

Richard Fredrick
Zion National Park Oral History Project
CCC Reunion
September 28, 1989

Interviewed by: Jeff Frank
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February 9, 2011

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Jeff Frank: I'm Jeff Frank, I'm interviewing Mr. Richard A. Fredrick of Tooele Utah, The date is September 27, 1989. Location is Zion Nature Center in Zion National Park and it is 9 a.m. in the morning.

Richard Fredrick: You said 27th it's the 28th today.

Jeff Frank: Pardon me today is September 28th, 1989. I'm still living in yesterday.

Jeff Frank: Well, good morning.

Richard Fredrick: Good morning.

Jeff Frank: We're finally underway. When did you first find out about the CCC reunion?

Richard Fredrick: Well I was down to Senior Citizens playing pool and one of my buddies from Tooele brought the paper down. He's supposed to be in this morning sometime; he had to work yesterday. He said he'd leave four o'clock this morning. Well it only takes, what five hours?

Jeff Frank: Form Tooele it would be about that.

Richard Fredrick: Sure.

Jeff Frank: This was in the town newspaper then, the announcement for it?

Richard Fredrick: It was a Salt Lake paper.

Jeff Frank: Quite the broadcast for attendance.

Richard Fredrick: I wouldn't have known anything about it if he or somebody else brought a piece too down there to Senior Citizens.

Jeff Frank: Mr. Fredrick when was the last time you were down in Zion then?

Richard Fredrick: Oh, let see when was it? Two years ago with some friends. We spent three days over here.

Jeff Frank: Have you come down very much? It was two years ago. Ever since the 30s have you been down since and that sort of thing visiting.

Fredrick: Well we worked there for two seasons in '75 and '76 out there at the lodge.

Frank: How did you enjoy that, was it reminiscing of some of the times you spent here earlier?

Fredrick: Then I climbed Angels Landing one day off.

Frank: In '75?

Fredrick: While we was there Clint Eastwood made a movie, "The Eiger Sanction."

Frank: *The Eiger Sanction?*

Fredrick: He thought I was his right hand man.

Frank: So you've seen Clint Eastwood here too. Now before then ['75] when was the last time you were here?

Fredrick: Well let's see.

Frank: Between the 30s and the 70s? Did you come here anytime between?

Fredrick: I think I might have come here once or twice.

Frank: When was the first time you saw Zion?

Fredrick: Well no, that was before, we've back.

Frank: Now we're getting way back there.

Fredrick: Back to the three C's?

Frank: Well, was it even before the CCC's, before you worked for the three C's that you visited Zion?

Fredrick: I might have done with my parents.

Frank: So where was your home town then?

Fredrick: I was born in Marysville, Utah, between Junction and Marysville. There was a mill and dad worked at the mine up there, 1920.

Frank: Then you came down with the three C's, what date would that have been?

Fredrick: Would have been '37.

Frank: 1937. How did you come into Zion with the three C's? Were you in Marysville, Utah, when you signed up?

Fredrick: Yes. There was about five or six of us come, got together and come down.

Frank: In Marysville, did you walk into a recruiter office? How did it all happen for you?

Fredrick: Well, somebody told me about it.

Frank: What do you remember?

Fredrick: Well, you'd work and get a dollar a day and your board and room.

Frank: So someone told you about the three C's and you all decided, these five fellows to join up.

Fredrick: Yes.

Frank: So how did you all do that? Did you walk into a recruiter's office?

Fredrick: No we just, we'd come down here to Zion.

Frank: How did you travel? How'd you get down here?

Fredrick: Well, I think we hitchhiked.

Frank: (laughs)

Fredrick: Well, we didn't have no cars then.

Frank: No train or anything like that.

Fredrick: It was easy to hitchhike.

Frank: When you got down here did you see a commanding officer or a company commander or anyone?

Fredrick: Yes, and I can't remember his name.

Frank: In 1937, we'd have to look that up. We'll find all that out a little later. We're just going to find out about what you remember.

Fredrick: The doctor was Dr. Clark

Frank: Dr. Clark

Fredrick: You've heard the name, haven't you?

Frank: Not yet, but I'd like to learn a little bit about him. This is 1937.

Fredrick: I stayed in three terms. They'd only let you stay six months, then you had to get out. Then I come in '38, but in the meantime we come here and then they sent us to Bryce for a while, then back here. Then they sent me over to Hurricane to help build that camp over there. All of them together, you saw them all shipped in pieces. I worked over there about 10, 15 days, I don't know how long. I was still in Zion though.

Frank: Now you were stationed at this camp and then went to work for these various other places.

Fredrick: After I left here, I went to Salina for 15 days. That was nothing to do with Zion's.

Frank: That was all the three C kind of work?

Fredrick: I got out of there; I could of stayed longer. There was Tennessee and Kentucky boys, they was fighting, cutting people up every night. You've heard of them Kentucky and Tennessee boys.

Frank: Well, I know there were some from around the area.

Fredrick: There were some here, too, they said. I don't remember that

Frank: Do you remember having the Kentucky and Tennessee men here work for the Three C's

Fredrick: I don't remember that.

Frank: Where were these Kentucky and Tennessee fellows, they were up in the Salina area?

Fredrick: Yes.

