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GLENDALE

Interview with Velma Carroll
Interviewers: Jay M. Haymond
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JH: This is an interview with Velma Carroll. The date is January 13, 1999. We are in her daughter's home in Cedar City, and my name is Jay Haymond. First of all, tell me a little bit about your family, the one into which you were born, your father and mother.

VC: I was born in Glendale, Utah, a little town that's four miles from Orderville. My grandfather on my mother's side came over from Sweden with his mother. He was fourteen years old. He and his mother left their whole family over in Sweden and came over to Utah to be with the Mormons, joined the Church. So that I grew up in a family where we were really pioneers. My grandfather used to bring the mail. They didn't have roads that were open and it snowed real deep. He used to bring the mail over the divide down into the valley and we'd be awful happy if we could get it once or twice a week.

JH: Where did he pick it up?

VC: I don't know where he picked it up, whether it was Panguitch, I's guess. And then he had mail bags and he just had them strapped on his back, and there was ranch houses all the way between the divide and Glendale. He'd have to stay all night at some of those ranches, because he couldn't make it clear down. I grew up in a family that my mother was really a good student. She was excellent in school and she loved school so much that when she graduated from the eighth grade she went back and asked if she could please go to school. She went back through the eighth grade again because she loved it so much.

JH: It sounds like recreation, doesn't it?

VC: Yes. And she loved spelling and she could spell anything, could all her life. And math, too. They'd have spelling matches and there were two girls, there was another girl just like Mother. She could spell everything. And they'd have those two stand the whole school in spelling. And they'd spell them all down and they'd be the last ones up. I said to Mother, now what word did you go down on? She said on the last spelling match we had, we both went down on the same word. And I said what was that, and she said khaki. She said we learned to spell that. I said, how did you learn to spell so well. She said, because every time when I'm reading a story or anything, I come to a word that I don't know and can't spell, I look it up in the dictionary and find out what it means and learn to spell it.

JH: Good policy.

VC: That's why she was such an excellent student. You need to know this, because you won't believe it. I didn't. Mother was a real good musician. She could sing well and she played the mandolin, just really played well. When she got out of the eighth grade for the second time, she couldn't afford to go to high school. They didn't have a high school--they had what they called the Branch Normal College in Cedar. It was really two years of high school. The kids that went to school in those little towns, the ones that could afford it came over here and boarded at a boarding house and went to school. Mother came over and got a job working for the lady that run the boarding house. She worked for a dollar and a half a week. Out of that dollar and a half a week, she saved enough money to buy her a mandolin and take lessons.

JH: That's very frugal.

VC: My sister still has the old mandolin that Mother learned on and that she played all her life, every concert and everything. She was really a good musician. She loved to play. Anyway, we'd think that wasn't much money nowadays.

JH: Twenty cents a day. Tell me a little bit more about your father's carrying the mail. Did he have snow shoes?

VC: I guess so. He must have had snow shoes. And there was no tracks or no roads open. They just had to come along, and like I said, half way down he'd stay at the ranch all night. At home he had a big herd of bees--I don't know what you call them. Anyway, the old beehives still stood in my mother's lot till just a few years ago. They did their own bees, all their own honey. Of course they milked their own cows and had their own milk. We had to. We lived on what we raised. I grew up raising gardens and knowing how to irrigate.

JH: You're a gardener.

VC: I learned how to do gardens when I was young. My father was always out to the sheep herd with sheep and then they got a big idea that everybody needed to go on missions. They sent my father on a mission when I was nine and a half years old. My mother had six children. She had five and one little boy was born five months after Dad left. So I wonder how she made it. They didn't have any help from the church or the government or anything. I still don't know. I had to grow up and be one of the people that helped take care of the family because I was the oldest one in it. They had lots of things they had to do. My mother was a good sewer, a good seamstress. They made all their own quilts and when we'd shear our sheep, I'd help wash the wool, and we'd wash the wool and hang it, put it out to dry. When it was dry, we had to pick it and loosen it all up so we could card it. We had cards. Mary Lou still has the old cards and she can show them to you. We carded the wool and mother had a No. 3 tub she set here. I had to card enough wool for a double bed before I could go play. It took 300

bats to fill it. It would round it up just like this. Then I could go. I didn't card one more than I had to. I counted them careful.

JH: What else did you do besides card wool? You were a helper. What else did you do? Did you tend the children?

VC: Of course I had to play tend the children. I played the piano. I had to play for all the dances, the children's dances while my husband waited patiently to take me on a date when I was in my teens. I was really aggravated. My dad said you can't leave till you play for those kids to dance. So I'd have to sit there and play on the piano for a whole hour while the little knotheds danced up and down. My husband and some of his friends would sit and wait for me. He was real patient, so we could go and have a little party or something. It was fun. I did a lot of things growing up. I learned to crochet and I learned to cook. I did quite a lot of cooking in the family. I had to learn to cook. We had to make our own butter, our own cheese, and I learned that. When I got married and moved down to Orderville, I went right ahead and kept on doing those same things.

