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Interview with Alice Triplett (FA 154)

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Folklife Archives Project 154 – A Generation Remembers, 1900-1949

Interview with Alice Triplett (CT 9)

TAPE1, SIDE1

GENIE SULLIVAN: It is Thursday and I am with Alice Triplett. Is this about Hartford or talk about {Car goes by}

ALICE TRIPLETT: ??

GS: Okay.

AT: I guess about '77

Tape stops

GS: ?? Okay. Okay, let's ?? in the backyard and do that

AT: I like in town ??

GS: I know ?? Well, let's see. ?? Now you were a school teacher?

AT: Uh huh.

GS: How long were you a school teacher?

AT: For ?? years.

GS: Where did you teach?

AT: Well, I taught uh, nine rural schools and different places in the county. And then, from '44 to '73 ??

GS: Were all the grades in one room or?

AT: ?? taught all eight grades.

GS: All eight grades.

AT: Some were larger than I was and I was young at that time.

GS: Well, now how do you, how many people were in your family when you grew up?

AT: Well, I have, I have uh, let me see, only two brothers and three sisters. ??

GS: And you are the oldest or the youngest?

AT: No, I, I have three older. Two sisters and a brother.

GS: Now did they, was your mom a school teacher?

AT: No.

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GS: She wasn't a teacher. What did your, what did your dad do?

AT: He was a farmer.

GS: Farmer. In this area?

AT: Out on 1415 {Car goes by} where he lived ??

GS: Uh huh. What, I ?? got my degree, and ?? and back. I really like it. I like the area. What did uh, your father grow? What was it? What did he?

AT: Well we had corn and ?? and horses, traded horses ??

GS: Traded horses?

AT: Yes. ?? some and ?? horses we sell.

GS: Hm. Did you um, help on the farm and you?

AT: Oh definitely. {Laughs} We all had to do everything. Monday morning til Saturday night ??

GS: Oh my goodness. Did you have and I know that even then were pretty expensive??, but did you all have any?

AT: No, no tractors. ?? It was all horse-drawn.

GS: So you can have horse-drawn plows and you had a horse-drawn uh, what do you call it, horse-drawn hay rake, out ??

AT: Mhm hm. Yes, hay rakes and ??

GS: ?? Calhoun the other day. I ??

AT: Mhm hm.

GS: Uh, well then how did you decide to go be a school teacher?

AT: Well, dad always said that he wanted me to be a teacher. He never had much education, and

GS: How far did he go?

AT: Not very far. I would say that he would cut school and not go all the time.

GS: {Laughs}

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AT: Really he did. I, I, wouldn't say over a fourth or fifth grade education, and he could figure things out in his head. He was good in math, I mean ??

GS: Oh really. People didn't really go to school.

AT: No, ?? farming ?? lived out in the country ??

GS: Did ?? 72?

AT: Mhm hm.

GS: I had a great aunt who was born in 1869. She died when she was 104.

AT: Mhm hm. ??had a long life.

GS: Oh, well, I hope so. ??, too. ??

AT: That's true.

GS: They do. They do. ?? Your dad wanted you to be a teacher, did he want your other sisters and brothers to

AT: ?? not too much said about it ?? Never mentioned it.

GS: Did you all ??

AT: No.

GS: Well, what did your other three sisters do?

AT: Well, one of them worked in a ?? shop and one had a flower shop.

GS: Uh huh.

AT: And then she worked at GE. My younger sister worked at GE several years in Owensboro. They call it GE and now they call it Ken-Rad.

GS: Ken-Rad now. Yeah. When that opened, was she one of the first that got in there or?

AT: She wasn't one of the first, I don't believe. After she married, she went to

GS: Uh huh.

AT: After she married.

GS: What

AT: We don't know ?? Ken-Rad was hard ??

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GS: ?? down, ?? down ??

AT: She worked ?? I know she come home hot and damp.

GS: What did she do?

AT: ??

GS: And the one that worked, had a flower shop?

AT: She ?? few years ago. ??

GS: Oh, just ??

AT: One younger and two older ??

GS: Did um, when did you get married?

AT: 1937. April the 6th.

GS: And when did you go to school?