Frank: Is that how you remember them? When you say they were cutting up, what do you mean by that, they kind of fighters and scrappers?

Fredrick: They would go up to the bar and get drunk, have fights and use their knives.

Frank: And that's something you remember?

Fredrick: But I didn't touch ...that was all I wanted of it. So I went and told the captain that I was through.

Frank: What kind of work project did you do up in Salina, when you were up there?

Fredrick: Well in Salina, it was building fence.

Frank: So it was range kind of work, range projects, that's what it sounds like to me. Is that what you remember?

Fredrick: Yes, it was hard work. The one place was solid rock. We had to use a drill to drill holes and put the poles in. In one place they were six inches off so they made them move the fence. They could make them move the fence so that it was right on the money. That's when I got out.

Frank: They got a little bit too strict there, huh? These were the engineers that were on the job, the project supervisors, they took one look at that and said, "Oops, take it back over."

Fredrick: Yes.

Frank: How many men did you work with on that crew?

Fredrick: There might have been thirty.

Frank: You stayed up in Salina and they feed you at the barracks in the camp?

Fredrick: And they hauled us up to where we worked in the truck.

Frank: From Salina to the work station.

Fredrick: It wasn't too far, maybe 20 miles or so.

Frank: So in Hurricane now you said you built...

Fredrick: They sent quite few of us over to help put that camp up. They shipped it all in from I guess Salt Lake or someplace. We just bolted them together. You've seen them buildings haven't you?

Frank: Where in Hurricane would this be?

Fredrick: Above the river, up to the right of the river. There's nothing there now.

Frank: Any foundations, anything like that there?

Fredrick: When now or then?

Frank: Right now. Are there any remnants of it at all?

Fredrick: Well, I've never been back up that road to see.

Frank: You haven't been up there since.

Fredrick: No. It's just above the swimming pool is, to the right.

Frank: Up and to the right of that area.

Fredrick: Yes.

Frank: That might warrant a look. Go up there and take a look.

Fredrick: There's an old volcano cave up in there someplace I went down in, some of us did.

Frank: Did you leave anything back in those old caves or anything?

Fredrick: Well, no.

Frank: When you first got into the CCC camp here at Zion that would have been 1937.

Fredrick: Yes.

Frank: Was it the summer, was it the autumn? Do you remember the season?

Fredrick: I think it was September, I'm not quite sure. I've got my discharge papers over there.

Frank: So you walked in in September of 1937. What was that like for you five fellows?

Fredrick: All new.

Frank: All new. Most of the people from here were they also from Utah? Or where they say from Kentucky like you mentioned before? Most of the people you meet here where they from the neighborhood?

Fredrick: Yes.

Frank: Mostly Utah people.

Fredrick: I don't remember most of them being from Kentucky. Must have been when I wasn't here then. I don't remember that bunch.

Frank: Well, there will be people here from different years and different companies and the whole bits.

Fredrick: See there was some there last night, but they had come two years before me and the years after.

Frank: So September, you spent a winter here in Zion Canyon?

Fredrick: Yes.

Frank: How was that?

Fredrick: No, no wait a minute I spent the summer in Zion and in the winter we went to Bryce.

Frank: So maybe it was the opposite.

Fredrick: Well I'd have to look on my records.

Frank: What do you remember about Zion living here, some of the day to day kind of things?
What do you remember about them? What would you like to be remembered about them?

Fredrick: What we'd done or what?

Frank: Sure.

Fredrick: Well sometimes we'd walk up this Watchmen Trail.

Frank: Was that being built at the time?

Fredrick: That was already built.

Frank: That was already built. I know they were going to put a trail right up into Parunuweap Canyon.

Fredrick: I don't think they ever have, have they?

Frank: No, they never did complete it.

Fredrick: Then sometimes we'd go across. There was a little beer hall over here just outside the guard gate. Three of us bought three cases of beer one afternoon and drunk them all. It was only two dollars a case, then.

Frank: When you went up to Bryce, did you go up through the old tunnel? Did you go up through Zion tunnel or did you go around Pipe Springs.

Fredrick: No, we went through the tunnel.

Frank: What kind of trucks did you go over in, do you remember?

Fredrick: It was like the National Guard has with the canvas back

Frank: How many of you fellows would be in there?

Fredrick: Well, there's not too many went when I went over there. Coming back I was all by myself right on the tail end. I 'bout froze to death. I put my feet in the bags, what they had in the army.

Frank: Those sleeping bags?

Fredrick: The canvas bags. They had to front load the stuff and I was on the tail end holding on all the way from Bryce to Zions.

Frank: What kind of road was that?

Fredrick: I think they was oiled then, weren't they?

Frank: You, you remember them being oiled. Coming into the Park do you remember them being oiled over from Mount Carmel.

Fredrick: Yes, I think they was oiled. My dad he helped, he worked on that tunnel on the east side when they built it.

Frank: He must have been proud of you coming down here then with the three C's, when you told him you were coming down to Zion.

Fredrick: No, I shouldn't tell you that story.

Frank: No.

Fredrick: I said there are five of us and I cried and cried and he said, "You're not going." So I kept crying and bawling and he said, "Go on then."

Frank: (laughs)

Fredrick: He said, "Go I'm tired of you bawling."

