

Voices from the Past

Life in Thornton/Independence,
Madison County, Idaho

Interviewees: Karl and Merinda S. Horne

September 8, 1979

Tape #57

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Harold Forbush: On this 8th day of September 1979, I have the opportunity of interviewing Mrs. Horne and Mr. Horne of the Thornton, Independence Madison County area. I am doing this in behalf of the Upper Snake River Valley Historical Society Incorporated. Mrs. Horne, will you state your name and the place of your birth?

Merinda Horne: You mean my maiden name? Merinda S. Lauridsen. And I was born on Montpelier, Idaho.

HF: And when did you come to the Rexburg area?

MH: I came up here in about 1917 to teach school.

HF: And where did you teach school?

MH: I taught school at Thornton, or Union, it was called Union, but it's Thornton.

HF: And you taught under the name of Merinda Lauridsen.

MH: Lauridsen, yes.

HF: And can you tell me a little about your parental background, your parents, where had they come from?

MH: Well, my father came from Denmark, and my mother was born down there, Bear Lake County but her folks came from Denmark too.

HF: I see, so your...

MH: Danish

HF: You're almost 100% Danish?

MH: (laughing) I guess.

HF: Well that really, that's really great. Now, did they have any particular reason for coming here to America?

MH: Well, I don't think they did. They was real young, he and his brother came over. I guess they'd heard about the opportunities here in the United States, so they came over here.

HF: I see, and they have, the Lauridsen family, that's the name that I am acquainted with, Lauritz

MH: No, sen, sen, not a z

HF: Okay, sen, so there's a little bit of a change in the spelling from the one that I know of.

MH: Lauridsen

HF: I see, Lauridsen, I see. Now turning to Mr. Horne, would you state your name and something about your birth and why you came here to Idaho.

Karl Horne: Well I was, name is Karl Horne, I was born in Scottsville, Kansas, my parents are Hyrum C. Horne, my mother was Irene Wehl, before she married...

HF: Wehl?

KH: Wehl, Wehl, ya. That was her name, they come from Germany, her parents did.

HF: What induced your folks to come out here in the west, in Idaho?

KH: Well, her father was a Baron over in Prussia, he was a very wealthy man he had 13 ships on the ocean and a big castle and it was an organization something like the communists, they called them black shirts. He barely got out of there with his family and his life and what he could pack. Lost everything in Germany. He come to America, Wisconsin, that's how they happened to come to America. They was driven out by these Black Shirts.

HF: I see, did they remain in Wisconsin very long as a family?

KH: Well, ya they lived there quite a little while. She married a man by the name of Wehl and he died of pneumonia there in Wisconsin, that was about 18, oh I dunno, in the 70's I guess.

HF: Now this would've been your grandmother?

KH: Ya, that's my grandmother on my mother's side. She must have had a lot of fortitude, she took four small children and come to Kansas and homesteaded in a covered wagon. She had one boy 15, and then 3 daughters younger.

HF: Now isn't that amazing.

KH: I don't know how she done it, but she did.

HF: And it was in Kansas that she met and married your father?

KH: No, he died in Wisconsin. Then she come out to Kansas, they was living in Wisconsin.

HF: I see.

KH: And after he died, there was a lot of land out there in Kansas ya know, for homesteading, so she come out there and settled there, and got 160 acres and that's where I was born. Got married there. There was the Horne family and the Wehl family, they was joining. And it was a, two sisters married, no one sister married my mother's brother and then there was two of her married two Horne boys so there was three of them. Three Hornes and three Wehls was married on another. So it was putting them like brothers and sisters my cousins you see. We had a drought back there in Kansas, putting everybody about starved to death; that was after I was born, 2 or 3 years old.

HF: Let's see, now, state the date when you were born then.

KH: I was borne in 1895

HF: At?

KH: At Scottsville, Kansas.

HF: Scottsville, Kansas.

KH: 1895

HF: Now, did your folks come out here?

KH: Well, my father and his cousin come out here looking for land, they figured on going to Jackson Hole to get a cattle ranch. They got off at Roberts, that's one of the only place there was in the railroads, and bought a team and wagon and started and they got up there at Union, Thornton, west of Thornton, used to call it Union, and stayed all night with them, he had 240 acres. They bought his place, that's as far as they got, they bought him out. And then they started to build a house, and then he sent for my mother and us kids. Two boys, Harold he was two years older than I was. And we come out, I remember, I was only a little better than 3 years old, but I remember getting off from the train and him meeting us at Roberts. And then we come up here to the farm and lived in a tent for awhile while they was building the house, the house still stands down there. It's a log house. Still standing.

HF: I see. Now these logs perhaps are Cottonwoods?

KH: No, they're pine.

HF: Pine? Where would they have gotten those from?

KH: East of, upon east of Thornton there, upon Moody Creek.

HF: Oh, I see.

KH: Ya, there all nice pine. They built a nice, he was a carpenter, my father's cousin was a carpenter, and they build a right nice house at that time. And then another little incident

I remember, a year or two later. My mother had an old hen, bunch of little chickens, we used to have an A coop, I dunno if you ever saw them or not, they built kind of a coop the old hen couldn't get out, but the little chickens could. Then, there's a wildcat that come up there and started to get those little chickens, there's some timber right close to the house, big cottonwood grove, she got a stickler out there and it didn't want, the little wildcat didn't want to go, but she pounded on the ground and hollered and finally drove him off.

HF: Had he taken any chickens?

KH: Ya, he got one or two little ones. Just little bitsy things, the chickens were. That night, bright moonlit night, he come back during the night and was out there trying to get the old hen and she was making a big racket. Dad got out the shotgun and killed it, shot it in the moonlight. I remember that, just few, just some.

HF: That's interesting isn't it.

KH: Then, ya know, just kinda little things you remember and then you don't remember anything for awhile.

HF: Now, umm, Karl, at that time, that was about 1900

KH: Ya

HF: Approximately,

KH: Ya, well about, I think I was about 4 years old, about something like that, about 80, about 99 or something.

HF: Did you have a few neighbors in the area?

KH: Ya, yes. The Firth family they lived close, and the Andersen family, that was a big family, old Neil Andersen ya know.

HF: Now that would be the father to Oscar...

KH: Oscar and all then, they had Dan, and Jim. Old Neil, big family, thirteen I believe.

HF: Had they homesteaded?

KH: Ya,

HF: And now, your father, I supposed, did file on a homestead?

KH: No, no they just bought this 240 acres from Neal Emmitt Smith.

HF: Oh, oh in other words it was already homesteaded property

KH: Ya, he was, he was living there.

HF: Well that's interesting isn't it.

KH: One little incident, he said, he told them, I remember talking about it, that winter he had 41 deer hanging up in his granary froze, that he'd shot.

HF: This Smith, this Smith did?

KH: Ya, and he hauled them to Roberts and go 50 cents a piece for 'em. He said that wasn't much money but it was all the money I had, says I got some tobacco and I got some bacon, and different things, jug of whiskey he says. But he had \$21.

HF: Was he an old bachelor?

KH: No, he had a family and they moved up to lime. Ike Smith, little Ike, they called him. There was two Smiths, big Ike and little Ike in them days. I don't think there's any relation but...and another thing that might be interesting, They had a ferry then, above the railroad, just east of where the railroad bridge is now on the Snake River.

