

DOCUMENT NAME/INFORMANT: NANCY MARGARET MUNROE
INFORMANT'S ADDRESS: MUSKODAY RESERVE,
SASKATCHEWAN
INTERVIEW LOCATION:

TRIBE/NATION: METIS
LANGUAGE: ENGLISH
DATE OF INTERVIEW:
INTERVIEWER: LUCILLE AND RON BELL
INTERPRETER:
TRANSCRIBER: J. GREENWOOD
SOURCE: SASKATCHEWAN ARCHIVES BOARD
TAPE NUMBER: IH-065-1/065-2
DISK: TRANSCRIPT DISC 18
PAGES: 38
RESTRICTIONS: NONE

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Mrs. Munroe, a Metis, was born on the Muskoday Reserve. Attended day school there. Married, lived in considerable poverty. When husband joined army in WWII she was asked to leave the reserve. Lived in area outside the reserve where other Metis resided. Was voted back into the reserve when her husband was seriously wounded and not expected to recover. He did recover, however, and returned to join her on the reserve.
- Childhood on Muskoday Reserve including details of day school: teachers, lessons, discipline, outside activities.
- Christian religions on the reserves.
- Marriage: poverty followed by relative wealth when her husband joined the army in WWII.

Lucille: Okay, just give me your full name.

Nancy: I should call myself somebody else.

Lucille: Just Nancy Margaret?

Nancy: Munroe. Margaret Munroe.

Lucille: And where were you born?

Nancy: In John Smith Reserve.

Lucille: And when?

Nancy: In 1917, October 7, 1917.

Lucille: What was your father's name and occupation?

Nancy: George Crain, labourer.

Ron: I thought he was a teacher.

Nancy: Teacher. Teacher and lay reader.

Lucille: And when was the first car used in your community?

Nancy: 1926.

Lucille: And who owned it?

Nancy: Our teacher, Mr. Weeks.

Lucille: Where was your trading center, like, where did you go and shop?

Nancy: In Prince Albert Farmer's Supply, Hudson's Bay.

Lucille: How far was that from your home?

Nancy: Fifteen miles.

Lucille: And how often did you shop?

Nancy: Once a week. Once every two weeks or whatever. About every two weeks.

Lucille: And when did the people on the reserve start going to town every Saturday or...?

Nancy: After the war started. The people started getting - when the women started getting allowances from their husbands that were in the army.

Lucille: And before that, how often would you go?

Nancy: Once every two weeks.

Lucille: Did you ever buy anything through a mail order catalogue?

Nancy: No.

Lucille: When did you first have a telephone? I guess that doesn't apply. Did any people move away from the reserve before 1914?

Nancy: No.

Lucille: And did many move away during the 1930s?

Nancy: No.

Lucille: Have you or any member of your family ever held public office or been active in any organizations like with

something like the FSI?

Nancy: No. The only thing my dad did was he was a teacher and the lay reader used to take services on Sundays if there was no minister around and he did a lot of burial services. Christening newborn babies, too. If they weren't strong at birth, well, he had to christen them right away.

Lucille: How did the places on the reserve get their names like, say, John Smith Reserve or Muskoday Reserve? Do you know that?

Nancy: Well, John Smith Reserve was named after the first chief in the reserve and that was about the chief in 1900, I guess.

Lucille: Or 18...

Nancy: 1874, no 1886. It is in the church in the book.

Lucille: And Muskoday, what is that from?

Nancy: That is just - there was a lot of bears in that reserve. When people would start something in there, there were a lot of bears. And two different families moved in and one bunch was more Indian and the others were more higher classed because they didn't use much Cree and they come from Winnipeg.

Ron: Two Hills?

(Whispering)

Lucille: What year did you start housekeeping?

Nancy: 1932 because I done housework for my sisters. Every time anybody had babies, I had to go and do all the housework for the woman.

Lucille: What year were you married?

Nancy: In 1938.

Lucille: Where was your first house?

Nancy: On the road allowance settlement off the reserve. A piece about 100 yards wide that was opened to halfbreeds between the reserve and the farmer's places where the highways and the road allowances run. That is where we lived.

Lucille: Where did you live before you were married?

Nancy: In the reserve with my parents.

Lucille: How far was it to town? What groceries did you usually buy in your earlier years?

Nancy: Just sugar, baking powder, lard, flour, tea.

Lucille: What kind of flour did you use?

Nancy: The cheapest kind we could get and that was Four X.

Lucille: And what quantity did you buy it? Did you buy it in five pounds, ten pounds?

Nancy: Twenty-five, fifty and one hundred pounds.

Lucille: What was the usual price for a hundred pounds, do you know?

Nancy: \$2.75 and \$3.00. If it was Four X flour, it was \$1.90.

Lucille: Did you ever grind your own wheat for porridge?

Nancy: My dad and them did, not me.

Lucille: How did they do it?

Nancy: They did it in a canvas and they hammered it, hammered it down.

Lucille: In what quantity did you buy white sugar?

Nancy: Two and five pounds.

Lucille: How did you get a supply of fresh milk?

Nancy: We had milking cows. Everybody had milking cows.

Lucille: And you made your own butter?

Nancy: Yes, we made our own butter, cheese. We used our own milk. We had chickens and we had our own eggs. We had big gardens for potatoes, not much for vegetables because there was nothing in them days. Just potatoes. It was only turnips and carrots and onions, that's all.

Lucille: And what was your meat supply? What kind of meat did you have?

Nancy: Wild meat. Prairie chickens, ducks, rabbits, muskrats, moose, elk, any kind of wild meat. We hardly ever bought any meat.

Lucille: And if you had fresh beef or something.

Nancy: And then we killed a lot of our own cattle too in the fall, for the winter.

Lucille: Was there ever a beef ring on the reserve? A beef ring, like, I think that is sort of a community locker or something where people were all together?

Nancy: No. We had a ration house where they kept supplies for

people that couldn't make their own living. They got help there like, you know, for flour, beans and bacon, tea, lard and baking powder.

Lucille: Did you preserve any foods like drying them or anything?

Nancy: Yes, we did. We dried lots of saskatoons, blueberries and uh...

Lucille: Meat?

Nancy: Yeah. A lot of canning, too. We canned chicken stew at first.

Lucille: Did you ever preserve fruit?

Nancy: Yeah.

Lucille: Where did you get your water for drinking or cooking?

Nancy: The river.

Lucille: How far was this from your home?

Nancy: We just lived along the river. Everybody lived along the river bank, the Poplar River bank.

Lucille: Did you buy laundry soap or did you make your own?

Nancy: We made most of our own.

Lucille: Have you used lye to make it?

