

Buxton Project: 424-2104  
Narrator's Name: Donald Gaines  
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Place of Interview: Albia, Iowa  
Interviewers' Names: Elmer and Dorothy Schwieder

Q. MR. GAINES, LET'S GET THIS STARTED RIGHT SO WE'LL KNOW WHO WE'RE TALKING TO. WHAT IS YOUR GIVEN NAME?

A. Donald Gaines

Q. DONALD GAINES AND YOU'RE REUBEN GAINES'S BROTHER?

A. Yes.

Q. WHEN WERE YOU BORN, WHAT YEAR?

A. 1917, December 12.

Q. AND YOU WERE BORN IN BUXTON?

A. Buxton.

Q. 1917, DECEMBER 12. OKAY, DO WE NEED ANY MORE IDENTIFICATION?

\*WELL, NO THAT WAY WE WON'T GET OUR TAPES MIXED UP.

A. I see.

Q. AND THIS IS A PICTURE WHEN YOU, NOW IS THAT A GRADE SCHOOL PICTURE?

A. That's a grade school that some of the kids went to at Buxton to school there.

Q. \*DID IT HAVE A PARTICULAR NUMBER, LIKE NUMBER 1 OR NUMBER 5?

A. No, I don't remember that.

Q. AND AFTER YOU LEFT BUXTON GRADE SCHOOL YOU WENT TO COLFAX TO HIGH SCHOOL?

A. No, I was still in grade school.

Q. NOW DID YOU LIVE WITH SOMEONE ELSE IN COLFAX THEN?

A. Yeah, my gradmother and father.

Q. SHE LIVED IN COLFAX? GRANDMOTHER AND GRANDFATHER LIVED IN COLFAX?

A. Yeah.

Q. NOW THAT WOULD BE WHEN YOU AND REUBEN'S MOTHER AND FATHER....

A. No, that's on my mother's side.

Q. WERE THEY CONNECTED IN ANY WAY WITH THE MINE?

A. No, of course, my grandfather, he worked in the mine, but he always worked in Colfax.

Q. IN THE COLFAX MINE?

A. Yeah. And this picture here was a picture of our home in Buxton, that was before they put the porch on it.

Q. \*OH, THAT'S BEAUTIFUL.

A. And these two fellows here they helped build the house. I think this is Reuben right here on the billy goat.

Q. \*NOW WHERE WOULD THIS HOUSE HAVE BEEN LOCATED WITHIN THE COMMUNITY?

A. Are you familiar with Buxton down there?

Q. \*YEAH.

A. You go right down and then you go round the curve where that bridge is, well, the house is right there on the corner.

Q. ON THE LEFT HAND SIDE WHEN YOU GO AROUND THE CURVE?

A. On the right hand going from here.

Q. OKAY. NOW WOULD THAT HAVE BEEN IN COOPERTOWN?

A. No, that was what they called Gainestown at one time. That was in Mahaska County there.

Q. \*OKAY, THE ROAD THAT YOU WOULD GO DOWN, THE ROAD THAT GOES ACROSS THE BRIDGE THAT WAS THE DIVIDING LINE BETWEEN ....

A. I'm not too sure about where the dividing line was.

Q. \*THAT IS QUITE A HOUSE.

A. They hadn't put the porches and things on at that time see. \_\_\_\_\_ the porches and all that.

Q. \*SO, IF REUBEN WAS A LITTLE BOY THERE, THIS PICTURE WOULD HAVE BEEN TAKEN ABOUT 1905?

A. Yeah, maybe earlier than that.

Q. \*YEAH, BECAUSE HE, WHEN WAS REUBEN BORN, I CAN'T REMEMBER.

- A. Around 1880 or somewhere around in there.
- Q. \*OH, SO THAT HAD TO BE THE BUXTON WONDERS.
- A. Now that's the baseball team, I don't know any of them on there.
- Q. \*MAYBE YOU COULD ANSWER A QUESTION WE'VE HAD. WHO SPONSORED THE BUXTON WONDERS? DID THE COMPANY?
- A. I don't know that either. All I know is to hear Reuben talk, I never did see them play, all I knew, I knew George Neal that used to play with them, and Zebo Lewis, I knew him.
- Q. WHEN REUBEN TALKED ABOUT, THERE'RE A COUPLE OF THINGS THAT INTEREST US, WE'VE HEARD FROM SOME OF THE PEOPLE THAT THOSE MINERS WOULD WORK ALL DAY AND THEN COME UP AND HAVE A BALL GAME AT NIGHT, AND THAT JUST BROKE ME UP, THAT MIGHT USE SOME ENERGY, BUT THEY ALSO APPARENTLY PLAYED SOME ROAD GAMES. YOU KNOW, I WONDERED WHO IN THE WORLD PAID THEIR SALARY WHEN THEY WENT OUT ON THE ROAD.
- A. If they got a salary at all.
- Q. IF THEY GOT A SALARY AT ALL.
- \*YEAH, OR IF THEY SORT OF SUBSIDIZED \_\_\_\_\_
- A. Do you know Nellie Cain that lives over at Lovilla?
- Q. \*WE KNOW ELLIE SOFRANKO WHO LIVES IN LOVILLA AND SHE TOLD US ABOUT ELLIE CAIN, WOULD SHE BE A GOOD PERSON TO ....
- A. She would know quite a bit about the tem, cause I think her husband played on the team at one time. And another fellow over there has a better picture of the school is Steve Onder.
- Q. STEVE ONDER.
- \*HOW DO YOU SPELL THAT, U-N LIKE IT SOUNDS, UN-D-E-R?
- A. Yeah, O-n-d-e-r.
- Q. \*AND HE LIVES IN LOVILLA?
- A. Yeah, he lives in Lovilla too. I was over there, about, oh, a month ago and he was showing me this picture that some lady had sent it to him and I think he might be in the picture there where he went to school there in Buxton.
- Q. \*GREAT, GREAT, WE REALLY APPRECIATE THAT.
- A. And when you go to the door you go right straight on through and when you get to the sign that says "Des Moines and Knoxville" so many miles, he's the first house on the right side on the way out of Lovilla going to Knoxville. Onder is his name. \_\_\_\_\_ Here's a picture of the hotel, I don't know whether that was a lodge meeting or what that was.

Q. \*OH, THE HOTEL BUXTON.

A. Yeah.

Q. \*OH, THAT'S MARVELOUS.

A. And this picture I think Reuben said it was a lodge meeting, either a lodge meeting or a funeral, I forget which one it was.

