

Harry Webster- June 11, 1985.

I was born in Calgary, Alberta on September 19 1911. We left Calgary in 1930-31 to Vancouver. In 1933 we came North by boat to Prince Rupert, and by train from Rupert to Hazelton. We settled in Two-Mile. That is, my father, my mother and brother and sister and I.

(E) ~~Were your parents originally from Calgary?~~

(H) No. My father was from England. My mother was from Scotland.

(E) ~~Why did you come to Hazelton?~~

(H) Well, I came to Hazelton because I was going to have a job on the Yukon Telegraph trail. Which was closed down the year we got here, so I didn't get a job. But my father was retiring anyway and he wanted to come North that's why we came actually.

(E) ~~Was that mainly why people came to Hazelton was for mining?~~

(H) Well, no there were no mines operating then.

(L) ~~Telegraph trails.~~

(E) ~~What jobs were available when you got here?~~

(H) There weren't any *jobs there days as it was*

(L) ~~That was during the depression?~~

(H) ~~Yah.~~ Everybody helped everybody out. You want something and you work for that fella and he worked for you. It was kind of a barter system.

But we did get 2 days work a month from the public works.

(L) ~~That's not very much.~~

(H) That paid us \$3.40 a day, but that's \$6.80 was adequate, you could buy anything you wanted for a month on that. That is, you know, necessities.

(L) ~~That \$7.00 would carry you through the whole month?~~

(H) ~~Well not through the whole month, carefully maybe.~~ Kept you in tobacco anyway.

(E) Did you go to school when you were here?

(H) No.

(E) Was there a school?

(H) There was a school. In fact there was two. There was an Indian School up on the bench. Which was run by some church

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The actual school in town was a building where Smokey Morrison's house is now.

~~(E) You don't know when they were amalgamated?~~

~~(H) I'm not sure of that. I know it was about 1950 when they built the first section of the present High School.~~

~~(L) Smokey Morrison's house is that the same building or is that just where it was?~~

~~(H) No. I think ^{Smokey Morrison's house} it was torn down and started over again. I should say Rosie Morrison's house.~~

~~(E) Do you know when Hazelton was incorporated?~~

~~(H) Not exactly, but that wouldn't be hard to find out. I was here at the time. I can't remember the exact year.~~

~~(E) First Mayor?~~

~~(H) First mayor was Pat York.~~

~~(L) Can you tell us about the origin of two-mile?~~

~~(H) Not really. Except I heard it was a recreation center for the employees who were building the railway.~~

~~(L) That's where the dance hall was located, in Two-mile?~~

~~(H) No. Well there might have been one there at one time. But the one I mentioned was located in Old Town here, where June's garage is. It was Allen Benson's garage at that time. He had a taxi, the only taxi business.~~

~~(L) Was he the only guy who owned a taxi?~~

~~(H) Yes.~~

~~(E) How many people owned cars then?~~

~~(H) Well, the station agent in South Hazelton had a car, and Allen Benson had a car.~~

~~(E) In the Hazelton area?~~

~~(H) There was maybe 3 cars, maybe 4.~~

~~(E) That's what Ward told me.~~

~~(L) In the whole area there was just 3 cars. How did people get around? ^{The} on foot~~

~~(H) On foot.~~

~~(L) On foot? Must have had to really plan ahead.~~

~~(H) I never thought anything of walking into town from two-mile, 2 maybe 3 times a day.~~

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(L) ~~That's quite a hike.~~

(E) ~~What types of entertainment were there? Was there radio, t.v., sports?~~

(H) ~~For entertainment~~ No, there was no t.v., and very few people owned radios. There was no theater, no moving pictures.

(L) ~~Did you have a local newspaper?~~

(H) ~~There was~~ Yes. The Omineca Herald was published right here in New Hazelton. A fello named Chuck Sol owned it. He sold it out and it moved to Terrace.

(E) ~~That's probably the Daily Herald now?~~

(H) ~~Could be, yes.~~

(E) ~~Were there dances?~~ *were very few dances.*

(H) ~~very few.~~ Maybe ^{two} 2 or three a year.

