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George Peck Moran

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ORAL HISTORY

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DATE 6-10-84 G. F. Moran
(Signature - Interviewee)

412-13th St
(Address)
Huntington, W. Va.

DATE 6-10-84 Wallace R. Stowers
(Signature - Witness)

GEORGE F. MORAN
TAPE 1
6-10-84

GEORGE "PECK" MORAN

Mr. Moran discusses the Huntington Police Department, different uniforms, the denomination of the mayor and commissioners, Sam Davis, the first patrol wagon and treatment of prisoners. He also talks about various people he's known throughout the community of Huntington, their jobs held and different businesses in Huntington. Such people mentioned were the Birkes, the Buffingtons, the Ritters and the Rosses'. He speaks briefly about the hangings in Ritter Park, the saloons of the red light district and wrestling matches and circuses that used to come to town. He concludes with the names of buildings that are still standing and their current occupants.

**(Note: Interviewers questions/comments are in bold face.
Interviewees replies/comments are in italics.)**

I'm here with George F. Moran, of 412 Thirteenth Street, Huntington, West Virginia. Interviewed June 10, 1984, by Wallace R. Stowers of Marshall University.

There's a couple of houses in the frame row up there.

The brick row was where?

Up between. . . I think it was between maybe about 23rd and 24th Street. And the brick row was in there too. They were both in there at the same place.

Well, the brick row, who owned that?

The C & O Railroad. Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad owned that.

Was it part of their shops or part of. . .

No, it was houses and they rented 'em to their employees. See, when they moved up there [static/interference from microphone being re-positioned] shops up there, they had a. . . they had a. . . there wasn't very much housing up there. That was all vacant up through there. You know, they had furnished houses for a lot of their employees. When my mother and father got married they lived in the frame row. You know I was telling you the other day when the guy came up and got my dad to go down and [inaudible]? (Yeah) Well, they lived in the frame row then.

Frame row, where was that?

It was right next to the brick row. It was all in a brick row and a frame row. Belonged to the C & O. It was on the south side of the street. I think it was between about 22nd and 24th Street.

That was frame row?

Yeah, frame row and the brick row.

Well, frame row, what direction was the frame row and brick row? Was it south, north, east or. . .?

No, let's see, I think. . . I don't know which. . . which one. . . . If she'd go up there and look at 'em, she could tell which one was first.

This [inaudible]?

I remember Bob Beardsley, but I don't remember any row about him.

Did he own several houses?

I don't know. They were just rows of houses. Now the Buffington row, let's see where that was. I think that's on Buffington Avenue. See there's a Buffington Street and a Buffington Avenue in Huntington. There's a Buffington Street in Guyandotte. Buffington Avenue between 6th and 7th Avenue back of the, that hospital up there.

You mean St. Mary's?

No, that hospital on 6th Avenue. Marshall students go there now. (Oh, yeah) That used to be the C & O Hospital. (Mmmh) C & O owned that. Not C & O, but the employees. They put in I think a quarter a month, everybody did, it was something like that, or they took it out of their pay to uh. . . . And if one of 'em would get sick or something, it didn't cost 'em anything. And if the children got sick or something, or their wives, it was half price.

Buffington row was back in there.

I think it was back in there.

Behind the hospital? (Uh-huh) That would be south of the hospital?

Yeah, back in the alley. Just like this alley here going east to west.

How about this, Birkes row?

I remember the Birkes, but I don't remember any row they had.

The Birkes, did they live in Huntington?

Yeah, the Birkes, I know Helen Birkes Well, the old, Henry Birke was one of the oh, I think he was one of the first marshals here in Huntington. Who they appointed a policeman. Have you got him in there any place?

Uh, not. . . what was he? From Huntington or Guyandotte or. . . ?

No, he was from Huntington. Guyandotte was a different town then, when all this was.

What about [inaudible]?

That was between 10th and 11th Street on 3rd Avenue on that side. They tore that house, they tore that down. There used to be one of the buildings over there. It had, on a stone over the window said 'Love Block' on it. And I know Mother, when she'd want to buy something up in there, you know, at one of the stores, she'd tell me go up to the love block. [chuckling]

The entire block was called love block? (Yeah, between 10th and 11th) You know who it was named after?

I don't know what Love it was named after. But uh, they might have been some relation to where the Love Hardware store is.

Yeah, C.M. Love or something. . . .

Yeah, C.M. Love. [inaudible] Where in the world would that be? Up there between 15th and 16th Street on that side of the street, just this side of the railroad, there used to be kind of a park in there. (A park?) Oh, kind of picnic grounds.

City or private or. . . ?

No, I guess it belongs to the city. I believe it belongs to C & O. The owned all that property, you know, from 6th Avenue over past the [inaudible] where the trains go down. They owned all of that. I think. . . I don't know whether they did or not. I know Kemper Shelton, I knew the Sheltons. (Sheltons?) Sheltons, they lived right on the corner down here at 12th Street. There's a parking lot right there now. I think a church uses it for a parking lot. Oh. . .

Oh, that big one [inaudible]?

No, down here on 12th Street. This is 13th. Down here on the corner like this, I think that building up there. It's uh, I guess you'd call it the southwestern corner. You know where the congregational church is, I mean, the Central Christian Church is, right across the street, that parking lot across the street there. Shelton's lived there. And this Kemper Shelton I was telling you about, oh, he played football at West Virginia University. He's the one I told you he was in Pittsburgh one time. And him and my wife's oldest brother played at Pittsburgh at the same time.

When was this that they played at Pittsburgh?

Oh. . . it must have been 1960.

Was the Shelton Addition

I always wondered if that was where old man Shelton, old Jewel Shelton, her daddy, he was in the real estate and insurance business. I knew him pretty well. He was a lot older than I was, but I. . . I knew him. And he knew me.

Was he kind of like a land developer? Or [inaudible]

I don't know. They might have just made a place and named it after him. Shelton [inaudible]. See, you're going way back when you talk about this. [inaudible] I think you'll find that Buffington row back behind that C & O Hospital up there. We called it the C & O, Marshall uses it now.

The medical school.

Yeah, Buffington Avenue runs from about 17th Street to 20th Street. It's just an alley. But it's called Buffington Avenue. Instead of an alley they called it an avenue.

The avenue on that side of 16th Street there, was short and kind of between an avenue and an alley. (Mmm-hmm) All that land originally, do you know who owned it? Was it the Buffington family or. . .?

Yeah, the Buffington family owned that where the hospital is.

That was part of the original. . . ?

Yeah, and they. . . my mother used to tell me when she was a little girl, when they moved to Huntington, Buffington, they still, some of the old slaves lived back in there.

Do you know, did they sell out or did they own part of this land that has filled the streets?

No, just about all died off. That was old Peter Clyde Buffington. Now old Peter Clyde Buffington, the old one, was the first mayor of Huntington. You know that don't you? You've got him down there. And young Pete and Buffington's, the last place I knew he lived between 27th and 28th on 3rd Avenue up there, on that side of the street. Third Avenue up here.

[inaudible reply]

That house is still, it was a resident. I know Buffington's all lived there til they all died off. Now uh, one of those Buffington's, that Buffington girl, let's see, Carol, what was her name? Carol Louise, she's married to a lawyer here in town, oh, his name is Porter. Now Carol Louise could tell you a lot, if you could get a hold of her. Carol Louise Porter. Let me see if I can find her address. I don't guess she ever, I don't guess she knows me. . . . [part of the tape here is blank] James O. Porter.

James-, and he lives at. . .

He lives at 306 Whitaker Square, it says here, wherever that is. That's a new one on me.

And. . .

His wife was Peter Clyde, Jr.'s daughter. That's the Peter Clyde that was the sheriff.

Peter Clyde, Jr. was the sheriff of Cabell County?

Yeah, he was the sheriff of Cabell County one time. He was [inaudible] he was . . . I guess he was sheriff along about 1916, '15 or '16, along in there.

Do you know how many terms did he serve?

One, I guess. See, they used to not let 'em serve but one term. Now they let 'em serve two.

Yeah, I know. You said he was in the insurance business? Did he have his own agency or. . . ? Work for some other. . . ?

I think he had his own agency. His address is-, or his phone number 529-6181, that's where his law office is, down there at 10th Street and 6th Avenue. Kind of caty-corned where the Guarantee National Bank parks their cars. You know down on the corner. And his residence is Whitaker Square. That's 529-, wait a minute. . . 529-4693. (4693?) Mmm-hmm. Now she could give you a lot of information if she would. I don't know whether. . . she's getting rather old. She might have died, I don't know. I leave town so much I can't keep up with those people.

That was 529-4693, right?

[reply inaudible] 529-4693 is where he lives. We used to call that Whitaker Boulevard. But they're calling it Whitaker Square here. I know he lives out there next door to a

[inaudible]. Let me see them pictures. [inaudible] It's above. . .

[reply inaudible]

It's above that Colonial bowling alley up there, same side of the street.

I don't know. . .8th Avenue?

Yeah, what do you call it? R & something poolroom. Well, what's those boys names? Two brothers run it. It's above there, up the street on that side. So is. . .

South side.

Mmm-hmm, so is the frame row. This one and this one, you connect them. I think you'll find a Buffington row back there up on Buffington Avenue, back of the hospital, between 17th and 20th Street, between 6th and 7th Avenue. I bought a house down there and it was called the Harvey Addition. Old man Harvey lived, old Judge Harvey lived over there and they named the whole addition after him.

Where did he live?

Who? Judge Harvey? Uh, 4th Street and Washington Avenue.

What was his name, Judge. . .? Do you know his first name?

Wait a minute, I used to know his name, but I've forgot it. I always called him Judge. He was a real old man when I was a kid. I know on one side of his yard down there he uh, raised onions and on the other side his wife raised tulips. [chuckling] And he chewed tobacco. Man, he could spit from here out that window. And he always wore a big gray hat and a gray suit like the Southern soldiers, you know. He always wore, liked the south. He was a southerner.

Did he fight in the civil war? Or do you know?

Well, now he was old enough. . . I guess. . .when I knew him.

Did he have a nickname or anything?

Uh-huh. I don't know. We just called him Judge Harvey. Well, I'll tell you where his home is. I'll tell you the house. You know down there on. . . on, it's called Washington Avenue now. You know where the Kiwanis have a day nursery? For kids. Working mothers bring their children up there. That's the house, right on the corner there.

I don't know whether it's Kiwanis.

Kiwanis or Rotary, one of those clubs.

[reply inaudible]

Working mothers bring their kids up there while they work. And they took care of them, infants, you know.

The address, you know what the address will be?

Well, we'll just look it up. Where he lived, Kiwanis, Kiwanis Day Nursey, 71 Washington Avenue. (And that's where uh. . .) That's where Harvey's used to live, Judge Harvey used to live in there. That may be an old landmark or something. 71 Washington Avenue, and that phone is 525-8701.

Huh. Okay. You said check on Titus Row?

Titus Row, yeah. You know where the Prichard Hotel is-, was? It set there, right in there.

Was it company-owned houses or. . . ?

No, I think it belonged to old man Titus, a man named Titus, he owned it. Just like across the street, Dunbury had a row. Titus row was just like that. He had a big house [inaudible] where he lived and he had brick houses plumb back to the alley. It was there when, it was just tore down not long ago when they put the bus station up here.

Did it cover one side of the street or go around to. . . ?

No, it just went. . . see where the bus station is? (WS: Right) It runs from there down to the alley, just like the. . . . And the Dusenbury row, I mean, not the Dusenbury row, but the Titus row, went the same thing on 9th Street, 6th Avenue. You know where the Prichard Building is? (WS: Right) Right there. They tore it down and put up the Prichard.

The Prichard was still on Titus row.

Titus row land, yeah.

Titus, was he an old family here in Huntington?

Oh, yeah, Harold Titus and Lloyd Titus. They later moved up on 5th Avenue up there.

Had their family lived here before [inaudible]?

I don't know how long they lived here. They was, those Titus boys was running around with my brothers when, when I woke up out of the crib. [chuckling] But you might check that out, find out about that. But see, the buildings are gone, that's the thing. Only thing there is the land.

Do you know where they worked or what they did?

I think Mr. Titus was a C & O man. Now, Lloyd worked for the American Car and Foundry, and Harold was in charge of the pattern shop of American Car and Foundry. You know, they made patterns, then they made a mold, molded wheels and stuff like that. Yeah, that's what he did.

Was it American Car and Foundry then, or was it called Insign?

Inside shops. And Harold worked, after that, he worked for American Car.

After it-, Insign became American Car?

Mmm-hmm.

When did Insign become American Car, do you know? What date?

