live in your house with you?

FS: No, she stayed there. My father was quite strict. This is kind of a joke—I don’t know if you’ll like it—but we used to go out. My mother would always...She would go with us if we didn’t have a date. If there was a little party or something, she would take us. One night, why, she and I planned we was going to a dance. We had dates. And there was a squeak in the floor of your door that would squeak when we’d come in. So I went to work and set the clock back two hours. My father was in bed. My little sister, she was two then. She was talking, and she’d call me “Faukie”. She couldn’t say Florence. So she went to my father and said, “Faukie mucking with the clock.” But he didn’t understand what she said. But when we came back, of course, we were two hours overtime, but they never heard us until we was ready to go to bed. Here he come, and we crawled in bed with our clothes on until after he left and then we got up.
MM: So he never did catch you?

FS: No, he thought we were...Oh, we were sleeping so soundly. When I grew up there was nothing exciting. Now, the radio and all kinds of instruments for people, and there was nothing for us. We had to make our own.

MM: Yes, sometimes that’s the best kind of fun.

FS: Well, you appreciate it. Now everything is given to you made, and you don’t have the fun of making things.

MM: Were there many other women who quit school, or did most women finish high school, do you remember?

FS: Oh, yes. My mind is kind of dim on some subjects. I don’t know if they finished school, but we were in together. Did you want their names?

MM: No. Did it seem as if there were more young men than young women in high school?

FS: Yes. Well, there was more men all over at that time. Well, you see, the men came to work at the smelters. So that drew the men. Yes, you could go to a dance, and there was always more men than women. Now it’s kind of different.

MM: If young women needed a job were there lots of places for them to work?

FS: Well, usually at the smelters.

MM: No, young women.

FS: The young women did what?

MM: Did young women work at the smelters too?

FS: Oh, no. Maybe as bookkeepers, that’s all.

MM: Where did the women work?

FS: You mean in a general...Oh, they worked in stores, in bookkeeping, typing, and clerking, things like that. But, you see, the big industry there was the smelter, and they made copper. When we had company sometimes they wanted to go through the smelter, so we took them. And it was interesting to go through.
MM: Did the people who were working in the smelters spend time with people who were working in the stores? Was society kind of divided into different groups?

FS: No, there wasn’t. It was more of a kind of a homey place. People were very sociable.

MM: And everybody got together?

FS: Oh, yes. They did. When you went to a dance, why, there were people of all nationalities.

MM: Do you remember any of your girlfriends leaving Montana to go to a university or coming to the university here in Missoula?

FS: You mean when I grew up? Yes they did, but I can’t recall now who it was. The university was small at that time, and you could stay way out and look right across and see the university. There wouldn’t be a house. Now it’s different.

MM: So you went to work when you were about 19...Is that right? How old were you when you started working?

FS: No, I was older than that. I must have been, oh, 20 or 22, something like that. I stayed home with my folks.

MM: Until then?

FS: Yes.

MM: And what were the jobs that you did again?

FS: Me? I worked in Butte in the alteration department.

MM: Sewing?

FS: Yes. And altering. And then, I was secretary for a plumbing shop.

MM: What was Butte like then? Did you like it there?

FS: What?

MM: Did you like Butte?

FS: No. It’s too hilly. Well, right today it don’t amount to much. All the mining industry...Well, I guess you know all about how Meaderville used be.
MM: Meaderville?

FS: Meaderville was a little town right... Well, it was hooked onto Butte, but it was called Meaderville. They served different Italian things and things like that, and people would go out there. Oh, they were just very good. And there was not one place to go to eat out there, but there must have been six, seven, or eight. I’ve been out there a lot of times. It’s just a minute drive out of Butte. But that’s all been taken away by the mining, everything is just a great big hole now. I was there and saw it. It’s too bad. And Columbia Gardens in Butte—you’ve heard of that. Well that’s, there is no more gardens. It’s been taken away. So the people of Butte do not have very much places for recreation.

MM: Was it smoky when you were there in Butte?

FS: No, it wasn’t so smoky, but the vegetation was so poor. You could hardly grow a lawn. Now I don’t how, because I haven’t been there for so long. But out on the flat—they call it—why, they have gardens and things out there now I understand.

MM: Did you go visit your parents very often when you were Butte when you were working?

FS: Oh, yes. I would go home over the weekend. It was just about an hour’s ride from Butte to Anaconda—27 miles. I don’t know what it is now.

MM: Where did you live in Butte? Did you have an apartment?

FS: No. I lived out on South Dakota with a friend of mine.

MM: Where did you meet your husband?

FS: Well, my mother and I had been visiting in Wisconsin, and my brother was home then, and my brother took two or three of his friends in to see my mother. I didn’t even know him. And my brother said, “Don’t you think my mother has got fat?”