(L) ~~Did you attend any of the dances?~~

(H) ~~oh yes, I never missed any of them.~~

(E) ~~Who played?~~

(H) ~~The players were~~ Roy Wilson, and his orchestra from Kispiox. the Wild Wood Orchestra. Jonathan Johnson, Roy Wilson,

(L) ~~Chris Harris~~

(H) ~~Jeff Harris,~~

(E) ~~Must have been interesting.~~

(L) ~~I don't~~ Do you know where the name Wild Wood came from?

(H) ~~I have no idea.~~

(L) ~~I always wanted to know that.~~

(E) ~~There was no~~ Was there any liquor at these dances?

(H) ~~No.~~

(E) ~~No?~~

(H) ~~Well, yes. You had to order it from Smithers though.~~ *liquor* The closest liquor store was in Smithers. There was a beer parlor and there was a hotel.

(E) ~~Oh, there was a beer parlor? O.K.~~

(L) ~~Was that the Inlander Hotel?~~

(H) ~~No,~~ that was the hotel where the library building is now.

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(Q)-interviewer, (H)-Harry

(Q) ~~So there was a Hotel too. That was another question; Was there a hotel in town? What was the name of the hotel?~~

(H) *It was called* Hazelton Hotel, six rooms, a *beer* parlor which held 24 people.

(Q) ~~What type of Housing was available?~~ *very hard to get*

(H) ~~Oh, there was only one vacant house in the whole community and it was in two-mile. We moved into it when we first came here till we built our own. But there wasn't houses of any kind.~~ *vacant*

(Q) ~~Was the rent kind of high, or was it low?~~

(H) *Rent* It was high at those times, five dollars a month.

(Q) ~~That was high? Were you called away to serve in the war?~~

(H) *Then* I enlisted in thirty-nine *with some others*.

(Q) ~~Were you the only one from here?~~

(H) Oh no, _____, Smokey Morrison, Solomon Jack, Jeff Wilson, Neil Sterritt.

(Q) ~~Did anyone close to you go?~~

(H) No, my brother was turned down, he only had one eye.

(Q) ~~Did you go overseas?~~

(H) *I didn't go overseas* No, I spent the whole war defending us against the Japanese on the coast.

(Q) ~~Prince Rupert coast?~~

(H) Our bases were up and down the coast. Got as far as Quebec *at one* time on my way overseas.

(Q) ~~What types of crimes existed?~~

(H) ~~There weren't any.~~

(Q) ~~No crimes?...How about police?~~

(H) *For Policing* Well there was Mounted Police and there was the Provincial Police both here. The Mounties had an office and used to live in the building that used to be Pam Mahoney's, and the Provincial Police were in this building here. (Now the Museum down town)

(Q) ~~Has Hazelton grown much since?~~ *has* *then*

(H) OH YAH!

(Q) ~~In what way?~~

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(H) There's more houses now and there are better facilities and the whole area has developed.

(Q) Which would you say came first? Was it the Mounted Police that came in or was it the people that wanted to settle?

(H) Oh I think the settlers were here first.

(Q) And the Mounted Police came in later? What about the hospital, did they come about the same time?

(H) I think it was 1910 when the first hospital was built that was the wooden building, and think it was 1930 they built the one they just tore down.

~~(Q) Did you pay property taxes?~~

(H) ~~I don't think so, no.~~ *There were no taxes*

~~(Q) Do you know anything about the community hall?~~

(H) ~~The one that is now Beetsma's store?~~ *There was a community hall* I was involved, my wife and I were involved in organizing that community centre. ~~was the dance hall and then there, some movies were shown then.~~

~~(Q) Did they have entertainment there, like stage shows?~~

~~(H) Not that I can remember.~~

~~(Q) Do you know anything about the Gitanmax Hall?~~ *Then there was Gitanmax*

(H) The one that burned down?

~~(Q) Ya.~~

(H) Ya, we used to go to dance there quite often.

~~(Q) What else went on there?~~

(H) Well I don't think there was much else. There was no no Bingo that I can remember.

~~(Q) Do you know any recreational things that went on? Did you participate in any?~~

(H) They had base ball teams, Old Town, New Town, South town. I believe there was some hockey. There used to be an outdoor rink behind the B.C. Cafe. that was all vacant lots. We skated on hospital lake too when the conditions were good.

