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MH: Ok, today is the best day, huh? February 14, 2012. I'm in Panguitch, Utah with Art Cooper. Thanks for being willing to meet with me for this. And Art, if I can get you to introduce yourself, your full name and then the date you were born, where you were born, and a little bit about the family you were born into.

AC: Alright. My full name is Jed Arthur Cooper. Jed was my father's name and Arthur was my grandfather's name. So I got the two of them. I was born on January 22, 1933. It was 1/22/33. I was born in that house right across the street, over there at about 2:00 in the morning. And it was 29 below zero that night. We had no hospital; Dr. Bigelow had to deliver babies at home. And he just got back from deliverin' me and Vane Sanden had to get him out of bed to go deliver old David. David Sanden So the two of us were twins through school and elementary grades. I think Dr. Bigelow must have thought that was a bad night. 32 degrees below zero.

MH: [laughter].And I suppose it happened plenty of times because there was no hospital then.

AC: No, no hospital.

MH: Did Dr. Bigalow work out of his house? An office sort of thing out of his house?

AC: Yes.

MH: And where was he located in Panguitch?

AC: Well, Dr. Bigelow; he built what's now the Red Brick Inn. And then that's where he had his office, one thing another. I think that's where I had my tonsils removed the first time. When I was 18 months old, Dr. Bigalow took my tonsils out.

MH: Yes. Did they ever tell you why you had to have your tonsils removed so young?

AC: Well, they were inflamed, I guess, or something. Then they grew back in when I had rheumatic fever when I was nine; Dr. Haymen took 'em out again.

MH: So rheumatic fever, it's something you can be immunized for right?

AC: I don't think so. As I understand it, its caused by a bacteria or something that's related to streptococcal infection. But anyway, I got it when I was nine years old. Missed the last two or three weeks of the third grade, all of the fourth grade.

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MH: So, it really held you up then? I mean, it held you from going...

AC: Well, I was right in bed for six month and I got up in November and I thought, well, I could just take right off. I went to take a step and fell over in the chair. I had to learn to walk again. They wouldn't let me go to school all that year. I missed the fourth grade entirely. Then they said I could go on into the fifth grade with my regular class if I could keep up. I didn't have any problem keepin' up so I went right on with them. I just missed the fourth grade.

MH: Were you still doing the schoolwork probably, at home?

AC: No, I didn't do much schoolwork. I did a lot of reading though. I just, I don't know... I've got a cousin the same age as I am that we kind of get together. Here a while back she says, "Art, you never were a kid."

MH: [laughter]

AC: See, when I was in the second grade, when I was seven years old, I heard my dad talking how he didn't think Franklin D. Roosevelt ought 'a be elected to a third term and he used a couple of words that intrigued me. One was "indispensible" and the other one was "precedent". So, I asked him, I said, "What do those words mean?" So he explained it all to me. So I went right down to school and started to try and convince my second-grade classmates that Roosevelt shouldn't have a third term [laughter].

And then four years later, in 1944, I was listenin' on the radio and I heard New York's governor, Thomas E. Dewey, and his resonant voice captured my attention. I loved listening to him and what he said. I was convinced that he ought to be the president of the United States. So I got Ambrose Buyers, the Garfield County Republican Chairman, to give me some campaign material and I had a Halloween party and then after the party I gave this material to all of my friends that came to the party to distribute around town. So, I got involved in campaigning pretty early. And then Ambrose, he was so intrigued with my interest, you see, that from 1944 on until I graduated from high school he made sure that I attended every county Republican convention. And he took me to Salt Lake to attend every state Republican convention.

He'd get permission from the sergeant in arms up there for me to sit on the floor with the other delegates from Garfield County. So I was right in the height of my glory going to those conventions.

MH: And youthful too.

AC: Oh, yes. And in 1948, that's when Dewey ran a second time. He ran against Truman. And I went up to the republican convention with Ambrose and others. I got back at the hotel on the radio we heard that Tom Dewey was going to be landing at the Salt Lake airport the next day at 1:00. He was in route back to New York from Oregon where he had participated in a debate with Harold Stassen that was broadcast nation-wide. Stassen had won a couple of primaries

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before that but I remember listening to that debate and Dewey did pretty well in that debate and started to pull ahead of Stassen again after that. But anyway, I called Ambrose. He and his wife was staying at his wife's sister's place there in Salt Lake. I said, Ambrose did you hear that Dewey was going to be at the Salt Lake airport at 1:00 tomorrow? And he says, "Yes. We ought to be there, hadn't we?" He says, "I think we had." So we went to it. And I got to shake hands with Dewey.

MH: Really, that's so wonderful.

AC: And what was funny was that there was a photographer there from the *Deseret News* that took a picture while I was standing there by Dewey. There was another kid there in front of me that Dewey was signing an autograph for him or something and I was behind him. And they ran this picture on the front page of the *Deseret News* and they didn't identify. It just said, you know, supporters greet Dewey at the Salt Lake airport or something or other. And you could see recently-elected Senator Watkins is behind there and everything. But anyway, Jim Crawford that was the owner/editor of the *Garfield County News*, he called the editor of the *Deseret News* and had them send a mat of that picture down and he ran it on the front page of the *Garfield County News*.

MH: Oh, good. You have a copy of it. Nice!

AC: With the heading on it 'Panguitch boy greets Dewey in Salt Lake City.' So I have a copy of that.

AC: There's the *Garfield County News* and that picture on it. Here I am, see. With Dewey. See what he wrote down here. It's kind of interesting [laughter].

MH: "Arthur Cooper, 14." Cool.

AC: He's got the age wrong. I was really 15 at that time [laughter].

MH: That's really great. It sounds like you were interested in other things than most kids.

AC: Well, yes. And it fact, I read some of those books like the Hardy Boys and those things but I also at the same time was reading things like Courtney Whitney's biography of Douglas McArthur. I'd read...You know, Tolstoy, the Kazaks, and stuff like that. As a kid I was reading that stuff.

MH: Impressive. So, tell me a little about your family. What was your dad's name?

AC: Well, he was Jeddie Cooper. It's really interesting that both the Coopers and the Henries were the first settlers in the second settlement of Panguitch. Panguitch was settled in 1864 and then due to the Blackhawk War, Brigham Young had people in some of these towns move farther up North. So, they abandoned the town in 1866. And then in 1870, Brigham Young he said it ought to be resettled again so he called George Sevy in Harmony or somewhere down there. He says, "You get a group together and come and resettle Panguitch." And then they got here in March 1871. And my great-grandfather Henrie and his mother, my great great-grandmother,

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they were in that first group that came. And my great-grandfather Cooper also came at that time, but he left his family down in Panaca and then he went back and got his family and they got back here in the summer of '71. So on both sides... see my father was Jeddy Cooper but his mother was Mary Henrie. And she was a daughter of this James Henrie and so both sides of my father's family settled in Panguitch during that second settlement in 1871.

MH: And were the Coopers converts?

AC: It was interesting that my... I taught for years down at the University of North Texas and I used to tell my students, well, I'm not a native Texan but my Texas roots go back as far as any of you here. They'd say why is that? And I said because my great great-grandfather Cooper's family lived down near the Houston area of Texas, a place called Spring Creek at that time. Now they call the area Spring and it's a suburb northwest of Houston there. Anyway my great, great grandfather's family was one of the first families to study with the first LDS missionaries that Brigham Young sent to Texas. And his family was converted when my great grandfather and his wife were a newly married couple. And all of them migrated from that area of Texas to the Salt Lake Valley in 1853.

MH: So they were converts from America.

AC: Yes, from Texas. You betcha.

MH: Well, the Cooper name is interesting to me because my father-in-law mother's maiden name is Cooper. And so I was kind of wondering where you're folks hailed from. I believe they were more from the Kansas area.

AC: Well, you see, the interesting thing was that Cooper was pronounced "Cooper" [u:] in the North and "Cooper" [ʊ] in the South. So my people pronounced it "Cooper" [ʊ]. I grew up it was "Cooper" [ʊ] here. And in about, oh, let's see... it must have been about 1947 or '48 during the horserace meet here one year there was a fella, J.H. Cooper that came from Lubbock Texas that came and he had a racehorse. I can still remember; a beautiful racehorse. It was a black horse named Bondice. I was down visiting with him. My dad used to like to go down after work at the store and visit with the horsemen and stuff as they came in for the race meets. And this guy says his name was Cooper. And I said, "Cooper, how come you pronounced it Cooper?" He says, "Everybody in Texas pronounces it Cooper, see." Well, that's why we pronounced it that way. Then, of course, as people started to come through in here from other places, they pronounced it Cooper. They says chickens don't live in a cup, they live in a coop. So you're name's Cooper. But so it was interesting to me when I was an early teenager there to find out from this guy the way they pronounced Cooper in Texas. Of course, they don't do that now. Nearly everybody pronounces it Cooper down there because of all the people that have moved into Texas from the North.

AC: My father's father died a few months before my father was three years old. He was only two years old. And that left his widowed mother with three boys and a daughter that she raised. And

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she was, later in life she was legally blind, and so the family...were very poor, economically, very poor. But my dad, even as a little boy four, five, six years old, he loved to go in the store. He thought the greatest thing in the world would be to own a store. Well, of course, most people would say well Jeddie Cooper will never be in a position to own a store. But anyway, when he graduated from high school, he went out to sheep herd and he herded sheep for a full year and he earned enough money to go up to Salt Lake for a year pay rent and board and one thing another for a year.

So he went up there and enrolled in a two-year business course at the LDS Business College and he went for a year and then he came back down and went out in the herd for another year to earn enough money to go up for a second year up there. And he went up and he completed that two-year business course at LDS Business College. And then as soon as he got back home, Ira Hatch, who owned the Hatch Mercantile in Panguitch at that time, hired him to manage the Hatch Merc immediately. So he started to manage the Hatch Merc and he did so until 1934 when he and his brother-in-law, Tom Scow, went into business for themselves at the S and C Mercantile, Scow and Cooper Mercantile.

And anyway, it was interesting that my mother had come to Panguitch to board with her sister and brother-in-law, Uncle Wilford and Aunt Ruby Rowe. She got a job at the Panguitch Drug Company, Earl Marshall hired her see. So she worked there. Dad was managing the Hatch Merc and so they met and that's how they got together.

AC: She was from Antimony. And when she came here it was during prohibition so they... she said Earl Marshall had a sign up in the Drug Store that said, "Near beer sold here. No beer sold near here." [laughter]

MH: [laughter] That's a good one.

AC: It went like that. But anyway, that's how they got together.

MH: Some of the CCC boys I had interviewed came over here to get their liquor. They'd have 25 bucks to send home and 25 bucks they would buy other things, they were mostly from not around here.

AC: Well, I think it's interesting. Talking about the drinking of alcoholic beverages and one thing and another, this fellow was a native from Tropic and then he lived up North and he came back down here a few years ago and he put that saloon down on North Main Street. And [laugh] four of five years ago he closed it. I was visited with him and I says, "How come you closed that?" "Well," he says, "I know people in Panguitch drink. They just won't drink in Panguitch." [laughter] And so the building is still there and not in use.

