

Mr. Felix McCullough, the man featured on the 1978 Valley People Calender, lives up on his farm in Scoggins Valley, overlooking Haag Lake. This interview takes place at his home on May 3, 1978. Mr. McCullough was born on June 21, 1897. His parents and family moed to the 40 acreafarm he and his sister are living on presently in 1912.

The interview centers around his life in Scoggins Valley. It is much more than a simple autobiography, however. He talks about the early days in Scoggins Valley, the original pioneers and settlers, the logging activity in the area, the Tillamook Burn, farming, schooling, the contact between the surrounding towns, social and recreational activities, and many other topics. He stresses the remarkable growth and changes in the area. Indeed, Haag Lake just came into existence during the 1970's. He tells a story to illustrate the rise of property taxes in the county. Back when they first lived on the farm, they paid their property taxes one year from the \$8.00 earned from the hide of a dead cow! It would take many many cowhides to pay for the hundreds and hudnreds of dollars demanded for property taxes today.

The oral history interview, although a bit rambling in its style and content, does cover an amazing amount of topics and gives a flavor ~~for a~~ of a man and an era rapidly disappearing.

INDEX TO TAPES AND TRANSCRIPT  
MR. FELIX McCULLOUGH  
MAY 3, 1978

TRACK 1

- 0-10 (p. 1) Interviewer's introduction. The McCullough family settling in Scoggin Valley. The description of the land at the time of the families' arrival. Logging.
- 10-20 (p. 2) The desire for a piece of land out in the country. The families' neighbors.
- 20-30 (pgs. 3-4) Harvesting the timber on the land. Trips to Gaston for groceries.
- 30-40 (pgs. 5-6) Cherry Grove. Logging operations.
- 40-50 (pgs 6-7) The size of timber. The farmland around Hagg Lake.
- 50-60 (pgs. 8-9) The construction of Hagg Lake. The concomitant rise in surrounding property values.
- 60-70 (pgs. 10-11) Property taxes in 1912. Anecdotal story of a cow and property taxes, land values.

TRACK 2

- 0-10 (p. 12) Clearing stumps off the land.
- 10-20 (pgs. 13-14) Henry Hagg. The Lovegren family. The local schoolhouse.
- 20-30 (pgs. 14-15) The teachers of the small schoolhouses. The advantages and disadvantages of the small, one-room school.
- 30-40 (pgs. 16-17) School. Brief discussion of the Tupper family (local family)
- 40-50 (pgs. 17-18) Entertainment for country folks. The County Fair. The 4th of July celebration.
- 50-60 (pgs. 18-20) Hikes for recreation. Lack of means of transportation.
- 60-70 (pgs. 21-22) Timber land and the Homestead Law. Simson's Lumber Mill.



Page 1  
Felix McCullough  
May 3, 1978  
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o) LM: The following interview is with Mr. Felix McCullough on May 3, 1978 at his home in Scoggins Valley. Mr. McCullough was born on June 21, 1897. He has lived on his 40 acre farm which now overlooks Haag Lake since 1912. In the following conversation he talks about a wide variety of topics including the early days <sup>of</sup> Scoggins Valley, logging in the area, the Tillamook Burn, the neighboring farmers, and the rapid changes now occurring in the valley.

LM: I would like to start out by having you introduce yourself.

(Skip in Tape) (He begins by telling of his father moving to Scoggins Valley)

FM: He had a <sup>young</sup> family of kids and he thought that out in the country would be the place for children to grow up. So he had a chance to trade the Yakima property for this place in January of 1912. The deal went through and we have been here ever since. I have at least.

LM: How did your father discover this part of the country?

FM: Through a real estate office. The real estate man or company was <sup>Chittendon</sup> ~~Shendanan~~ and Neal of Portland. I don't know how to spell the first one. What other information would you like to know?

LM: How old were you when you came here?

FM: I was 14.

LM: What was the land like? Was it pretty much like it is? Or more wooded?

FM: There was some timber on the place. Probably about a half million feet. 500,000 feet and <sup>we</sup> made wood <sup>of</sup> with most of that.



FM: I sold quite a <sup>little</sup> bit of timber as logs and still some left.

(10) LM: Was that why you moved out here just to get away a little bit and have some land to play on or to work on.

FM: Dad wanted a farm you know and he got a small farm here probably about ten acres in cultivation on this place at that time.

