

Oral Histories

Number: OH 40

Date: 3/23/90

Condition:
Good

Holdings:
WP Library

Initials: DP

Interviewee: Jensen. Alice

Interviewer: Davine Pera

Abstract: Side A

00-37 Alice Jensen was born in Cedar, Colorado which is in lower Disappointment Valley in, 1895.

37-62 She talks about the "ladies on the row" from the red light district who were in jail for bootlegging and describes her job of carrying meals to them.

62-83 Many memories of Sheriff Hoffman and his wife. He was sheriff of San Miguel County for 17 years. He and his wife never had any children of their own.

83-115 Memories of the pest house and why it was established. Speaks of the sheriff and his wife and their life.

115-124 She describes her trip to Telluride at age 14 when she arrived there to board with the sheriff and his wife to attend school. Talks about the trains and the Galloping Goose.

114-189 Describes parents arrival in Norwood on covered wagon and horse and buggy. Relates memories of the Indians (from the reservation) spending the summer in Cedar. Describes how the Indians tanned their hides and talks of many of their habits. She played with the Indian children when she was a child.

189-20 There were 3 schools in the Valley and Slick Rock area. There were lots of programs and potluck dinners with all 3 school combined.

202-245 The first post office in the Valley was at the Lavender Ranch. Her father carried mail on a pack horse for 5 years and later on horse and buggy. Her father was in charge of mail delivery for 15 years. More memories of the Indians and her father trading wild horses with them.

245-277 Speaks of the Indian children attending their own school on the reservation. Her father traded horses with the Indians.

277-357 Her graduation class had enrollment of 15 in May 197. Recalls memories of boys playing ball in school, but girls were not allowed to participate in sports. The basketball team traveled by train to Montrose and Silverton to play against other schools

and was usually a day trip. She returned to Cedar during summer vacations to make clothes for coming school. Tells of making clothes out of flour sacks.

357-438 The miners used skis and snowshoes to travel from mines to town. Speaks of husband's first job in Telluride, riding in tram bucket to grease wheels of tram. Speaks of other jobs her husbands held before he moved to Sylvia's Pocket in the Basin to herd cattle for rancher. He later bought his own cattle and filed on homestead on North Mountain. She had also filed on a homestead in that area. She met her husband at a school dance. They were married in Montrose one afternoon and she traveled on to Gunnison to attend college and her husband returned to the ranch.

438-485 Alice attended college in Gunnison and Greeley. They moved to Norwood after their marriage to raise their family, so the children could attend school there. She taught school in Redvale, Cedar and the Lavender Ranch on a Life Certificate.

485-583 Speaks of hauling supplies in horse and buggy from Placerville. Took three days for the trip to the Basin. Memories of meeting a car (the first one she ever saw) on Norwood Hill and she was in horse and buggy. The horses were terrified. Describes watching the string of pack mules coming down from the mines to train depot in Telluride.

Side B:

00-38 A reading of Alice's Life History which she typed at the age of 80

38-49 Husband's obituary.

Description: sound cassette (52 minutes)

Subjects: Side A

Early history

Red light district

Sheriff Hoffman

Pest house and trains

Indians

Schools in area

Postal service

Schools

Married life

Teaching career

Various memories

Side B:

A reading of Alice's Life History

Husband's obituary