MH: Right. It's true. It was all in the backwoods. You go on dirt roads now and you see dirt roads lined with beer cans. It happens.

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AC: Oh, yes. In fact, you see the Lions Club once a year, every spring, we clean up three miles north of town on the highway and twice a year, every fall and spring, the city council and city employees, they clean the trash off of the lake road up here going for a ways. It's amazing the number of beer cans you pick up, you see.

MH: Yes, and you can recycle them now so it's worth some money.

AC: Oh, yes. That's one of the big projects of the Panguitch Lions Club is recycling aluminum cans.

MH: Is that money you use for the new eye glasses program, is that the Lions Club?

AC: The Lions Club is involved in collecting eye glasses and things like that but they're involved in many other things too. In fact, it's amazing what the Lions Club accomplishes here in Panguitch. It's the latter part of December that marked the 82 years since the Lions Club was chartered in Panguitch. My dad was one of the charter members. And he also served as President of the Club in about 1946 or in there.

MH: So he was a real community activist?

AC: Well, when I was about two years old he was elected Mayor of Panguitch. And he was mayor when they installed the water system that they have now. It was reworked again a few years ago, but when they put the water system in he was a young mayor [laughter]. He was, my dad, was quite a character. He [laughter]... when he was a mayor and they were putting the water system in, people would call him at night sometimes and say, "Jeddie, is the water gonna be off tomorrow?" He said, "I don't know. I'm the mayor. I'm not the engineer." And so after a few weeks of that, he called old Wes Walton, the local telephone man and he says "Wes, get up here and get this damn phone out." [laughter] And he had Wes come up and take the phone out and he didn't have a phone put back in until he was not mayor anymore. So he was an interesting guy that way.

MH: How large was your family? There was Jeddie and your mom's name was...?

AC: Her name was LaVerda. They called her Verda. Yes, they just called her Verda or Verd. Montague. Montague, well, she and our side of the family always called it Montague [French pronunciation] and all of her sisters and her one brother and everybody they said Montague. And I figured, well, it's a French name. It should be Montague. And then I found out in one of Shakespeare's plays there's a Duke of Montague or something and they pronounce it Montague. So there was an English pronunciation too. So I just call it Montague now since everybody else did, see Montegue.

MH: She was from Antimony and working at Panguitch Drug. And he was a merchant?

AC: He was managin' the Hatch Mercantile. Then, you see, it must have been what about 1926 or '27 that he graduated from LDS Business College and moved here. And so operated and managed that Hatch Merc for a number of years. And my earliest memory is when I was about

nine months old. A lot of people say, "Oh you can't remember when you were nine months old." I *can* remember when I was nine months old because I wasn't able to walk yet and Mother would clean what they called the cleaning towels down to the store. She'd wash 'em. And I remember one morning that my cousin, Theeda, that lived next door to us there, that she picked me up in her left arm. And I still remember, I had a little sweater on that was kind of a light tan color. I think my mother used to call that color pongee or something. I don't remember. But anyway, she picked me up in her left arm and picked up that sack of cleaning towels that Mother had washed in the other and went down to the Hatch Merc.. And I still remember goin' in and seeing those colored dresses on the... you know, they used to have colored house dresses hangin' on the pipe there. And I remember that really well. And then this ol' feller with a white beard standin' out on the steps out in front there. I later learned that his name was Hy Barton. I know I wasn't a year old at that time. I was only about nine months old. And when I was two years old, I remember when we went down to Salina because a couple there that were Dad and Mother's friends that they were ladies of Panguitch, Clem and Etta Davis. And he was an engineer and they were living in Salina for a few months at that time. And I remember I was just two years old then, but I remember that their daughter, Mary, that was about three years older than I was, so she'd have been about five. They had chickens in the backyard or something and so they had wheat down in the basement and they had wheat in sacks stacked up over here and then they had wheat, they'd open the sack and there was wheat around that they dipped out there see. And I remember Mary would put her little rabbit house shoes on and get up on those sack and jump up into the loose wheat. And I remember that so clear. And my folks they used to say, "Well, you can't remember that." Well, yeah. You never did tell me that. So that's right.

No. See, so I can remember way back really well. I guess I was blessed with a kind of a photographic memory because as I went to school, you know, in college up through graduate school I never took notes. I would [laugh] read the text book and I'd underline important points in the textbook and when we'd have an exam and there was a question that had to do with something, I could see in the textbook I could see that page where it was discussed and where I'd marked it. Or if it was a question that the professor had covered in a lecture, I could remember the day he covered that, see him standing up there... So that's the way it is. So the only time I ever took notes on anything was like in chemistry or something where you had to take down the formulas and stuff like that. But other than that...

MH: What about brothers and sisters?

AC: Well, I was an only child until I was ten years old and then my sister was born. And there was just the two of us. So my sister, she lives back in New York. She married a New Yorker what 25 or 6, 7 years ago. They live back there. After my mother passed away and my sister married this feller from New York and moved back there and I lived in Texas, my dad says, "I think it's a hell of a note when you've only got two kids and one of 'em's in New York and the other one in Texas."

MH: [laughter]

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AC: [laughter]

MH: So what's your sister's name?

AC: Well, her name's Cleone, but she was always called Toni. She had the night...well, she was born about six or seven o'clock in the evening and she was having some problems with breathing or something and that next morning she was having some problems and so we called a neighbor, Wallace Houston. And he got somebody and they came and administered to her, you know, like in the LDS church you have that. Well, they had to name her before they could administer to her see. So we had to come up with a name pretty quick and I think my dad liked Patricia and Mother didn't care for it and I didn't care much for that name at that time. So anyway somehow Mother said, how about Cleon? and we thought that went well with Cooper, see. So we named her Cleon Cooper. But Dad never would call her that. He got to callin' her Toni when she was really young and so she grew up by the name of Toni. So now on the back of Dad and Mother's headstone at the cemetery where we list children, I got my name there and then I put Cleone and then quotation marks Toni.

MH: Tell me some of the things you did growing up. Did you spend much time outdoors or were you really a book worm [laughter]? It seems like you like to read.

AC: I started to play with Grant Houston when I was three and he was four. They lived in the big brick house down here on the corner. We lived over there of course. And now Grant lives in a house two doors down this way on that street and I live here.

[laughter] For two or three years now I've been his home teacher so we visit a little bit. We don't play much. Anyway, what was interesting was that my dad had the store down there, see. He was a merchant at the S and C Merc, Schow and Cooper Mercantile. It's interesting, when they started that store, it didn't take time until the old timers referred to the S and C as skin 'em and cheat 'em; S and C Merc. And it's always amazed me how they could start a store in the midst of the Depression and make a go of it. But they did.

MH: Yes, not a lot of cash then.

AC: Well, no. And that's why the main stores here all put out scrip, what they call scrip. Have you seen scrip?

MH: Well, I've heard about it. Actually, I saw some Dorothy Houston had.

AC: Yes, well I'll show you. I'll show you a set that the S and C put out.(see photo)I thought the S and C scrip was the prettiest because it was the fanciest shape.

MH: Yes, it's got a sort of flower, a square, and then a clover on each coin.

AC: And I often wondered if Dad ordered it with those different shapes because his mother was blind and she could tell by the shape of it what it was.

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MH: Right, what denomination it was. Interesting.

AC: Anyway during the thirties and forties, they used a lot of scrip in town. Now it was suppose to be able to redeem it at the store that issued it, but all the stores, even though they didn't use scrip, would accept it. The drug store would accept it and the theatre would accept it for picture show tickets and one thing and another. So during the Depression or during the thirties and early forties, why, when money was in short supply, they used a lot of this scrip.

MH: How would you get the scrip?

AC: Well, the store that put it out would buy it, you know. In Salt Lake, they had it made up. And then people would come and they'd bring their eggs or they'd bring butter or they'd bring whatever to the store and then get scrip for it.

MH: Right, so then they could use it to buy toilet paper or... Scrubbing detergent, flour.

AC: They could get anything they wanted at the store with it.

MH: So really they had to have something that they would trade for the scrip.

AC: Right.

MH: Ok. And so a lot of the type items that were sold in your father's store would come from the local community then.

AC: Well, some of the groceries and stuff they'd produce that way.

MH: Some of the fresh stuff.

AC: Yes. Most of it came... they'd get it, we had salesmen and sometimes call 'em drummers. The salesmen would come from Salt Lake, you know, ZCMI or Scowcrofts in Ogden or whatever and you'd have a salesmen that would be a hardware salesmen. Another one would be a dry good salesmen and one thing another. These salesmen were, I don't know, I think my dad had an ability to really make friends with people. So he'd make friends with these salesmen and they became very good friends with our family. I know Jimmy Bateman was a Scowcroft man, dry goods man and he'd schedule to be here always on the opening day of fishing season and come again two or three times during the summer to go fishin' with us.

MH: Now is Bateman a local name? Did they end up moving here?

AC: Well, Bateman's a local name now, but that's just because Cheryl Bateman married Richard Church and moved here about twelve years ago or so. But Bateman's not a native name here. You know the big names in Panguitch? I think that's kind of interesting. They talk about the five H's and that's the... that's the interesting thing about the people that came in that second settlement you see. I told you that it was a Sevy that Brigham Young had called to get the group together to come. But anyway, some of those early families seemed to get most of the land, you

know, first. They became the wealthier families in Panguitch. And they said there's the five H's: the Henries, the Houstons, the Hatches, the Heywoods, and the Haycocks. And then you added to that the Tebb's and the Sevys. You go around town and you see these red-brick homes that were built when they put the brick kilns here and they hired people and paid them in brick and one thing another. If you look at the big ones, the bigger ones and you'll know that they were either started by one of those five H's or a Tebbs or a Sevy. [laughter]

MH: Right. Now I've run into the Sevy. Oh, what's her name? Well, I interviewed Mary Henrie and I think it was her sister, a Farthingham.

AC: Yes, Ruth Farthingham.

MH: Vera? But it was Mary's sister I thought. (Fotheringham)

AC: This was Mary Henry that died about four years ago. She was 101 when she died.

MH: Right. Yes. And it was her father that was the first... or he was a legislator.

AC: Yes, her father was Tom Sevy.

MH: Tom, yes. And so how far back is that for Sevy family, a couple generations back?

AC: Oh, they came... the Sevys came in 1871, the second settlement. See, Tom Sevy Sr., he was the leader of that group.

MH: That's what I was wondering if it was Tom Sevy Sr. the Tom Sevy that was Mary's father? But yes it's so interesting. But there are some good stories they had about the Sevy's being here.

AC: Well, I don't know who Haycocks are... see the interesting thing is that I'm related to a lot of these folks.

Because my great grandfather Henrie, James Henrie was one of the Mormon polygamists that had three wives and thirty kids.

And also adopted an Indian boy, Sylvester, that they called vet. So if you count him, they had thirty one kids. And then you see who they married in the families and stuff. You know the Haycocks, one of the Coopers. One of my Grandfather Cooper's sisters married old Tom Haycock and so all the Haycocks are cousins you know. Another one of those Cooper sisters married a Proctor and so all the Proctors are related and then all the Henries that they're related to. It's a fact that I can go to any public gathering in Panguitch, whether it's a funeral or a sacrament meeting, a basketball game, whatever and I can look around and immediately see five second cousins. I can look for another thirty seconds and see another five [laughter].

