INTERVIEWER: Dianne Zieman DATE: February 16, 1972

LENGTH: 1 hr. 20 min.

INTERVIEW:

1. Margaret Beth Moore (Mrs. R.J.)
2.
3. Blair
4. Dawson Point Road, New Liskeard
5. 647-4641
6. 41
7. North of Orillia, Ont.
8. Mother; Gormley (n. of Toronto - Hgwy 11); Father: n. of Orillia
9. Paternal: Scottish; Maternal: English
10. 1938-39; to New Liskeard - lived in three rooms of a farmer's house (Benoit's on Dawson Point Road). Remembers playing tag around the verandah - thinks now it must have been an awful racket for the rest of the household.
11. Car.
12. Highway 11 from Orillia.
13. Parents, Beth and her two brothers.
14. Raleigh salesman was her father's occupation when they first came up here. Her husband's first job was scaling lumber with his dad at Hilliardtown, and North Tem (Notre Dame de Nord) in Quebec.
15. She didn't work.
16. Beth's father is now retired; Rob, her husband, now works for the Dept. of Transportation and Communications as a Highway General Foreman.
17. Beth is the Manager of the Provincial Civil Servants Credit Bureau in New Liskeard.

17a. Tire shortages - father had two tires stolen. Rationing of sugar and butter. Kids could get into the show for so many foil wraps - encouraged the children to collect foil, which was used to upset the radar setups. Beth was visiting her grandparents in the Abitibi Canyon, when war was declared - she was sent out quickly because they were afraid that the Hydro plant at the Canyon would be bombed. Gas rationing. Schools were let out early - big parade in Cobalt when the war ended.

18. Pretty young when they came - living out at Benoit's, the kids had to walk into town to school. Remembers a violent thunderstorm one day on their way home from school, the lightning hit a pole and the kids really ran the rest of the way in double quick time.

19. Very dusty coming through the Temagami Reserve; much more farming then than now, as the children saw when they sometimes drove around with their father on his route which went north on Elk Lake Highway and to Quebec Border.

20. Beth's father had ulcers and had to find a lighter form of work than farming. He stayed on road for a few years, then went on Hydro project at Matabitchewan Plant - stayed there 20 years. Beth was there for a year, took grade eight in Toronto, high school up here - had to board in town.

21. Farms, she presumes there was work in the mines.

22. C.N. Express - 9 to 5.
Department of Highways - 8 to 5 and Saturday mornings.

23. At Dept. of Highway - $87.50 a month - when she left there, she had more taken off in deductions than her monthly salary at first!

24. Benoit's - three rooms in their house.
At the Mat - lived in the Terrace, six houses under one roof. Had kitchen, dining room, living room, three bedrooms and bathroom. Electric heating.

25. Older brother and Beth would go out before Christmas and shovel walks to get enough money to buy their parents a Christmas present - no allowances in those days. Her Mom always got a gift of a saucepan for some reason.

26. Running water - pump - at Benoit's.
Pressurized water system, hot and cold, at Mat.

27. Benoit's: oil lamps. Mat: electric.

28. Wood both at Benoit's and at the Mat.

29. Benoit's: wood; Mat: electricity.

30. A & P store; 5 and 10¢ store; Reid's Clothing Store.

31. Whatever they dreamed up for themselves; periodically there were shows for kids on a Saturday afternoon at the Empire Theatre. Church organizations - scouts, etc.

32. Skating; skiing at the Mat. "Skinny" - a scrambling type of hockey on ice. Hunting; partridge, deer and moose. Her father taught her to shoot; once she got a moose with one shot. Fishing, canoeing; and snowshoeing.

33. Public School - north of Orillia; New Liskeard; Mat, and then Gr. 8 in Toronto. High School in New Liskeard - had to board. At the Mat, there were nine students between grades 1 and 8 in a one-room school house. Remebers a teacher, Miss Nora Ramsay, who had one brown eye and one green eye. One Hallowe'en, the kids unlocked the windows, broke into the school and carried the firewood into the aisles, in hopes of getting a day off school to clean it up. No such luck - Miss Ramsay cleaned it all up herself before school!