Q. \*\_\_\_\_\_ A PROCESSIONAL, IS THAT YOUR HOUSE IN THE BACK?

A. Yeah, that's the house, yeah where they came and just as they got ready to go around the corner over the bridge there.

Q. \*OVER THE BRIDGE, OKAY.

A. There's a better picture there.

Q. \*OH YES, LOOK AT THOSE HATS. THAT'S INTERESTING, THEY'VE GOT THEIR REGALIA ON, THEY'VE GOT SPECIAL HATS AND FASHIONS AND THE MINERS' HOUSES IN THE BACK. NOW THAT'S INTERESTING, THOSE MINERS' HOUSES IN THE BACKGROUND ARE DIFFERENT FROM THE OTHER ONES WE'VE SEEN.

A. If I remember right, I think that's the school house up there.

Q. \*OH YEAH, UH HUH.

A. That's, I think, better than the other two.

Q. \*I THINK IT IS. IT THINK IT'S SHARPER. NOW AND THIS WOULD ACTUALLY BE ALONG THE MAIN STREET THEN?

A. Yeah, that was the main street.

Q. \*THE MAIN STREET? OH, THESE ARE MARVELOUS PICTURES!

A. And there's a picture of the ball team again.

Q. IOWA BUXTON CLUB \_\_\_\_\_. THE WONDERS SURE HAD A REPUTATION. EVERYBODY JUST KIND OF STANDS IN AWE WHEN THEY TALK ABOUT THE BUXTON WONDERS.

A. And there's a picture of Reuben and his friend.

Q. \*YOU KNOW THE NAME OF THE FRIEND?

A. I think it was Vicker Dixon, but I'm not sure.

Q. \*NOW BY THIS TIME THERE'S A FENCE AROUND THE HOUSE AND IT'S GOT THE PORCHES ON IT?

A. Yeah.

Q. \*AND THERE ARE TREES.

- A. Yeah, the porches and everything on the house and the fence and everything. See the other picture, they were still working on it.
- Q. \*YEAH, THAT'S A GOOD COMPARISON.  
WONDER WHAT KIND OF A CAR THAT IS?
- A. I don't know whether it was a Reo or what it was.
- Q. IT LOOKS LIKE A REAL SPEED WAGON DOESN'T IT? WITH THE SQUEAKY HORN AND....
- A. Everything on the side. That's a picture of my father there and his father.
- Q. \*MY, HE'S A DISTINGUISHED LOOKING GENTLEMAN.
- A. Everybody wore the long mustache then.
- Q. \*WHAT THEY CALL THAT \_\_\_\_\_. I THINK, THE STICK PINS, THE WATCH.
- A. I think this is his mother, I believe. See we were half brothers.
- Q. YOU AND REUBEN WERE HALF BROTHERS?
- A. Yeah.
- Q. \*DO YOU KNOW WHERE YOUR FATHER CAME FROM BEFORE HE MOVED TO MUCHOKINOCK?
- A. From Virginia.
- Q. \*HE CAME FROM VIRGINIA. DID HE COME AS A YOUNG BOY?
- A. I don't know, a young man I'd say because I know when Reuben was born in Nebraska on the prairie they were homesteading out there.
- Q. \*HOMESTEADING, DO YOU HAPPEN TO KNOW THE NAME OF THE TOWN, OR THE COUNTY IN NEBRASKA?
- A. It wouldn't be no town, because there's been several times when he said he was homesteading \_\_\_\_\_ the time.
- Q. \*GOSH, THAT WOULD HAVE BEEN EARLY THEN.
- A. He was just a boy then.
- Q. \*WITH HIS PARENTS?
- A. Yeah, he was with his parents.
- Q. \*OKAY, SO THAT WOULD HAVE BEEN YOUR GRANDPARENTS THEN, RIGHT?
- A. No, my father and....

Q. \*HIS PARENTS.

A. Yeah.

Q. \*OKAY, AND YOU DON'T HAVE ANY IDEA HOW THEY GOT FROM NEBRASKA BACK TO MUCHAKINOCK?

A. No, I don't know how they were there.

Q. \*THAT'S KIND OF A LONG JUMP ISN'T IT, FROM HOMESTEAD TO A COAL MINING COMMUNITY IN IOWA?

A. Yeah.

Q. \*AND WAS YOUR DAD A COAL MINER FOR A TIME THEN?

A. I think he did a little coal mining, not too much.

Q. \*THEN WENT INTO BUSINESS?

A. Yes, 'cause I think Reuben had some papers around here somewhere where he went to the mines with him and didn't like it and didn't go back no more or something like that.

Q. I DON'T BLAME HIM FOR THAT. HOW DID REUBEN LEARN TO PLAY THE PIANO?

A. I don't know, 'cause he's been playing as long as I can remember.

Q. YOU KNOW WE'VE GOT THE VERY EARLIEST PICTURE AND THINGS THAT I KNOW ABOUT REUBEN ON THAT VIDEO TAPE THAT THEY DID, "YOU CAN'T GO BACK TO BUXTON." HE'S PLAYING THE PIANO AND YOU KNOW AND I WAS CURIOUS AS TO WHETHER HE PLAYED BY EAR OR WHETHER HE COULD READ MUSIC.

A. I think he could read a little but not too much.

Q. HE COULD REALLY PLAY UP A STORM!

A. 'Cause he practiced and practiced until he got one like he wanted it, you know.

Q. AND HE WROTE MUSIC, I KNOW THAT. WROTE SOME SONGS.

A. But he used to play for dances and things when he was a young fellow in Buxton.

Q. DO YOU REMEMBER GOING TO ANY OF THOSE DANCES?

A. No, that was all before my time.

Q. \*SO HOW OLD WOULD YOU HAVE BEEN WHEN YOU MOVED AWAY FROM BUXTON THEN?

A. I must have been about 9 or 10, somewhere around there. 'Cause all I can remember is the store, the London store was still there and my uncle Harry still had the blacksmith shop and a few of those places and the railroad, it was still active, the trail would go up and down the railroad every \_\_\_\_\_ and then we put bricks and things out there on the track, like kids would do.

Q. \*WAS YOU UNCLE'S NAME GAINES TOO?

A. Yeah. Harry Gaines.

Q. \*HARRY GAINES AND HE WAS THE BLACKSMITH?

A. Yeah, him and Buchanan.

Q. \*BUCHANAN, DO YOU REMEMBER BUCHANAN'S FIRST NAME?

A. No, I don't remember his first name but he was always telling a lot of weird stories about Wyoming. He used to be a cowboy out there or something like that and then he came out here to the farm and stayed right over there on the other side of the road for about 2 or 3 years. Then he went to Arkansas and after that I never did hear no more about him. He had an old Dodge car or a truck he had made into a mobile home and that's what he lived in and that was 40 years ago I guess.