~~(Q) So that must mean the winters were pretty cold?~~

(H) *Winters* Yes, they were then; much colder than now.

~~(Q) That was another question, were they colder now.~~

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(H) In 1950 , the first of January the temperature dropped to 45 below and it never warmed up one degree until the middle of February! Six weeks at 45 degrees below weather.

~~(Q) What happened during those times, like did you have to stay in?~~

~~(H) Oh no.~~

~~(Q) Did people have to go out on the trapline and stuff? In these conditions? So business as usual.~~

(H) That was the winter the river froze solid and they took a thirty-nine ton shovel across the ice, because they needed it that summer, they built the four-mile bridge. They needed the shovel on the far side. I don't know how they would have got it across otherwise.

~~(Q) That must have taken quite some time to get it across.~~

(H) They just walked ^{it} across. They did have some pumps and they flooded a roadway across to make it stronger than the natural ice.

~~(Q) Were you involved in building the bridge?~~

(H) No. Dominion Bridge, *built the 4 mile bridge*

~~(Q) Was there anyone that you knew of involved?~~

(H) ~~Not~~ ^{long} around here, it was all contracted. I do have a complete set of photographs though, of the building of that bridge and how it was built. I don't know if you know or not, they built a Bailey Bridge, from the far side. What they call a triple Bailey. Then they pushed it across. Then they stripped down to a straight bridge. They laid railway tracks on it. The present bridge was built from this side, on dollie and they wheeled it out on this bailey bridge, and then lowered it and they took the bigger bridge apart. I have a complete set of pictures of that operation.

~~(Q) How ^{long} would you say it took to build the whole thing?~~

(H) ^{it took} Two or three months. Not anymore than that....the original bridge was a wooden suspension bridge, which would carry anything but a team of horses maybe.

~~(Q) How long was the original bridge left standing before it was replaced?~~

(H) *The old bridge was taken*
~~Oh they took it down innediately, as they built the new one.~~

~~(Q) So it was more or less a temporary thing.~~

(H) *The old bridge*
~~It~~ was a permanent bridge from the Kispiox Valley ~~here~~. Untill they replaced it with a suitable bridge. It was a sad bridge. Worn out.

~~(Q) Can we just go back to the War. What was it like here? There were alot of men that were gone, right?~~

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(H) ~~Yes, I don't know, I wasn't here.~~

(Q) ~~How long were you gone?~~

Coming back to the war -
(H) I was in the army six years 1939-45.

(Q) ~~You came back after the war was over?~~

(H) ~~Ya.~~

(Q) ~~You mentioned that Sol and Neil Sterrit and Smokey Morrison and all them. Were they all in the army too?~~

(H) ~~Well, ya, I think they were all army. Either the infantry or the artillery. I was in artillery myself.~~

(Q) Sol was the leader of the motor gang. Motorbike.

(H) ~~Ya.~~

(Q) ~~You didn't come home with any metals?~~

My medals were
(H) Just the ones they give you for being in the army. I never got wounded. I never got shot at. I never shot anybody.

(Q) ~~So you didn't see any action, just more defense.~~

(H) I was upon Vancouver Is. when that Japanese submarine shelled Bamberton Lighthouse. That was the closest I ever got.

(Q) ~~You weren't just stationed in Vancouver. You went over to Quebec?~~

(H) ~~Went back on a course to Quebec. But I was anti-aircraft. A troop of us was stationed on every air base. Then we rotated between every air base. Anti-aircraft protection.~~

(Q) ~~WE asked about the epidemic, and you weren't there?~~

(H) I wasn't here, that was in 1918.

(Q) Would you know how many doctors were here at the hospital?

(H) I don't think there was more than two. And not more than three or four nurses.

(Q) Do you know anything about the nursing school?

(H) No.

(Q) When did the steamboats quit coming?

(H) That was in 1910, from what I'm told. That's when the railway was completed anyway.

(Q) Did the coming of the railroad make a noteable change?

(H) Oh, I'm sure it must have. They were previously in the country.

omit

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(Q) From what I understand, the railway didn't go right through to Prince Rupert. It stopped in Terrace or something.

(H) I don't think so, they built it from both ends. I'm sure it was put right through. I was here when the highway went through. That was during the war.

(Q) What was the price of a train ride from Rupert then, from here?