JH: Where did you get such supplies as salt and that sort of thing? Was that hauled in?

VC: We had a little store and you won't believe this, but we thought it was wonderful if we got a orange for Christmas, because they never kept oranges in the store. At the store, we had salt and sugar and just a very supplies like that. That's where they got their salt from.

JH: You say there was the one store there in Glendale. Did you go, let's say, to Orderville to get other things like clothes?

VC: Let me tell you, they didn't have any. We made our own clothes. We had to make almost everything we had. Now the Orderville people and the Glendale people didn't ever mix up. They never had anything to do with each other.

JH: Why don't you explain that to me. What's going on there?

VC: Well, when we went to dances, the Orderville kids all stood in this corner, the Glendale ones all stood in this corner. We didn't dance with each other.

JH: Why?

VC: Because we belonged to Glendale and they belonged to Orderville. I married an Orderville boy, and I don't know how I managed to do that.

JH: He obviously was able to overcome that disagreement between the communities.

VC: Well, the Orderville people thought they were a little better than all the rest of us because they belonged to the United Order. They thought that was awful wonderful. And I started to tell you, they made their own straw hats. They wove the straw in and they made their own hats. They made their own clothes. And you could always tell an Ordervillan everywhere you saw them. We called them Ordervillans. They always looked like they came with all the things they made on. They made their own garments out of "factory," had a pattern they cut and made it. They did all their own, everything that they used, they made.

JH: It's a little surprising they used factory, isn't it? Where did they get that?

VC: They had a factory and they made their own cloth. It was up where Hidden Lake is above Glendale four miles, about. That old factory building stood there till just a few years ago in a field up there. They made their cloth.

JH: They must have made homespun for their outer garments.

VC: They did. And they really had clothes that you could see them everywhere you saw them, you could tell that they were the people.

JH: Did they like that?

VC: I guess so. My husband's family, his grandfather came down and joined the United Order. He asked if he could join, and he brought the first sheep into the country. I thought he brought a great big herd, he brought 600 head. I read that lately. He brought the 600 head in. That's where they started in the sheep business in the town in Orderville.

JH: Does 600 seem like a big herd to you?

VC: Six hundred is a little tiny lot full. My husband had 3,500 head. My dad had three and four thousand head of sheep when they went in the sheep business. But when they started in the United Order, Brother Cowell had 600 head and he came from Heber City. He had crossed the plains with his wife and buried the wife and three children on the plains when they came across with Brigham Young.

JH: Did you say he brought those sheep across the plains?

VC: No, he brought them from Heber City. He stopped in Wyoming and lived there a while. He had four children, and he buried a boy and two girls and his wife when they came across the plains, and he got here to Utah with one boy, and that's all.

JH: That seems like a hardship.

VC: It was. It was terrible. Then he lived in a town, I guess it's still there in Wyoming, named Carrollton, and that was named for him. He lived in Wyoming a little while and then he moved on down to Utah and lived there the rest of the time. He married a woman and she left him and went with Johnston's Army. When Johnston's Army came into Utah, a lot of the women that was tired of being in polygamy went with the soldiers. You knew that.

JH: Yes.

VC: They went to California. So Grandfather was a widower then and he moved down to Heber City and he married a sixteen year old girl and he was forty-five. They moved to Orderville and brought those sheep and joined the United Order. I read the letter he wrote to ask permission to join the order and they wrote back and told him he had to have a lot of property to turn in and I don't know how he ever joined the order, but he did.

JH: Maybe the Order thought that 600 sheep was a big herd.

VC: It was. That was a lot in those days. I guess that was about the first herd that came in. That's where they got their start. So anyway, that's the way we ended up being there. They had thirteen children and he was forty-five and she was sixteen. And Henry's dad used to tell me that his mother was a regular saint, and I believe it. She'd be the one that had to have all the correction and everything of all those kids. The Carroll name is very well known all through Southern Utah and I guess in the state, quite a bit.

JH: When you were growing up, your school work was more than just at home. What do you remember about going to school?

VC: Well, we had two rooms. One had the first to the fourth grade, and we called them the lower room and the upper room, because the school I went to in Glendale was built up down here and all the little kids went down here and then

you went upstairs and went to the other four grades. I remember that the bell would ring and we'd have to line up out in the yard and march in. We always sung for a half hour or an hour before we started classes. I still remember the songs my first grade teacher taught me. I still remember her name and how well she played the harmonica.

JH: Would you share that with us? What was her name?

VC: Myrle Shipp. She was from somewhere up north close to Salt Lake, but I don't know what town. But we didn't have any electric lights or anything. At night, the town was black as it could be. I have laughed since, because I thought Miss Shipp was trying to be brave cause we always knew when she was coming down the street after dark because she played her harmonica real loud.

JH: Is that like whistling in the dark?