Frank: How many brothers and sisters did you have at that time?

Fredrick: Had four boys, four girls.

Frank: Why was he reluctant to let you go to Zion with the three C's?

Fredrick: Well, he was a mean old man.

Frank: Mean old guy.

Fredrick: You, well he's not anymore.

Frank: Did he have a lot more work for you to do at home?

Fredrick: We was on a farm.

Frank: Oh, there was an extra hand leaving the farm. How did your brothers and sisters....what did they have to say when you told them you were coming to Zion?

Fredrick: They didn't say much.

Frank: It was another new adventure for you to come on down to Zion.

Fredrick: Yes.

Frank: So you spent from 1937 you were here. Do you remember the winters or the summers? What do you remember about the seasons here?

Fredrick: Well, it was pretty nice in Zion, but Bryce was cold.

Frank: Was it?

Fredrick: Yes.

Frank: Were you issued a uniform and all the fall weather gear?

Fredrick: When we got to Bryce they gave us them riding pants.

Frank: Jodhpurs.

Fredrick: And they wouldn't give you any Levis till you wore them out. So some of us went up above the tunnel. You know where that Checkerboard Mountain is? We put boards in our pants and slid down the mountain to wear our pants out, and then they gave us some Levis. Ain't that something?

Frank: You had riding pants.

Fredrick: But you couldn't get the others till you wore yours [out].

Frank: What did they look like?

Fredrick: Baggy type with the laces right here.

Frank: They were laced right on the inside of your leg there in the pants.

Fredrick: Yes.

Frank: It sounds to me like that was one uniform and then they had to get rid of all these uniforms before they issued another. Was that right?

Fredrick: Yes. The Levis, what do you call them denims?

Frank: Were they pretty sturdy pants?

Fredrick: No, nobody liked them riding pants.

Frank: It just wasn't the thing to wear.

Fredrick: No.

Frank: Did people joke with you about them pants?

Fredrick: For putting the board in our pants to wear them out.

Frank: Were you working up there when you did that?

Fredrick: Yes.

Frank: What project were you working on up there?

Fredrick: Well, they were cutting trees down out there and I was helping load them on the truck.

Frank: What were the trees being cut for?

Fredrick: There was too many I think.

Frank: Was it for a trail?

Fredrick: No, they was just cleaning out the forest.

Frank: This was on the east side of Zion?

Fredrick: No, this was in Bryce.

Frank: Oh.

Fredrick: You're in Bryce now.

Frank: Pardon me. So this was in the park that you were cleaning out the trees?

Fredrick: Yes, then they finally put me in KP.

Frank: That sounds like Kitchen Police.

Fredrick: Yes. I'll tell you another story. They cooked about 18 turkeys and everybody went home for Thanksgiving except me and Bob Freize, so we celebrated, we had turkey.

Frank: Eighteen of them?

Fredrick: Yes.

Frank: There were two of you with 18 turkeys?

Fredrick: Yes, everybody went home.

Frank: (laughs)

Fredrick: I don't know why we didn't go home, but we stayed in camp and had enough to eat.

Frank: Boy it sounds like you had enough to eat. So there were two of you with 18 turkeys, were you in Zion or Bryce now?

Fredrick: Bryce.

Frank: You were up at Bryce and this was November. So was there snow on the ground?

Fredrick: Oh yes.

Frank: So they got a camp up there over the winter?

Fredrick: Yes. I believe they did, yes. It wasn't long after that, I think it was December they shipped us back over here, some of them.

Frank: In December, a company came back to...

Fredrick: Well, I don't know how many come, but I know I was alone in that truck. I think there was three in front. Truck driver and two.

Frank: And you were bouncing around in the back with all that stuff.

Fredrick: Yes.

Frank: Going what?

Fredrick: 90 miles

Frank: I remember you were saying that you were in a sleeping bag.

Fredrick: No, I put my feet in to keep them warm.

Frank: What were you wearing?

Fredrick: We had big heavy coats.

Frank: Were they wool? What do you remember about that old coat?

Fredrick: It was brown.

Frank: Real thick?

Fredrick: No, maybe about like that.

Frank: Like a Pea Coat sort of thing?

Fredrick: Yes.

Frank: What did you wear for head gear? What did you have for your head, anything?

Fredrick: Seems like they had a little hood in there.

Frank: In the coat?

Fredrick: That was 50 year ago, how am I supposed to remember?

Frank: Well you never know? Some people will never forget something like that.

Fredrick: Yeah.

Frank: I personally had an experience ten years ago. I'll wake up and I'll keep thinking, what it's like yesterday, but some things something you do forget.

Fredrick: When we get to Zion's I'll tell you another story.

Frank: Well go ahead, why don't you.

Fredrick: Well, last night I meet one of the boys and I asked him what he'd done and he was the one that fed you and made you sick. He was the cook. And I said, "You was the cook and I was over watering the captains lawns." He said, "Well, that sounds like a team. I feed you and you water the Captain's lawns."

Frank: What else do you remember about Zion? What else you would you like to talk about, anything that I'm missing?

Fredrick: I know when I left home I didn't have any money. You got a dollar a day and your board and room here.