No, I think. . . I think. . .who was it? I think General Motors bought 'em out, bought Insign Shops out. Now, Insigns lived where the Burger Chef is over here. You know where the Burger Chef is?

Right, on Third Avenue.

Insigns home. . . . That used to be the Gold Coast. (WS: The Gold Coast?) Yeah. All the millionaires in Huntington lived there.

Where did this Gold Coast run from, do you know?

It ran from oh, about 11th Street up to about 16th, on that side of the street.

On, on what side of 3rd Avenue? Gold Coast. . . what. . .?

We called it that. Cause all the people that had a lot of money lived there. Then they all moved on 5th Avenue. And then after they moved out of there, they all scattered over on the south side, out in Park Hills and places.

Was there another name for this Gold Coast?

No, just 3rd Avenue over there.

Was it only a nickname?

eah, we called it the Gold Coast. Because all the money people lived there.

I heard of some place people called Quality Ridge. Where is that?

I don't know where that was. I never heard of that. Someone made that up.

Only saw one place. . . the Gold Coast?

Yeah, they called it the Gold Coast.

Mmmh.

I know who all lived over there. I remember Insigns lived over there, and a family named Nye lived over there. [inaudible] used to play around our house all the time. And he was older than I was. Johnsons moved over there. They moved to Lexington. They were lumber people. And let's see. . . I think Northcotts lived over there. Some relation, Ellie Northcott. Lives up on Ohio River Road up there.

There's a building on Marshall campus named after. . .

Yeah, it was named after those Northcotts, yeah.

Was he uh . . .

I think Mr. Northcott was J.W. Northcott. And he owned a, he owned a Northcott store down here and had a, he used to, had about 15 or 20 taylors working for him and he used to make custom made suits.

WS: Pretty good sized store then.

Oh, yeah, he had a bunch of taylors that worked up there. And then, that's . . . that's been lately when he broke up.

Have you heard of a man named Elliott Northcott? Do you know anything about him?

I think he was. . .he lived up Lesage up there. And uh, he was a judge in the U.S. Court, Elliott Northcott. He lived up around Lesage some place, up at Northcott Farm.

Beyond Guyandotte you mean?

Oh, yeah, on up that Ohio River Road. And then the Jacobs Farm was up there, too.

Was there a Northcott who was appointed to some sort of office by President Teddy Roosevelt?

I guess that was him.

He was a judge. . . .

Yeah, he was a judge. That was Elliott Northcott. I think there's an Elliott, Junior around here some place. Maybe. I know the one we called Flat. (WS: Flat?) Flat Northcott. He was a big fat one that used to gamble all the time. I think he was a nephew.

Nephew of which Northcott?

Yeah, Northcott of some of them up there.

Did he have an old estate up there or a new estate?

Oh, it was a big, big place up there. I don't know who owns that now. It might have been busted up. They had horses and everything up there.

You mean like several hundred acres?

Oh, yeah, yeah, it was a big place, from the river out. You'd ever go up there and ask around, you'd find out. And he was, he was head of the U.S. marshal here.

That was Frank Tyree.

Yeah, and then later he was the sheriff down here. (WS: Of Cabell County) Yeah. But he was, he was one of Teddy Roosevelt's bodyguards.

How did he become Teddy Roosevelt's bodyguards, do you know? Who discovered who?

I don't know how he got it, but that's what he was.

Do you know how long he stayed a bodyguard?

A good while, I imagine.

More than 4 or 5 years?

Oh, I imagine he was up there about 4 or 5 years. And then he was appointed U.S. marshals through here. Went on up to catch the moonshiners and stuff. He had a big office in the post office building down here. You know, the old post office.

The old post office. At the corner of 5th Avenue and 9th Street, right?

Yeah. And I know when, they used to have the spoil system. You know what the spoil system is. Democrat gets that [inaudible] Sam Davis got canned as chief of police or lieutenant. Frank Tyree appointed him as chief uh, as chief field deputy. They used to go out and bring the moonshiners in, go out and catch 'em.

How did they go after 'em? Did they have other deputies working with them?

Oh, yeah, they used to. . . when they'd go out on a big catch, they would uh, deputize a bunch of these guys around town; they'd go out with 'em.

Did they actually volunteer or did they. . .

Oh, they'd go. [inaudible]

A little excitement huh?

Yeah.

Uh, Frank Tyree, do you know where his family's from?

Mmm-huh, I don't know. He had a boy named Harold.

Frank Tyree had a son named Harold?

Harold, yeah. I don't know what happened to Harold. I think Harold graduated up at Ohio University at Athens, Ohio, you know up there.

Do you happen to know what he studied?

I don't know nothing about him. He probably disappeared. I don't know where he went to.

So you didn't know Frank Tyree, where his family came from?

No, I don't know.

It's interesting to find out how he became the president's bodyguard.

Yeah, I don't know either. But he was Teddy Roosevelt's bodyguard. He was one of 'em. He had a bunch of 'em, you know.

Oh, he had more than one?

Oh, yeah, the president. Like Reagan has a whole outfit with him. This. . .

Secret servicemen.

Yeah, he was one of 'em. He worked for him.

Did Frank Tyree go, when Teddy Roosevelt went big game hunting, did Tyree go with him, or. . . ?

No, I wouldn't know that. I don't know whether he did or not, whether he went over in Africa and those places. You know what the African people decided to call Teddy Roosevelt? (WS: What's that?) His nickname, Boyanna [inaudible] (WS: What's that mean?) I don't know. [laughing] What's those African natives called Teddy Roosevelt. Boyanna [inaudible] I never will forget that name.

These old photographs here, this small one here, (GM: Mmm-hmm) do you know who that guy right there would be? The first one on the left in the first row? Do you recognize him?

Let me get my glasses, spy class here. Where is it?

Which one was that?

That was the police judge. Old Judge [inaudible] yeah.

The man with the civilian?

Yeah, uh-huh. Oh, I know this one. That's Al Wallace. (WS: Where one's that?) Right here [pointing to a photo].

That would be number 13th. . . . Al Wallace?

Mmm-hmm. Oh, this one here was a patrol driver. Of course, he drove a patrol for years. He drove the patrol way up in 1912 or something. But this picture was taken, I suspect it was taken around 1900.

Do you know his name?

William Ray.

William Ray?

Mmm-hmm. And. . .uh-oh, here he is. I know who that is. That was Chief Dawson. That was the one before Ben Robinson. Ben Robinson came in about 19. . .

That's Chief Dawson?

Yeah. Yeah, I remember Al Wallace.

Do you know his full name?

Mmmm. [inaudible] Let's see. . . . That guy looks like Walter Peaco to me.

Which one is that?

This one. P-e-a-c-o, Peaco.

He was in that other. . . .

Oh, yeah, he was on the police force quite a few years.

Was he the one [inaudible] Walter Peaco, he done something before he joined the police force?

No, I don't know what he done before he joined the police force. I know he had a brother that was a bartender.

Bartender? (GM: Mmm-hmm) Do you know where he tended bar?

Oh, they worked at different [inaudible] different times.

In Huntington? Or Guyandotte?

Uh-huh, in Huntington. I don't know. [inaudible] Sam Davis. I believe that's Sam Davis when he was a police man. See, he got to chief of police, he got to be lieutenant and then the chief, got to be a lieutenant for Robinson, Robinson went in after him. And then he got to be a lieutenant and then he was chief of police.

That's young Sam Davis.

That's him.

About how old would you think he is, if you had to guess?

Twenty-three, twenty-four, he was a young one.

Huh.

Yeah, that's Walter Peaco there.

Do you know who this guy is? Right next to Chief Dawson?

Oh, I don't. But that's Sam Davis. That's the way he looked for every picture. Man, he'd stick that head up. No, I don't know who they. . . . They were a little bit before my time, except [inaudible] and Davis and Ray [inaudible] and Walter Peaco.

Mr. [inaudible name] was the uh, did he have duties and responsibilities as another police, policeman did, or just to drive? Could he arrest someone?

Oh, yeah, he was a policeman. But I mean, he had a horse, you know [inaudible]

Well, how did he get to be a [inaudible] driver? Did he flip a coin or. . . ?

No, I think the mayor appointed him or something.

He had to know horses and stuff, right?

Oh, yeah, they all had to know horses.

Did they uh, oh, was this a mounted police or. . . ?

No, no, they just, the patrol wagon, before they got an automobile for the patrol wagon, they had a horse. Just like the fire engine horse.

Oh, yeah. Well, how about the, they also, did they walk the beat?

Oh, yeah, they walked. Now when Ben Robinson got in, I think he was the guy that got two bicycles. He got them for his lieutenants.

Oh, one of them mentioned there was a Clanfield?

Yeah, Charlie Clanfield and Sam Davis. . . .

[END OF TAPE 1 - SIDE 1]

[BEGIN TAPE 1 - SIDE 2]

. . . . see, these guys. . . .

This guy, look familiar at all? Was his hat too low on his eyes or. . . ?

No, I don't recognize him. By golly, I think that's Hud Vernette. I think that's the one that hit the. . . maybe it's here. Let me see it. Oh, this picture was taken a long time ago. Oh, yeah.

How old do you think this one is?

Oh, I bet that one was taken in the 1890s.

Is that Mr. [inaudible name]?

Has to be. [inaudible] 1890. I know it was taken-, it was taken before my time.

Says Judge Potts. Can you recognize Judge Potts?

Let's see, that must have. . . yeah, that's him, that's the judge. Yeah, I remember he had a boy named Harry Potts. He's got a daughter lives here in town. He's got a granddaughter living in town, taught school. Helen Potts lives out on 5th Street and 7th Avenue. Her and I graduated-, her and I went to high school together.

Did she ever talk about him? (GM: No) What kind of guy he was or. . . ?

No. [inaudible] had that shoe company over on-, sold wholesale shoes, Perry Norville shoes, you know, by the car load.

You mean train car load or . . . ?

Yeah, that's how they used to sell shoes, by the car load. Up to the coal fields to the company stores, you know and stuff.

Big railroad cars. That's a lot of shoes. (GM: Yeah) Did he go out there and sell 'em? Or just [inaudible] orders or . . . ?

Oh, he had a salesman went out there.

Oh.

[reply inaudible] coal fields. Sell those company stores to the coal mines, mining companies owned stores. And they'd sell to them. But he always sold in big quantities.

Was the shoes made some place else or were they made around here?

Oh, these guys were brokers. They'd get 'em in and sell 'em. They probably just passed on through Huntington when they went out. I know old man [inaudible] oh uh, sold shoes. He was telling me he sold 'em by the car load. You know, John [inaudible name] that lawyer here in town. [inaudible] law company. His daddy sold shoes. He was a shoe salesman. I kind of recognize. . . .

You recognize any of these men?

Mmm-huh. If I recognized them . . .

[inaudible reply]

Oh, I don't know what he was doing. He was probably city clerk or the mayor or something. [chuckling]

Do you happen to know, have any idea who this youngest guy would be?

Uh-huh. There's old Judge Parks.

Uh, can you recognize the marshal? The marshal in this town would have been what? A fellow named Mitchell or something?

[inaudible reply]

[inaudible] Do you recognize one of these Mitchell's in here?

Uh-huh. I think those Mitchell's, he was a marshal, wasn't he? (WS: Both of them were) Some guy killed one of them, didn't he? (WS: Yeah) They hung him out there where Ritter Park is.

When they killed Ike Mitchell, they hung him?

Uh-huh, was it Mitchell or Turner? It was a Turner. . . .

There was a Scott Turner.

Scott Turner, yeah. Didn't he have a brother that got killed?

Oh, yeah. . . . [inaudible]

[inaudible reply]

They hung him in Ritter Park.

Yeah, they caught him up around Gallipolis, Ohio, brought him back here and hung him.

How'd they catch him, do you know?

I guess the authorities up there caught him.

You don't recognize. . . .

They never did find out who that man was. I know my mother told me they put him on a horse out there and told him to tell the horse to get up, and he said, "No, you tell him to get up."

The guy that was about to be hung?

Yeah, let the horse run out from under him, see. [laughing] No, wasn't no way. [inaudible] he was telling me about.

The old city hall?

Yeah.

That stood on the exact same spot. . . .

Now there's Sam Davis again. He was chief of police then. Here, I know who this. . . I know who this is. [inaudible] I know who he is. That's Bill Carson. He's the one I told you I phoned his wife about getting a helmet. (WS: Yeah) Now this here's Charlie Watts, 31 is Charlie Watts. He's Bill Carson's father-in-law.

He's his father-in-law?

Yeah. I wish this picture was plainer. I could tell you all them guys. Tom Harrison [inaudible] down here. Now he, he was the oldest policeman working a beat in the United States during the war. He was 83 years old.

And he had an active beat walking?

