

Interviewer's tape no.:

NAFOH Accession no.: 1346

Interviewer: Virgil Bisset

Address: MPBN 1472 1

1346004

Interviewee: ESTher Wood

Address:

Place of interview: MPBN

Date: Memorial DAY ? 1980

Other people present:

Equipment used:

Tape: Brand: ^{copy} scotch Size reel: 7" 1 mil/1.5 mil Speed: 3 3/4ips

Cassette: Brand: C-30/C-60/C-120

Amount of tape used: (Side 1): (Side 2):

Brief description of contents: radio show for MPBN

Esther Wood talks about her remembrances of spring- house cleaning signs of spring, Memorial Day events.

Index	NAFOH	Int.	Catalog
	008	008	<p>announcement by <u>Don Bumpus</u> of MPBN about the rites of spring and the turning point of the year. This program focuses on rites of spring, way they were celebrated in the past. Produced by <u>Virgil Bisset</u> who interviews <u>Esther Wood</u>, retired history prof from Univ of Southern Maine. An hour show on Local Options.</p>
		030	[music]
		034	<p><u>Esther</u> speaking about recollections of spring time of her childhood, some pleasant and some not.</p> <p>Early in March was the task of taking the vegetables and apples out of the cellar that had decayed. Took window out of cellar and went down with lantern before there was electricity. Filling pails and putting them out of window. Then took away</p>

Interviewer's tape #

NAFOH Tape # 1472 1

Catalog pg. # 2

Index	NAFOH	Int.	Catalog
		065	apples were put on stone wall, squirrells took them away for seeds. Turnips, potatoes, beets and cabbage were put on compost pile. This was first step in spring cleaning of house. Then plants were brought upstairs that had been stored over the winter in the celler. The leaves from the plants had to be cleaned up.
114	119	114	Housewife had to wait until really warm weather before she really cleaned house. In 1920 and 30s this was different from today. No vacuum cleaners then, no electric appliances or canned cleaners in spray cans. But she did have broom bags of unbleached cotton cloths to put over the brooms for sweeping down the walls and ceilings. Mop to mop the floors. Used home-made soap for cleaning, was strong and fragerant- washed woodwork with this. Also took up the carpeting to clean it. One bedroom had straw matting with newspaper under it. This was taken up and cleaned and the papers under it changed. In summer this straw matting is cold and pleasant to step on. It winter it is frigid and very unpleasant to step on.
171		171	Carpeting on front stairs and rugs were all taken out and beaten and brushed. Curtains had to be changed, had summer and winte curtains. Summer curtains were washed and put away in the fall. In May they were ready.

Interviewer's tape #

NAFOH Tape #

1472 1

Catalog pg. # 3

Index	NAFOH	Int.	Catalog
		186	<p>In May winter curtains were washed, starched and ironed before storing them to use next fall. Mother moved the furniture every cleaning time. Father did not like this rearranging and asked that his bed and desk always stay in the same place. They never did get moved because mother and I weren't strong enough to move them. Everything else was moved about.</p>
	208	207	<p>Once it was warm enough to get along with just the stove in the kitchen the heater stove in the parlor was taken out of the room. Ashes went everywhere when the pipe was taken down. Father dreaded doing this. Finally mother put on a particularly fine breakfast and then tell father <u>Herman</u> was coming at 8 o'clock to move the stove. Father sighed.</p> <p><u>Herman</u> always brought two of his children with him. There was always some catastrophe such as chipping off paint or spilling ashes. One year My <u>Uncle Arthur</u> did it and the leg of the stove came off and Uncle XXXXX swore. Once out the stove was cleaned and greased with hens grease or tried out chicken fat, then covered the stove with an old flannel blanket. Would put the stove back in November. Then mother had to put the receiver in the chimney-a round metal piece to cover the stovepipe hole. Then clean up ashes.</p>