VC: (laughter) Right. And you could hear that harmonica playing and you knew Miss Shipp was going by. She just loved to play the harmonica, and she taught us a lot of cute little songs. My girls that have taught school since, the one in Salina teaches first grade and she's taught all those little songs to her little first graders, all those old songs we used to sing.

JH: Do you have a favorite?

VC: A favorite song?

JH: Yes.

VC: Oh, yes, "Little Brown Brother." About two little seeds that grew up and the little brown brother and the little babes that was lost in the woods. Jackie Frost that run around the house. I know lots of songs.

JH: Would you sing one of those songs for us?

VC: I'm afraid I couldn't sing. I've kind of lost my voice lately. I'd just love to sing it to you. Mary Lou might be able to. Madeline could do it if she was here cause she's taught and taught her kids. I could just tell you the words to them.

Little Brown Brother, two little seeds that lay in the dark. And one little seed said to the other, Little Brown Brother, oh Little brown brother, are you awake in the dark? here we lie cozy all close to each other. Hark! I hear the song of the lark. Wake up, the lark says, wake up and dress you. Put on your green coat so gay. Blue skies will shine on you, sunshine caress you. Wake up, it's morning, it's May. And then the other little seed talked back to him and he said, Oh, little brown brother, little brown brother, What kind of a flower will you be? I'll be a poppy all white like my mother, please be a poppy like me. What, you're a sunflower? How I shall miss you when you've grown golden and high I'll send all the bees up to kiss you, little brown brother, Good bye.

JH: That's great lyrics.

VC: It was cute. We loved it. Madeline loved it. Her kids liked to sing it in school. She said the other day, you can't learn to read well--people who read well learn to sing first. She has her kids sing every morning before they start classes.

JH: She may have heard that practice from someplace, huh?

VC: Well she surely is a good teacher, huh, Mary Lou? And all her kids learn to read before they come out of her first grade. She's a really good reader, a good teacher.

JH: You know, you just used a word, a "reader." What do you remember about learning how to read?

VC: I don't know. I just always have liked to read and always did read, and my mother always read to us. I always did like to read. I've never had any problem. I started to tell you how we went to school. We always had sleds, and in those days you were lucky you didn't have to live with those horrible knit stockings. You know they knit all our stockings, and they scratched awful bad. I hated them. It would snow and we didn't have any way to open up the roads. They didn't open up trails or anything and lots of times after it froze real hard, we'd walk right on the top of the snow to school. I remember that good. We had lots of fun in school. We had lots of school parties, Valentines. We played lots of games like "Steal the Flag" and "Sister Purlue" and "Here We Go Gathering Nuts in May, " Blind Man's Bluff." We had lots of games at recess and lots of fun.

JH: I haven't heard you mention any boys' names.

VC: Oh, I had lots of boy friends I liked, and I had some I didn't like. One, I chased him home when I was in the fourth grade. He used to just wait and hit me and push me down or something, then run for home as fast as he could go. He lived across the street from the school house. I got sick of it, so one day I chased him and caught him when he got on his porch.

JH: Those fourth grade boys can be very disagreeable.

VC: Well he was miserable and he scratched me and stuff. So his mother heard him yelling and she came out with the broom and chased me, and I run for home and she chased me almost home. She didn't catch me. She would have hit me good and hard. He was one I didn't like, though. Then when we went to Orderville to school, they finally got a high school and they only had three grades, they didn't have four. When we went, we'd come down and stay a whole week just like the

kids come to college now, and then go home on the weekend. Four miles. And we went down and stayed all week.

JH: Who did you stay with?

VC: A place we boarded. The lady took borders. We just went down and paid our board and stayed there and stayed till the week was up and went home and stayed on the weekend for Saturday and Sunday, and then went back. Then they got a bus that they run to school so we didn't have to stay there. We could go up and down. I saw the bus not many years ago still over on the lot over by the graveyard where the man had that old bus there. It was drawn with horses and it had a seat sitting like me and you, facing each other. About ten kids sat down this side and ten down this. When you came to the road where it was steep and awfully muddy, we had to get out and push. Sometimes we were dirtier when we got home than you can believe, cause it was muddy to push the thing up the road. But we went down there to school and then when we got out of the eleventh grade, the thing that was bad about it was we couldn't finish up high school. So all the kids that could afford to go, went up to the BYU. And I went up to the BYU a year and took two units in high school to finish my high school and the rest in college in freshmen. And a lot of the kids did that because we couldn't do anything else. Two kids graduated from Valley from the Orderville High School. The teachers got together and gave them enough units, took them one by one, taught them. And two of them, Joe Bilander and Maggie Blackburn graduated from Valley, the first graduates that ever graduated from there. We had a good dance orchestra. I played in the dance orchestra.

JH: You played the piano?