Yeah, in the market house down here, in the market house.

Market house down on. . .

When it was down on 7th Street and 3rd Avenue, before they moved up to where they are now. Yeah, that's W.W. King.

Do you know where his family. . .are they from Huntington?

Salt Rock.

Salt Rock.

Salt Rock, West Virginia. That's where he's from. There's Tom Harrison, there's Tom Blake, Joe Messinger, Charlie Clingenfield and me. That's Clingenfield right there. That's Sam Davis. [WS inaudible reply] That's Clingenfield, yeah. . .and that's me here and that's Sam Davis. Here's Arthur Hunt. And Romey Newman. And Oscar Christian. [inaudible first name] Harold. (Which one's that?) With his chin stuck up. We called him Jocko. He looked like a monkey. (WS: [name inaudible] Harold) [inaudible name] Harold. Let's see this baby on the end here. Let me see that glass again. One here's kind of got me baffled. He might have not. . . .

Who did you say this guy was?

Who? This? [pointing to a man in the picture] (Yeah, the third one there) Frank Lee.

And the guy next to him.

That was Joe Messinger.

That's Joe Messinger. Oh, remember he's the one. . . . [inaudible] big photo, make copies of.

He's [inaudible]

He's the one that said, "You're under arrest."

He was wild, yeah. He put the club to 'em. Romey Newman, Oscar Christian (Need your magnifying glass?) I can't tell who this is. Oh! I think his name was Zimmerman. (Zimmerman?) Yeah. I believe that's him. Put it down there and put a question mark there, if I run by it again. Let' see. . . . Mmmh, that's a patrol driver there, Brooks McClure. (Brooks McClure?) And Tom Patterson.

The next guy's Tom Patterson?

Tom Patterson next to Brooks McClure. Let's see, now wait a minute. Some of these guys. . . a long time ago. I remember their names-, I mean, their faces, but hard to remember their names. John Cox. (Which one's John Cox?) Right here. (That guy right there?) Mmm-hmm.

John Cox. C-o-x?

C-o-x. And the one this way's George Bowman, B-o-w-m-a-n.

George-, I've heard that name somewhere. Did he rise up, get high rank in the police department?

No, he. . . he stayed a policeman all the time. This one here's Lon Whitman. He wrestled [inaudible name] Louis one time for the heavy weight championship. [inaudible] that worked at the glass house was Driscoll that fought for the heavy weight championship boxing. This guy wrestled for it. He's stronger than a bull. He could whip, when they got their first patrol wagon with a [inaudible] car.

[inaudible] car?

Uh-huh, it was an automobile. It was the name of the car, [inaudible] car. Like a Ford. And he bet somebody a dollar he could lift it. He went out and grabbed the back end of it and pushed it up in the air. [laughing]

How high did he lift?

About none high.

How much would you say he weighed?

Mmh, about, I'd say he went 250.

Muscle type.

Yeah. He had the strongest looking legs I ever saw.

Who won that?

He lost. Frank Louis was the heavy weight champion of the world. [inaudible]

Did he beat him real bad or. . . ?

No, he just won two falls. I know one time he got his famous, he's supposed to have a famous headlock. [inaudible] busted skulls. He wrestled down there in the oh, the old Huntington theater building.

Which is the present Bazaar.

Bazaar, yeah. And he, he got his arm wrapped around Lon's head. Lon came up out of there and grabbed him like this. [inaudible]

Did it work?

Yeah, it got him loose. But he finally, Lon give out of wind. Lon wasn't in good training like he was.

WS: How many people watched this? Was. . . ?

GM: Oh, I don't know. Maybe a hundred or something like that. I don't know how many people watched it. Wrestling didn't take then like it does now. It wasn't syndicated, you know, like it is now. It's a racket now. They're on the circuit, you know.

WS: This Lon Whitman, is he the same one who later got high office?

GM: No, he, Lon. . . Lon went to work at, quit the police force. Oh, he was chief of police here one time. (That's what I was thinking) I show you that card? (Yeah) That's Lon.

He was chief in. . . .

Oh, about '45.

He was a police officer when he wrestled [inaudible name] Louis?

Yeah, he was on the police force.

And then later he quit the police force and then he came back?

Yeah, he quit the police force and went to work for his brother. His brother ran this C.I. Whitten Transfer Company. They hauled dynamite for DuPont. And he, uh, he told me that the brakes failed on a load of T N T he had, and when he finally got it stopped, he got out and went back on the police force. [chuckling]

When was this, do you know?

I don't know how long ago that was. It was not too long. It was, he was on the police. . . he got to be chief of police along about 1945, along in there.

Did he come straight from hauling dynamite to be chief of police, or did he . . . ?

Oh, I think he might have went on the force or something. He quit hauling dynamite and the next thing I know he was chief of police. Uh, let's see. . . . There's Tom Patterson. (Which one's that?) Right here. (Oh, yeah.. .) This is George Stark.

George Stark, that's number [inaudible] George, S-t-a-r-k?

Mmm-hmm. Now here's this Peaco I was telling you about, Walter Peaco. And here's uh. . . .

Do you know where Walter Peaco would have came from? Was he. . . ?

Uh, they owned an old landmark down here on the river, about 4th Street. I think they came from New Orleans. They was Spaniards. Hispanic descent, yeah. He had two brothers, Lyle and [inaudible name]. And Lyle. . . Lyle retired from the fire department. And [inaudible name] used to be a bartender and he drank himself to death. He got on a big drunk and didn't get over it. Here's Charlie Dillon with Teddy Roosevelt.

Charlie. . . did you know his first name?

Charlie, Charlie Dillon.

I mean. . . .

Nickname and everything? (Yeah) No.

[inaudible reply]

his guy here is uh, his name's Caldwell, and he's still living. And he raises bloodhounds up here on Ohio River Road. He's real old now. He quit the police force and was game warden. You know, game warden.

And his first name?

Well, we called him Bub.

That's what I was thinking. [inaudible]

It may be here. Wait a minute, here's one. . . . I know this one, Alvie Melrose. (Which one?) This one right here's not so plain.

Alvie or Alvin?

A-l-v-a, Alva.

Melrose?

M-e-l-r-o-s-e, yeah. And here's Ed Spencer. . .right there, Ed Spencer.

Was it Ed, Edward or just. . .

Ed we called him. I guess it was Edward Spencer. Here's Frank Simpson. Right here. We called him Paddle Foot. Boy, he had feet on him.

He was called Paddle Foot because he had big feet?

His nickname was Paddle. Let's see now. . . . Some of these guys had their hats pulled down low. Here was Alpha Porter. (Alpha Porter?) He was, he was. . . later he became chief of police.

Do you know when he was chief? What decade or anything?

He was around 1925, somewhere along in there. And this is Jess Snyder.

He's kind of young looking.

He drove the patrol wagon. He drove the patrol wagon, him and Brooks McClure.

Jess Snyder. Do you know how that's spelled?

Yeah, Snyder.

You say he drove the patrol wagon?

Yeah, him and Brooks McClure drove the patrol wagon.

Did they all [inaudible] shifts? (Huh?) Did they also [inaudible]

Yeah, 12 hours. The police worked 12 hours then too.

Twelve hours. Was it a day?

A day, that was a shift, six in the morning til six at night and six at night til six in the morning. . . seven days a week.

Seven days a week.

Sixty dollars a month. Now, wait a minute. . . . [inaudible]. Wait a minute now, wait a minute. I couldn't see this guy here so good. This is Virgil Saunders.

The one standing right there?

Yeah, with the cap on.

Virgil. . . ?

Saunders, S-a-u-n-d-e-r-s. And Jack Stephenson. (Right next to him?) Mmm-hmm. Now wait a minute.

Stephenson or Stevenson?

S-t-e-p-h-e-n-s-o-n, I guess. One of these guys, wait a minute now. Let me think a minute about who this baby is. I told you this was George Stark but it isn't George Stark. What is this guy's name here?

That's George Stark.

George Stark, yeah. Now I wonder who this baby is. [still looking at photos] I think that boy's name was McCallister, I'm not sure. I give you that Caldwell, didn't I? Next to Bill Carson.

Bub Caldwell?

I give you him?

Number 18. You said this was. . . you said that was Bub Caldwell?

No, [inaudible]. No! No! I know who this is. Wayne Clark. Wayne Clark. W-a-y-n-e, C-l-a-r-k.

This guy right here?

Yeah, this one.

Yeah, 18. . .18 is Wayne Clark? (Mmm-hmm) Instead of Bub Caldwell, Wayne Clark. Where's Bub Caldwell then?

Wait a minute. There's Bub. (Right there?) [pointing to a photo] Yeah, next to Bill Carson.

This right here's Bub Caldwell?

Yeah, he looks a lot different. And then it's Carson and Watts. . . Carson and Watts. Did I tell you who this was?

Mmh, that man? (Yeah) No.

John Davis. [inaudible] And this is John Cox. (Wait a minute) Then comes George Bowman.

Who's this?

John Cox. And George Bowman. And Lon Whitman. You got 'em in that order? That's the back row.

Oh. Well, who was. . .this fellow here?

Wait a minute, wait a minute. I know. . . this one here. You want him? (Yeah) Walter McCallister.

Walter, Walter?

Yeah, Walter McCallister.

Did he have any brothers or anything on the police force?

No, uh-huh. I wish that picture was a little lighter. But that's Walter all right. And that's Bub Caldwell. There's Walter McCallister, Bub Caldwell, Bill Carson, Charlie Watts, John Davis, John Cox, George Bowman and Lon Whitman. Oh, this guy here, I know who he is. [inaudible] Yeah (Sixteen) Julius May. J-u-l-i-u-s, Mayes.

Julius . . . ?

Mmm-hmm, Mayes (M-a-?) -y-e-s. He's next to Charlie Dillon. You got him?

I got Charlie Dillon.

Julius Mayes is next to him.

Let's see, I got. . . .

I guess we got about all of them now, haven't we? You got Ed Spencer, didn't you?

WS: I got him.

Next to Paddle Foot Simpson. Between Paddle Foot Simpson and uh . . .

Nineteen. . . (This one?) Yeah.

et me look at 'em. By golly, I wonder who he was. Let's see, let's see. . . oh, that's Hud Vernatte.

That's A. Hud Vernatte?

Yeah. That's Hud Vernatte there.

Would he have been a lieutenant or a sergeant?

No, he got later. . . he retired as detective with the force down there.

When he retired as a detective, what rank was he?

Just a regular investigator.

Would it have been a lieutenant, captain or . . . ?

No, they just called them, just called them a detective. He didn't wear a uniform.

He's the one that [inaudible]

He run, he run into a taxicab with horses down on, you know where. . . you know where Roger's Jewelry store is on the corner? Yeah, right there.

Fourth Avenue and 9th Street?

Yeah. He got all cut up.

When he rode his bicycle, did he always ride fast?

No, he had a bicycle. . . I don't know what he was doing with it. He was coming down 9th Street from City Hall. City Hall was here, right down here on the corner was [inaudible name] Drug Store then. And uh, you know where [inaudible name] Drug Store is. And he turned the corner there and a taxicab with horses was parked there, waiting for a call or something and he run into him. I think it was about 2 o'clock in the morning.

What part did he hit? The cab or the horses?

I think he hit the wheels. [laughing] Now wait a minute. There's another guy here we ought to find.

Yeah, he's number 15, you said was George Stark.

Now wait a minute. We ought to find. . . . This is Oscar Christian here. You got him, didn't you? (I got Oscar) Next to uh . . . [inaudible] and then old man Zimmerman.

Uh, Zimmerman, you know his full name?

No. I know he had a boy who was pretty good, [inaudible] baseball pitcher. The boy's name was Oscar. I don't know what the old man's name was. But his boy worked out there at that pottery, you know, H. R. Wiley Pottery Company, Oscar did.

Oh, Oscar, the son of, . . .

Yeah, he worked out there. And then he went to work at C & O. And when C & O had a baseball team, my brother was a, was manager, well, he wasn't manger. He was the captain. He caught for the C & O team. And uh, Oscar pitched.

Huh. Did he ever play with. . . ?

I think he went to some minor league, I don't know.

The Mountain State league, was that a minor league or. . . ?

Yeah, it was a minor league. It was almost home talent.

[inaudible reply] You recognize this fellow?

I'm trying to figure him out. Let me run across 'em here again. [inaudible] who I'm looking for. This one and this one and this one were bachelors. They never did get married.

Which ones now?

Melrose and Spencer and Paddle Foot Simpson, they never got married. Some of them guys had trades and then they got on the police force.

Had trades, you mean skilled trades?

Oh, yeah. Some of 'em were painters and some of 'em were machinists and. . . .