Index	NAFOH	Int.	Catalog
		288	<p>then livingroom woodbox was taken out to the barn</p> <p>In winter there was a hugh kitchen woodbox made of hard pine that would hold enough wood to last all day. Took up much space. In May that was taken to the shed and a small one on legs took its place. This was papered with green and white oilcloth. Was the summer woodbox. Probably the last inside task of spring was varnishing the kitchen floor. I was delighted with that because father put down planks where we had to walk, cat had to stay in the barn for a while. Someone always went off the plank onto the fresh varnish. Had to stay off of it for 24 hours.</p> <p>Houseplants went out on the porch and stands were used to start seeds in the kitchen windows. In six weeks it would be warm enough to set them outdoors.</p>
318			
		335	<p>Father had outside chores at the same time. One was to shift vehicles in the barn. Pung and sleigh went to his brother's hugh barn and the buggy and carriage came home from there. About once in every 5 or 6 years he was fooled and made the shift too early. Then he couldn't go anywhere because he had the wrong vehicle for the weather conditions.</p> <p>Also had to remove the banking brush to a brush pile in the field</p>

Index	NAFOH	Int.	Catalog
			<p>then removed the banking boards and piled overhead in a henhouse. Under these boards the holihoeks and day lillies were just breaking ground. Mice wintered under the banking boards and the cat liked to be there when these boards were taken off.</p> <p>Raked the yard and I enjoyed that. Father said never rake a lawn until it's entirely dry or you will rake up the grass plants. There were always a few marbles in the grass along with other treasures to be found as pennies and even a thimble.</p> <p>393 Spring meant changes in our food. Maple syrup could be called both a spring and winter food.</p> <p>403 In March father went to the maple trees back of the house and tapped them, put in wooden spiles and wooden trencher he made. Some times he used tin containers to catch the sap. Emptied them every evening. Sap taken to kitchen where mother had 2 large containers about 2 gallons in size. One had syrup that had been boiling for several days. In the other was put the new sap. A long process to change the sap to syrup. Mother didn't enjoy this. Woodwork became sticky and kitchen steamy. Fire had to be kept up. Result was home produced maple syrup. Put down half a dozen quart jars to last until the next season.</p>

Index	NAFOH	Int.	Catalog
	513		<p>we never made maple sugar.</p> <p>Second spring treat was parsnips. Stayed in ground over the winter to be harvested in the spring. When ground been thawing several weeks parsnips were dug, washed. Cooked by steaming, never boil them in water- then slice them and butter them. Or slice them and place in buttered iron spider and fry them. Delicious this way.</p> <p>Third way to cook them was our favorite- parsnip stew. First fried them, then put in stew pan with milk and butter. Allowed to stand for several hours. I prefer this to lobster stew.</p> <p>Then we had dandelion greens but father never ate them. Grandmother was always from home then in green season. Later when father was born she cooked what she called spring greens which consisted of everything, iris leaves, milkweed stalks , etc. Father ate her spring greens but in his own household he declared his independance from greens.</p>
		512	<p>Fun to go with mother and cousin <u>Ethyl</u> to harvest the greens in a sunny field. <u>Olive</u> and I would run along the brook while the women dug the greens. Cleaning the greens is a mean chore but mother never asked us to help with that.</p>

Index	NAFOH	Int.	Catalog
			greens slowly cooked with salt pork for several hours and in last half hour added peeled potatoes which became delicately green and adsorbed taste of salt pork and greens. Then there was rhubarb. Red in color. Leaf is poisonous but stalk is very edible. Father's sister, <u>Hanna</u> , gave us a root of Strawberry Rhubabb, from that all neighbors had some too. Made sauce from rhubarb. Then made sauce with plums or raspberries or other berry along with the rhubarb. Made a change. Made tapioca pudding from the rhubarb.
		568	this was pearl tapioca. Not minute tapioca. Then there was rhubarb pie. Some made it like you make apple pie, some made it with beaten eggs like a custard. I always said I liked best the one I am eating. Made sure I didn't offend any of the cooks in the family. Mother made rhubarb wine also. Wasn't wine at all. Was strained rhubarb sauce, then sweetened this and bottled it.
	606		
		599	Both mother and father were weather watchers. In late March they watched for signs of spring. Each looked for different signs. Father looked at the state of the roads. Our road was dirt, frozen in the winter, rutted. In April or late March frost would go out of the road.