VC: Yes, I played the piano, and I had a lot of fun doing that. And we Glendale girls decided we wanted a band of our own, so we organized our little band in Glendale and when Governor Dern was the governor, we went out in the street and played for him. I've got pictures of me over home with the Governor

standing there with the Glendale band. I played the drums in that. I like music. I like to play. Then I went on a mission after I was grown up, old enough. I went to the BYU and then I went home and then I went on a two year mission for the Church and played for that all the time when I was out there. I enjoyed that.

JH: Where did you serve your mission?

VC: In Central States under Samuel Bennion. He was really a good teacher. I loved Brother Bennion.

JH: Where were you actually located?

VC: They had five states in the mission at that time. In the mission home we had eighty-five missionaries and they said that was an awful big group. We had five girls and all the rest elders in the mission home at that time. We had Kansas and Missouri and Texas and Oklahoma and one other state. Texas now has three or four missions by itself. But in those days, we just had one. I spent the last six months of my mission in Texas. I spent thirteen months in Kansas City, Kansas, and six months in Kansas City, Missouri.

JH: Tell me what you were doing. Were you proselyting?

VC: Oh, yes. Oh, yes. And I made some converts to the Church and I'm just really happy. I've heard a lot about them. I've kept up with them. They wrote to me every year and came back to visit me and everything. And they've only been dead just a few years, the one bunch that I had. Oh, I thought a lot, I really enjoyed my mission. I just enjoyed it. And almost everybody that I went with, all the missionaries I worked closely with are dead now. Just me that's left.

JH: In some ways, that's a good thing to be able to outlive them all.

VC: Well, I don't know if it is or not. When I got there, President Bennion made us all have our hair way long. And down to Short Creek where they wore their dresses clear down to here no matter what the style is and have long hair, that's the way he had the girls look. When I went out I was twenty, and he didn't have anybody under twenty-five. I had my hair cut off and I looked like, well he said he thought I was from the heart of Babylon. He was right upset. He wasn't there when I got there, and Sister Bond, the lady they sent me to be under, she was over us, she said, I don't dare let him see you. I said, What's wrong with me? She said, oh dear, everything. (laughter) So when he came over to a party after I'd been there two weeks, she introduced me to him. She said, This is Sister Brinkerhoff. Well, he was so good to me and he was so nice to me and he just took me by the hand and welcomed me. Then Sister Bennisbond said, President Bennion, I don't think you understand. She's the new missionary that came while you was gone. He said, Bless my soul, I had no idea you were a missionary, and he was mad at me and he just stepped back. He said, I thought you were from the heart of Babylon. And then he just turned around and walked. He thought I was an investigator and he was going to save me or something. He walked up through the hall and sat down on a bench all alone and he looked mad. So I walked up right behind him and sat down and said, You don't like me, do you? He said, Oh, dear. That just surprised him cause nobody dared to say anything to him.

JH: What was his clever response?

VC: He said, Oh, bless your heart. Then he pulled my hair and he said, let your hair grow, will you? He said, I just can't believe that you're a missionary. He was so good to me. He took me everywhere with him all down to Texas and everywhere. And I played because I could play for them to sing, and he just loved that. He called me up and I'd invite him over to dinner and he came over and sat on the orange crate tipped upside down. Just loved to visit with us.

JH: There are ways to tame these lions, aren't there?

VC: Well, he was awful good to me. He treated me special. He wouldn't have done. I've seen him send missionaries right out of the middle of conference to wash their face cause they had too much rouge and makeup on. (laughter) I didn't want to be one of them.

JH: I'll bet. Well, you spent two years out in the mission field and you came home. What were you doing then?

VC: What was I doing when I came home? I was going to go into nurses training, and I wrote a letter to LDS and they wrote me back and said it was January and they said you'll have to come in in April when the new class starts because we're filled up. And they couldn't take me. So I got married in May. I married my old boy friend. He waited till I came home from my mission. I was almost twenty-three and he was twenty-five. Our doctor said that was just the right ages to get married.

JH: Probably right.

VC: I don't know about that. But we were married sixty-five and a half years before he died.

JH: That may be his proof that that was a good thing.

VC: So we stayed together quite a long time. We had lots of things in Orderville, if you want to know about what they did. I wish that you could find--I asked our bishop that had been in for years, I said, Bishop, what happened to the old "Mutual Star?" They did a "Mutual Star" in Orderville and I never heard of it anywhere else. They had a big volume, and every month they give it to a different couple to write in. And that was the whole history of the town, all the

babies that were born and everything that happened. And in the first Mutual of the month, they got up and read it in the Mutual.

JH: Let's stop for just a minute and let me turn this tape over. It's blinking on me.
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JH: Let's talk about this Mutual Star.