Nancy: Yes, [ashes]? and lye. That was how we made it.

Lucille: What kind of fuel did you use?

Nancy: A coal oil lamp.

Lucille: For fire?

Nancy: For fire, wood.

Lucille: Did you use an indoor fireplace or...?

Nancy: No, we used stoves.

Lucille: What kind of utensils did you use? Iron, copper, tin or homemade?

Nancy: We used...

Lucille: Skillets, did you have frying pans?

Nancy: Yes, we had cast iron kettles, frying pans.

Lucille: In what year did you start school?

Nancy: In 1924 to 1933.

Lucille: And what school - was school held in your district before a school building was built?

Nancy: Yeah, there was a school in the reserve.

Lucille: How many pupils were there in school?

Nancy: Anywhere from fifteen to twenty.

Lucille: Who was your first teacher?

Nancy: Mr. Lowe, an Englishman.

Lucille: What material was the school made of, like, logs, lumber...?

Nancy: Lumber.

Lucille: What was the size of the classroom?

Nancy: Just one big classroom, just one big classroom.

Lucille: Were there cloakrooms for coats or were they hung at the back of the class?

Nancy: They were hung at the back porch.

Lucille: Did your school have a basement?

Nancy: Yes.

Lucille: What did you use it for?

Nancy: For our wood furnace, cord wood furnace stove.

Lucille: Is the first school building still in use?

Nancy: No.

Lucille: Why? Was it burned down or a new school built or...?

Nancy: No, they built another new school just beside it and it rotted down. The logs rotted away.

Lucille: What kind of window arrangements were there in the classroom like, how many and how were they placed, all on one side of the room...?

Nancy: Just one side of the building.

Lucille: Was there blinds on the windows?

Nancy: Yes.

Lucille: Was there any kind of lighting in the school or...?

Nancy: No.

Lucille: What kind of desks did you have and did you have blackboards?

Nancy: We had blackboards and we had homemade desks made by one of the men off the reserve, old Rupert Bear, carpenter.

Lucille: How long did the teachers usually stay at your school, about a year or less than a year or several years?

Nancy: Well, the teacher that I had, Mr. Lowe, stayed seven years and then Mr. Wright stayed for sixteen years.

Lucille: And how did the teachers get to school and how far did they have to go?

Nancy: They lived right beside the school. There was a building for them just a few yards away from the school.

Lucille: And it was usually a modern house?

Nancy: Yes, well, no, it wasn't modern.

Lucille: What was the approximate age of most of the teachers in your school? Were they old men or women or...?

Nancy: About forty-five or fifty.

Lucille: What were your teachers like? Did they mix with the people on the reserve?

Nancy: Yes, they were very good people.

Lucille: Did any of the teachers marry anybody on the reserve?

Nancy: No, they all brought their own wives.

Lucille: Did the older pupils help the teacher with the smaller ones in school?

Nancy: No.

Lucille: Were report cards sent to the parents?

Nancy: No. We didn't have no report cards.

Lucille: Were the parents interested in finding out how their children were doing in school?

Nancy: Not really. Nobody really ever came to see about anything.

Lucille: How often did the school inspector come?

Nancy: Once a year.

Lucille: And how did he come out, by car or...?

Nancy: We used to come and meet him with a team and Davis used to come out by train. Then he would stay at the school building over night and he always come around the first week in June just before summer holidays.

Lucille: Did you have a janitor?

Nancy: No, the teacher did all the cleaning up inside. Unless the bigger girls, they helped scrubbing on Friday evenings.

Lucille: And who looked after the fire during the day or...?

Nancy: The teacher.

Lucille: It was a wood furnace in the basement?

Nancy: Yes, wood furnace in the basement. Oh, it was more or less a big cellar, like, you know.

Lucille: What about in the wintertime, if it got cold, what did - like, if he started a fire too late and it was cold when the kids came...?

Nancy: No, he had the fire going all day and all night. A wood furnace.

Lucille: Did the school board, well, I guess for you it was Indian Affairs that supplied all your texts free...?

Nancy: Yes.

Lucille: How far did you live from the school?

Nancy: About a mile and a half.

Lucille: How did you get to school?

Nancy: Walked.

Lucille: In the wintertime too?

Nancy: Yeah.

Lucille: Was there a barn at the school for horses if the kids took their horses?

Nancy: Just the teacher's horses. Nobody ever took horses to school.

Lucille: Did you ever have to stay at school overnight because of a flood or...?

Nancy: No, never. Our parents came and looked for us if it

was storming. They would drive down and look for us.

Lucille: Was the school ever closed for the winter months or did you go all year or...?

Nancy: No.

Lucille: It closed up in the summertime?

Nancy: Yes.

Lucille: Was it ever closed because of some kind of disease broke out or...?

Nancy: Yes.

Lucille: What kinds of disease?

Nancy: Whooping cough and scarlet fever and chicken pox.

Lucille: Did you have to miss very much school to help at home?

Nancy: Yes.

Lucille: Did you do the work around the house?

Nancy: Yes, I had to stay home every time mother had a new baby. I would stay home and help with it. Other little kids.

Lucille: Did the students seem to like going to school or...?

Nancy: Yeah. And we had our dinner at school, you know. We had soup and beans and bacon. And a piece of hard tack.

Lucille: What is hard tack?

Nancy: A big biscuit about that big like your cigarette box. It was hard though but it was good if you soaked it in soup.

Lucille: Was there any children in your reserve taught at home instead of coming to school?

Nancy: No.

Lucille: And what subjects made up most of the school programming, like, reading, writing, arithmetic?

Nancy: That's all.

Lucille: Just those three?

Nancy: And spelling.

Lucille: Was reading taught mostly by a sound or some other method or...?

Nancy: No.

Lucille: Just sound?

Nancy: Yes.

Lucille: You just had to sound out the words?

Nancy: Yes.

Lucille: Did you do much oral reading in school?

Nancy: No.

Lucille: Oral reading is like reading out loud, did you read out loud in school?

Nancy: Yeah, we done that. We had a share of it like, fifteen minutes each grade.

Lucille: Oh, so all the grades were one big classroom?

Nancy: Yeah.

Lucille: What grade did you go up to at school?

Nancy: Five.

Lucille: And that is all the books they had?

Nancy: Yes. I was in grade five for three years. We couldn't get any other books. Indian Affairs wouldn't give us any more

books. They said they weren't available so I stayed in grade five for three years. Finally I gave up.

Lucille: Did anybody ever leave the reserve to go to school any place else or...?

Nancy: Just to University, just two or three people. Like my dad went for, well, he was already married and he went for a year and a half. He took up teaching. An old carpenter, Bear, took up two years of college too, for carpenter work.