Index	NAFOH	Int.	Catalog
		610	<p>610 said then roads are breaking up, mud holes appeared and called pot-holes. Sometimes were 2 or 3 feet deep. Men put things in them then. A hard time for men with horse and buggies. Had to go around the pot-holes. Even the cat hated muddy roads. Autos had to stay off the roads then for 2 or 3 weeks.</p> <p>Father also noticed the behavior of horses as sign of spring. Prince was our horse that was allowed to run loose in the field. Would never roll as long as there was dampness in the meadow. Prince rolling was a real sign of spring.</p>
703		649	<p>Mother had other signs of spring. Ladybug on houseplants was one of the first signs. Mother repeated ladybug rhyme them. The garden and what was showing was another sign. First to show was snowdrops and scilla . Make a carpet of blue. Then narcissis and peonies. Rhubarb. Mother watched for birds to come. Looked at the clothesline-like to hang clothes. Saw more birds from that vantage point than any other. Saw first robbins from there. There were always a few robbins that stayed all winter but she could tell the southern robbins from the winter ones. Also red-winged blackbirds, cowbirds grackles, starlings. Purple finch and heard it too. Saw sparrows, phoebes, wild geese flying over.</p>

Index	NAFOH	Int.	Catalog
		700	<p>Mother also listened for the songs of the evening birds from the porch, woodcock, whip-o-wills, night hawks. Always after April heard the calls of the loons from the shores of the lakes.</p> <p>One sign both father and mother accepted as the clarion announcement of the coming of the new season. The sound of the peepers in the woods. Usually heard the first ones by the 18th of April.</p>
		716	<p>Spring season ended with Memorial Day which was always spoken of in my childhood as Decoration Day, then people went to cemeteries to decorate graves. Often called the cemetery the yard. The day before we children picked wild flowers, was before the days of conservation and we picked lady slippers. Some years there were plenty of lilacs for Decoration Day. Some years apple blossoms, always violets and trilliums. And some house plants. The wildflowers were always put in tin coffee cans and put in the shed overnight.</p> <p>A neighbor, <u>Mrs Bowden</u>, made what she called pillows for the cemetery. She saved rectangular box tops all year and day before Memorial we brought from the swamp peat moss. She filled the boxes with peat moss and then put individual blossoms in the moss. Not all blossoms were suitable. Sometimes the pillow was of all one</p>

Index	NAFOH	Int.	Catalog
		768	<p>color. On some the moss showed and she made a cross of white in the center or a star was cut of tissue paper and the blossoms put through the tissue paper. Showed a star of blossoms on the moss. She was very proud of these "pillows".</p> <p>Never held school on Decoration Day or Memorial Day. We all went to the cemetery with cans of water and the flowers. When we went with the horse Prince he was a problem because he enjoyed geraniums and bouquets and would eat them. We went to stones of my grandfathers <u>Maddox</u> and <u>Wood</u>, my great grandfather <u>Grindel</u>, and my lot of <u>Uncle Arthur's</u> two young children. Mother took great interest in decorating lots, father not so much interested.</p> <p>Was one lot he took care of-<u>Squire Stevens</u> a ship</p>
807			<p>builder in Bluehill, who left his money to the Baptist Church for the founding of an academy that bears his name-<u>George Stevens</u> Academy. Put lilacs in front of his stone, Father was always annoyed by name on stone, <u>George Stevens</u>, then the name <u>Mary</u>, then <u>Elder Gilpatrick</u> and under the name of <u>Mary</u> were the words "the wife of <u>Elder Gilpatrick</u>". After Stevens had died, <u>Mary Stevens</u> had remarried the Baptist minister. My father regarded the minister as an interloper in the grave lot</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Blue Hill</i></p>

