

Maureen and Mike

Mansfield Library

UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA

Archives and Special Collections

Mansfield Library, University of Montana

Missoula MT 59812-9936

Email: library.archives@umontana.edu

Telephone: (406) 243-2053

The following index lists the major topics in the audio recording and the approximate point when they occur in the recording according to an analog cassette recorder's tape counter. This tape counter index (TCI) has not been edited for accuracy by Archives and Special Collections.

Alice S. Plummer interviewed by Gladys Peterson 8/2/88

000-125 Schultz was her maiden name. Born in Avon, South Dakota. Grandfather came from the Ukraine, describes the trip over on the boat. Family was Mennonite. Describes first winter in South Dakota. Gives history of family in Europe. Mennonites in Pennsylvania helped the group from the Ukraine get settled in South Dakota. Father had seventeen in the family, grandfather had three wives. Father the son of the second wife born in South Dakota. Part of the group moved to a town named Loretta.

126-204 Father moved to Colorado, back to South Dakota and then to Montana, looking for land. [The date that the family came from Europe was 1874.] Mother's name was Helena Unruh. Remembers Eastern Colorado, especially Vona. Describes the house on the homestead. Took the train from South Dakota to Colorado. They moved when she was four. Five children in the family.

205-297 Discusses grandparents's families. Father moved to Colorado in 1910, to homestead 160 acres. To supplement income, father would harvest in Kansas in the Fall. Two boys and three girls in the family. Left Colorado in four years. Grandfather had large house built for them to move back to South Dakota, but only forty acres. Bought Angus cows for milking. Remembers making cider vinegar.

298-365 Father bought 140 acres near Sidney, Montana also near Lambert. Describes the train trip to Sidney and the house they lived in. She was in her early teens at this time.

366-440 Discusses her schooling in Colorado and Montana. Siblings' education in Montana.

441-End of Side One Memories of World War 1. They were the only German family in the area, and being Mennonite, too, caused them some difficulty during this time.

Side Two

000-051 Spoke German until they moved to Colorado, where she spoke English in school. After WW1, German was not spoken much at all. Isolation and transportation on the farm. Parents pushed for education. Nursing and teaching the only occupations open to women at that time. She had a "congenital hip" and was not encouraged to do much.

052-114 Lived with the Roy Henderson's when she went to school in Dillon. After her year at Dillon, she taught the next fall in the Sidney area in a country school. Describes the experience. Attended summer school in Billings and graduated from there in 1932.

115-145 First salary was \$65 per month for eight months in 1927.

Remembers when Lindberg came to Missoula and the lake was named after him. First plane she saw was at Lambert.

146-220 Married in 1930. Discusses the places she taught: Sidney, Acton, the Yak, Greenough. Families in the Yak included a Swiss family and two Indian families. Went to Greenough to be near the University and continue her education. Met her husband here. He lived on what is now part of the Potter dude ranch. Describes year of teaching in Greenough. How she applied for jobs.

221-260 The Depression. Discusses the ridicule of being a married woman working. Husband worked for Forest Service in the summer. Other jobs they got to make ends meet during the hard times. Everyone was in the same situation.

261-290 Ski, sled, and danced for entertainment. She had a radio, but bad reception there.

291-360 Adopted a son. During the Depression, they moved into town and rented a house with no electricity for \$12 per month. Husband worked for Montana Power. She did housework for 75 cents per day. She remembers quitting on a Christmas eve.

361-440 During the thirties, she and husband worked odd jobs. Finally, she was able to take evening classes again. Husband, Bill got a job at the grain elevator with a good salary. Bought a new stucco house on Toole. During the war, he went to Vancouver to work in the ship yards.

441-End of Tape Discusses adoption of son in 1941.