MH: Back to your family, you had a sister. And you have a lot of memories from your dad's mercantile, the store.

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AC: Yes, a lot of memories from working in the store. I never did work as an employee in the store but I helped out there. I never was on the payroll see. I just, I guess I had a lot of pay but I was never on the payroll. But, oh, I have a lot of good memories from the store. I got a kick out of a slogan that Dad and Uncle Tom had in their store. They said, "If we haven't got it or can't get it, you don't need it."

MH: [laughter] that's a good one. "You don't need it."

AC: [laughter] And anyway, right after the war, 1945, it was March of '46. The war ended in the fall of '45 and then in March of '46 Dad bought Uncle Tom's share of the store. And he and Mother operated it from then until they sold it in 1975.

MH: Right, so how old was he then when he bought out Schow?

AC: Well, let's see, he bought him out in 1945, so three from five, two... Dad was 42 when he bought Uncle Tom out.

MH: Now Schow, I remember a few Schows from Escalante.

AC: Yes.

MH: And they're, one of them was a mail carrier. Mail was a big thing.

AC: Now, my grandfather, Art Montegue, carried the mail from Junction into Escalante back in the 1920s.

MH: From Junction?

AC: Yes, from Junction into Escalante.

MH: Oh, so he went over the mountain.

AC: Yes. [laughter] There are a couple of funny stories there. You know when I was campaigning for the legislature; I was elected to the legislature 53 years ago last November at the constitutionally minimum age of 25. But I'll never forget when I went over to do a little campaigning. I was in the Air Force at the time so I couldn't come out and campaign until... I had two weeks accrued leave time. And so I took that two weeks, about ten days before the election and came out and made my rounds.

MH: Well, I'm going to assume that you were out of the Air Force by the time you became a legislator [laughter]

AC: No, I was still active Air force. Well, yes. That's another strange thing see.

MH: We were talking about the mail.

AC: Well, about the mail, you see, well I was out over there to campaign and I went into Blake Robinson's Pool Hall over in Escalante there and some of these old fellers. They're all dead now. I mean, everybody that voted for me 50 years ago is dead now. [laughter]

AC: Anyway, I went in there and was visiting with some of those old fellers there and I told them who I was and I says now I haven't much experience in Escalante but my grandfather used to bring the mail in here. "Who was your grandfather?" I said, "Art Montegue." Oh, they says, "Art Montegue." Old Burt Roundy, he was one of the old fellers there and he says, "Damn," he says, "If you're Art Montegue's grandson you got my vote even if you are a Republican." [laughter]

MH: [laughter] Really, they weren't Republican over there, huh?

AC: Well, I guess he wasn't after the statement he made.

AC: Then they had to tell me a story about my grandpa over there when he was carryin' the mail and it was one I'd heard before in the family. They said that one day when he got in there with the mail that Sariah Alvey came up to him and says, "Mr. Montegue, could you catch a magpie for my son?" [laughter] My grandpa said, "My god, woman, what do you think I am a bullet hawk?" [laughter]

MH: [laughter] A magpie, how odd.

AC: Those fellows over there in the pool hall, they had to tell me that story about him. Anyway, I left thinking I had their votes and I guess I did pretty well.

AC: Another interesting story, one day when my grandpa was pulling the mail out of there, some kid from Escalante some boy probably in his mid-teens rode out with him going somewhere. And they got up on the Escalante Mountain and they said this boy looked out there and he says, "Oh, Mr. Montegue, I didn't know the world was so big." [laughter]

AC: I guess he's never been out of Escalante before, see.

MH: Yes, that's the interesting route...

AC: Oh, yes. They went over the mountain and down by Widstoe.

MH: Yes, Widstoe in the late twenties just disappeared. It just, they got rid of all the cattle and what have you. Well, that's really interesting so....

AC: I'll tell you another funny story about when I ran for the legislature. See I was in the Air Force and I had been overseas. I was over in Saudi Arabia. When I got home on leave, several people here said, "Well, Art, our legislative post here (at that time Garfield County was a legislative district) is in Democrat hands right now. You know, Nathella Griffin from Boulder is the representative and we think if you'd file for it we could get it back in the Republican column."

MH: [laughter]

AC: And I said, "Well, if I file," I said, "and if another Republican files I won't have enough leave time accrued that I could come home and campaign before the primary. But I would have a couple of weeks by the time the general election that I could come out and campaign. " Well, they says, "if you'll file we don't think there'll be another Republican file," see. So I filed and then of course I was a single man at the time and I took my mother and we went over to recruit some people to kind of campaign for me, work for me in the different areas. I got some good people for me. In Tropic, I wanted Sam Pollock and John Johnson and I got both of them on my side.

AC: Yes. He served in the legislature years ago. But anyway, when I went to Sam Pollock's house [laughter] I said, "Now Sam, I've filed for the legislature." He says, "You have?" And I said, "Yeah." He hit me on the back and he says, "That's great. That ol' woman will have about as much chance as a harelip in a whistlin' contest."

MH: [laughter] Oh, my goodness.

AC: And to this day, that's the only time I've ever heard that phrase. As much of a chance as a harelip in a whistling contest.

MH: Nathella, right?

AC: Nathella. She was Nathella King originally. Her maiden name was King and then she was Griffin when she was in the legislature. Then later she married Woolsey.

MH: Now, Nathella ran her father's ranch for a while.

AC: Yes, she may have done and I understand...

MH: And she was a school teacher, I think.

AC: Yes, I think so. And after she was in the legislature, she served a term in the legislature and then I defeated her and served a term. Then I got married and I graduated from the U and I couldn't get a job teachin' down here in Garfield County so I had to move out of my district and couldn't run for election. So when I couldn't run for election, Nathella ran again and she got elected again.

And then she married a Woolsey. And they tell me that she was the primary person that got the water out to the Escalante Cemetery. That was a great thing because these cemeteries are nice after they get water and grass and stuff, but they're not much before they do.

MH: Yes, they're really like... there's an old cemetery out at Georgetown and it's a very sweet cemetery, its small. Yes, but it really could benefit from some water.

AC: Oh, I've been there. Yes. Several years ago when I was out there, it looked to me like they were getting some erosion on the west end of it there. Afraid if that kept up it might get into some of those graves.

MH: Yes, because that kind of sand it shifts above ground but it also moves this way as a mass.

AC: Yes.

MH: Yes, I'll have to go up and take a look at that.

AC: I went to [laughter]... you know, I didn't know about Georgetown until LaMotte Houston died and had his funeral. I went to his funeral. I don't know, it's been what six, seven years ago. Anyway, on the funeral program it said interment Georgetown Cemetery. I thought Georgetown, the only Georgetown I've heard of is one of the suburbs of Washington D.C.. Wouldn't be taking him back there to bury him. And then at the end of the funeral program they said now we can't go in the funeral procession all the way from here so we'll meet at four o'clock at the Cannonville chapel and go on to the cemetery. Well, it must be close to Cannonville [laughter].

MH: And really that was the first time you'd been out there?

AC: Yes, I'd never been to the, I'd never even heard about the Georgetown Cemetery. I'd been to Cannonville but I'd never heard about the Georgetown Cemetery. And then a couple of years after that, about four years ago now I guess... three or four years ago. As I get old, the time all melds together so I never know how long it was ago.

AC: I thought well I'd like to go out there and see that Georgetown Cemetery. So somebody kind of told me where it was. I got there on the road and just was goin' out of Cannonville and I didn't turn quick enough. I went and I came and I saw a road to the right so I got on it. And I figured well this is the right one. And I kept goin' and no cemetery came. I just kept a goin' and a goin' and I thought well, this is the wrong road, but I've never been on this one. I guess I'll go see where its goin'.

AC: So I kept on it and I kept a goin' and finally I got to a place and it said Kanab down this way. I don't want to go to Kanab so I kept goin' this way. Finally, I got to a place where there was what you call a kiosk or something there that the Grand Staircase Escalante Monument had put up. So I stopped and look at it and there was a map on it. It showed you where you were and I thought well I'll just take this road and go this way. And I come out at Alton then. Yes, I had been taking the Skutumpah Road see.

AC: I'd never been on that road before, never before. But anyway so I took it and I thought I was going to Alton, but apparently I didn't turn quite to the right quick enough and then a little bit I was on a hill and I was lookin' down and I saw a town there. I says I didn't think Alton was that big. I kept goin' and I got down into that town and saw a road sign that said fourth north or something. Well I'll go this way and that will get me to wherever they're countin' the streets from. So I got down there in a couple of block and I looked right and I could see a highway. I'll go over to that highway. So I got over the highway and I still didn't know where I was. I turned right and I went a little ways and then I saw the Smith Hotel.

AC: So I knew I was in Glendale. Finally it came on. So I had quite an interesting trip that day but I didn't see the Georgetown Cemetery. So I went back a few weeks later and saw the Georgetown Cemetery.

MH: That's a great story. I love it.

AC: I got to see Skutumpah. I'd never seen that before.

AC: But you know growing up here in Panguitch was really something. My cousin that lived up the street here, the same age as I was, Ardeth, the one that said I never was a kid [laughter], we quite often when we're visiting will comment that we don't think you could ever have a better childhood and youth than we did growing up in Panguitch. And I remember interesting things. I remember in the spring of 1941 when the lightning struck the elementary school building down here. That was really something. I was in the... Hilda Foy, she later got married and was Hilda Gardner, but she was Hilda Foy when she was my second grade teacher. We were in one of the basement classrooms there. Bang, hit, you know, and our door was open out into the hall so you could see and we saw this ball of fire roll across in there you know.

AC: It didn't set anything on fire. It just disappeared. But this big bang and what can I say huh. Miss Foy said, "I think that was just Mr. Riding lit a match." [laugh] Mr. Riding was the custodian; see only you called them janitors then.

AC: She said, "I think that was Mr. Riding lit a match." And just then we could see some shingles falling onto the ground outside the basement window there. Ole Karl McCallister said, "Match be damned. I can see shingles falling." He took off and went out. The rest of us went out in an orderly fashion, but Karl was long gone by [laughter]. "Match and be damned," he said.

MH: So how big were your classes then? Was it still one class then?

AC: When I was in elementary school here, in each grade there were two classes. There were two classes in each grade. Oh, I had a terrible time when I started first grade. I had a worse time though when I started kindergarten. That's another interesting thing about kindergarten, this was back before they had public kindergartens in the state, you know.

AC: And here in Panguitch, they didn't ever use the word kindergarten. There was two spinster ladies, Miss Paul and Miss Grow that were presiding over the waning years of the Presbyterian mission and they had a little red brick church down its where the canyon motel is down here now. And I guess they operated a little Sunday school or something there. But the main thing they did is they operated a kindergarten during the school year, kindergarten. So we looked forward to when we were five years old so we could go to Presbyterian. To us Presbyterian meant what kindergarten means. We didn't know it was a church or anything.

MH: Right, well that is so interesting.

AC: So I turned five years old and couldn't wait. I remember holding my mother's hand as she took me down to register me for Presbyterian, see. Oh, I thought that's great. Gonna go to school now and learn something.

