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1984

### Interview with Edith Price

Harry P. Disbrow III  
*Fort Hays State University*

Edith Price

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Edith Price

Edith presently resides in the country nine miles north and three miles west of Lebanon, Kansas. She is a native of Kansas and has lived most of her 87 years in the rural area north of Lebanon.

Edith, at the age of eighteen, had earned a third grade teaching certificate and began teaching in a one-room schoolhouse. Her first teaching assignment was at Glendale, four miles south of Bellaire. She also taught at Cora, Simmons, and Mount Hope which are all located north of Lebanon. Edith taught for eight years in one-room schoolhouses. Once she got married, she left the classroom.

Figure eight on page eleven is a picture of Edith at the age of 87 with Paul G. McCartney, age 74, a former student. Figure nine is a picture of Mount Hope School where Edith taught and where Paul was a student. Figure

ten shows Edith sitting at the desk still remaining in the Cora schoolhouse. Figure eleven is the Cora schoolhouse, now being used as a community center. Figure twelve is an article from the Lebanon Times written by Edith. She refers to this article in her interview.



Figure 8



Figure 9



Figure 10



Figure 11



Figure 12

### Former Cora Teacher Recalls Other "Memories"

(By Mrs. Harry Price, formerly Edith Grewell)

I have enjoyed reading "Cora Memories." Since I taught the Cora school in 1916-17 I have a few "memories" which I would like to relate.

During the winter months I stayed at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Hutchinson in "the little log house." Lelia was also at home. Their daughter, Lottie, now Mrs. Roy Clough, lived a short distance west.

The many kindnesses and hospitality shown me in this home I shall never forget.

Mrs. Hutchinson always met me at the yard gate when I came home from school. She would take my dinner pail and with a pat on the shoulder she welcomed me into their home. I always found a hot soapstone to warm my feet at night. She never failed to bring a big apple and give it to me before retiring, saying, "It was good for me."

Mr. Hutchinson was a kind old gentleman. Fixing windmills was his trade. I shall always remember his beautiful tenor voice and at evening he would have me play the piano and he would sing the old hymns so beautifully. The one that I shall always remember was, "In the Upper Garden There."

To the best of my knowledge 25 pupils attended the school that term, namely: Jay, Kay, Elle, Howard and Ila Mays; Blanche, Gerald and Edna Clark. Here I would like to mention that Lewis Clark was the "Village Blacksmith." Irene Olson (now Mrs. Irene Franklin of Smith Center), Kitty, Raymond and Louise Barnes; Lois Dean, Virgil Timmons, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Merle Timmons; Albina Timmons, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clair Timmons; Effie and Christy Logan, who stayed with the Roy Cloughs; Lillian and Perry Green, Clyde and Orval Bowman and three Martin children whose names I can't remember.

I wouldn't want to forget to mention Harve Smiley, assisted by his sisters, Stella and Marie, who operated the Cora store.

I rode my pony 11 miles a day to and from school and received \$60 per month.

Silas Dean, Ed Hutchinson and Mr. Barnes were the school board members, now all deceased. "Time and tide wait for no man."

paid anything for any of this and also for your art supplies you received very little money to help. You did get a little but very little really so if you wanted any other extra fixings then you bought them yourself.

Disbrow: Well, I would like to take a few seconds here to thank you very much for this interview and all your help for my Master Project.

Mrs. Turner: Thank you for asking me.

This interview is being taken with Edith Price on July 7, 1984. Edith (or Mrs. Price) presently resides in the country north of Lebanon, Kansas, and at one time taught in a one-room schoolhouse in Smith County, Kansas.

Disbrow: Edie, can you give me your present age right now?

Mrs. Price: Well, I'm 87, fourth of July.

Disbrow: How old were you when you first started teaching?

Mrs. Price: That's what I'm trying to figure out. I think I was eighteen. Put her down that way, anyhow.

Disbrow: How many years had you taught in a one-room schoolhouse?