Frank: No money at all and you came down here without a cent in your pocket, not even dime.

Fredrick: I can't quite remember. I might have had a dollar, maybe.

Frank: After your first month or your first pay check, how did that feel?

Fredrick: Well, about five of us headed back to Marysville, [Utah] for the weekend. Then one time we hitchhiked, it was way late at night, north of Panguitch and a Panguitch couple picked us up and they took us up. They had a big granary outside and they let us sleep on their one bed, big iron bed in the granary. We got up the next morning, got on the road about seven and caught a ride to Marysville.

Frank: Sounds like there would have been a fair amount of traffic.

Fredrick: Sometimes you could catch a ride back and other times you had to wait.

Frank: So what else went on at Zion here when you came down? You were watering the captain's lawns and working?

Fredrick: Finally, every morning they would take me up to the tunnel and let me come down and kick all the loose rocks off that fell in the night. Then sometimes we'd have to go in there in the look outs and cut the ice. But they're all boarded up now, the look outs. I had to come down when it froze on the road, so we had to get an axe and pick and cut the ice off the road.

Frank: In the tunnel?

Fredrick: In the tunnel.

Frank: So it would just kind of flow and come in and...

Fredrick: And freeze at night.

Frank: And it would freeze over that road surface in the tunnel?

Fredrick: Yes, and I walked through that tunnel a couple times just to be doing it.

Frank: Well, it's a different place to be that's for sure.

Fredrick: Yes, there wasn't that many cars to hit you then.

Frank: Was that a safety concern at the time, ice in the tunnel? I've never heard that before.

Fredrick: No, the cars could put on their brakes. I think they had a few accidents in that tunnel if I remember right.

Frank: Things like cars skidding?

Fredrick: Yes.

Frank: So in the morning they would try and get you up say early morning 9, 10 o'clock?

Fredrick: We had to be up. When did they usually have breakfast I can't quite remember, seven?

Frank: Sounds like it would be about right.

Fredrick: Then be on the job at 8, 8 or 9.

Frank: So you'd walk all the way down those switchbacks?

Fredrick: They'd take me up there, then I'd come back to camp and they'd take me up to water the captain's lawns and rake the leaves off the lawns. I didn't get into road building or corral building.

Frank: Do you remember the lodge being here at the time? Do you remember going up to the tent camp or the lodge?

Fredrick: Yes, right here at the mouth of the canyon they had a big building. What was that, before you cross the bridge?

Frank: Well, there used to be as little museum there.

Fredrick: Maybe that's what it was.

Frank: What went on up there do you remember?

Fredrick: [No response.]

Frank: What about entertainment, like on a Saturday's night if you didn't go to Marysville what would you do?

Fredrick: Well sometimes I went to Hurricane. We went swimming at the pool at Hurricane. I was going to tell you this one story. They had old time swimming suits and I got about ten feet in there and my suit came off. There were about ten girls there. I hurried out and they chased me through the pines. So I hurried and got back in the dressing room and got out. I never went swimming there anymore. Would you?

Frank: I'll defer that question. You were about ten feet in the air, what were you doing, were you diving?

Fredrick: Yes, I was diving and my suit came off.

Frank: Oh brother.

Fredrick: The old baggy suits they used to have.

Frank: What did it look like, how did it fit on you?

Fredrick: Not very tight.

Frank: Did it have a waist strap?

Fredrick: Yes, I guess I didn't have it tight enough or something. I couldn't grab it fast enough.

Frank: So you lost that in the pool?

Fredrick: Yes, I hurried off and run through the trees. It was just dusk.

Frank: Well how about your partners, didn't they help you at all, your other friends from CCC?

Fredrick: I didn't see any of them.

Frank: They were laughing too hard?

Fredrick: Maybe.

Frank: Well, did you dance with those girls in Hurricane that night or afterwards, did you ever go to dances there?

Fredrick: No we didn't dance much. We went to picture shows.

Frank: Did you?

Fredrick: Then one night we were pretty well drunk and I thought this girl...I didn't know this girl was this other mans... he was in camp too. First thing I know I hit the ground with a black eye.

Frank: Really, you were messing with his woman?

Fredrick: I didn't know. Oh there was about three or four of us.

Frank: Was it a friendly sort of thing?

Fredrick: It was at first.

Frank: Did you ever meet with some of the other camps in the area, say camps up on Pipe Springs?

Fredrick: Nope I've never been to any others.

Frank: St. George camps?

Fredrick: Nope.

Frank: Where was that picture show you went to?

Fredrick: In Hurricane.

Frank: Where about was the theater, do you remember?

Fredrick: No, I can't quite remember where it was.

Frank: It isn't there is it? Is the building still there?

Fredrick: I don't know.

Frank: What do you remember of all of the CC if there was a lesson for something you would want to remember again? What was the best part of it if you could sum it up?

Fredrick: Well I was on my own, and didn't have to be bossed.

Frank: So the whole point was independence.

Fredrick: We were whipped.

Frank: Oh the switch. No one beat you in the CCC for not doing your chores.

Fredrick: Well I never had any trouble that way. There for a while once a week I went to Captain Robinsons. He gave an educational class once in a while at night.

Frank: Do you remember what he was teaching?

Fredrick: No, but I didn't stay with it.

