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### Memories of the 1930s - FHKSC Radio Program

Diane Gumm

*Fort Hays Kansas State College*

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RT  
398  
F666m  
1913  
No. 1  
Suppl.

3 3/4 ips

NARRATOR: Diane Gum. FHKSC radio program  
TITLE: "Memories of the 1930's"

SIDE ONE

- 000-011: Dust bowl days. The Dirty 30's.
- 012-105: Interview with Dr. Ray McCartney. Teaching in the Dirty 30's.
- 106-136: " " Mrs. H. E. Malloy. Keeping house.
- Eda 137-186: " " Mrs. Etta L. Wiest. The first storm. Keeping house.
- 187-292: " " Mr. H. J. Tholen. Hays businessman. Economics, dust, wages.
- 293-327: " " Mr. John Schaeffer. Welfare relief worker.
- 328-340: Conclusion.
  
- 341-361: Part 2. Farmers in the Dirty 30's.
- 362-461: Interview with Mr. and Mrs. Frank Anderson. Farmers. Farm life. Cooking.
- 462-560: " " Mr. and Mrs. John Zilky (?). Livestock. Zielke
- 561-585: " " Mrs. Lydia Eichman. Loss of farm.
- 586-735: " " Mrs. Helen Wise. Farm wife. Meals.
- 736-838: Conclusion. Dr. McCartney on Mr. John Bird.

No B or C forms

SIDE TWO : BLANK

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F666m  
1973  
No. 1  
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14 min

Dust bowl days - The Dirty 30's - Interview with  
Dr. Ray Mc Cartrey - talks about the black  
clouds coming in at high noon - Dust cloth  
were standard items all students brought  
with them - nothing seemed to keep the very  
fine dust from coming in on windows  
and doors - the worst was in spring  
of 1935 of May - teaching in Picken Hall -  
dust so bad, many got Dust Pneumonia -  
masks were used to help breathing - In  
1934 talks about men that were valedictorians  
& salutatorians about 75 from all over  
western Kansas, to help them go to school  
for 2<sup>50</sup> a week and board and room - These  
were high caliber men & proved themselves  
in years to come - That was beginning of  
program for men and some women -  
also talks about wet sheets used on windows  
and wet clothes around windows and doors  
to keep dust out

2 min

Next interview was with Mrs. H. E. Malloy  
also talks about bad dust coming into  
house - from total daylight to dark - especially  
remembers 2 very bad ones - others just average

Tape	Time	Break between Side A and B
RT 398 F666m 1973 no. 1 Suppl. (continued)	8 min	The next interview was with <u>Mrs Etta L. Weist</u> of Hays - Talks about first dust storm - In day of birthday party of Mr. Markwell - sitting on black couch - his clothes showed where he sat - Children at basketball game during storm - hardly see steps getting out - Talks about 1936 dust storm - temperature was 117° - clouds came suddenly & was awful - dirt was literally shoveled out -
	11 min	Next interview was with <u>Mr. N. J. Tholen</u> , a Hays business - mentioned the 1929 depression coupled with the drought period for several years - The economics at time - stating the first dust storm 1934 - dust drifts in yards of farmers - shoveling paths to get from house to barn - it was black dust - window displays covered with dust - not knowing what the jewelry items were - Depression set in - wages were very low - taking inventories weekly in grocery stores to determine wages - later new wage laws established (music so loud couldn't understand at times)
	4 min	Next interview is with <u>Mr. John Schaeffer</u> remembers first dust storm, everything turned black in midday - talks about several men in car, took forever to get 4 or 5 miles to destination - worked at hospital - to get dust out of rooms was a challenge - talks about welfare relief workers.

Topic	Time	Break between side A and B
RT 398 F66621 1973 no. 1 (continued) Side B	18 min	<p>Part 2 of <u>Farmers in the Dirty 30's</u> - Interview with <u>Mr + Mrs. Frank Anderson</u> - tells of many farmers having to borrow from banks to continue farming and tells also about cattle losses - Tells about farming by he and his brother farmed large - when drought set in + dust storms came it was rough - who going - wheat sold for 25¢ per bushel - land started blowing - the worst storm he remembered in 1935 - beautiful day + saw storm coming - started for cave - for an hour <sup>they stayed</sup> could see possibly 100 feet - Land and pasture had not even a green leaf left - Mrs. Anderson tells about bed covers so bad - couldn't see designs - take bedding out shake it off - cooking was bad to try at times - Crops were terrible - traveling was risky - had to stop at times to see where they were going - They later moved to town - Couldn't feed cattle, lost some + could hardly give them away -</p>
	1 min	<p>Next interview with <u>Mrs Lydia Eichman</u> - tells about dust storms came from one direction, then the other direction - couldn't keep up farm, so lost the farm</p>
	7 min	<p>Next <u>Mrs. Helen Wisco</u> - farmer's wife - tells how every dish was covered to be able to eat - furniture was covered when dust storms came - rough walls had to be cleaned first with paint brushes, then cleaned - no electricity then - tried to raise some hardy vegetables - rain was scarce - daughter born at home in 1934 - had practical nurse to help for 2 weeks - tells about people on highway at time of dust storm and burned out the engine -</p>

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No. 1  
(Continued  
on Side B)

Time  
8 min.  
6 min.

Break between side A and B

Continued with Mrs. Helen Wise - tells about farming machine covered up completely. Talks about trouble heating + washing clothes. Tells about getting \$60 per month + groceries were furnished on farm - lived there for 20 years -

The conclusion of the interview is with Dr. Mc Cartney on Mr John Bird - tells of headline in Newspaper "A Million Dollar Dust Storms in Kansas from Nebraska" - Mr. Bird's newspaper had good explanation - tells of chemical and biological actions changes with moisture in soil - and moisture did come and Dr. Mc Cartney did experience in later years as Mr Bird predicted

RT

398

Gum, Diane.

F666m

Memories of the 1930's.

1973

no.1

INFORMANT BIOGRAPHY FORM

1. Name: <i>H. J. Tholen</i>		2. Date: <i>30 October 1958</i>	
3. Address: <i>106 W. 17th St., Hays</i>		4. County: <i>Ellis</i>	5. Age: <i>68</i>
6. Place of Birth: <i>Victoria, Kansas</i>			
7. Ancestry: <i>German</i>		9. Education (Circle highest)	
		Grade school 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8	
		High School 1 2 3 4	
		College 1 2 3 4	
8. Languages spoken: <i>German, English</i>			
10. Places of residence:		Dates:	
<i>Ellis County, Kansas</i>		<i>all his life</i>	
11. Present occupation: <i>Retired</i>		12. Former occupations: <i>Jeweler</i>	
13. Father's name:		17. Mother's name:	
14. Father's place of birth: <i>Germany</i>		18. Mother's place of birth: <i>Pennsylvania</i>	
15. Grandfather's place of birth: <i>Germany</i>		19. Grandfather's place of birth: <i>Germany</i>	
16. Grandmother's place of birth: <i>Germany</i>		20. Grandmother's place of birth: <i>Germany</i>	
21. Place and condition of interview: <i>Mr. Tholen's home.</i>			
22. Remarks:			
Collector's name: <i>S. J. Sackett</i> Address: <i>Hays, Kansas</i>			