Lucille: So there was no boarding school or anything you could have gone to?

Nancy: Well, we could have I guess but our parents wouldn't let us go.

Lucille: Did you ever have to write compositions or do anything like that? Like write an essay?

Nancy: No.

Lucille: Did your teachers ever encourage you to write poetry or stories or anything?

Nancy: No.

Lucille: Did you have to do any speaking in front of the rest of the class?

Nancy: No, just when we were in trouble.

Lucille: What happened then?

Nancy: We had to make up a story or speech or something. The teacher gave us a picture and we had to make up a story out of it. Like if he would give me a picture of a dog, I would have to tell a lie about that dog.

Lucille: That was when you were bad?

Nancy: That is when we were punished if we were late or if we were fooling around in school. That is what we had to do.

Lucille: What were the usual punishments for misbehaving? Like, did you get a strap besides that or...?

Nancy: Yeah, a strap and then staying in at school. After school for half an hour.

Lucille: Did you ever have to learn memory work as a punishment?

Nancy: No.

Lucille: Did you ever have to write lines as a punishment?

Nancy: No. We had to write words, like...

Lucille: Sometimes you had to write a hundred words or...?

Nancy: No, we had to make sentences like, I have to write five hundred words. I had to keep that in line and neat for five hundred lines, like, you know.

Lucille: Did you write at the blackboard or at your desk?

Nancy: At the desk. But we had to stay in after school and we had to finish the five hundred before we could leave. That was Mr. Weeks' punishment.

Lucille: Was there any incidents like where the teacher strapped somebody at school and the parents got mad or something like that?

Nancy: Oh yes.

Lucille: What happened?

Nancy: Well, the parents used to come down and used to argue with the teacher and then the kids got kicked out of school?

Lucille: Did anything ever happen to the teacher, like, did any of the teachers ever get fired because of that?

Nancy: No.

Lucille: So it was just the kids who got kicked out?

Nancy: Yeah, just the kids got kicked out of school.

Lucille: What religious observance was carried on in school like, opening school with the Lord's prayer, did you have to do that?

Nancy: We had to say the Lord's prayer every morning at school.

Lucille: Did you have to sing "O Canada" or something?

Nancy: We sang that at the closing of the school. At first, and then about a year after we started singing a little verse from the hymn book, you know.

Lucille: Did any of the pupils ever bring lunches?

Nancy: No.

Lucille: You just had your meals at the school?

Nancy: We had our meals there.

Lucille: What kind of toilets did you have?

Nancy: Outside.

Lucille: Separate ones from the boys?

Nancy: Yeah, separate ones from the boys.

Lucille: How large was the school yard?

Nancy: Five or six acres. Big school yards.

Lucille: Was it fenced?

Nancy: Yes.

Lucille: Did you have to clean it up every spring?

Nancy: Yes, it was twice a year, in the fall and in the spring.

Lucille: Was there any flowers planted around the school or anything?

Nancy: No. Just at the teacherage.

Lucille: What kind of games did the pupils usually play on

cold or rainy days?

Nancy: We stayed inside on rainy days or if it was too cold and we had to draw animals. Like dogs or rats or anything like that and we got a prize for the best one. That was just to keep us quiet during recess. And the teacher used to sit with us.

Lucille: How about in good weather, like outside?

Nancy: We played ball, football, tag.

Lucille: What equipment did you have?

Nancy: We had a homemade ball made out of rags and then we made our own bats. The boys made the bats. Finally they started buying balls for us.

Lucille: Did you ever have any kind of school teams? Like, did your school have a baseball team?

Nancy: No.

Lucille: Was there any divisions or sides taken amongst the pupils because of racial differences or...?

Nancy: No.

Lucille: Nobody was afraid or started little cliques?

Nancy: No.

Lucille: Did you have a school library?

Nancy: No.

Lucille: Was there a special afternoon or a day you put aside for special activities like spelling on Friday afternoon or spelling days?

Nancy: Yes.

Lucille: What was it?

Nancy: Mondays we did arithmetic in the morning. And then from 11:30 to 12:00, from recess then till 12:00, we had to copy words from the book. In the afternoon we tried to make sentences but we couldn't, so we done reading instead. Some of them, like higher grades, could make up sentences but I never could. Because I was talking more Cree than, and you know, a lot of kids couldn't talk English. Just the ones that could talk English could make the sentences.

Lucille: Did you speak Cree up until you started school?

Nancy: Yes.

Lucille: How about English?

Nancy: I didn't talk English at all at home.

Lucille: Was it hard to learn English?

Nancy: Yeah.

Lucille: Did your teacher understand Cree when you first started or...?

Nancy: Mr. Lowe did but not Mr. Wright.

Lucille: So it was quite easy on you the first year with Mr. Lowe?

Nancy: Yes.

Lucille: What about a Christmas concert, did you have one every year?

Nancy: Yes, we had one every year and we always had a farewell party the last day for summer holidays. We always had games all day and we had lemonade and cookies and cake the last... And then after that the teacher would all call us up, our parents would be there, the teacher would call us up and we would have to go up to him at the end of the table and he would tell us whether we passed or not. That is the only report we got.

Lucille: He just told you, it was never written?

Nancy: No. Most of the time he would stand there and praise us, like you know, we had been such good kids. We've had a little trouble with this one but we all come away from there smiling.

Lucille: What about your Christmas concerts, what were they like?

Nancy: We had lots of games. Just really, a lot of games. And stories from the Bible, we done a lot of those.

Lucille: Did you ever put on plays?

Nancy: Yeah, plays, we had a lot of plays and we had a lot of singing.

Lucille: Singing carols?

Nancy: Yeah, singing carols.

Lucille: And what about, did you have a Santa Claus?

Nancy: Yeah, we always had a Santa Claus?

Lucille: And did you have gifts?

Nancy: Yeah.

Lucille: Where did they come from?

Nancy: From the missionaries. The Anglican Church missionary. They came right from England and they were already wrapped. They just put the ages for a boy or girl up to 15.

Lucille: Did you have to prepare, like did you practise for it?

Nancy: Oh yes, we practised all through December for it.

Lucille: So there was no school work in December?

Nancy: We did school work in the morning and all afternoon we practised. And all the evenings the bigger kids would go down after school, like after six, and go and practise. That was the ones that lived close like David Night and kids like that, the bigger kids.

Lucille: Was the school building used as a community hall, like a dance hall and bingos and such?

Nancy: Yeah.

Lucille: And the school yard was used for picnics and things?

Nancy: Yeah.

Lucille: And treaty days?

Nancy: Yeah.

Lucille: What kind of religious services did you have? Like, what kind of religion did you have?