Frank: Were there offerings like degree or course certifications, different things you can do?

Fredrick: Oh yeah, they had class there.

Frank: Do you remember much about that, any other thing about it?

Fredrick: No, I never got into that.

Frank: So all these years you remember the independence that was one thing.

Fredrick: I quit; I had only had one year of high school. I guess that's why Dad was mad.
(laughs)

Frank: You didn't finish high school.

Fredrick: No, I was seventeen the first year.

Frank: So you were eligible to join the CCC's at that time and head out. So you remember that independence part of it. Would you like to see any part of the three C's today?

Fredrick: Yes, all these kids running on the road.

Frank: You think it would do them any good?

Fredrick: They are all on drugs now.

Frank: So you think this might be a benefit to the country again?

Fredrick: Yes, don't you?

Frank: Well I'm not being interviewed.

Fredrick: I think so. We got some in our street running loose.

Frank: With a few kids running on your street loose today how about just before you went into the three C's in 1936, what did you see back then in the street in Marysville? Was it a big town, lots of kids?

Fredrick: Yes, a lot of kids, but there wasn't no drugs.

Frank: No, but what was there? What kind of mischief did you get into?

Fredrick: Well we got into it on Halloween.

Frank: Did you?

Fredrick: Yes, in Junction.

[Sound abruptly ends]

Frank: You know over time they will be there for the record, the transcriptions are what you can index and go back. Where it's going to get important is when you have this in written indexed form and that sort of thing. When did you meet this character, recently or earlier?

Fredrick: Are we talking to her now?

Frank: We're just going to go back and forth a little bit. Did you meet him?

Fredrick: Tell that story when you first saw me.

Jeanne Frederick: Okay, when I first saw you we were down in Marysville, [Utah] High School. He was in back of me and we were in algebra, and he kept looking over my shoulder and I said, "What are you looking at?" And he said, "You're an 'A' student." He said, "I'm copying down all your answers." I said, "You better not; they might be wrong and then there'll be two of us." And he said, "That's okay. I don't care. That will be fine."

So we met there, and later on I ran with his sisters quite a bit. He was a very bashful guy. So I walked up with one of the sisters and one day after school and he was raking. He had a very good thing here with raking rock walks. So I thought if he raked that nice and clean, what would he do [if] it was over here and he put something over there so he had to rake it back. So his sister Gwen come in and said, "You know Jeanne what you ought to do is, he's been raking that too long, so just pull up some rocks and stick them over there and see what he does." I said, "You're tempting me." But I said, "Okay, because I don't run from a challenge." So I got over there and I just threw a whole bunch of rocks and he just went right on raking, raking, raking, he didn't even look at me. So I went over there and I stuck my foot right there on his rake so he couldn't move it one way or another. He looked at me and said, "What are you doing here?" And I said, "What do you think?"

Frank: (laughs)

Jeanne Frederick: I said, I didn't think, I'm trying to get your attention.

Frank: So you succeeded that day?

Jeanne Frederick: Yes. My mother was a supervisor down in the school lunches in Marysville.

Fredrick: My ma worked part time.

Jeanne Frederick: And worked there. So in the meantime he went back to Tooele; he was working in the small arms ammunition up there. So then he came down.

Fredrick: One weekend.

Jeanne Frederick: One weekend and there was this big dance going on. So he just came down and said, "Do you want to go to the dance?" And I said, "I don't know I'll have to think about it." So he came down anyway and we went to the dance. And that's where it all started.

Frank: What year would have this been? You say you met him in high school. So did he march off with the three C's?

Jeanne Frederick: No, no, this was long before.

Frank: Long before the three C's?

Fredrick: No it wasn't.

Jeanne Frederick: Yes it was.

Fredrick: I wasn't in Marysville then.

Jeanne Frederick: No, you weren't.

Fredrick: It was after that? That was 37 years ago [that] we got married.

Frank: Wow! Congratulations that's a long time.

Fredrick: We got engaged in Salt Lake.

Jeanne Frederick: I had the opportunity of singing in the 500 voices in the Tabernacle Choir, second soprano.

Frank: Wow!

Jeanne Frederick: And I still follow up with it.

Fredrick: We went down after that and got the rings at Anderson Jewelry in Salt Lake City.

Jeanne Frederick: To top it all off, He said, "Don't you want to be married in the Church?" And I said, "No, I don't think so." See I was married before and had one child. The daughter we were talking about is over in Belgium now with her husband. So then I was divorced and I started going with Richard. We went over to Beaver to get married, and he says, "Why over to Beaver?" And I said, "Well, that's where my grandmother was born." So we went over there and we came in about two o'clock that morning, and one of the guards was down there by the court house. He said, "What are you guys doing this early in the morning?" I said, "We came over to get married."

We came over by Cove Fort, and oh, the ice was on the road and the deer [were] running back and forth. It was really early. So we got over there. So he woke up the judge. He said, "What do you want to do this early in the morning?" And I said, "Get married. I said I just made a long trip and I'm not going to waste any time around here." He said, "Okay." So he took us upstairs, he and his wife. Of course, she was setting in for us and the guard. So he said, "Well, I'll just tell you what, I'm going to ask you a few questions." So he asked him [Richard], he says, "Have you been married before?" Richard said, "No?" He said, "Well then, you're crazy." He was almost in his nineties then, this guy, and he said, "Have you?" And I said, "Yes." "Well good. Then you can teach him the ropes." I said, "Depends on what ropes you're talking about." So my

daughter was three years old at the time, and she just took to him right now. She said, "That's the best Daddy I ever had."

