INTERVIEWER: Dianne Zieman DATE: February 24,1972

LENGTH: 2 hrs.

INTERVIEW:

1. Mrs. Hugh Grant (Mary)
2.
3. Whelan
4. Dawson Pt. Rd., New Liskeard
5. 647-4552
6. 43
7. Haileybury
8. Mother: Wakefield, P.Q. Father: Shawville, P.Q.
9. Quebec
10. Born in Haileybury; lived there until she married; then moved to New Liskeard, where she has lived for 20 years - 19 in town, and since August, on the Point.
11. Bus.
12. Haileybury to New Liskeard.
13. Just married (then she remembered that they must have been married for over a year, as her sister had been born in Quebec). They came to Haileybury two years after the fire.
14. Father: a painter. Her husband is in construction.
15. Mother: a housewife. Mrs. Grant had worked as a secretary.
16. Father is now deceased. Her husband is still in construction.
17. Mother still living in Haileybury; Mrs. Grant is not working - has four children.
18. (a) Remembers V-Day. They collected rubber and paper and took it to school. The collections would involve adults, as the material would be taken to be used in factories. Also, war saving stamps - the kids would take a quarter to school and buy a stamp. Ration books - what a struggle that was. Cannot remember prizes for participating in collections, if there were any prizes.

18. Remembers Haileybury during her growing up years as being a good place to live. In discussions with her older sisters, she thinks that she had an easier life - they were growing up during the Great Depression. Life was easier in many aspects during the war years - more money, although not well off. Remembers her mother, every winter, buying a sack of flour, a sack of rice and a large hunk of cheese.
19. Father came to Haileybury because he figured the north was going to open up. When he first came, he worked in a sawmill, which was how he got into painting. North didn't open up as he had anticipated, but he stayed until he died.
20. Father worked, but she doesn't remember where. He never worked in the mines, although, in later years, he did try some prospecting in the area.
21.
22. Mrs. Grant's first job - worked at the Mining School in Haileybury- was then the Provincial Institute of Mining, located in the same place. The original building has been expanded. Working hours were 9 to 5.
23. Started at $90 a month in 1947 - at least, that was her take-home pay.
24. In Haileybury, their first house was large enough - had four bedrooms.
25. In comparison to today, they didn't have much in those days; but they had more than a lot of others at the time. Christmas Day - at 10:00 a.m., they listened to the King's speech with her father. Her mother put the turkey in - remembers the smell of the turkey cooking all day. "Daddy would get out the fruit and nuts - he would take a block of wood and a hammer and break the nuts and feed them to the children."
26. In the house.
27. Electric.
28. Wood.
29. Wood - Quebec heater in the living room. Had to put the pipe up every

29 - cont'd
year. In those days, burned wood during the day and at night, would bank up the heater with coal.

30. Two that aren't around now - Carson's Grocery Store, which had frozen fish in the window. Asaiff's - a dry goods store - competition for Abrahams. One of the Abraham brothers told Mrs. Grant that he can still remember his father taking a packsack full of stuff, before he started the store, and going around the area to sell it.

31. Didn't have a show until she was in grade 6 or 7, although, at this stage, there was a show in Cobalt. Didn't have a skating rink - the Armories were in use during the war years; just had an outdoor rink. They did do a lot of dancing and going to house parties. Guides and Scouts, etc. She belonged to the Canadian Girls in Training, through the United Church, although it is non-denominational now. They had a good leader - Mrs. Tina Arnold (widow of Dr. Arnold) taught them bedside nursing at one stage. Had to be 12 or 13 to join - until age 16. There was a camp connected with C.G.I.T., although she never attended. When her sisters were growing up, there were a lot of activities through the churches, but not when she was the same age. She remembers attempts to set up a young people's group in Haileybury - didn't take, although the same age group was very involved in a group in New Liskeard.

32. Skating, swimming in the summer - water front had been fixed up - no thought of pollution then. Planes used to come in at the breakwater. Airport on one side and wooden dock on the other with breakwater between. Only thing she can remember that was organized for the kids - no sports- was a big toboggan slide that ran down the hill, south of Probyn St. where Morisettes built a house (now onwed by Andersons), on a big long ramp, and went down onto the lake.

33. Haileybury Public School; Haileybury High School and St. Mary's Academy in Haileybury. Commercial training at the Academy. When she went to work at the Mining School as secretary, there was a total staff of five (including teaching staff!) Now, they have a bursar, five girls in the office, a Librarian, and a large teaching staff. She also worked for Mr. T. L. Runnels - Inspector of Public Schools, had an office in the Court House.)

34. Third form - grade eleven and then a year at the Academy. Boarding at the convent - girls would come from all over. That year there were, or rather, was room for three girls in the commercial course, so they let three girls come as day students - they were English Protestant. The teaching was in English; the French-speaking girls attended classes in English and in French (institutuion was French). Studied typing, shorthand, and business practice.