Nancy: Anglican. The Church of England.

Lucille: And when was your services?

Nancy: Well, we had service every Sunday. But during the lent in the winter like, you know, for six weeks we had service every other Wednesday nights or some years it was Friday nights.

Lucille: And did you have these Wednesday night services in your, in a church or people's homes?

Nancy: Yes. At first we used to have them at church but then we used to go to where there was people that wasn't able to go to church and we would go where people were sickly. We used to go and have services there.

Lucille: And your Dad was a lay reader for when they didn't have a minister?

Nancy: When the minister wasn't around there.

Lucille: Was the school ever used for a church or did you always have a church?

Nancy: No, we always had a church.

Lucille: Was it only used by Anglicans or was it used by other religions too?

Nancy: No, it was just for Anglicans.

Lucille: Did the clergyman ever live on the reserve?

Nancy: Yes. That was Mr. Wright our teacher, he was a clergyman too.

Lucille: How did he get to the service?

Nancy: He had a...

(End of Side A, Tape IH-065-1)

(Side B)

Nancy: One every Sunday, two services a Sunday. At eleven o'clock in the morning and three o'clock in the afternoon.

Lucille: Did you have an organ for the services?

Nancy: Yes.

Lucille: Who played it?

Nancy: Oh, most of the time the minister played it. But then we had a woman and my uncle always played hymns too.

Lucille: When was it bought? Like, if you don't know the year, how was it bought?

Nancy: I don't know - no, it was donated to us from the Church of England. From the St. Albert's Cathedral, you know, from the Cathedral in Prince Albert.

Lucille: Did you have a choir?

Nancy: No.

Lucille: Was there any other kind of musical instrument used in the services?

Nancy: No.

Lucille: Did you have Sunday School on the reserve or...?

Nancy: No.

Lucille: Any catechism classes?

Nancy: Yes.

Lucille: And how often were they held?

Nancy: Once every three years.

Lucille: What organization or organizations were formed to help the support of the church? Like, was there any organizations like that?

Nancy: No, but the women's auxiliary. That was the only one.

Lucille: How many women belonged to it?

Nancy: Anywhere from eight to sixteen.

Lucille: Was there an annual church picnic?

Nancy: Yes.

Lucille: Where was that held?

Nancy: They held one picnic for the clean-up. They called it a picnic. Everybody brought sandwiches or bannock, whatever there was available. And we all had a big meal at the church and kids played outside of the church yard and the parents and older kids cleaned the church yard and in the evening we would sit around and tell stories till sundown.

Lucille: Did you ever have a church bazaar?

Nancy: Yes.

Lucille: Was there any charges for the suppers that they had at church?

Nancy: No.

Lucille: Who donated the food or who supplied it?

Nancy: Everybody got together and donated stuff.

Lucille: Was there any other activities carried on to help raise any money for the church or...?

Nancy: No.

Lucille: How did the people get to church?

Nancy: Walk. The longest one was about two miles, the longest walk. They never missed a Sunday.

Lucille: Was the church as important a place as people gathering to visit or...?

Nancy: No, it was a very sacred place for people to meet on Sundays. They hardly ever done any visiting around there.

Just the people got there before the service, that is the only ones.

(END OF SIDE B, Tape IH-065-1)

(SIDE A, Tape IH-065-2)

Nancy: 1917. The seventh of October.

Lucille: Where were you born?

Nancy: John Smith Reserve.

Lucille: Did you go to school there?

Nancy: Yeah. I started school when I was eight years old and I went till I was fourteen.

Lucille: What grade did you get?

Nancy: Up to grade five. I was in grade five for three and half years. We didn't have any books to go any higher. So we just kept doing the same work over and over for two and a half years. And one year I worked most of the time but it was counted as school.

Lucille: Where did you work?

Nancy: For the teacher, teacher's work.

Lucille: Who was the teacher at the time?

Nancy: Mr. Wright. Mr. Lowe was my first teacher for the first year and a half and then Mr. Wright was my teacher for the rest of the time.

Lucille: Where was your school?

Nancy: In John Smith Reserve.

Lucille: Is it that old one?

Nancy: Yeah, that old one. Not the grey school, the other one.

We played a lot of tug-o-war and we played tag mostly. And we played hide-and-go-seek, we used to call it. And we used to play another game. Oh, we did play houses a lot. Us girls at school, we hardly ever played ball. The girls weren't allowed to play ball much but we did sneak in sometimes, the bigger girls would play. But we played a lot of play house and big dolls like, we had the little girls for our dolls and our babies.

Lucille: Were the boys all separated for there or...?

Nancy: The boys were all separated. Well, no, we were all

together but the boys always played by their own side. And if a girl went and played over there, they called them dumb so we didn't bother playing with them. Another thing too, as soon as we were seen playing with boys, well, the girls always said we were after somebody there so we just didn't bother playing with them. Them days boys and girls didn't go together until about fourteen to fifteen. You would wait.

Lucille: Do you remember any of the books at school?

Nancy: Yeah, I remember all my books from school.

Lucille: Right from grade one?

Nancy: Yeah.

Lucille: What were the books called?

Nancy: Well, the first book we read was High Roads in Reading and it was A very easy book to read. Mostly all letters like you know, like two a's and two ee and three ee's and things like that. And um, certain of these were two and something with numbers. That was our first one. All our books that we had was Webster and High Roads. Like High Roads of History, I went through that book four times I liked history so much. And

I liked arithmetic too. That is what we called it. Today now, they call it different. And we done another thing at school, the boys and the girls. Of course the boys again were on the other side and the boys on the one side and explored the bushes a lot. And we had a lot of bushes at the school and we used to go through picking up roots and leaves and everything that we could find a little different from each other to bring to the teacher. And he used to tell us what they were. Even if we could get hold of a bird, well he used to pay us to get hold of a bird, but he would just tell us what kind of bird it was and he would let it go. And that meant a lot to us. At the end of the year, anybody catching a bird or even brought butterflies or stuff like that, they would get... even little boys brought in frogs... well, that meant a lot and he passed them. Things like that we brought in.

Lucille: Did you have to write exams?

Nancy: Oh yeah. We used to have a school inspector come in once a year in May to ask attendance. And he used to come in and he was strict and he used to check our books every May to see how. But he never checked if we missed school. Of course, them days we didn't get family allowance and it didn't matter how much we went to school. The more the kids were at school, it was more for their own good. And then we used to try and catch baby rabbits too and that meant a lot in our passing year too. Oh, we had our fun at school too, you know. Different from what it is today. It seems so sad now today to see the kids, just all fenced up in school yards. Long ago, we could wander away from the school yard anytime or take off from

school anytime. Nobody payed attention to us. We didn't get punished. As long as we reported at school at nine o'clock in the morning, we could go home at dinnertime and nobody said nothing about it. Well, it was free and then people could come as they like. People went hunting with their school children in the fall and in the spring out rat hunting and nobody said nothing about it.