MH: Miss. Grow, was it spelled G-R-O-E or W?

AC: I think just G-R-O-W and then other one was Miss Paul. And they had an adopted daughter, Marilyn Paul Grow. Nowadays there'd be some suspicions and stuff about that but there wasn't in those days see [laughter]. Marilyn was about two years older than I was, I think two or three, Marilyn Paul Grow. But anyway I started to Presbyterian and I'd come home and get on the couch. It was great. Now I'm big enough to go to school. After about two weeks, we hadn't started to learn anything. All we'd do is play games, play with some toys, and had homemade ditto sheets that they'd made that we'd color. After two or three weeks of that, we're not making any progress here. We're not learnin' to read or write or anything.

MH: [laughter]

AC: So I told my mother, I say, "That's a waste of time to go down there to Presbyterian. I don't want to go there anymore. It's a waste of time." And she says, "Oh, you don't want to stop. It'd make Miss Paul and Miss Grow feel bad."

MH: The guilt trip.

AC: I said, "Well, I don't want to make 'em feel bad." So I kept a goin'. And then in October I was walking home you see and I'd always [laugh]... see it was about a block and a half to my dad's store and I'd go in and visit him a minute and get a cookie or something and then walk on home the other block and a half home. And this one day, when I got to the corner there they were pouring cement at the Texaco service station on the corner there. In the past, there'd just been a little cement right around the pumps but just gravel. But now they were putting concrete all around there. The old cement mixer, putt, putt, putt, and everything you know. So I stood and watched them a while, quite a while I guess. I got home and my mother said, "Well, where you been?" I said, "Well, I went into the store and saw Dad." She says, "I called down there and you left there some time ago." I said, "Well, when I got to the corner they were pouring concrete cement there so I watched them." She says, "Don't you know if you don't come home when I'm expecting you I worry about you." Well, I couldn't see why anybody would be worryin' about my walkin' home, you know. But anyway, I guess she mentioned it to Miss Paul and Miss Grow at the Presbyterian equivalent of P.T.A. meeting cause that one morning we got quite a lecture from Miss Paul and Miss Grow about the importance of going directly home after we get out of school. Then Miss Paul said, "In fact, if I hear of anybody not going directly home in the future, the next day I'll take them home in a baby buggy." Oh, I thought now that's it... she's really interfering with my life if she thinks that I can't watch a little sidewalk construction or something without the threat of bein' taken home in a baby buggy. So I told Mother I says, "No. I don't want to go back any more." "Well, you don't want to make Miss Paul and Miss Grow feel bad." Well, by this time why the homemade ditto sheets were beginning to have the holiday themes

in 'em see. So I thought ok, I'll go on back there. So I did. I went and kept... we still weren't learnin' anything we were just coloring those things and playing with toys. Most of the toys had been donated to these two ladies and so all of the little cars and things would have a wheel or two missin' and the puzzles would have two or three pieces missin' and stuff. So I told Mother, "I've got better toys at home than they got down there and we're not doin' anything." "Well, you don't wanna make Miss Paul and Miss Grow feel bad." So anyway, I kept goin'. Well, we were making these cut-out; one day they had one of these little ditto sheets was designed to make a bell-shaped Christmas Card the bell this way and opposite this way and on one of them they had a roughly-drawn Christmas tree. They were made so when you cut 'em out and fold 'em over it'd be a bell-shaped Christmas card see. Well, they passed it out and I took my crayon and went to work on it and I painted the Christmas tree what color? What's a logical color to paint your Christmas tree?

MH: Green.

AC: Green, absolutely. So I painted that green and I took my red one because I knew that the Christmas colors were red and green, see, and I started to paint the background around it red. Miss Grow came by, "Who told you to do that?" You know, Miss Paul might have been a good Presbyterian lady but she did a little fib right then. She looked and saw what was happenin' and she said, "I did." But she hadn't told me to do anything. She was just trying to make Miss Grow feel better or something. But anyway, that was the straw that broke the camel's back see. I thought, well, now anybody ought 'a know that the Christmas colors are red and green and could paint that thing without bein' told to do it and how to do it and stuff. So I went home and I told my mother about it and I says, "Now, I'll go 'till we have our Christmas party and the Christmas break, but I'm not goin' back afterwards." And I didn't. I wouldn't go back. I became the kindergarten drop-out.

MH: Right on.

AC: Then afterwards sometimes Dad would come home and he'd say Miss Paul and Miss Grow came in the store today and they said they'd wish you come back. I'd say, "Well, let 'em wish. I'm not going back." [laughter] And in February Dad came home and said Miss Paul and Miss Grow came into the store today and they said to tell you they're gonna have a Valentine party and pretty Valentine box and stuff... "That's all right. I'm not goin' back." So I'm a kindergarten drop-out.

AC: Well, but I started first grade you see and that was wonderful after the first day. It was the two teachers in the first grade, Von Daley was one of them and Mabel Hatch was one of 'em. Well, Vaughn Daley and her husband Frank were good friends of my dad and Mother so I knew Vaughn really well and so I couldn't wait to get to her first grade. I was down there that first morning and they divided up the first graders. Man, I was in Mrs. Hatches. Oh, boy that really upset me. So I came home and Mother wasn't home.

AC: I knew she was probably over to Aunt Ruby's so I started over to find her over there. And she was coming home and we met right here in the middle of this block. I was upset and kinda

crying and one thing another and Mother said, "What in the world's a matter?" "I didn't get put in Vaughn's class." [laughter] She says, "Well, we'll see what we can do about that." So that evening we went down to Vaughn's and she said, "Well, I've got an extra desk in my room and its fine if he wants to come there in the morning, why, he can come to my class." We went down to Mrs. Hatch's and told her and she says that's fine. So the next morning, I went into Von's class and loved school from that time on through to my graduate work. In Panguitch, I had great teachers. And they wouldn't last in the schools ten days now because they were disciplinarians, you know. Back when you were suppose to have discipline and so on.

AC: Yes. Well, when I missed the fourth grade and then I started fifth grade, I had Caesar Meyers as my teacher. Cesar Meyers, he was a great teacher. He was gettin' old by then but he was a great teacher but he was a disciplinarian. I'll never forget one morning; old Jud Farmer was acting off there. We had a geography book that was not a thick book but it was big pages but thin. Then we had a history book that was not as big as pages but it was thicker. Mr. Meyers, he'd call Jud down a time or two and Jud kept... Mr. Meyer just went up and he picked up the big geography book off of Jud's desk and put it to one side of his head and picked up the history book and wacked him on the other side of the head. [laughter] I don't know whether Jud learned any history or geography out of that or not but he didn't mess up in school anymore. Then the next year, I got John Crosby. He was a great character, John Crosby. He had a farm, a little farm. He was a farmer and a teacher ,together. But he [laugh]... the only thing about John Crosby that I didn't care for was his politics. He was a staunch old Democrat, see. And that year I had him in the sixth grade was the year that Dewey ran against Roosevelt. Roosevelt ran for a fourth term, see. Well, anyway, Mr. Crosby, anytime the pencil sharpener didn't work or the map didn't pull down right or anything went wrong that way he'd say this confounded thing's gone Republican on me.

MH: [laughter]

AC: So that year, every time I'd turn my spelling paper in you know and put the spelling words down then I'd put around the edges I put "Vote for Dewey. Dewey for president." [laughter]

MH: [laughter] That's funny.

AC: But he liked me, see, because he liked good students.

MH: Right, well, you were intelligent.

AC: So at the end of that sixth grade they gave a standardized test for all the sixth graders for something. I placed eighth grade, eighth month on it, see. John Crosby thought that was jut all right. He was a real character. He loved to tell stories. He was a great story teller. And he'd take five complete days, morning and afternoon, five days to tell us the story of *The Little Shepherd of Kingdom Come*. I don't know whether you're familiar with that story or not. It took place in West Virginia during Civil War times. Oh, he could tell that. I'd sure like to have a recording of him tell that.

I don't know where the chapters were. He'd just get goin' until he got all the way through it. The reason he liked it is that he served an LDS mission back in West Virginia years and years ago see. So where this took place, he was familiar with it. Oh, he can really tell the stories. But he had a, his index finger on his right hand was crooked. He'd point that to people you know if they were doing something he wanted to get their attention or something. I remember one day, oh Millard Scow wasn't doing what he ought to or something and Mr. Crosby pointed that crooked finger, "Boy, boy, you can't get this stuff ridin' old grey down the river lane."

MH: [laughter] Riding an old grey down the river lane.

AC: Yes, you can't get this riding old grey down the river lane. But the funniest one was one day JoAnn Dowdel was not payin' attention or something. He pointed that finger, "Girly, girly, if you don't start payin' attention you're gonna find yourself suckin' the hind tit." [laughter]

MH: [laughter] oh my goodness.

AC: I thought that was the funniest thing and I didn't know the significance of that statement see. My dad was a merchant. He wasn't in animal husbandry and stuff. And it wasn't till years later I understood the significance of that. But anyway, he got her attention. He told her you better start payin' attention.

AC: [laughter] Oh, they were all... I only had one poor teacher in Panguitch after I got out of Presbyterian see. I only had one poor teacher and that was in the ninth grade and I had him two classes in a row. His name was Virgil Max Powell. And he was from up in Provo. I don't know how in the world he ever got a degree from BYU. He'd been in the army during WWII. He's kind of a weird guy; he'd come to school sometimes and he'd have the combat boots on and the fatigue pants with a dark colored dress shirt and white tie and a blue suitcoat. Just, I mean... really. He just didn't know anything.

MH: And so you went through high school. Were you on any teams or clubs?

AC: See when I had rheumatic fever, it hit my heart and I had a murmur in my heart and they wouldn't let me do anything physically strenuous as long as I had that murmur and I had that murmur for ten years. So from age 9 to 19 I couldn't do anything strenuous physically. And so I couldn't participate in all the athletic teams and stuff like that. But they were wise enough, the teachers and everybody, to get me involved as a scorekeeper or something you know at these events. So all while I was in high school I operated the scoreboard at the basketball games. I'd go sometimes with them on the away games and keep our copy of the book and stuff. So they had me involved. So that was good, but I did get involved in the speech work and so on.

When I was a freshman, Catherine Barney, she was kind of a new teacher. Catherine, I don't know whether you know Catherine and Vermon. They live here now. But anyway, she was the speech teacher. She came to me one day and she said, "Art, we're getting ready for the speech meets and stuff." She says, "I just don't have any students that would do well in

extemporaneous speaking. Would you consider entering? "I wasn't one of her students, you know. I said, "Sure. I'd do that." I don't remember what the... subject..., I guess it was a general area or something that fit it.

MH: Yes, extemporaneous is like off-the-cuff type speaking.

AC: Yes, just as you'd go to the contest just before the thing why you'd draw a topic. They'd give you about three minutes or so and then you'd have to get up and speak about it. Anyway, so I said, "Yeah, I'll do that." So I won in extemporaneous speaking on the district and went to the state meet, the state forensic meet, at the University of Utah. My mother went up with us. I was only in the ninth grade at this time, see. And we got up there and we ran into president A. Ray Olpin, who was president of the University of Utah at the time and visited with him a minute. He says, "Now, you're up here for what?" I said, "Well, I'm in the state forensic meet." "You're pretty young for that aren't you?" [laughter] I didn't realize at that time that nearly all the contestants at the state meet were either juniors or seniors because most of the speech was in those two grades.