AT: Well, I went to school and I got my life certificate in 1933. And uh

GS: Your life certificate?

AT: Life certificate from Bowling Green. From Western. It took two years ?? 64 hours to get your life certificate.

GS: So, ?? two years past?

AT: And then I married and had my children, and then my son and I graduated, we got our degrees the same year, in '64.

GS: Oh. From Western?

AT: Western.

GS: A masters degree or a bachelor's?

AT: Bachelor's.

GS: Education?

AT: Uh huh.

GS: Well, that's neat.

AT: Yeah, we thought that that it was kind of a coincidence.

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GS: {Coughs} Um, did um, was that not a strange thing, to, were husbands very hesitant about letting wives go to work?

AT: I don't know. My husband at that time worked in the mines. And he didn't object. ?? those last two years I ??

GS: How'd you meet your husband?

AT: He was in the CC camp. Conservation Corps.

GS: Conservation Corps?

AT: Yeah, ??

GS: Where was he from?

AT: Here from ??, Kentucky.

GS: What part?

AT: ??

GS: I've heard of it but I don't know exactly where it's at.

AT: ??

GS: And when did you meet?

AT: Oh, about 19and33.

GS: Mhm hm.

AT: Came down to ??

GS: What um, what was it like courting? What would you all do? {Laughs}

AT: Well, we would go to the picture shows and they were about \$.25 a date and we ate out at the hamburger joints and we went sometimes to see musicals.

GS: Musical?

AT: ??

GS: How often?

AT: ??

GS: How often did they come?

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AT: Oh six or seven ??

GS: You went to church?

AT: Mm hm. Part of the time ?? And danced. We went to dances. We ??

GS: {Laughs} You don't tell ?? {Laughs}

AT: I didn't have much to ??

GS: {Laughs} ?? for about 30 years.

AT: Mhm hm.

GS: ?? did he work in the camp all the time?

AT: He was head cook.

GS: Head cook.

AT: He made \$45 a month. And then he sent \$25 home. He made good ??

GS: He was head cook. Did he cook any after you all got married?

AT: Yeah. I wouldn't have been able to do it ?? and teaching ??

GS: My grandfather was a ?? during World War II ?? based down in Louisville ?? It seems funny because I know my dad right now, if in this day my mom went back to school, my dad's kind of ?? about it because my mom always stayed home with us, and stuff, and she

AT: At one time, I'd like to go back. I'd like to go myself.

GS: You did.

AT: Oh, I mean, I like going, I like to learn new things. But at my age ?? , but you get free tuition now. Senior citizens do. ?? transportation and books, I think.

GS: Yeah? ?? new program ??

AT: ?? Brescia ??

GS: Can you really? ??

AT: I think you can ?? because I don't want to ??

GS: ?? doesn't cost anything {Chuckles}

AT: Oh, yeah.

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GS: Um, let's see. Well, maybe I should go back to what you all did on the farm. You were born in 1906?

AT: Mm hm. ??

GS: What were some of the, what were some of the first chores that you, that you were allowed to do, when you were young?

AT: Well, when ?? we had to stand on the box to wash dishes at about 4 or 5 years old. ?? I had to strip tobacco.

GS: ??

AT: ?? drop down on the ground, you know, and ?? and that was the first ??

GS: Uh huh.

AT: It was really, ??

GS: Uh huh.

AT: I remember cutting tobacco. It was spring then. ?? hold the stick ?? the stick.

GS: ?? out in the fields ?? and you had to, what do they call that sharp thing that I'm talking about?

AT: Now, now ??

GS: Cause that's what we did.

AT: Well, we, we had a tobacco knife, and we just split the thing way down the ??

GS: Oh.

AT: ?? chopped and trimmed it off the bottom and then they hung it ??

GS: Oh, I see.

AT: ??

GS: Yeah.

AT: ??

GS: Yeah.

AT: That's, that's a summer chore and I remember we had ??

GS: {Chuckles}

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AT: We had ?? mess something up.

GS: {Chuckles}

AT: ?? We didn't have gas ?? We raised about everything we ate. ??

GS: Well, when you did have to buy things, did you come into Hartford?

AT: ??

GS: ?? ?

