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Sharon: Peter Lavallee, Regina. Mr. Lavallee, do you remember anything about your grandparents?

Peter: Yeah.

Sharon: Do you want to tell me about them?

Peter: Well, my grandfather 109 when he died. And that's on my dad's side.

Sharon: Do you remember his name?

Peter: Gee I can't say that word, he had a French name. I guess Xavier, and my grandfather I couldn't understand him all he talked was French. My grandmother talked Saulteaux, but I don't know who she was. And my grandmother was bought for sixteen horses, she was sixteen.

Sharon: By your grandfather?

Peter: By my grandfather, yeah she was bought in Fort Qu'Appelle. That's what my grandfather's mother told me. Not his mother his sister. You see, my grandfather's sister was younger than him and she told me that my grandmother was bought for sixteen head of horses, she was sixteen years old, and the horses is worth \$200. a head. Yeah. And he bought her in Fort Qu'Appelle and gave sixteen head of horses. That man wanted one horse a year for her. Yeah she was sixteen that was my mother's, my dad's mother.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: I don't know I must have been, they must have bought their wives then.

Sharon: Can you tell me where they lived?

Peter: They lived in Marievale when I was born, I was born in Marievale so they must have been living there because that's where they both died.

Sharon: Did you know them yourself?

Peter: Yeah. Yeah I stayed with them.

Sharon: Do you remember what they did for a living?

Peter: No. Time I remember they had a pension. My grandfather got \$14. a month. And my grandmother I don't know what she got, I don't know what she got she must have got...

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: No. He was on the north side of Marievale. See there's a river there that parts the Metis and the Treaty Indians. We lived on the north side of the river, Qu'Appelle river and they lived on the south side.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Eh?

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Yeah. But you see my grandfather was, had signed out of the reserve and then my dad got a, I don't know what they called it, a script or something. He had two sections of land in Indian Head for that script, but he sold it for a bottle of whiskey to a guy from Indian Head, a white guy.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: All of them. All of them they sold their, you see at that time they could have bought land for a quarter.

Sharon: Twenty-five cents?

Peter: Twenty-five cents, yeah. All they done is, was make a garden on maybe an acre they'll cut the wood, you know. And they take that into the municipality whatever it was that time when they homesteaded the place, and all it cost them for the paper was twenty-five cents and the land was theirs. Free tax, there was no tax. And there was a lot of land, there was hardly anybody around. See that's the reason why they sold their land so cheap. So, at that time they could have, I guess they could have got a lot of land (inaudible).

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Yeah, they didn't want to work it and they had no machinery to work it. See and my grandfather as far as I know he was a rich man, he had a lot of land. All that Mission land on the south, on the north side of the creek there. It was all his. Oh there was a lot of land there (inaudible). See all his cattle and stock was there, and his boys was drinking too much then he asked the Mission to keep him til he dies.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: In return for the land, so they kept him and the Mission get the land.

Sharon: (Inaudible)?

Peter: Yeah. They made a house for him. That's where I stayed.

Sharon: (Inaudible)?

Peter: No. That's from the government. And when I started growing up they started pushing around, my dad was a big drunk and I used to stay from one place to the next. When he got tired and he come and he pick me up (inaudible) and they were going to put me in school, my sisters went to a boarding school Indian boarding school and I was going to go to school and then the Indian, the Treaty Indians kicked against the Metis. Then I couldn't go to school, all the Metis got kicked out of the boarding school.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Marievale Boarding School, Lebret Boarding School and there was a boarding school in Lestock. There was quite a few boarding schools there was one in Round Lake, Round Lake School, and oh there was, I don't really know where they were all at, but they were all over.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Yeah. All at once. The time I was of age to go to school.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: No. I don't really know when that was, I must have been around eight years old.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Yeah around there. That was in dirty '30s, we call them the hungry '30s. Yeah. I remember them depression years, they used to be storms, you know, and it's only a storm it would be just a dust storm you see the dust coming and the fences, there was fences and they'd be about four inches on the top that's how high the posts were...

