

Interview of
MRS. BRENTON AND MRS. GYVES

Typed by: Carolyn McQuiggan

Interviewer: This is May the 5th, 1977 and we're at Mrs. Caroline Gyves, on Fulford-Ganges Road. Today we're talking to Mrs. Gyves and Mary Brenton, Ray Newman is here and Lassie Dodds. I suppose first of all, it would be interesting to ;hear ~~from~~ Mrs. Brenton and Mrs. Gyves a little bit about their background and life when they were young on Saltspring. Mrs. Brenton could I ask you a couple of questions?

Mrs. Brenton: Yes, certainly.

Interviewer: Where were you born?

Mrs. Brenton: On Saltspring.

Interviewer: You were born on Saltspring. On the same farm, right where we are now? And what was your name then?

Mrs. Brenton: Gyves. My father was Mike Gyves.

Interviewer: And where did your father come from?

Mrs. Brenton: From Ireland.

Interviewer: What brought him to Saltspring? Did he come direct form Ireland?

Mrs. Brenton: No, he came from Ireland to New York, he had a brother there and he came out. And times were very tough and he couldn't get employment so he joined the American Army. And he settled there for about four years and at that time before the four years were up, they had the San Juan Boundary Dispute, so the Army came across to the San Juan Islands.

Interviewer: So he travelled across the States, from New York?

Mrs. Brenton: Yes.

Interviewer: To the San Juan Islands.

Mrs. Brenton: Yes, I'm not quite sure how they travelled across, I don't think that they would come by boat.

Interviewer: That would be about the time of the ¹⁸Big War?

Mrs. Brenton: Yes, and while he was there his time was up and he didn't rejoin the Army, he had his discharge. And he came to Victoria, and just at that time the Cariboo Gold Rush, so he went north with a number of people. And, I don't know how far north, it was through the Fraser Canyon and up that way, to the Cariboo. He wasn't lucky enough to strike gold, so he came back to Victoria, and he met Mr. Maxwell. He had the farm at Burgoyne Bay and he told him that there was very good land here to be taken up. You know from the government. So he came over and that's how he settled in the Valley.

Interviewer: So that was the Gvyes' beginning. When he arrived on Salt-Spring he was ^{going}~~going~~ to farm, was he?

Mrs. Brenton: He was a carpenter originally in the beginning, he was only nineteen at the time he left Ireland. Mr. Maxwell had told him about cedar in the valley here so that's why he chose this place.

Interviewer: He was going to make furniture, was he?

Mrs. Brenton: No, I think it was cedar shakes. They were good for exporting

Interviewer: So, he was cutting shakes up the mountain.

Mrs. Brenton: Well no, it was just in the valley here. I guess that all the timber is all down now. The cedar was on this place.

Interviewer: On this farm. He was married on Saltspring, was he not?

Mrs. Brenton: Yes, my mother came from Cowichan, Mr. Maxwell had told him that he would need a housekeeper and a wife. So, that's how he came to meet her.



Interviewer: She came from Cowichan, was she partially Indian?

Mrs. Brenton: Yes, she was. At the head of the Cowichan Bay.

Interviewer: Her father was....

Mrs. Brenton: He was the Indian Chief of this little. I think that they had a number of chieftans there. There was Cowichan Bay, Quamichan and Cooocasosa.

Interviewer: Oh yes, and he was the chief. That would mean that your mother must have been a Princess.

Mrs. Brenton: Well I suppose she was, if she had remained on the reserve. But that didn't mean that she was one here.

Interviewer: It must have been exciting. Your mother and father settled here on Salt'spring, and you had a sister.

Mrs. Brenton: Yes, she was 22 years older than I was. So she was.... and then I had a brother, Micheal Gyves, Mrs. Gyves' husband.

Interviewer: Mrs. Gyves is your sister-in-law, and you still live right next door. This was part of the original property. It was quite expensive then, wasn't it?

Mrs. Brenton: Yes. The property across the road, we sold to Mr. Edwards, the store-keeper here...

Interviewer: Where was the store?

Mrs. Brenton: Right across the road, right next to the Ackermans. You can see the elm tree there, he planted that you see. The store was just on this side right against the border.

Interviewer: And it was a general store, was it?

Mrs. Brenton: Yes, it was...He was also the postmaster.

Interviewer: It was the post office too?