AT: Mhm hm. ??

GS: What did you use the store for?

AT: We ??

GS: What did you buy?

AT: ?? we had to buy sugar and salt and some ?? everything and ??

GS: So you ??

AT: Mhm hm.

GS: Did that Buford store sell clothes and shoes and

AT: ??

GS: Did you all know how to sew?

AT: All the girls ?? {Pause} I was always ??

GS: I never did and my mother tried to teach me.

AT: I, I often ?? {Chuckles}

GS: ??

AT: Me too.

GS: Mm mm mm. And ?? the flood of 1913, ?? effect a whole lot around here, did it?
??

AT: You mean '37?

GS: '13. 1913.

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AT: Oh, now I don't remember about that one.

GS: Mhm hm.

AT: I remember the '37.

GS: Now the '37. What about that one? Did that bother

AT: ?? in a boat ?? and had to spend the night.

GS: Was it over a creek or something?

AT: No, it was just, it was open highway. ?? did in '37. ?? boat ??

GS: Yeah.

AT: And ?? want to come home now. I remember saying I want to come home. ?? and I came. My husband ??

GS: You had that ??

AT: ??

GS: Um, so did you stay somewhere for the whole week?

AT: ?? at the library.

GS: That was before you got married?

AT: Mhm hm.

GS: Did you board with the parents of a student or?

AT: I ?? and one of the places had {pause} all of the ?? and I drove and had a 1930 ?? car.

GS: Oh my

AT: Ford. I started in '28 back in the first ??

GS: Did the Depression and did the Stock Crash in '39, did that affect you all very much?

AT: Well, we ?? didn't bother us.

GS: The banks were still okay?

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AT: Oh, well, the banks ?? in '33 sometime and ?? bank closed. I believe that it was '33. ?? course it affected a lot of people that I knew. Well, we had a lot of I'd say really good farmers. Dad was a good manager.

GS: Mhm hm.

AT: We weren't rich but we uh, had, had more than some. ?? we'd go to the fair and ?? our dad would get us and brought the wagon. Our dad would give us a dime ?? and my mother fried chicken. ?? childhood that we didn't realize ??

GS: Um, the Ohio County fair? Was that what they called it then?

AT: No, just the ?? the fair ground. ??

GS: Oh, the, the, the Louisville Fair?

AT: No, ?? they might have been but I don't know. I just ?? some entertainment ?? summer ??

GS: Really.

AT: I ?? I don't know what ?? it is but it was something to do ??

GS: What did they have at the fair? What was the fair like?

AT: Oh, we had horse races and ?? and we had ?? races and ?? It was a big thing then.

GS: For mainly kids?

AT: ??

GS: Adults and kids?

AT: ?? races, too. ?? in the races, too. I can remember ??

GS: ??

AT: ?? school fair ??

GS: Mhm hm.

AT: ?? academic, and then ?? first of October ?? We had, we had floats, parade ??

GS: Oh really?

AT: Oh yes. ??

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GS: {Chuckles} That was, that was when you were teaching at the rural school or over here at the elementary school?

AT: ?? We had ?? and couldn't have ??

GS: About how many schools would participate in one ?? You said they happened about October 1st?

AT: ?? long time ago ?? students ??

GS: Hm. That's neat that they had ?? did they do that the first year that you were teaching?

AT: Well, yes, they ?? school. ?? {Car goes by} ?? mine, of course.

GS: Well, yeah. And athletic events, too, ??

AT: ?? so many ?? first grade. They didn't have kindergarten then.

GS: ?? grade?

AT: ??

GS: {Laughs} Oh my goodness.

AT: ?? in school and ??

GS: So um

AT: But they had that ?? even then.

GS: So, so you had uh, these school fairs when you were in school too?

AT: ?? {Car goes by}

GS: Oh.

AT: ?? that went on for years here. That was a big event then the first weekend in October.

GS: How old were you when you first went to school?

AT: Well, I ??

GS: Mhm hm.

AT: Imagine I was six ??

GS: Did your ?? then?

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AT: Oh yes, and ?? and uh, but then ?? all schools were shortened for ?? semester.

GS: So what was the school year then? What was your ?

AT: When I went back to, went to college then?