(H) No idea.

(Q) When was electricity made available here?

(H) Sargent had a ^{power} plant. A direct current plant that supplied some of the houses in town and the stores and I don't know the exact year when B.C. Hydro came in. They first came in, they took over the hospital plant and set up there and operated 'till they got their own building built and got their own box plant.

~~(Q) Did it cost much?~~

~~(H) I don't remember that either.~~

~~(Q) Did everybody have electricity like, only B.C. Hydro got here?~~

(H) ~~Ya. There was a lot of it.~~ ^{Then it} It was available to everybody. That is, within a restricted area. They didn't push the lines out to Kispiox or Moricetown or Kitsegukla, no way they could.

~~(Q) They set up their own plant, right here in Hazelton. What happened to Sargent's then, did they just give up the monopoly?~~

(H) ~~I think he sold to them his lines.~~ ^{Sargent sold Hydro} His power plant was ~~where~~ ^{here}, this building here on the river bank where the laundry used to be. That was Sargent's power plant. He had three engines in there and had three generators.

~~(Q) Is that one of the engines, that's on the corner?~~

(H) That's one of the engines, ^{on the corner} ya. That's a twin cylinder pitters deisel. Then he had two single cylinders. Some type of engine.

~~(Q) How did he get the fuel brought up? The deisel?~~

(H) ^{The fuel came} By train. Everything came by train. ^{from Prince Rupert}

~~(Q) From Prince Rupert?~~

~~(H) Ya.~~

~~(Q) Did the line come right down this way? (Down town)~~

~~(H) No.~~

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(Q) ~~Just right where it is? So it means it was carried down from New Town to here.~~

(H) Allan Benson and his dad had a small trucking outfit. They brought all the groceries down for the stores. And also they owned a car taxi.

(Q) Does that mean they had to pay to get it from Prince Rupert here, plus from New Town here? Wow!! That must have jacked the prices of the goods up little bit?

(H) ~~Everything was so cheap in those days, we didn't notice.~~ And of course at this time the bridge was across the Bulkley. All the traffic came from South Hazelton to here.

(Q) ~~What happened to that bridge?~~

(H) High water in '36, ^{wrecked the bridge} the logs started piling up and the Public Works decided to blast the log jam. They did such a good job, they blew the bridge out.

(Q) ~~Why wasn't it ever replaced?~~

(H) ~~No need,~~ There was the suspension bridge at Hagwilget. That would be in '42 when that bridge went up.

(Q) ~~What brought you back to Hazelton?~~

(H) ^{I came back to Hazelton} Had a chance to run Sargen's Hotel for him. It was a job. That's the old hotel, which was where the library is now.

(Q) ~~Everything was pretty well located close to the river because of the steamboat?~~

(H) ~~Yes, originally.~~

(Q) ~~Hazelton was as far as the baots came up? ... Wasn't there a place that they stopped in Kitsegukla they called steamboat flats?~~

(H) ~~Probably.~~ They had to take on cord wood all the way up the river and down again.

(Q) ^{they} ~~Would have carried that or boomed it?~~

(H) ^{Cordwood} No, it was carried, loaded ~~it~~ on deck. Previous to '36, there was another street and a row of houses behind my house. In fact Dick Brown's house was moved from there. And the present Sunrise Cafe building was moved from the river bank, that was Jim Hunter's pool hall.

(Q) ~~How were they moved?~~

(H) ^{They were dragged and skidded} ~~On dragged them up. Skidded them.~~

(Q) ~~Sargent's house has an interesting story I hear, it used to be three different houses?~~

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(H) ~~Yes~~, three pieces pulled together. Jeff Wilson's house used to be on the river bank next to my house. It was the Hudson Bay house at that time.

(Q) ~~Is your house an original house?~~

(H) ~~uh-huh.~~

(Q) ~~Was that always yours?~~

(H) ~~No~~, *my house* it belonged to Sargent's originally I believe. A fellow by the name of Chapel who was Sargent's store manager lived in it. And Sargent's lived in it. When we came back from the war, I bought it from him.

(Q) ~~You must have got a royalty or something from the war for serving?~~

(H) *In the war* No, we got paid, twenty-five cents a day.