My husband, well he said, “Well, I don’t even know your mother or seen her before.” Then, I don’t know, we started to date by going out to the park. We had a little park about a mile out. Well, we had to walk or else stay home. There was a street car that went on Sundays that would go out there to a dance, and that’s where we had a lot of enjoyment out there.

MM: Did you have a long courtship?

FS: Two years.

MM: You were engaged a couple of times before?

Florence Stafferson Interview, OH 049-039, Archives and Special Collections, Mansfield Library, University of Montana-Missoula.
FS: I bet you were too [laughs]. Yes.

MM: So you had a lot of boyfriends it sounds like.

FS: Well, the average. But he was the one I picked.

MM: And you didn’t marry until you were 27?

FS: 27. I didn’t want to get marry.

MM: You didn’t want to?

FS: No.

MM: You liked to be on your own?

FS: If I had to do over again I wouldn’t marry one day sooner, because you’re ready to settle down and you wanted a home. And I was on a farm, and I was a city girl. I didn’t know anything about anything. I didn’t know a rooster from a hen.

MM: When you married you lived on a farm, is that right?

FS: I didn’t know a thing about it. But he didn’t expect me too. He said, “You’ll never have to work outside.” Some women will go out in the field, but I never did.

MM: So you worked inside the house?

FS: I liked to cook and bake. I still do, but I have no opportunity out here.

MM: You were married in Anaconda then?

FS: Yes. I was married at home. I didn’t care for a big wedding. I had no veil. I didn’t want anything. I had just a white dress, a pretty white dress, and, of course, carried a bouquet. We had a quiet wedding. Oh, we had friends. But I didn’t care for a big wedding. I always admired a plain gold wedding band. Some have diamonds and all that. I didn’t want that. I didn’t even have an engagement ring. He was going to get me a diamond, and I said, “Well, you’re a farmer,” and I said, “You can’t buy me be the kind of ring I want, so we’ll skip it.” I waited 14 years, and I got two diamonds. I haven’t got them here, because things vanish around here.

MM: You had three children all together?
FS: Yes. One died when she was seven and half months old. But the other two I raised. One lives here, Mrs. Peterson (?). Maybe you know her, Mrs. Claude Peterson. He runs the Sleepy Inn Motel. They had five children, all married.

MM: Did you have your children in a hospital?

FS: No, I didn’t. My daughter did. Of course, I’m so much older. No, I had it at home.

MM: Did someone come in and help? Did a doctor come?

FS: Oh, yes. I had a nurse and a doctor, oh yes.

MM: Had your mother had you with a midwife, do you know?

FS: Well, now when I was born I think she did, because I...on my birth certificate...When we were going to Canada one time, I had to have that. So I wrote to Des Moines to get that birth certificate, and it was a lady and so evidently, she was a midwife for both my brothers and I.

[End of Side A]
MM: This farm that you and your husband had, where was the farm at?

FS: Deer Lodge Valley.

MM: Oh, it was in the Deer Lodge Valley.

FS: It was about 2,000 acres. We were there several years, and then we went to Anaconda, but just for a short time. And then he bought a ranch in Deer Lodge Valley, again, another 2,000 acres. But he had that sold, and we moved to up the Bitterroot. Was you ever in the Bitterroot? I liked the Bitterroot.

MM: Yes, it was pretty?

FS: So we lived up there for six years.

MM: How long did you live in the Deer Lodge Valley?

FS: Oh, we were there...Well, I was married in...Let’s see, it must have been about five or six years, I guess, on this farm, but we changed farms.

MM: Did he mostly farm or did he ranch?

FS: Joe diversified. He raised a little bit of everything—potatoes, oats, wheat.

MM: Cattle?

FS: Yes, that was his hobby.

MM: Did you and he talk over decisions together when you had to make them? Did you sit down and talk over decisions together?

FS: Oh yes, oh yes. That’s a part of married life.

MM: Well, sometimes the man would make all the decisions.

FS: No, but I let him decide if I thought well I might decide and it would just be the wrong thing. So I let him decide, and he always come out on top. One time he bought a ranch down near Deer Lodge, and it was a 20,000 ranch dollars. I said, “Well, that’s pretty steep.”

He said, “We’ll make it,” and we did. He always could see ahead where I couldn’t. I’d sometimes hold him back a little bit. I thought a little bit too far, but he never did.
MM: He took chances?