Q. IS THAT RIGHT?

\*WELL, NOW YOU SAY THE LONDON STORE, WAS THAT A GENERAL MERCHANDISE STORE?

A. Yes.

Q. \*DID THAT TAKE THE PLACE OF THE COMPANY STORE THEN, AFTER THE COMPANY STORE CLOSED DOWN?

A. I don't remember the company store, no how. All I can remember is the London Store and the fellow up the hill, I can't think of his name \_\_\_\_\_ he used to make cigars.

Q. \*GREW HIS OWN TOBACCO?

A. No, he didn't grow his tobacco, but I think he got it from Cuba or somewhere but he rolled his own.

Q. ROLLED HIS OWN CIGARS?

A. Yeah.

Q. DO YOU REMEMBER THE PLACE CALLED SHARP'S END?

A. Yeah, I remember a little about Sharp's End but about the name that's about all.

Q. AND IT WAS CLEAR UP ON THE HILL?

A. Yeah.

Q. WE'VE SORT OF GOT AN IDEA OF THE LAYOUT, DO YOU REMEMBER WHERE THE MINE SUPER-INTENDENT'S HOUSE WAS?

A. No.

- Q. SOME PEOPLE HAVE GIVEN ME THE IMPRESSION THAT IT'S JUST A LITTLE BIT NORTH OF WHERE THE CEMETERY IS \_\_\_\_\_ UP ON THAT HILL, BUT I'M NOT FOR SURE.
- A. \_\_\_\_\_ went down to the cemetery Saturday, Ben Grayson and I went down and my father's grave is still there and my sister, which the only one there. If you've been up to the cemetery there's one got a railing around it up there. That's our cemetery, our plot.
- Q. \*A PLOT WITHIN THE CEMETERY?
- A. Yeah.
- Q. \*NOW, WAS REUBEN BURIED THERE THEN, OR WAS HE BURIED HERE.
- A. No, he was buried in Albia.
- Q. \*IN ALBIA?
- A. Yeah, my father was there and my sister was there and some of my sister's kids were buried there. So we went down and cut the trees down. We go down there every year and decorate anyway. And we put some of this stuff down to kill the trees and so they won't come back in the fall.
- Q. WHO WAS THE NAME OF THE PERSON THAT YOU WENT WITH?
- A. Ben Grayson.
- Q. AND WHERE DOES HE LIVE?
- A. He lives in Albia.
- Q. \*DOES HE HAVE BUXTON TIES TOO THEN APPARENTLY?
- A. No, he used to live as far as I can remember, he used to live in Albia all the time but I think he's active in the Buxton Club, in other words he's active in everything going on in Albia. He's the governor of the Lion's Club for this district. Anytime they want someone to give a speech or something they call on him, Country Club and all that.
- Q. \*WELL NOW BY THE TIME YOU REALLY REMEMBERED BUXTON THEN, I SUSPECT IT WAS REALLY QUITE DIFFERENT THAN IT HAD BEEN SAY IN 1910?
- A. Yeah it was. In other words a lot of the buildings and company houses and everything was gone.
- Q. \*YOUR UNDERSTANDING, THEY MOVED THEM TO HAYDOCK?
- A. Yeah, the impression I got.
- Q. THE COMPANY STORE WAS GONE AND EVERYTHING?
- \*WELL YOU DON'T REMEMBER ANY OF THOSE?

- A. I don't remember. I know the big brick building down there, they called the, in fact it was still there and it was all up and by now you just see some crumbled rocks and stuff over there. Some said it was a vault, said it was a vault, but Reuben always said it was the bakery on that end. That building was still there when I was a kid down there.
- Q. \*DO YOU REMEMBER IT AS A BAKERY?
- A. No, I don't remember, it was just all empty. In other words just the building was standing, falling in.
- Q. ABOUT ALL THAT'S LEFT NOW IS THAT WAREHOUSE OR WHATEVER IT IS WITH THE TILE ROOF AND THAT'S COLLAPSING A LITTLE BIT TOO.
- \*HOW MANY PEOPLE WOULD YOU ESTIMATE LIVED THERE, YOU KNOW, ABOUT THE TIME WHEN YOU WERE LEAVING?
- A. Oh, when I was leaving Buxton, it wasn't, Oh, I guess maybe a hundred around there or something like that. There wasn't too many then, they had all gone.
- Q. \*SO IT REALLY WAS JUST ALMOST COMPLETELY OVER?
- A. Yeah.
- Q. \*AS A COMMUNITY THEN?
- A. The only thing going up the hill there all of those houses on both sides of the road and then back over in the fields there was some homes and then there was some back over on the other side of the school house, where Hobe Armstrong lived at that time. I can just barely remember that.
- Q. WAS HOBE ARMSTRONG STILL THERE BY THE TIME YOU REMEMBER OR HAD HE LEFT?
- A. No, he was still there.
- Q. HE WAS STILL THERE. HE RAN A MEAT MARKET THROUGH HERE. SOMEPLACE DOWN IN THERE.
- A. Yes, and then he left there I think and at Haydock I think he opened one up there. Also, his son Emery went to Haydock.
- Q. \*ARE THERE ANY OF HOBE ARMSTRONG'S DESCENDANTS LEFT AROUND THIS AREA, ANY SONS OR DAUGHTERS OR GRANDCHILDREN?
- A. I think they're about all dead, not in this area that I know of. I think they're practically all. I know all of his sons are dead and then some of the grandsons are dead I know.
- Q. \*WHAT DO YOU REMEMBER OF HOBE ARMSTRONG? HE APPARENTLY WAS A PRETTY SUCCESSFUL INDIVIDUAL IN TERMS OF HIS BUSINESS.
- A. I don't remember too much about him. All I can just remember the name and the house where he lived.

Q. NOW THE MINE HAD CLOSED DOWN BY THE TIME YOU....

A. Oh it was gone, yes.

Q. DO YOU REMEMBER, WAS THE MINE STILL WORKING ANY TIME IN YOUR MEMORY?

A. Not that I can remember.

Q. IT HAD QUIT WORKING AND THEN IT TOOK \_\_\_\_\_. I DON'T KNOW WHEN THE MINE SHUT DOWN.

A. It must have been about 1920, maybe '27 or '28, before I started, you know.

Q. AND WHEN THE MINE SHUT DOWN I GUESS THEY JUST CUT THE COMPANY HOUSES IN HALF AND MOVED THEM OVER TO HAYDOCK AND STARTED THE MINE AGAIN.