So I was up there as a ninth grader you know. I scored well, I got excellence in extemporaneous speaking even as a ninth grader. Well, the next grade I was in the 10<sup>th</sup>. The next year I was in the 10<sup>th</sup> grade. Ol' Wallace Crosby was the student body president. He said he'd be interested in debate. So he and I said we'd enter in debating. And I also that same year did oratory. I wrote a speech. That's the only speech in my life that I've ever written out in entirety. Well, we got to the district, but we didn't get past the district in debate. But I did win in the district on oratory that year and at the state meet and the U I got a superior in oratory that year. I was a sophomore. I found out I was one of only two sophomores up there at the state meet that year. Then the next two years I went again in extemporaneous speaking and, of course, that's when I met kids from all over including Bob Bennett who was from East High School in Salt Lake. We became friends then.

MH: Are you still friends now?

AC: Still friends.

MH: Good, then you can introduce me to him. I need to speak with him.

AC: Yes, but he's not the senator anymore, you know. They tell me that the rural summit over in Cedar this last summer though late summer they say Bob spoke. I wasn't there but they tell me Bob did an excellent job speaking over there. Well, about three years ago while he was still the Senator, he sat right over in that chair while we were visiting here. With T

three or four other guys. You know, he's an interesting guy. His grandfather was Heber J. Grant. His mother's father was Heber J. Grant, president of the church. His wife's grandfather was David O McKay [laughter].

One day, well, for a couple of years my second son and his family lived up in Park City then they went back to Texas, but I flew up for Thanksgiving and visited 'em. And my son and his boy, that was a younger boy at that time, met us at the airport and Bob Bennett was there. I ran into him, you know. I said to my son and grandson I said, "Meet my friend Senator Bennett." I said, "Interesting thing about Senator Bennett, his grandfather was Heber J. Grant and his wife's grandfather was David O McKay." That was pretty good, you know. So, Bob said, "Yeah, my kids haven't got a chance, have they?" [laughter].

MH: Not a chance. So McKay came down here a few times didn't he?

AC: David O. McKay?

MH: Yes, I remember people talking about him coming down here visiting.

AC: I'm not aware of it. I think he'd driven through here a few times.

MH: Right, maybe it was earlier on, some of the earlier prophets that came through.

AC: Well, when they organized the Panguitch Stake here, Brigham Young was here, Brigham Young and three of the Apostles. They'd organized the Kanab Stake and then three or four days later they were in Panguitch and organized the Panguitch Stake. That was 1877. And so they went on back up North and they said President Young attended one more conference up there and then in the early fall of that year he passed away. He was here when they organized the Panguitch Stake because my great grandfather... and then you know that year, just that year, after that is when they settled Henrieville over there and they named Henrieville after my great grandfather James Henrie who was the new stake president just put in.

MH: Interesting, wow.

AC: [laughter]

AC: Oh, yes. And my great grandfather Cooper he homesteaded up at Panguitch Lake on the east side of it. When they built the dam in the 1920's they had made the lake big enough that it flooded his place. So all there is up there to remember him now is that one mountain there on the southeast side of the lake that's called Cooper Peak, was named after him. [laughter]

MH: Oh, very interesting. So did you spend time up at the lake then?

AC: Oh, when I was young why we spent a lot of time up at the lake. I'd go with my dad up fishing and after I had rheumatic fever I could... he liked to fly fish, you see. They wouldn't let me fly fish. That was too strenuous. So we'd go up earlier in the day and we'd bait fish and then I could fish do that way and then when it got time to do the fly fishing why you didn't anchor the boat then. You know, it would float around and dad would be flyin' castin' a fly and I would pull a flat fish.

Catch 'em that way. Oh, I loved Panguitch Lake when we used to go up there. And then every summer when my dad's best friend was Ned Miller, Uncle Ned and Aunt Ali and I was a big kid before I knew that they weren't really my aunt and uncle. But he was with him for, he worked in the bank here until the bank went broke from the depression you know.

MH: What was the bank's name?

AC: I think was called the, oh, it was the Garfield Bank or Panguitch... I don't remember. It was a large, two-story brick building down on the corner down there where Thomas Auto Repair is now. But anyway, they tore that down and put Nello Ipson's service station in there later.

AC: The bank went under when the stock market crashed and shortly thereafter. Ned had been working there. He was a young fellow and so when that went he got a job with the internal revenues service. So he and Aunt Allie, his wife, they sent them to Ohio first. A few months in Ohio and then they went to the Chicago office. They were in Chicago for a number of years. During vacation they would come out here in the summer, you know. That was a great time when Uncle Ned and Aunt Allie arrived because we'd spend maybe five days in a cabin up at the lake when they were here. [We'd] have 'em to dinner several times and all that kind of stuff.

But Aunt Allie liked Panguitch about as well as I do. I've always had some kind... I call it almost mystical attachment to this town. So wherever I've been on a mission or in the service or back in Tennessee doing graduate work or teaching at the University of Arizona, Texas or wherever I've been I said wherever I've been I've been I've been afflicted with a chronic disease known as the Pan-Goo Itch.

MH: Pan -Goo Itch [laughter]

AC: [laughter]

MH: And you had to come back.

AC: Yes, I finally got back. I'm lucky enough to get back while I'm still alive. So many don't get back until they bring 'em back to bury 'em out there. I got back while I'm still alive and it's been quite an 11 years since I've got back, 10 and a half years. I thought I was comin' back, you know, to be retired and what not and I'd only been back a few weeks and I went down to visit my only surviving school teacher I'd had here, Hilda Gardner, that was the Ms. Foy I had in the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade. She says, "Well, Arthur," she spoke to me like I was still in her second grade. "Arthur, you've moved back home to Panguitch now and we need you on the city council. I said, "Well, why do I want to get involved with that stuff now that I'm retired." "Cause we need ya." "I'll think about it." So every time I'd see her at the post office or somewhere she'd say, "Are you thinking about it?" So I decided as the summer was coming to the end of the year before the next municipal election I guess I'll tell Hilda that I'll file for city council if she'll be my campaign manager. But before I got to tell her that she was stricken with cancer and passed away. She only had one child, one son, and he and his wife lived up in Pocatello. So they took her up there to care for

her. And that's where she passed away that next February I think. So I was sitting at her funeral down here.

MH: She's probably chuckling.

AC: Well, it seemed like I heard her say just almost like she was actually saying it to me, "Now, Arthur, if you don't file..."

MH: [laughter]

AC: So I left the funeral sayin' well, I guess when the filing starts I'll file for city council. So I did and I was elected to it. I only got to serve half that term because the next year they said, now you gonna run for mayor aren't you. And I hadn't thought of that. I thought I was too old to do that. Actually, you know Vinney?

Vinney's the first guy that mentioned that to me. It was during, I don't know, a balloon festival or something. I was down there and he looked to me. He says, "Now, Art, you're gonna run for mayor aren't you." I said, "Vinney, you don't know how old I am." He says, "Well, doesn't matter, you ought 'a run." I just laughed it off. And then several other people... so I says, "well, I'll go talk with the mayor Janet to see if she is gonna run again and if she's not, maybe I'll file." So I went down to her restaurant and I talked to her and she says no I'm not gonna run for a second term. Says the time I've spent on the council [?] I won't have any...Alright, if you're not gonna run again, I'll file. So I did. Of course, Mac Oetting and Harshad Dasai, they filed. Harshad got seven votes I think in the primary.

MH: He's an interesting fellow.

AC: Interesting, well, that one word you can apply. A lot of others, too.

AC: So Mac and I, we were in the general election and I got 67% of the vote and became the mayor.

MH: Yes, is that what you're doing now? Are you still mayor.

AC: No, no, no. When I ran for second term, I got defeated by Janet who had been the mayor.

MH: Oh, right. She went back in and then she passed away.

AC: She decided a year later or four years later... she ran again. She didn't come talk to me like I went and talked to her. She just filed. She beat me by 21 votes. I had a hard time with that because Panguitch was incorporated in 1899 and in 111 years I'm the only proper elected mayor of Panguitch to run for a second term and be defeated.

MH: The only?

AC: The only one. Now, most of 'em didn't run for a second term. The half a dozen or so that did all got reelected for second terms.

MH: And then Janet ended... she was like midterm when she passed away right?

AC: Not midterm. She'd only got started. She only got to serve about six months there.

MH: Yes, who took over her spot?

AC: Then she got... Yes, lung cancer. Five weeks from the time she was diagnosed with the lung cancer she was dead. Lori Talbot was only on the council and serving as Mayor Pro Tem that year so they appointed her mayor to fill that term.

MH: Who's the mayor now?

AC: Lori Talbot. She had to run for re-election again because if a term isn't half over why you have to run for election for a short... to fill it. So she was elected to fill that last half for [?] term.

MH: That's interesting. So tell me about leaving high school to go to college.

AC: Well, that was kind of interesting too. When dad was going to LDS Business College, his best friend Ned Miller was going to the University of Utah and so in that four year time, Ned graduated from the University of Utah and my dad put the two years in at the LDS Business College and two years herdin' sheep.

So anyway, when he was up there, he would go with Ned to a number of events at the University of Utah. And he determined that if he had kids, he'd like to send 'em to the University of Utah if he could. So I kind of grew up thinking I wanted to go to the University of Utah. And going up for those forensic meets for four straight years and then Meredith Wilson who was the academic vice president at the time, he came down and talked with Panguitch High School on a university day one time. I was impressed with that. So I was just really looking forward to going to the University of Utah. Then there about midway in my senior year, the early spring or something, Milton Tew had a couple of... he taught social studies but he also had two classes, two periods a day morning that he served as a counselor. And then [laugh] I was taking short hand that year. I like short hand theory, but man there was so much practice on it you know. And so if I didn't have the practice all completed, I'd go into Mr. Tew's office and he'd give me some standardized test of some kind, of the time he was interested in you know. And then he'd make up a thing so I could take it to Mr. Wilson the next day to tell him why I wasn't in class that day, see.

MH: [laughter] that is so great.

AC: [laughter] Anyway, there was one day when I went into Mr. Tew's office, he handed me this announcement on the Henry Newell Scholarship to Stanford University. He says, "I think you ought to apply for this." I looked at it. I said, "Well, if Stanford was good enough for Herbert Hoover, I guess it's good enough for me."

MH: [laughter]

AC: But the main thing about it was if I applied for it, I had to go to Salt Lake and take a test at East High School on some Saturday. In those days, a trip to Salt Lake was quite a deal, you know. Sure, I'll apply for it. So I applied for it and he says as long as you're taking that test you just as well apply for admission and scholarship to Harvard too. He had the papers there. So I applied to both of 'em and I got admitted to both but I got a scholarship to Stanford but I didn't get one to Harvard. So I went to Stanford.

MH: Wow.