FS: Yes. And we came to Missoula he bought the High School Candy Shop. Were you here at that time? It was across from high school. It was a little place where they served meals to the children—or the students—that would come in just to hurry up. They had maybe one hot meal and other little things that they wanted. But we only had that about year, I think, and then sold it. And my husband bought the Sleepy Inn, that’s where it is now, and we have had that for, oh, over 20 years. And I took my son-in-law in as a partner, and he is a very good worker, and the made a very good success of it. And finally, my husband felt we were getting too old to do all of the helping, and so we sold out. And he owns it to this day. The two of them repaired things that...They used to have places there where they could cook. The Canadians would come down there, and they’d want a pot of tea. But they got away with more than he could stand, so he don’t have any of that anymore, it’s all tourists.

MM: Were you ever involved in any clubs? I think you told me...Well, you said that you were in a couple of clubs?

FS: Yes, I was in several of them. Oh, not anything prominent, or anything like that. It was just like sewing clubs, and I belonged to choir clubs, and I belonged to the Eastern Star, and the Methodist Church. That’s about the extent of it. When I grew up there wasn’t the facilities to go to that there is now. Now there’s plenty if you want to go.

MM: Could you tell me some more about how the people felt about Daly and Clark in Anaconda when you were growing up?

FS: Well, I heard a lot about it when I was a child, you know, and that was the main subject because Daly he started the smelters in Anaconda and Clark. I think they were in together at one time, I’m not sure about that. Clark, of course, he was a millionaire. He got to be, and so did Daly. But then they separated, and I think each one had their own. Well the Daly House...They had houses several places. They had one in New York. There’s a home out here in the valley, it’s between Corvallis...it’s near Corvallis, and it’s a beautiful place. But it was locked, you had to know about it to get in. But Mrs. Daly and her—I think she had three daughters, two or three—and they would come during the summer and spend the summer there. She would have here whole crowd of servants with her, cook and everything, and they’d spend the summer there. It’s a beautiful place. They were going to make it into some home or something...Of course they’re both dead.

MM: Did people generally like Daly or did they dislike him?

FS: They liked him very much. They said that he’d call the men by their given name, he was very common. I know I heard my father say...My father when he ran the store he’d go out there to

Florence Stafferson Interview, OH 049-039, Archives and Special Collections, Mansfield Library, University of Montana-Missoula.
take orders, as they say, for groceries, and then he would hear all about him out there. He was very well liked. Clark. I don’t know much about him.

MM: He was in Butte mainly, wasn’t he?

FS: What?

MM: Wasn’t Clark in Butte?

FS: Yes, he was in Butte. But that was the main topic, you know Clark and Heinze [F. Augustus Heinze]. Heinze, he was a notable too.

MM: Do you remember when the wars were going on between Heinze and the Standard Company—the underground mining wars?

FS: Where?

MM: They were mainly in Butte I think, that Heinze was having problems with the Standard Company.

FS: Yes, very much so. Yes, he was. I think it tells about that in the book, that book.

MM: Did you and your husband ever discuss politics much?

FS: No. He was a Republican, strong. But he never wanted...They wanted him to run for mayor once, but it wasn’t for him. He was kind of a quiet, shy man. He wasn’t shy, but he was quiet.

MM: Were you interested in politics?

FS: Oh, yes. Oh, yes. He wanted to vote, all of us. He made me vote whether I wanted to vote or not.

MM: Did you want to vote?

FS: Oh, yes, but I needed to be pushed a little bit.

MM: You didn’t participate in the suffrage movement?

FS: No. No, I didn’t believe in that.

MM: You didn’t believe in women’s suffrage?
FS: I think a woman’s place is home. Now, there’s the theory for all kinds of equality, but I don’t believe in that.

MM: But you did want to vote?

FS: Oh, yes, yes. When the election would come up, why, we always voted.

MM: You told me about a women named Carrie Nation who was involved in the prohibition movement.

FS: Yes, that was back East. I was little. I was quite small. But I can remember how she would go from one saloon to another and smash them all up.

MM: What did you think about the prohibition movement?

FS: Well, I think it’s good in one way, and it will end one thing and start another. It started up a whole lot of home brewers. If they couldn’t find one, they knew where they could get it.

MM: When you were a young woman were women considered old maids if they didn’t marry?

FS: Well, yes. Not so much anymore. What did they call them? Maiden—

MM: Old maids?

FS: Old maids, yes.

MM: At what age were they considered?

FS: Well, after you got to be about 30, why, you think well your chances are pretty slim. I was 27, but I was in no hurry.

MM: Was there ever any pressure on women to get married? Did people kind of push women toward marriage?

FS: Oh, yes. We had a lady that would come to our house, and she knew about everybody’s affairs. And every time that she’d see me out with someone she’d say, “I guess you’re going to marry him.” The next time, maybe, I’d be out with somebody else. They’d say, “You’d better get married, you’re going to be an old maid.”