A. I don't know how they got them out there but I know they took them down \_\_\_\_\_ and went to Haydock a couple of times. I remember very little about Haydock. In fact, less about Haydock than Buxton.

Q. \*SOME TIME WE NEED TO GET A COUNTY MAP, OR A TOWNSHIP MAP OR SOMETHING AND HAVE SOMEBODY DRAW A MARK WHERE HAYDOCK WAS LOCATED.

A. Well Reuben was trying to get a map of Buxton, you know one time they had Buxton on the map and Gainestown too. I got an old letter in there that had Gainestown on it.

Q. \*YOU MEAN THE POST OFFICE?

A. Yeah, the post office.

Q. \*IT WAS A POST OFFICE IN GAINESTOWN?

A. No, the post office was Buxton, but anyway it must have sent to \_\_\_\_\_.

Q. \*WHAT WAS THE OTHER, HAYDOCK AND WHERE WAS THE OTHER PLACE THAT PEOPLE MOVED WHEN THEY LEFT BUXTON. WAS IT CONSOLE DOES THAT RING A BELL WITH YOU?

A. No, I just could barely remember when they went out there. I know I went out there a couple of times when he had the pool hall out there and maybe stayed a day or two and that was it.

Q. YOU MENTIONED A WHILE AGO ABOUT THE REUNION. THEY USED TO HAVE BUXTON REUNIONS PRETTY REGULAR, DIDN'T THEY?

A. Yeah, for a while that must have been 20 years ago or something like that. They had them on Simon Branch where his pasture used to be over there and you could go right on up the hill there a little slope and you'd be right at the cemetery.

Q. SIMON BRANCH?

A. Yeah.

- Q. DID THEY HAVE THEM YEARLY OR EVERY FIVE YEARS?
- A. Well they had them yearly for a while.
- Q. SOMEBODY TOLD ME THAT AT ONE OR MORE OF THOSE, SEVERAL THOUSAND PEOPLE ATTENDED.
- A. That's what I was getting ready to say, the first two or three were real large ones and it sort of drifted away.
- Q. WHAT KIND OF THINGS WOULD THEY DO WHEN THEY HAD A REUNION? WAS IT JUST EVERYBODY BROUGHT SOME FOOD?
- A. As far as I can remember, they were picnics and I think they had play ball and stuff like that.
- Q. SOMEBODY ELSE SAID YOU NEVER SAW SUCH HUGGING AND KISSING IN YOUR LIFE WHEN EVERYBODY REMEMBERED EVERYBODY ELSE AND IT WAS REALLY A GOOD TIME WHEN THE PEOPLE HAD SCATTERED SO MANY PLACES.
- A. Yeah, because they came from everywhere the first two or three years.
- Q. HOW DID THEY ADVERTISE THOSE, DO YOU REMEMBER, WHO KEPT THE RECORD OF WHERE THEY WERE MOVING TO OR DID THEY JUST PUT IT IN THE PAPER?
- A. I don't know how they did that unless someone, like I'd be acquainted with someone and I'd write them and then they'd tell another one \_\_\_\_\_ that was in Buxton or something like that.
- Q. WE KNOW THAT IN IOWA THERE ARE BUXTON PEOPLE IN WATERLOO AND CEDAR RAPIDS, AT LEAST THOSE TWO COMMUNITIES THAT HAVE A SUBSTANTIAL NUMBER OF BUXTON MEMBERS AND WE'VE HEARD DOROTHY COLLIER AND SOME OTHERS FROM THE BUXTON CLUB THAT SAID THERE'S A BUXTON CLUB OUT IN DENVER, COLORADO.
- A. And a lot went to Milwaukee too.
- Q. THEY DID GO TO MILWAUKEE?
- \*DO YOU KNOW WHY AND WHAT THEY DID, WHAT KIND OF WORK THEY PURSUED?
- A. After they left?
- Q. \*UH HUH.
- A. No, I don't.
- Q. SO THE FIRST COUPLE OF REUNIONS, YOU REMEMBER THE APPROXIMATE YEARS OF WHEN THOSE MIGHT HAVE BEEN?
- A. No, I don't because see I left in '36. I left Des Moines and went to Quincy, Illinois and I was down there for the next, well until I finished high school and then I came back here to the farm and then I went to Chicago and I worked at U.S. Steel for 30 years and then I took my pension.

Q. \*SO YOU SPENT MOST OF YOUR TIME WORKING?

A. Yeah.

Q. \*WHAT DID YOU DO WITHIN THE STEEL COMPANY?

A. I was a house operator in charge of the boilers and making steam for the generators.

Q. THAT'S A HOT MISERABLE JOB IN THE SUMMER.

A. Hot in the summer and cold in the winter time.

Q. COLD IN THE WINTER, I'LL BET.

\*SO YOU WENT TO HIGH SCHOOL IN DES MOINES THEN?

A. No, I went to grade school in Des Moines and then I went to Quincy, Illinois and I finished down there in '37.

Q. \*DID YOUR MOTHER MOVE THERE THEN?

A. Yes, my mother got married and my step-dad was a principal of a school down there.

Q. \*WHEN DID YOUR FATHER DIE THEN, WHAT YEAR?

A. I was four years old, about '21, I think, it was around 1921.

Q. \*NOW DID YOU SEE REUBEN QUITE A BIT, WERE YOU CLOSE TOGETHER?

A. Oh yeah, we all stayed at the same house there in Buxton. My mother moved to Des Moines and that was, I guess, maybe 7 or 8 years later.

Q. \*WHAT WAS YOUR MOTHER'S MAIDEN NAME?

A. Strider

Q. \*BRETHA STRIDER. AND HOW HAD SHE ARRIVED IN BUXTON, DO YOU REMEMBER THAT PART OF IT?

A. Well she lived in Colfax and how they got acquainted, I don't know, my father and mother.

Q. \*WAS SHE OUT OF A MINING FAMILY TOO THEN?

A. Yes, my grandpa he used to mine coal in Colfax as far as I know, anywhere else I don't know.

Q. THAT'S INTERESTING BECAUSE THE COLFAX MINE WASN'T A VERY BIG MINE, WAS IT?

\*OH YES, IT WAS A VERY VERY BIG MINE FOR A TIME.