Index	NAFOH	Int.	Catalog
		821	<p>of the <u>Stevens</u>. The <u>Elder</u> had been brave enough in the 1850s to leave Blue Hill and go to Kansas to fight the extension of slavery there.</p> <p>Then went to front of cemetery to admire the Soldiers Monument, showed a soldier dressed in the uniform of a northern veteran. Was of Blue Hill granite done by <u>Steven Wescott</u> and the skillful cutting was done by <u>Merrill Howard</u>.</p> <p>Soldier had a moustache. I used to think it was a statue of my father or <u>Uncle Arthur</u>.</p> <p>Father always commented on the war between the states as the War of the <u>Rebellion</u>. He felt the term Civil War was too modern and wanted no part of it. Father had a fellowship for the south and wanted me to feel sorry for the south. He repeated a poem but I don't have it all.</p> <p><u>[repeats the first verse of the poem]</u></p> <p>Then we'd go back and meet mother and always passed the lot bought for my family.</p>
		855	<p>Then we'd get into the carriage or car and go over-street to take part in the march to the ceme</p> <p>We went to the American Legion Hall I am told.</p> <p>I would have said we went to the town hall to line up.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Blue Hill Kansas</i></p>

Index	NAFOH	Int.	Catalog
		883	<p>I am told a Civil War vet. lined up the children. I don't remember that. I do remember one Memorial Day the children all wore sailor hats either 1916 or 17 or 18, at the time of WW1 Each child had a flag to wave.</p> <p>In the line first came the Civil War Vets. must have been vets of Spanish American war. Some ladies marched, then came the children.</p> <p>I was always out of step as I have no ear for music.</p>
	905		<p>There were 12 or 15 Civil War vets then in my childhood all wearing faded gray uniforms. <u>Soule Snowman</u> was one who always walked. He wrote a sketch which is owned by Garfield Post in Blue Hill. <u>Snowman</u> was present when the vote was taken for S. Carolina to secede from the Union.</p>
		903	<p>[reads from <u>Snowman</u>] <u>Snowman</u> was present at that event and later took passage on the last vessel that went north and went to New York City In 1861 <u>Snowman</u> went to Egypt and saw the pyramids. Later enlisted in Union army.</p> <p>Many of those old men had lived exciting lives apart from their army days.</p>

Blue Hill
S. Carolina
New York City
Egypt

Index	NAFOH	Int.	Catalog
		934	<p>one vet was <u>Addison Webber</u>, was in Navy in Civil War. Would give us a ride when he went by the house and asked us questions.</p> <p>I regret now that we did not question him when we had the chance. He went to France and Italy and the Holy Land. Went to Japan. Was on a naval craft that joined the Perry Fleet. Was with the navy in the Civil War in that part that split the Confederacy in two.</p> <p><u>[reads from his account of that]</u></p>
1001			<p>Then went on to the blockade of Mobile, <u>[Alabama]</u>.</p>
		988	<p>Once we got to the cemetery there was a speaker but I don't remember any of them. Was probably a military exercise too but I have forgotten. Probably somebody sounded taps but I have forgotten that. I remember the march back into town. On the way to the cemetery the children were orderly but not on the way back to town. Hats were thrown into the brook and calls made of school soon being over. So for me the Decoration Day marked the beginning of summer.</p>
		1008	<p><u>[music]</u></p> <p>announcer-remembered are important because they tell us about today and show how we have changed our thoughts and how much we have stayed the same.</p>
1050		10.7	<p><u>[music]</u></p>
		1031	<p>END OF TAPE</p>

Alabama
France
Italy
Japan

Interviewer's tape no.:

NAFOH Accession no.: T1473 1346

Interviewer: Virgil Bisset

Address: MPBN

Interviewee: Esther Wood

Address:

Place of interview: MPBN

Date: ?