Mrs. Price: Eight.

Disbrow: Eight years? What kind of educational background or how much schooling did you have to have in order to teach in a one-room schoolhouse?

Mrs. Price: Well, I had to have a third-grade

certificate for my third grade and that was all I ever had. Then I had to teach one year on the third and then afterwards I got a second grade. I taught on a second grade all the rest of the seven years.

Mr. Price: She only had one year of high school, but you had to have three or four in order to get a first grade.

Mrs. Price: I had one year of high school so a second grade was all I could get right every two years.

Disbrow: Edie, what was the first Smith County school that you taught at?

Mrs. Price: Glendale, south of Bellaire, four miles south of Bellaire.

Disbrow: Were there any other schools that you taught at besides Glendale?

Mrs. Price: Yes, I taught Cora one year, Simmons two years, and Mount Hope four.

Disbrow: How did you go about getting your first teaching position at Glendale?

Mrs. Price: Well, I just had that third grade certificate and asked me to come and teach when Marjorie Lumkin took sick--

Mr. Price: And there was a vacancy to fill . . .

Mrs. Price: And I went and taught.

Disbrow: What kind of school was that?

Mrs. Price: It was just a rural school.

Disbrow: Was it a wooden building?

Mrs. Price: Yes it was a wooden building. I think I had all eight grades, school, just a common school, eight grade.

Disbrow: What did you have to do for like heating?

Mrs. Price: Just an old stove that I built a fire in, cobs and coal and such as that.

Disbrow: Was that your job to do all that?

Mrs. Price: Yea, yea, I had to do that, pack in coal and empty the ashes and I done more janitor work.

Disbrow: What kind of facilities did you have for bathrooms?

Mrs. Price: Well, we just had an outdoor toilet like this picture one here. (Shows the one at Cora.) Shoot!

Disbrow: What did you do for lighting?

Mrs. Price: Didn't have any.

Disbrow: Didn't have any lighting at all, no kerosene lamps?

Mrs. Price: Don't think so.

Mr. Price: You had coal oil lamps, kerosene lamps, lanterns, whatever you hung up in there. Didn't have none of like electricity or gas or . . .

Mrs. Price: That old schoolhouse was awful dark on a stormy day.

Disbrow: What did you do if a storm cam? What did you do with your children like if you had a tornado? Was there any storm cellar or anything to go to?



Mrs. Price: No, no, no, there wasn't. I don't remember every having tornados or anything.

Disbrow: What kind of salary did they pay?

Mrs. Price: I just got \$50.00 a month.

Disbrow: Was there any other benefits that you got while you were there?

Mrs. Price: No, I had to pay \$12.00 a month for my board so, you see, I didn't have much left. Take those two kids, little twins, Dona Lambert's one of them there in Smith Center yet.

Disbrow: Where did you stay then?

Mrs. Price: I stayed at Lit Rorabaugh's, Dona's mother, Lit Rorabaugh. That's Del Rorabaugh's folks.

Disbrow: Who were the people that hired you and who were your bosses?

Mrs. Price: Lit Rorabaugh was one that was on the school board--

Mr. Price: What was that Jackson's name?

Mrs. Price: Irv Jackson, and I don't remember who the other one was.

Mr. Price: Was the other one a Sharp?

Mrs. Price: Well, I don't remember who it was.

Disbrow: Did you have any superintendent that was in charge?

Mrs. Price: Oh yea, I think Nelson--

Mr. Price: Miles Nelson. He was up at Oriole one time.

Mrs. Price: Miles Nelson was the County Superintendent.

Disbrow: How often did he come out and visit you?

Mrs. Price: Once a year.

Disbrow: Did you have to take any other classes or any workshops while you were teaching then?

Mrs. Price: No, no, no. I had plenty on my mind. Just what I was a doin' for a little done of a gal.

Disbrow: Now, did the school board and superintendent of your district there have any special guidelines that you were suppose to follow when you were teaching in the classroom and also out in the community?

