

## **Start of Tape #5**

### **Crescent Lake Video Shoot**

#### **How did you make a living?**

Ah they use to do a lot of sewing, making blankets. They would all do sewing together and they would sell some after. And they use to make a lot of gardens. That's where we ate from, carrots, potatoes, everything and my Dad was a good hunter. He killed ducks, rabbits and deer and that's what we ate. We use to work a lot in the garden. We seeded a lot of things. After you'd take things from there to make soup. Everything came from there to eat and we use to have chickens. That's where our eggs come from. We really didn't buy much. We lived off the land and fish. We use to get a lot. We use to eat a lot of fish. Oh yeah. I did a lot of blanket sewing and so as Mom, but we had a sewing machine. I don't know where we got it from, but we did a lot of sewing. I still do a lot of sewing. I am always making blankets, but not to sell. I give to my kids and our grandchildren too. My Mom used to do that. Well my Mom didn't have a job to go to. She raised seven of her children. The women didn't work out. They all had large families. They had a lot of children, so they never had the chance to work out. There was no money, so they used to sew a bunch of blankets and stuff. They'd sell this. At least a little money. What? Ah he didn't get much money for selling a cow. I think he was given two dollars. Not much. Me too. I didn't work as too, we had seven children. Only when they were all grown up; that's when I started working. Yeah oh yeah I went around working when I was sixteen. Already I was working. We never had any money. We had to work to get money. I use to work in Broadview at sixteen in the kitchen in a café. I lived over there. I had a little room there. We didn't get paid much working all day. I think it was twenty-five dollars a month you get. You can't get much for twenty-five after paying for your room from it. That's been quite a while ago. Oh yeah yeah.

#### **What hospital were you born at?**

No. At home in the house. All of us. Oh eh, ha. My Grandma used to do that kind of work and her sister. She had a sister, Maria was her name. That's who people used to go get when a baby was gonna be born. They never went to the hospital. Marie Pelletier and Grandma was Teresa Delorme. She too, married a Pelletier, my Mom's mother. Those are the ones we used to get when someone was sick. My husband's sister did that kind of work. My sister-in-law, her too. As a matter of fact, she come to look after me once when I was a baby. After the baby was born, they'd go home or someone would take them home. (our doctors) and they didn't have medicine or anything like that, after you've had a baby. When baby was born, you'd get up and start doing housework again.

#### **Did you used to have chokecherries too?**

What? Oh yeah, Mom used to crush them here too. Then she'd cook it and we'd eat it. We use to do a lot of picking. Saskatoons too. We use to pick and after we would dry them outside. You'd lay a blanket on the ground and you'd put your saskatoons on it. They would dry from the sun. When they were real dry, you'd put them in little sacks and that's what you'd eat at winter time. Chokecherries too. You'd dry them well first. You'd crush them. Dry them and put them in little sacks. They cook them in winter. That's where our food come from. What? We use to do a lot of dancing, long ago. We'd dance all night and we'd walk to go to dances. Five, six o'clock in the morning, go back home on foot. We would be so tired, dancing all night. There was a few that played violin. Gosh we used to have a lot of fun. That was long ago. Used to have a lot of fun. That was long ago. When we made a dance in houses, we'd haul out everything; beds, stove, everything. They'd haul out so we can dance all night. I tell you there was a lot of fun long ago. Most definitely there wasn't any fights. There was good people then. Oh yeah. They did a lot of hard work, because people had lots of kids in those days. You're forever working you know. Washing in winter. You hang your washing outside. Your fingers would just about freeze off. Your laundry would be still frozen when you haul them in. Maybe I froze my fingers, but we had a good life. We were poor, but a good life. Nobody would get sick too, long ago. Everybody was in good health. They used to go visiting. Not much entertainment, long ago. Just go visiting. You go see the old people.

This guy wants to show you how you used to plaster. Can you hear me? Okay two of you come over here. One over here. One over there. That's the way. Now this way. That's the way. Now get another two. Oh. There's only one. See that is how we used to plaster. Can you see this? Eh ha. That's enough. Now it's your turn. Now they will learn how we used to build and plaster. What? That's enough. Lawrence's little old lady wants to try too. Ahha, that's the way. They would also plaster inside too.

### **Mervin**

I found a rabbit path here. I am going to hang my snare here. You just watch me. Wait, I have to get a little stick here first. Oh this one. This stick has to be dry. Look at me to see how it's done. That way. See here right in the middle. Wrap it around here twice. You see? And that way. Now come and watch me. This way, facing the little trail. This way. About this high up. You see? Put little sticks on each side of the snare so they won't run there. This way, then stand some up on this side. This is where they will run, otherwise they will bypass your snare. Now that's the way. Did you see? You know how now, eh? That's enough, that's it now. Now I want to show you how to set a trap. We'll go this way, to set a trap for a gopher. We'll go find a little gopher. Come with me. Look, you watch me. Watch me. Here. Very good. (Just as above) We'll go and hang one over there, too. There's lots of them around here. Little rabbits. And in the morning, we check our snares or coyotes or magpies will come and steal them. Magpies will eat them okay. Now then you know how. Oh there's a gopher. Here, I'll show

you how to set this trap and this way you see? Yes, you open it this way. No cap, but when there's one, then you put right here. This way. Careful, you don't get your fingers. This little trap is strong. You put it here like this. You put it here on your knee. It's real hard and you press this down like this and put it here like this. You have it here, then he'll come out of here and step right in here. That's how it'll go and you'll get him. That's enough. See this little path. Down this trail. That's our campsite. Now. You too know how to get rabbits. Now down this trail. Follow me. That's it. We're done. This is where we used to live. There's still the cellar here. This is where our house was. We're standing right where the cellar use to be.

**Gilbert and Campbell**