(Q) ~~I guess that would amount to quite a bit after six years?~~

(H) We spent it as fast as we got it.

(Q) ~~Were you married before you entered the war?~~

(H) I got married during the war. *Isabel*

(Q) ~~Where did you meet your wife?~~

(H) *She* was the dietician here at the hospital.

(Q) ~~You were married during the war. Did you meet her before the war?~~

(H) Oh, ya we were going together before the war.

(Q) ~~What events surrounded a wedding? What happened? Same as it is today?~~

(H) *We had a* No, very quiet wedding, in the United Church in Rupert. Two people from here came down. We only had three *days* and then back.

(Q) ~~Was there a dance or *reception*?~~

No, nothing like that. We had a party at a private house.

(Q) ~~Were all the wedding the same way, like pretty quiet?~~

(H) Pretty well, ya. There ~~was~~ one big wedding.

(Q) How about people that were getting married, were they younger or older, than the people getting married now?

> (H) I think they were older than people getting married now. Nobody could afford to get married. Unless they had a job.

(Q) ~~Did you attend school at all?~~

Schooling
In Calgary. ~~Not very much~~, I quit in grade ten.

(Q) ~~Is that what most people did?~~

(H) Well most of them quit, I don't know what they ~~did here, but~~ but in Calgary, I had a chance at a job which was unusual in those days 1928-29. But I ~~did~~ take grade 10.

(Q) ~~That's a pretty long ways to go isn't it grade 10?~~

(A) ~~It was in those days, yeah.~~

(Q) ~~So you probably could have come up here and taught school with that education level?~~

(H) Yes.

(Q) ~~Was there anyone else? There was a school on the reserve and there was one where else?~~

(H) Where Smokey's house is.

(Q) ~~Was there regular school then, everyday?~~

(H) Oh ya, I believe there was a school in New Town too. It wasn't here until recently, they built around it. And there was one in South Town and was one at Seely Lake too.

(Q) ~~That's quite a few actually?~~

(H) Of course, there was no busier.

(Q) ~~The classroom would be pretty well done room and small. What kind of people came to teach? Where they single? Single women?~~

(H) I don't remember who the teachers were.

(Q) ~~Was the reserve established when you came here?~~

(H) Oh yes.

(Q) ~~So, they separated already~~ *The Reserve*

(H) In fact, all the land by Ben McKenzie where the high school is now that was all part of the reserve at that time. They were then. Charlie Sterritt had a ranch right here. Old Charlie Sterritt He's been dead for years. Neil's father.

(Q) ~~Did his ranch supply Sargent's store?~~

(H) No, he just raised hay, cause he had a team of horses. He was into the cedar pole business. He needed horses to skid the poles.

(Q) ~~Is that how Neil got involved with that through his dad?~~

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(H) ~~I would think so, Probably ya.~~

(Q) ~~He more or less carried on from where Charlie left off?
Did you work for him?~~

(H) ~~No.~~

(Q) ~~Who worked for him. Would Sol...~~

(H) They pretty well worked themselves, a family affair. They didn't hire anybody.

(Q) Did Percy work with his dad?

(H) He was here, yes. But I can't remember if he did or not.

(Q) Were there fresh vegetables ^{available} ~~available?~~

(H) Oh, just what you grow yourself. Everybody had there own garden.

(Q) There was no store that sold them though?

(H) Well, they couldn't bring them in profitably.

(Q) What kind of food were made available? That were available that aren't available now?

(H) Staples, you have more choice of produce now and a better choice of beef.

(Q) Mostly all the beef and all the bulk food came from Prince Rupert?

(H) Well, mostly from Edmonton I think. Some came from Vancouver up through Rupert. But the beef all came through from Edmonton on the railway. Alberta But we didn't buy much meat we just had to hunt game. moose, and deer.

(Q) ~~Did you have to business for that?~~

(H) ~~No fishing business, no hunting licenses.~~

(Q) ~~When did that come in effect then?~~

(H) Some time during the war I think. I know when I come back from being in the army, we had to have a fishing licenses, I was pretty upset.

(Q) There were rules and regulations you had to follow them?

(H) Oh ya, I can't remember if there were any. No, the police never bothered you anyway.

(Q) They wouldn't have had the fisheries dept then?