HF: Right

KH: An old man by the name of John Andersen, he was a great big jolly fella. He run it. And if he didn't have no money he'd take some, he'd get you across, but he'd charge you a fryin' pan or whatever (laughter).

HF: Oh now, you're talking about the Andersen bridge in Idaho Falls.

KH: No, no, at Lorenzo.

HF: Oh, at Lorenzo.

KH: Ya, they had a ferry at Lorenzo just above...

HF: I see. For their railroad. Now that railroad came in, I know history says that the railroad was built from a spur vine from Idaho Falls, or on up through, through Rexburg, it reached Rexburg in November or December of 1899. And...

KH: I thought it was 1900, but maybe it was 99

HF: And you were just about 4 years old,

KH: Or 5 years old, ya, I was about 4 when they built the railroad. I can just, just remember a little about it, ya know, about them working.

HF: And Andersen had this bridge?

KH: Ya, he had the ferry.

HF: The ferry, excuse me.

KH: Just up to the river from the railroad, where the railroad bridge is now. And he, that's the only way you had to get across the river.

HF: And uh, this was a little toll thing that you had to pay so much money.

KH: Ya, you had a cable stretched across ya know, and a boat, kind of a big raft, and when you'd turn it a certain way, the current would pull you across. And then when you got across you'd turn it back the other way against the current and it would take you back. That was cable and pulleys.

HF: Now do you recall personally this, this...ferry

KH: Oh ya, ya, I remember riding it.

HF: Uh, now team and wagon could be ferried across?

KH: Oh ya, two or three of them. It was big enough to where a couple of them got on it...

HF: Pulley, that would've been made of logs?

KH: Ya, boat, two boats. Two large plank boats with timbers across.

HF: Oh, I see.

MH: Did you ride on the ferry?

KH: oh ya, ya, several times.

HF: So individuals could go across...

KH: Oh ya

HF: ...if they were pedestrians, or if they had a team and wagon why they could. Cattle, horse cattle and horses could be carried, taken across.

KH: He was a jolly old guy, and this is just hearsay from my dad; He liked to play solo, he'd talk everybody into playing cards, you remember a game called solo, something like peanuckle.

HF: Right, right.

KH: And he was always trying to get them to stop overnight so that they could play (laughing)

HF: Did he have his home nearby?

KH: Yes, yes, ya right there. It's still there I believe, the old house is still there. Just east of the tracks.

HF: DO you recall the fees that were charged?

KH: No, I don't. Seemed like it was 50 cents, but I was, a lot of times he had to take something else.

HF: Was the first structure in the way of the bridge erected in about the same sight where the ferry?

KH: Ya, it was. Right in fact, in the same sight east of the railroad.

HF: And it was that bridge that was washed down?

KH: Ya, it...

HF: Collapsed didn't it?

KH: Ya, it was quite an interesting story.

HF: Do you recall that?

KH: Ya. There was a man from Jackson Hole had a great big, I think it was four hundred head of four year old steers, and he was taken 'em to Roberts to put them on the train. That's the nearest railroad point we had. And my dad sold him some hay that night, and he fed them in our field. My brother and I, he was 3 years older than I was, we'd been up with the neighbors, we didn't pay no attention to the cattle out there in the field, we just walked right out there among the cattle and boy they all got in a big circle you know, and just snorted, and raised a dickens. Well the owner of the cattle saw it and he come up there on a horse white as a sheet and says, "Why they didn't kill ya I will never know," but they just circled us, big circle, all their heads pointing towards us. The next morning he started off, he got down to this old, great big high wooden bridge across the river. He started to string these cattle across the bridge and a dog come up on the other end; and the cattle bunched up, and one span gave away. Killed 30 head of steers, broke their legs and their backs and everybody had beef, he sold them for whatever he could get out of them. 2 ½ a piece or something, their legs broke. But there was 30 head went down in this span.

HF: Well lets see now, Karl, how, they had been driven over Jackson Pass, and come down this far and this would mean that they probably had to ford some of the Teton River?

KH: I'd imagine ya

HF: To get down here. Now, once they crossed the Snake River there, could they have got to Roberts without having, they'd have to cross over another river wouldn't they?

KH: Well, I think they had a bridge down there. I think they had a bridge across, they had to cross the same river again,

HF: Right.

KH: But they'd, I wouldn't swear that, but I'm sure that there was a bridge there.

HF: I see.

KH: But they had many there, well I know there was a bridge there because once, see that bridge caved in with them up there at Lorenzo.

HF: Can you fix a date...at Lorenzo when that bridge caved in?

KH: Oh, I can't but, I have to think about 1903 or something in there. 19-3 or 4, I was just a boy.

HF: You were, let's see, 5...

KH: 8, 9 years old.

HF: ...8 or 9 years old.

KH: Ya.

HF: When this happened. Well that's very interesting. I've, of course, heard about this bridge collapsing because of too much weight, cattle and so on.

KH: Well the dog caused it. He ran up on the other end of the bridge. They were big steers. Well they were four year olds, they had horns and all. He had trailed them from Jackson Hole, and took them to Roberts, shipped them to Butte, is where they were going.

HF: Now, you commented about the one neighbor, the Smith boys. Any other neighbors?

KH: Oh, ya J.M. Williams, he lived....

HF: It was Mr. Andersen I guess, really who you said.

KH: Ya, and he was the old, kinda the head of the whole community, he was quite an aggressive man. He had 13 children and it was a big family and they, for years and years, they was kinda the, everybody kinda look up to the Andersen's.

HF: The Andersen's. I see.

KH: Firth, there was Billy Firth, Jack Williams, J.M. Williams, and a man by the name of Jim Slater. He was the one that dad finally bought his place, his 40 acres, just east of the slew...He was an old Pioneer and he made his living tracking and fishing. He never did work, well he worked at that. He trapped in the winter and then all summer he'd, there's lots of fish in those spring creeks down there, warm slew, I live on the bank of one of them now. There's lots of great bit cutthroat trout.

HF: Now those warm slews were they, they were supplied additionally with water from the, from the Snake River overflow?

KH: Ya, I'll say they did. Every spring there was water all over. Well that country had lower country, Cori, he used to be sheriff here in Rexburg at one time, I.N. Cori...

HF: I.N. Cori, right.

KH: He's got a ranch there and his, well his ranch is just a quarter of a mile north of where we live. Hall got it now, Reddy Hall,

HF: Oh, I see.

KH: But, that country all flooded, fact William's place, that was up there by the school house, one spring, I remember us kids took off our clothes and went in a waded on his floor waste deep.

HF: Oh for pete's sake!

KH: People just had to move out, go up on the hill...take their cattle and move up on the bench land, now that was all sagebrush...and wait till the water went down.

HF: And it would vary from year to year too?

KH: Yes, some years it wouldn't do it. But the mosquitoes, you can't imagine how many mosquitoes there were after that water would get down. I remember one day, the screen door, our screen door you couldn't see through it for mosquitoes landing on the door. We had a little calf tied up outside and my mother went out and got him and put him in the barn, he was just covered with mosquitoes you couldn't hardly see what color he was. She took him and put him in the barn that's how thick they were.