<sup>Now</sup> there is about 20 acres <sup>in</sup> cultivation ~~now~~. It is a place for a home not a farm. There is no way to make a living <sup>on a place like this</sup> farming. But <sup>it is a</sup> good place for a home. You could have a cow.

LM: Was there another family living on the land before your family moved in here then?

FM: Yes, there was a school <sup>teacher</sup> living here and walking or driving about two and a half miles to <sup>his</sup> school each day. The road was so bad in the winter <sup>muddy</sup> that he gave up and moved near the school <sup>house</sup>. He was only a renter.

LM: What school house was he going to then?

FM: That was the school district down there. District number 16. Scoggin Valley School.

LM: <sup>Were</sup> ~~was~~ there a lot of families living in this area at that time when you first arrived?

FM: A bachelor lived a mile west of here John Spallenger and the Tupper family lived adjoining us on the <sup>Spelling?</sup> east. Ben Tupper family. <sup>That was the</sup> only two neighbors ~~we~~ we had.

LM: This area ~~must~~ <sup>goes</sup> have been quite desolate then as far as people ~~go~~ and quite primitive. These two other families, were they just living out here also?

FM: No, the Tupper family owned their property and were trying to make a living farming and then <sup>They</sup> later decided to have a sawmill.



FM: About 1910 I think it was they bought <sup>this</sup> ~~there~~ sawmill, ~~and~~ They did most of there own work. They didn't have to hire much labor. Then they ran out of timber and that was the end of the sawmill for them.

(20) LM: How about your father? Did he try to make a living off the farm or did he work in the town?

FM: No, ~~that~~ <sup>the only living</sup> we made off the farm <sup>really</sup> wasn't farming it was <sup>the</sup> timber. We cut wood and then sold it. That was the way most of our living.

LM: When you would cut the timber where would you take it once you cut it?

FM: We would haul it all the way to Forst Grove with team horses. Think of that, 12 miles. More than once I was four and a half hours going to Forest Grove with one cord of wood.

LM: Was there a road going down there?

FM: Yes, there was a from the bottom of ~~that~~ <sup>the</sup> hill to Forest Grove was all <sup>wood</sup> rock road in those days going to Gaston. Macadam ~~Road~~. they called it, gravel road you know. But that hill, they didn't put rock on that <sup>say</sup> ~~till~~ 1923. When that mill was up there ~~at~~ <sup>that</sup>

road was almost impassable. There was a little foot path along the side whibh was good enough for walking. But to come up there with a team of horses and wagon the mud was hub deep. <sup>It was</sup> ~~It was~~ <sup>alright going down.</sup>

LM: You still attempted it though when it was that muddy?

FM: Pardon?

LM: You still tried to do it when it was that muddy?



FM: Oh yes, we didn't go out with a load of wood in that time of the year. It was mostly summertime <sup>when</sup> we hauled. But I had another team and we had to go to town once in a while for supplies at least once a week or every two weeks. Those days everybody bought flour in a 50 pound bag. <sup>Back in those days.</sup> You don't see that any more. 100 pounds of sugar. I remember there was a store in Portland, <sup>named</sup> "Jones Cash Store". You would write in what you wanted and then <sup>they</sup> send it out by express <sup>say to</sup> through Gaston. <sup>I've known it to be as low as</sup> Sugar was about \$5.00 a 100 pounds. That is quite a difference between then and now!

LM: Was there a store or warehouse there in Gaston that you could pick up all your supplies?

FM: Yes, there was two. One general merchandise store <sup>Bell</sup> "~~Bill~~ and Owens". Then Carl Klingey had a grocery store. Then Westups store what did they have? <sup>spelling?</sup> It was a grocery store also. That made three stores and that was pretty good for a little town like that. We had two blacksmiths shops. Everybody had to have their horses shod.

LM: How many people were living in Gaston when you were young?

FM: I don't know but I will bet it was pretty close to what it is today. I think the <sup>CENSUS</sup> ~~sensus~~ here about five years ago was about 350. It was <sup>just about</sup> ~~almost~~ the same as Cherry Grove.

LM: People that lived there in Gaston were they farmers <sup>?</sup> ~~or were..?~~

FM: No, most of the farmers lived on their own farms. Those days you couldn't go back and forth to farm each day like you can now. <sup>from town</sup>



(30) LM: How about Cherry Grove? Did you go down to Cherry Grove?  
Was that another city that you would take your produce? Or  
buy supplies?