GS: No, the year that you um, ?? what was the length of the year when you went to school?

AT: Oh, well I think that most cases they ?? we'd get out in February and ?? second semester in Bowling Green.

GS: Oh.

AT: And then we would go back ?? June, July and August and ??

GS: The school lasted from July usually

AT: ??

GS: Wasn't most of the harvesting done by July though? I mean, I would think that

AT: Well, it would all depend ??

GS: Did it?

AT: ?? they had to, they had to work ??

GS: Mhm hm. About what time did you start?

AT: ??

GS: Mhm hm. {Pause} Did that? These months. Was that usually the way it was in most of your school ?? in February? Up until about when do you think?

AT: Well, I

GS: When do you think it started off in September to May?

AT: Well, I was ?? time I taught in ??

GS: And you taught rural schools until, until when?

AT: "37.

GS: Until '37?

AT: Uh huh.

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GS: And then you went to ??

AT: ?? well, I lost some time when I had the two boys ?? I lost about six years ??

GS: Mhm hm.

AT: ?? six years ?? up until ??

GS: Mhm hm. {Car goes by} Well, the school fairs. That's interesting. I had never, so would you, would the float, would there be a big parade like there in Hartford?

AT: Well, now, you know sometimes the judges would, the judges stand there ??

GS: Oh gosh.

AT: Well, it was a big affair then.

GS: ?? compete and there would be the athletic competitions and parades and were there other?

AT: ??

GS: Oh.

AT: ??

GS: Mhm.

AT: But we had ??

GS: ?? ? Oh, okay.

AT: ?? It was ?? math ??

GS: It was just a test, asked oral questions, or?

AT: Well, some of it was written and some of it was oral.

GS: Well, I bet that was a lot of fun.

AT: Well, we had to do writing and a lot of ??

GS: Oh.

AT: ??

GS: And that was around October 1st.

AT: ??

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GS: Okay. {Car goes by} Oh, I, here's um, ?? ask these questions here. Um. Am I keeping you out of time?

AT: No, it's just twenty til

GS: Oh, okay, okay. What

AT: ?? the clock ??{Chuckles} ??

GS: Okay.

AT: ??

GS: Um, was it um, I think that I ?? was it your mom, she had ?? took food um, during the flu epidemic?

AT: She ?? but that was 19and19, wasn't it?

GS: Uh 1918?

AT: '18, '19. ??

GS: ?? {Car goes by}

AT: ?? everybody was afraid to go into the homes, you know. ?? safety ?? {Car goes by}

GS: You all moved from 1414 into Hartford?

AT: Yeah. ?? and then we moved to ?? fourteen. Besides I ??

GS: Uh, yeah.

AT: ?? We've lived out here since 1950.

GS: About ??

AT: ??

GS: Uh huh.

AT: ??

GS: When did you all move from, um, 1414 to ??

AT: Well, now, they had a two year high school there at Pleasant Ridge at the time and my older sister was ready for high school. ?? for two years.

GS: He was really intent on getting you all through school.

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AT: ?? yes. ?? lack of education on his part.

GS: How far through school had your mother gone?

AT: She had ??

GS: ?? Okay. Well, that ?? my grandfather and

AT: ??

GS: Wow.

AT: ?? some others in Kentucky ??

GS: Is that where your mom's people are from?

AT: Well they, they were from Butler and ?? Texas but ?? my mother's family ??

GS: Well, yeah.

AT: ?? on the farm.

GS: ?? here on the farm, with your mother's father?

AT: Mhm hm.

GS: Oh. Well, with twelve kids, ?? good Lord. So what did he do out there? Did?

AT: They just farmed, and ??

END TAPE1, SIDE1

TAPE1, SIDE2

AT: ??

GS: Oh, my, my, my.

AT: I was ??

GS: ?? think of that?

AT: ??

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GS: Um, did you all have a Victrola when you were growing up?

AT: ??

GS: ??

AT: ?? didn't have ??

GS: Yeah.

AT: ??

GS: That was ??

AT: ??

GS: You had a ??

AT: No.

GS: ?? or piano? What's a ??

AT: ??

GS: Oh, ??, I thought that you said ?? and I

AT: No, no, honey.