Lucille: Rat hunting?

Nancy: Yeah, hunting rats like. That is one way we made our living, giving rats and beaver and any fur like that to sell. That is one way our parents made a living and we went hunting in the fall and we froze the meat and dried meat for the winter.

School, like, you know, we went to school and once in a while we were all late for Thanksgiving. And we always had a Thanksgiving the first Sunday in November and we used to set

snare and if we caught any rabbits we could take them to Mr. Wright and us girls used to cook them and we used to have a Thanksgiving stew, dinner with rabbits in them. Us girls made bannock and some of them baked potatoes or Mr. Wright would provide potatoes and we used to have rabbit stew or rabbit soup for Thanksgiving meal. It was good. They made cookies and sweets like that and we would suck it and it was really good. We would combine our food together we used to say.

Lucille: What did you do for Hallowe'en?

Nancy: Oh, Hallowe'en was normal. The big boys used to go out, not the girls. The girls never went out but the boys used to go around doing tricks but we never handed out no treats. Finally my mother used to make cookies and started. Well, white people I guess were doing that and we got wind of it somewhere and my mother used to make a bunch of cookies and the kids - we used to pay them not to do anything. Because there used to be all kinds of tricks them days. And one time we had a white calf and somebody painted it with black paint and that calf died from that because it burnt the hair and the hair fell off. And it started like that, my dad had to kill it and the meat was no good. It was hurt. So we used to do awful tricks like that. I don't suppose they realized that, you know. One time they took all our chickens and took them over to our neighbors and they took all our chickens over there and they mixed all our chickens together. Good thing my dad knew how many we had, like we only had about twenty-eight I think. And the chickens, you should have seen them fight in the morning. Things like that that they done, you know. Very bad they done in them days. Took horses out and let horses go and cows and my dad used to sit by the barn and watch his cattle and cows and stuff like that. He used to sit there with a shot gun and if he seen three or four coming along, well he would shoot up in the air and they would just take off. You had to do that. It was nice and yet it was kind of rough.

We had good times at weddings. Like, you know, we used to have three or four nights of dancing at weddings. And nobody was invited, everybody just went. As long as you had a little present for the bride, well, you were welcome. We had good times, lots to eat. And it seems like the kids them days didn't fight. Even the men that was drinking at the dance, they hardly ever fought. There was no killing them days to hear of.

In them days too, when anybody died, we used to go and sit up there all night. And people used to take food and all eat together and sing hymns all night. And in the daytime, the

people that was mourning, they wouldn't be left alone, there would be somebody there visiting them all the time. And my dad used to be one of the carpenters on the reserve, used to make the box, the coffins they call them. And they used to line them with white cotton for younger people up to about fifteen and sixteen. And older people from there, they used to be black boxes. And babies used to have white boxes and they used to be lined inside with either wool or anything like that we could get ahold of. Or else make a little pillow and put it inside.

Lucille: Do you know why there was a color difference?

Nancy: Well, just the ages, you know. The younger people had white and the older people had...

Lucille: It just went by age?

Nancy: Yeah. And my dad used to, like if it was a baby, he would use black tape he used to buy, and he used to put a cross on the top of the box. He made all the coffins and he never charged nobody anything. And he used to make a top box and he made all the crosses and if anybody wanted to pay him - some people used to want to pay him - then he would put that money towards the church funds. He wouldn't take it, as poor as he was, he wouldn't take it.

Lucille: Was religion more than it is today?

Nancy: Yes, it was. It was more important to the people. Sundays we weren't allowed to sew a button on anything or even take a needle to do anything or cook anything or cut wood or anything. We weren't allowed to do anything at all on Sundays. Not even play ball or cards or anything like that. We couldn't even chew gum. But we had to go to church and we had to have a good excuse to stay home. We couldn't stay home from church for just a headache.

Lucille: What religion was your dad?

Nancy: My dad was Presbyterian but after he married my mother, they were Anglicans. But he was baptized Presbyterian. And my mother was, well, first my mother went to a Catholic church.

Lucille: Do you have any idea why that reserve was Anglican, how it changed?

Nancy: Well, it was the first Anglican minister there.

Lucille: The first minister was Anglican so it just stayed there?

Nancy: Stayed Anglican. There was quite a few Presbyterians. All my uncles and James Crain, they were all Presbyterians but they all changed to Anglican because that was the only kind of minister that come to the reserve is an Anglican.

Lucille: And that was the only church there?

Nancy: That was the only kind of church they built there too.

Lucille: At the beginning they were all Presbyterian?

Nancy: Yeah.

Lucille: Because that was the only church that came?

Nancy: That was the first one but then they didn't build a church. They just used to have little services at the old school house and they used to have meetings there when they didn't have services. But when they first bought an organ - the reserve, it was an Anglican donation from St. Albert's. But it wasn't St. Albert's, it was - I forget the name of that church now. They give out the first organ to us. It was Anglican and that is the reason that they took it.

Lucille: Did the Catholics, were they there all the time or...?

Nancy: There was never any Catholics in our reserve. It was very rare to see a Catholic marry anybody from our reserve and as far as I can remember back, it was a woman from Mistawasis and that reserve, someone there that got married to a Catholic woman. After that I don't remember a Catholic coming in for a long time again.

Lucille: Were they told not to marry out of their religion or...?

Nancy: No, they weren't told but it was just...

Lucille: Were most reserves Anglican?

Nancy: Yeah, most of them.

Lucille: Sturgeon Lake, all of them?

Nancy: There is quite a few that is Catholic now. They switched about half in Sturgeon Lake now.

Lucille: Yeah, but long ago?

Nancy: Oh, yeah. That is right. Even the schools were all Anglicans.

Lucille: Did they teach religion in school?

Nancy: Yeah, lots. Every Friday afternoon we had Sunday schools and every morning we had a prayer and then at the close of the day we had to sing a verse of a hymn.

Lucille: Did you have to sing "O Canada" too?

Nancy: No, we sang "God Save the King".

Lucille: "God Save the King"?

Nancy: Yeah.

Lucille: Was it the same as...?

Nancy: Yeah, the same.

Lucille: Did you ever know why you were singing God Save the King?

Nancy: Yes, we were made to understand what it meant. What it was for.

Lucille: What did they tell you?

Nancy: Well, that was the one that was ruling or the boss like, in Canada. He was above us in Canada. Mr. Wright used to say he is next to our God. That's...