A. They had quite a few working there. I had a uncle working there too.

Q. \*DID THEY HAVE COMPANY HOUSES AT ALL THERE, OR DO YOU REMEMBER?

A. I don't think they had company houses there.

Q. \*DO YOU REMEMBER ANYTHING ABOUT THE COMPANY HOUSING IN BUXTON, WERE YOU IN MANY OF THE COMPANY HOMES?

A. No, I don't remember, I was too young.

Q. \*WONDER WHAT THEY WERE LIKE INSIDE.

A. All I can remember is just what they looked like outside.

Q. \*ONE PERSON SAID THEY WERE ALL GREY, IS THAT YOUR REMEMBERENCE THAT THEY WERE ALL PAINTED GREY?

A. Yeah, I remember all the houses were the same color. It was either gray or white, I don't remember.

Q. \*ANOTHER THING I'VE OFTEN WONDERED ABOUT, IN A LOT OF THE BIG COMPANY TOWNS BACK EAST LIKE IN PENNSYLVANIA AND WEST VIRGINIA, THEY'LL HAVE A BIG NUMBER PAINTED ON EACH HOUSE, DO YOU REMEMBER NUMBERS ON THE BUXTON HOUSES?

A. No, I don't remember any numbers.

Q. AFTER THE FIRST COUPLE, THEY GOT PEOPLE FROM ALL THE COUNTRY, I TAKE IT, SOME CAME BACK FROM MILWAUKEE AND ALL OVER FOR THESE REUNIONS?

A. For the big reunion, yeah.

Q. FOR THE BIG REUNION AND THEN THEY SORT OF DRIBBLED OUT, I GUESS THEY HAVEN'T HAD A BUXTON REUNION NOW FOR A LEAST TEN OR FIFTEEN YEARS THAT I KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT.

A. Yeah, it's been about that long I believe. I think they're going to have one in Des Moines this year aren't they?

Q. THEY'RE TALKING AGAIN ABOUT IT.

\*YEAH, UH HUH.

AND THE DES MOINES BUXTON CLUB IS TALKING ABOUT RENTING A BUS AND COMING DOWN TO THE BUXTON SITE \_\_\_\_\_ TOO MUCH \_\_\_\_\_ I KNOW THEY'VE GOT A BUS RENTED AND THEY'RE TALKING ABOUT HOW MANY PEOPLE THEY'LL NEED TO FILL THE BUS. THEY'RE REALLY, WELL THEIR FIRST GOAL IS TO GO TO THE HISTORICAL MARKER AT LOVILLA AND I THINK THEY'RE GOING TO PICNIC THERE AND THEN THEY'RE GOING TO GO DOWN TO THE SITE, WHETHER THEY GOT OUT OF THE BUS OR HOW MUCH TRAMPING AROUND THEY DO I SUSPECT WILL DEPEND ON WHETHER THEY'VE GOT COWS OR CROPS OR WHAT \_\_\_\_\_ THE LAND IS NOW.

\*DO YOU REMEMBER WHEN ALL THE TALK ABOUT BUXTON AND EVERYTHING HEARING COMMENTS ABOUT HOW DIFFERENT BUXTON WAS, DID YOU GROW UP WITH THE IDEA THAT BUXTON WAS A DIFFERENT COMMUNITY IN SOME WAYS, MAYBE THAT IT WAS A VERY GOOD PLACE TO LIVE OR HAD BEEN A GOOD PLACE TO LIVE?

- A. Well at that time I was just a kid and all I was interested in was fishing and things like that so I wouldn't...
- Q. \*IT JUST DIDN'T MAKE MUCH OF AN IMPACT?
- A. No. Swimming in the creek and things like that.
- Q. DO YOU REMEMBER REUBEN TALKING ANY ABOUT BUXTON, DID HE SEEM TO FEEL THAT IT WAS A GOOD PLACE?
- A. Yes, he always thought it was a good place to live.
- Q. WE'VE HEARD SO MANY STORIES ABOUT THE YMCA AND THE MOVIES THAT THEY HAD.  
\*NOW WAS THE YMCA STILL THERE, DO YOU REMEMBER THAT?
- A. I can just barely remember it, I think it was up the hill and that's about all I can remember.
- Q. \*I GUESS I'VE BEEN SO CURIOUS AS TO WHAT HAD HAPPENED TO THAT BUILDING, I MEAN A BUILDING AS BIG AS THAT BUILDING HAD TO BE TO HOUSE EVERYTHING IT HAD IN IT, HOW COULD THAT JUST DISAPPEAR?
- A. Well like with me now the hotel had burned down and I don't even remember seeing the hotel at all, all I know is the foundation where it was there, and used to go over there and play and the \_\_\_\_\_
- Q. \*YOU DON'T REMEMBER ANY COMPANIES COMING IN TO DEMOLISH THESE BUILDINGS?
- A. No, at that time I think they just got up there with crow bars and just tore them down. You mean like using a big bulldozer, well not a bulldozer but the big balls but all the houses were practically wood see, there wasn't too many brick places around as far as I can remember.
- Q. \*BUT NOW LIKE TODAY SOMEBODY WILL, WELL BID, SEND IN A BID TO TAKE DOWN OR DISMANTLE A PARTICULAR BUILDING AND I WONDERED IF THERE WAS ANY OF THAT OR PEOPLE JUST CAME IN FROM THE OUTSIDE AND JUST TOOK WHAT THEY WANTED?
- A. Well they could have sold them like over in Hiteman when they quit mining over there why they sold the buildings over there 'cause Reuben bought the, I think it was the union hall, and that's what we made a lot of these buildings out here with.
- Q. OH, REALLY?
- A. Yeah.
- Q. AND THEN YOU DISASSEMBLED IT AND USED THE LUMBER WHEN YOU CAME OVER TO BUILD THE BUILDINGS.
- A. Yeah.

Q. \*WHEN DID YOU HAVE THE TURKEY OPERATION HERE, WHAT YEARS?

A. It started about around '33, I think, and up until about '45 I guess, until turkeys got cheap and it used to be you could buy a turkey for about 29 cents a pound in the store and that's when they quit along about that time.

Q. \*HOW DID REUBEN GET INTO THE TURKEY BUSINESS AFTER HAVING BEEN IN MANY OTHER BUSINESS, YOU KNOW?

A. I don't know how he got into it, but I remember when we first started we went all around the country and bought up all the turkey hens that we could find and I think they must have 35 or 40 turkeys and the first year all of them died and then the next year we got started.

Q. \*AND YOU WERE INVOLVED WITH HIM IN THAT?

A. Yeah, all the way up to the war.

Q. \_HOW DID YOU MARKET THE BIRDS?

A. Well when we got ready to sell them they'd call up Armour and Swift and Omaha Coal Storage and Land o'Lakes and let them bid on them and then we would also notify all the other farmers that had turkeys around here so they'd have maybe 25 or 30 thousand and sell them all at one time like that.