AC: For my freshman year. And you know, I loved the academic life at Stanford but I didn't like the ambience very well. Take a kid out of Panguitch, Mormon community, and put me down there. And I know this may be kind of funny but all my life as I was growin' up I hardly ever saw it but when I did I didn't like it and that was to see a woman or a girl smoking. If any of them did around here, they didn't do it in public. So you never saw a woman or a girl smoke. And I got down to Stanford there and it seemed like so many of the girls smoked or one thing another. And they even had some of the professors who'd have their classes sometimes at Rosatti's Beer Gardens and stuff. I don't know, just that whole business I...

I didn't like it very well, see. So old Dennis Dixon from Payson, he was down there and he'd gone there the year before I did. He was a sophomore that year. But he was kind of like me. I had desires of being at the University of Utah and he had desires of bein' at BYU. So that year, we decided we weren't going to apply for our scholarship the next year and come back to Utah and that's what we did. You know, you wonder about some of the decisions you make as prestigious as Stanford is, one thing another, did I make a mistake by not staying there for my four years of undergraduate? Because I could have had my scholarship for the full four years, you know. But I was happier back at the University of Utah.

And I decided that if you were interested in only doing what you had to do in your studies, you'd probably get a better education at Stanford than you would at the University of Utah. But if you were interested in learning as much as you could wherever you were, you could get just as much at the University of Utah as you could at Stanford.

And I don't know. I said there's... I can identify six men that played the greatest part in my development, see. One of 'em I wouldn't have had the experience of knowing if I hadn't of transferred and went to the University of Utah. That was Lowell Bennion, first director of the the Institute of Religion. ... Terrific, terrific teacher, one of the best I've ever had. That's the Mormon program of education for college students.

MH: Right, so it's like a seminary for college-age?

AC: Yes, college-age seminary.

But anyway, when I graduated from the University of Utah after I'd married, I was married the last year I was at the U, that's also the year I graduated from the institute. I was selected to

represent the graduates at the institute. So I gave a talk at the commencement there and I shared the speaker's platform with Henry D. Moyle, the first counselor in the First Presidency at the time. So that was kind of interesting.

MH: That's very impressive.

AC: But anyway, you know, there was my dad; obviously your father is a great influence on your development, so there was my dad. My Uncle Wilford Roe who was the bishop of the South Ward when I was a kid [laughter] by the way he was on the school board at the time I had that teacher Powell, the only poor teacher I ever had. And Uncle Tom Scow was president of the school board that year so both school board members from Panguitch were my uncles see. So I let them know what kind of a teacher Powell was and they didn't hire him back the second year [laughter].

MH: [laughter] Oh, my goodness.

AC: And then there was my Scout master, Jay Riggs. Jay Riggs' daughter is married to John Yardley here. He was a great guy. He was the Scout master. Then there was my mission president, Harold I. Bowman, terrific person. And then my major professor in my graduate work, Clifton Paul. Those six men are the men that were most influential in my development.

MH: Where did you go on your mission?

AC: The old Spanish-American Mission. Oh, at that time we worked with the Mexican population in New Mexico and Texas.

When I first went, the headquarters was still in El Paso, Texas. But I'd only been out about three months when they moved the headquarters from El Paso to San Antonio. I had an unusual mission experience too. In those days, they didn't have a language training mission or anything like they do now. So if you were called to a foreign language mission, it just added six months to your mission. Instead of two years it was two and a half years. The assumption being that after you'd been out six months you'd know the language well enough to then have two years to work, see. So the funny thing was that before I went on my mission, well they weren't calling people on missions very much unless they were 4F for the draft because of the Korean thing. But Senator Wallace Bennett, Bob Bennett's dad, and I conducted his primary campaign in Garfield County in 1950, but he got the legislation through that allowed deferments for the missionaries. So I was in one of the first group of missionaries that was called from that deferment. I'd think about where I might want to go on a mission. Well, I figured I'd rather go on a foreign mission. And for some reason, maybe movies I'd seen or something, I seemed to think I wanted to go to the South Pacific [laughter].

MH: [laughter] Yes...

AC: But anyway, I was thinking about the different missions of the church. They didn't have near as many then as they do now, you know. Well, if I didn't go on a foreign mission, there's the

Northwestern states, that's scenic country. That's pretty. The New England states, very historic places. That might be interesting. Southern States mission, the Southern States are noted for having a pretty unique subculture. That might be an interesting... the only place that I could think of that I didn't want to go was Texas.

AC: And the reason was because the guys from Panguitch that had been in the army during WWII that had been stationed in Texas at various bases there, none of them came back with a very positive view of Texas, you know. Might be just because of where the bases were located. But anyway, I didn't want to go to Texas. That's the only place I could think of... I didn't want to go to Texas. Well, when we had stake conference and I thought Matthew Cowley, I heard that Matthew Cowley was gonna be the speaker at our conference. And he was the great Polynesian missionary. Well, if he interviews me I maybe got a chance to go to the South Pacific. But he wasn't the one that was for conference. It was Harold B. Lee. So Harold B. Lee came for our conference. He was in the Quorum of the Twelve at the time. I had my interview with him. On the paper, I guess there was a place at that time where you could express preference for a mission, where you wanted to go. So I guess I put Polynesian on there or something. And he looked at it and he says now you wouldn't be disappointed if you went somewhere else would you. No, especially if I went to a Spanish-speaking mission. At that time, there were only four Spanish-speaking missions in the church: Mexico, Central America, Argentina, and Spanish-American. And so anyway, when my call came from President McKay they said that I'd been called to the Spanish-American mission with headquarters in El Paso, Texas [laughter].

AC: So I went there and I spent six months, my first assignment was down in the Rio Grande Valley far South Texas. I spent six months there. And one day they the mission, was having a youth conference for the youth of the Texas area up in San Antonio and our district president, Elder Fuller, came by Weslaco and he says, "Get your gear together, Elder Cooper, President Bowman wants me to bring you into the office." We go up on this youth conference thing, Ok? So, I got up there. He was calling me in to set him up a record-keeping system that would be more efficient because every month they were counting records. President Bowman says I want you to get us an efficient record-keeping system here. So I was there and I sat up there to see if it was working ok and I'd been there two month and I figured, well, they're gonna send me back out. Instead, he sent the bookkeeper out and made me the bookkeeper. So I spent six months as the bookkeeper. Then at that time, our mission secretary, Elder Wood, he was released from his mission. So, President Bowman appointed me as the mission secretary. So I spent nine months as the mission secretary. By that time, I only had six months left and the Elder from Pocatello, Elder Smith that had been serving as the second councilor, he was released. President Bowman called me to be the second councilor, his second councilor, in the mission presidency. So in that two and a half year mission, I was working in and out of the mission office for two years of it. It was a two and a half year mission, which is quite an unusual thing.

MH: Yes, but you're an unusual person.

AC: Well, I don't know. It was kind of funny. [laugh] President, Sister Bowman was an interesting person and a wonderful lady, but she had limited Spanish when they were called down there. But she was such a... she could get next to those people. They just loved her even if her Spanish was pretty limited. But just after I got in there, I guess it was after I'd been there a couple months and he made me the bookkeeper, he pulled me one evening and said, "Now Elder Cooper, Sister Bowman is a Wooley." I go, "I thought she was a Nixon." "Well, yes. Her father was a Nixon. Her mother was a Woolley." He says, "There's something you need to know about the Wooleys. There's a tradition about the Wooleys." He said, "Bishop Wooley was one of the first bishops in the Salt Lake area and he got into an argument with Brigham Young one day and he told Brigham Young he says, "Now Brother Brigham this church is as much mine as it is yours. He said Brigham Young said to him, "Bishop Wooley, you're right. And it's not either one of us'. It belongs to the Savior.'" But President Bowman said that Bishop Wooley and the Wooley's in generally, that if he ever drowned in the stream, look for his body upstream [laughter].

MH: [laughter]

AC: So he says if Sister Bowman ever does anything that you don't think is quite right, don't say anything to her about it. Come and tell me [laughter].

MH: Ok. [laughter] Not sure about her powers, huh.

AC: But Sister Bowman and I, we get along really well together. I really knew about it, was sure of it, when one day we had Elder Young, he was getting quite old... it was interesting, I got to meet a lot of the general authorities because for some reason, when they'd have a Houston stake conference, they'd have an LDS Serviceman's conference at I think Kelly Air force Base there in San Antonio. So, the general authority that would come down for the Houston conference, would come to San Antonio to speak to that serviceman... He'd stay at our mission home that night, see. So we'd take him out to that night meeting and he'd be back with us on breakfast on Saturday morning. Then President Bremmer who was a businessman in San Antonio was a councilor in the Houston Stake Presidency. He'd pick him up after breakfast and they'd drive to Houston. And then he'd fly back to Salt Lake from Houston. And so that was one of the things I thought was an advantage to my unusual mission assignment. I got to meet a general authority every three months and stuff. That was fun.

But this one day, I thought this was really funny because we had... Clifford E. Young was the guy, he was the assistant to the Twelve or something. He was kind of getting' a long in years, but Sister Bowman didn't like to refer to the breakfast cereal as mush. Now when I grew up, cooked cereal was mush.

And the prepared cereal, the corn flakes and stuff, that was the other kind. The cooked cereal was mush. And I guess that was the way with a lot of the missionaries, but Sister Bowman didn't like that word mush for some reason and every time an Elder would be there at breakfast and he'd say something about mush Sister Bowman would say, "Elder, that's cereal, not mush."

So this day that we had Clifford E. Young with us, after breakfast there. Sister Bowman said, "Elder Young, would you like anything else?" And he said, "Well, I could enjoy a little more of that mush if you have some more." I looked at Sister Bowman, kind of smiled and winked at her. She didn't say a thing. He got second on his mush. A few days later, we had Elders there and one of them said something about mush. Sister Bowman said, "Elder, that's cereal, not mush." I looked up and said, "Unless you're a general authority." [laughter]

MH: [laughter]

AC: Sister Bowman looked at me and kind of smiled you know. I think I'm the only one around that could have said that to her and wouldn't have got in trouble see.

MH: There was a couple places in here that we missed. Now you had your family life. Where were you living then when you were married and had your family?

AC: Well, that's kind of interesting, see. When I was in the Air Force and I took that leave and came home to campaign for the legislature, I had known Nera Shirts for years because she was from Escalante and she served on the county welfare board for years. And she was also the county vice-chairman of the Republican Party for years. So all the time that Ambrose Myers would take me to Salt Lake for the state conventions or I'd go to the county conventions here one thing another, most of the time I went to the state conventions, Nera would ride up with us. So, I really got acquainted with Nera and I knew that she had a daughter because we'd stopped and left her at her daughter's place in Provo or Orem. Mary was daughter. And I knew she had this son that had a doctorate from Indiana University that was up at BYU and so on. But that's the only [people?] that I knew she had in the family. Well, when I came home to campaign there and I made my campaign swing around the county, Mother went with me and we got in Escalante and my cousin Thais, she and her husband had a store in Escalante for years there and their son runs it now.

MH: Griffin, no Cottam?