Well, why'd they join the police force? Was it unemployment or something or. . . ?

No, I guess they just liked to be policemen. Let's see here. This guy here, I don't think he ever did [inaudible]. He ended up, him and Julius Mayes, let's see, where's Julius' picture over here? Here's Julius. Him and Romey Newman, they ended up as investigators for the police.

Where's Mayes?

Julius. You got John Davis and John Cox, didn't you?

Uh, right, I got those.

You got the right number?

Yeah, definitely. [inaudible-talking under his breath]

Uh, I know who this guy was. Got his number? (Fifteen, yeah) His name was Nibert. (WS: John?) John Nibert. I remember. I think that's what his name-, yeah, his name was John Nibert.

[reply inaudible] Is he on there somewhere?

If I get that Panarama, I know all those dudes. But this looks like, this looks like Nibert.

[reply inaudible]

Oh, yeah.

[inaudible] Thirty-one.

That's the back row there. Here's Virgil Saunders.

Did you say Julius Mayes?

Mmm-hmm. Here's Julius. He's next to Charlie Dillon.

And Julius Mayes became. . .ended up as an investigator?

Yeah, him and this one. Him and Romey Newman.

Who are . . . when they were investigators, who was chief? Do you know?

I don't know. Sam Davis has done went out.

Sam Davis went out in 1919.

Yeah, and these investigators were up in the 20's (Oh. . .) when they See, the police was-, during Sam Davis' term they put 'em on civil service. They stopped that spoil system then. When it changed hands, they didn't lose their jobs. See, on the spoil system, like if you were like in there and a democrat, you'd fire all the republican policemen and all the republican fireman, see. But they got that put under civil service, didn't, they didn't uh, they still held their jobs. They always did.

Were there any uh, like the police department had chief of police, the fire department had fire chief. Was there like a chief or head officer of like [inaudible]?

Oh, that, they took care of that I think through the city clerks office. The city clerks office is in here and the city treasury office. Upstairs was, [inaudible] was up here. And then the police court was along in here upstairs.

This was all in the old city hall?

Mmm-hmm. Everything was there, yeah.

Was the police lockup, the jail. . . ?

In back of here, right on the corner of the alley.

Inside the building or. . . ?

No, you had a little courtyard there and you went out there. And it had a, it was about a 3-story place. And let's see, you know where the back end of the old Standard Printing Company is? Down the alley.

The present Standard Printing.

Where it went out of business, right above 9th Street, I was telling you about, there's a welfare office in there now. This is on the corner. This is. . .

[reply inaudible]

Yeah. Now right here, if they'd have took that picture on, they was old man, what's that old man's name? He had a jewelry shop here. And I can't think of his name. Right in back of here there was a court yard and then the jail sat right over here in back of this jewelry shop.

The jail sat what? northeast of the city hall then?

END OF SIDE 2- TAPE 1

BEGIN SIDE 1 - TAPE 2

. . .interviewing George F. Moran of 412 - 13th Street, Huntington, WV. Interviewed June 12th, 1984, by Wallace R. Stowers. You said Brooks McClure was a young guy; he was a patrol driver?

*Yeah, and then he left the police department and he went over into the fire department-
-he later became fire chief.*

Do you know how long. . . ?

Well, he was fire chief quite a while. I don't really remember.

Well, how long did he stay on as patrol driver, do you know? If you had to guess how many years.

No, I couldn't remember that.

You said he was a young 23 or. . . ?

He was pretty young, yeah.

Do you know why he joined the police force?

No, I guess he just, he was just hired in driving the wagon.

Oh, he hired, he hired on to be a patrol wagon driver?

Oh, yeah. He. . .

I mean, he didn't pound the beat, then. . .

Mmm-huh. No, neither did Jess Snyder. See, they put the patrol drivers on the end, see them?

**They were hired on as patrol drivers? (GM: Yeah) [inaudible] before they hired 'e
They just went to work for the police department as the patrol drivers.**

Mmh. I think, on this small one, do you recognize police chief [inaudible]?

Mmm-hmm, and Wray, the patrol driver.

Oh, I didn't get. . . which one was. . .

Bill Wray.

Bill Wray was. . .

He was a patrolman
Big man, mustache, number 11.

Yeah.

All I've got is William there. William Bill Wray.

He ended up as uh, the gate down there on the timecards for Owens-Illinois [glass plant].

Uh, you recognize the guy next to him, to his right? (GM: Hmm-huh) Looks familiar to me, but. . . .

That could have been Hud Vernatte.

That's just what I was thinking. Something about the way he's holding his chin, maybe something. . . .

This guy here [pointing to a photo] looks like Tom Harrison, but I wouldn't put it down as.

Oh, that guy right there? (Mmm-hmm)

See if he don't look like the guy in the big picture here. Where's the big picture?

The one we looked at just awhile ago?

No, the. . . we had one over there. Yeah, let's see that one. Yeah, here's Tom Harrison here. Now let's see if he resembled. . .the Tom we're looking for. See if he resembled this one. (Which one?) Number two here, right here.

Mmh.

Well, you can't tell.

He seems like he has a bigger. . . .

Now he later became the county investigator.

That uh . . .

Harrison.

Harrison became the county investigator for the Cabell County Sheriff's Department? (Yeah) This guy has a heavier jaw than this guy. (He does?) Stronger.

It might have not been him.

Uh, let's see. . . .

There was some [inaudible]. That's the one I thought was Tom Harrison. Now that might have been Hud Vernatte.

That'd be number

Next to Al Ross. That's Al Ross right there.

I got Al Ross number 13, and next to him

Maybe that's Hud Vernatte. He was tall.

All right, possibly Hud Vernatte, right? (Mmm-hmm) That's A. Hud Vernatte, right?

Mmm-hmm. Hudson Vernatte. He had a brother named Judson--they were twins.

[chuckling] Hudson and Judson. Judson, what did he do? Was he a police officer or a fireman or. . . ?

No, I think he uh, repaired steel cars. (He worked for. . .) C & O. I've got a good story about old Hudson. (You want to tell it?) No, I won't tell. Ross down there, but I don't know who that feller is. Yeah, that's Hud Vernatte right there, just as sure as your [inaudible].

That's number 12.

Next to Al Ross.

Well, who's standing next to, the guy next to Hud Vernatte is William-, Billy Wray.

Yeah, that's Bill Wray there.

Well, the guy next to Bill Wray, you recognize him?

No, no, I don't. The picture was taken in the early 90's, wasn't it?

Mmmh. That's not right then. 1890, you said 1900, right?

I say it's around 1900 when it was taken.

Well, this guy here [inaudible] both had square type caps. (Mmm-hmm) Bill Wray was a patrol driver. Was the guy next to him have been a patrol driver?

Yeah, he could have been a patrol driver, too.

That wasn't McClure then?

Oh, no, McClure came a lot later than that. McClure was up around 1910, '11, something like that.

Mmh. [inaudible] Walter Peaco. The guy next to Walter Peaco, his hat's too low. . is his hat too low to recognize?

This one?

This guy next to Walter.

I don't know who he was.

What about the guy [inaudible]

That's Wirt Keenan.

That's Wirt Keenan?

I think it is. That's the one that was, when he retired, he was the oldest policeman walking the beat. And [inaudible] (Wirt?) Yeah, W.W. Keenan.

See, six. . . oh, do you recognize any of the first guys on the left here?

Un-huh. You mean standing next to old Judge [inaudible]? (Right) I don't know.

Well, there's Judge [inaudible name], Chief Dawson. The guy next to Chief Dawson, do you recognize him?

Un-huh. No, I don't. That was a little before my time. Then finally some of them was

old enough to grow into my time.

Well, this you said was a young Sam Davis.

Yeah, right there. That's Sam Davis. That's Sam Davis.

You had said before [inaudible] boxing bag, hunting bag in back of his [inaudible]? (Oh yeah) When did he first start working out, do you know?

Oh, he'd go out there and work out every now and then.

When he was a boy did he start doing that? Or just. . .

Oh, I don't know. He was a man on the police force when I knew him. You know.

Yeah. Was he a boxing fan? Did he go to any fights?

Oh, yeah, he used to go to boxing and everything. He was kind of a fight fan.

Did they have many boxing matches touring around or home box fights or anything?

Yeah uh, I know. . .is that thing turned off? [laughing]

You said there was an old skating rink?

Yeah. And later it was the [inaudible] Theater.

[inaudible]

About the 800 block of 4th Avenue. You know where Glicks is? Across the street.

Oh, the skating rink, was it uh, roller skating?

Oh, yeah, you could to roller skate. And then later it was a bowling alley. They put a bowling alley in there.

Now when was it a skating rink? Do you know?

Oh, I don't know. But when I first remembered it, it was a skating rink. And a kind of a public place where they had. . .Taft made a speech in there, when he was running for... (William Howard Taft?) Yeah. He made a speech in there when he come to

Huntington when he was going for the, to be nominated for president. He was from Cincinnati.

Oh, it was kind of like a . . . an auditorium?

Public place, just like the Civic Center down here.

A big place you're talking about then?

Oh, yeah. It was kind of a town, where they held all the big, big things, you know. They had big conventions and

Was there a name for that? I mean. . .

I don't know if it had a name or not.

Just a skating rink or. . .

It was a skating rink. And then I know [inaudible name] Nelson came to town and he put on a show down there, when he was light-weight champion. He had the pictures of his fights with Joe Gann, that he won the light-weight title off of, you know, and Jimmy [inaudible name] I don't know what all. He had moving pictures of it. And then he put on a little boxing. . .he didn't box himself. But he put on a little kind of an exhibition. But they wouldn't let him, the prosecuting attorney's name was Gene Smith. Yeah, the prosecuting attorney's name was Gene Smith. And he wouldn't let uh, wouldn't let [inaudible name] Nelson put on an exhibition. He had his sparring partners and everything with him.

Huh. He had an exhibition down at. . .

Yeah, yeah, you had to pay to get in, you know. And he went around traveling. Just like the boxers do now, champions, you know. They go to big towns and . . . people pay to see them exhibition and stuff like that.

Huh. But why didn't the prosecuting attorney, why didn't wonder did [inaudible] the exhibition fights?

Oh, it was the darndest thing. He said, "Well, maybe boxing [inaudible] and hit somebody." [laughing] I went with him. I was just a little old kid. And I went with uh, with the chief of police, Sam Davis, and [inaudible] Nelson. We went over to see the prosecuting attorney. He told 'em, "No, no dice."

[inaudible] near the tracks or something.

Mmm-hmm.

Huh. What kind of-, like Saturday nights, what kind of events-, social events or entertainment or recreation could you. . .was there always a show or. . . ?

Oh, they had picture shows and stuff like that. Like they had, where that skating rink was, it was later became the Lyric Theater. And uh,

And it's torn now isn't it?

Oh, yeah, it's gone now. Let's see what's in there now? Right across the street. I don't know. Between 8th and 9th Street. It was right across from where Glicks Furniture Store is. You know where Glicks is, don't you?

Present Glicks. (GM: Yeah) On 4th Avenue.

Yeah, across the street.

Glicks Colony House.

Oh, yeah, across the street from there. Now when uh. . .

That'd be the Frederick Building, wouldn't it?

No, the Frederick's up on this corner, up here on 10th and 4th, up on [inaudible]

Oh, across from Model Furniture and. . .

Yeah, the Model Furniture. . .

There's a parking lot there and they've got Model Furniture and the Smart Shop had part of it.

Right, Smart Shop's on the corner.

So that's where the (GM: Down below there) where the old skating rink became the Lyric. That's where it used to sit.

Yeah. And they uh, it had a big old oval roof, the skating rink did. And a fellow named Parker had a picture show over on 3rd Avenue. I think he called that picture show the

The prosecuting attorney, was it city or county?

County presecuting attorney.

[reply inaudible]

No, no place in the county. His date was all set up here to come here and then he went to, maybe he went to Charleston the next night and everything like that. But it was while he was the light-weight champion when he was here.

That disappointed the fans, didn't it?

Well, he had a full house. Man, that place was crowded. Ooh,wee.

I mean, the plans were already there and they said . . .

No, it was the day before the-, when he came to town, they went down to see the prosecuting attorney to get permission. And he wouldn't give it to 'em. So we had a wrestling match, let some boys wrestle with. . .they done set up the ring and everything.

Who set up rings and stuff like that?

I think he brought his own ring with him and everything.

Anyone coming up for wrestling matches or uh,

No, people would just pay to see him, just watch the matches.

They had to carry their own rings and stuff with them?

Oh, the, the guys putting on the show did, yeah. I imagine. The ring was there.

You said when they come to town, they brought a lot of baggage with them or just...