FM: No, the people living near Cherry Grove, the farmers, they went  
there for supplies. But over here on this side of the valley  
it would be kind of out of our way to go over there. The only  
time I went over to Cherry Grove was ~~to~~ looking for work in  
the logging camp. The Haskell-Carpenter Logging Company was  
in charge starting about 1916 or 1917 somewhere along there.

They had a mill <sup>cut</sup> of 40,000 I think and they had a railroad, <sup>I don't</sup> ~~not~~  
<sup>think</sup> ~~that~~ it paid very good?

LM: How old were you at the time when that mill opened up?

FM: Well I guess I went over there the first time in 1919 <sup>I'm</sup> ~~about~~  
three years older than <sup>than the century</sup> ~~you~~. I <sup>That's right,</sup> must have been about 22. I  
had to start working the woods you see with the <sup>cutting</sup> ~~company~~ crew  
<sup>falling</sup> following and bucking in 1917. I was looking for work in the  
woods from <sup>then</sup> ~~then~~ on. I worked in the woods for <sup>thirty</sup> ~~forty~~ years  
starting in 1917.

LM: Were there a lot of logging camps here in this area?

FM: <sup>That was probably one of the bigger ones at that time.</sup> Yes there was lots of gypos, little gypos that they call them  
now. Little tie mills. There was a big market for railroad  
ties. All kinds of grades of railroad ties. There was <sup>a</sup> ~~just~~  
little saw mill <sup>almost</sup> ~~everywhere~~ <sup>place</sup> there was trees.

LM: What were some of the jobs that you did out in the camp? Were  
you out actually falling the timber? Or working in the mill?



FM: I mostly did falling timber. I didn't work much in the saw-mills. Somehow a fella gets used to working in the woods and he thinks that there isn't enough freedom around a sawmill it seems like. You used to one thing and it is easier for you to do it and you kind of like it. In later years I went to work in a sawmill. I helped a millwright over here at Cherry Grove for the ~~Adler~~ Lumber Company. ~~N~~ine years I was assistant millwright. I <sup>run</sup> ran my legs off.

LM: When you were out in the woods, were you working for a particular mill? Did you consider yourself a gypo logger?

FM: No I worked with someone. I did some gypo logging <sup>along in</sup> about 1940 ~~and~~ through 1944, <sup>for</sup> ~~all~~ ~~by~~ myself you understand.

LM: In this countryside, there is still a lot of trees in this area. ~~but were they . . . ?~~

FM: Oh no, there is a good amount for small mills <sup>or poles for piling</sup> A timber man wouldn't think much about it because there isn't enough. <sup>little bunch of timber there</sup> Just a tree here and there, it has all been logged over and something that you would <sup>call</sup> ~~in~~ a few years ago would be sellable nowadays.

(40) LM: How big was some of these trees around here originally that you logged?

FM: There were a lot of trees four feet in diameter. Lots of those. Early in 1940 <sup>in January I think</sup> I cut a tree all by myself up here about a quarter mile from here. It was six feet and 6 inches at the bottom. It grew on a <sup>steep</sup> side hill and quite often they will grow a little oval. They grow more wood down on the under side where the pitch is. I was <sup>just</sup> exactly eight hours cutting that by myself. It was my first big tree that I ever <sup>try</sup> cut alone.

It would amount to maybe 40,000 (b.ft) in that little corner there. There's about 2 acres maybe on it.



- FM: Some guys do that and some never try. It is <sup>just</sup> extra work is what it amounts to. That tree and that log had more than 5000 feet in it. The guy that hauled it said it was the biggest log that he had hauled so far at that time.
- LM: Was there a lot of trees of the similar size in the area before that? Several years ago?
- FM: Yes, it just happened that up there that when I cut this one that most of the timber had been cut away for wood. This tree was kind of left by itself.
- LM: Now Haag Lake hasn't been there too many years. What was that area like before it was put in?
- FM: It was all farm land. Haag Lake is just a little less than <sup>1200</sup>~~1200~~ acres. Of course in my days if there was any timber it was in the lowlands and the farming land that was all gone of course.
- LM: There was several nice farms down there.
- LM: What did they raise down there? Did they grow crops down there?
- FM: Grain crops and barley and wheat and oats and that was the main crops.
- LM: Was there several farming families that had been there for quite a while?
- FM: Yes there were farmers down there that homesteaded that land in 1845. The old Wilcox family was one of the early ones. They filed that land in 1845 I think. At one time that was one of the original names in Washington County.
- (50) LM: Did that family stay there for quite a while?