Mrs. Brenton: Yes. It was the only one here at this end of the island, at that time.

Interviewer: And I guess it was the only store at this end of the island? Would the produce come into Fulford Harbour and the mail would come into Fulford Harbour, at that time?

Mrs. Brenton: Yes, it did.

Interviewer: And then horse and cart would bring it up?

Mrs. Brenton: Yes, there were no cars in those days.

Interviewer: Did you have any animals on your farm.

Mrs. Brenton: Oh yes, he did farming as well, they had cows and.... for the plowing and chickens, ducks, and geese.

Interviewer: Were they for your own use mostly?

Mrs. Brenton: Well no, they sold the eggs, the store was quite handy, they took most everything that could be sold. Eggs and poultry. Yes, that was about all.

Interviewer: Who would shop in the store?

Mrs. Brenton: I think that it was general. Farmers around used the store.

Interviewer: Even the farmers in Burgoyne Valley?

Mrs. Brenton: Burgoyne Valley, yes.

Interviewer: Were there any people living down in Fulford Harbour at that time?

Mrs. Brenton: Yes, there were. The place that is down there at the head of the Harbour was one of the first pioneers, his name was Barrel. And then there was one next to him, as you go out to Isabella Point. He was also one of the early pioneers too, he was a Shepard.

Interviewer: A shepard?

Mrs. Brenton: His name was Shepard!

Interviewer: He didn't have sheep though?

Mrs. Brenton: No.

Interviewer: Were there sheep on the island at that time?

Mrs. Brenton: I think so. Let's see they were about the first pioneers. Then of course the Ruckles at Beaver Point. And then the MacClenans, they were about the only two that were out... and the Tregeses. They had a place where Solamar is now. That's where Irene lives.

Interviewer: Where would you have gone to school?

Mrs. Brenton: The little school at Burgoyne Valley, it's still there. The little grey building there, just opposite the United Church.

Interviewer: Of course, the United Church wasn't there.

Mrs. Brenton: No, but it was built quite early. Well it must of been almost one hundred years ago.

Interviewer: In Fulford, at that time, would most of the people have gone to the Catholic Church? Or was the Catholic Church there?

Mrs. Brenton: No there wasn't any church there, at that time, but I think that the Catholic Church was one of the first built. It's almost one hundred years ago. And most of the people that attended there, there is a picture in Bea Hamilton's book, they mostly were from the San Juan Islands. And originally from Hawaii. And for some reason or another they moved from San Juan to Saltspring. Some of the desendants are still here. Like the Roland's. It was built before the United Church and I think before the Anglican Church at Central. And it was all free labour, they brought the lumber from the old stone church in Cowichan. It was built there on the Indian Reserve, and it became too small for the congregation, so they built a bigger church at Quam-ichan. So they donated the windows and the doors, and any-

Mrs. Brenton: thing that was movable, and they brought it by canoe over to Burgoyne and then oxen and sleighs. And it was all built by free labour, they all donated their time.

Mrs. Gyves: Tell them how you became a school teacher and how you taught school here.

Mrs. Brenton: There was no high school here in those days, and no way of taking up after eighth grade, and I guess my father didn't have money enough to send me away for very long, so I took just one year, ninth grade, at St. Anne's in Nanimo. That was for ten dollars a month, that was the pension he was getting from the American Army. And after that, it was an Irish man who taught school here, his name was Mr. Cook. He taught in the valley for a number of years and up at the Divide School House and then he was down at Isabella Point. He was a friend of my Father's so my father said that he couldn't afford to send me away for school, so why don't you go and ask him if he will teach you, along with the rest of the pupils. So I remember going down and asking him, he didn't seem to be very anxious to take another.

Interviewer: How many students did he have at that time?

Mrs. Brenton: Well, it was ungraded school, I think that there was maybe about twenty. And of course it was extra work to do, but it was just the supervision that I wanted.

Interviewer: He'd have all grades from grade one right up to grade eight.