Lucille: That's how high he put him.

Nancy: Yeah.

Lucille: And nobody questioned it?

Nancy: No.

Lucille: Did you ever see him?

Nancy: No. But Mr. Wright come from England and King George was in England and that is why he worshipped him.

Lucille: When did you first start (inaudible)?

Nancy: Well, when they went to school with us, like people that taught us school and that is when it started. Other than that

we had the store in Davis and then we had this store in Prince Albert that we would come to but other than that we never talked to anybody outside of that.

Lucille: And how were you treated by white people?

Nancy: Well, Mr. Graves looked down on the Indians as dirt. He didn't care for us but he was happy to get our money when treaty time came or any time.

Lucille: Who was Mr. Graves?

Nancy: Graves, he was the guy that owned the store in Davis. But other than that, he had nothing to do with us.

Lucille: How about when you came to town, did you ever get play games or...?

Nancy: Yeah, we had that centre to play, you know. The children there were very friendly with the Indians. In fact, they really liked the Indians. And then we had the store; they called it the Farmer's Supply. And that store was really good with Indians, too.

Lucille: I imagine there were some stores that weren't.

Nancy: Oh yeah. The Blue Chain store, that was very good with Indians too. And like my mother, they used to go and sweep out that Blue Chain store like once a month and she used to get a lot of clothes from them and stuff that was old.

Lucille: So it was (inaudible) then?

Nancy: Yeah, but not Allan Barcy's parents. But they used to give us clothes or something they couldn't sell, that took a long time.

Lucille: Was there certain places in Prince Albert where you couldn't go? Were Indians ever banned from any store?

Nancy: No, not that I know of but I know a lot of places we were watched close if we went in. We were watched very close, it was just like we were like stealers.

Lucille: Is it worse now than it was, the way you are treated now?

Nancy: Oh no, the Indians are treated better now than they were. I don't know. The Indians now deal a lot with the white people. When we got into town, people really stared at us.

They didn't know what to think about us. Especially in Birch Hills. It is just a few years of people that really broke down in their church to be prejudices against us. Even yet, they find foreign people very strange. But John Smith is (inaudible). Like in Saskatoon too.

Lucille: You think they are closer now, white people and Indians?

Nancy: Oh yes, they are closer now.

Lucille: What were you going to say about Saskatoon?

Nancy: Like, in Saskatoon there are a lot of stores we go in, they just trail right around behind us, behind me, like you know. Being an Indian, I guess they are afraid I would be shoplifting or something.

Lucille: What about farmers around the reserve? How do they treat you?

Nancy: They really treated us good. They got us to, they got our parents to go and work for them for meat or anything like that. That is how my dad made a living a lot. He used to cut wood for them by the load and he used to haul it to them. And they used to pay us in meat or cash or potatoes and meat or chickens or anything like that.

Lucille: Can you remember ever being told when you were small by a teacher or some white people that (inaudible)?

Nancy: No. I never ever feel that because nobody ever mistreated me that much. It seems like I got along with people no matter where I went or where I was or what I done. People seemed to like me. Even today, all the people now, they really look up to me. It is just that I'm not backwards, not forward. If anybody talks to me, I stop and talk to them, I don't be shy but I don't fool myself that people are shy. I have always been that way all my life. I always got along good with everybody like that. I go anywhere and I can see where I can help people if they need help.

Lucille: What about police on the reserves? When did they start coming there?

Nancy: Well, they were always there when they gave out treaty. We would see the police once a year but other than that, we were very scared to see the police. We would look when they would come up to the reserve because we knew that somebody was in trouble then. But a lot of times we didn't know who it was.

But a lot of times it was people that were coming in to more or less look for something. Then, we didn't have any radios or TVs or anything to know if the prisoners got loose. And the only way we knew was when the R.C.M.P. drove out on horseback out to the reserve. Because in them days, they done most of their driving on horseback. You didn't see very many cars. But even when we did see cars coming in with the police, we were very scared. In fact, a lot of young people used to run away and hide in the bush.

Lucille: When did you first see a car or were they already there when you were?

Nancy: There must have been very few but the first one I remember was our teacher having a car on the reserve and that was in 1926. That was the first car that was on the reserve.

Mr. Wright had an old Model T Ford. And before that he used, well, he just used it in the summer. In the winter he used a sleigh and horses. Before that all he used was that, the horse, summer and winter.

Lucille: What did you think of that car?

Nancy: Oh, it was very fascinating. We had to all climb all over it to see what it was. And we all had to stay in school after school because we were all over the car and tried to turn all the buttons and tried to see what would turn all the lights on. Because he showed us all those things. And then after he left there, we tried to see if we could do the same things. Especially the boys.

Lucille: Did he take you for a ride in it?

Nancy: No.

Lucille: Were you scared of it at first?

Nancy: Yeah, we didn't know what to think of it. We had seen them in town, but then we didn't - a lot of them we just seen them sitting still. And then we weren't in town that long either because we had to get our groceries and then go home right away. (Inaudible) Most people made their own wine and that was about all they drank was wine. We never even heard of beer in them days.

Lucille: You mean right on the reserve they made their own wine?

Nancy: Yeah, people made their own wine or home brew, like they called it.

Lucille: Three different kinds of drink they made?

Nancy: Yeah.

Lucille: Did you ever see any of it being made?

Nancy: Yes, when we used to go to [] twenty years ago I used to see them make it over there. In fact I tried to make it once at the house but I couldn't make a go of it. I didn't have no place to make it. I hid it in the cellar but then my older brothers used to go and peek at it to see if it was working and it had to be in the dark for three days and three nights. But they would open up the lid and then they would let the air in and then it would turn sour. So I couldn't make a go of it. Twice I guess, I tried making it. I made raisin wine too, one time. Not me, but with the people that I worked for, we made raisin wine. I don't know how it turned out. I didn't taste it or anything.

And long ago, in my days, when I used to work, I used to work for wages. The highest wages I worked for you know was two dollars a month. It was anywhere from a dollar and quarter, I used to work for my sister, a dollar and a quarter a

month, a dollar seventy-five. That was when we were busy harvesting. Two dollars a month. But that was good money in them days. People would go to the store and buy a pair of stockings for ten cents. It was usually seventy-nine cents for really good ones. A dress them days was about seventy-nine cents. But they were all cotton and then (inaudible).

Lucille: Did you buy lots of dresses?

Nancy: I was wearing all hand-me-downs. I don't think I even had enough to buy. Even for my wedding I didn't buy a dress.

Lucille: Did you make your dress?

Nancy: I made my slip out of flour sacks. The same thing with my brassiere, I made it out of flour sacks. And my mother made us bloomers all the time and we would wear them summer and winter. Buttons on both sides of the waist here and pleats at the back on your pants.