HF: Now would those last a good portion of the summer?

KH: Ya, month or two...when it was bad; usually 'bout the middle of June to the middle of July that was the bad time.

HF: All that has been pretty well rectified now. Raining...raining...

KH: OH ya.

HF: Raining away the...

KH: We never have that. I don't think I saw two mosquitoes all summer this year.

HF: Ya, ya, it's a blessing that we've been able to do those things.

KH: Ya.

HF: Well now, had the Coone family the Bob...Morris...

KH: Frank Coone. Their old man's name was Frank.

HF: Oh. Frank, and that was....Morris was his son?

KH: Ya.

MH: Morris and Harold.

KH: They come, they come from Nebraska. He was a hog farmer back in Nebraska as the story is, and he had about a thousand head of hogs, and they got to collaring and killed every one of them. He didn't get to sell a hog. It bankrupted him and he come out to St. Anthony. Her brother...Linda Grey's lived at Ashton, and they come out here and that was about, well I had to talk, in fact I was talking to all three of the boys funeral, Morris, and Harold and Lowel, all three of them dead the boys. Near as we could tell, they come out here about 1903, then he went down there and homesteaded.

HF: Frank?

KH: Ya, Frank.

HF: I see.

KH: Lived there all his life.

HF: Well that's been a pretty important family. They...

KH: Ya, they've...He was a pretty wise old duck, Frank was,he managed things good. He's a good farmer and he acquired a lot of land. When he died he'd over a thousand acres of land that he's acquired around him...he bought people out.

HF: Is that right? And, pretty much, livestock? Focused just on livestock?

KH: Ya, he run...well he did kinda general farming. Raised a lot of oats in them days, I don't know why but they all raised oats. Raised a lot of oats and sell 'em. And had cattle too.

HF: Well, now you fellows, you farmers in the Union/Thornton area I suppose did your shopping...you'd go into town there in Thornton to buy a lot of your stuff didn't ya?

KH: Well, there was a little store there, by the name of Thornton, run a little store.

HF: William Thornton.

KH: Ya.

HF: Do you remember much about him?

KH: Ya, oh ya.

HF: How would you describe him? Could you describe him?

KH: Well, he is kind of a character. He's a big raw bone guy, he had a family, and then he married a woman that had a family, and then they had a family. There was three families...the Thornton's and the Lyman's, his name was Thornton and her name was Lyman before she married him and she had a bunch of children. I believe a lot in hereditary, I don't know, but her children, her own children, just always in trouble with the law. His children never was. But I dunno why, but it seemed like they either bootlegged or moonshined or somethin'. (Laughter)

HF: (Laughter) Well, he was quite a business man. He not only owned the store, but did he have something to do with the elevator?

KH: No, nope.

HF: Just the store then?

KH: Ya, just the store and the post-office. He run the post office.

HF: I remember Thornton supported the little theater, the little lumber yard...

KH: Ya! Ya, they had a lumbar yard there, his, well her son, Ambush Lyman run that. That was her boy. He run that...

HF: Well now, turning just for a moment, for a few questions to Merinda, is that correct, is that the way you say it?

MH: Yes.

HF: You indicate that you came up here early to teach school.

MH: Yes.

HF: Now did you teach any of these Thornton kids and these Lyman kids?

MH: Oh yes. Yes I had 45 children in my room when, the first 4 grades, and there was 2 teachers there at that time, when I taught. Well, one year after they had the flu so bad, I taught the whole, what we called the big room and the little room, I had all of them one year.

HF: Now this was at the Lyman, excuse me, this was the Union

MH: Union school.

HF: Union School. And that was located just out of Thornton?

MH: Just west of Thornton.

HF: I see.

KH: A little bit south west ya.

HF: And you mention another teacher worked with you, as a co-teacher. What was her name?

MH: Well, Emma Andersen.

HF: Was that one of Neil's...

MH: Ya, one of Neil's daughters.

HF: One of his daughters.

MH: She was one of them.

HF: Tell me, with that number of youngsters, and you, you taught them what, from the first grade through the sixth grade, eighth grade?

MH: Eighth grade, yes. For that one year after the flu.

HF: I mean the two rooms, the little room and the big room took care of elementary school from the first through the eighth grade?

MH: Yes.

HF: Did you have much in the way of disciplinary problems with the big kids?

MH: Oh, not very bad. Shake one of them up once in awhile. (Laughing)

HF: They allowed you to do that in those days didn't they.

MH: Well, I didn't have very much trouble. There was one boy that I, well he was always in trouble the year, with the other teachers and they used to have him sitting right up by the teacher's desk. Well I started to teach, I put him back in the row where he belonged and I guess he respected that, that I was trusting him, so I never had any troubles with him at all.

HF: Did you use the blackboard quite a bit in those days?

MH: Yes. Yes, we had blackboards all along the room.

HF: Spelling was emphasized.

MH: Oh, we used to have spelling bee's. You know, remember the spelling bee's? Choose up sides and have, and see which side would win, stay up the longest with the words. We used to have that quite often, you know, for extra entertainment. Children always enjoyed that.

HF: Did you emphasize in your teaching, as you recall, having the kids read out loud?

MH: Yes, they always read out loud.

HF: Taught them poetry, showed them a little bit how to teach, and read and learn...Memorize poetry?

MH: Yes, sometimes. Oh, we had all kinds of things like that. Nowadays I don't think they have them read out loud, but we did. In our reading class we'd always have them read out loud.

HF: Emphasized arithmetics some too didn't you.

MH: Yes. Yes, we always had the multiplication tables. They had to learn them....for their arithmetic.

HF: How would the kids get to school?

MH: Well most of them would just walk. I don't know....

KH: Our children walked two miles all the time. We lived way down there on the ranch. It was two miles to the schoolhouse, all of our children walked.

HF: Winter and summer?

KH: Winter ya.

HF: Winter and summer? Well, not so much the summer but...

KH: Finally we got a little horse, little sorrow mare and a cutter, and they rode that.

MH: They picked up some of the kids along the way, but there wasn't any school busses those days.

KH: No high schools at all. We never, I never got to go to high school.

HF: No. But, by this means, pretty much walking and I guess some of the kids maybe would ride a horse, was there a barn or some kind of a shed or something to place these animals?

KH: No, no there wasn't. They just tied them up.

HF: Just tied them up all day long.

MH: Yah.

KH: People I'd know would always put a little hay in the cutter for our horse, and then they'd feed it, ya know, tie it to the hay.

HF: Well now did this same school also serve as a place where people would have their Church?

KH: Ya, church and all meetings.

MH: Yes.

HF: There at Lyman.

KH: Union.

HF: I keep saying Lyman, but I mean Union. What period, what years of teaching did you do, over what period of time?

MH: Well, I taught for 4 years. Then...

HF: From 1916, 17...

MH: Then I met Karl and we got married so then I didn't teach anymore after that.

HF: Where were you married?

MH: In 1919...

KH: At Montpelier.

HF: Montpelier?

MH: At Montpelier.

KH: Her home

HF: I see. Then you went down there specifically for that purpose, to be married.

KH: Yes.

MH: Yes.