Q. \*SO YOU SORT OF ACTED AS THE AGENT THEN?

A. Yeah, as the agent.

Q. 30 THOUSAND TURKEYS.

A. We used to have around 12,000 ourselves and then Armstrong up there he had quite a few too and a fellow named Converse up in Knoxville and Miss Turner live south of Albia and a few others that had maybe 500 or a thousand, these are the ones that had maybe around 5,000 or something like that or more.

Q. \*SO, SAY IF IT WOULD BE LAND-O-LAKES OR WHATEVER IF THEY'D GIVE YOU THE BEST BID THEN THEY WOULD COME IN AND PICK THE TURKEYS UP AND HAUL THEM ALL THE WAY. WAS THIS ONCE A YEAR?

A. Yeah, once a year, Thanksgiving and Christmas time, usually got rid of most of them at Thanksgiving and then you have a few left or just maybe you had a later crop and they'd all go before Christmas, say about the 10th or somewhere between the 10th and 12th of the month of December.

Q. \*HOW MANY PEOPLE, WHAT KIND OF WORK FORCE DID YOU HAVE THEN TO TAKE CARE OF THAT MANY TURKEYS. DID IT REQUIRE VERY MANY PEOPLE?

A. Yeah, there were about four of us all the time, mixing feed, and feeding turkeys and building fences and all that. It was an all day job, almost from day light to dark.

- Q. THAT'S THE REASON FOR SO MANY OF THE OUT BUILDINGS THEN USED IN THE TURKEY BUSINESS?
- A. Yeah, turkeys are all inside until they got old enough to take them out in the field where they could stand the weather. And then after they got them out in the field, we moved them every week to a new spot.
- Q. \*SO THEY COULD FIND FEED?
- A. Well clean ground, sanitation was a big problem, see.
- Q. \*WHAT WOULD YOU DO WITH THE OLD AREA THEN THAT YOU HAD MOVED THEM OUT OF OR WOULD THAT RESTORE ITSELF AFTER A WHILE OR WOULD YOU HAVE TO TREAT IT IN SOME WAY?
- A. No, just keep moving one week here like this whole field over here we'd have it planted in alfalfa a week and every week we would move them from one field to the other and by the time you got rid of them in the fall why you'd covered the whole field.
- Q. \*AND SO THE NEXT YEAR YOU COULD START THE PROCESS ALL OVER?
- A. The next year we'd put them in another field. Maybe back in the back 40 back over there or put them out over here. In other words, we wouldn't use the same ground for 2 years.
- Q. \*SO YOU FELT IF YOU LET IT GO FOR A YEAR AND DIDN'T USE IT THEN YOU COULD GO BACK?
- A. If any germs or anything like that would be maybe gone by that time.
- Q. SO THAT'S THE WAY YOUR DISEASE CONTROL WORKED, JUST TO KEEP MOVING THE BIRDS?
- A. Yeah.
- Q. \*DID YOU HAVE MUCH TROUBLE WITH YOUR TURKEYS DYING OR CONTACTING DISEASE?
- A. Not too much after you once got on to it, like I said that first year we lost practically all of them and then after that we got, you know, got started and then of course, just like anything else, if you know what you're doing you don't have too many problems.
- Q. DO YOU REMEMBER AND SINCE WE'RE BOTH FROM IOWA STATE, DID REUBEN EVER ASK ANY HELP FROM THE EXTENSION SERVICE?
- A. I think one time we took some turkeys up there to find out what was wrong one year. In fact I'm the one that took them up there, I used to take flying lessons in Albia and the guy that took me up in the plane, we took a couple of turkeys up on the plane.
- Q. UP TO IOWA STATE TO SEE WHAT WAS WRONG. DID THEY TELL YOU WHAT WAS WRONG, DID YOU FIND OUT ANYTHING?
- A. I don't remember now. I know he must have found out what was wrong with them but....

- Q. \*AND THAT LASTED UNTIL YOU SAY THE BEGINNING OF WORLD WAR II THEN?
- A. No, you mean the \_\_\_\_\_
- Q. \*THE TURKEY BUSINESS.
- A. The turkey business was going after World War II because my younger brother he got deferred to stay, you know, to help with the turkeys and I was drafted.
- Q. THEY LET HIM OUT BECAUSE OF A HARDSHIP OR WHATEVER.
- A. You know that was legal, see.
- Q. \*\_\_\_\_\_ WHY HIM INSTEAD OF YOU?
- A. Well, I was the oldest and so I was the one that went and then they came later but \_\_\_\_\_
- Q. \*NOW YOUR FATHER WAS NEVER INVOLVED IN THIS, THE TURKEY BUSINESS, THIS WAS YOUR BROTHER AND YOU?
- A. You mean Reuben's father? No, you're getting them mixed up.
- Q. \*OKAY. I AM MIXED UP. YOU AND REUBEN HAD A COMMON FATHER OR A COMMON MOTHER?
- A. Reuben and I had the same father but different mothers. My mother was quite a bit younger than my father.
- Q. \*OKAY. I GUESS IF THE NAME WERE THE SAME IT WOULD HAVE TO BE THE SAME FATHER.
- A COMMON FATHER.
- \*WE'VE HAD SO MANY PEOPLE IN DES MOINES TELL US ABOUT REUBEN GAINS AND SAY NOW HE'S ONE PERSON YOU REALLY NEED TO TALK TO. REUBEN KNOWS EVERYTHING THERE IS TO KNOW ABOUT BUXTON.
- A. And he has a good memory too, I wish my memory was that good. You know he had about 20 people he'd call and he could call all of them up without even looking it up in the telephone. I mean that was long distance, the area codes and everything.
- Q. THAT'S UNUSUAL.
- A. And he'd look at today's paper and see what's on the TV tonight, he don't have to look at it no more. He could tell you all night what program was coming on and what station.
- Q. \*THAT IS IMPRESSIVE. HOW OLD WAS HE NOW WHEN HE DIED?
- A. 91
- Q. \*91