And on my wedding dress, just the lining, theatre slip they called it.

Lucille: Was it long?

Nancy: No. Just halfway down my knees to my ankles. Halfway down. We had to stand in front of this little organ.

Lucille: How old were you when you got married?

Nancy: I was going on to 21. I was 20 in October and the following next May I got married.

Lucille: What kind of shoes did you wear?

Nancy: Running shoes.

Lucille: For your wedding?

Nancy: Yeah.

Lucille: How was Dad dressed?

Nancy: He just wore a vest, a suit. But I remember his vest was because the pocket was torn. He didn't wear new ones.

Lucille: Where did you get your rings from or did you have any?

Nancy: We just wore a wedding band and mine is supposed to be real big. Just 10kt gold, just \$1.75. There was one for only a dollar. We paid more for mine because it was bigger.

Lucille: Did he have a ring too?

Nancy: Men didn't wear rings them days. But it was a good ring because it lasted a long time.

Lucille: Where did you get married at?

Nancy: I got ready at my mother's place, at her own place. And dad stayed right at his uncle's place. We didn't see the team that he was supposed to drive in. His best man come and picked me up. And then he went to pick Christine up. So we didn't meet until in the church when I was in the front and he come in after. The custom was the same in them days as it is now. But then another thing too, today, you turn around there and you have to kiss your wife. Them days, you were still ashamed to be together yet. You know, like, you couldn't even hold hands, that is how we were so scared of our parents. It was just like a big scene for them to see us together. Not unless they picked out the boy for us to go with, and then it was okay. Because them days we hardly had a chance to go with anybody you wanted to go with. They picked out our boy friends for us. If they didn't like them, well we were grounded. They sure didn't like that at all if they didn't pick them. It was against their wishes.

Lucille: For your wedding, did you have a reception?

Nancy: Yeah, we had a big supper and then first, them days, when we got out to the church we went to where we were going to dance and we had to dance with the groom.

(END OF SIDE A, Tape IH-065-2)

(SIDE B)

Nancy: Then after we had two dances we would go meet and after that then we danced all night. Sometimes for four nights. At the time of my wedding it started on a Wednesday night, Thursday night, Friday night. Three nights they danced and all day and all night they danced.

Lucille: Were you there all the time?

Nancy: Most of the time. Sometimes we would go back and have a rest. Dad was there most of the time.

Lucille: Where did you stay on your wedding night?

Nancy: In a tent outside of my mother's place there. We stayed in a tent. We always used to, somebody always used to sleep in tents in them days. It was a custom that in the spring everybody had tents and they slept in the tents.

Long ago when we were sick, just about any kind of sickness, older people knew what kind of herbs to dig up for medicine. Like, if we had sore eyes, they used to dig up a root from those rose trees. And they used to clean that root off really good, just scrape it with a knife and boil that. In a round thing, just like a little ball. And cut that up and boil it and then cool it off and put it on your eyes and it

used to clear your eyes.

And then for colds they had different kinds of herbs. We used mostly Indian medicine. There was no aspirins nothing like that them days. I don't know how we ever lived through, you know. But somehow, we used to have those ASA aspirins but it seems like when anyone took one of those it just took the daylight out of you because we didn't use drugs like that. And then we used to get black cough mixture too from Indian Affairs but hardly anybody used that. They used all Indian medicine. Even for TB or boils or anything like that.

I can still see the medicine that Joe Smith used to give us for boils. Big leaves, you know. Used to get them around the lakes. They were white on one side and we used to spit on that and then put it right on the boil and it used to suck everything right out.

Lucille: Did you have to leave it there for a while?

Nancy: Yeah, overnight. And then we used to have a lot of roots. Some of them called (Cree name), you know that is the name of that stuff. The last thing I named that was for ear aches and that Weegays, that was for sore throat. All kinds of stuff like that we used for our medicine. We hardly ever went to a doctor. I was about 13 years old when I went first and seen the doctor. It was a check up at the school. And then after that I had a sore side, I had to go the doctor. Mr. Wright drove me in to come and see the doctor in that old truck and I got in there and it was only gas pains.

(laughter)

Well, it was indigestion they called it so they gave me big white pills to take. When I got them home, my parents wouldn't let me take them. They told me I would choke to death if I took those. They were so big. So I couldn't take them. I was made to drink an Indian medicine for that. The elders didn't have much to do with the doctors or anything like that. I never seen a hospital until I was about, the first time I was in the hospital was when I had that sliver right here and I was about 19 years old then. The first time I went in the hospital. Nobody ever, hardly ever, went in the hospital.

Lucille: Was there a hospital on the reserve?

Nancy: There was a hospital in Prince Albert, a small one. A family doctor was there. And then Victoria Hospital started up. In 1917 I think that one started. But Victoria Hospital started long before that. But the Indians hardly ever went there. They used their own. They drugged themselves more then and it seems that they lived a lot longer then days than they do now. Yes, long ago there was nothing known as cancer or, TB was very rare and any kind of sicknesses like that. We didn't have anything. Very seldom a person was sick.

And long ago people didn't have baldness because the old

ladies used to chop up bones after killing a cow. Then they used to chop up those bones into small little pieces and boil those for a long time and there would be a lot of grease on top of the water. Then they would skim that off and put it in kettles and then after that froze they used to eat that. It is a lot better than butter. It is really good. It is just a yellow liquid. And the men used to put some of that on their hands and rub it on their heads and, you know - what they use

Brylcream for these days. And the men never lost their hair. You seen Mr. Lowe's head the other day. And I used to see that old fellow use that [?] they called it, on his head too. It really was wonderful the way the people looked after themselves too. They weren't buying all kinds of stuff, what we buy today.

Lucille: Did you have perfume and make-up or...?

Nancy: Well no, not till about 1940 when Ben Hur come in power. That strong smelling stuff.

Lucille: Did you have any?

Nancy: No. I never used perfume, I never used powder or lipstick.

Lucille: What about soap, what kind of soap did you use?

Nancy: The old people made their own soap with lye and they boiled grease and they mixed lye and grease together and they set it for two or three days and then they cut it up into cakes of soap. Some people put Ben Hur in to make it smell nice but it didn't smell nice. It smelled awful. But long ago, people used to use coal oil for washing. Well, even in my days, in tea towels, you put some coal oil in when you are boiling tea towels because we used to boil them to get them white. Put some coal oil in and it used to just get them white. It used to kind of smell a little but we used to hang them overnight outside and then the damp air would take that smell out.

Lucille: What about that soap, did you use it on your face?