(H) No. We used to go fishing every Sunday, down underneath the Hagwilget bridge. Where the Indians fish all work ^{after}

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we used to be able to fish off their platform.

(Q) You can catch as many fish as you wanted?

(H) One spring was plenty.

(Q) What kind of a set up did they have, were there smokehouses? Were they there for the summer or did they just come back?

(H) Yes, Oh they used to go down the coast for the summer some of them stayed here and caught fish. Most of them left here and went down the coast for commercial fishing.

(Q) Did you get involved in hunting and fishing at all?

(H) Oh ya.

(Q) How ^{long} ~~old~~ has it been since the blasting of the Hagwilget canyon?

(H) I was here when that was done, but I can't remember what year it was.

(Q) That really upset the spawning grounds didn't it?

(H) No, it let alot more fish up the river.

(Q) It did?

(H) Oh ya, you could watch them climb to get over that rock. They'd fall back and fall back.

(Q) It was blasted so they could get up?

(H) So they could get up the river. I don't think they were that upset. The indians gaffing fish later. It was a great place to gaff in the face of that rock.

(Q) It's just like ^{the} Canyon in ^{Morice town} ~~Morice town~~ then? Just blasted down. It didn't really affect the fishing season at any time though did it?

(H) No.

(Q) What about the traplines, I know the Hudson Bay was established here and had a monopoly over this area for a long time. They bought all the furs?

(H) Well, the Hudson Bay bought for when we first came here, and Bud Dawson had a store where Alice's store is now, there was a novelty store and he bought fur. When the trapping was "really" good, when they come in the spring, the fur

buyer came up from Rupert also, and they'd have ^a bidding on these furs.

(Q) So, the Hudson Bay didn't really control it then?

(H) No, maybe they did originally, but they certainly didn't recently.

(Q) What type of furs did they bid for? Was it just beaver?

(H) Beaver in season, mink, martin, fisher, squirrel, lots of squirrel skin.

~~I~~ I remember my brother, when they were still in their young teens, it could not have been anymore than 15 years ago they were still selling squirrels to Hudson Bay, skin 'em and dry 'em

(Q) Were the prices good?

(H) The only time I was really involved in it, the prices were high, that must have been in 1947-48. I think it was the Love Boys Wally and Billy and Jack Lee that came in with a terrific catch of furs. They took a room in the old hotel where the buyers came and bid in there. Prices were high that year. Squirrel was a dollar and a half, dollar seventy-five each.

(Q) You got money for it then? You didn't take trade or whatever?

(H) Oh no, all cash money. Perhaps the Hudson Bay would trade because the trapper would be into them for stake for groceries and stuff, because they'd owe them money. The rest was cash, when the bills were paid off.

(Q) Did you take part in the fur trapping too?

(H) No.

(Q) Guys mostly, the guys living out in the Valley then?

(H) They all trapped and the Native People all had their own.

(Q) People would more or less make a living doing that, trap all winter long?

(H) Yeah, they go for the whole winter.

(Q) Did they stay out there or go in and come out?

(H) Most of them stayed out there, yeah.

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(Q) What did you do during the winter months?

(H) Me personally.

(Q) Yeah you didn't work or anything?

(H) No, cut wood or something

(Q) That was just for your own personal use?

(H) Yes.

(Q) You wouldn't have gone ice Fishing?

(H) No, I never did.

(Q) Did you do this all on your own or did you have a family with you?

(H) Well, we were a family yes. Mother and father and my brother and sister.

(Q) You more or less worked together?

(H) Ya, I've actually got a sleighs and a team of horses from trackin' and barterin' and working.

dbk.
sp. →

(Q) I've heard that ^{people} have purchased logging trucks and stuff just from skidding logging?

(H) Yes, Frank Pipe, my brother and I and Bernard Hindle started a cord wood business. A fellow, you may have heard of him Micheal ^{Texin}, gave me a ranch, across the four mile bridge, a hundred and sixty acres, practically all birch. We used to go out there and stay all winter and cut cord wood, birch. About, oh the end of January, I'd starting hauling this wood, and it all in Louis Marrows' field, and sold it all to Marshall Bros. I was paying two dollars a cord for birch, have it cut. And make a road available so I can bring a team sleigh in. I was getting \$350 a cord on Louis Marrows' field.