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: ...be covered with dust, dirt. All you see is tumbleweeds rolling, you know. What I always think of now is the stock how they made their stock live, you know, how did they survive at that time because there was no place to make hay, because there was nothing. And in our community when we were small we had gophers, they used to call us gopher eaters, you know. Well the Treaty Indian had the rations, we didn't get nothing. Yeah. Mostly all the time after the depression was the same way, they got rations and we didn't get nothing, we didn't get relief, we didn't get nothing, there was no relief, nothing.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Yeah there was suppose to be. That's another thing what I remember is these liberals was in power, the King Government they called them. And they used to come there just before the elections, about a week before they'd start coming and they offered us all kinds of stuff. They would call one Larocque, he was a half breed, used to sell the half breeds to their votes. And they'd come with wine, you know, they'd come with gallons of wine they'd get these guys the next they go and do it. And the next four years with you guys, they couldn't get nothing, they couldn't get (inaudible). They could apply for it but they threw them out?

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: No. You see, at that time when a white man said something it had to be, there was no...

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Yeah, yeah didn't matter, you know. Nobody counts. But you see the, it's not the white people it's the government that did that, the white people helped us. They used to make us work, I started working when I was eleven years old. I used to go and farmers went and pile little stones in piles and they'd come and haul them, and they'd give twenty-five cents a pile. But that time twenty-five cents was a lot of money, I could buy a pound of butter or five cents. A package of tobacco and the tobacco was big packages was five cents, and the papers was in there you didn't have to buy papers you got

them free. See everything was easy only that was hard to get money, everything was cheap.

Sharon: Was there a lot of trading at that time?

Peter: No. We lived on wild stuff, we lived on muskrats, beavers, we lived on what we can get to eat, you know. Weren't allowed to shoot deer because we weren't Treaty. See the Metis really had a hard time.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: We used to trap them.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: No. We did that on the (?).

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: No. Never allowed to fish.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Well, if we were caught they used to say we're going for six months, but you see nobody was caught they were good at it. And if they have to do that they done it at night, and we would trade our fish off for pork, beef, potatoes. And we live on road allowances. You see, these road allowances goes to the river, to the lake and we lived on, yeah and then the road don't go through there because if there's a lake there, you know, and that's how we was brought up.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Once in awhile yeah. It was hard for us to (inaudible).

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Yeah, well we, me and my sisters we hardly seen my dad. We used to have a little dog, we used to go out and chasing partridges. These partridges goes up on the tree and the dog is barking at them they won't move. And we put a snare on a long stick, you know, and we snare them. And I'd make a slingshot and I'd kill them with slingshots, and rabbits. But it was hard to kill with a slingshot, you had to be close enough. And you'd miss too, because you only have a stone it was like (inaudible) but you use a slingshot. That's how we lived, we had a hard time, but my sisters went to school. But they weren't too well educated because they were kicked out when the Indians started kicking them out.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: None at all.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: NO. My didn't go to school. Yeah I could have went to school there, they build one there they called it Bannock School, but I don't know who built it. It was built by the Mission on the reserve side. It was just a, ordinary house and they put the kids there. These people my age went to school there, they went to school there and my dad was in jail for two months and the last month I went to school I put myself in school, and when he came out he kicked me out of there.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Yeah. I didn't really learn nothing. You see they were learning to talk English, for me I never talked good English but I talked English all the time. But where I got mine was from, I can't tell you I don't know.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Think it was...