FM: Oh yes, old Wilcox was born there I believe and he was 87 when he died in 1941 just about the day of Pearl Harbor.

LM: Did the Wilcox family continue <sup>living</sup> to live on the farm?

FM: He had a brother that was about ten years younger, <sup>Dodley</sup> ~~Bedley~~ Wilcox.

He died in March of 1953. Mrs. <sup>spellings</sup> (Thorpe) Wilcox she went to Seattle or Tacoma ~~the~~ <sup>Her</sup> last days she spent up there. She was still down here in 1945 <sup>on that place</sup> I think living with a woman.

LM: When <sup>had</sup> did the lake been built? Just five years ago?

FM: Yes I should try to remember that but I never gave it much thought. I am sorry but I don't have it in my head.

LM: What happened when that lake was first built? Did the farmers just <sup>sell</sup> ~~sold~~ there land? Were they asked to sell?

FM: They were invited to sell it. Some didn't want to sell, they wanted to <sup>Their</sup> keep ~~there~~ homes.

LM: Was there quite a battle between the older families and the <sup>some of</sup> Federal government then?

FM: One fella had a feeling that he would <sup>benefited</sup> ~~benefited~~ by selling his place and another one wanted to stay there.

LM: How about your personal feelings? Did you want to see Haag Lake built in there <sup>or were you . . . ?</sup>

FM: With me of course, <sup>just what suited the other</sup> it was difficult ~~for the~~ people who were down there and would be really <sup>That</sup> affected by the change over. ~~It~~ didn't bother me in any way at all.

LM: How about some of your neighbors like the Tupper family and some of these people?



FM: Most of those people aren't around here anymore. They didn't own <sup>any</sup> property here in the neighborhood anymore.

LM: Do you notice any drastic changes <sup>before the lake was</sup> ~~between people~~ when the lake was built and now?

FM: The only changes I could say is the recreation had attracted a lot of people. The fishing and the boating. About the irrigation and when Henry Haag started the thing was flood control. They wanted flood control and they still need lots of flood control. That was the idea of this and it turned out to be ~~a~~ recreation. The general public says ~~now~~ that recreation is now number one on the list. When it was really flood control they were after.

LM: Have you noticed a lot more people coming up here now then?

FM: Oh yes. The value of real estate has gone completely goofy over the value of land. This place for instance the assessor was out here <sup>say a</sup> ~~six~~ months ago and I think he said that the taxes would raise about 5% more than they were. My evaluation last year was \$31,600. This year it is going to be up, well my sister over at ~~Rock Away~~ <sup>on her beach house</sup> has about the same evaluation as I have but her taxes have gone up 10,000 dollars and mine will be ~~some~~ something the same. So I will be paying over \$700.00 this fall. Last year it was \$714.00 taxes. This time it will be \$814.00 let's say.

LM: That is on 40 acres that you have up here?

FM: Yes, 40 acres her evaluation was \$31,600 and now it will be \$41,600 is my guess.



(60) LM: How much did your father pay for the land when he first came?

FM: I think the first year here in 1912 that fall the taxes were exactly \$8.00. We had a cow that dad had bought <sup>that spring</sup> and the cow had a calf when he bought her. I think he paid \$40.00. The cow had something wrong with her breathing. <sup>we'd notice it once in awhile</sup> She would have a bad spell like she couldn't get enough air. That ~~fall~~ <sup>fall</sup> I know it was ~~fall~~ <sup>I know it was fall because it was a frosty morning.</sup> because you know how cold in <sup>October</sup> ~~November~~ and the poor cow had laid down and died that night. My brother and I decided that we would sell the skin. So we started to skin <sup>that old</sup> ~~the~~ cow and there was a man that lived down on the creek who was a butcher who was just out here for fun. He was living down on the creek and he happened to come along when we were skinning <sup>this</sup> ~~the~~ cow and took right a hold and did it for us. He hauled the hide to town and came back with the money. \$8.00 and my brother and I were going to have some spending money and dad paid the taxes with the \$8.00 so we didn't have any fun <sup>out</sup> of the money.