(Q) Was that quite a distance then, to be going from the bush into the field?

(H) No, only half a mile.

(Q) But it made a dollar fifty's difference?

(H) I had a small team. I could only ^{hold} ~~had~~ half a cord at a time.

(Q) How many trips did you make in one day?

(H) Three or Four, No hurry about it, as long as we got it all out before spring break up.

- (Q) That would really slow things down, hey, All the ground thawing out. There Marshall Bros. would come pick it up from there?
- (H) Ya, they had a truck. Then they'd cut it into stove lengths and sell it by the cord to the people here. Everybody burnt wood, There was no oil furnaces, it was all wood. Some coal would help the hospital and some other buildings had coal stoves(stokers)
- (Q) Was there a saw mill?
- (H) No.
- (Q) There was none around at all? What about the poles that Sterritts cut, were they exported?
- (H) They were all taken over to the railway and shipped out.
- (Q) Did they know where it was going to?
- (H) No. Then there was a lot of the tye cutting. Most of Swedes and Norwegians were out hacking tyes with a broad axe. Hanson bought all that. He was the M.P. He had a ranch in Smithers where the airport is now. In fact, he sold part of the ranch to the government where the airport is, And that place on the lake Barb McGowan has That whole place was the Hanson ranch.
- (Q) He bought up all the tyes?
- (H) And all the poles too.
- (Q) Did these people that came in that cut the tyes, did they just do that and then they were gone?
- (H) No, they all lived here.
- (Q) Where there people here when you arrived?
- (H) Oh ya.
- (Q) It was all settled and everything before you got here?
- (H) Oh ya, nothing like it is now. Very few people in Two-Mile there was mostly vacant land. A few bachelors and Swedes
- (Q) You mentioned that there was some baseball teams. Were they very competitive? Did they travel to Terrace/Smithers
- (H) No.
- (Q) It was just in the surrounding area. Were you involved with that?
- (H) No.

(Q) Was there anybody that you remember?

(H) Burt Spooner.

(Q) There was always someone that's an all-star right? That's rally good at the sport. Was that him then Burt Spooner?

(H) Well, I would think so, ya, as good as any, ~~as~~ good ~~a~~ pitcher.

(Q) Did he have a good pitching average? Strike Outs?

(H) Nothing like that was even thought of. They just played ball

(Q) The baseball games, were they played at Totem Park? Or did that exist then?

(H) Totem Park did^{it} exist then. Low Hazelton had a park.

(Q) Did they have a name for it?

(H) Not that I know of. Just a ball ~~park~~ Park.

(Q) Was that right in New Hazelton?

(H) No, it was where it is now.

(Q) It was just out of town a little bit?

(H) Well, i guess it's Hagwilget Park now. That's where the new Hazelton had their picnics and ball games.

(Q) Did the whole community get involved? Down here?

(H) Oh ya.

(Q) They must have had tournaments there?

(H) Sort of ya.

(Q) Were + there dances?

(H) Yeah.

(Q) Was there such a thing as a beer gardens there?

(H) They did when the hall is where the theatre is now, had a dance where you could reserve your table and you could bring your liquor. That only happened once that I can remember. Of course, only the rich people could buy liquor in those days I was running a still. It was at the ranch where we cut cord wood, make corn whiskey. A bunnh of us reserved a table and I spent all afternoon with burnt sugar colouring it so it would look look like rye whiskey. That's what we took to the dance anyway, Jimmy Ward and his wife Alice were the Mounties here at the time, great friends of ours. Ofcourse they stopped at the table for a drink

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and I was scared stiff. They knew what it was. They knew I wasn't selling it, I was just making it for my own use.

(Q) Did it cost much to buy liquor?

(H) No, pretty cheap.

(Q) It was a long way to bring it?

(H) Yeah.

(Q) Who would do that? Was it just one person or just anybody?

(H) We used to get it by mail actually. Write to the liquor store and they'd send it to them up or if anyone was going in to Smithers they'd pick it up bring it back.

(Q) Would they drive there?

(H) Oh yeah.

(Q) Just the people with car more or less then?

(H) Yeah.

(Q) Where were just dirt roads then?

(H) Yeah, This I'm talking about was after the war previous to the war.