Oh, I imagine they had to bring a ring with them.

That'd be a lot of stuff to carry around with 'em.

Yeah, carry it on a train or something. Trucks didn't travel from town to town like they do now.

Vandorn Theater. It's the first picture show in Huntington. And then he, he got a hold of the Lyric Theater. And where that oval was, you know, [inaudible]. And he was painting a sign there, Lyric Theater, on a scaffold, and the scaffold broke and he fell down there on 4th Avenue and killed him before he got his theater set up. And then later. . .later they put a theater in there.

Mmmh. The old [inaudible] do you happen to know where those boundaries ran? And the divisions? Like a [inaudible].

Well, the [inaudible] when they went into Huntington, when Huntington took over Central City. Now of course the police ward is down, adjoins Wayne County down there.

That's today.

Yeah. And the second ward's above there. The third ward's between, let's see the 3rd wards between I think 6th Street and uh, 9th Street. And the fourth ward's between 10th and 18th. I know where the first ward is because I was [inaudible]

Oh, uh, let's see, do you know where the old third ward was? Before they joined Guyandotte.

I don't know.

It used to be, before they joined Guyandotte, do you know how many wards there were?

Oh, about seven. No, I don't think there was quite that many. Because Guyandotte is a ward now, you know. (Mmmh) I used to know. . . I used to know all that stuff years ago, but I don't know.

What about the Gold Post? What ward would it have been in before, you think, before it joined Guyandotte and all that?

[inaudible] It's in the 4th ward now. Fourth ward's between 10th and 18th. Between the river and the railroad track out here.

It's in. . .

The 4th ward runs between the middle of 10th Street and the middle of 18th Street. Eighteenth street runs right into that hospital, you know.

That's the Cabell Huntington Hospital.

No, it's the old C & O Hospital.

Eighteen and 10th, oh, yeah.

The 4th ward between the river and the railroad track out here. That's where it cut off.

Wonder where, I figure the original city, how many wards would it have had?

Oh, I don't know how many. . . you know between 1st Street and the Guyandotte River?

Yeah.

I don't know how many was in there. Couldn't have been that many.

That's what I was thinking, it couldn't have been. . . . I just wondered if the shows coming into town, if they all, it was the same are of town or whatever.

Oh, yeah these shows. . . you mean circuses?

Circuses and boxing matches. If they always came to the same area of town.

No, circuses used to play at different places. I remember when circuses used to play. . . you remember when the old Sears & Roebuck moved out of up there [at 29th Street] they used to play over there, had circuses over there. Then uh, down at 3rd Street, you know where Minter Homes is down there? That was a big field. And right below 6th

Street on 3rd Avenue circuses used to play down there. I know I saw. . .and then over on the south side before they built it up, circuses used to play over there.

Well, the one that the police department, Sam Davis used to go out and recruit their. . . .

Oh, that was down on 3rd Street and 3rd Avenue. That was down there. You know where the B & O railroad comes down and circles around? It was in there. Between 3rd Avenue and the railroad. B & O railroad. See where B & O railroad goes down? It was right there below 4th Street.

Where they got the old city garage or something? Is it still down there? (GM: Yeah) Some building I know is back in there.

Yeah, the city garage is, they park their cars down there. They got an incinerator down there, or did. I don't know if it's down there yet or not. That's, that's the [inaudible].

Oh. It would take a pretty good sized field for that one.

Oh, yeah. Some of the circuses used to be large. These circuses.

How large would you say, if you had to estimate how many tents of people?

Oh, I know one time that Ringling Brothers come down there with Barnam & Bailey, and I think they had 400 horses with them. Can you imagine that?

That's pretty good size, isn't it?

Oh, it's a great big thing. It had the 3-ring circus. And they had about ten elephants in three rings all acting at once. Three trapeize performers, all of them traveling at once, you know. Not like a single. Not like everybody just sit there and look at one thing or just look at six or eight elephants to perform. They had three rings.

Well, the circuses that Sam Davis. . .

They were carnivals. Stayed all week.

How did he know where to get these carnivals or did he have [inaudible] or something?

No, you can locate carnivals. There's a book, a magazine out called The Billboard. And they advertise all that. And then he'd write to 'em and they'd send a representative

here. And he set it up for when they could come, when they could move to town.

There'd be a lot of work in it.

Yeah. He had, come down and set it up when they were gonna come. Then uh, then I guess the police department would do the rest, get it ready for 'em and then they'd move in. I know that one, that one show, I believe, I don't know whether he was here once or twice. Jones Greater Shows. Oh, he had all kinds of side shows and animal shows and wrestling and boxing show and everything. Had the [inaudible] anybody could come in and stay 3 rounds.

Would they get many comers? I mean. . .

Yeah, yeah, they did, a comer every night.

Who usually won? Just. . .

The man. I know they, then they brought wrestling shows here. I mean, with, they'd have a wrestling show. One show had a wrestling show. And of course, they had side shows and all these other things. [inaudible] could win a prize and you know, in real concessions. Spin the wheel for a box of candy.

Now when these shows came to town, did they have, did everybody go? Did the mayor and city [inaudible]?

Oh, everybody in town went. Everybody come and went to the carnivals, yeah. Couldn't hardly get around to get down to the midway, they called it. [chuckling] And they had a cook tent—you could buy hamburgers and buy cold pop.

You said that Al Ross [inaudible] to prisoners?

Yeah, later after he got off the police force he. . . .

Did he have a food stand during these carnivals?

No, I don't think so. But they cooked the meals for the prisoners. Had coffee and stewed tomatoes and beans and bread.

And you said they cooked out of the kitchen, their own home kitchens?

They did down here at City Hall when they first set up. But uh, he cooked it down to his house. He lived down on 4th Street and 4th Avenue. He had a wagon he used to put

the meals in and push 'em up three times a day.

Pushed 'em. . .you mean a police cart?

Yeah, like a police cart, yeah. But all tin. . .like tin pans.

It had little lids on 'em?

No, just tin pans. They put the bread and everything. . . [inaudible] a big old thing full of coffee, you know, big coffee urn with a spout on it.

How did they feed the prisoners?

Pushed it through the bars. They had a place in the bars where they pushed it through.

There was no big mess hall or something where they. . . .

Yeah, they had like what they called a bull pen, where they put 'em in. And then they had cages back there where they was keeping them for 30 days or something like that.

How big was the old city jail? Was it. . . how many cells did it have?

About three floors. (WS: Three floors?) Yeah, top floor was for women.

Three floors. How big was the building, jailhouse?

Oh, I guess it was about oh, about 60 x 50 or 60 x 30, something like that.

And three floors. (GM: Mmm-hmm) How much guards did you have to have on duty then?

Had nobody. Had the turnkey.

I mean . . .

When they'd arrest somebody why, they'd turn him over to the turnkey and he'd go to the gate and put him in.

Was he a police officer or. . . ?

Oh, yeah. They called him the turnkey. That was. . . that was his job then, turnkey.

But he was on call 24 hours a day?

He lived like uh, oh, Bill Higgins was the turnkey there for years. And he had a, right there, a little compartment right next to the jail. He lived in there. He wasn't married or anything. He just lived in there. They'd roust him out any time of the night, tell him to put somebody in the jail.

Did the . . . who had to authorize him locking prisoners up? Did the chief have to do it? Did whoever arrested take 'em straight to . . . ?

Well, they caught you fighting, they took you in and whooped you, where the desk sergeant was, in there, you know, in one of them doors where I showed you. They had a place that had a kind of a hall in there where they used to have the roll call and everything. And uh, they'd take you in there and book you and search you. Put all this stuff in a big envelope and the police would take you out and turn you over to old man Higgins. He'd lock you up. And then the next morning they had the trial.

That's where [inaudible]

Yeah, after him, old Judge [inaudible name] Judge Bryant. (WS: Bryant) He was there for years.

You say where the Emmons apartments is there on 3rd Avenue or . . .

Right on the corner of 3rd Avenue and 12th Street. Turner's had a livery stable there. Scott Turner.

Was it called Scott Turner Livery or just. . . ?

Everybody just knew it as Turner's.

Did they have a lot of horses and stuff down there?

Oh, yeah, they boarded horses. [inaudible] Like people had automobiles, you know, couldn't keep their horses, and of course, feed 'em three times a day and take care of them, they'd come down and they boarded 'em. They would phone down there and they'd deliver the horses to 'em in a horse and buggy.

Wonder where he got his feed and his hay and stuff? Where did he get it? Did he buy it from local farmers or . . . ?

Oh, I guess he did, bales of hay. They. . .

They didn't have a farm outside of. . .

No, they just bought it. They had several big feed stores around here. Had Damron's Feed Store, and Mossman's.

Where was Damron's and Mossman's?

Between 8th and 9th Street there, there on 3rd Avenue across there, in between all those saloons.

Eighth and ninth, that'd be next to the city market that was down there, right?

City market was on 6th Street, or on 7th Street.

You said this was Damron's?

Yeah, Feed Store. And Mossman's Feed Store.

And Mossman's Feed Store was where?

It was uh, Mossman's Feed Store was this side of the Arcade Saloon. And Damron's.

Which side of the Arcade?

The west side, the lower side. It was 8th Street. And Damron's was above the Arcade Saloon on. . .towards 9th Street. See, the Arcade Saloon's in between them, and they were right between 8th and 9th Street. The rest in there were restaurants and saloons. Had a bunch of saloons in there.

How many did they have? If you had to guess.

Well, on the corner was Thompson's Saloon.

Of uh . . .?

Of 8th Street. I got a brick out of that saloon up there. And uh. . .

Eighth Street and 3rd Avenue?

GM: Yeah, on that side of the street Thompson's Saloon was on the corner, Joe Thompson.

On the north side?

The north side, yeah. Mmh, I believe there was a little restaurant in there called Blake's Restaurant. Then the next one was. . . oh, what's that boy's name? Clay Keenen had a saloon in there.

That's two buildings east of Thompson's?

Yeah. And then next to Clay Keenen's was Jake Rice had a saloon. Then Mossman's Feed Store. And then uh, Arcade Saloon. Arcade Saloon belonged to one of the Buffington's. Garlen Buffington owned it. (Garlen?) Yeah, you know, the mayor of Huntington's son. And then next to Arcade Saloon was Damron's. Then next to that was I believe it was. . . who was that? If I can remember it. I believe there was a restaurant in there. Dillon's had a restaurant in there.

Dillon's? (Uh-huh) Was it Charlie Dillon or. . . ?

No. There was two restaurants. There was about three restaurants connected in there. I know Ross had a rest-, Ross' had a restaurant in there. And Jim Ross (Jim Ross). He was chief of police about that time, too.

You mentioned he had a couple of restaurants.

Yeah, that was Jim Ross. And then uh, Dillon had a restaurant. And then on the corner, at one time Garlen had a department store. But later Rosenheim had a whis-, wholesale whiskey house in there. You know, where you could ship whiskey up in Logan and the coal fields.

On 3rd Avenue?

Yeah, it's right on the corner there. Yeah. Where he sold wholesale whiskey.

Why were there all so many tied together?

Well, I guess business was good in there. [chuckling]

[reply inaudible]

Uh-huh, down in there. And then above 9th Street there were some saloons.

Above, you mean west of it?

No, above 9th Street (East?) Uh-huh. Old man Lowe had a store on the corner, a clothing store. And next to his clothing store there was . . . old man Weill had a clothing store. And next to that was the Gem Theater. (Gem?) Gem, G-e-m, like a gem. And let's see, on up the street there. . .there was a bank in there.

You know the name of the bank?

Oh, [inaudible] they, they combined with First Huntington National. But I don't know what they called it. They called it the First Huntington National Bank.

[reply inaudible]

They merged. That's when they built that bank right on the corner of 9th and you know, the First National Bank used to be in that big building right on 10th and

END OF SIDE 1 - TAPE 2

SIDE 2 BLANK

BEGIN SIDE 1 - TAPE 3

You said Sam Davis had the two brothers, George and John? And John was on the police force in 1950. And after he. . .

. . . [inaudible] He was a JP in the 30s, I know that.

John Davis was the JP.

Yeah. Then Bob was a printer. He worked for the Huntington Publishing Company. And then out at Huntington High they set out a little print shop. And he was, he was a printing instructor out there, Bob was.

Do you happen to know his full name? Was it Robert?

Robert. He's got a boy that lives here in town, Bill. They uh, then when they put that print shop-, he retired out of there, a fellow named, I believe his name was Kaplan, worked out there. And then after Kaplan was Terry McDermott. Then they put the print shop, trade school print shop, about the time the war was over. And I got home and they hired me to teach printing up there. . . at East High. And that's where I worked for about thirty years [chuckles] as printing instructor up there.