34. Four years of high school - three years of general and one of special commercial.

35. Shank's mare; car, and train.

36. Dr. A. D.Farlinger (father of present Dr. Farlinger).

37. Hospital up on the hill in New Liskeard; there was one in Haileybury too.

38. None.

39. Beth was 18; Murray - 19 and Gerald - 19.

40. Beth - C.N. Express; Murray at Hydro; and Gerald at Kemp & Kemp.

41. Mines: Beth boarded with Mr. & Mrs. Ken Craig. Mr. Craig had worked in the Mines in Gowganda. Farms: by hand, and use of team of horses;

42. not mechanized as it is today. Logging: pulp piles and sleigh loads - the farmers would cut pulp in spring and then sell it.

43. Farmers: beef and pork, other farm products.

44. Desserts were special - occasionally could get Oleo Margarine as a substitute for butter. Peanut butter was made out of soya beans - terrible!

45. Jumper and two blouses; lisle stockings; slacks and shorts for play.

46. Dress for church and Sunday school; then change into play clothes as one did immediately after school.

47. After church and Sunday School, would go out fishing, or on a picnic, or out for a drive.

48. Mat: found Indian relics.

49. Friendliness of people - finds them self-reliant; people tend to mind their own business. Despite the length of the winters - enjoys the

50. weather.

51. Improvement in the highway facilities and stores.

52.

53. Higher costs of products, gas, insurance, groceries due to living up north.

54.

55. Costs reduced.

56. Late spring is favourite season.

57. Filling nail holes and varnishing (the Moores are just completing the interior finishing of their new house). Walking in bush or along the lakeshore; watching the ducks and geese on the lake.

58. Not too many - there isn't too much spare time when building a house. Reading and photography.

59. Not too keen on industry coming into the area in case of pollution. Tourism is seasonal and will not create too much employment.

60. Projects such as the hydro plant at the Lower Notch create a lot of jobs, but things are worse when the project is over. Closing of the pulp mill at Temiskaming will have a widespread effect - all over the north there are pulp jobbers - pulp must now be left in the bush as there is no market. Reaction effects cutters, truckers, etc.

60. Fishing, hunting, getting away from it all, fresh air, clean water. Tourist attractions: Mining Museum, Drummond's Cairn - fireplace is still there. Blowoff at Ragged Shutes; Old Mission; Grotto at Ville Marie. Bookshop on Highway 11.

61. Visitors: outdoor type of people who aren't looking for "Bright lights and nightclubs".

HIGHLIGHTS:

Mr. Craig told Beth a gory story about a mining accident where a man got caught in the shute when the ore was coming down - working vertical level to vertical level. Finally was pulled out with the ore - had been stabbed by one rock with a sharp point - incredible pressure on him. Gruesome way to go.

HIGHLIGHTS (continued)

They found Indian relics when living at the Mat. Beth found a bowl to a pipe and also a skinning knife, which her father still has. Apparently, the rapids at the Upper Notch were called Pogan Rapids, which means Pipe rapids - the stone there was good for carving out pipes.

*

FOLLOW-UP:

Mr. Blair - Beth's father

Mrs. Nemy - Haileybury

Alex Brown - Dawson Point Rd.

Jim Gibson - now lives in North Tem

Mrs. McGill - Northdale Manor

Henry McLaren - New Liskeard

Mr.& Mrs. Don McLaren - Lorraine Valley road

* Another story - during the big storm of '47, one could step over the telephone wires in town because the drifts were so high. Nemys really liked their coffee. It was taking three days to get half a mile out of North Cobalt and people were running out of provisions. On Easter Sunday, Mrs. Nemy got up and said "Happy Easter, Charlie!" His reply: "What the hell happy about it - not even any coffee for breakfast!!"