HF: Then you came back. Did you have a ranch out there?

KH: Ya.

HF: In Union

KH: I'd bought 160 acres that was awful rundown. Bought it from a mortgage company. I bought that and started out. It was all wild oats the first two years.

MH: We got, the first year we had peas and we got 38 cents for our pea crop. (Laughter)

HF: Now, this would've been, in the, lets see now, you gave me a date...

KH: 1920

HF: 1920,

KH: We got married in 19

HF: 1919, this was 1920. Well, we had kind of a recession that year too following the war didn't they?

MH: Yes, yes.

KH: Ya, they had that a little later, about 23 or 24, when the recession was.

HF: So on this 160 acres, what was your total, ya know, over all forming program?

KH: Well, a variety. I raised potatoes and sugar beets, had eight or nine milk cows, little bunch of chickens...

MH: We had pigs too.

KH: Milk did good in the depression, the milk cows kept us going. If it hadn't been for them I guess we would've starved. But I don't know.

HF: Did you separate your milk?

KH: Ya. Ya. We had to milk the cows. Ya know I...

HF: Did you feed the milk to the calves? And the pigs?

KH: Ya, I've, I can't know how I dun it. You take, I milked around 9 cows, nine, ten cows.

HF: And this was all by hand?

KH: Ya, all by hand. Then I had to get my horses ready to go to work, I had four head of horses I had to get harnessed and fed before breakfast. Then after breakfast I had to go out into the field, by eight o'clock. But heck to my, if we had to do it nowadays I dunno what they'd...but if it was daylight, I was a working. I was doing something.

HF: Litteraly, you were those farmers that worked from daylight to dark, huh?

KH: Everybody did. Ya!

HF: I guess that was true.

MH: After dark sometimes.

KH: Well, we had so much to do, as you know, horses plow two acres a day is all we could plow.

MH: Where we'd get those bum lambs we called them?

KH: I raised 70 little lambs, the fellow Jones was landing over there, he had a lot of sheep sheds. I gave him a dollar a piece for the bum lambs, you know the ones that didn't have no mother. I had a lot of milk and we raised 72 lambs.

MH: We put the milk in the bottles, stick them through a hole in the board...

HF: Boy! Who had a chore to do that everyday....twice a day or three times a day?

KH: Twice a day.

HF: Oh, what'd you delegate that out to some of your girls, Mrs. Horne?

MH: Yes. They had to help to.

KH: I had a boy that worked for me every year, every summer. Ya know over in Rexburg, Bill Overt, used to be here in Rexburg...

HF: No.

KH: He's quite a man in the Church, and he taught in the College, taught auto-mechanics.

HF: Overt. OVERT?

KH: Ya. Bill Overt.

HF: I see.

KH: And his boy, he's an awful good, nice little boy. Fifteen I guess. He lived with us every summer, worked for me. He had a big family, well I'll tell ya. Louis Walker's daughter was one of the girls.

MH: Ya, she was an Overt girl.

HF: Overt girl, I see. You know when we consider, the overall farming program, you just about had to diversify didn't ya?

KH: Oh ya.

HF: You couldn't focus all your attention in one area?

KH: No. Not, the way you do everything by hand. We'd have five, after the kids had gotten larger so they could help, I'd lay five or ten acres of sugar beets. They would thin them and haul them, ya know.

MH: When we first got married, you just had the hand plow. Single plow and the handles on it and pulled by a team.

HF: Pulled by one or two horses?

KH: Three.

MH: Three of them.

KH: And we had to walk behind it. And I could plow two acres a day.

HF: But it took 10 or 12 hours to do it I guess. Well then you had to go over it with a harrow...

KH: Harrow, yup. I'd usually plow it....

HF: How'd you plant in those days?

KH: Well, we had a little drill. It was called a Havana Press, it had press reels on it. Regular drill, pretty much like they are now, only smaller.

HF: But you didn't broadcast?

KH: Oh no.

HF: I was in Israel about 4 years ago, and we stopped one afternoon, a little place there in West Bank and a couple of Arab men were out planting, now this was in January, and they were broadcasting. They didn't have a drill, they'd broadcast. Then they would take a, this mule, or donkey, and pull a rake, or a harrow kind of a thing, to cover up the seeds, and so on, but that's the way they did it. That's quite amazing isn't it.

KH: Well I remember some farmers down there, small farmers, they broadcasted all their grain, I can remember that. The one by the name of Hanson, he kind of had the name of being awful good at it, and they'd get him to do it. Broadcasting, that was when I was, well, before I was married. I was just a boy.

HF: Well now, with and from your cows, you separated, got your milk and then your cream, where did you take your cream?

KH: To Thornton, to Morrah Merk. They had an agent through there...up there to Blackfoot.

HF: Now this is, this is one of Mr.Thorntons' competitors?

KH: Well no, Thornton, he died before that.

HF: This was in the 20's. They took your cream. Do you recall what you got for butter fat?

KH: Well, during the depression we got 11 cents.

HF: Now, you take a gallon of cream in, could you get 50 cents out of that?

KH: Well, a five gallon can would bring about \$3.

HF: five gallon can of cream.

KH: About 40% Average of them probably about 40-50 percent. And we'd, I'd go out every Saturday, take that cream out and we'd buy our groceries. We raised everything, we even raised our own popcorn on white beans on the farm. We raised everything. Had all the meat we wanted all the eggs and cream and butter. We lived good as far as it was concerned. Had no money, but, we didn't need much money.

MH: We had hogs and we'd kill them and cure 'em.

HF: Seems like people ate pork a lot

KH: Ya, we did.

HF: More so than cattle.

KH: Well, the reason of that is that you could cure it.

HF: Oh, salt it down?

KH: Ya, I'd kill six or eight hogs and put I it a salt brine and then two weeks, and then take it out and smoke it.

MH: We had our own smokehouse.

HF: I see, did you do custom work for smoking?

KH: No, everybody had their own.

HF: Their own smoke house.

KH: Only sometimes I'd take neighbors that had some they'd want smoked when I did, I'd just take it. Wouldn't charge them to just put it in there.

HF: I can remember as a kid, we would kill, dad would get the probably the axe, the back of the axe and hit hog with it in the head, then immediately cut it's throat. Then he would take a 22...

KH: I used a 22 all the time.

HF: ...and then cut it's throat and string it up, and take the awful out and so forth. Mother would have a big boiler full of hot water, scalding water, least this is the way I remember...and then bring the water out there and soak the old hog, put the hog down in the water. Maybe we had some other kind of container...

KH: I think maybe you've got it a little wrong. Everybody down our way had a 50 gallon steel barrel...

HF: Maybe that's the way it was.

KH: ...and we'd heat the water and the hog was dead...we'd run this water down into the barrel back and forth.

HF: Ok, now you're straightening me out.

KH: The hair would come off then, you know.

HF: Then, once in awhile when you had the hog laid out there and it was kind of hard to get a tough, a little patch of hair off, we'd go over it, and just get a bucket and pour some more hot water on it.

KH: Lay a sack on that spot and pour hot water on it.

HF: Then take the butcher knife and scrape the stuff off.

KH: Yup, that's the way we done it.

HF: You'd work against the bristles, I remember a little bit, not as accurately as you I'm sure.