LM: How many cows do you have to skin now to pay your taxes? (laughs)

FM: In those days <sup>I remember</sup> ~~there was~~ a man up here that had some real beef cattle and the hide sold for the same price as the beef. I think the beef <sup>brought</sup> ~~sold for~~ 12 cents a pound and the hide also <sup>brought</sup> ~~got~~ 12 cents a pound. There is quite a difference now days. I don't know what the hide is worth now, I have no idea but it isn't what it used to be.

LM: With the increasing of ~~the~~ <sup>half</sup> taxes of the land ~~had~~ a lot of the older families and people <sup>at</sup> that you have known through <sup>out</sup> your life been forced ~~ed~~ to move out?



FM: I didn't quite understand?

LM: We were comparing the taxes from \$8.00 in 1912 to \$814.00 in 1978. <sup>Is this cost restrictive for</sup> ~~Does this restrict~~ a lot of people that live here? Is it <sup>so</sup> ~~as~~ much that they have to sell there land out and move away?

FM: I believe <sup>you've got</sup> ~~we have done~~ it just about right. Everybody is crying about taxes, ~~and~~ income taxes and withholding taxes.

Maybe when the taxes here \$8.00 people thought it was too <sup>expensive</sup> ~~much~~.

LM: How about yourself? Have you ~~thought of~~ <sup>contemplated</sup> selling your land?

FM: No, <sup>this is my home and</sup> I might as well live here than somewhere else. There would be no point in me selling it and I would have to go and find another place to live. If I was to <sup>stick</sup> ~~put~~ a "For Sale" sign out in the yard I would have <sup>visitors</sup> ~~people~~ from morning to night everyday.

There is a place up the hill here that is five acres along, it is 1320 feet long. <sup>Every now and then</sup> ~~Everyday~~ someone goes up and looks at that. There is a quarter of a mile of road that needs to be built. I have a road up there with a tractor and you can get up with a car most of the way. The rock <sup>I have</sup> out in the yard cost me \$80.00 that, 12 yard load of rock. To put that on the road for a quarter of a mile it ~~would run~~ into money. There is no water on the place. At one time ten years ago <sup>the</sup> ~~a~~ man who bought it for taxes. The taxes were something like \$230.00. This guy was a big shot in the Hillsboro bank and he bought it.

End of Track 1



Start of Track 2

LM: I would like to move on to another subject. You say that originally the land was used for timber production. Did you ever use any of this land for farming and cultivation for growing crops in this area?

FM: This place?

LM: You<sup>c</sup> place and this area?

FM: We cut timber off of it you know and then blasted <sup>out</sup> off the stumps that is about ten acres of it I would say or maybe a little more.

LM: Was that quite a job blasting out those stumps?

FM: It is something that you can work just hard as you want to at it.

LM: Could you describe how you go about blowing out a stump?

FM: I have done a lot of that since than what they call a powder monkey. <sup>Just like anything else, once you</sup> ~~After you get~~ used to <sup>a little bit</sup> get there is nothing to it.

LM: When you first moved <sup>here</sup> and were clearing stumps back in the teens and twenties did you have dynamite then?

FM: <sup>Oh yes</sup> I didn't but my father blew stumps with "Hercules" dynamite.

LM: Was it sort of exciting to watch him blow?

FM: When your<sup>a</sup> kid especially when you not used to shooting stumps or blowing rock. It is kind of a thrill you know.

LM: Do you remember the first time <sup>when</sup> you saw someone blow a stump?

(10) LM: We were talking a little bit about some of the people that lived  
10) around here. How about Henry Haag? Did he live in this neighborhood?



FM: Oh no, Henry Haag lived down around Tualatin I believe. Maybe ~~Lake~~ Oswego somewhere down in that area.

LM: Did you ever meet the man?

FM: I never saw him no. He is gone now. He <sup>didn't get</sup> never got to see the lake finished.

LM: He was the driving force behind <sup>the dam?</sup>

FM: That is what I heard. It sounds like he got the idea more than 30 years ago.

LM: Another family that lived in this area was the Lovegrens.

FM: The Lovegrens lived over in Patton Valley. He was a sawmill man. He came down from Preston, Washington. He started that project over there about 1910. I can remember that they were building that dam in 1912 the summer that we came here. I remember them blasting rock over there from morning until night.