Mrs. Brenton: Yes, he did. He graduated from a University in Dublin. Of course he could have had a much better job somewhere else,

- Mrs. Brenton: but he stayed on the island all those years until he died. So I took all my high school from him.
- Interviewer: And then you went to St. Anne's?
- Mrs. Brenton: No, I took it up after grade nine at St. Anne's in Nanimo. So then I had to pass the examinations.
- Interviewer: And then you came back to the island to teach?
- Mrs. Brenton: The first school I taught was at Galiano Island. And then over here at Burgoyne the second year.
- Interviewer: And that's the school you went to when you were a little girl?
- Mrs. Brenton; Yes, it's the same one.
- Interviewer: That must have been interesting to come back and teach where you had gone to school.
- Mrs. Brenton: Well, quite a few of the pupils I had gone to school with, you, see, were still there.
- Interviewer: Then you were married here on the Island, were you?
- Mrs. Brenton: Yes, I was married in Victoria, to the grandson of the Mr. Edward's who owned the store.
- Interviewer: Had your husband grown up on the Island?
- Mrs. Brenton: No, he used to come here for vacations. I don't know whether this is interesting or not, but I was four years older than he was, he was about six when he was here and he used to at the store and in those days he had long curls, about down to his shoulder. He was walking to school on day and I called out to him "Little Lord Pontleroy"
- Interviewer: Was he insulted?
- Mrs. Brenton: Oh very. He used to walk mornings after that with rocks. He threw rocks at me. I had to run pretty fast going by.
- Interviewer: Not too many young boys wore their hair long?

Mrs. Brenton: No they didn't, I don't know why. But I guess he hated it. It was very insulting.

Interviewer: Little did he know that he would end up your husband. His name was Earnest, was it not?

Mrs. Brenton: Yes, Earnest Brenton.

Interviewer: So you were married in Victoria and then did you live in Victoria?

Mrs. Brenton: No, his people were in Anacortes. And he went back to Bellingham and he worked in a mill there for a few years. And then he became interested in the Legion, the American Legion. He was a return Soldier. So he became Sherriff's Deputy, for a number of years, for about nine years, I guess it was and then in those days they didn't have civil service, like they do now. When the Republicans were in power, he had his job, then the Democrats came in and everyone went out. And they put in their own men. So that's how we came back to Saltspring. He moved down to Anacortes and worked a mill there and the family came over her with me. Oncd a month or so until he moved over altogether.

Interviewer: Then when he moved to Saltspring was he farming?

Mrs. Brenton: No, I don't think that he was ever much of a farmer. He got work driving a logging truck for a logging company here and then after that a school bus and....

Interviewer: By then the school was up in Ganges, I guess?

Mrs. Brenton: Yes, it was. So he never did much farming. Just gardening.

Interviewer: And your children grew up on Saltspring?

Mrs. Brenton: Yes they all did. The one that was born here was the youngest son. That was Brian.

Interviewer: What family do you have, Mrs. Brenton?

Mrs. Brenton: Five, four sons and a daughter.

Interviewer: What are their names?

Mrs. Brenton: The oldest one is Charles, the next is Earnest, and Pat, and Sheila, and Brian is the youngest.

Interviewer: Are any living on Saltspring Is. now?

Mrs. Brenton: Just my oldest son Charles.

Interviewer: I think now we'll move on and ask Mrs. Gyves a few questions. You were born on the island weren't you?

Mrs. Gyves: Yes.

Interviewer: Whereabouts?

Mrs. Gyves: Just near Fernwood.

Interviewer: Just past Fernwood.

Mrs. Gyves: Yes.

Interviewer: Why did your parents come to the island?

Mrs. Brenton: Because her mother and father had moved up here up here and she moved up here with them. When she was just sixteen.

Interviewer: So she moved to the island and then your father....

Mrs. Gyves: from Metchosin, just down past Victoria.

Interviewer: So your mother came with her parents and your father came to the island and they were married, is that right?

Mrs. Gyves: Yes, they knew each other before, when she was in Victoria.

Interviewer: What did your father do before he came to the island?

Mrs. Gyves: He was on the boats. Worked on boats.

Interviewer: And was he doing that after he moved here?

Mrs. Gyves: Oh yes, he was on boats all the time. Then he had his own boat afterwards.

Interviewer: Up at Fernwood?

Mrs. Gyves: Yes.

Interviewer: He would go fishing on his boat?