- A. And just up to the last, oh year or year and a half, that he, you know, his memory wasn't as good as it was. Course like someone call on the phone the number is this here and wait a minute I'll get a pencil and write, you don't need to write it down, he'd go ahead and remember and go ahead and call them up and names and stuff like that, now if he like downstairs on the shelf he used to keep his food down there, I'd come back up and I say I can't find no apples down there. He says, "Yeah, there're down there," and I go back and look and they be on that shelf somewhere.
- Q. \*NOW HOW DID YOU GET FROM ALBIA, IOWA AND A TURKEY RAISING OPERATION TO CHICAGO TO WORKING FOR A STEEL COMPANY?
- A. Well that's a long story. I didn't want to work on Saturdays. I wanted to go to town on Saturday afternoon and he didn't want us to go so I went to Chicago and got a job at the steel mill. It happened to be that I got there and I just stayed with it. That's the only job I ever had outside of raising turkeys.
- Q. \*SO IN OTHER WORDS YOU WERE SORT OF WANTING TO GET AWAY FROM THE TURKEY, FROM THAT KIND OF WORK?
- A. Not really, I wanted to do the farming, I'd rather farm than raise turkeys and then all the other farmers on Saturday afternoon they was going to town and we were still working.
- Q. STILL WORKING. WELL YOU KNOW THAT'S INTERESTING, MY FATHER HAD A MILK ROUTE, AND WE HAD COWS AND I HATED COWS FOR THE SAME REASON. YOU COULD ALWAYS CUT OUT ON A LITTLE FIELD WORK AND DO IT TOMORROW BUT YOU BETTER MILK THOSE COWS EVERY DAY OR YOU DON'T HAVE ANY, AND I HATED THOSE COWS BECAUSE IT WAS EVERY DAY, EVERY DAY, EVERY DAY, 7 DAYS A WEEK AND I CAN UNDERSTAND YOUR FEELING PERFECTLY. WELL THERE'S QUITE A STORY TO BUXTON. IT WAS JUST A VERY UNIQUE COMMUNITY AND APPARENTLY THERE WERE THINGS THERE THAT MADE IT DIFFERENT THAN ANY OTHER COAL CAMP IN IOWA AND THE PEOPLE WE'VE TALKED TO IN DES MOINES REMEMBER IT AS A GREAT TIME, MANY OF THEM SAY IT WAS THE BEST TIME OF THEIR LIVES, NOW MAYBE THEY REMEMBER IT THAT WAY BECAUSE EVERYTHING WAS SO WELL MIXED AND THERE WERE SO LITTLE FELLINGS OF PREJUDICE. SOME OF THEM REMEMBER IT AS A TIME WHEN THEY MADE GOOD WAGES AND OF COURSE WITH THE UNION THEY MADE THE SAME WAGES AS ANYBODY ELSE. THE MINERS, THEY DIDN'T WORK FOR FREE. WE TALKED TO ONE LADY THAT SHOWED US A PICTURE OF HER MOTHER WITH HER HAT AND SHE HAD THREE OSTRICH PLUMES AND THE LADY INSISTED THAT THOSE PLUMES COST \$25 PER FEATHER AND SHE SAID, "MY MOTHER WANTED THEM AND HAD THEM YOU KNOW." SO, IT SEEMED TO BE A HARMONIOUS COMMUNITY. WE HADN'T HAD ANYBODY YET WHO CONDEMNED ANYTHING VERY SERIOUSLY IN BUXTON, THEY'VE ALL BEEN POSITIVE. THERE HAVE BEEN SOME THINGS THEY LIKED BETTER THAN OTHERS.
- \*IT REALLY HAS, I THINK ONE COULD SAY IT REALLY HAS A UNIQUE REPUTATION AMONG THE PEOPLE WHO LIVED THERE.
- THE STRANGE PART OF IT IS, DON, THAT, WELL LIKE YOUR BROTHER, THAT STORY WILL SOON BE GONE YOU KNOW. THERE'RE A LOT OF GRANDKIDS YOU KNOW THAT GRANDMA OR GRANDPA TOLD ME BUT TO GET TO THE ACTUAL PEOPLE WHO LIVED THERE IT'S PRETTY LATE AND WE NEED TO GET THAT STORY ON TAPE.

- A. Like a lot of people I talked to well went to school, went to Des Moines and became friends, they were born in Buxton. You never \_\_\_\_\_ know when you were going to start talking to somebody, you gonna say, "Well, I was born in Buxton," and you discuss, they were born there too.
- Q. DO YOU REMEMBER IF DES MOINES PRODUCED ANY GOOD FEELINGS OR BAD FEELINGS OF LIVING IN DES MOINES IN THAT EARLY PERIOD?
- A. Well, I never had any bad feeling about Des Moines. The only place I had bad feelings about was Quincy. Quincy was real prejudice as far as I was concerned and I could tell the difference by going from Des Moines to Quincy. But see in Quincy you had to sit in the back of the theater and all that kind of stuff.
- Q. AND YOU DON'T REMEMBER ANY OF THAT IN DES MOINES?
- A. No, I don't remember any of that in Des Moines at that time. As I say, when I left Des Moines, I finished the 8th grade up there and I put the other 4 grades in Quincy, Illinois.
- Q. \*WHAT ABOUT GOING TO HIGH SCHOOL THERE, WAS THAT SORT OF THE SAME SITUATION WAS THERE MUCH SEPARATION WITHIN THE SCHOOL OR WITHIN THE HIGH SCHOOL WHERE
- A. No, it was a mixed school. I was on the track team down there.
- Q. HOW'D YOU COME OUT, DO PRETTY WELL?
- A. Average.
- Q. AVERAGE. I WAS ON THE TRACK TEAM, I WAS A MILER AND I WAS THE SLOWEST MILER AND THE ONLY REASON I WAS A MILER WAS BECAUSE NOBODY ELSE WOULD RUN YOU KNOW, THAT'S THE GUT WORK. THEY'D ALL RUN THE SPRINT YOU KNOW THE OTHER STUFF AND IF YOU WANT TO BE ON BAD ENOUGH TO RUN THE MILE, GO AHEAD. I ONLY CAME IN LAST, BUT MOST OF THE TIME I FINISHED.
- A. Well, I was a pretty good broad jumper but you know in Des Moines and when I finished the 8th grade I jumped 19 feet 2 inches and when I got to Quincy I never jumped that far no more.
- Q. IS THAT RIGHT? \_\_\_\_\_ THAT'S A GOOD SPELL.
- A. And I always wondered what happened.
- Q. YOU JUST DID IT.
- A. Yeah, and they were talking about knowing how good I was, you know, from the West \_\_\_\_\_ was going then in Des Moines and then when I went to Quincy and I never did get close to 19 feet no more.
- Q. \*WAS THERE EVER ANY THOUGHT OF YOUR GOING ON TO COLLEGE WHEN YOU GRADUATED FROM HIGH SCHOOL?
- A. No, I never had any desire to go to college.