KH: Ya, we'd just have to scald the hog and then, if it was an awful big hog, once in awhile we'd have a big old sow we'd kept, maybe she's weigh six or seven hundred pounds. We'd dig a hole in the ground and then lay a tarpaulin in there, and pour the water in there, then role the hog in there...

HF: Oh boy!

KH: You'd have ropes under there and then we could pull the ropes and that'd role the hog around, you see.

HF: It'd take two or three men to handle the situation wouldn't it.

KH: Yes, oh ya, we always had help. We'd trade help; we traded lots of help; thrashing and haying and everything. Oh we had a lot of fun at thrashing, we'd all go from one farm to another and thrash, had an old steam engine separator.

HF: Who owned the first steam engine down in that country?

KH: Hall, Sam Hall, Sam High Hall.

HF: Would that be Rays...

KH: That'd be Rays and...

HF: Their grandfather?

KH: Their grandfather yes. Well their dad did too, he took over after his dad quit.

HF: Well, Mr. Hall would arrange with the people who had grain and he'd go around from place to place, is that the idea?

KH: Ya. Ya, it was all set up. He knew where we was going from one to the other. He'd move into the neighborhood and thrash the whole neighborhood out when he come in.

MH: And all the help would come from everyplace.

KH: Another little incident, women, they had to get at least two meals, sometimes they'd come for breakfast, but they'd always stay for dinner and supper, everybody. It took fourteen or fifteen men, so the women had quite a job.

HF: And they would really feed them well, wouldn't they?

KH: Well, I'll say, every woman tried to outdo their neighbor. (Laughter) We really had good eats.

HF: What was your specialty?

MH: We had to cook a lot of it too for that many men.

KH: We'd have, we'd kill a calf or something.

HF: Veil or something like that?

KH: Veil, or small beef.

HF: And that was kind of your specialty huh?

KH: Ya

MH: Well, sometimes the ladies would come and help me, then we'd help back, you see, when they'd help.

KH: We enjoyed it. We worked hard. We thrashed till seven and then we'd go home and do our own chores afterward.

HF: Well, it was kind of a party, wasn't it?

KH: It was ya, we enjoyed it. We went from one to the other.

HF: Enjoyed each other's association?

KH: Usually take a day or two to each farm.

HF: The farmer would have his grain I guess, hay, or excuse me wheat or oats or barely, what stacked?

KH: Some of them. Coone, Frank Coone, always he'd raised a lot of it and he'd always stack it. Him and his boys would stack all fall. But we got the where we'd haul it out of the field. Take six wagons, took three on each side to keep the machine going.

MH: The children would go out and shuck it in big shucks and then they haul it in on the wagons.

HF: The old McCormick was it, binder?

KH: Ya, I had a McCormick. Well some people had Dearing, the McCormick and the Dearing, them were the two popular machines.

HF: Now that would apply to the, and what kind of thrashing machine would it be, would that be...

KH: Case, always Cases.

HF: And powered by the old steam engine?

KH: Ya. The first one hauls had they had to pull it with horses, it didn't pull itself. Very first one, they just....

HF: When did that practice seem to terminate in this area before they got their own combines?

KH: Oh, I don't know.

HF: Would that have gone up into the middle thirties?

KH: Yes. I was thrashing on my place when Hitler invaded Poland, the year before the second world war.

HF: Now you were thrashing with...

KH: In September, I was thrashing with a machine. At that time, those Charly Jenkins, the neighbor's bought a machine, Halls didn't trash anymore, but Jenkins. But we was thrashing when we got word that Hitler was, that was in 39.

HF: By that time, though, you had modified your farming methods, you weren't using the horses so much anymore?

KH: Ya, we was, we had horses for the, to haul in. You had the tractors, you had to have a man drive the tractors, but if you were using horses why, the man on the wagon, the horses drove themselves pretty much, from one shuck to the other.

HF: But I mean to say, you were plowing by means of a tractor?

KH: Yes. Oh ya, we was using tractors and that time, ya.

HF: And a few were starting maybe to get their own combines?

KH: Combines, yes. In the forties somewhere, along in the forties when we started to... Ervin Hill...he's the plumber now in town here, he had a combine, he done mine the first few years.

HF: When did you get your first car?

KH: Oh gosh, I can't remember. About 24 maybe.

HF: What was it?

KH: Ford, Model T

HF: Was it?

KH: Ya.

HF: Did you ride it Merinda?

KH: Well she started to.

MH: OH, I had so many little children, I tried to drive it and the dog came running out from the neighbor. Karl says, "Now don't hit that dog" and I turned the car right over on the dog. He wouldn't let me drive it after that. (Laughter)

KH: She'd look at something, and she'd aim at it. Going up the road and the Krauss, Henry Krauss's boy coming up the road, she chased him through the fence. (laughter).

MH: Ya, he says "Don't hit that boy" and of course I turned right over to him and he ran down the fence.

KH: She'd drive wherever she looked!

MH: He says, "You've got too many children, I won't let you drive anymore."

KH: We'd have a child every two or three years, we had eight children. She always had a bunch of little kids in there, and I knew dog-gone well that if they got to fussin', she'd turn around along the road.

HF: Well that's kind of a similar experience with my mother. She started driving and something happened, she tore out a fence and that just upset her so badly that she decided not to drive.

MH: I guess I wasn't the only one then huh?

HF: Nope, it's kind of interesting, these experiences. Well I have, the word of mouth has come to me Karl, that you are quite an outdoorsman.

KH: Oh ya, I've done an awful lot of hunting and fishing and chasing around.

HF: Can you share some of the background there. Of course you lived right there, in the forested area, I suppose it was available there, just a few miles away?

KH: Well it, there for year, I could kill deer on my own place on the river bottoms there. There's a lot of brush along the river and I'd shoot deer there, but we'd, every fall when we got our work done, Harold Coone, and Harold Ward, a bunch of us, we'd go up in the hills and stay and week, and hunt.

HF: What hills?

KH: Well, sometimes out in the Birch Creek hills, Limhi country, sometimes up in Island Park country, just go different places. If we wanted to hunt elk we'd go up into Island Park country, but if we went after deer, we went after Birch Creek, Limhi.

MH: They went up Moody sometimes, didn't you?

KH: Oh ya, but that was just for the day, we never camped there. I worked one winter out in the mine in Gilmore, one time, I know that ghost town, you know where Gilmore is, it's a ghost town. I was there and that was 1914. That was a thriving community, I tell you, that was quiet a town. They had three big mines going. I worked for them, well there was a whole bunch of people around here 'bout broke them. They had a mine called LM High Union, still out there, and all the farms and people around Rexburg, Page Sigland, and Emma Andersen, got to be Emma Jenkins, she had to stock and Dave Squally had to stock and John Jones and McGary, Pete McGary, and all them people had stock in this mine I worked all winter in.

HF: Now they mined...lead?