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Oh yeah. I talk Cree. I talk to the guys there, but they claim that native Cree we talk. We talk our Cree half French and half... See, we can talk Cree and we'll name stuff like a table we'll say (?), and things like that. Our Cree is not straight Cree it's all mixed with French.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Yeah. And you see, and we mixed, at home we mixed ours up with English. English, French and Cree we don't talk straight.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: No, I didn't go out when I learn French. Actually I didn't grow up with certain people, you see I was young and my grandfather died, oh I don't know old I'd be maybe I was ten years old, nine years old. My grandfather used to have a grub box. He used to feed us. My grandfather was very good to us. And my grandmother had a grub box and she wouldn't feed us, see they kept their own food, you know. They used to go and steal frommy grandmother, you know, oh she'd be mad. (laughs)

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: No, she lived in the same place only they had different...

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: We, well when my grandfather was living he used to give us food, used to go to town once a month and I guess he must have bought a lot of stuff with the money he had, he had

quite a few dollars.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: No we had no food, see actually we didn't belong there they just kept us. My dad used to go and throw us away there and we stayed there. And sometime I had a uncle he used to keep us.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Yeah.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Me and Maggie, Matilda. But most of the time it was me, because they were in school. See it's just holidays they were there. But all year round I was home.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Yeah. All the time I...

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: She died when I was going on three I think when my mother died. I hardly remember when she died, I hardly remember my mother. Just once I seen her, whether she was making bannock I don't know, she was (inaudible).

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: That's all. And when she died when they buried her I remember when they had a wake for her. How she died I don't even remember, but they said she slept for fourteen days and she starved to death, she had sleeping sickness.

Sharon: How would (inaudible)?

Peter: '23, 1923.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Yeah. You see and there's no marker, I don't even know exactly where I know where about her grave is, but I don't, I can't mark exactly but there was no marker.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Yeah, down in there.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: No. We have Missions were there.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: You see, they ploughed it up and the (inaudible).

Sharon: The grave yard?

Peter: Yeah. That's in Marievale.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Yeah. See them French men (inaudible), see that's with their mission...

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Yeah. French, yeah.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Yeah. Yeah.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: But now they have another place they made it a little bigger. They started in ploughed it out and... It's the same one only they made it bigger.

Sharon: What kind of house did you live in?

Peter: We lived in mud shack.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Yeah, it's all made out of logs with one window. And we'd have sawdust and we used to mud our floor, you know, plaster the mud and straw. Then we'd level it off and let it dry, took a long time to dry because it's inside in the shade. And we had, we used to go and cut hay, you know, for the mattresses and we'd sew up gunnysacks together and we'd put hay in there and that was our mattresses. Or people used to have straw piles, you know, in that time they used thrashing machines for in the fall, in the spring before we go there we go and fill up with straw, but it will all go to pieces eventually, you know, you have to get new stuff.

Sharon: What other kind of furniture did you have in your home?

Peter: Well, just what they made. We made cupboards with orange boxes, apples boxes, and we made benches out of logs.

Sharon: Did you have a table?

Peter: Yeah, we had a table.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: No. I can't tell you where we got the table from, but once we had a table I guess we must have kept it. (laughs)

My grandfather had a table like that, exactly the same as that, and I used to (inaudible).

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: No, it's a small one like that. Used to keep his money. And there was a drawer like that. It was the same as that one, that must be an antique table that one. And there was a drawer like that and that's where he kept his money. And how I knew he kept his money there I used to help him count his money, he trusted me and the rest of them he didn't trust, because they steal money off him, you know.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Kept it in the drawer, yeah. And one time he was counting money and he threw the twenty-five cents away. And twenty-five cents wasn't silver they were paper, you know. Yeah paper money for quarters.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: No, just like a dollar but it's small, it's like that you see. It's like a little dollar bill but it's twenty-five cents.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: You go to these shops they still have them, but they're antiques now. I had one but somebody stole it off me.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Yeah. Yeah, but just quarters. We had dimes and nickles.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Yeah, coins. But the quarters were paper, but they look like a dollar bill. He threw it away, you know, this paper from tobacco and they had a seal on tobacco like that and it looked the saem as that money, so he rolled it up he throw that in the garbage. And I went and pick it up and unroll it and I showed him. That's when he said he though it was paper, you know, from tobacco, you know. Me and him got along pretty good. I used to, he was deaf he couldn't hear you if you talked, you could yell at him he couldn't hear you. He was stone deaf. And I asked him (inaudible).