- Q. \*WONDER, MAYBE IF YOUR FATHER, YOUR STEPFATHER WHO WAS THE SCHOOL PRINCIPLE YOU SAY, MAYBE IF HE HAD TRIED TO ENCOURAGE YOU ALONG THOSE LINES.
- A. Well maybe I was always good with my hands and things like that and then I got interested in stocks and stuff like that. I feel like I may have done better or just as good as if I had went to college. 'Cause everyday when I'm at home in Chicago I read the stock market, that's the first thing I do in the morning. The first thing I do here when the paper comes too is look at the stock market.
- Q. \*NOW YOUR HOME IS IN CHICAGO THEN, YOU'RE JUST VISITING HERE FOR A TIME?
- A. Well when Reuben was sick, I was here the last two years about every other month and Lavonia, the other lady, well she would stay a month and then before that I have another cousin he would stay a month.
- Q. \*SO HE HAD SOMEONE WITH HIM ALL THE TIME?
- A. Yeah, someone with him all the time, but I was the main one.
- Q. \*WAS LOVONIA A NIECE?
- A. Yes.
- Q. I THINK SHE, REMEMBER THE LADY?
- \*YEAH, WE MET HER.
- A. A heavy set lady?
- Q. \*YEAH.
- A. Yeah, that's her.
- Q. \*MET HER A COUPLE OF TIMES WHEN WE WERE HERE. SO HOW MUCH LONGER WILL YOU BE STAYING THEN?
- A. No particular time, I got no job to go to and ...
- Q. YOU'RE RETIRED?
- A. Retired, so it's just when someone say, "Come on, let's go," I'm ready to go.
- Q. YOU'RE FREE TO GO.
- \*DO YOU HAVE A FAMILY THEN?
- A. I have a wife with no kids. Just like I used to tell Reuben they say \_\_\_\_\_ you're making all that money to live and all like that I say that's the reason us farmers and stuff can't make nothing. I say, "Yeah, but the only thing about you, you're your own boss and when you get ready to go, you can go and when you work, it's a pleasure." So that's the way I feel since I retired, if I want to do it, I do it, and if I don't, I don't have to.

Q. \*THAT MUST BE A VERY NICE FEELING.

A. And don't have to worry about where the money is coming from or nothing like that. I mean if you retired, I've been retired 3 years. But if you retired and you have to sit home because you can't go anywhere, that's different.

SIDE TWO

A. Pension, which was added as the time worked, it was 30 years and 1 month.

Q. THAT'S IT, I DON'T BLAME YOU.

A. See, you could retire regardless of age as long as you had the 30 years.

Q. THAT'S ALMOST LIKE WORKING IN THE ARMY THEN, IN THE ARMY, CIVIL SERVICE THE SAME WAY, 30 YEARS AND YOU CAN QUIT.

A. And it seems like now like I've only been on a vacation 2 or 3 weeks.

Q. BEEN THREE YEARS?

A. Yeah.

Q. \*I THINK THAT WOULD BE NICE.

A. I don't get tired.

Q. \*ARE THERE ANY OTHER MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY THEN LIKE COUSINS OR GRANDCHILDREN OR ANYTHING THAT ARE STILL AROUND IN THIS GENERAL AREA?

A. No, my brother he lives in Puerto Rico and his daughter, well she's there too.

Q. \*WHAT DOES HE DO IN PUERTO RICO, JUST RETIRED THERE?

A. No, he has a contract mail route, you know, they deliver mail from town to town. In fact he's been down there about 19 years.

Q. \*NOW IS HE OLDER OR YOUNGER?

A. He's four years younger than I am.

Q. \*WHAT IS HIS FIRST NAME?

A. Harold.

Q. \*HOW MANY CHILDREN WERE THERE ALTOGETHER THEN? HOW MANY CHILDREN DID YOUR FATHER HAVE?

A. 7 all together.

Q. \*WAS REUBEN THE OLDEST THEN?

- A. Yeah, Reuben was the oldest. No, his sister, Laura, was the oldest and then Reuben, and then another sister and with his second marriage there was three of us. My sister she died at six months. We went to Hot Springs and she got pneumonia and I got it and she died and I lived.
- Q. \*WAS THIS JUST A VACATION YOU WERE ON?
- A. Yeah, on a vacation down there.
- Q. WELL IT SOUNDS LIKE YOU'VE HAD A LOT OF THINGS YOU'VE DONE IN YOUR LIFE TIME AND THAT'S GREAT. AND THEN TO BE RETIRED AND YOUR HEALTH APPARENTLY PRETTY GOOD.
- A. Yeah, no problems with my health.
- Q. ENJOY IT, THAT'S GOOD.
- A. Just like I used to try to get Reuben to go to Puerto Rico for the winter. He said, "Well, if you'd come up here and stay I'd go." And then after I retired he still wouldn't go or something was wrong with the plane it might come down. I regret he didn't get a chance to go.
- Q. \*NOW HAD HE BEEN A WIDOWER FOR QUITE A WHILE?
- A. Been what?
- Q. \*HAD HE BEEN A WIDOWER, HAD HIS WIFE BEEN DEAD?
- A. Yeah, for about 9 years.
- Q. \* IF I AM CORRECT, REUBEN DIDN'T HAVE ANY CHILDREN?
- A. No, he didn't have any.
- Q. \*I THOUGHT THAT'S WHAT HE TOLD US.

WELL, I JUST HAVE ONE OTHER QUESTION. PLEASE FEEL FREE TO DO AS YOU LIKE. WOULD IT BE POSSIBLE TO TAKE THOSE PICTURES AND COPY THEM AND RETURN THEM TO YOU? WOULD YOU ALLOW US TO DO THAT OR WE COULD ALSO BRING THE MACHINE DOWN AND COPY THEM HERE. BUT IT WOULD BE SOMEWHAT EASIER AND WE COULD DO A BETTER JOB IF WE CAN TAKE THEM INTO THE PROFESSIONAL SHOP. THE THING THAT MAKES THEM SO PRECIOUS IS THAT YOU CAN IDENTIFY THEM. YOU KNOW WE'VE GOT SOME PICTURES THAT SOMEBODY WOULD SAY THAT GRANDMA HAD THESE AND AS A MATTER OF FACT WE HAVE A NUMBER OF PICTURES OF PEOPLE. WE'VE GOT ABOUT 120 PICTURES THAT ARE IN THE MUSEUM IN DES MOINES AND DOROTHY COLLIER AND SOME OTHERS FROM THE BUXTON CLUB MAYBE HAVE IDENTIFIED ABOUT A THIRD OF THEM, BUT THE PICTURES AREN'T REALLY AS VALUABLE THEN.