- Mrs. Gyves: No, he used them to run frieght, he worked with father, who was Cap-
tain and he would run frieght from Nanimo and Victoria and around
like that, different places.
- Interviewer: So he would bring produce into the island and building material to
Saltspring? Or what would he bring?
- Mrs. Gyves: Anything at all that anybody wanted.
- Interviewer: Your neighbors up at Fernwood, would by your grandparents, and ...
- Mrs. Gyves: Yes, right near, just about five minutes walk from our place.
- Interviewer: And did you have any other neighbors?
- Mrs. Gyves: Yes, my aunt Mary lived about two miles away from our place.
- Interviewer: You quite a few relatives on the island, didn't you?
- Mrs. Gyves: Oh yes, another aunt too, lived at St. Mary's Lake. She ahd a big
family, so did mother.
- Interviewer: Are there many of them left on the island?
- Mrs. Gyves: I'm the only one.
- Interviewer: How about your children Doris, do you have any children on the island?
- Mrs. Gyves: Yes, Mark, is home, he goes to school in Garges, High School. He's
in his last year, grade twelve.
- Interviewer: Where did you go to school, Mrs. Gyves?
- Mrs. Gyves: At Fernwood.
- Interviewer: There was a little school there?
- Mrs. Gyves: Yes, that was the name of it then, I guess it was the North End...
North Vesuvius.
- Interviewer: There must have been a lot of achool's on Saltspring at that time.
- Mrs. Gyves: Well they came in a bunch, didn't they Mary.....there wasn't for a
long time.
- Mrs. Brenton: Yes there was one at Beaver Point, one here and one at the Divide, and
one at Central and Fernwood.
- Interviewer: When you were alittle girl and you wnet to school at Fernwood was
there a store up there, you mentioned your father and grandfather

Interviewer: working on the boats. Now I guess produce would be brought into Fernwood?

Mrs. Gyves: Yes but we used to deal with Bittancourt, down at Vesuvius Bay.

Interviewer: There was a store at Vesuvius?

Mrs. Gyves: Yes.

Interviewer: There was a settlement at Vesuvius at that time, then was there?

Mrs. Gyves: I don't know about when mother moved onto the island but after that is where they built.

Interviewer: So there were people living at Vesuvius then.

Mrs. Gyves: Yes.

Interviewer: The Bittancourts and were there any other families there?

Mrs. Gyves: Oh yes, there were a big family and they married and they lived right there.

Interviewer: And other than the Bittancourts were there people at Vesuvius?

Mrs. Gyves: I'm not so sure, not too many. Mr. Bittancourt used to own most of the land around there.

Interviewer: But the children from Vesuvius would have to go all the way to Fernwood for school, that's a long way isn't it?

Mrs. Gyves: No, there was the Vesuvius Bay School at Central.

Interviewer: At Central, ah yes. Can you think of any games that you used to play when you were a little girl.

Mrs. Gyves: Drop a handkerchief and baseball.

Interviewer: How many children would be in the school?

Mrs. Gyves: Generally about thirteen or fourteen or fifteen.

Interviewer: Just enough for baseball. When were you married, Mrs. Gyves?

Mrs. Gyves: 1916.

Interviewer: You were married on Saltspring, were you?

Mrs. Gyves: Yes, in my own home.

Interviewer: Who did you marry?

Mrs. Gyves: Mrs. Brenton's brother, Mike Gyves.

Interviewer: And then did you move from Fernwood?

Mrs. Gyves: Yes, I moved down to Fulford.

Interviewer: To your present home?

Mrs. Gyves: Yes.

Interviewer: This is a beautiful home, I really like it.

Mrs. Gyves: I like it too.

Interviewer: And it was built before you were married.

Mrs. Gyves: Well it was partially, we lived with the old folks for a couple of months, I think, during the summer and then we moved over here.

Interviewer: You lived with your husband's parents, you were with them first?

Mrs. Gyves: Yes.

Interviewer: Who built your house?

Mrs. Gyves: Farley Orchard and...

Interviewer: Was he the local carpenter on the island at the time?

Mrs. Gyves: This was his first job, and he made a good one because he wanted to advertise his work.

Interviewer: What other buildings did he build after this one?

Mrs. Gyves: He built the Hall.

Interviewer: The Fulford Hall. What family have you?

Mrs. Gyves: I have five girls. I'd love to have had a boy.

Interviewer: Doris is the only daughter living on the island.

Mrs. Gyves: Yes.

Interviewer: I'm very interested to know how you met your husband. There you were up at Fernwood and he was living down here at Fulford. Therefore there must have been dances and different functions when the whole of the island got together. Is that right?

Mrs. Gyves: Yes, there used to be dances at Central. There was a hall there a

Mrs. Gyves: long time before there was a hall anywhere else on the island.