LM: Another <sup>question.</sup> ~~thing that you mentioned that~~ we talked a little bit about the school district here. Where did you go to school? Was it a school down here?

FM: We didn't go to school down there. The folks and the neighborhood Tupper family and John <sup>Spaulenger</sup> the batchelor got together and organized a school district of <sup>their</sup> there own. They took parts from number 16 down here and one over near Gales Creek and <sup>they</sup> made school district 109.

LM: They just formed there own school district?

FM: Yes that is right. In the summer of 1914 they built a schoolhouse here.



LM: You went to school there then?

FM: No, then? Yes. The first school was in 191<sup>3</sup> and <sup>that was</sup> ~~it~~ was a <sup>temporary</sup> ~~temporarily~~ little building. Us kids started at that school in 191<sup>4</sup>. Younger Tupper boys went there at the same time.

Then in 1914 we went into the new schoolhouse. I don't remember what year was the last school. There must have been school there until 1935 anyway.

LM: There must not have been too many children in the school when you were going.

FM: No, way back in 191<sup>3</sup> I think there was only four kids that went to school there. There is a <sup>The family</sup> ~~fella~~ down the creek and me and my brother and two sisters. It must have been another year, but there was a time where there was only four kids <sup>going to school here</sup>

(20) LM: Here are some photographs right here of that school. Who was your teacher then?

FM: The first year in 191<sup>3</sup> was my sister Ruth McCullough. That was in the ~~fall~~ of 1913. Then in 1914 there was a Portland girl that taught school here and that was the first school in the new schoolhouse in 1914. Her name was Florence Cornell from Portland. The next year there was a girl, that would be the ~~fall~~ of 1915, named Marie O'Glaze, <sup>She</sup> who was a Portland girl too.

LM: These Portland girls, how would they find out about teaching school out here?

FM: I suppose it got around <sup>Through the</sup> with association ~~of~~ you know, of them.

LM: Who hired the teacher?



FM: The school director. Each school district had a schoolboard you know and I think there was a clerk and three school directors <sup>or</sup> was the schoolboard.

LM: Schoolboard was almost as big as the student body of the school then almost.

FM: Yes

LM: Did you go to school all through grade school out there then?

FM: Yes I took the eighth grade examinations up there at the old schoolhouse.

LM: I hear a lot about the small one room schoolhouses. A lot of people I talked to went to them. What do you think the quality of education was? Do you think that you had a good education once you got out?

FM: Oh I don't know. I think about that. It is just up to the individual. One fella would really get something out of it and another one wouldn't. One thing bad about <sup>it I think was</sup> the lack of association with other groups of kids, ~~you know~~ I think that was kind of a bad thing with the little country schools. Not enough ~~com~~ competition.

LM: What subjects were really stressed in school? What subjects would you learn?

FM: I liked history <sup>better</sup> more than anything else. I liked history, civil war history and I can still remember some of the things. I didn't care anything about music. I didn't know a B flat from ~~a~~ <sup>triple cleft</sup>. But I did <sup>like</sup> love history.

(30) LM: Did the school itself have a lot of books that you could read?



FM: Yes, you mean outside of the <sup>regular</sup> Redwood school books? No, I don't think there was much of that.

LM: School books too.

FM: The state furnished the books. You didn't have to buy the books yourself in those days. I don't know if they do that now or not. It seems to me like they should.

LM: That is really interesting about the school. You mentioned that you went to school with the Tupper kids.

FM: That is right.

LM: Could you talk a little bit about the Tupper family? What they were like?

FM: Yes, now what would you like to hear?

LM: What they were doing out here? <sup>Their</sup> ~~There~~ occupation? *Loggers, farmers?*

FM: The oldest one his name <sup>in the family</sup> was George. George Tupper was at the time that we came here married and had a young family. In 1917 I worked for him and he was 32 years old at that time and I was 20. Then his brother ~~Gilbert~~ and ~~him~~ was a couple years younger <sup>than</sup> anyway. <sup>His name was Lowell</sup> Then there is Lloyd Tupper. He was headed for the mini-

~~stry~~ <sup>ministry</sup>. He was trying to make a minister of himself and I think he did a pretty good job of it. The third boy his name was Roy. <sup>Around their mill</sup> he was pretty much of a mechanic. The fourth boy was Lloyd. He was born in 1896 and was a year older than myself. He leaned towards the ministry himself and he was trying to work and make a living and help the family and learn the Bible too. He had a flea bitten horse that was old <sup>named</sup> "Frank."