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Yeah. Yeah he was able to hear maybe I would have been able to talk French. He told us when he was going to die, you know. We're all sitting there around dinner, my sister Maggie and we had some (?) they were there too, they all went to town my dad and my aunt, and my aunt kept him at that time. Oh he was old. And he was able to go around here, he had all

his teeth he never lost his teeth. It's a funny thing you know. And all at once he got up, if you touch his bed like this sleeping he would die. (inaudible) looked pretty skinny, he used to keep a cake on the counter for us. (laughs) And we couldn't touch his bed when we were playing (inaudible). And this time he got up and he told us he was going to leave us now (inaudible). First he says, I'm going to leave a song to you guys. And one of you should try and learn this song. And then you (inaudible) I'm too old now then I'm going to sleep. (inaudible). So he made sign, see when they don't understand him I used to go and help him make signs to him, you know, to understand then I tell them what he said.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Yeah, he sang. He sang an Indian song and he said words and I don't know what exactly what he said in French, but he sang in Indian words. (inaudible) so he went to sleep. (inaudible) don't think nothing of it, you know, and we were playing in the afternoon and my sister Maggie I think she had, she was knitting and she said, you watch what you doing you'll wake up our grandfather. If you want to run around, run around outside. And we were going to run out and we looked at him and just like his blankets wasn't moving at all, you know, he used to cover his head all the time and I was going to go out and I told my sister I says, you know, there's something wrong with grandfather. I kicked the floor, you know, stamped on the floor. You know, I said, we've been running around here he never woke up, so he'll hit the floor he'll wake up, you know, if you jump on the floor he'd wake up. And I kicked the floor, you know, he never moved. So I went and touched his blanket, didn't move, I hit his bed he never move. So I ran (inaudible) face looked white and I touch it, it was cold. So we ran down to my aunt, my aunt was there she chased out of the room (inaudible). We used to go running down the hill (inaudible). And she was kind of old her too, you know, and was that Mrs. Henry, that was her dad. We used to run tell her the old man died. (laughs) And she'd come run up the hill, she always had an apron she'd take off her apron and come up, you know, over that hill and she'd get there and the old man would be smoking or something, you know. (laughs)

Sharon: She didn't believe you then?

Peter: No. We told her the truth and she doesn't believe us, towards the end she believed us. And she said, if you lie to me this time, she said. I says, we're not lying. Then she send us to the Mission, the Mission (inaudible). And I had a dog I drove and they send me along the valley, along the lake over there, ith my dog, I go with my dog.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: I used to drive, I had a dog I used to drive all the time. A big collie dog I had, nice dog. Gone in the bushes with my dog, you know.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Yeah. A sleigh. See that time there was ice on the river, went...

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Yeah. Went (inaudible) three and a half miles. I went to go and tell them. His sons and his, all of them I told. See they were going to run them guys, they had nothing to do so they were going to run, I told them (inaudible) fast.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Oh yeah, that's why I do, I used to drive them. Oh I used to go fast. (laughs)

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Yeah, that's when, they used to catch rides to town. We had an aunt in the reserve and we used to pick them up to take them to town, but my aunt she come from Regina, she was married to a German that's where (inaudible). And that's where they were, they had a car. They went to town when the old guy died.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Yeah.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Teams. Yeah when they used to get them from the reserve.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Some...

(END OF SIDE A)

Sharon: Horses (inaudible)?

Peter: Yeah, (inaudible).

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Yeah.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Yeah. The Indians was is well off, Treaty Indians.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: No.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: No, just harvesting. Well you can get jobs in farms, and I think there was even at that time I don't know, but after I go that when I was around fourteen the people was getting \$5. a month working on farms.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Yeah. They got the room and board. But they got (inaudible).

