

Ranta, Bill #OH34

Tape Catalogue Card

Phone 000-000
 Address Telluride, Co. 81435
 Date Sept. 10, 1985
 Place Telluride, Co.
 Interviewer Vickie Ranta
 Phone

Tape # OH34
 Location OH File
 Length 40 min.
 Sides 1
 Recorder
 Sep Mike

Time	Names & Places	Subjects covered
00-180	Mrs. Lingo, George Clutchy	History of parents arrival in Telluride. Father came here from Finland to stay out of the armed forces. He was offered a job in Montana. His mother came over to stay with sister in Telluride. Father came on to Telluride to work, met mother and they were married here. Father was a carpenter. Father and Bill framed the towers for arial tramway from mill at Pandora to Pennsylvannia tunnel. Father was tram boss for Black Bear Mine. Gives the history of a group of Finnish people that bought the Black Bear Mine. Father also worked at Blue Lake on the water system.
180-274	Troy Rose, Rautio, Kangas, H>Wright, KOskenin, Thompson, O>Anderson, Wylander	Mother took in washing from the miners and the Poor Farm and different businesses in town. Mentions the routine his moher followed every day of the week. Bill was born in a house on Columbis street and speaks of other houses he lived in. Speaks of brothers and sister that died.
274-311		Bill and his mother went to Finland when he was two, and returned when he was 4. Speaks of the time in Finland. Memories of first electric light in his house and other memories of childhood.
311-423	Lizzy Lazlia, Wyland, Andy Humo, S. Larson	Speaks of the depression years. Lived on ^{\$25 a week} \$125 a week . Father had no job, so Bill worked as a janitor at the post office. Talks about taking care of younger brother, as mother was so busy. Bill did not speak English when he started school. Memories of school days.
423-531	Backman	Bill played on the basketball team in high school. He graduated in 1925. Speaks of graduation and the Prom in the recreation hall. He worked at Smuggler Mill after graduation. Also worked at Meldrum tunnel for a few years. Retired at age 58 in 1964. Talks about the ^{wednesday} dances at the Opera House and the Finn Hall. Speaks of the way the Mining Company handled the deaths at the mine. The Finns helped each other. Describes Cristmas at Finn Hall and the Midsummer Day ^{picnic} picnics that were held every year. Speaks of Finnish grocery store. He read Finnish newspapers that were published and sent from Michigan.
531-563		The train was an important part of the life in town. Basketball team use ^{train} to travel to other towns on the train. His parents rode the train to Trout Lake to camp over week-ends. Parents had the 2nd boat house at Trout Lake. Memories of summers at Trout Lake. ^{1/2 mile}
563-578		Mother died of cancer in 1957 and father died in 1958. Parents and siblings buried at Lone Tree Cemetery. ^{North Hill}

Ranta, William, The Golden Oldies #MU4

Phone 000-0000

Address

Date Aug. 1979

Place

Interviewer Joy L. Poole

Phone

Tape Catalogue Card

Tape # MU4

Location Museum Tape

Length 60 min.

Sides 2

Recorder

Sep Mike

Time Names & Places Subjects covered

00-167 Koskenen, Hamel, History of parents arrival in Telluride. Story of parents meeting.
Kangus, Gustafson Describes houses he lived in while growing up. Mentions moving to Oregon and Wyoming and back to Telluride. Talks about living in Finn Town. Speaks of the Swede-Finns from Finland and various other nationalities that lived in town. Names various Finnish families and speaks of people changing their names to American names. Finns traded at the Finnish grocery store. Describes the delivery system and describes the products available in the store.

167-200 Mrs. Dill, Miss Bill spoke Finn when he started to school and learned English after he
Loveland, Miss started to school. Names some of the teachers he had. Memories of
Priest attending.

200-235 Childhood activities, played softball every summer and various games.
Names different places in town they played. Did a lot of grouse and
rabbit hunting when he was older.

235-257 Farmers from Delta would peddle fresh produce in town. Various
merchants would go door to door and sell clothes. His family bought
most of their clothes through the catalogue.

257-286 Buckley Wells He worked the summer before he was Senior in high school, cleaning
up ore under the sreal tramway. Was paid \$3.50 a day. Speaks of the
race track at San Miguel that Buckley Wells started.

286-303 Describes the depression years and the jobs he held and the wages
they paid.

303-348 Gebardi, Wichman, Memories of bootlegging days. Stills all over town. Trucks from
McDonald Kansas City would load up here in Telluride to deliver there. Describes
how the alarm went out before the federal agents would arrive in town

348-380 Speaks of working conditions at the mine. Donations were collected
from residents for the widows when their husbands were killed in the
mine. Finn ladies did washing and were maids in houses. Speaks of the
Liberty Bell snow slide that killed several miners. Also talks of the fire
at the Smuggler that killed a lot of miners. Mentions other snow slide
and ming accidents.

380-392 Dr. Tidd, Dr. Parker Names various doctors in town through the years.

392-400 Lutheran minister would preach at Finn Hall. His father belonged to the
Elks Club for many years.

SIDE B

00-25

He lived with his aunt for several years. Went to Finland when he was 2
years old and came back when he was 4 years old.

- 25-128
Describes July 4th celebrations. Big prizes were given for rock drilling contests. Lots of dances in town. Midsummer celebration was always celebrated by the Finnish community. Describes music and the Finnish dances. Box social were held to make money to pay the musicians. Describes the Christmas celebrations at Finn Hall.
- 128-189 Israel, Nezh
Memories of the railroads and trains. He helped clean fire boxes in the engines. Names some of the people that worked for the rail road. Rode the train to Trout Lake to fish and camp. Would spend several weeks at a time there. Dad sent food over on the train for them. Would hike, fish, boat and swim.
- 189-230 C.D. Waggoner
Story of C.D. Waggoner and the bank scandal. His father lost all of his money in the bank.
- 230-350
Speaks of former businesses and building in town. Describes th mules and donkeys that hauled supplies to mine and ore back down the hill. Memories of playing in old livery stables. Describes Thompkins-Christy Hardware Store and the merchandize they sold.
- 350-367
Describes various buildings in town from photograph. Speaks of the flu epidemic.
- 367-385
Names various baseball teams. Histories of collecting scrap iron to sell to have money to buy equipment for the badseball team.
- Describes skiing in childhood.