I said, “Let me take care of that.” I wasn’t worried. If I am, I am.

MM: In Anaconda were there any large groups of Swedish people?
FS: Yes.

MM: There were?

FS: Yes, there was. When I was a little girl there was a choir, a very nice choir, and they were all Swedish, and they would meet at the different homes. They met at my home. I can remember. I could stay up when they came to practice. They'd go to different homes and practice, and they really had a group. They sang around at different places.

MM: What other nationalities were there in Anaconda?

FS: Well, there was a lot of Austrians and there was Italians, and there is to this day.

MM: Did everyone get along, or were people prejudiced against certain group?

FS: Well no, but they were kind of clannish like the Swedes were. The Swedes were that way too. Well, there was Swedish families that went together. My father and mother and...oh, I don’t know, there was eight or nine families, we grew up in that attitude that we were just Swedish people, and we were going to stay that way. My father wanted us to stay that way. My sister went to Sweden a couple of years ago and stayed with a Swedish family relative of hers, and she surprised them by talking Swede. They said, “Well, we thought you had gone to school.”

She said, “No, I remembered.” When she started school she couldn’t even talk English.

MM: Would the Italians be talking Italian too when they were together? Do you know if the Italians...Did the Italian people speak Italian when they were together?

FS: Yes. And the Austrians would speak the Austrian. Now, I met to tell you that my father he could speak English when he came to visit. He spoke English, French, German, and some Austrian. He was a well-educated man. I meant to tell you that when he worked at the store he knew all these languages. He didn’t know Italian though.

MM: And he could speak to the people in their language when they came in?

FS: Yes.

MM: That’s great. Were there any Jewish families in Anaconda?

FS: Well, yes there was, but they were kind of, you know, they were kind of clannish I think. Not that I misjudged them or anything, but I didn’t know very many. There might have been, but I didn’t know very many. It was kind of a mining town. They wanted to do something better, maybe, which I admire in them, too.
MM: What was the attitude toward the Jewish people?

FS: The what?

MM: What did people think about the Jewish people? Did they get along with them?

FS: Oh, yes. I do yet. I like the Jews, and it’s coming to a time when the Jews are going to rule. We’re nearing the end of the world. Did you ever study that?

MM: Were there any Chinese families in Anaconda?

FS: Yes, I can remember there was a Chinese place down farther, way down near the front...Front Street at that time. They would have their New Years, and they had what they called “punk”. Have you heard of “punk?” Well they had that. My father would take us down, and the Chinese would celebrate, and we’d go down there. It was quite a settlement. They had a laundry. Of course, my mother always did her own laundry.

MM: Did they have restaurant too in Anaconda?

FS: Well, not that I know of. They may have, but I didn’t...In those days we didn’t go out to eat like we do now. Now everybody goes out.

MM: Do you know if there were any prostitutes in Anaconda?

FS: Yes.

MM: There were?

FS: Yes.

MM: Were they in a certain area of the town?

FS: Yes. This might not sound just right, but it was when the railroad went through well they had a clamp across the road, and they called it across the tracks. But they were all done any with after a while...I don’t know.

MM: By a law?

FS: Yes. Well, that law came in.

MM: Do you know of any prostitutes that eventually married?
FS: I know of one. Her name was Elle Sheldon (?). She seemed to be an awful nice woman.

MM: Pardon?

FS: That was a long time ago when I was quite young.

MM: Were there sports available for women to participate in?

FS: No, baseball was a man’s sport, and I never took much interest in it. We thought, well, that was for men.

MM: Did you ever play basketball?

FS: No.

MM: No?

FS: No, that came in after I left school.

MM: Did you ever swim? Did you go swimming much?

FS: I would go in the pond, but I just waddled around. We had in Anaconda what we called the commons. There was a block square right in town. And that’s where the music. They’d have a concert every week. And when there was a parade, they’d circle around there. That was the one sport we had when we were young.

MM: In the 1920s when women started bobbing their hair did you do that?

FS: No. I was sick when I was 35. I was very sick. I had long hair, auburn. You wouldn’t know that now. No, but after I got up they cut it off, but they combed it when I was in bed.

MM: What did you think when skirts started getting a lot shorter? Did you like that?

FS: I was appalled. And now they’re down to where they belong. I like them now, don’t you?

MM: Yes.

FS: Although some of them still have...if they like them, it’s their business.

MM: Okay, we’ll stop there. Thank you.

FS: You’re welcome. I hope I haven’t made any mistakes, but I feel it’s pretty accurate.
MM: Mrs. Stafferson is it okay if we use the information that you have given us in published form?

FS: Yes, it is.

MM: Okay, thank you.

[End of Interview]