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Oh, everything. I started working at sunrise to sundown everyday.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: No, there was no (inaudible). Sundays was the day off. See anyplace we worked there (inaudible). And if you worked by the month you had every second Sunday off.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: No.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: No, they used to make them or they couldn't get potatoes (inaudible). Once in a late while we'd have a garden but we had to walk about ten miles to get to our garden. Yeah my uncle had a place where we used to plough our (inaudible) and plough one horse. They'd hold this plough, I don't know what they call them ploughs, they just hold it like that, you know, and (inaudible). Then we'd dig it by hand.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Oh we used to catch fish, in the spring, you know, the suckers they'd come out of the lake, they must be out most of the time. And then a bunch of ladies would go there and they'd dry the fish, smoke and dry.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: No, we used to use pitch forks.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Yeah just, from there is lots and what we do with it is we (inaudible).

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Yeah. (inaudible). They'd go and hide somewhere where people could (inaudible) weren't allowed to do that either, but they never did that. These women would make dried (inaudible).

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: No, no. (inaudible). They used to dry them. One year there my dad dried some had a half a bag full of that, flour bag, flour was ninety-eight pounds that kind of a bag. (inaudible). They go like raisins. They soak them and cook them. You can keep them for years like that and they don't spoil, they just hard like rock.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: No, (inaudible) we had cellars for vegetables. But we never had any vegetables, there would be an odd bag of potatoes (inaudible). And my dad used to work for the Cree, they used to get rationed like (inaudible) they used to boil it. And they used to get paid, dad used to (inaudible).

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: (inaudible) flour, bacon, beans that was their rations.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Oh yeah, they got good for their rations. Every week I think they got rations. Oh yeah, but I don't know when they got Treaty money, land money. (inaudible).

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Not really. We used to hunt fish. I used to fish lots of times. I trade my fish off with farmers.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Yeah, for pork, meat. And we used to come around (inaudible).

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Oh yeah, lots of times. We used to go and borrow the lard and (inaudible) cut a pound of lard like that. Everybody was, some used to go to Melville and they used to go and make grease over there, you know, hard grease and bring it home. Our fat from the butchers in Melville that's why they used to go there.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: I don't know. I don't know how they got it. I think they got it for nothing, because they used to trade fat (inaudible). See there was people that (inaudible) while that

was a big town this Melville, so they used to go in there and get, go and give maybe (inaudible) and put it in some containers and then when it goes hard they put it in, they'll pack it up, it was hard and you had to break a chunk off and hit like ice, you know.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: No, we used to get our clothing from towns, and once in a while we'd buy. The Mission was giving clothes (inaudible).

Sharon: And what did you do for entertainment?

Peter: Oh yeah, they had lots of dances. That time dances, they had a lot of dances that's one thing they did was dance.

Sharon: Where do they have these dances?

Peter: They have them in big houses.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Yeah. There's some people had floor in their houses, you know, (inaudible). And they had their own orchestra, they didn't have to pay them like.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Oh yeah, guitar.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: They'd dance old time dances like the watzes, fox trot, polkas.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: No, we used to play card quite often.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: In the summer time we used to play ball. Yeah.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: But we never had any money, even the whites didn't hardly have any money.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Yeah.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: They had big weddings.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: No, they had little I think at that time. Today I think a wedding is (inaudible). They have a wedding cake, somebody would go and steal, they had a wedding cake and they find that twenty-five cents and the best boys buys the shoe. Somebody goes and steals a shoe a ladies shoe and the (inaudible) and they have four best boys. And they have one, one (inaudible) and they have this first one will gets the shoe, the people (inaudible). Then the second one would take the shoe and the people would keep on bidding, and the third one, when the fourth one bids if anybody goes over that fourth one they buy the shoe themselves. The shoe is \$40. this person that bid over this guy. Them days for the shoe, but if you don't well (inaudible). And the money goes to them.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: No, to the...