Mrs. Price: No, but I'll tell you a little experience with this. The Rorabaugh's where I stayed, these little girls were babied so. This little Dona, she wouldn't pay any attention to me at all when she was in class. Just like she was sitting here and I was trying to teach her, help her a little bit and she kept looking backwards all the time and I had a lead pencil in my hand and I just whacked her on the head with it and, I was so sorry, that pencil broke in two and part of it flew clear back to the other end of the schoolhouse. Next morning her dad, Lit Rorabaugh, that's Del Rorabaugh's dad, called me into the bathroom and he said, "I want to speak to you a little bit." I knew just exactly what he was going to say. He said, "Now, I want you to understand we want you to keep order, but we think you are just a little bit too

cranky with the little folks." I said, "I know just exactly what you mean and I'm sorry that I broke that lead pencil on Dona's head. But," I said, "instead of using a lead pencil the next time, I'm going to turn her over my knee and give her a good spanking." I said, "She won't pay a lick of attention." And I said, "You've just babied her until she won't pay one bit of attention to me." And that was the end of that.

Disbrow: How many grades did you teach?

Mrs. Price: Eight, from first through the eighth.

Disbrow: Was there any special preparation that you took for the different grade levels?

Mrs. Price: No, once in a while I had to study a little bit the eighth grade in order to be ready to have my problems ready and everything, but no.

Disbrow: How did you teach all those eight different grades? Did you have them all together at one time or did you bring them up to your desk one grade at a time?

Mrs. Price: No, I would just call the first grade up and set down there in the recitation seats and then the second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh, and eighth.

Disbrow: What kind of subjects did you teach for fifth, sixth, seventh, and eighth grades?

Mrs. Price: Well, I taught arithmetic.

Mr. Price: Reading, writing, and arithmetic.

Mrs. Price: Reading, writing, and arithmetic. Just all of them I guess.

Mr. Price: All to the tune of a hickory stick.

Mrs. Price: You didn't have to take the primary or anything like that. I know we had to have what they call grammar, you know, and diagram sentences.

Disbrow: No, did all your students have the same type of book to work with?

Mrs. Price: Well, the first grade had a little primary book, the second would have a little advance book--

Mr. Price: Second-graders, third-graders, fourth graders, and fifth graders.

Mrs. Price: --third graders, the fourth graders. The subjects would advance as the ages of kids, you see. Near as I can tell.

Disbrow: Now, what kind of companies were making books at that time, do you know of any of those companies?

Mrs. Price: I don't remember.

Disbrow: Do you remember the names of your readers?

Mrs. Price: No, I don't remember. You've got a first reader around here, Harry, but I don't know where it's at. No, I really don't.

Disbrow: How many students did you have at Glendale?

Mrs. Price: I really can't tell you. I just don't know, twenty-some I expect or thirty, twenty or thirty-some.

Disbrow: In your rural schoolhouse there, did you have to be a certain age in order to be able to go to school?

Mrs. Price: Yes, you had to be five - six years old.



Disbrow: How about when you had to finish up? How old were your students at the eighth-grade level?

Mrs. Price: Usually about sixteen. Most of them were fifteen - sixteen, I think.

Disbrow: Did you ever have any older than sixteen years old?

Mrs. Price: I don't believe I ever did.

Disbrow: How long was your school day?

Mrs. Price: How long were the school desks?

Disbrow: School day.

Mrs. Price: Oh. Well, from 9:00 in the morning until 4:00 in the afternoon.

Mr. Price: An hour off for dinner.

Mrs. Price: An hour for dinner, fifteen minutes for recess.

Disbrow: Now, did you have a recess both in the afternoon and morning?

Mrs. Price: Recess at 10:30 in the morning and 2:30, I reckon, in the afternoon, near as I can remember.

Disbrow: What kind of things did the kids do during recesses?

Mrs. Price: What did they do? We played ball when it was nice. I guess went out and made snowmen in the wintertime, so on and so forth.