VC: The Mutual Star was really nice. They went down the roll and they had each couple got to keep it one month, and then the next month the next couple took it to write in. I said to the Bishop, what happened to that, because that is the best diary you'll ever get. He said it was all sent in to the head of the Church and it's somewhere in their archives. That is the best you'll ever find of whatever went on in the town. Because they had a lot going for them and they did a lot of things. The United Order, I didn't ever get born quick enough. I was born in 1906, so that was after the Order left. But they had a big soup kitchen and all of those kids that ate there had to be excused, and they had to learn manners and they'd have to say, "Please Auntie Harmon, I'm done" before she'd let them leave the table. We heard lots of things they did. I think they had quite a close knit bunch. One thing they did after I moved down there that they've not done anywhere else that I knew of, they had an old time orchestra. It's been still going until now. There's only one man left, and he's a lot younger than me, that played in it to start with. They had violins and harmonicas, and mandolins and guitars. Then they'd load the organ on this flat rack. And as soon as it was good and light you could see and Mary Lou remembers them going up and down the street. They'd go around town and play all the old things, you know, and we just loved to hear them. They would pass everybody's house so you could listen to them. I thought that was fun. Now at the senior citizens center, they still have the old time orchestra go up. And a lot of them are still playing and a lot of them are dead, but there's not very many of the old ones that was playing, but some of

their kids are, you know. They're still playing the harmonicas. Most of them are girls that are in it.

JH: Let's see, you got married in May.

VC: I got married in May.

JH: Tell me about learning to live and work with your companion.

VC: Out in the mission field?

JH: No, at home.

VC: Oh, with my husband?

JH: Yes.

VC: Oh, my husband expected me to work good for him and I intended to do it. We had a big herd of sheep and we had lots of shepherders and lots of hired men. One man, he was Henry's uncle, and he was quite old and he was such a nice old man, and he did love homemade bread, and Henry said it was my duty to keep in homemade bread. And Henry didn't like any kind but homemade. He liked regular old homemade bread, and we didn't have bread mixers like you do now. We just made it without. But I always kept Uncle Jody in homemade bread because he liked it and Henry thought he should have it.

JH: Keeps him strong for work.

VC: I always did lots of canning. I've got shelves and shelves of jam and fruit over there still. A lot of it will have to be emptied; it's getting old. Anyway, I did lots of jam for the herd and I always did at least a hundred quarts of peaches.

JH: Were they local fruit?

VC: We had some good orchards and we raised a lot of our own fruit and peaches and things, but lots of it came from Dixie. The Dixie people would come up with their fruit. When I was just a girl at home, we would see the Dixie peddlers come, we'd call Oh, here's a Dixie peddler. We were so happy because they would be coming up the road and you could tell them as far as you could see them. The tunnel road wasn't built until they finished it up after I come from my mission, that went down through Zion. They had to come over the sand and up through the sand and they had a covered wagon. And the wagon covers were just as red as they could be with the red sand. We'd look down and see them coming up the street, we could tell who they were and they always had teams. Then they got so they had old trucks that pulled them. We would run out with tubs and buckets and buy all this fruit, and then my mother and I would have to stay up half the night getting it peeled and ready, because half of it was awful ripe by the time they got here. It would take them ten days to come up. It took a long time.

JH: Really? Did you ever travel that Short Creek road?

VC: I've traveled the road quite a few times, yes, but never in a buggy. Henry, when we was out on our land out on the desert, we had to go down the trail where they went down to take the lumber that did the St. George temple. I've been down that road a lot of times, and it's not a very good road now. You can get down it, but I imagine I don't know how those people ever made it in those days.

JH: You have to watch your step even today.

VC: You bet you do. You bet you do.

JH: We are talking about the 1920s.

VC: I was married in 1929.

JH: So it was the thirties. So it wasn't too long till they built that road, was it, up through Zions.

VC: The road was partly built when I got home. One of the men that used to come wherever I was speaking, because we had to go all over the stake and speak, and he used to come to listen to me talk. He wasn't a Mormon. And he was one of the head men. That's how I can remember when they finished it so well, because he'd come to Kanab to listen to me talk.

JH: Was he on the construction site, you say?

VC: Yes, he was in charge of some of it. That's when they finished the road up was after I got home.

JH: Do you think you influenced him for good with your sermons?

VC: I hope so. I hope it helped. I don't know. But he said he always liked to listen to me speak because I believed everything I said.

JH: That's wonderful. Let's go on a little bit with your life. What was it like being in Orderville after all that time in Glendale? I mean, did you notice the difference between the two communities?

VC: Oh, there's lots of difference in them.

JH: You'd served a mission. You could have thought of yourself as being as good as they were then.

VC: I always thought I was as good as anybody (laughter). I didn't know any different.

JH: Good for you.

VC: I thought I was fine.

JH: Did you have to persuade anybody?

VC: What, to join the Church?

JH: To think of you as being as good as they were?

VC: Well they just knew, they thought it. I didn't need to tell them. I just thought I was doing okay. I never could have a birthday party. I felt bad about that, because my birthday's the twenty-fourth of July, and we had three days of celebrations.

JH: What if you thought of it as your birthday was being celebrated by everybody?