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Yeah. (inaudible). And the cake what they make on the cake goes to them and they steal their dance, they suppose to have the first dance like. They go there they gather up people goes around asking (inaudible), and if they have money they all gather around and they go and dance, you know, and they get these players playing, you know, the fiddlers, the orchestra plays the people that's dancing the caller calls out the dance, you know. (laughs) He gets a bigger fine.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Yeah. See nobody at that time nobody got pregnant, nobody bought gifts for the wedding, you know. But they were all invited, you know. Long ago when you had an invitation they expect you to go and they didn't expect you to bring anything. A wedding would last two, or three days. I went there the hall (inaudible). When we got married our went and lasted a few days, and they feed them on the table. (inaudible).

Sharon: (inaudible)

Peter: Yeah. Oh it was a crime to live common-law, a real crime. You want to get in trouble you go and live common-law, they'll kick you out of the community all together. (laughs)

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Oh yeah. Women was very, women were just like they were nothing, you know. Women couldn't do, and the men not bad. The women they couldn't do nothing wrong then.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Yeah. (inaudible) women started drinking, oh that

was a big talk started. And then it all died down.  
(inaudible). When the people really went wild it's when they  
open up, or mix drinks.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Yeah, and that was always in Regina. That's when  
(inaudible). That's one thing they should do is open up for  
women drinking.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: No.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Yeah they were allowed.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Oh yeah, the church was packed had to stand at the  
back when we go to church. And they all walked to church, all  
the community where I lived there every one of them they go to  
church and they walk. See people walking to church.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Oh yeah. It was a crime for somebody not to go to  
church. They had to go to church.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: And then after church then they go and gather up  
somewhere they'd play cards, some play ball, people brings  
stuff to eat, you know. They go and have dinner together, or  
(inaudible).

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: No. The priest didn't really mind the people.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: NO. But during the week he'd go around visiting the  
homes.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: It's hard to live there but I always think it was  
nice at that time (inaudible).

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Yeah. Happy there that's one thing they all  
celebrated they all have drinks, and tables set. You know and  
they started at twelve o'clock people started coming and they  
give the men glasses of wine or whiskey. And after they eat

they move to the next one.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Yeah. The older ones did, the younger ones went. On the sixth of January then the old ones went around.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: No, just they celebrate New Years.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: No. The Mission did. I used to wonder when I was small, you know, I used to go to the Mission they had a Christmas tree there for that. Go there and they'd get toys and everything, and they used to tell us if you were good you'd get toys from Santa, and I hate to think I was bad because I never got anything. (laughs)

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: No. After we grew up like I was about sixteen, seventeen then young guys they used to go to work, you know, and then we'd make dances, we'd have a committee like to gather money for kids. We'd make dances if somebody had a cap on we'd charge him a quarter, anything can make money. We'd have a dance we'd sell box lunches and all that money we'd give it to somebody and then they's buy toys and we'd have a Christmas party, have a big dance and we'd give toys away too.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Yeah.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: No, we had a hall we used to have, get a hall from these beaches, you know, beaches had halls. Used to get a hall.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: The white people really got along with them. See I didn't know people was prejudice when I went to Regina. Over there people just like these people around (?), around (?), around (?) they'd all go to the reserve. They'd go and have dances in here and they'd all come out go to their dances, we'd go to their dances. We were welcome to their dances. Color didn't mean nothing to them. You know, our color or somebody to call them white people to call us Indians and that you'd never hear them saying Indian, or... I came to Regina I sure found out, in '55 I came, I thought all people the same. I couldn't even get a job here when I came, because I was native.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Oh, anywhere I went (inaudible).

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Yeah. (inaudible). You see, in my opinion the Indians makes it bad. You see, at the first place the Indian starts everything, people that's fighting stabbing each other it's all Indians. Not very often (inaudible) kill that white guy. Or that white guy (inaudible). But these people go around stabbing each other it's all Indians. Indians amongst Indians.