Mr. Price: Oh, they played all kinds of games, pullaway, drop the handkerchief, and baseball.

Mrs. Price: That's about the size of it I guess.

Mr. Price: Then yours, they used to have--

Mrs. Price: I used to go out and play with them.

Mr. Price: --what they called spelling bees and ciphering matches. I know one time Arthur McCann lived there and he took him team and took a load of kids from Independence over there, my old school, up to Mount Hope to a spelling bee and ciphering match. I remember that.

Mrs. Price: Now, let's go on. Says "How did you go about getting a teacher's position?" Well, the board just called out and asked me, the Glendale board just called and wanted me to come down and teach school. That was how that was.

Disbrow: Now, how long was your school year?

Mrs. Price: Seven months.

Disbrow: When did it start? Can you remember?

Mrs. Price: The first Monday in September or second Monday. I don't remember, the first of September anyhow.

Disbrow: And always ended in April then?

Mrs. Price: Yea, we usually had a weeks vacation at Christmas time.

Disbrow: Did you teach music also?

Mrs. Price: No. We did have an organ and played and sang for opening exercises, we did that.

Disbrow: Did you always have prayer every day?

Mrs. Price: We had prayer. We recited the Lord's Prayer about every morning at Mount Hope, but I don't remember about the other schools.

Disbrow: How about art class?

Mrs. Price: No, didn't have time for anything like that.

Disbrow: Edie, can you tell me how you got to school?  
How did you transport yourself to the schoolhouse?

Mrs. Price: I rode horseback. Down at my first school I drove a big old black mare to a buggy, took Dona and Mona Rorabaugh. They's in the first grade of school. That's how I got--went the first year.

Disbrow: What did you do with your horse when you got to school?

Mrs. Price: I unhitched her and put her in the barn--

Mr. Price: Had a little barn. Had them little barns there at the schoolhouse.

Mrs. Price: --and then I had to hitch her up and get ready to take the girls home.

Disbrow: Now, did all your students come to school by horseback?

Mrs. Price: Oh, no--

Mr. Price: No, they'd walk.

Mrs. Price: --I think most of them would walk.

Mr. Price: When I went to school, I walked two miles and a half when I was four years old when I started to school.

Disbrow: Edie, can you give me a little background from the Cora one-room schoolhouse when you taught there?

Mrs. Price: You got the write-up about that.

Disbrow: Can you remember a little bit about that write-up?

Mrs. Price: Oh, I stayed at Ed Hutchinson's. I stayed at home, only when the roads was bad in the wintertime I stayed at Ed Hutchinson's. I wrote there about what good ole people. She would always come out to the gate and meet me and take my dinner bucket and pat me on the back and come in. She'd have a little something hot for me to drink. At night she would always fix a hot iron for my feet, just babied me. I wasn't used to it.

Mr. Price: She always gave you an apple, too.

Mrs. Price: Gave me a big apple before I went to bed, says it was good for me. He always had me play the piano every night and he sang that old song "In the Upper Garden There" and he had such a beautiful tenor voice.

Disbrow: Now, who was that?

Mrs. Price: Ed Hutchinson, where I stayed during the winter months when it was stormy.

Mr. Price: He was an old miller man. He bored, listen, he bored half the wells around this country. He was an old man that bored wells, out on these farms.

Mrs. Price: That'll be in that write-up. At Mount Hope I stayed with my sister, my twin sister Ethel, Faye Upp, Mrs. Faye Upp, and I rode a pony and took their little daughter on behind me. I don't know if it was all four years or not. I don't believe it was all four, but anyhow, I rode a pony.



Mr. Price: Well, you surely did.

Disbrow: How many students did you have up there at Mount Hope?

Mrs. Price: I think I had, I tried to count them and I think there was 31 there.

Mr. Price: Well, whatcha got on that picture there you had? There's 46 on the back of that.