Did you ever know-, hear what happened to George? I mean uh, didn't you

mentioned wasn't it George or John had gone to Florida one time?

Oh, that was George. Yeah, he did have another brother. He went to Florida and I never did hear what happened to him. I don't know whether he even went to or anything. I guess he died down there.

Did uh, did Ben Robinson have any brothers or relatives?

I never knew anything about Ben's family. Except he had a daughter, I know that.

Did John Dawson have any sons?

Uh-huh, I don't know anything about him. Sam never had any kids either.

Did Morris Davis have any sons or brothers?

Yes. Oh, MB? That was about 1900. He had a boy named Dewey, Dewey did.

Was he a police officer or. . . ?

I don't know what ever happened to Dewey.

Unh. Morris Davis had a brother named Charlie. He had a saloon down on 2nd Avenue and 8th Street, right on the corner. We called him, they called him Big Mittens. He had hands that big.

Pretty good sized hands, huh?

He did, yeah.

What about Jim Ross? Did he have brothers or sons or anything?

Oh, Jim had a brother named John, yeah. And I don't think. . . Jim didn't have any children. He was later. . . he was county commissioner here for quite a while, too, Jim was.

WS: Cabell County Commissioner?

GM: Mmm-hmm.

Was that. . . about what time was that?

I don't know if I'll get that straight or not. I wasn't paying too much attention to that stuff. He was county commissioner in. . . that was Jim. That's the one that was chief of police at one time. We all used to live right close to each another down on 4th Avenue and 8th Street. And then uh, the Ross', they run, they ran restaurants. John and Jim had restaurants. After. . .well, he retired. Old John had pretty good-, old Jim was pretty well off. He had lots of money. Had a lot of property.

Jim Ross?

Yeah.

Was he. . . did he have a trade? Or . . .

I think they, I think they just run restaurants. I think they were restaurant cooks.

I mean, how does a person get into being owner of a restaurant? Did he inherit it or did he start it or. . .?

No, he told me one time about saving money. He said when he was a little kid and went to work in a restaurant, every week when he got his money, he saved for it til he got enough to buy a restaurant.

Jim Ross?

Yeah.

So he kept building up his money?

Uh-huh. Then he had a. . . he was. . . he had that restaurant. Then he bought a couple more restaurants. Over on 3rd Avenue there where there's some of those restaurants. Ross brothers had a restaurant over there--two or three.

On 3rd Avenue at about what street?

8th and 9th, over in there.

Mmh. Did they have a name? Was it a chain or did they . . .

No, just the Ross Brothers Restaurant.

Ross' Restaurant.

Ross Restaurant.

Did he happen to hear of a Al Ross or Hal Ross or something?

Al, Al, Al Ross. (Al Ross) Uh-huh.

Was he of that Ross family?

Mmh, I don't know whether he was or not. But I tell you what he done for years. They. . . he fed the prisoners. You know, three meals a day, you know, when he was giving out bread and water and tomatoes. And he . . . they cooked it. He lived on 4th Street and 4th Avenue. And they uh, he had a little old wagon. And his wife used to pack all these cans and coffee and everything. And they'd take it up to the jail and feed the prisoners. He had a contract on that.

Oh. You mean he got paid for feeding so many [inaudible]

Yeah, so many meals, yeah, to feed the prisoners.

He had a contract to feed [inaudible] prisoners, or did he get paid more as he got more prisoners?

I think so. Because, you know. . .

WS: Per man.

Per man. Per meal.

Well, I know some county records that Al Ross as a regular policeman, he would be in there, but he's gone? Sometimes he comes back and he's gone. Kind of. . . And he also ended up in the streets [inaudible] payroll would be on one month be on one department and another month another department.

[reply inaudible]

Who did he work for? The city?

Oh, yeah. He fed the prisoners.

Did he have any special, I mean, any set department that he worked out of? Was he kind of a . . .

I guess that would come under the City Council or the police department. It might, I think it was the police department.

Did all of his work. . . was it always on a contract basis?

I think it was, per meal.

Did he work for the city as a private contractor or. . .or as an employee?

I don't know. He might have been just on a contract deal or something. They just told him to feed the prisoners and they'd give him so much a meal. I don't know how that was worked. But anyhow, he did that for years.

It's kind of confusing to me on account in the records his name just keeps popping up here and there. Just wondered who he worked for.

I imagine he worked for the city.

Did he ever work for Jim Ross in the restaurant business? If he fed the prisoners, could he buy the meals?

No, he cooked 'em all down at his house.

Did he cook them or did you know. . . ?

Him and his wife. They had some help. Then that fellow I told you, later you'll find, if you go up in there, that Dick Midkiff (Oh, right). And I think he raised Dick Midkiff.

Al Ross raised Dick Midkiff?

Yeah. And Dick was later chief of police.

WS: Did he raise him inside of Huntington or. . . ?

Oh, yeah, down there. He was always around Ross' house. And then uh, when he got big, he married one of the other girls that Al Ross had down there. A girl named Goldie Herrells--they got married.

Married who?

Goldie Herrells. And later Goldie was the head of the cafeteria department or whatever they call it up at St. Joe High School. Then they went to Florida. He went blind and they moved to Florida. And I think he died down there. I never heard much after that.

About when, do you know?

Oh, it was. . . it was not too many years ago. I guess that was. . .that was back down in the 50s.

50s. Were Al Ross and Jim Ross, were they related?

I don't think so.

But it was just a coincidence they were all in the food business.

Yeah, just like Sam Davis and Morris Davis; they're no relation. And Tom Davis, the fire chief. None of them were any relation to each other.

There were a lot of Davis' around, huh?

Yeah. And Ross' too.

Mmh. Do you happen to know, how did Sam Davis feel about, when a visiting police officer from another city or something came in to town? Did he say no way? Did he like encourage it? Did he kind of resent it?

Oh, you mean when somebody came from out of town to visit? Oh, no, he. . . he'd talk shop to 'em.

Talk shop!

Yeah. Sam Davis is the one that, he organized that West Virginia Chief of Police and Peace Officers Association. And they uh, they had a convention in Huntington one year, Charleston one year and Wheeling one year.

Sam Davis organized that?

Yeah, he organized that thing.

Did he put. . . he must have put a lot of time into it. (Oh, he did) Did he travel around the state constantly or. . . ? How did he find time to do this?

Correspondence, letters and stuff like that. Phone calls and stuff like that.

Do you happen to remember what the official name of it was?

West Virginia Chief of Police, West Virginia Chiefs and Peace Officers Association.

Do you happen to know their. . . today is it the same organization with a different name?

I think so. I don't know what it is now. But he organized the thing. I know he had police from every town in the state when he had a convention down here. Let's see, the last one I was to was in Charleston. And that's when I got appendicitis, up in Charleston. Darn near died. My appendix bursted and everything.

Oh, I think I read that in the paper.

Something was in the paper one time, I went to school one morning and it was on the bulletin board. Boy got operated on six times! That's where I got appendicitis up there. I darn near died, I know that. That was in 1950. That's when they give me that watch.

While you were in the hospital?

After I got out of the hospital and everything.

When they gave you the watch, did they kind of call you out into formation?

No, had a big banquet. And they was having some kind of celebration and doing this and doing that. They presented me with the watch.

Did the police department have, did they put on a lot of banquets only at certain times or was it rare?

No, they'd put on, oh, he'd put on a banquet, or a big feed for his police for Christmas or something like that. He'd go around and get turkeys from the merchants and stuff like that, cook 'em up.

Who cooked 'em up, do you know?

If you were on the right side, I guess you missed it.

It's on the left side and I don't know whether they took that down or not. And uh, and then they, out in Ritter Park you know they made a lake out there. Fixed it so full in there and called it. . . called it Japoscanwell. After all these guys.

Scanlon and

And that lake didn't prove out so good. A boy named Goodall got drowned out there. And I think some guys run a couple of old T-Model Fords in it and almost got drowned. But they filled that back up.

Did any of the mayors that you know of, did any of them have nicknames? You know, like Ironsides or. . .

I don't remember.

I heard of one mayor-, well, you mentioned the last time I talked with you, W.W. Payne. You called him the Little Flower.

Yeah, the Little Flower. That was that uh, you know, up in New York, what was that mayor's name up there, the Italian fellow? Always getting his picture in the paper. They called him the Little Flower. He's got an airport up there named after him. What's one of them big airports up there called?

La Guardia?

La Guardia, yeah.

Mayor La Guardia?

Yeah, he was the Little Flower, yeah. [chuckling]

He was called Little Flower and. . .

Yeah, they named. . . they got to calling W.W. Payne Little Flower, somebody did.

W.W. Payne. Was he from around here?

No, originally he come to Huntington as an advance man for a circus. And then he uh, he tried to find a feed store around and had a hard-, you know, he had to buy it for those

Well, that, let's see, the last two or three I was they cooked 'em up-, the put a kitchen down there in the City Hall down there in the basement. [inaudible] Underneath the. . .see, they had a big kitchen down there where they used to feed the prisoners when they moved in there.

Oh, where the present police department is? (Yeah) Oh, it must have been taken out then.

I don't know if they were feeding 'em or not down there. [inaudible]

[inaudible] Do you know anything about when Floyd Chapman well. . . .

Floyd Chapman was, he was the mayor under. . .when the commission form of government went in.

Do you happen to recall. . .when they were having election time, were things pretty. . .pretty active or hot? Was a lot of political fights and maneuvering going on?

No, not too much.

Because they were shifting from the mayor to the commission form of government. Were there a lot of hard feelings?

Oh, there were a lot of yes and no's, you know, pros and cons. But I don't think there was any trouble.

[inaudible] regular population whether they were really involved in it.

Uh-huh. I think they were wanting a change or something. The town. But that's uh, I don't know whether that names down on at City Hall or not. Now that commission form of government was Floyd Chapman and a fellow from Guyandotte named Herb Wells, and Tim Scanlon.

Tim Scanlon was the one. . . T.S. Scanlon? (Uh-huh) Treasurer and a bunch of other offices.

Yeah. He had a bunch of stuff. And what's his name? Lester Pollock, P-o-l-l-o-c-k. And they had their names on, used to be their names on at City Hall down there. I don't know whether they knocked it off or not. A big bronze thing as you went up the stairs on the left side. It had their names on it.

elephants and everything and those horses. He had to buy a lot of hay. So he had a hard time finding a place big enough to buy to get his hay and everything. So he just stopped here and set up a feed store. . . down at 14th Street Wes; it was next to the fire station down there.

Did he come up from the service or what?

Yeah, he quit and stayed here for years and years.

Well, how long did he live here before he was elected mayor?

Oh, it was quite a few years.

He was pretty well established then?

Oh, yeah. Everybody knew him. He was quite a . . . everybody knew him around town.

This, the chief of police, he appointed Hercil Garten, Hercil Garten, he was a local man, too?

Yeah.

Hercil Garten was. . . what I found out from the Huntington Police Department, is the only, he was the only major they ever had there? Major of police? You know, lieutenants and captains. . . and major. He became major of police, then he retired and they abolished the position. [inaudible] You know anything about that?

Uh-huh. Oh, they were doing some funny things down there at police headquarters after council, you know, the mayoral council came in.

Oh, it came in then?

Well, I don't know when it came in. It came in, here it is, it came in here on Chapman. And then about this time. . . [inaudible] Sam Davis. Worked under Rufus Switzer. Him and Clingenfield.

Oh, Sam Davis, Lieutenant Sam Davis.

Yeah. He worked down there with Rufus Switzer. Because I remember Switzer. He's about as tall as that door, and had knock knees. You've seen these old guys on the circus

on stilts? *[laughing]* One of them guys went up the street one day and my brother said, "Here comes Mr. Switzer!"

[reply inaudible]

[inaudible] on stilts and he was about that tall. About 8 foot tall or 10.

Was he tall and lanky, you might say?

Oh, yeah, he was tall and had knock knees. Man, his knees were like this.

Well, W.W. Payne, was he. . . how did he look? Was he. . .

Not too tall and heavy-set. I guess he went about 210, 212, somewhere along in there. Not tall tall. He was fat.

[inaudible] W.W. Payne came in the late 40s, '49, right? 19. . .

Yeah, mmm-hmm, I believe he did come in about that time.

How long was he mayor, do you know?

I think at that time they was running them on a two-year term, wasn't they, when that council come in. Used to be four. I believe it was four. Maybe two. They just changed them around so much.

[inaudible] one year, then two. I guess they changed around. (Mmm-hmm) But W.W. Payne did it for two years then?

I think so, yeah. He was. . .

You never heard why he created a major of police? (Mmm-huh) Was it him or another mayor that followed up?