Sharon: You mean now?

Peter: Now. Now.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Well, you see at that time there was strict laws, very strict laws they had to follow the rules. (inaudible) but when they had a fight they had a fight, they didn't have a gang to have a fight with, if somebody go mad at somebody they'd fight and just them two would fight. Nobody else would bud in. They let them fight. And now today you say something to somebody there's about ten people behind, and this guy thinks it's smart because he knows he's got backup, and this other guy goes and gets backers and then they start a little war.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: And now the white people are bad here, because I was stuck there at the exhibition ground (inaudible) car just about ran over me. I was going to get him to boast me and he got scared of me. I had my hat on, I raised my hat (inaudible). ...and they get scared like me, if I see an Indian walking on a highway I used to pick up any Indian long ago, today I wouldn't pick them up unless I know them. If I don't know an Indian I'll just pass him I wouldn't even stop. You don't know if he's on drugs, you don't know what they doing, you know. But if I know somebody I stop, but when I start (inaudible) I pass an Indian on the road. Even white people I don't stop. But now today the world is there's so much hatred in there.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: No.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: It didn't make any difference.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Yeah.

Sharon: Was there a doctor around there?

Peter: Melville they had a doctor?

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Yeah. But you had to pay, you had to have money.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: (inaudible).

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Oh people just died like that, then you get a certificate from the doctor. (inaudible) that's all.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Oh yeah. (inaudible). I know, not really.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Yeah. Just like my grandfather, you know, he was a great medicine man. Oh there was really medicine people, they were good too. They didn't need no doctors (inaudible). Some (inaudible).

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: (inaudible) lot of people seem (inaudible).

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Oh yeah, there's lots of them.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: No, nobody (inaudible) do that.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Just Broadview.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Yeah. Yeah I was in the club there too.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Well, they were trying to get things for the Metis. I think they got going, let's see, in '55. (inaudible) kind of Metis farm in Marievale.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: That one's for the Metis, they had a farm there (inaudible). There's still some houses there, yeah. Just like (?), you must know about this one at Lebret. I think that one

died down too.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: No. Well, they started school they had their own place too. Yeah.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Yeah. But hey all moved out now.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Who me? No. I went to them one time and they were getting lumber, I wanted a roof for my chickens (inaudible) and they told me to keep doing what I was doing, I didn't belong to them.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: (inaudible). Same as here they were getting houses, I never got anything, I tried long time ago I just couldn't get one. Well, I didn't pay cash for it I (inaudible).

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Yeah. No, we were living in Broadview for awhile, I worked for CPR for nine years. Then I moved back, I moved to (?), and from there I moved to (?) (inaudible). And there I bought a little farm there (inaudible). I sold out over there and I moved to (?).

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: No, just (inaudible).

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: In '42 (inaudible).

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: No. I enlisted when I was sixteen, I was too young and my dad signed (inaudible). And they kicked me out (inaudible). And I got shot in the leg.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: No. I was shot in the leg (inaudible) I was working on the road gang and this guy shot me, he meant to kill me but the gun pulled the gun and got my joint off my ankle, you know. (laughs) Had a bad leg and then I was conscripted after I got married. I was arrested in Regina for a few months (inaudible). And I didn't want to tell them, I went to (inaudible) and then they found out who I was. You see, there's three of us Lavalles', I'm the middle one, they thought I was the oldest one you see they found out, they found

my papers here in Regina. And they come and talk to me they said, were you in the army? I told them I said, I was. Well, he says, you better pack up, he says, (inaudible). You have a discharge paper why didn't you show us? (inaudible). Yeah. He said, why didn't you tell us? I said, you buggars (inaudible). I thought that was the chance for (inaudible).

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: No. My cousins was.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: I don't know any. (inaudible).

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: Yeah.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Peter: (inaudible). (laughs) That's all the people did long ago was tell stories, you know.

(END OF SIDE B)

(END OF TAPE)