Mrs. Price: No, that's Oriole. I tried to count them here and I thought I counted about . . . there's 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26. No, I don't know what year this was. But on the last day of school we would have our programs, you know, and there was people, we would have a basket dinner. There's memories, just look at the people that came!

Disbrow: What kind of special programs did you have with your children at school?

Mrs. Price: Well, we always had Christmas programs. About the only ones, I believe, Christmas programs.

Disbrow: Did you have a good turnout with all the parents?

Mrs. Price: Oh yes, schoolhouse would hardly hold them.

Disbrow: What was a Christmas program like when you had all the parents there?

Mrs. Price: Well, I had dialogue books and things that I'd . . . Christmas books that I had sent for, I've got some out there now.

Mr. Price: Goin' to them dialogues was just about like goin' to a show. They had curtains up, you know.

Mrs. Price: But for the church I had Christmas hymns or Christmas songs like, oh, I don't know.

Disbrow: Now, did the parents bring . . . did you have like a meal after the program or anything like that?

Mrs. Price: No, not after programs we didn't have. The last day of school we had a big basket dinner.

Disbrow: At your Christmas programs, were they during the day or in the evening?

Mrs. Price: Evening.

Disbrow: What did you do for lighting?

Mrs. Price: I think the church had lights. Yea, the church had lights, electric lights.

Disbrow: So for your Christmas program, you didn't have it in the school?

Mrs. Price: No, at the church.

Disbrow: Mount Hope Church?

Mrs. Price: Yea, we always went down to the church.

That's where they had the big Christmas tree, I can just see it yet: sitting there in the corner, all trimmed up. That's where we had our programs.

Disbrow: Who put the Christmas tree up for you?

Mrs. Price: Just the young folks of the community.

Disbrow: What did you do for drinking water?

Mrs. Price: There was a well at the schoolhouse.

Disbrow: Did you have to pump the water or did you have some student do it?

Mrs. Price: Oh, yes. Had an old bucket and each one of the kids was suppose to have an individual cup of their own, put it there on the rack, hung it up.

Disbrow: Did you also have a coal stove?

Mrs. Price: Oh yea, had to pack in my coal.

Mr. Price: Every dang schoolhouse had one of them old pot-bellied big stoves, and they'd just get hotter than a pistol, you know, and you'd just roll in that coal and, my Lord, how hot we'd get. And on cold mornings, the back end of the schoolhouse, it was awful cold you know, and it'd get zero, why, they'd let you move up around the stove. And when we got warm, then we'd move back to our seats.

Mrs. Price: You know, if I had a chance I would still like to go out and get up and give readings and such as that, if I had a chance. At club I had an old reading "Old Mother Hubbard Went to the Cupboard", as a sermon:

Kind friends, brothers, and sisters and little children. I am very happy to be with you this afternoon and to have the opportunity to bring to you a few short scriptures not found in the Holy Bible. Brethern, I have chosen for my text "Old Mother Hubbard Went to the Cupboard to Get Her Poor Dog a Bone, But When She Got There the

Cupboard Was Bare So That Poor Dog Had None". Now my dear brethern, you remember my reading in my text that I said Old Mother Hubbard went to the cupboard. She did not hop or skip or run or jump or use any other fantastic step but she just slowly and merely went to that cupboard. Now, here observe that I said cupboard, not the ones above or ones below or the ones underneath the floor, but just the one solitary cupboard in that poor old cottage that that poor old widow possessed. Now, you can imagine this scene: This poor old widow going slowly and humbly and feebly across the floor in hopes and expectation to get that poor dog a bone. But, ah, my dear friends, when she got there the cupboard was vare. Now you can imagine this scene: this poor old dog lying there in the corner with his disappointed tail upon the floor and this poor old long-sought bone lying elsewhere and this poor old widow still standing there at the empty cupboard door.

Now, that's enough of it.

Mr. Price: Go ahead and finish it, it's interesting.

Mrs. Price: No, I'm not going to.

Disbrow: Ah, come on. Can you finish it?