Interviewer: Is that the hall that is still there today?

Mrs. Gyves: Yes.

Interviewer: What did you do, Mrs. Gyves and Mrs. Brenton, for entertainment when you were young.

Mrs. Gyves: Dancing mostly and transportation there was just horse and buggy, so we used to travel to quite a few dances that they held at the Cranberry Marsh, at the small schoolhouse. And at Central and at Burgoyne Valley.

Interviewer: What kind of music did they have?

Mrs. Gyves: Just local music, violins and I guess they just played by ear, they didn't have any music teachers in those days. Usually just violins.

Interviewer: Would there be a piano too?

Mrs. Gyves: No. No piano.

Interviewer: So there would be a couple of people playing violins.

Mrs. Gyves: Oh yes, and we did square dancing alot.

Interviewer: Tell us a little about the Women's Institute here at Fulford.

Mrs. Gyves: We'd work for anyone that we think that we should work for

Interviewer: Is the institute part of the farmers institute?

Mrs. Gyves: Will they're sort of connected in some way

Interviewer: and it's called the women's institute.

Mrs. Gyves: yes.

Interviewer: What kind of work would you do?

Mrs. Gyves: Well we used to put on dances to raise money for anything or anybody that had sick children or anything. We worked for the hall, we were the first to start in the hall down here. It was called the Fulford Institute Hall.

Interviewer: And if there was a fire, I guess everybody in the community would

Interviewer: rally together and provide bedding and food for the people?

Mrs. Gyves: Yes, the institute would help with that also.

Interviewer: They would organize something like that? And the institute is still going today?

Mrs. Gyves: Yes, it is.

Interviewer: And you were one of the original members?

Mrs. Gyves: Yes, I'm the only charter member left.

Interviewer: Really. Now did you make quilts at one point too?

Mrs. Gyves: Yes, we raffled them. To raise money for the first Hall.

Interviewer: Did you use Saltspring Island wool in the quilts?

Mrs. Gyves: Yes, our own sheep. I did it myself, I'd been making quilts for years so I thought it would be a dandy way to make money.

Interviewer: What did your husband do Mrs. Gyves.

Mrs. Gyves: Well, he was a farmer and he worked for the forestry. He used to leave the island and go away and work for the forestry.

Interviewer: This would be with the Provincial Government?

Mrs. Gyves: Yes.

Interviewer: You have quite a few fruit trees around your property, and you too, Mrs. Brenton, did you still fruit of was it for...

Mrs. Gyves: No, we never owned any sheep, it was Mr. Ackerman who rents the farm.

Interviewer: You do have some fruit trees around your property don't you? Were those for your own use?

Mrs. Gyves: Oh yes, just for our own.

Interviewer: We hear about Saltspring fruit that was sent from the island. Who were the Fruit growers, on the island at that time?

Mrs. Gyves: The largest farm, I guess was the Trady's at Beaver Point. They had a special

Mrs. Gyves: a special dock built for the boats to come in and that's where a lot of the young men worked in the orchard. They used to gather apples and they shipped the fruit to Victoria and Vancouver.

Interviewer: And how about up at the North End, in the Fernwood and Vesuvius area, Mrs. Gyves, who had fruit trees there, I see that there are still old fruit trees.

Mrs. Gyves: Booth, he was a member of Parliament, for years and he was quite old when he died.

Interviewer: And where did he live?

Mrs. Gyves: Fernwood Farm.

Interviewer: Now where are the Salt Springs, aren't they up around there some place?

Mrs. Gyves: On Booth Farm there was quite a few of them and the Laken farm.

Interviewer: Have you actually ever seen the Salt Springs?

Mrs. Gyves: Oh yes, we used to play around them. Mother never liked it because she said that there was no bottom to them. If we fell in we'd go down and never stop.

Interviewer: What did the Salt Springs do, did they bubble?

Mrs. Gyves: Yes they did, and they were filthy looking and dark brown, bubbling and full of all kinds of trees, whether people threw them in to see what would happen to them or what, I don't know. There were still limbs sticking out. Just a wild, horrible place.

Interviewer: Was it rather marshy?

Mrs. Gyves: Yes.

Interviewer: Was it warm water, or did you notice any change in temperature?

Mrs. Gyves: I don't know, I was afraid to go too near, I might fall in!