*Quite often when horses get old they get flea-bitten.*



40) FM: He drove old Frank and a two wheel cart down to Medford, Oregon one fall to go to school. Then Walter Tupper he was just a little younger than me, two years younger I guess. He wasn't quite old enough to work out in those days. Then there is Harry Tupper <sup>that would be the fella.</sup> and he lives in Auburn Washington. He is quite a dairy man up there at one time. The youngest boy was Hiram Tupper and he is a building contractor I believe. A fella in his family said that he had built several hospitals. The only girl ~~she~~ was Edith Tupper.

40) LM: The two families the Tupper's and the McCulloughs must have been quite close and have done things together then. Being there wasn't other families in the area.

FM: Yes you are right about that. We did some visiting like people do you know.

LM: What did your family do for fun? Did you go to the city? Did you stay out in the country here?

FM: The only time that we went to town was to the County Fair. When the Fair was held at Shute's Park in Hillsboro. They had it at different places too.

LM: The County Fair was quite a big event then?

FM: Oh yes. For ~~a~~ country kids it was.

LM: What was some of the things that you did at the County Fair? Was it mostly looking?

FM: They had amusements like the ferris wheel and the merry-go-round, that was a big thing for country kids you know.



LM: You mentioned ~~that~~ going to Hillsboro. Was that the only time you made it into Hillsboro then to the County Fair? Or did you make other trips to the city?

FM: No, it was mostly the County Fair. About the Fourth of July celebrations that was really a big thing ~~back~~ in those days 50 or 60 years ago. More than it is today. Now you go to a celebration like Hillsboro had been having for years and years everyone all the grown ups say it is just a bunch of kids down there to entertain the young children. One fella told me that there was 17 rides. The different things that they have to ride on. The merry-go-rounds and the ferris wheel and <sup>all them</sup> the loopers and the ~~dippers~~ and all that. That is all that it amounts to now a kid's show. *which it is about right*

LM: It used to be something for the whole family before this?

FM: Well no, but there was some athletes that put on a show like boxing and wrestling and tight wire walking. But it is true about today's entertainment at the Fourth of July celebration is a kid's show. *that called the Brunner place. A old*

(50) LM: Do you still go down to the County Fair or the Fourth of July celebration today? Earlier you were telling me about the big slide. Could you tell me that story again you started to tell it earlier?

FM: The hillside slid off evidently. The whole thing moved from the top of the hill down to the creek. That used to be <sup>very</sup> ~~there~~ plain from here but the trees have grown up since and hid it.



FM: For years everybody would mention over by the slide where they would say something about something about the country over there <sup>they would say</sup> ~~on~~ west of the slide or ~~at~~ east of the slide. So then I heard an old timer he was the same age as Ben Tupper. He told me that he had worked on the road out here and he said that my wife and I before we were married that we went for a hike <sup>slide,</sup> and we went up <sup>The slide was something new</sup> to see the slide. He said, "I had two gold cuff links and I lost them sliding down on that slide."

LM: When was this slide? What year did it happen?

FM: That would be as I was saying that from the moment this Tupper was born it had dammed up the creek then. Lowell Tupper is past 90 now so that must have been in the mid <sup>1880</sup> ~~1880~~'s sometime. I would have to guess that way. <sup>1880's</sup> There's is no other way I can tell.

LM: Is that something that you did for fun and recreation hiking trips and things like that?

FM: <sup>That's right</sup> That year <sup>It was about</sup> in 1912, <sup>time</sup> was said in this part of the year or maybe June me and my brother ~~and~~ <sup>we</sup> two or three of my sisters all went up to hike to a place called the Brunner place. A old <sup>bachelor</sup> ~~batchelor~~ lived way here about three miles from here an old ~~swatcher~~ <sup>Switzer</sup>. He had in 1910 had died at the County home. Anyway the old cabin was just a mess because people would go in there and throw things around just to have a look you know. We had never been there before but I thought I <sup>heard</sup> ~~hard~~ a little ~~fall~~ like something fell down inside the shack just as we got a 100 feet from it. The country was quite open then and I had a single shot 22 with me and I looked down below me and there was a coyote that ran out <sup>below the ridge</sup>