Mrs. Price: No, I don't believe I can.

Mr. Price: Oh, you can, too.



Mrs. Price:

We are not fully told whether the door was open or partly ajar, but we are told that she went to get that poor dog a bone. There was to be found neither apples or oranges nor other luscious foods but I tell you the cupboard was bare. Bare as a newborn babe. Ah, at this point my information ceases. I do not have knowledge or wisdom to go farther, but who would dare pierce the veil that shrouds the ultimate fate of Mother Hubbard and this poor old dog and that long-sought poor bone. Ah, my dear friends, try to remember this sermon and try to apply it to your every day life and you, ladies, try to prevent from being a widow. But if nature has prevailed that you do these things, try and keep more than one cupboard in the house and keep bones in them. At this point my information ceases. I do not have knowledge or wisdom to carry further but you can still imagine this poor old dog lying there crunched with his old tail lying there in a corner with this old long-sought bone elsewhere and this poor old widow still standing there at that empty cupboard door. But, ah, my dear friends, if you ladies, if you are ever left an empty cupboard door or a hungry dog, try to keep more than one cupboard in the house and keep provisions in them.

I didn't need to do that.

Disbrow: Did your students ever do that for you?

Mrs. Price: Readings? Oh, yea. I never did get up and give any readings. This is one I gave at club here awhile back.

Mr. Price: You gave that down at church at Lebanon there one time. You had . . . she had a Montgomery Ward catalog for her Bible. She had a little pedestal she took with her. And put that Monkey Ward catalog up on there for her Bible.

Mrs. Price: Oh, I dressed up. I had my mother's little old hat that you tied under your chin and a cape and a long skirt and I really led her off. There was a minister there--Gooddale. You remember Gooddale? I didn't see him laughing but Harry said he sure got a kick out of it.

Mr. Price: That old feller lives in Lebanon yet. Yea, Richard Gooddale.

Mrs. Price: I didn't need to explode.

Disbrow: Did you ever have very many discipline problems at all?

Mrs. Price: I never did have any trouble only with Ralph Arbuckle. No, I never did have any trouble.

Disbrow: Are there any special memories that you can think of?

Mrs. Price: Just the good old times and the friendly people and box suppers, programs, about the only things I can think of.

Disbrow: Can you tell me a little bit about them? What went on at the box suppers?

Mrs. Price: Well, they just . . . all of them bring their boxes and they auctioned them off and then they would sit down and eat with their partner. About the size of it.

Mr. Price: Alot of these fellers would want to buy their girl's box, you know, You'd take your girl and she'd have a box and then you'd sure want to buy her box, but sometimes they got pretty danged high--

Mrs. Price: Sometimes we had what you would call pie suppers and they'd bring a pie and then we would auction them off, but I don't think I ever had pie suppers. Just box suppers.

Disbrow: Now, was this done by the school?

Mrs. Price: No, Just the teacher and the pupils.

Disbrow: Teacher and the pupils?

Mrs. Price: Yea.

Disbrow: Did the parents come?

Mrs. Price: It was community, everybody brought a box, the young folks and the community brought boxes, the old ones, too.

Disbrow: What did you do with all the money that you made?

Mrs. Price: We gave it to the church. Always gave it to the church.

Disbrow: What would a cake or a pie or something like that in those days go for?

Mrs. Price: I don't know but the boxes would bring a pretty good price. I don't believe I ever had a pie supper.

Disbrow: How high did your box suppers go?

Mrs. Price: I couldn't tell you.

Mr. Price: According to how bad . . . I think I gave \$5.00 for Pearly Morris's box that night, and a Model T Ford fixed up. I was goin' with her. I was goin' with Pearly Morris.

Mrs. Price: I think we always had a nice amount of money to give to the church each time, around \$40.00 - \$50.00, I don't know. I don't remember, I didn't write it down. I had an old record of Mount Hope teaching and everything, but I think I destroyed it here a few years ago.