VC: Well, that's why nobody would go to a birthday party. I had one birthday party in my life, and that was after I was married and had two or three children. And the girls my age all came and had a potluck supper and came and yelled "surprise." And it wasn't on my birthday, it was a different day. And they said this is for your birthday.

JH: Maybe it was your unbirthday.

VC: I thought that was wonderful cause that was the first party and the last one. Well, we had a party. We have parties now cause Mary Lou sees to it. We had

one last year on my birthday, but they used to have horse races and everything. Three days of celebration on the twenty-fourth of July, they did.

JH: That's great.

VC: Orderville did one other thing that I like to think about it because I thought it was fun. They didn't have any electric lights, of course, in those days. I told you that, or telephones. My great grandkids say, Grandma, you're a real pioneer, aren't you? I said, yes, because I was here before any of the roads or anything else, the telephones or anything. Well, Orderville decided they'd put in a plant. Now Henry's family put in a thirty-two volt plant and so we had to start the motors up and have them running every minute while we were trying to do things. But Orderville put in a plant of their own and they built them a little building that looked like a Eskimo igloo. It's been only tore down about five years. Anyway, they had three or four motors in there and the man that run it, every night at six o'clock he'd turn that on and at twelve o'clock at night, at fifteen minutes to twelve, he gave us a wink and we knew we had fifteen minutes to get whatever we were doing finished up and light our coil oil lamps and get ready for night, cause the power went off and there was no more till the next night at six. So we would wash at night and get our washing all fixed and in piles and put here and there so we could hang it out in the morning. We never heard of a dryer. All we had was washers, and we were awful glad to have them.

JH: That sunshine is sure nice as a dryer, though.

VC: Oh, you bet. We had big clotheslines, and there was five of us that lived where we could see each others clothes lines and look over here and see hers. And we just had a race to see who could get our washing hung out first. And that was fun. We thought, oh, we were so smart if we could beat the rest of them, you know. (laughter) I remember getting my washing on the line and looking to

see if Arvilla beat me or Della or whoever, and Elsie, my sister-in-law. We'd have a big race to see who got it done first.

JH: Any short cuts that you ever took to beat them?

VC: No, no. I don't know about that. But I remember once when Mother Carroll, she had all of her sheets hung out on the line and she had cottages for rent and she had a whole line full of sheets, and the line broke and let them all done in the dirt.

JH: Oh, that hurts.

VC: I know. It makes me upset when I think about it now. We had to get all that gathered up and that was awful hard to get all those mud stains out. That was miserable. But they did a lot of things in those days. And they had lots of quilting parties. Another thing Orderville always did, if you said we had to make our own recreation. Every month we'd put on a three-act play.

JH: Who was the director?

VC: Well, the Mutual was the ones that had it. I don't know who asked us to be in it. I was in a lot of them, and the last one I was in was "Ten Nights in a Ballroom."

JH: Sounds risqué.

VC: Well, we had twelve men in it and one little girl ten years old and me. That was all the women, the girls that was in it. My husband's cousin, the one that was the bishop so long--he passed away just before Henry did, four years ago. He said, can't you remember? I was the bartender. And we laughed about that. I'd forgotten that Joe was the bartender. And he was our bishop for twenty years.

JH: Well he'd be careful with the portions, wouldn't he?

VC: Well he wasn't the bishop when he was the bartender. He wasn't married then. But we'd have one of those plays and everybody in the valley--Alton, Orderville, Glendale, Mt. Carmel--they all came to all the plays. And we'd have them two or three nights. It was really interesting. That was a good thing of recreation. You had to make your own fun, cause there was no movies or anything to go to. Then they got so they had movies. And another thing we had, you wonder how we got our dental work done and everything. The dentist used to come with his dental chair loaded in the back of his old pickup and come once a month. He had a house where he always stayed with this lady and put up his chair and we all went to the dentist.

JH: So he'd unload the chair into a house.

VC: Oh, yeah, he'd unload the chair and take it in and do our teeth and stay as long as he had business. Then he'd go on to the next town. Dr. Foutz.

JH: Did he come out of Salt Lake or ...

VC: I don't know. His name was Alonzo Foutz. I know that he pulled some of my first teeth I ever had pulled. He always came and stayed at the same house, and we always waited for him to come. If you had a toothache, that was awful tough. Somebody had to pull it with the wire nippers, or whatever.

JH: Did the dentist have any form of sedative to help people endure the pain?

VC: I can't remember him giving me a shot of any kind. I don't know what he did to other people. I don't know what they did.

JH: What about medical attention? Was there a doctor locally or was he itinerant also?

VC: We had midwives that delivered all the babies. I was delivered by a midwife. They would come and stay with you a whole week or ten days. They just come and stayed right at your house. Then we had a doctor that was in Kanab, Dr. Norris, and he was there for years. He was a good old guy. Then we had Dr. Aiken that came in, but we never had the medical care that you have now, and we had no hospitals or anything.