Nancy: Yeah, we had to use that on our faces, it was good, it was lye. And it was very good and good for washing. But we didn't have no flakes or anything like that, suds or anything like that. The first soap suds that I remember buying was in about 1936 was called Oxydol and Super-Suds.

Lucille: Was there any Javex?

Nancy: No, not till about 1942 or 1943. We went to the store one time and this merchant told me, he says, "You know Nancy," he said, "there is something, some stuff come in," he said. He gave us samples of it to try it and my it was good, but of course we put too much of it. My clothes didn't last long because it - well right now Javex is a lot different than them days again. It was strong them days. You just had to use very

little and now you have to use quite a bit to get your clothes clean. You use too much and burned your clothes.

Lucille: What about how did you wash your clothes?

Nancy: Tub and washboard and we boiled white clothes.

Lucille: Even in the wintertime?

Nancy: Yeah, and we didn't have no wash lines. We used to hang everything over little trees and everything. Like the fence. There was no wash lines in them days. We just had to throw everything over little sticks. We used to dry them like that. A fence, if there was a wooden fence anywhere, we used to use that.

Lucille: And did you have lots of washing?

Nancy: No, not really. Not as much as we have now. We used homemade blankets. We didn't have no sheets. Everything was homemade, like we didn't have no sheets.

Lucille: Did you have sewing machine to make clothes?

Nancy: We never had a sewing machine. Some people had sewing machines but not us. We were too poor to have that. We used to go and use the sewing machine next door, like, Mrs. Chief's.

If we had sores long ago, you know what we used for mixing? We used to mix grease and flour together and wrap a sore or burn or anything like that and we would tie it up with a rag and would just get it all clean and then we used to leave it out in the air to heal. If you had, used to have a sore in the mouth, that is what we used to use.

Lucille: With no TV long ago or even power, what did you do in the evenings or when the work was finished?

Nancy: We used to go out to our neighbors and we used to sit around and they used to build fires and we would sit outside there and the older people used to tell stories and it was very interesting to listen to. Long ago, we didn't even look forward to the future. We just lived from day to day. We didn't think ahead, of what it was going to be like. Even one time we were talking, the girls and I, we said, "I wonder what my kids will look like when we have kids." And I said right away, "I can't have kids, how can I ever have kids." I will never forget that because Mr. Wright said, "Nancy, you are going to be married and you are going to have kids and you are going to have a lot of kids and grandchildren." And I said, "Not me, I am too scared to get married and have kids." Well, I was only about 12 or 13. But we were in the playhouse, you know, but we were pretending we were going to have kids. Then somebody got serious. I think it was Lilian said, "I wonder what my kids will look like." And right away, it struck me right away I wasn't ever going to have kids because I was too

scared. And so, you know, that is how our mind was. We didn't look ahead at all. All we thought of was trying to get together with older people and talk and listen to the past. That is all we had in mind.

Lucille: What was it like when you first got married? Were you poor?

Nancy: Yeah, we were poor. We didn't have nothing. Dad was in the army and we just got a little bit of dishes and stuff like that from our parents. We didn't even have a bed until after Dad came out of the army and we just made wooden beds and a little log cabin. We didn't have no mattresses, just the wood. Well, to tell you the truth, we had one old horse blanket at home that was nice and soft and other than that we had just homemade blankets. And then he always had a feather tick that he had like, you know, when we first got married, he brought a feather robe. We always had that. In fact, I still have that. I just lost a lot of stuff. I don't know where it is gone to. I told you a long time ago to try and keep that. But I don't know what happened to it now. It is just lost.

Lucille: Where did you and Dad live?

Nancy: We lived on the road allowance. We couldn't even stay in the reserve because he wasn't a treaty Indian and I wasn't a treaty Indian too. So we got kicked off the reserve and we had to stay in the road allowance they called it. Between the farmer's place and the reserve where there is supposed to be a road built. It was wide enough for our people to live there. So there was quite a few families of us halfbreeds there. And Dad had to work over there, hunting and stuff for a living. He used to get a lot of rabbits and he used to trade them off for potatoes or flour. Milk, we had none. We just had to go to a farmer to try and get some milk and they used to give us skimmed milk.

Lucille: How did you live when Dad went and joined the army?

Nancy: Well, I stayed in the reserve until I got kicked out and then I stayed on the road allowance. And then they voted us in after Dad was in the army about three years, they took us in to be Indians, so then I stayed on the reserve.

Lucille: How did they vote you in?

Nancy: When Dad was wounded very bad overseas, they thought he was going to die, I guess. He was wounded, seriously wounded. So then I had four kids so they had a meeting, they called up a meeting when the telegram came that Dad was wounded bad. The

telegram came that he wasn't expected to live very long, that he was seriously wounded. So they called up a meeting and they treated it and they run by votes and like, you know. Just by lifting hands. Twenty-two was against us and twenty-three would let us in. Just by one vote. Before it was twenty-two

and twenty-two and then somebody else came in and then they revoted again and then they won so we were brought in and then we got our treaty money there right away. In them days, there was no red-tape to it, but they did make a, I don't know who has got that title now in the paper to show that we were voted into the reserve. And this lawyer, Tom Fraser, he was good. He ... (inaudible). And then Dad got better overseas and then they put him out in the war again and then he got wounded again and then he came home. The second time.

Lucille: Where did you live when you came back to the reserve?

Nancy: They gave me a house right away. They lent it to us and then, about a year after, I bought it. 'Cause I used to get army cheques.

Lucille: That was a lot of money in those days.

Nancy: Yeah.

Lucille: Pretty rich then, eh?

Nancy: I had money in the bank. We had cattle, chicken, horses, I had about seven horses.

Lucille: You did that all on your own?

Nancy: All on my own.

Lucille: Where did you buy the cattle from?

Nancy: I bought a lot of cattle from the people on the reserve and the horses I bought a team of horses and (inaudible). I paid \$60 for that team. Well, it wasn't my idea. It was David Spring's idea because he was the overseer and he was the one that brought us onto the reserve and he was the one that looked after us. I couldn't even use my money as I liked because I just bought my groceries. He would even send the cheques with his X and his dad's I.D. but no. And then he bought all the stuff. All he had to have was his X (inaudible).

Lucille: (Inaudible)

Nancy: (Inaudible) All my sisters and brothers were always here. That was a good thing then. It made me mad too. But after Dad got out of the army, then nothing. (Inaudible)

Lucille: What was Dad like when he first came out of the army?

Nancy: He wasn't himself at all. He wasn't the same man that I had married. He was different. I couldn't even reason with him again. I tried to reach him and there was no way I could reach him. I tried and took a personal...

(END OF SIDE B, Tape IH-065-2)

(END OF INTERVIEW)

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