GS: Oh, I see. I see. Do you remember much about the Ku Klux Klan?

AT: Not one thing.

GS: ??

AT: I read, I read about them now. Hear about them now, but I ??

GS: Mhm hm.

AT: If they were ?? in this part of the country, I don't know. ??

GS: Mm.

AT: I haven't heard, but I don't know.

GS: Well, you ?? your husband was, with the Conservation, Conservation Corps. Do you have anything?

AT: Well. I ??

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GS: What did you ?? out of the Conservation Corps?

AT: Well, uh, this friend ??

GS: What did you do there?

AT: Well, I ?? {Car goes by} ??

GS: Uh huh.

AT: ?? it was a salary ?? make a lot of money then.

GS: What was the salary then?

AT: Well, I think that I started at about \$61.25 per month.

GS: That was in '28?

AT: Mhm hm. {Pause}

GS: When did you all move to Detroit?

AT: Well, we were up there in, in uh 19, 19and, we were up there for a while in 19and40 and '41, spring of '41.

GS: ?? Why did you move to Detroit?

AT: Oh we went to ?? and then ?? and we worked ??

GS: ??

AT: Mhm hm.

GS: In 1941, it would have been?

AT: About 1940. ??

GS: ?? Wasn't that hard, leaving your home?

AT: It was. ?? didn't have any ??

GS: When did y'all come back?

AT: We came back in '41 ??

GS: Did you come back because you just didn't like it?

AT: ?? {Car goes by}

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GS: He didn't have to go to uh, the war?

AT: ??

GS: How old was your husband when you got, when you got married?

AT: He was born in 1909. He was ?? three years younger. ?? {Pause}

GS: When did he die?

AT: 1981.

GS: '81?

AT: ??

GS: Mhm hm. {Pause} Um, what did he do at the mines? Did he work, did he?

AT: ??

GS: ?? mine.

AT: Mhm hm. ??

GS: Did they have all that to-do back then like they do now about the surface mines hurting the environment and all that kind of stuff?

AT: Well, not as much as they do now. ?? seems. {Pause}

GS: Would, did people in the area get mad about it or? Did, didn't mining companies, you know, did they try to um, like almost distinctly buy land just to strip mine and just leave it or?

AT: Well, they left it ?? reclaim ??

GS: Yeah.

AT: I don't know what more ?? I don't know too much about it. ?? I don't know.

GS: Mhm hm. {Pause. Papers rustle.} What do you remember about the, the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor? When you are, you all were back here by then weren't you?

AT: No, still in Detroit.

GS: You were still in Detroit?

AT: Yeah.

GS: Okay.

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AT: Well it came over the radio that night.

GS: Yeah.

AT: ?? my daddy, my sisters. All of them. I remember because people were crying and talking about it?? some of them ?? my brother ? It was a sad ??

GS: But you didn't, did you work at all when you were in Detroit?

AT: No. I had my one-year old and my second one started up there.

GS: {Laughs}

AT: In '41.

GS: You all came back here in that December then, right?

AT: ?? before we had ?? out in the yard. {Car goes by.}

GS: Do you remember the ?? of war when you got to Camp Breckinridge? Do you remember that?

AT: No. No.

GS: What about uh, voting and things like that? Um, political things, things for voting?

AT: ??

GS: Mhm.

AT: I remember ?? though

GS: And that was 1919.

AT: Yeah, 1919. As a woman, naturally, I got to vote. ??

GS: Yes. ??

AT: ?? I remember taking the boys sometimes to vote in the election. My husband was a Democrat and I was a Republican. {Chuckles}

GS: Oh, no. {Chuckles}

AT: ?? At least ??

GS: Did you all ever agree? {Chuckles}

AT: Well, ??

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GS: ??

AT: ??

GS: Mhm.

AT: ??

GS: Did you, did you uh, what did you think about Truman?

AT: Oh, I don't know. I don't ?? I was ?? {Car goes by.} ?? thousand ?? anniversary ??

GS: Yeah.

AT: ?? thousand ??

GS: Was family life much different for you all during the war?

AT: What?

GS: Was family life much different for you all during the war? Other than rationing?

AT: ??