No, it was. . . it might have been someone else followed it up. But I don't think it was Payne. Payne was the one. . . I think he was the one knocked the. . . . They were trying to get a garbage bill in when he was in. He knocked that off. Not to pay the garbage fee. I think he had. . . I think he allowed that when he was in.

Mmh. Did you ever meet or talk with Hercil Gartin? Did you ever. . .

Oh, yeah, I know him.

Was he a pretty nice fellow?

Yeah, he was a pretty good old boy. He was city council-, I mean, county clerk down there now. Yeah, I knew, I knew him when he worked down there at the police station.

Yeah, I talked with him a couple of times, and he's a real nice fellow. But he didn't talk about being a major. He pointed out that he was the only major. . .did he ever say why he was the only major?

They just, they just created a job, just like anything else. Like . . .well, like instead of a chief of police, like that time old man Dillon was chief of police, they created a safety director, they called him. I don't know who. . .I don't know who was working under him that time. I know he got in trouble.

What? Bad trouble or . . .?

No, it seems like some kids, you better snap that off [referring to recorder].

. . . [inaudible] and the other one talked about this social thing?

Well, one would be republican, one would be democrat.

Which was the republican paper?

The Herald Dispatch was. . .

The Herald Dispatch was republican. . .(Uh-huh).

It was the democrat paper.

I don't know what was the name of the paper before the Advitiser came in. The Advitiser

There was a Huntington Herald. . .what was it, do you know?

Republican.

The Huntington Herald was republican?

Yeah, that's this old Herald Dispatch here now. And then there was, one time, old man,

a fellow named Hayworth, I believe he had the first Huntington Herald, down on 9th Street, about 2nd Avenue, had a newspaper. And then later there was another newspaper tried to start up here, called the Huntington Independent. It didn't go too far.

About when was that? The Huntington Independent?

Mmh, about 1920, somewhere along in there.

How long did it last, do you know?

It didn't last too long. See, a newspaper has to last on the ads they get, their advertisements. See, these newspapers would be fighting each other all the time for ads.

[reply inaudible]

Well, it was the only way they could exist is what they get on advertising. Nothing else pays 'em off. Unless somebody goes down and puts their name in the paper and [inaudible]. [chuckling]

Did the newspapers, did they-, do you happen to know in the early days of the commiession form, did the newspapers take a part in the politicing of their candidate?

Oh, yeah. They run big editorials. Like they do now, you know? You know what an editorial is. They would try to convince the people, each one of them. Newspapers can't convince people too much any more, can they?

Too many of them read it or something.

Well, I'll tell you. When I was a kid, people used to read the newspaper, they thought it was gospel. But now people are too much educated. They say, "Well, I know as much about that as he does." [inaudible reply]

Does the newspapers. . . you mentioned that Chief Sam Davis didn't mind having a police reporter around all the time? He let 'em go through the files?

Oh, yeah, he treated-, he treated them good.

What happen if a reporter got a little into private business? Did that ever happen?

I never knowed of it. No, he let 'em look in the books. And let's see, at one time, some

reporter down there had a column in there, "Good Morning Judge," he told all in the jailhouse that Good Morning Judge was his col-, was his. . . [reply inaudible]. . .

Was this on the Herald Dispatch or. . . ?

I don't know which one it was. I imagine the Herald Dispatch, I imagine. We had some good reporters come out of Huntington. . . made the big time.

Big time. . . what do you mean?

New York papers. [inaudible]. . . over on 3rd Avenue, Bob Thornburg. And uh ,he made it and Sam Love. He's with these Hardware people down here [Love's Hardware]. Yeah. And he. . . he made one of the top newspapers, this reporter, columnist. And then uh, we had a boy, we have a fellow that lives here in town now, Jack Yates. Jack could have made it. But I think he went to work for some big company. And uh, big advertising company . And he liked that the best, so he stuck around. He's still living. He lives out here some place.

Do you happen to know. . . did the. . . well, after Sam Davis, did the other police chiefs, did they prefer not to have reporters around? Or did they. . . ?

I don't know. I don't know about that. After he left I didn't hang around too much any more, and I didn't know too much about it.

Mmmh. What did Sam Davis do on his off-duty time? Like, he worked seven days a week, but did he. . . did he ever take time off?

Yeah, he'd go hunting. When we'd go up there in Lincoln County, he'd take his shotgun and everything and we'd hunt, have a big time.

What about Chief John Dawson? Did he have any . . . ?

I don't remember too much about him. I was too little. Oh, my mother knew him. She didn't think too much of him. But I don't know.

Didn't think too much of him? He was just hard to be around or. . . ?

I don't know. I think just on the account of politics. [chuckling] You know. . . political.

Ben Robinson, was he. . . did he have sports or activities, I mean, a way to unwind or. . . do what he wanted or. . . ?

No, he wasn't, Ben wasn't police chief too long. Was he?

About a year or so, I mean, as a man.

Oh, he's a nice guy, yeah.

Did he have any things he did off duty or anything?

I don't know what he done off duty. The only time I saw him was up around the police station.

Jim, Jim Ross, did he ever take time off? Did he have any special things he'd like to do?

Yeah, run a restaurant. [chuckles]

Did he run the restaurant as he was chief of police, too, or. . . ?

Yeah. He had, he had that restaurant when he was, oh, was county commission.

He was a pretty busy man, wasn't he?

Oh, yes. He was county commissioner for a long time. He's a nice man, too.

What about. . .

John Ross, his brother, took care of, a lot of the business.

**What about Charles C. [inaudible name] he liked to do when he was off?
Or did he go off duty at all?**

He hung around the police station a whole lot. He just. . . he was up there a good bit of the time.

He never went hunting or fishing or played cards or took walks?

No, I don't think so.

What about uh, Morris Davis? Did he stay in the grocery store all the time? Or. . .he must have. . .

No, no, he had the grocery store. But he was chief of police. That's about, that's a long time ago when he was chief of police. What year was that man? I remember him. . . he was chief before Dawson. N.B. Davis.

He was before John Dawson came in.

What year was that now?

It was 1905 when he was voted down. But was he still active after his chief of police?

Who? Morris Davis?

Morris Davis.

No, he run a grocery store. He had a grocery store. . . . You know, I'll tell you where his last grocery store was. You know where Bob Evans is right at the foot of the bridge? He had a grocery store right there. That's when he died, when he run that grocery store there.

Did he uh, after chief of police, while he was running the grocery store, did he stay active in politics or have a social life?

No, I don't think so.

He didn't have any pass times or anything?

I don't remember him doing anything but sitting in front of his grocery store in the summer time. [chuckling]

What about Lon Whitten? Did Lon Whitten have any pass times when he was chief?

No, I don't think. . . . Lon was a wrestler. He wrestled Spangler Lewis one time.

[inaudible]

Yeah, he was on the, he was driving the patrol wagon then. Lon drove the patrol wagon. And uh, Sam Davis was chief of police. And this guy, Spangler Lewis, this guy was promoting wrestling, a guy named [inaudible]. You've heard of the great wrestler [inaudible name] or something. He was promoting wrestling. And he uh, he brought a couple of matches to Huntington down at the old Huntington opera house. He was over around the police station one day, and uh, talking-, hanging around. And him and Sam

got to talking and Sam said, "Bring him down, let Lon wrestle him!" [laughing] And Lon wrestled him.

How long did he last?

Oh, he [inaudible] but Lord, that Spangler Lewis, he was wider than that door there across the shoulders. I think he wore a 23 collar! Can you imagine? A 23 collar. He could take his collar and push it over his head, his neck was bigger than his head. You know, he was a brute. Then Lon . . . Lon quit the police force. Lon was on the police force 2 or 3 times. He uh, his brother was on-, was a state policeman. And I think he . . . [inaudible] well, he was state policeman. Then he quit that and uh, and went into hauling dynamite. You know, these C.I. Whitten trucks around here? That's Charlie Whitten's

END OF TAPE 2 - SIDE 1 BEGIN TAPE 2 - SIDE 2

. . . and got up in the mountains here some place with a load of T N T, his brakes failed him. And he had an awful time. He came pert near gettin' killed. He got off the truck. And that's when he quit hauling dynamite and came back and got on the police force again.

That's reason to do it.

And he uh, yeah, he retired. He used to . . . he retired off the police force after he was chief of police. He lived a long time. He was about 83 when he died.

Did you ever know. . . you said you didn't know, between Hercil Garten and Lon Whitten, you can't remember who was chief of police?

No, between Lon Whitten and Hercil Garten. No, I don't remember.

When did Lon Whitten retire from the police force, do you know?

I think he retired right after he quit the chief of police. That was about 1940, 1942-, 43, somewhere in there.

You don't know who was the other. . . who filled in, became chief after that. . . during the last part of the war?

Mmm-huh, I wasn't paying too much attention. Wait a minute, I got a card in here that tells when Lon was. . . [tape off/on] what year was that? He gave me that courtesy

card.

Says, "Chief of Police, Lon Whitten, Mayor, W.W. Payne."

Mmm-hmm, that's when Payne was. . . . Now you've got the scoop on Payne and Whitten.

Oh. Well, who was. . .who was Hercil Garten then? Who was he? Chief of police under them.

I don't know.

I thought. . .

Wasn't he major police or something?

Chief Attwell. When he was made chief of police, I thought it was under Payne.

No, he was down in there about the time of Frazier and those guys, Hercil was.

Hercil Garten, we're talking about Payne.

About the time Frazier was chief of police. Wasn't Frazier chief of police down there one time?

Herman Frazier was chief of police?

Oh, yeah. And Hercil was there along about that time.

Unh. That'd be about what? Early 50s? Late 40s? Or. . .

Had to be around the 50s I guess. You'll have to look that up down there. Hercil could have give you all that information.

He's so busy. Every day I want an interview with him, you know, a short interview. . . .

Mmm-hmm.

Do you happen to know. . . you mentioned I think, the last time I talked with you, that Hercil Garten used to . . . well, he used to eat lunch some place out here?

No, he used to go in to Don Humphries drug store over here.

A drug store?

Yeah. That drug store's closed now. Don sold it out. It's right over there where that New Yorker is, that delicatessen. Right below the corner. [inaudible] Him and Don Humphries were good friends.

I need to find out who was. . . . How many times did W.W. Payne serve as mayor, do you know?

I think it was one, I believe.

One.

I don't think he served two. Then there's a man named, you'll find his name in there some place. T.O. Fidler or something.

F-i-d-l-e-r?

Yeah, Fidler. **(T.O. Fidler)** I think he was mayor down there after Payne. Or somewhere along in there.

Mmh. You said that, say it again.

Uh, Peter Cline Buffington, the first mayor of Huntington, I understand, they told me, that Mrs. Buffington was uh. . . was Huntington's sister.

Collis P. Huntington?

Collis P. Huntington's sister.

Did Collis P. have any other relatives among the first leaders and all that?

Mmm-huh, I don't think so.

Was that W.F. Hite? Somewhere I thought that there was a Hite.

Yeah. You mean Bill Hite?

Something, someone thought that he was a relative of C.P. Huntington? Was he?

I don't think so. I don't know. I never heard anything about it.

Uh. All these men that knew Collis P. Huntington, did they uh. . . .

[problem with tape]

They were the town fathers.

What were they called? Did they call 'em, I mean, when they were alive, did they call them the town fathers? Did they call them Huntington's men or. . . ?

The city fathers. [chuckles] That's what they used to call the commission. And uh, [inaudible-tape slowing down] Buffington, Mrs. Buffington and all of them lived over there where that house burned down, you know, that big brick, right across from the Burger Chef.

I haven't got to that yet.

*Ray Black had an undertaking place in there. Black's Funeral Home or something. It burned down. That was the old Buffington/Enslow home. I'll tell you where the Buffington's used to live. On, you know where Buffington Avenue is? You know where that C & O Hospital is up there, at 18th Street? **(On 18th Street?)** Yeah. And 6th Avenue. Up in back of there there's a big old colonial-like house, and Buffington's used to live in there.*

I guess I've been by it.

[inaudible] That was years and years ago. And uh . . .

[considerable audio problems] [inaudible] Oh, well, her son, Cline Buffington, he was sheriff at one time down here. [inaudible] Along in there some place.

Sheriff of Cabell County? (Mmm-hmm) Cline Buffington?

[tape difficulty- missing audio]

. . . or things not to do?

No, I think Sam had. . . .

[inaudible-audio garbled] No, he. . . I was thinking way back there some place. He might have been with the police department. But way back there he was a body guard

for Teddy Roosevelt.

What did he do before he came . . . ? He was on the Huntington Police Department, Frank Tyree. What did he do?

Well, the first time I ever heard of him he got away from being Teddy Roosevelt's bodyguard.