AC: Griffin. Well, her husband was runnin' the barber shop there at the time. He was a barber in the early days of their marriage and stuff. And so I was there in the barber shop visitin' with them and this car drives up and it is Nera Shirts and then this attractive young lady drivin' her, see. And she came in to invite us to go to her place for supper before my meeting that night. And I said we'll we'd just eaten in here. But as they drove up and I said to my cousin, I said, "Thais, who's that girl driving her." "Well, that's her daughter, Carol Joy." Said, "She's our ward organist and a very nice girl. She'd make a nice girlfriend for you." Well, Nera came in and I said, "Well, we've already eaten so we won't go to supper but I understand your daughter plays the organ. Do you think she'd play a medley of patriotic songs in my meeting tonight?" "Well, I'll ask her to do so." Well, that night, I had quite a deal for this campaign, see. When I was in the Air Force, I had a chance to spend ten days in the Holy Lands. I took some slides and things see. So I had worked out a pretty nice presentation on the Holy Lands. So I'd show that and then afterwards I'd mention I was a candidate for the state legislature and would appreciate their votes and

stuff. Well, at this meeting over in Escalante, why, Carol Joy did play a medley of patriotic songs on the organ. Well, she had a date with Joe Ott that night and he brought her to the thing so I was standing in the foyer there shaking hands with people as they left. When Carol Joy and Joe came by, I shook hands with her and saw a sparkle in her dark eyes and her smile and... everything.

MH: [laughter]

AC: ...I thought about what my cousin had said, she'd make a nice girlfriend for you. And I thought that was pretty good. In fact, it's funny. You know in the LDS church about the Holy Ghost and promptings of the Holy Ghost and one thing and another. I thought at the time as she smiled and her eyes sparkled and one thing and another, man, I thought the Holy Ghost was tellin' me she's the right one for me see.

But the way things finally turned out, she filed for divorce on our 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary see. It was years later, I decided that wasn't the Holy Ghost. That was just an extra shot of testosterone [laughter]

MH: Right [laughter]. Art, you're so funny.

AC: But anyway, I went you know when the election night and we got the returns and I wired my NCOIC down at Texas where I was stationed in the Air Force there, Laufflin Air Force Base in Del Rio and told them. I went back down. When I got there, boy, they thought that was something that I'd been elected to the state legislature see. My commanding officer, Schmidt was his name I think, Captain Schmidt. And then this master sergeant that was the NCOIC in our unit there he told me he said he got that telegram and he went in and told Schmidt that Schmidt went out to base operations and shouted, "One of my men's been elected to the Utah legislature."

MH: Well, that's good. So how did that work out? You're still in the Air Force.

AC: Yes. While I was in Saudi Arabia, no, I'd been involved in politics for a long time, you know.

So I thought about how I'd like to be in the legislature sometime so I got to checkin' while I was in Saudi Arabia and found out there was an Air Force regulation that said that if you're elected to congress or to a state legislature or to any statewide elected office, you'd be released from active duty to serve, see. So when I got back and some of them approached me and said, you know, I knew I could do it. So that's how it got in there. But anyway, I got back down to Texas there you see. They didn't put me back in the... all they did was check out. So I had about a week or ten days there and then I got back up here and got back home on my mother's birthday, the 24<sup>th</sup> of November. Then on the 12<sup>th</sup> of December, we had a meeting up in the state capitol building with the legislators and one thing another. Then on the 12<sup>th</sup> of January, we were sworn in... Well, during that, when I got home I just got home and then on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of December, Needa had a meeting with the county welfare board meeting and Carol Joy came over with her. She was a senior in high school at that time and she came over with her and I saw 'em down at

the café down here. They came in the store. Carol Joy had a friend that was on a mission in one of the Dakotas or something. She wanted to know, she wanted to get a book for him. In the S and C, my dad had sold all LDS books and stuff. Would I recommend one and I recommended one and I don't know which one it was because I was more interested in Carol Joy than I was the book she was wanting' to get, see. And I thought, well, she is a pretty cute little gal, but I was always so shy around girls. I never had a date till three weeks after I was graduated from high school. First date I ever had, I wouldn't have had it if I hadn't have been kind of pressured. That was funny too.

[laughter] What was really funny was about three weeks after I graduated from high school, ol Wally Lee and Harold Boxer came by. Wally had his dad's black Plymouth and he said let's go for a ride. It was on a Friday afternoon or something. I said, ok. I got in with them and headed out to the highway. By the time we got down to the mouth of Circleville Canyon, I said, "Well, where're we goin' anyway on this ride." "We're goin' to Circleville and we're gonna get dates and your gonna get one." "No", I says, "Not me." "Oh, yes, you are." So we got to Circleville and they went to this one house. Ol' Wally asked this gal for a date to go up to Panguitch for a movie or something. She says, "Yeah." She says, "Go tell my mother." Went down to this other house, Harold asked Ann Thomas. She said, "Yeah." Went and told her mother and then got in the car. So there was Wally and his girlfriend and Harold and his date and they said, "Alright, Art, now who you want to get a date with." I said, "well, I think I only know one girl in Circleville and that's Gloria Morgan." "Alright, we'll go up there." Nobody home.

MH: [laughter]

AC: So [laugh] we got back on the highway and there was three or four girls on the sidewalk there walking around there. Well, pull up here and one of the girls in Circleville that was in the car said, "Alright, which one of those girls do you want a date with, Art." I didn't know any one of them. I said, "Well, I guess that one." In whatever dress.... And it happened to be. Anyway, so she says, "Ok". And so she called that girl over and asked her for a date. She says "Yeah, I'll go tell my mother I'm goin' and I'll be fine." It was JoAnn Beebe. Her dad was the sheriff there at the time. Went up to their place. Anyway, we all came back to Panguitch and went to the show that night. That was the first date I ever had. I was really shy around girls always.

MH: But you could stand up in front of an auditorium and speak.

AC: Oh, absolutely. No problem there. And I always had a keen aesthetic appreciation for the girls, you know. No problem there. When I was a senior in high school, I was a yearbook editor and I picked my staff. I picked Wally Lee who has artist ability and close friend and I picked four of five of these girls, any one of which I'd like to have had a date with if I'd have had enough [laugh] courage to ask them see.

MH: [laughter] Yes, that's cute.

AC: So, anyway, during the legislative session, well, what happened was that see when Carol Joy came in and bought that book to send to her friend that was on a mission, one thing another. I said, boy, I'd like to ask her for a date for New Years Eve. So I just couldn't get... but a few days later they were over again, you know, and I was out sweepin' the walk in front of the store or something. [I] said hi to her and everything, still couldn't get enough courage to ask her. And I decided I'd write her a letter and ask her. So I wrote her [laugh] a letter and asked her for a date on New Year's Eve to go to the New Years Eve dance in Panguitch. She wrote back and said yes. I went over and got her and Mother said, "Well, this is the first time you've been home for the holidays for a long time. After that New Years Eve dance I'll make a big pot of chili and you can have friends up for chili and stuff." So we did. So it was about three o'clock before we got through partying with chili and one thing another. It was nearly five o'clock in the morning that I got Carol Joy back home to Escalante, you know.

MH: Right. Yes, what was her last name?

AC: Shirts. There's Shirts over there and one of them spells it S-C-H-U-R-T-Z and then Carol Joy's family always spelled it S-H-I-R-T-S. When Carol Joy's dad was on a mission down to Texas, he was married when they called him on a mission. Her mother was pregnant when her dad left on that mission so I think the first time that Morris got to see his son Morris Alpine, why, he was about fourteen months old or something, I don't know, something like that. But anyway, when he was down in Texas there he'd take his shirts to the laundry. One day he'd take his shirts to the laundry and put them on the counter there and the attendant there says, "Name." He said, "Shirts." "I can see they're shirts. What's your name?" [laughter]

MH: [laughter] When were you and Carol Joy married?

AC: Well, we were... during that legislative session in 1959-1961 see I graduated from high school in '51 and I ran for the legislature in '58. I was in the legislature from January '59, 61 and we only had one special session. It was only a one day session called only a month or so after the regular session. But during that time, I married Carol Joy on the 20<sup>th</sup> of August in 1959 and we lived that first year in an apartment in Salt Lake and I finished up at the U. with my B.A. and she attended Stephen Henager Business College about that year. And then I graduated and couldn't get a job in the high schools down in Garfield County which was my legislative district so I couldn't run for re-election. The political career that I had in mind was shot because I couldn't run for a second term. So I went up to the Weber District and taught at Bonneville High the first year it was in operation. Then during that year I got my fellowship for three years of study back at Vanderbilt in Nashville. I went back there...

MH: Yes, what was your study in? What was your fellowship for?

AC: Well, I got it in comparative education. But back there at Vanderbilt, comparative education was a part of the program in the historical, philosophical and social cultural foundations of education. So my Ph.D. is in historical, philosophical and social cultural foundations of education.

MH: Wow, a mouthful. Yes, so you were there for three years on fellowship?

AC: Yes, three years. And then I taught at the University of Arizona for two years. In Tucson.

But I had [laughter]... I never did work for the dean that hired me. When I went to the University of Arizona, I got a call from the guy that was the dean there at the time and offered me the position. Of course, it was with a one day drive from Panguitch, Escalante and what not. I figured, well, that's good. I can't get a job teachin' in Utah. Well, that'd be the next best at the University of Arizona. But then he told me he says now I've accepted a grant or something with the Kellogg Foundation in Michigan so I'll be gone, but the new dean will be here and... well, that new dean was a guy that got his Ph.D. at the University of Utah, a native of Cache Valley, a member of the church and everything. Oh, that's great, you know. So we got moved out to Tucson up there a couple of weeks early before school started I found out that these faculty members I'd be with they were lookin' forward to this new dean coming, Dean Paulson because they knew about the record that LDS people had made in education, you know. At that time, Homer Durham was president at Arizona State University. Howard McDonald had been president of the Los Angeles City College before he was up at BYU. And Meredith Wilson had been president of what, the University of Oregon, University of Minnesota. And so they were aware of that. They were not LDS, but they were aware of this. They thought that would be interesting to work under an LDS dean. Well, they had the Tucson Education Association meeting or something at one of the motels there a week or so before school was to start. Dean Paulson, the new dean of education, was gonna be the speaker. So I went down to it, you know, I thought it would be good to meet him. So when I met him there I had a chance to see him by himself there and I said, "Well, are you moved in Dean?" "Yes." I said, "What ward are you in?" "What ward? What do you mean what ward?" "What ward at the church are you in?" "Well, I think it's the fourth ward or the fifth ward or something or first ward. Something." Anyway, he acted like he didn't want to be asked about that. I thought, what's a matter with him anyway? Because my undergraduate advisor at the University of Utah, Gus Faust, had told me that Paulson taught a gospel doctrine class while he was working on his doctorate up there, one thing and another. So I didn't know what was the matter. So then we had the first day of school. They called their assembly hall there at the University of Arizona the Kiva. We met there at the Kiva and they had one of these big urns, with coffee there on a wheel and stuff for people. Anyway, we started the meeting. Paulson got up there and he had a cup of coffee you know. Now, there's something strange here. And one of the first things he said was, "Now any of you that are concerned about me, about my origins, I assure within the three years I've been Dean in Connecticut ,it's ok."