KH: Lead and silver. Well the way it was, they was up on the hill and they had a dandy vein of ore, it was rich ore, awful rich and silver going straight down. Well they went down about 300 feet in this shaft, and it just quit. The mountain suddenly had slid off and cut that off. They didn't have the thing there, they had a big compressor up there and everything. I dunno how humans can do things, but they had that great, that hill was steep...Just like that (imitates steep). They got that great big boiler up there, return flue boiler and a big air compressor up there. I don't know how they ever done it. Well that quit, so then they got an engineer and he went down the canyon. They drove a tunnel in, figured they could hit it going to this slide, you see. And they went back in there, of two thousand....

Side Two

HF: Continuation with the interview on side two. I know Karl that our Historical Society has been out there to those Gilmore mines and...the earlier than what you're talking about, the Chinese were out there in the...what do they call those mines?

KH: They was Nicolia.

HF: Nicolia?

KH: Ya, that was a big mine.

HF: And that and I know that they furnished a lot of their power, I guess, they'd bring wood in, and make your charcoal from wood.

KH: Well the charcoal kilns, three of them is still out there. They're standing there today. There was twelve of them at one time. My dad in 1909 bought a saw mill from Johnny Farnes here in Rexburg, it was up there in Lime Kill Canyon. He bought that saw mill and took it out here to sell lumbar. They built a smelter out there, at a place called haugn, six miles this side of Gilmore. Purpose for this big mine that I was telling you about, they built a smelter there and he sawed the lumbar for the little town there, there was, I dunno, two boarding houses and a couple of saloons and a store and one thing or another.

HF: Well now this Lime Kill Canyon, that's up in the...is that up in the Kelly Canyon area?

KH: Ya.

HF: Well now, why do they call it Lime Kill?

KH: Well, they burned a lot of lime, remember in the beginning I told you about old Jim Slater, he was an old pioneer, he hunted and fished and trapped? He burnt lime, made lime up there.

HF: Now the lime of course, was it, what was it mined, then...

KH: It was rock

HF: Rock, and you'd crush it...

KH: No, they would make a big kiln, make a big dome kiln like that (motions a big dome kiln)...

MH: He can't see

KH: And put a lot of wood in the bottom, and then they put this rock, lime rock, on top of it.

HF: With water?

KH: No, just the rock, just the big chunks. And then they'd burn it, they'd set this on fire and close it up, and set this dry wood on it. They have a lot of wood in there, big poles. And they'd burn it, and then that'd turn this rock to lime, white lime, just like we buy today.

HF: And that was used for...

KH: Plaster and all....

HF: For plastering and mason work?

KH: Mason work of all kinds.

HF: And those who were engaged in the brick trade and laying up cinder blocks or bricks or something, they have to have lime.

KH: Ya

HF: They have to have the lime. And that particular kiln up there furnished it?

KH: Well they had a couple a small ones. But this, you can even still see some of the remains of some of them old kilns up there yet, Lime Kill Canyon.

HF: Lime Kill Canyon

KH: I think there's two or three yet that you can still see where they were.

HF: Slater was the first to do this?

KH: Jim Slater...well maybe other people, but in particular, he lived down by us and he was one I knew about.

HF: What would the farmers go up there and get a load of this or...

KH: Well, no, mostly carpenters and masons, things like that.

HF: How would they haul it?

KH: Wagons, just take a tight bed wagon box. Shovel it in there and haul it.

HF: Do you have any idea what Jim charged for a wagon load?

KH: No, I don't. No I never did hear. He didn't get very much in them days. But...

HF: But it provided a need didn't it?

KH: Oh ya, they had to have it. They still do, only they do it know in a big way, they still burn that lime rock. The Shug Company, they did a lot of it, down here to the Lincoln Sugar factory. Up here in Teton basin, they've got a side track and a big pile up there of the lime rock.

HF: Right, right, I knew it. Then they take it and they haul it down there, and process it.

KH: At Lincoln, ya.

HF: But Jim had his own processing...

KH: Ya, he just took a wagon and hauled these big rock, lime rock, piled on, oh they put logs, maybe four feet high, in the bottom, if I remember, then they pile the rocks all on top of that. Big pile of rocks and then you'd set it on fire. It'd cook this rock and turn it to lime; just white.

HF: Isn't that interesting. Well no we gotta, I think I got a, someway we got diverted here a little bit. I wanted to have you talk a little more about your outdoor life. Your experience in the mountains, do you recall any high adventure? Maybe you got lost sometimes...

KH: I sure did! When I was up on the Salmon River country, I had a neighbor used to live in a home there, Hyrum Calls, and he bought a ranch about 10 miles below Salmon city. We went out to his place to hunt deer. Then mountains are awful high in that country, boy, they'd go up there for miles. Well he took us way up there on the side of the hill up to a spring, a little creek, camped there, and then the next morning we split up and when I go hunting in the hills, I always keep a watch from the backward, get memorized, so I know where I'm going. Well, I went down this hill, went down kind of a slide rock across a creek and there was a big dead pine there with this slide creek and I thought well I get through hunting I'll just come down to this creek and walk down the

creek to this tree and then walk up to the camp, the camp would be up above. Well, the dog-gone creek, it ended!

HF: Were you alone?

KH : Ya, I was hunting alone then, well we got split up. Carlson, the guys we was out there with, we got split up, I was alone. And I hunted most of the day, and thought well its time, I guess I'd better get over to that creek and go down that creek to my pine tree so I can get back to camp. Well the creek had stopped! Quit, I didn't know it. I walked over, clean over, and got on another creek, never wondered at all. Well I didn't know of course, at that time, but I wandered down that creek, it was getting well in the afternoon. I got down and I began to get suspicious that something was wrong, because I should've been back to this old dead tree before that. Then I saw some smoke over on the side hill and I went over there to see who it was and it was the forest ranger. He was burning some slash, and I asked him, I said, "Where's that spring on diamond creek? We got camped on down on head of diamond creek." "Oh," he said, "that's over here a couple of miles south." And I said, "well if that's the case, I sure a lost cuz I thought I had gone the other way." "Oh," he said, "I'm going back to salmon a little while, you can follow me and I'll put you right." So we took off and I followed his horse, and followed it and followed it.

HF: You were afoot?

KH: Yes. Finally, I said, "I don't think you and I have got the same place in mind. I'm sure I'm walking away from camp." "Well," he said, "might be. I've only been here two weeks, come from Ashton." Why in the heck didn't you say so? You're lost worse than I am. So then I, there was only one thing to do. I had to walk down the canyon down towards the river to get my bearings...

HF: Now this would've been the middle fork of the Snake...

KH: No, it was the main Salmon.

HF: The main Salmon.

KH: Below Salmon city

HF: Okay

KH: So then I head down this hill, and walked down so I could get down to where I could see the valley, then I knew about where I was, so then I turned. Heck, I was a long ways from camp. I never got back till 11:00 at night! (Laughter)

HF: Carlson and the rest were out looking for you?

KH: Ya, well they was up there shootin, every now and then they'd shoot I hear the old wild go BOOM! But I run across an old batch, a lot of old men out there living alone them days, prospecting and trapping and things. I run across them about dark, they give me some supper, fixed my a lantern. They call them a ditch, take a gallon of fruit can and poke a hole in the side of it, then put a candle in there, then put a little wire loop so the can lays flat. You can make some pretty good lantern, put that candle in there, and then the little wire handle. He made me one of them, and I took off up the hill. I got into camp about 11:00 that night.