Oh. He didn't have a business or anything?

Mmm-huh, no, he didn't have a business. He was always in some kind of government work.

Did he come back to Huntington very often?

Oh, yeah, he stayed here in Huntington. He lived here.

I mean, as a bodyguard and

Oh, when he was a bodyguard I didn't know him. The only time I met him was after he, after he was not Roosevelt's bodyguard any more.

Mmh. That was 1890 when he was chief, wasn't it? [inaudible] Let's see. Did Frank Tyree ever sit down and talk with Sam Davis after they both had been in police work for a few years? Tell stories or anything?

I never did hear any. They're pretty good friends though. Here was a dandy. Wait a minute. Where's Wiley? Pete Wiley was, was a chief of police at one time.

Oh, I know.

No, it's later than that. It was up around '10, 1910.

There was. . . 18. . . . Chief E-s-p-y? (Yeah) He was . . . Frank Tyree was police chief and Wiley and Tyree again, wasn't it?

Mmmh, Pete Wiley. . . .

Peter Wiley. . .

Yeah.

Frank Tyree, Wiley and then Willie McCallister, then Frank Tyree.

Yeah, I remember Mr. Wiley. He lived on 6th Avenue-, 5th Avenue and 6th Street. He had two boys. One was Lace and one was Wasey. Old Pete was a dandy.

What do you mean, a dandy?

[chuckling] He uh, [machine off/on] He had three boys and a girl. Had Tom, and uh, what do you call them? Shelton Smith. And what was the other one? Wyatt Smith.

These were all sons of D.I. Smith?

*Mmm-hmm, two sons and he had three sons and a daughter. And uh, they uh, one of the boys worked for the First National Bank down here til he died. Let's see, we called him Humpy. **(Humpy?)** Humpy Smith. He lives around the corner here. And his sister and uh, she taught school, his sister taught school. And uh, I think they found her dead one morning over there. And Tom, Tom Smith was-, had a typewriter business. You know, one of them office machines business. And Wyatt Smith wrote for the Herald Disptach. He was a . . . was a, you know, newspaper writer. He was a journalist.*

What time was he a journalist?

Oh, Wyatt was writing in 1930. He was, he was writing for a long time. He wrote a column called "Your Friends and Mine". It was something like Hardin writes about. He had a column like that, where he'd meet friends on the street and talk to them and stuff like that.

You said you didn't know anything about Mitchell, Mitchell Brothers.

No.

Oh, Thomas Scites. Thomas Scites was later treasurer and a whole bunch of other offices.

Yeah. Tom Scites, when I first knew him he was a big wheel in the National Guard. And then he had a, had a school, had a business school downtown.

Business school?

Uh-huh, you know where they teach, like you take in high school, commercial work. Typewriting and shorthand and all those sorts of things. He had a school down there called Sikes Commercial School.

Mmh. Do you know roughly where that was? What area?

Mmm-hmm, right below 9th Street, 4th Avenue. Let's see, where would it have been. . . . I can't [inaudible] location for you, but It's about 3 or 4 doors below 9th Street. That side of the street.

On what?

On 4th Avenue.

Mmh. Commercial School huh?

Scites Commercial School.

Said he was a big wig in the National Guard?

Mmm-hmm.

The National, not the State Guard or anything?

Yeah, I believe it was-, well, they called it the Milicia. That's what it was. (Milicia?) Just the state, just the National Guard. They had an armory down here on 5th Avenue, right about 1st Street.

I didn't know that.

And when Sam Davis was chief of police, I told you had [inaudible-tape slowed down] Mr. Scites, he was [inaudible] Thomas Austin Scites, we called him. He, he drilled 'em. He told 'em how to drill down at the armory.

This was before Dillon?

Oh, yeah, it's a long time.

So he was actually the first drill master or what? Instructor?

Yeah, he was just an instructor. It wasn't no pay job or anything. He was down at the armory and he had charge at the armory down there. And he'd get 'em down there, the whole police force, and drill 'em. They had a good drilling [inaudible] too.

He was from the Huntington area?

No, no, he had charge, I don't know what all he had charge of. But he had charge of the armory down there.

Was he [inaudible-tape slowed down-can't understand]

It was called Biggs Armory down there. They tore it down. They moved it out there, I'll tell you where they moved it, where you go up the hill at the Veteran's Hospital.

That's Westmoreland.

Yeah, out Spring Valley Road. Uh-huh, yeah, it's out there now. But he's. . . .

You said he was a big wig, but do you happen to know his rank? What his rank was?

No, I never did know. He had a rank, but I don't remember what it was.

Did any of the other men that you know uh, police officers or whatever, did they serve under him in the national guard?

No, I don't think so.

Mmh. This Scott Turner, you ever hear of him? Was he. . . was he a national guardsman?

No, he was town marshal, wasn't he?

Or he was the first chief of police.

Oh. . . .

Not the first one, but 2nd, 3rd one, I guess. Did you ever hear anyone. . . was he a national guardsman, was he a regular police officer, or where he came from or anything?

No, I don't know too much about him. Only. . . only what my mother told me--she knew him. They used to have a livery stable, Turner's did.

In Huntington?

Mmm-hmm. I'll tell you where it was. You know where the Emmons Apartments is?

Emmons Apartments?

Yeah, right there on 12th Street and 4th-, or 3rd Avenue? Yeah, they had a great big livery stable there, Turner's did.

They tore it down to put up the Emmons Apartments?

Uh-huh.

Was that a pretty good sized livery stable, do you know?

Oh, yeah, there was. . .there was a bunch of livery stables. Nearly everybody in town had a horse. They had to board 'em some place, and they called those horses boarders. I know Williams Brothers had one, had a stable, [inaudible] had a stable. And Turner's and McCormicks, everybody. There must have been a dozen stables around town here, livery stables.

Huh. [inaudible]

Huh? [tape off/on] The only architect I remember when I was a kid was W.W. Smith.

W.W. Smith?

Yeah. I know he was architect for St. Joe's Grade School up there. And. . . yeah, he was.

You ever hear of a James Stewart? [inaudible]

Mmm-huh, I don't think so. He might have been around. I didn't know him. When I was a kid, very few people around that I didn't know. [chuckling]

You reckon, you mentioned a Ben Robinson. Was he a building contractor?

I think he was, yeah, yeah, he was some kind of a contractor.

You recall any buildings that he. . . ?

Unh-huh. He didn't stay around Huntington long after he quit as chief of police.

Mmh. You said he had a local contracting firm?

Mmm-hmm, yeah.

[inaudible] famous from having built a building or . . . what? What about Thomas Sites? He being in the National Guard and he was treasurer and all that, did he build any, have buildings named after him? Or . . . ?

Not as I know of. [tape off/on] . . . Fredrick Hotel. Along about 1900.

The Ritter's built the Fredrick Hotel?

Mmm-hmm.

Was it a pretty popular hotel or . . . ?

Oh, it was a big thing, the Fredrick Hotel.

Why was the Fredrick Hotel built?

It was built about 1905, somewhere along in there.

Why was it built? Do you know?

For a hotel.

I mean, there's so many people coming, the tourists?

Oh, oh, yeah, Huntington's starting to grow about that time, and there was room for a hotel. They had a ballroom there and a place for a banquet and everything.

The Ritter family just then built it? Or did they have a corporation. . . .

I think they still own it. I don't know whether it was a corporation. But [inaudible] I believe Lloyd owns that thing all by himself now. Lloyd Ritter.

You ever hear of a hotel called--it's gone now I guess--the Florentine Hotel?

Yeah, on 9th and 4th.

That's the one where Bailey's Cafeteria is now?

Right above it. Bailey's Cafeteria is about two doors. . . two doors out from it. I'll tell you where it was. You know where Roger's Jewelers is?

I know where Roger's is.

Well, next door above there was Huffman's Book Store, and then they had a [inaudible] come out over the street where you come out of a car and wouldn't get wet? Like a . . .

Like a canopy?

It was permanently built, you know, on posts. [inaudible] Florentine. And it had marble floors and you went in there and it had two big pots of southern flowers, you know what they are. They're artificial. It was a big hotel, that Florentine was. . . at one time.

Pretty popular?

Yeah. I guess it was the biggest in town, til the Fredrick. It was the biggest in town til the Fredrick.

Oh, the Fredrick was built to replace. . . ?

No, they were both running. The Florentine run up until oh, I don't know how long. It closed out. Then some guy rented the rest of the building. And it might be that that cafeteria is just about where the entrance of the hotel was. Let's see, let me [inaudible]. On the corner there [inaudible] was a drugstore called Lyle and Body's Drug Store.

Called what?

Lyle and Body's Drug Store. And then there was a book store. And then I believe it was the entrance to, entrance to the Florentine Hotel. It just had one entrance, and then it spread out upstairs. It went this way and this way [measuring with his hands] the rooms did. Then out a few feet a little bit was a pool room.

Which way?

Going out towards 5th Avenue on the north side-, on the east side of the street. Then it was Wriston's Drug Store.

Was that Wriston's with an W or an R?

W-r-i-s-t-o-n-s, Wriston's Drug Store.

Any of those buildings still standing?

Yeah, those buildings are still there, I think. Yeah. In there where the cafeteria is.

Those buildings are stil standing.

[inaudible] Like Wriston's Drug Store, was that like. . .

It was Wriston's Drug Store, it didn't have the name of the building. I guess it was. . . . And then Tom [inaudible name] had a pool room right next to Wriston's Drug Store.

The same building or. . . ?

Yeah, the buildings right next to each other. I think the Florentine room was upstairs over that.

[inaudible]

[inaudible]. . . then these buildings downstairs.

Oh. Are the old saloons, are any of those original structures?

Now, wait a minute. The Florentine had a saloon in there. Florentine had a saloon.

First floor or second?

On the ground floor. And what else was in there? Oh, the Florentine Barber Shop, it was in there. There was a bunch of buildings underneath the hotel. [inaudible]

The saloons, who had that?

Swann, fellow named Jeb Swann.

Swann?

S-w-a-n-n.

I think I heard that big, like a big cleaning company or something. You mentioned all those saloons were down [inaudible]

There was some out 9th Street. There was. . .the biggest part of them was on 3rd Avenue, but they was spread all over town. There was one-, couple down at 14th Street West and a couple of them on 20th Street, you know, at places like that. But there was the Florentine Saloon. The Florentine Saloon was there, and there was the barber shop, and then a pool room, and Wriston's Drug Store. And right there on the corner-, I don't know what that was. First time I got acquainted with it, there was an automobile

agency came in--a fellow named Ike Hanley--and sold automobiles.

What kind did he sell, do you know?

Cadillacs. (Cadillacs?) And then he moved down . . .do you know where Superior Cadillac Company is? (Today, you mean?) Yeah. That was his, that was Hanley. He sold it out to Jim Thaxton.

Thaxton, used to be Thaxton Brothers. . . .

Tire Company, that's Jim. Up on 6th Avenue and 10th Street. Yeah, that was Jim Thaxton.

Where the present law firm and NCR. . .

Right on the corner where Coke, and Bagby and I think George. . . George Peters' got a place out there. You know, it runs out 10th Street. That was a, that was Thaxton Brothers Tire Company. And Jim, it was, Jim had a brother named Marion, and Marion and Jim, Jim inherited that or bought it from Ike Hanley. And I guess he later sold it to somebody else down there. I don't know who. Howard Cook bought it last time I remembered. For his son-in-law, Corkey Black. And they both died. I don't know who's running that Superior down there now.

[inaudible] building eventually.

Superior Cadillac?

That whole section there.

Well, you've heard of the Ratcliff's Famous Hamburgers, haven't you?

Ratcliff's?

Oh, he had the best hamburgers in the world. He was, he was right above, they bought his property. Now he lives right above, right above 14-, right above 5th Street there on, right up the street, between 5th and 6th Streets, along in there. They've expanded a whole lot in there since Jim had it, since Jim Thaxton had it.

What happened to Jim Ross' restaurants? Did they

I guess they all just petered out. Some of the chain restaurants and stuff got around..

They don't survive today unless they're part of a chain.

Oh, no, they're just, it was just two or three little hometown restaurants. Dillon's had some restaurants over there, too. Dillon had a restaurant over in there. A fellow named Jones, Oscar Jones. But his brother-in-law, Jim Ross, he had one of the restaurants. And Jim Ross had, or John Ross. Jim Ross had

And Al Ross is the one who fed the prisoners. Jim Ross had a restaurant.

Yeah. They're hard to separate, aren't they? [chuckling] Yeah, you'd have to be right among 'em and right with 'em before you . . . you'd be on to all that.

[tape off]

END OF SIDE 2 - TAPE 2