GS: Uh huh.

AT: ?? especially ?? Couldn't get flour. Couldn't get sugar. And some of them ?? sometimes ??

GS: Oh, the rationing people would?

AT: ?? hide them. Flour and sugar and ??

GS: What would they do to them?

AT: Well, I, I don't remember. I don't ??

GS: My great uncle. ?? I don't remember when Uncle ?? was born. Probably in the 1890s. ?? He was in World War I but he would never talk about it. I don't think that he ?? in France so I don't think he saw any, I don't know, he might have seen action. But he never would talk about it.

AT: ?? talk about it.

GS: No.

AT: ?? and seen ??

GS: Well, ?? any more?

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AT: ??

GS: Mhm.

AT: ??

{Pause}

GS: Well, let's see.

AT: ?? I wonder ??

GS: Uh huh.

AT: If ??

GS: ?? That's probably my problem. {Chuckles}

AT: ?? stickers on it.

GS: Oh really. Good.

AT: I mean if you thought about the ?? I never did.

GS: ?? you could do. I will mention it when I go back, but just to double check you might want to call the circulation department. The number is ?? like on page three.

AT: ?? not that important but I thought maybe ??

GS: Oh really.

AT: Yeah, that's happened, too.

GS: Oh.

AT: ??

GS: Yeah. Yeah.

AT: Mhm.

GS: Okay.

AT: ?? {Car goes by} know everybody ??

GS: Well, but that's ??

AT: I didn't think that that was ?? say something to her about it. ??

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GS: Yeah.

AT: ??

GS: Well, I would go ahead and call them. Talk to the ?? that would probably be better.

AT: Well, ?? be in Owensboro tomorrow. I mean I don't know if I can call them collect or not ??

GS: Oh, is it, I guess it is long distance from here isn't it?

AT: Oh yes. {Car goes by.}

GS: Okay. You haven't, you haven't paid for them yet?

AT: ??

GS: Yes.

AT: ??

GS: I'm saying there might be {Car goes by} ??

AT: ?? complicated.

GS: Well, I ??

AT: ?? I never get it until about 9:30 ??

GS: Okay, here. 1-800-632-??

AT: That's the circulation?

GS: Yes. Yeah, it's the circulation ??

AT: Well, it's, it's ??

GS: ?? Well, I think that they are pretty good about that kind of thing. ??

AT: Well, I imagine that ??

GS: ??

AT: Sorry I don't have some coffee made here.

GS: ??

AT: ??

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GS: That would be wonderful.

AT: ?? when I first got out.

GS: Let's see. Do you remember the uh, oh, we already did that. Do you remember ?? the band?

AT: ?? when I hit the ??

GS: Oh.

AT: ?? we were all ?? but I don't remember ??

GS: Was that something ??

AT: ??

GS: Would you all double date? ??

AT: No. Well, there were about four or five girls who ??

GS: Really.

AT: ??

{Pause}

GS: Um, you were ?? in the '20s. ??

AT: ??

GS: What about the Prohibition? Did that ?? around here? Is the county dry?

AT: Yeah.

GS: Was it?

AT: Uh huh.

GS: Was it always?

AT: ?? Owensboro. ?? You know what I mean. ??

GS: Yeah.

AT: ?? , too.

GS: Yeah.

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AT: I remember for a long time ?? a bunch of men ??

GS: Yeah.

AT: ?? party like that. I was just a young girl and thought that was a funny way to show your happiness. I never did like liquor. I still don't.

GS: Really.

AT: Mm hm. I smoked my whole life.

GS: {Chuckles} Now that sounds like my mom.

AT: Well, ??

GS: Well, I guess people, you know, I guess ?? and stuff.

AT: ??

GS: Well, did you have ?? the university?

AT: ?? {Car goes by}

GS: When you, uh, did you all ever take trips into town, like into ?? or Hartford?

AT: Yeah.

GS: Was that an event or did the whole family usually go?

AT: ??

GS: Yeah.

AT: ?? church ??

GS: How far away was the school from you all?

AT: Well, it wasn't very far. I was ?? to the school ??

GS: Well, that's not bad.

AT: No. ??

GS: {Chuckles} When you were three or four?