Fredrick: She told her when we left, she said, "Now don't you come home unless you bring my new daddy." See I drove from Tooele down after work [and] then we come over to Beaver's. It was late.

Jeanne Frederick: On top of that mind you, he dropped the rings on a nice red dark carpet with only the lamp shades coming down, so it was very invisible here. Anyway the judges wife, she said, "Don't worry I have the rings; you can still get married." She had picked them up and she says to him, "You'd thought you'd get away with it, didn't you Mr. Fredrick." (laughs) Anyway he got the rings, so we were married right there in Beaver, Utah.

Frank: Well you know the era of the three C's might be before your time or something, but what do you remember about the three C's when you were dating or just prior to dating?

Jeanne Frederick: Well, I remember my brother talking about it a long time ago. Course my brother and sister are twins and there is a fifteen year difference between our ages. They were a lot older than I, and my brother was always talking about it. He said, "I think if everybody would join the three C's and really get into it," He said it and he stressed it very good and he was all for agriculture and outside work, and we lived on a ranch and everything and he says. "If everybody would get in to some organization such as the Three C's or some environment that would put the kids on the map so it would let other people know that there was something useful and used to working for." He said, "There would be a lot of different people come from a lot of different states and they would enjoy it a lot more than they do right to this day." He stressed that. I can remember that so plain like he was just sitting there telling me, and he said, "But it won't be in my time." He said, "Sis." That's me. He said, "It won't be in my time Sis, but there will be in your time where a lot of people's going to change." He said, "These kids unless they have some environment to keep their mind active and working all the time, they are going to get berserk." And see it worked out.

Now we talked to this fellow yesterday, Jargerson woman and myself, and he asked us a couple of questions what we thought about it. And I said, "I thought it would be a very good idea if we would try to make a book, get a book established for all this organization and then each one pay so much a copy or a paperback or whatever to have in our home." And he said, "That sounds like a good idea." And then also if we could get each person... say there was Richard and I together we would [pay] say five or ten [dollars] or whatever to keep this thing going. Each one would pay so much in in other words and then we could have established the pin right up here for the CCC's. Let people know, let them bring them in and really get this thing organized, get it off its feet into the clearing so people could join in, the ones that wanted to. It's going to going to be a lot of people say, "Well I don't care anything about that." You can't please everybody. But once you get going I think it would make a difference.

Fredrick: I noticed yesterday, there's just about five men I can still remember and they remembered me after 50 years, but some of them can't quite place me. A few of them did.

Frank: And you all worked together?

Fredrick: Well, this one man, I got talking to him and he's a cousin to my brother's wife.

Jeanne Frederick: It's a small world.

Fredrick: I met some from Panguitch and we're tied up in relations some way that way.

Frank: Well after the three C's, 1941, sounds like you all meet in the early 40's.

Fredrick: Then in '40 or '41, I went eight months National Guard.

Frank: Did you fight in Europe or the Pacific?

Fredrick: I didn't get over seas.

Frank: No.

Fredrick: I went in the National Guard and then in the army in '42. They drafted me to Fort Douglas. I was in ten months and 28 days. Then one night the lieutenant called. My ears were bad, but he called me up to guard duty at 10:00. I didn't hear a word he said. The next morning they had me in the hospital. For fourteen days they kept me there, and they give me a medical discharge. The rest of them went overseas, the good ones.

Frank: Did you find a lot of people, like say that you were in the three C's [in] 1937, so over that four years of the friends that you had up north in Salt Lake, did you find many of them with three C's background?

Fredrick: No.

Frank: No? This is like afterwards, the fellows you were with say in Fort Douglas. Well, now do you meet many people or even back then, did you find before the war, did you find many of the three C boys that you knew with experience? How about today, does it ever come up prior to say getting invited to the reunion here at Zion, did you run into people with Three C experience over the last few years?

Fredrick: No, not the last few [years], but just the old buddies is all.

Frank: Friends you had in the Three C's or back home.

Fredrick: Then we stopped to see my cousin in Junction, and stayed one night, before we come here, and he was with us down here.

Frank: Yes, did he come down with you?

Fredrick: Today? No, he's going to Vegas. He said he was going to spend one day. I said, "You'd better come and look me up today." He said he was.

Frank: All right.

Fredrick: I hope he does. He's got a winter home in Vegas and a summer home in Junction.

Frank: Did you two serve together while you were down here?

Fredrick: Yes, his dad and my dad were about tail end cousins, 4th or 5th.

Frank: What did you fellows do? What did your cousin do while he was here?

Fredrick: I think he was a truck driver or something. And this one from Tooele he was a truck driver. He said he was going to leave at four o'clock this morning.

Frank: Well, he ought to be down here by now.

Fredrick: He should be here by now.

Frank: Did you ever go for many walks while you were here at Zion?

Fredrick: Oh yes, I walked quite a bit.