35. Vaguely remembers the street car.

36. Dr. Arnold.

37. Misericordia at that time - never had occasion to use it. It was a TB sanitorium at that time - couple of floors. Enlarged the hospital a great deal - the original building was brick.

38. She was born at home; her children born in New Liskeard Hospital.

39. She started work at the P.I.M. at age 18, and worked for five years. Her four children are still in school.

40. Not applicable.

41. Mines - no. Husband's father a lumberman - sawmill in Latchford.

42. No.

43. Not applicable.

44. Potatoes-meat-bread. Her mother always made her own butter. They had a cow and chickens, big garden and apple orchard. (Lived on View St. down from the Catholic Church - only four houses there then). Always had desserts.

45. Dresses for playing as well. Brown lisle stocking with the vests.

46. Dress. Only slacks worn were big heavy woolen ones - worn over dress to school in cold weather.

47. Sundays - long days. Just spent them the best way you could put them in. Her parents weren't strict about keeping Sundays - played a lot in those days - Hide and Go Seek; Run, Sheep, Run; climbing trees and baseball. Always seemed to be enough kids in the neighbourhood to play with - they were allowed to play with friends out of their own immediate neighbourhood.

48. No - not that kind of family.

49. Likes this area to raise a family - never had any desire to move to the city. They go down to the city every so often - when she was a child, her parents would take them down.

50.

51. Likes Liskeard - always had good facilities, such as figure skating, good hockey, good schools. N.L.S.S. has such a variety of courses in comparison to what she was offered when attending Haileybury High. Extra-curricular activities for the kids - skating, skiing, basketball and a good choir. More time in a small town for these activities. Her children have all grown up to be good swimmers - always had the beach. They lived on Lakeshore Rd. in New Liskeard until last August, when they moved out to the Point. Doesn't notice the changes.

52. Hasn't noticed any.

53. Losing the A & P Store - was where Beamish's now is. Evidently, they didn't own the building and didn't want the expense of building a new store, so they moved out. The closest A & P is now in Kirkland Lake.

54.

55. Stable - doesn't seem to progress any. Even the Farmers' Co-Op, a rumour she has heard, is going to close. Never used it that much to really compare prices, but friends found the co-op much cheaper.

56. Would like to see industries of some kind moving into the area. There always seems to be plenty of activities going on with four children - people raising a family would have enough to do - Sunday school, Guides and Brownines, skating and skiing.

57. Likes all the seasons - has the lake to offer in the summer. Ginny's horses has involved them in the Horse Club; has a boat, swimming instruction - Ski Club. Snowbug - winters seem to fly by. Curling, golfing fees are cheaper in this area - has been told that a lot of people cannot afford to curl or golf down south even if they could get into a club.

58. Sports activities and the kids.

59. Hasn't kept up any hobbies - sewing was a necessity, not a hobby.

60. Doesn't know - if she knew, she would probably try to get into the government. Never has and never will seem to attract anything. Ont. Dynamics on Radley Hill has come in recently. Rexwood seems to be puttering along.

61. Teachers! N.L.S.S., for instance, has 90 teachers. Person who has a family to raise - can't see young people settling in here when they don't have a family. Hasn't that much to offer in the way of employment. A professional can settle anywhere - not enough business to require an executive group. Speaking of mass numbers - not just individual couples.

62. People who like camping and that sort of thing; the lake for those who like boating and that type of activity, such as fishing, swimming. Not enough to see in the area - wouldn't take more than a day. Suggested guided tour: Old Mission; High Falls in Englehart at the Provincial Park; scenery - the country is beautiful. Belle Vallee area is a lovely spot; Cobalt, if interested in mining; Haileybury and New Liskeard golf courses; nightlife - the Tri-Town and that sort of thing. Twin Lakes - good cottage area.

Need something in this area to attract younger people to work and to live. More variety in the stores might get more people to shop around. No appeal for a certain age group. Children in the area aren't deprived - they get a chance to travel through the school projects.

HIGHLIGHTS:

Mrs. Grant remembers that the kids could get into the show on Christmas Day (or perhaps it was the closest Saturday) in Haileybury if they brought a tin of food for the poor as their admission fee - movies were 12¢ in those days.

When she worked at the P.I.M., in 1947, one needed Gr.13 to get into the one-year course, and Gr.12 to get into the two-year course. There were a lot of DVA students - government sponsored. Average age was in the 20's. Later on, they introduced a three year course. Mr. Walli was instigator of the foreign student program - he was sent over by the government to Africa to interview so many students. She remembers one boy from England, others were from all over Canada, as the P.I.M. was the only school of its kind for a while.

FOLLOW-UP:

Haileybury: Abrahams
Geo. Morisette
Dick Fleming
Mr. Walli
Edith Holmes

New Liskeard: Bill Barr