On a log and he turned and stopped and looked at me and I shot at him with that old single shot 22 and I heard the bullet hit the log but didn't hit the coyote. As we came back towards home we met a man whose name was Wise who lived over <sup>here. They</sup> ~~in~~ and had been in this country a few years before we came here. He was going up to see the the old Turner place and we were coming down. Everybody went for hikes in those days for entertainment. One of our sisters was teaching school over on the head of Fear Creek <sup>that's</sup> down from Gales Creek. We would hike from here over to there <sup>back and forth</sup> ~~and not~~ think anything of it in those days. It would take <sup>we didn't</sup> an hour or an hour and  $\frac{1}{2}$  to walk it. A man named Robert <sup>the</sup> ~~his~~ family <sup>is still</sup> ~~was killed~~ between here and Cherry Grove. He told me that he didn't think anything about walking when he ~~was~~ a kid. They would walk from there to Forest Grove and back and didn't think anything of it.

LM: That must have been the only way to get around then?

FM: <sup>It was the only way. If you didn't walk you didn't go.</sup> If you didn't walk you didn't go that was all. I walked <sup>to</sup> Forest Grove and back a time or two.

LM: On these hikes and this land you walked through was it mostly privately owned or Government land?

FM: There wasn't near as much privately owned land then as there is now. The privately owned land would be the big timber companies who owned the land. They <sup>planned on</sup> ~~try to~~ sell <sup>ing</sup> the timber off this land. That is the case today and <sup>they</sup> we are buying it now and don't have to pay taxes on that land until the timber is harvested.

See p



O.E.C. (Oregon and California RR)

(60) LM: You mentioned that there was some ~~Owen Sealand~~ land in here.

FM: That is every odd numbered section was ~~Owen Sealand~~ <sup>O.E.C. land.</sup> The even numbers ~~was~~ was Homestead Land. It was for sale for \$2.50 an acre. This place <sup>was</sup> is one of them. Section one was railroad land.

LM: O and C was selling all <sup>their</sup> there land at that time?

FM: Yes they were selling it. They had a chance to sell it and then they got into a <sup>row</sup> ~~brawl~~ with the Government because they were selling some of the land for <sup>an estimated</sup> \$25.00 an acre. There was some of it that had some pretty good timber and they sold that for \$25.00 an acre instead of \$2.50. So they got into a row ~~with~~ with the Government over this and there was a law <sup>suit</sup> between the railroad and the <sup>g</sup>overnment. The <sup>g</sup>overnment made a change and they made it homestead land and you paid \$2.50 an acre <sup>like it had been to start with</sup> and you had to make the homestead improvements along with it. This little house up the road about a mile that is one of those places, ~~and the~~ <sup>(who?)</sup> school <sup>was</sup> ~~was~~ homesteaded <sup>that</sup> in 1931. That was 80 acres. I believe that is all over <sup>with</sup> ~~now these days.~~ <sup>nowaday?</sup>

LM: How about ~~Simpson~~ <sup>Stinson</sup> Lumber Company, do they own land in this area?

FM: Oh <sup>y</sup>es they bought everything they could get their hands on. They bought a place right as you start up this hill down here that a <sup>aluminum</sup> ~~gingham~~ gate is not on the property line and about <sup>500 feet</sup> ~~5 miles~~ above there and bought 80 acres only a short time ago and there is no improvements on the place. There is about 5 acres that has been cleared that is probably his land. I would like to know what they paid for it. That would be a dandy good place for ~~some~~ someone who wants a place way back in seclusion you know.



*spelling?*

FM: For instance up on the <sup>Scot</sup>(springs) road a couple rented a house up there and both he and his wife are musicians. He wanted a place where they could practice and ~~not~~ irritate the neighbors <sup>any</sup> so they got it. I believe the owner of the <sup>place</sup> house said they are paying \$250.00 a month rent and he is driving to Portland everyday. So they got what they wanted. ~~from every~~  
*from there*

LM: What is the general feeling of the area folks towards ~~Stimpson~~  
*Stimson*  
Lumber Mill? Do they have good relations with them? Or don't you really come in contact with them at all?

FM: I did work for them but I got steadier work. After working the woods they was what they called seasonal workers. A seasonal worker couldn't work in the Winter time because there was too much snow and they couldn't log you understand. However it was different with the fella at the mill.

End of Track 2