Interviewer: Was there a smell?

Mrs. Gyves: Yes, kind of, but not bad.

Interviewer: Mrs. Gyves, your husband worked out at the look-out tower when he was working for the forest, is that right?

Mrs. Gyves: Yes.

Interviewer: How often did he go up?

Mrs. Gyves: In May

Interviewer: And during fire season he'd be up there. And ;there was a tower on Mt. Bruce, would it be?

Mrs. Gyves: Yes, but there was no tower when he first went up there, he just had a tent, the wind blew so hard that it blew part of it away.

Interviewer: This would be after you were married?

Mrs. Gyves: Yes, he looked after the fires on the island.

Interviewer: And he would live up there all summer long?

Mrs. Gyves: Yes, he lived up there for a few months. I used to look forward to the time when he would come back. So he could do the farm work.

Interviewer: Oh yes, you'd have a lot to do while he was gone.

Mrs. Gyves: We had five horses then, forty pigs, and nine cows to milk.

Interviewer: Nine cows. How were the five girls, were they good at milking?

Mrs. Gyves: No they were too small. I had to take them out to the barn, and keep them on top of the feed bin, the cows would come in and smell thier feet and they thought it was just great fun.

Interviewer: Did your daughters go to school on the island?

Mrs. Gyves: Will they went to high school in St. Anne's in Victoria.

Interviewer: Vut they went ot Elementary school here on the island?

Mrs. Gyves: Yes.

Interviewer: Would they have gone to school in Ganges then?

Mrs. Gyves: Yes, after this school was closed, when they had the combined school at Ganges, and buses to pick them up.

Interviewer: Could you tell us about when you were ;teaching up in the Cariboo and when you rode your horse.

Mrs. Gyves: Yes that was a little old school called Otter Lake, it was between Vernon and Armstrong. It was an ungraded school. And I didn't even have to apply, they sent to the normal school in Vancouver and asked the Principal to send up a teacher, one that would be suitable. So I don't know why he chose me, and Mr. O'Keefe was one of the original pioneers and he owned cattle and he owned a lot of property in the east ;and Mrs. O'Keefe was quite a bit younger, I guess he was in his sixties and she was eighteen. This was the second family that I boarded with. They wanted the teacher in their home because before that they'd always had a governess and they thought it would be more suitable to see what it was like. So I was there for four years.

Interviewer: And you took your own horse from Saltspring?

Mrs. Gyves: Yes.

Interviewer: How did you get it from Saltspring up to...

Mrs. Gyves: Well it went by freight to Vancouver and then it was shipped by car, by cattle car, to Hope. From there I rode from Hope to Princeton. That's the way the ranchers used to drive their cattle over the mountain to Vancouver.

Interviewer: So it's a long ride.

Mrs. Gyves: The Hope-Princeton Highway is over the original trail.

Interviewer: How long did it take you to ride?

Mrs. Gyves: Well we started early in the morning and we stayed at this Prospectors cabin over night and I left early in the morning and we got to Princeton about two in the morning. And I started out to ride from there to Penticton, so it's quite a distance. Someone from the island, that I knew, he was on the Provincial Police, he happened to come into a hotel and he saw my name on the register, and they told him that I'd already ridden out. So he drove up with his car and he said he'd come

Mrs. Gyves: back to town and there's a rodeo in Penticton and we'll have my horse shipped with the horses there. So, he drove me to Penticton. I didn't have to do that long ride.

Interviewer: Would that be about 1918, or something?

Mrs. Gyves: Well, I was there when the war ended, and it was four years wasn't it. And I was there during the four years. I can remember we rode into Vernon and the Armistist was signed. There was such rejoicing. I remember the Mayor was quite intoxicated and he was all dressed up, with ;a top hat....and the crowds were so happy because there were so many young men from that area that had joined up.

Interviewer: Well, Mrs. Gyves, you'd be on Saltspring when the war was on.

Mrs. Gyves: Yes, I was here.

Interviewer: You were right here in this house. And were there quite a few soldiers from here that were over seas?

Mrs. Gyves: Many of them. Their names are all on the centitaph, those that didn't come back.

Interviewer: Quite a few were killed weren't they? Were there many cars on Salt-spring at that time?

Mrs. Gyves: No, none.

Interviewer: None at all!