AC: No problem, see. Now I thought now what's he sayin' anyway. So then [laugh] we hadn't gone into the school year very far and so Clyde Davis at the institute there at the University of Arizona, he asked me if I'd help supervise the early morning seminary program. I said sure. When Paulson found out about that he said, he called me in one day and he says, "Now, Cooper, church expects too much of their members, too much time," he says. "You can't be so active in t he church and expect to advance professionally." I didn't take much to that. I told my wife, I

says, "There's something weird about that dean if he doesn't know about Homer Durham who's president at Arizona State and all these other things. There's something weird about that." But anyway, things went along pretty good that year. My contract for the next year had a little raise in it. I said, Well, he must not be too concerned. So then [laugh] just as I was beginning my second year there, they decided to divide the ward there, the student ward church and make a branch for the married students, just keep the single ones in a single ward, you know. And they called me to be the branch president of that new branch. I accepted. Wasn't long after dean found out I had accepted that as branch president he called me in again, reiterated that, you know. So I went home and I called my wife, well, we gotta look for another place. He's here as a new dean. This is only his second. It's my second year and I'm not gonna spend my entire professional life working under a dean that objects to my church activity.

AC: So we ended up going to the North Texas State University. It was called North Texas State University at that time. We said well we'll go down there on a temporary assignment until something opens up in one of the Utah universities. Well, that temporary assignment lasted for 32 years.

MH: Wow. You don't even have much of an accent.

AC: No, I never did... for a while, I found myself saying ya'll now and then. I've even got over that now.

MH: Right. There was a man over Escalante, Nixon, Elray Nixon, have you ever met him? He's part of the Spencer family in Escalante. He also taught at a University in Texas. He taught botany.

AC: I wonder where.

MH: I wish I could remember. I'll call you and tell you. Yes, he's living in Escalante now in his grandparent's home.

AC: Oh, is that right?

MH: Yes, and of course retired. He's written a couple of books more nature oriented cause of course he was a botanist, but he did those surveys around Escalante the couple of years where we had a lot of moisture so this beautiful wildflower book. Anyway, you guys might have some interesting things in common just from living and teaching in Texas.

AC: Oh, yes. I've had a lot of interesting experiences you know. I did the field research for my doctoral dissertation down amongst the Otavalo Indians of Ecuador. That was interesting. I spent about six weeks one summer in Ecuador there.

MH: For your PhD. And what was that on? Was it an anthropological study?

AC: Yes, see I had to do it in what they called comparative education. Of course, my major professor and the other professor that was their specialty was in comparative education were real

pleased about my thesis and one thing another because they said its really in comparative education while all of the others hadn't been. I just went down and studied the role of the school in the acculturation of the Otavalo Indians of Ecuador.

MH: Right. How did you know about them? How did you find out about them?

AC: Well, it's just I got back to Vanderbilt and the first course I took in comparative education, I got a hold of a book called *The Awakening Valley* written by John Collier and Anibil Buitron and they talked about the Otavalo and stuff. I was fascinated with it. I thought well, I said, I'd rather go down there and study them than spend my time studying the volumes in the library over here. So I contacted the banker here in Panguitch and borrowed enough money to go down [laughter].

AC: Otavalo, they were supposedly, at that time and according to the book *The Awakening Valley*, the most highly acculturated Indians in South America, see.

MH: And what did you find to be true?

AC: What I found to be true was that John Collier and Anibil Buitron had overstated the amount of acculturation and one thing another. But I had a great time down there.

MH: What was the acculturation, I mean, what could they attribute that to, their acculturation?

AC: Well, they were real good weavers. They developed this weaving and one thing and another and found that there was a market for their weaving not only in other Latin American countries but as far as Florida.

MH: They developed an economy which means that some people go out and be a go between or sell...

AC: Sell the textiles and all of that. But what I found was the acculturation that occurred primarily within the Otavalo Indians in one community, the community of Piguche and all of them related to the Lema family there. It was fascinating.

MH: Yes, so your Spanish must have gotten pretty sharp then.

AC: Oh, I'm fluent in Spanish because from the time I used it as a missionary and throughout my professional career I've had a chance to use it. The two years I was on the faculty at the University of Arizona, they asked me to be the director of the little student exchange program between our college of education and the state normal school in Hermosillo, Senora. And so that kept me involved there. And when I went to, of course, I... when I went to the University of North Texas, I'd been there about two and a half years and they wanted me to go down on a USAID contract with the Santa Maria Antigua University in Panama as a consultant in teacher education. And I was down there for about ten days was all. But then I was the last short-term consultant there. I got back and I'd only been back a couple of months and I got a call from the

professor of O.U. that was a director of SALA which was Southwest Alliance for Latin America Consulate with universities. And he said they'd signed a second contract on the U.S. Aid with the Santa Maria Antigua University for implementation and stuff and they had requested at the university there requested to get me to come as the permanent consultant, or their resident consortium, if I could come, see. So I went down for 18 months there with my wife and our kids at the time.

MH: Oh, so you traveled with your kids down there.

AC: On that one, yes. We went down... that was a great experience, those 18 months there.

MH: Where were you living?

AC: Panama City.

MH: Panama City, I'd like to go there someday. Ok, we are way past our time here, but I can't stop asking you questions.

AC: Well, I like to talk.

MH: And you had such an interesting life, Art, so I appreciate you spending this time.

AC: Well, it has been interesting. But I've got to tell you you a couple of the funniest stories out of Panguitch history.

MH: Go ahead, we'll take those.

AC: I don't know whether you can do what you can do with them. [laughter] Whether they can be used, whether they can be published or whatever, but they're funny. But they center around feminine hygiene and the difference in attitudes towards feminine hygiene in the 1940's and now.

In the 1940's, when we would get a shipment of Kotex into the store, you didn't open it until the store was closed, the doors were locked. And you opened the case and you took each individual box out and wrapped it in wrapping paper and then put it on the shelf. In other words, you didn't go in the stores in those days and see boxes of Kotex there, you see.

MH: Yes, they were like brown paper.

AC: Right, that was the attitude toward it. And I think sometimes even sometimes husbands didn't know anything about that stuff, you see, what it was. So [laughter] we had Gene Miller was working for us for a number of years then Dolf Church hired him to go over and manage his service station on the corner so then we hired Gene's younger brother, Garth, to work for us. Anyway, when Gene was working there he said one day this tourist lady came in and he says, "May I help you." She said, "I'd like some sanitary napkins." He says, "I went over and I picked

up a package of these paper dinner napkins and set 'em over on there." And she says, "I need sanitary napkins." I told her, "Well, those are sanitary. They're wrapped in cellophane."

MH: [laughter]

AC: And he said then she made it clear to me what she was after and I'd never been so embarrassed in my life.

But that's not near as funny of story as these other two that I'm gonna tell you. In the early 40s, Scott Haycock was the city marshal and his brother, Frank, was the Sherriff. So those two Haycock brothers constituted most of the law enforcement in the area. One night, Scott got a call from the Marshall in Kanab. He said, "we've had a burglary here. Two men and a woman burglarized the store and we weren't able to apprehend them, but we've got their license number and they're headed north. So you get 'em for us when they get to Panguitch." So Scott called his brother Frank and got out on the highway so they'd be ther at the time this car came along. When it came, they flagged 'em down and put 'em under arrest for burglary in Kanab. So they brought them up and booked them into the jail. We usually didn't have any prisoners in the jail, you know, once in a while you'd have to put one of the local winos in to dry 'em out. So if they really booked anybody into the jail, then they had to go get some groceries for them and they had to cook for themselves you know. So they asked these three what you'd like to eat, you know. They'd make 'em a little list of groceries and stuff. Ok, now is there anything else you need. No, we think we can get by with that. Ok, they said, we'll go up to the store and get these and be back in a little while. Ok. As they turned to go, the woman said, "Sherriff, will you get me a box of Kotex." Frank said, "Kotex, hell, you can eat corn flakes with the rest of the prisoners."

MH: [laughter] Oh, my goodness. That's really funny.

AC: That old Scott, he couldn't wait to tell that on Frank. To me that's always been one of the funniest stories in Panguitch. And the other one is kind of similar but it was about old Henry Hughes. Henry Hughes and his wife lived in a log house, old log house down on the north end of town kind of down north of where the fairgrounds is down there. This is also in the early 40s. There was two couples from California come up for the deer hunt and they brought horses and tents. They wanted to camp for a couple three days and have a place for their horses. So they inquired in town where they might do that. Somebody says, well, Henry Hughes out on the north end of town here has got a little space there. You might go ask him. So they went down and Henry had a horse that got in a barbed wire fence that morning or something and had cut, a little gash in the neck. But anyway, these people ask Henry and Henry says, "Yeah." He says, "You can stay here." And he showed 'em where they could put their horses and they could put their tents and what not. So they stayed for two or three days and then they went on. Henry went out to clean up their camp site, get the trash they'd left. On the trash pile, there was a Kotex box that had three unused napkins in it see. And he picked one of them out of there and he looked, "I've never seen horse bandages like that before." And he put his salve or whatever he was treatin' his horses neck with on one of 'em and taped it onto his horses neck. Then he

went out the next morning to check and the thing was coming along alright so he put his liniment and stuff on it and put it on there and he only had one left so he put it in his coat pocket, got in his pickup, and drove up to the SUE to see if he could get some more of those horse bandages. So he went into the SUE and Fern was a clerkin' in there. That was Frank Houston's daughter. She was probably in her late twenties but we referred to her at that time as an old maid.

Anyway, there was nobody else in the store. He went in and she said, "Well, good morning, Mr. Hughes, may I help you?" He took this napkin out he says, "You got any of these?" [laughter] She said, "Yes." "Well, I'd like a box." She said, "Alright, what size." He looked at her. "Well, it's for a gash about that long." [laughter]

MH: [laughter] Oh, no.

AC: Fern could hardly hold a straight face. She got him out of there as soon as she could and left the SUE with nobody in it so she could go up along Main Street and tell Fred Brulon and my dad and Uncle Tom and Earl Marshall and all of 'em is what Henry had said. That's a funny story, see.

MH: Now, the SUE, was that a competitor for your...

AC: The SUE. SUE stood for Southern Utah Equitable and that was a big store in town for a hundred years. And it just closed up just before I got back here two or three years so it was probably about 1998 that it closed after more than a hundred years. They had their own scrip. And they had the... the thing about the SUE was that every Christmas in December, they'd have Toyland upstairs, the upstairs part, Santa Clause was there and one thing... oh, we always looked forward to Toyland up at the SUE.

MH: That's pretty neat. I'd like to take a picture of this.

AC: Alright.

MH: And I'd like to thank you for your time.

AC: Oh, it's fun. I think I have a propensity to visit so...

MH: Yes, but you also have great background and lots of interesting tales to tell.

AC: [laughter]

MH: But thank you again, Art.

AC: Well, you're surely welcome.

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**Addendum:**

Arthur Cooper's current assignment 2014

Chair, Main Street, INC.

Scenic Byway 12 Steering Committee

Garfield County Planning and Zoning Commission

Garfield County Board of Adjustments

Garfield County Advisory Council on Aging