Frank: During the three C's, did you explore around here with all your buddies? We know about you skidding down and wearing out your pants to get some denims. How about before then, did you do any other walking in this area with your buddies?

Fredrick: A few of them, yes. My buddy in Junction, he told me story the other day, when we lived in Junction. He said, "Remember when we got caught stealing candy bars out of the store in Junction?" We was a little smaller and we had to pay for them that night. I stole three and I think it was 15 cents that was hard to do. The man had us bring both our dads down there to have a "talking to." I've never done any stealing after that.

Frank: Well, it sounds to me that you did work on the road crew in the mornings?

Fredrick: Yes, I guess that was what you'd call it.

Frank: They would send you up and you would knock those rocks down that was a part of the park management to keep the park open.

Fredrick: Some mornings you'd have a lot. Other mornings it wasn't too bad depending on what fell down in the night from the rain or wind, but that slope was bad right by the tunnel then.

Frank: How was it improved?

Fredrick: Then I worked on that slope for a while.

Frank: What did you do? How did you work on it? Did you put rock up?

Fredrick: No, [we] sloped it with a pick and shovel. While I was there one man got electrocuted, hit with electric wire.

Frank: You did?

Fredrick: No, not me. He died. I forget the name.

Frank: He was working on the tunnel and hit a wire?

Fredrick: He hit the pipe with an electric wire in it.

Frank: There was a pipe with wire coming down from the tunnel?

Fredrick: That's probably where it was going to the tunnel.

Frank: Well, I've not heard of a cable, but I'm sure Don has, so if there's a power line up there would be interesting.

Fredrick: It wouldn't have to be a very big pipe for a pick to go through it would it?

Frank: No, I guess not.

Fredrick: I don't know what kind of pipe it was, but it happened while we was here.

Frank: Poor fellow got electrocuted working on that, so that would have been in '37 or so.

Fredrick: Then I talked to a man yesterday. He was going to Hurricane, and I said, "You tell your dad to get over here today, Neal Facer." He was in the three C with me. Now his boys camped right by us and I got talking to him and he come from Marysville, [Utah] this Facer did. But that's his boy here. So I'm meeting a lot of people.

Frank: Does that surprise you?

Fredrick: Yes, I didn't think I'd meet that many the first day.

Frank: So like roll call. What do you remember about that getting out in the mornings?

Fredrick: I told my wife I'd go out and walk around the circle and she had to come hunt me up. I'd stay too long talking to buddies. So yesterday afternoon, she took off with a woman and I thought I'd have to go hunt her up. She stayed too long.

Well, I served in the Army and the National Guard. Then I retired up at the depot in Tooele in 1971. I had 24 years. I drove fork lift and handled ammunition, bombs, bullets and what not. When the war was on, they had 800 box cars in there at one time. I wasn't married then. They worked us 72 hours straight one time. They're not supposed to but they did. We just had time to have a cup of coffee and donut. By the time I got home I slept for a little while.

Frank: Bet you did, sounds like a rough day.

Fredrick: Seventy-two hours is quite a little spell.

Frank: Quite a bit, just under a week.

Fredrick: They're not supposed to work you, what is it over 24 hours or something.

Frank: Hard to say what the regulations would be. Hope they gave you overtime.

Fredrick: We was only getting 75 cents an hour then. (laughs)

Frank: When you were living down here in the mid to later 30's, did you ever go up to the lodge or the Temple of Sinawava, do you remember anything about up canyon?

Fredrick: Once in a while they took us on a little tour.

Frank: What do you remember about that?

Fredrick: Looked just like it is today.

Frank: Just like? Had to have been a few little differences wouldn't you say. How about some of the projects, did you have some CCC projects going on up there?

Fredrick: Oh yes, but I didn't work up there.

Frank: Did you know any of the folks up there, did you go visit at night maybe?

Fredrick: No, no.

Frank: Did you ever have dinner at the lodge up there when you were in the three C's?

Fredrick: No.

Frank: Wylie's Tent Camp, do you remember anything about that? How about any visiting dignitaries? Who were the big shots you remember, anything like that, captains, colonels?

Fredrick: Well we had Dr. Clark and let's see that captain was here, anybody say what his name was?

Frank: Not right off, there were several you know. Did you remember any visiting dignitaries, any senators or congressman? This was after all a national park, one of the gems in the state of Utah. Did you remember any of the First Presidency come down to visit or anything like that from Salt Lake?

Fredrick: No, that man yesterday tried to find my picture on that big picture, and he couldn't find it, but they didn't take everybody's picture.

Frank: Well if you didn't show up for that you wouldn't be in it.

Fredrick: Well I told them yesterday that I think I know where I was. I was in the sick bay for three days and that's probably when they took it. Could have been. It's hard to pick out somebody's picture with all them people in it [after] 50 years. I remembered some of them though when I looked at that picture.

Frank: Well, there's some of them people I was with five years ago in a group picture, I can't remember, let alone 50 years.

Fredrick: I know I was in sick bay about that time with the flu.

Frank: Did you have a camera when you were there?

Fredrick: Yes, I got about 20 pictures.

Frank: Wow. What about things in your pockets? What did you carry in your pockets when you were in the Three C's, pocket knife, wallet, change, did you have any jewelry from the Three C's?