HF: That's, I guess, plain old ingenuity that come through necessity then?

KH: Well everybody. Miners used to make them a lot.

HF: That's interesting, well Karl, what was your favorite gun?

KH: 30 ought 6 rifle...twelve gage shotgun

HF: Twelve gage shotgun, well now on this same 30 ought 6 did you continue to use it for many, many years?

KH: Gosh yes. I've killed a lot of silly elk and deer with it, and antelope. I gave it to my grandson here last fall. It's just got plain sights on it and my eyes got to where I couldn't see that front side anymore. So, my grandson, he likes to hunt, so I gave it to him.

HF: What's the effective range of that gun?

KH: Oh gosh, I dunno. Mile or two...

HF: Is that right? But you surely got a lot of deer and elk with it.

KH: I dunno, I must have killed at least a hundred deer and probably more.

HF: Is that right?

KH: I never killed so often any elk.

HF: How about moose?

KH: Never did get a moose for me. I tried to, but you gotta have mitt...

HF: I see. Did you ever kill a bear?

KH: I had one chance, but I didn't want to. I don't want to kill something if I can't use it. And I didn't want a bear.

HF: I see. I like your philosophy there, don't want kill anything unless you can use it.

KH: No, I don't wanna kill stuff. If I kill something I've got some reason to kill it.

HF: What would you do with the hides of your deer?

KH: Oh we'd usually sell them, take them in. Somebody would come along, some hide buyer or something, I got two or three hanging down there in the shed now that my son-in-law killed it last... I got up this fall to hunt deer, down up to the, oh next to the Utah line, down there around Rockford, in that country, there's lots of deer.

HF: Oh, ok, Cache County.

KH: But you have to have a mitt, I bought a mitt this year.

HF: Now, when you and your fellows, fellow, hunters would go out for a week at a time, what did you take, some pack horses to take some of your food back in?

KH: No, we'd usually camp, take horses and wagon usually, and go as far as they could and then camp there.

HF: You wouldn't ever hunt with a horse then?

KH: No, oh a little, not very much. I had some friends in Swan Valley, we was up to see them day before yesterday, they, Weeks boys, Sam Weeks, big sheep man up there, had a lot of sheep. They had a lot of pack horses, in the fall when they'd come in that range is awful rough up there and they have to use pack horses all summer with their sheep, they can't get vehicles to them. And when they brought the sheep down, they'd have these horses there in the pasture, I'd go up and hunt with them every fall, and we'd take pack back in, the pack horses, up there in that palisade country up above palisade lake, next to the wild moon line. I brought lots of elk out of there years ago. We always get our elk.

HF: One elk per family I suppose?

KH: Ya, we'd get one.

HF: How did you manage to cure it? Was it quite a procedure?

KH: Oh, lets see. Late in the fall we'd just bring it down and cut it up. In the later years we'd have boxes and freezers, you know, in town, put it in freezers. Now, we got our own freezer now, we just put it in. Cut it up and put it in the freezers.

HF: Now, in time, of course, you turned the farm over maybe, to your boys?

KH: And sold the farm ya. I had one boy, and he was, airplane foolish. He works at Juno, Alaska now. He's an airplane specialist up there for the Forest Service.

HF: Now you commented the other day that I guess this boy induced you to come to Alaska?

KH: Ya, they want us to come up there and see them.

HF: Tell us, tell me a little about your experience up there. Did you go with him Merinda?

MH: Yes

HF: Tell us a little about your experience.

KH: Well, our son in law and daughter, they got a big Winnebago, one of those big 26 Winnebago, and the lived in the state of Washington, Warden. Well, we flew out to Spokane and they met us there at Spokane, then we took off from there and went up through Canada. Bob Coone, that's one of the Coone boys see, he's Morris's son, he bought a cattle ranch up way back up in the Burnes Lake. Well, we was on the way to Prince Rupert, that's where we had to get on the ferry, so we stopped over at his place three days. He got a nice place there, got a little saw mill, got a lot of range, but not enough, can't put up enough hay, it's a long winters. He can't raise too many cattle because he can't raise the hay for them. Then we went from there over to Prince Rupert and got on the ferry, we had reservations, you have to get them in June to be sure to have them. They had reservations we but the Winnebago on at Prince Rupert at 8:00 in the morning and we got to Juno at 8:00 in the next morning, it's 24 hours on the ferry.

HF: Following the coastline?

KH: Ya, well, it's a big channel. Big mountain range, Juno's about 100 miles from the main ocean, real ocean, but its all just mountain range and every canyon's full of water. Just peaks sticking up everywhere, its' what you call inland passage. Just a big channel, maybe a mile wide or half a mile wide, and there's towns along the edge of these channels. There's Ketchikan and...

MH: Rangle

KH: Rangle and Peachburg and all them towns just sticking along the side hills, you know. They have saw mills and canneries, fish canneries and saw mills. We got up to Juno, and he's got a nice home there, and...

HF: Now that's the capital isn't it?

KH: Ya, that's the capitol of Alaska. Alaska, there's about 18,000 people there in Juno. They haven't got any saw mills or any fish canneries I don't know why, but they hadn't. They had other town heads. I ask them, I said, "How do people make a living?" He said, "Oh, they all work for the government." One way or another. You know, it's the state capitol and there's a lot of states people there, and that's the main office of the Forest

Service for Alaska and they got a lot of help there. All he does is inspect planes, they don't, Forest Service don't own their own planes, they hire them.

MH: They only got 50 miles of road there in Juno. They either go by plane or boat.

KH: You can't get in there by road. Anyway, he has to inspect, any plane that they use he's got to inspect them and ok them, he worked for Morrison Cadunesburg years and years, and he has to okay them before they'll hire them. They was having too many wrecks. People get careless and they wouldn't keep their planes up.

MH: Mendenhal Glacier, have you heard of that?

HF: Uh-huh, I think I have.

MH: We could see that from our son's house.

HF: I see, oh did they take you for a plane ride over the area?

KH: No, no we fished all the time. Well, one day we traveled around, went up to the Mendenhal glacier and, there's a little catholic church up there on the point there a great, runs out into the bay, and there's a great big pine tree, oh there's three, four foot through; some catholic priest, he built a chapel in there. Beautiful place, and he died and they buried him under the altar. He's buried inside under the altar. I don't guess that they would use it for church anymore, but its quite a site seeing place.

MH: Now, sight seeing for people.

KH: It's a beautiful place.

HF: Did a lot of fishing while you were up there? In the passageway?

KH: Ya, he's got a boat there. 20 foot boat. Oh it would eat and sleep 2 people in there if he wants to.

HF: The Salmon I guess are running about this time aren't they?

KH: Ya, well the Kings are quitting now, but the Silver's are running, they're smaller.

MH: Karl caught three salmon one day.

HF: And what size were those Karl?

KH: Oh from 12-18 pounds in silvers.

HF: Gee.

KH: I had to laugh, my son-in-law, he got a quite a big one when we first had started to fish. Well, we had one, his wife had caught one and then he caught one, we weighed it and it weighed 17 ½ pounds. It's an inboard motor, and its got a flat, place a lot like this over the engine you know (pounds the table) and we'd lay the fish on there, and then they'd hit it on the head with a hammer to kill it, then they'd hang it over the side on a rope. Then he hit it on the head and it bled pretty bad, so my son put his thumb in the gills and was gonna wash it, and they give it to him....twisted out of his hand (laughter) lost it.