JH: I met Dr. Aiken.

VC: Dr. Aiken was a real character. I liked that man. I liked him a lot. I liked Dr. Norris. He was really a nice old man, too. When I went on my mission, we had to have physicals before we went and be checked, your heart and everything to see that we were well. I was over in his office, and when he got through checking me out, why he put his arm around me and led me to the window and said, look over there. And sitting along on the side of the building of the pool hall sat all this row of men. There was five or six of them sitting there whittling, you know. They didn't have anything else to do. He said, And I don't know what's wrong with your Church (he wasn't a Mormon) sending you clear out to Kansas City and places when you ought to be converting some of them. He said, why don't you stay here and make them have something to do? I thought of that a lot of times. Now we do have missionaries that's in all the towns. But it's a big change from what it used to be.

JH: Did he know that the "Spit and Whittle" club down there on the ground wasn't really too interested in the Church?

VC: He knew it. He knew them real well. He lived there in town with them. He was a good man, a good old feller. But there was a lot of the guys that didn't do anything but just sit there and waste their time. He thought I ought to be over

there converting them to the Church. I'll bet they'd have let me. They wouldn't have listened five minutes, would they?

JH: They'd have invited you to sit down and spit and whittle.

VC: Maybe (laughter).

JH: Or go inside and play pool.

VC: Oh, dear, I wouldn't be any good at that.

JH: Tell me about the Relief Society organization in town while you were there

VC: The Relief Society has always been real strong and we still are. They are one of the best organizations in the Church as far as they really work hard. I was Relief Society president, and I've been Primary president. But I've been Relief Society president and I was a visiting teacher for seventy years, awful lots of talk. I know that Mary Lou spends an awful lot of time working for the Relief Society now. I don't work for them now, but I did until I was eighty-five.

JH: That's a pretty good time to have spent.

VC: That was a long time to serve. But they've done a lot of good, and when we were growing up, the Relief Society took over with the people, most of them died at home, cause there was nowhere else. And they'd get pneumonia or whatever and die. And even when I was president, why we had to go sit up with the dead people and soak your cloths in salt peter water and put on their face so they wouldn't go black. You'd have to keep the faces covered with wet so they wouldn't turn black. I've done that a lot of times.

JH: Did you help prepare the dead in those occasions?

VC: No. The older people, it was my grandmother and my mother and them did, but I don't remember doing that. I think some of the priesthood did most of the men and they did the women. Dr. Aiken wrote a book and you should get his book if it's still available. He had another one almost ready to print when he died. And I sure would like to have had him finish it. But he told all about going to Alton to this lady who was sick and they thought she was dead, so the Relief Society took all their things down to the school house and got ready to bury her, cause they knew she wasn't going to make it only a day or two. The men made the casket and had it done and the women were sewing on all her clothes and stuff, and she came to and decided she wasn't sick and she got out of bed and walked in in the middle of when they were making. That's in Dr. Aiken's book. (laughter)

JH: Trust him to include a story like that.

VC: He thought that was fun. He got a big kick out of it. She walked right out in the middle of the deal and told them here she was and they had her things all ready to bury her.

JH: Well, it's kind of nice to review it before the actual event.

VC: Oh, dear. Well, I guess I'll just wait till the time comes. I don't know if I want to get reviewed. Well, we had lots of work in those days, but I just told Mary Lou, we had a big cellar underneath our house and things kept cool. But even when I was in the mission field, and it's not been that long ago, the iceman came every morning and brought ice and put in our ice boxes to keep our food cold. And we didn't have refrigeration like they do now or anything. Things have changed so much, you wouldn't even believe you was in the same world.

JH: Sure, it's amazing, isn't it?

VC: It is amazing. And we had big pans. We'd pour our milk in the pans and let the cream rise, skim the cream off and put it in a thing and put it in your churn, and we had a churn that went up and down like this. You made your own butter. My mother's family moved up on the mountain and lived every summer, and they salted down their butter, made it and salted it down and kept it. They made all their butter and cheese for the winter for their big family of thirteen kids. How they did all that, I don't know, but they'd move up there and live every summer and do their things and bring it down. We'd have our cellar that was cool, but it wasn't ice cold, but it kept our things from getting sour for a day or two or a meal. And we had our own buttermilk and everybody drank buttermilk, but me. I didn't. I didn't even taste it cause I knew I wouldn't like it. So I didn't try it. But they'd drink buttermilk and milk, and then everything that you didn't use, you fed to your animals. You killed your own pigs, had your own pork and did your own lard and made your own pies. We didn't have any kind of shortening except lard that was rendered out. We made our own headcheese, did a lot of things that you people haven't ever heard of and you wouldn't like it if you did.

JH: I can remember headcheese.

VC: Can you?

JH: Yes.

VC: You didn't like it, did you?

JH: I did like it.

VC: Did you? I didn't like it. It was too greasy for me.