Mrs. Gyves: There was one, old Mr Bullock got a car, he came and he had it all brass shining and almost every time he went out. Everyday I guess. And the gorses used to run away. All kinds of turmoil here.

Interviewer: Where would he drive his car? Were there many roads on the island?

Mrs. Gyves: Very narrow roads. But they were roads yes. Just about as many as there are now, but they were all small, narrow roads. Trails. Banging and bumping along.

Interviewer: Would he sometimes dirve his car down to Fulford?

- Mrs. Gyves: Oh yes. He'd drive it all over the island.
- Interviewer: It must have been quite a sight!
- Mrs. Gyves: He was very anxious to show it off.
- Interviewer: Did you know Mr. Bullock?
- Mrs. Gyves: Oh, I knew him well. He was going around preicing everyone's ears, but I wouldn't have it. So he gave me a pair of black earrings. I used to do my hair down quite low and I'd hook it on my hair, and it ;just looked like it was on my ears. Old Mrs. ... Mr. Bullock came down to the institute, she belonged to the institute and she didn't care what she did or what she said, so Mr. Bullock was standing there and he had whiskers and they were spread all out and she went up to him and she yanked on ;them and said lovely whiskers just like my husbands. We were horrified because old Mr. Bullock, he thought himself just wonderful. I'll never forget that.
- Interviewer: Well, we've heard of his magnificent parties, were the Fulford people ever invited to his parties?
- Mrs. Gyves: He never thought very much of ;the Fulford people. Mrs. Maude was saying that when she first came to the island he thought it very wrong of her to buy property down in Fulford, becuae that was just like living across the tracks. I was in a boat race with Mrs. Maude. She was quite a young thing then. I beat her and never knew it. I had dad's boat and it was a big heavy one, much heavier, and she had ;a real race boat, a clipper, while she was jocking this other boat, we slipped in and won the race.
- Interviewer: Were there many things like Inter-Island Competition?
- Mrs. Gyves: On the 24th of May they always had sort of all the islands, we used to go down to that every year.
- Interviewer: Were there special things down here in Fulford at the other times of the year?

- Mrs. Gyves: Well it seemed to be more interesting st Mayne Island. I don't know why?
- Mrs. Brenton: It was better there, they had boat racing and all kinds of things.
- Interviewer: Well, I cam remember when we came to the island, it would be about twelve years ago, there was a May Day here in Fulford. When did that start?
- Mrs. Gyves: The institute used to put them on, May Day, with the May Queen and everything.
- Mrs. Brenton: Sports for the children.
- Mrs. Gyves: Down in the field, right at the head of the bay there.
- Interviewer: Were any other spec ial days on Saltspring?
- Mrs. Gyves: Well Show Day used to be a big theing, up in Ganges. Central used to have it, yes Central had it first. A big show and there would be all kinds of things.
- Mrs. Brenton: The Farmers Institute was on thing that everybody went to, but there weren't very many people on Saltspring then.
- Interviewer: Was that like the Fall Fair?
- Mrs. Gyves: Yes, it was the Fall Fair, with cattle and horse racing and ladies riding I can remember Carrie's mother riding horse back, they rode side saddle, in those days
- Interviewer: Did everybody go from Fulford to the Fall Fair?
- Mrs. Gyves: Oh yes, everybody.
- Interviewer: All over the island?
- Mrs. Gyves: Yes, everybody went.
- Interviewer: It was the big day.
- Mrs. Gyves: Mom used to want to leave us home so that she wouldn't have to bother with us when we were so tiny. It used to break our hearts.
- Interviewer: It would date a way back, if was going on when you were just a small child?
- Mrs. Gyves: Yes.

Interviewer: And it was held at Central, all the time?

Mrs. Gyves: Not always. For years they held it at Central.

Interviewer: And it was usually at the end of August-beginning of September?

Mrs. Gyves: I guess so, because fruit was a great show, fruit and vegetables.

Interviewer: Would somebody come over to judge the....

Mrs. Gyves: Yes, they'd have to.

Interviewer: And what else would go on at the Fall Fair?

Mrs. Gyves: Well, they seemed to show an awful lot of farm animals, cows and calves and pigs and sheep and chickens ;and turkeys and geese, everything that anyone had.

Interviewer: And would they have handy crafts, like quilts and things like that?

Mrs. Gyves: Oh yes, fancy work and cooking, pickles, fruit, all kinds of it.