HF: Oh

MH: Got away

KH: My son-in-law said, "I didn't think you were do doggone jealous that you'd turn my fish loose just cuz you ain't caught one." (Laughter) Then I got a great big one, it was, I guess maybe it was, some said it was a King, I don't know. Silvers they fight on top up out of the water and shake their heads and fall back in. This King, he just took off, had a big real with a lot of line on it, you set your break so that he can pull it out if he has to, drag you call it. He just kept going, my shoulder, I feel on it this one and its awful lame, it was hurting my shoulder and I told my son, I said, "Take it, that's hurting my shoulder too bad." So he took the pole. This fish was out there, oh, hundred yards I guess still goin'. Another fishing boat didn't know it and went over our line and cut the line off. Never got to see him though. He was a big fish, couldn't hold him, finally would've done.

HF: Well, I guess you can't tell any stories like that down here fishing from the Snake River can you?

KH: It was a wonderful trip. Then we left Juno and went up to Skagway, that's the end of the water, the water quits right there, there's a big lead and silver mine there, owned by the Canadian government or somebody, got a railroad to haul the ore out. Used to have to put your vehicle on a flat car and haul it up to White Horse, but this last summer they've built a road up over the hill from Skagway over to the Alaskan Highway, forty miles.

MH: Alkan

KH: It's high, boy that's high. We got up in the clouds, I'd like to have saw it, couldn't see nothing we got up so high.

HF: The road is that high?

KH: Ya. You could see the clouds up there, above timberline, and we got up there and it was just a narrow ridge it looked like. You'd look down that way and you couldn't see nothing, you could look down that way and you couldn't see anything. We was just followed a ridge there for a little while.

MH: Just fog, fog below us.

KH: Fog, those clouds were. And got, tried to drop down pretty quick, then we dropped down out of the...but I bet that was wonderful scenery, they told us it was, but you couldn't see it on account of the clouds. Then we got over to the Alaska highway, the Elkan highway and went all down through those Canadian parks, beautiful country.

HF: Is this the best trip you ever took?

KH: Ya, this one, in our whole life, ya. I dunno, I guess it was, the size of it.

HF: Well Karl, I know that you have been a community man; Mr. Wilding has indicated that you have been a very good community man, serving on school boards and things of this nature.

KH: Ya.

HF: Tell me a little about your experience in that line.

KH: If we hadn't of changed the districts, I'd have give 'em all eight of our children their diploma's, eighth grade diploma, but I give six of them. I was trustee for 22 years, chairman of the board.

HF: Now that's the Union? Lyman, Union?

KH: Ya.

MH: Not Lyman, just Union

KH: It was just Union then, and then we consolidated into one district. Then I was on the board three years up here. Rexburg, on the...

HF: For the whole Madison County?

KH: Ya, for the whole Madison County, well, all this end of it.

HF: At least the school district 321?

KH: 321, ya. I was on that for three years.

HF: Have you been mixed up in politics at all?

KH: Oh, I was committee one for years. I was always a good strong Republican. Well I always figured that I would devote a certain amount of my time to the public, I never had a paying job in my life!

HF: Didn't you?

KH: No!

HF: Never got a penny

KH: Well just, I was on the water board, I'd get a little money, I was president of the canal company for years.

HF: Which canal company was that?

KH: Liberty Park

HF: Liberty Park, now that brings water out of...

KH: South fork of the Snake

HF: South fork, and brings it over into

KH: Independence country, all down through there. I was president on that and then I was director, then I was secretary, and one thing, oh, you'd get a little money, not very much. Cuz you didn't work very much, just times you know? Outside of that, I never got paid cash! When they built the, I was on the board when they built this gymnasium down here and high school.

HF: Over here on West Main? Where the Washington School is?

KH: Ya. I put a lot of gas, and a lot of time. Every week we'd have to come up a meet, you know you have more or less trouble with the contractors and one thing.

HF: Let's see, the Superintendent at that time was, let's see Mr. Catmole? George?

KH: Ya, umm-hmm

HF: He was your general superintendent?

KH: Ya. Yup. He was a good man too, I thought.

HF: Yes, I did too.

KH: I don't know if he was too much the teacher, but he sure kept the books up good, the finance part of it. He was really a wizard on that. He just had everything the tip of his fingers right now.

HF: Well that's wonderful. That's wonderful. Well I note that you've served well and somebody has indicated that behind every successful man or to the side of every successful man, is a woman, usually the wife.

KH: Yup!

HF: And I'm sure that Merinda has played that part. Merinda as we close, now you've commented, you and your husband, you had eight children?

MH: Yes.

HF: Are any of those still living in this area?

MH: Oh, there's four daughters living right here. One in Shelly, and one in Idaho Falls, one in Rigby, and one at Thornton, that is Independence Thornton. Mrs. Freeman, Dawn Freeman.

HF: I see.

MH: And the rest, one is living in Prosier, Washington, and one in Warden, Washington. And then Ned, that's our only son, he lives at Juno, Alaska.

KH: We lost a boy in the war, after the war. The war was over, but he joined a bomb disposal squad. He said he got so tired of settin' round, he had to volunteer to destroy Jap bombs and things.

MH: He was over to Korea

KH: He was in Korea at the time, when it blew up and killed six of them all at once.

HF: Well I have observed the very fine attitude that you people seem to have. A very positive attitude that you have enjoyed living in Madison County.

KH: Ya, we've got no regrets. We've had a good life, hasn't been very exciting, but you know, we got along fine and never had too many financial worries...

MH: Well, we've had sixty years being married.

HF: This picture here that you've given me shows that this picture was taken in conjunction with your sixtieth anniversary.

KH: Yup

HF: Did you have all of your children home?

KH: Ya, every one of them. The fact of the matter, we only had one granddaughter that wasn't there, of all of our family...and we've got a lot of kids and grandchildren and great-grandchildren. There was just one out of the whole bunch that wasn't there.

MH: All the grandchildren all the great-grandchildren

KH: 71 was there. Come from Alaska, South Carolina, California, Utah

HF: Isn't that wonderful. Now lets see you spell your name HORNE, with that E on it which is significant.

KH: Use a K on the...See German's, Karl they spelt with a K and the Swedes spell it with a C.

HF: I see.

KH: At least that's what I've been told anyway.

HF: Well I, I want to tell ya that I have appreciated this interview very much, and I hope that, I'm sure that you feel good about sharing this with us.

KH: Ya. I'm glad to help any way I can. The children, they want to get a tape and have me recite a lot of this stuff for them, but I never, I haven't done it yet.

MH: In that anniversary we had in the afternoon, we had open house from 3:00 o'clock to 6:00 o'clock, and we really had a lot of friends come and call on us that afternoon.

HF: Well that's really wonderful.

HF: The master of the foregoing taped interview is with the Upper Snake River Valley Historical Society Library, located on N. Center, Rexburg, Idaho. Copies of the tape may be secured for a charge of \$5 for each copy mailed to the one making the request, thank you.