JH: We would fry it, and it would really taste good fried.

VC: Well, a lot of people liked it. I didn't. I never learned to make headcheese. I've seen my mother make it a lot, but I wasn't too old and I didn't ever get in on that. I've made cheese. I made cheese quite a bit after I was married.

JH: I like cheese curd.

VC: Curds. Henry did too. That was the way he liked his.

JH: Henry was a sheepman, wasn't he?

VC: Yes. He was in cattle a long while. He went and changed to cattle later. We had sheep. I remember when he sold the sheep, we had shepherders that came and stayed with us and they'd come in. We had one that came for his vacation and he always stayed with me. I said, is he going to go home and stay for his vacation this time? And Henry said, Oh, yeah, he'll go stay with his mother. She lived over to Hatch. And he stayed with his mother one day and came back, opened the door and threw his hat in and said, Mrs. Carroll, can I come in? He came in and stayed a while and he liked to get him a bottle when he came to town. He'd stay out for months and then he'd come in and the first thing he'd do was get him a bottle of wine or something. He come and handed me that and said it's half full; don't let me have it. He said no matter if I tell you, why don't let me have it. I said, now you mean that, don't you, cause you know you tell me you won't have it, I won't give it to you. So it wasn't even twenty minutes till he was back saying please, Mrs. Carroll, may I have it. I said nope, and I didn't give it to him.

JH: Did you get him to stay on the wagon?

VC: No. He was well on the wagon until he got back in on the next furlough. He didn't drink when he was out to camp, but when he got in town, he felt that was what you was supposed to do, I guess. Oh, dear.

JH: What else did you do to help Henry with the stock? Did you ever herd sheep?

VC: I didn't herd sheep. No. I've gone with him to the herd a lot of times. Like I told Mary Lou, when I was out to the sheep camp with him and I guess her, too, she's gone with him a lot. When we were out, why he always did all the cooking and all the dishes and everything. We never done anything in the camp. But when he was home, he never done anything at home. I always did all the cooking and everything at home and dishes. Nowadays the men like to go cook and stir up food and stuff, but he didn't like to do that. He just liked to eat it when I got it done.

JH: Tell me how he made baking powder biscuits.

VC: He didn't. He made sourdough. Sourdough biscuits was what he loved. They didn't do baking powder. The last years of their life when they'd trail the cattle from Orderville and up on the mountain clear down into Toroweap and on the Strip, why he'd always have his sour jug going and he'd do the cooking for them. They'd always have sourdough biscuits and lots of meat in the bake ovens and potatoes and whatever. I never did learn to cook with sourdough. A lot of people make hotcakes and everything with it, but I never did. Henry made a few hotcakes with it, but mostly he made biscuits.

JH: Did you like to cook?

VC: I loved to cook. I still do. I've always loved to bake.

JH: So you think maybe bread is your strong...

VC: Bread is really good. I make really good rolls and I make excellent pies. I'm a good cook, huh, Mary Lou? I've always been a good cook.

JH: Tell me the secret of making good pie crust.

VC: Well, if you wanted to make really good pie crust, I learned to do it in the mission field from one of the missionary boys. His mother taught him. My mother made good pie, but I think I made better, but maybe not. Anyway, if you use half as much shortening as you do flour, and I always use just a little baking powder in mine. And you make really good and don't handle it after you get it done. Mix it up with your ice water and be sure that you don't work it. If you knead it like bread, it will go tough. Don't do it. That's the way to make good.

JH: Does it keep those layers in when you don't knead it?

VC: Yes, you can mix it together and get it so it holds its shape good, just so it will roll out good, but don't keep on working with it to make it look like you do when you make bread.

JH: That sounds good.

VC: Well, it is good. You run home and make a batch of pie for your wife, and she'll be tickled.

JH: I don't think she'd be able to survive the shock.

VC: Try it and see. Try it and see. You might be surprised. But guess what, you might get to do it the rest of your life.

JH: That's what I'm afraid of.

VC: If you had to make it all the time, maybe you wouldn't like that.

JH: Mary Lou was saying that you should tell us about Dave Harris making pumpkin pie.

VC: Oh, he made the worst pie. Oh, it was awful. My grandmother canned all this squash and pumpkin and he used to come, he was an old bachelor and he'd come and stay with my grandfather. My grandmother was dead. So they went in the pantry and found this pumpkin. I don't know how long it had been up-- forever. They got it down and Dave decided to make pumpkin pie for the town. Grandfather came down and said, I want you to come up and have a piece of Dave's pumpkin pie. He's got it made and we want everybody to have some. I didn't let him cut me too big a piece cause I was afraid it wouldn't be good. All he had in it was sugar. It had pumpkin, but I thought I'd die before I could get that eat. He put that in. He just put that old squash that was miserable and put a lot of sugar in it and put in the pie shell and his pie crust was like baking powder biscuits. I mean sourdough. He's used to making sourdough biscuits.

End of Tape 1