Fredrick: I didn't have any jewelry. I didn't carry much money; didn't have a driver's license.

Frank: Did you carry a pocket knife?

Fredrick: Yes, I think I had a little pocket knife.

Frank: Remember using that? Did you use to whittle a lot or something?

Fredrick: I used to make whistles.

Frank: You did? Out of what, a piece of wood?

Fredrick: Out of bark, take the bark off the top of the wood and make a whistle.

Frank: I've never seen that before.

Jeanne Fredrick: How about having a demonstration?

Fredrick: Since we're going to be here for three days I'll make one and bring you one.

Frank: All right.

Fredrick: You'll be here three days?

Frank: I'll be here till tomorrow noon.

Fredrick: Okay.

Frank: But I wonder how many folks will remember that?

Fredrick: Well, I don't want a ranger to see me cutting any wood.

Frank: I bet out here you'll find everything you need.

Fredrick: You know what happened over in Bryce?

Frank: No.

Fredrick: Free campgrounds, and I picked up one piece of wood and here come the ranger and he made me, he took it. He said he hid it behind a bush the day before. He said, "I ought to give you a ticket." And I said, "I'll give you the wood back."

Frank: Well, I don't know about a ranger doing that.

Fredrick: He put it in his wagon and he took it.

Jeanne: It wasn't a ranger; it was a maintenance man.

Frank: Well, as the week ended in a three C camp, do you remember anything about Sunday in the corps?

Fredrick: Sleep.

Frank: What would that have been like?

Fredrick: Sleep.

Frank: Sleep. That's what you remember about Sundays. Did you go to church?

Fredrick: One time we went, we come over here and they had one of them [pageants] when Christ got crucified. They had the ceremony over here, onetime. The cross and the man got on the....

Frank: Is that right? Would that have been Easter Time?

Fredrick: It would have had to be Easter time, wouldn't it. There were quite a few of us coming over there.

Frank: So you remember a pageant?

Fredrick: Yes, that was it.

Frank: Acted out.

Fredrick: It was a pageant, yes.

Frank: That's what it sounds like to me what do you remember about that, were there a lot of people?

Fredrick: Lots of town people come and quite a few come from the camp. It was about 3 o'clock in the afternoon.

Frank: Do you remember where that was?

Fredrick: Well, you know where the camp was, don't you, about?

Frank: The CCC camp, the barracks?

Fredrick: Yes, it was just up above there, a little bench area.

Frank: On a little bench area?

Fredrick: Right across the river.

Frank: When you were working here, this was a national park so you have visitors from all over the country coming in here. Do you remember any of the visitors that came in to visit the national park?

Fredrick: No.

Frank: Remember any of the rangers that worked here or anything like that?

Fredrick: I can't remember any names. I remember Roosevelt was President then.

Frank: What did you think of Mr. Roosevelt? Remember much of him or do you have an opinion on him?

Fredrick: He'd done a lot of good for all these young fellows then, didn't he? They had a lot of camps going then didn't they?

Frank: Well over two thousand.

Fredrick: All this is just Zion's and Bryce, they couldn't have everybody here.

Frank: No, I don't think we'd be able to fit them all. We're almost finished up. Again is there something that you wanted to say that you haven't had the opportunity yet, something that you want to make sure people remember about the whole time. If you had one thing for people to remember what would that be about the three C's, what it meant most to you?

Fredrick: Well I think I got on my own then, get on your own or stay home and drag on your dad's shirt tail.

Jeanne Frederick: I think to me, if I'd had been in it, I think it would be a very educational experience.

Fredrick: You learned a lot [about] people. They played dirty tricks on you, too, then.

Frank: They did?

Fredrick: Like the Army, short sheet. One man they put black water snakes in their bed. One time across river, I wasn't on that, but they had five quarts of wine above the stove and the captain come over and threw it all on the floor the next morning, broke it all. I wasn't in with them bunch. I was in the same barracks, [but] I wasn't with their party.

Frank: Sounds like a few people tipped a few every so often?

Fredrick: You they hid it up in the attic. You know, they had the stove pipe going up through the attic.

Jeanne Frederick: When we get through here would you want him to bring that literature over?

Fredrick: Well, they said that after noon.

Frank: That is going to be later. There is different almost stations, if you will. People will be set up at the corner of the building for copying photographs and photocopying paper work. In this room I've got a little photocopier with me in case there is something.

Fredrick: No, I'll take it over to one of them tables, my pictures and my discharge papers. But I'm going to make you a whistle. Then you can give it to your little boy or girl.

Frank: Do that. I'm sure that that will be something that everybody's going to enjoy.

Fredrick: You got a little boy or girl?

Frank: Neither, I just got a dog.

Fredrick: Well, you can whistle to your dog.

Frank: Is it J-e-a-n-n-e?

Jeanne Frederick: Yes, it's French.

Fredrick: We're not on tape now, are we?

Frank: Yes, we are the tape is about ready to click off.

Fredrick: Before we was married I took her to a dance, and her ma told me to throw my hat in.

Jeanne Frederick: If the hat comes out, don't go in.

Fredrick: So I threw my hat in.

Jeanne Frederick: Didn't come out.

End of interview.