AT: Yeah. When I was four. I started when I was five. ?? {Car goes by.}

GS: ??

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AT: Yes, ??

GS: What did you do when you were three or four?

AT: I said a little poem.

GS: {Laughs}

AT: ?? teacher ??

GS: Oh, that's fun. Did you fit in with the classes or something?

AT: Well, I didn't stay too long 'cause I was ?? went back home.

GS: Mm hm.

AT: No, ??

GS: Were you just lonely, you think? {Chuckles}

AT: Just my way at the time. You know, ??

GS: Were they in school? Your, were they?

AT: Older sister and brothers were. They were in school.

GS: What did they think? ??

AT: I imagine they ??

GS: {Chuckles} That's funny. Let's see. Is there anything else that, that you would like to say or anything that I didn't ask you about that you remember ?? or?

AT: Well, I know that we didn't talk about the WPA.

GS: Uh huh.

AT: ?? the WPA ?? that's all I can remember that we talked about ??

GS: Works Progress Administration. Well, when were you an operator? ??

AT: Oh, well I went to work right after I graduated in '26 ??

GS: Mm hm.

AT: ??

GS: ??

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AT: ??

GS: Yeah.

AT: I went to work and had my teeth fixed. ??

GS: ??

AT: ??

GS: Mm hm.

AT: ?? And I ??

GS: How old were you then?

AT: Oh, about nine or ten.

GS: Oh, my.

AT: And uh, course my mother and father ?? {Chuckles}

GS: Uh huh.

AT: ??

GS: Oh, he pulled all these out?

AT: ?? he just pulled ??

GS: He just did.

AT: ??

GS: Did they give you any kind of anesthetic or anything?

AT: They did.

GS: Yeah.

AT: ??

GS: What did he put in?

AT: Well, I had a bridge until ?? A big one. ?? teeth. ??

GS: Did it ??

AT: ??

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GS: Yeah.

AT: ?? You know \$30 a month ?? first thing I can remember ??

GS: ??

AT: ?? {Chuckles}

GS: Oh, yeah, yeah.

AT: ??

GS: How many phones were there or ??

AT: ?? about 35, 40. ?? the exchange. ??

GS: So was the 35 or 40, was that throughout the county or was that just for Hartford area?

AT: Well, I don't know about that. I ?? Hartford.

GS: How many, how many people, that you served?

AT: Oh yes, I'd say the whole county.

GS: The whole county.

AT: ?? Hartford and ?? {Pause}

GS: ??

AT: ?? the WPA ?? built the courthouse.

GS: The WPA built the courthouse?

AT: Yeah, and uh, also ?? {Car goes by} later the ??

GS: ?? the Conservation Corps.

AT: Yeah, we had to work for the WPA ?? Uh, ??

GS: {Chuckles}

AT: ?? though. I was ?? that's about all I can remember. ??

GS: Well, you remembered a lot. {Chuckles} Um, when would be, we do need to get a photographer out here. To get um, a picture, of you. Uh

AT: ??

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GS: I would, I would give you uh, I would give you a run for your money. I hate to get my picture taken.

AT: I don't mind them taking them.

GS: Yeah.

AT: Sometimes they look very well but they ??

GS: The photographer ?? I, I have, I have never worked with such nice photographers before who are, who are generally interested in the subject. You know, in the people that they are ?? shooting.

AT: That's probably their business to do a good job like that.

GS: ?? and I think that they do a good job. Do you like having your picture in the paper?

AT: I enjoy the paper. I read the editorials a lot, course I read the ??

GS: Well, I don't see how. Don't you do ?? should be all ??

AT: ?? but I don't do much about it though.

GS: Well.

AT: ?? people ??

GS: {Chuckles} Um, what would be a good time for him to come out? ?? {Chuckles} ??

AT: ??

GS: Okay.

AT: ?? four or five ??

GS: Okay.

AT: ?? shopping ??

GS: Oh, isn't that fun.

AT: It is ?? I don't know about you young ones but ??

GS: Well, I think that is, that's ?? I'm probably a little heavier than I should be but it's because I like to sit and talk. ?? dinner.

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AT: ??

END TAPE1, SIDE2