Mr. Price: And then sometimes, listen and I'll tell you another one. This Darrell Miller's dad, Earl Miller, he was kind of a . . . oh, I don't know . . . an old maid-of-a-guy. And the boys always go to box suppers and they'd put up a box of candy or something and vote for these girls. The most popular girl would get the most votes and get the candy. And the boys got to callin' him Sally--Sally Miller. And they was a pickin' out some girl, you know, and somebody hollered out "Sally Miller" and they put his name down and he got the prize all right.

Disbrow: Edie, what kind of salary did you get at Cora?



Mrs. Price: Well, let's see, I got \$50.00 first. I think about \$60.00 probably. I tell you I can't tell you. Sixty dollars or \$65.00 or something like that and it just increased clear up to \$75.00, \$85.00, and I think I got \$100.00 the last two years I taught at Mount Hope. I believe I did. I know I did the last year.

Mr. Price: I think you're right. It seemed the first two years you got close to \$90.00 or something like that. And the last two years you made \$100.00 out of it.

Mrs. Price: Yea, I think I did.

Disbrow: How many years in all did you teach in a one-room schoolhouse?

Mrs. Price: Eight years. I taught one at Glendale, one at Cora and two at Simmons and four at Mount Hope. If I hadn't gotten married and they hadn't closed the school, I would still be teaching up there, I expect. I had a sister Trix married Freddie Brown (I expect you knew Freddie Brown probably) that taught the Fairview School, but she taught one year and got married the same year we did. She was a lot younger than I was. Harry and I lived here sixty years.

Mr. Price: Yea, I bought this place in 1911, moved up here and I was sixteen that summer and I've been here ever since. Mom and me was married in 1924 when I was still here. And that's where she came right in here, when we was married in '24.

Mrs. Price: I don't know if I can tell you anything, just good old days. If you want to do some figuring on how many miles I rode a horse to school why, you don't need to now, but anyhow I averaged . . . I went five miles at least and probably more than that, but that'd be ten miles a day and fifty miles a week and 200 miles a month for six months and eight terms. Why, there wasn't anything left of me. No, you don't need to do that, but anyhow, I thought alot of times . . .

Disbrow: Now, have you lived in Kansas all your life?

Mrs. Price: Yes, just right around Duckerville. Just right over the hill here and that and Mount Hope.

Mr. Price: I've lived here within two miles and a half of where I was born all my life. A lot of these boys always say, "Well, I want to get out and see the world. I want to see--"

Mrs. Price: You probably know Burl Grewell who lives in Smith Center, don't you?

Disbrow: Yes, I sure do.

Mrs. Price: He's my brother.

Disbrow: Burl is?

Mrs. Price: Yes, he went to Oriole School and Mount . . . I don't know if Burl went to Mount Hope or not, he probably wasn't old enough. But I think it would be real interesting if you would read this article that Glen Spurrier's written up that Mark Payne wrote about the

rural school. If you're done I got some coffee made.

Disbrow: I would really like to say thank you very much for all you help and I've really enjoyed this visit.

Mrs. Price: I have, too. I'm kind of dumb but--

Disbrow: No, not at all. I thoroughly enjoyed it and I appreciate these memories that you shared with me.

Mrs. Price: I've got a lot of good ones, just good old memories. Everybody was so good to me. I don't think I had an enemy, always good to me.

Disbrow: Well, I would sure like once more to say thank you very much.

Mrs. Price: You're sure welcome.

This interview is being taken with Francis Myers on July 7, 1984. Francis presently resides in Smith Center, Kansas, and at one time taught in a one-room schoolhouse in Smith County, Kansas.

Disbrow: Francis, can you give me your present age?

Mrs. Myers: I'm 64.

Disbrow: Are you a resident of Kansas? Have you lived in Kansas all your life?

Mrs. Myers: Born in Kansas and I've lived here all of my life.

Disbrow: How old were you when you first started your teaching profession?

Mrs. Myers: I was eighteen years old.