Other people present:

Equipment used:

Tape: Brand: Size reel: 1 mil/1.5 mil Speed:

Cassette: Brand: C-30/C-60/C-120

Amount of tape used: (Side 1): (Side 2):

Brief description of contents: MPBN broadcast winter activities, lost in a snow storm, rural schools and teachers, TB in school, boarding experiences

Index	NAFOH	Int.	Catalog
	019	021	Musical introduction
		036	Rural life and MAine schools at turn of century as seen by <u>Esther Wood</u> of Blue Hill
		053	In my childhood, about 60 years ago, we had severe snow storms but we didn't suffer - each neighborhood was self sufficient with wood stoves, extra lamps, preserves and vegetables in the cellar, side of beef frozen in the barn , or could kill a hen. Phone line down no problem - they had snow shoes. Children looked forward to blizard- snow drift whipped cream with strawberries frozen in the drift, taken out at noon - frappe another
	113	118	treat was that Father was in the house; other wise he was to work at granite or in woods cutting always ready to stop reading or writing
			Blue Hill

Interviewer's tape #

NAFOH Tape #

1473 1 Catalog pg. #

Index	NAFOH	Int.	Catalog
			letters to recite poetry when snowed in - <u>Burns, Day</u> , - might read aloud - Mother did the reading - read <u>Jane Eyre</u> one winter, Roughing It, another,
		150	If storm of several days duration Mother would announce a picnic supper on the kitchen floor marshmallows on soda crackers from oven as special treat, only time served
		187	I recall one storm especially that caused hard- ship - it came up suddenly , probably late February - old snow was slushy, foot or so deep- when Father & I left the village- must have been Saturday- snowing so that we couldn't look through it - came down the Stretch and the horse fell - I was terrified but the horse was calm- if you walk back to <u>Stover's</u> I'll get Prince to his feet and all will be all right- 10 minutes later the horse was up and reharnessed My fathers coat and mitten's were wet- he said start shouting for dry mittens. <u>Oscar</u> was coming in, he grabbed mittens from by the stove for us, we were more comfortable with the dry mittens. It began to snow so it was almost like fog. My father said that he no longer knew where the road was, was going to let
	208		
		253	

Interviewer's tape #

NAFOH Tape #

1473 1

Catalog pg. #

Index	NAFOH	Int.	Catalog
			the horse find his own way home - I was to lie down under the fur robe where it was warm - he sang to keep up courage - Mother was watching for us - the barn door was open for us - that's the only storm that ever caused any anxiety.
		287	First teaching took place in front room of my greatgrandfather's cottage. My father's sister was born in 1844 ; she remembered what her mother had told about that first schoolroom - children of neighborhood came at about 8:30 and went home in late forenoon, no afternoon session - Master taught school, boarded at _____, PM he would help with whatever tasks needed doing-
	304	312	being taught in the house had its distractions difficult to keep mind on fractions when ginger bread was cooking, when Father drove the steers by the window hard to keep to geography. She remembered two teachers names - <u>Mr. Wood</u> and <u>Mr. Pillsbury</u> . An amusing anecdote about <u>Mr. Wood</u> - he had a cocked leg, one boy stuck a pin into the wrong leg and there was trouble
		332	The first schoolhouse in the neighborhood was opposite _____ was built in late 40's or early 50's - <u>Aunt Hannah</u> received her first schooling there. Chimney was at one end; was one stove; benches were just around edge of room leaving center free. <u>Aunt Hannah</u> remembered a teacher - <u>Hurd Lord</u> from the head of the bay-

Interviewer's tape #

NAFOH Tape #

1 4 7 3 1 Catalog pg. #

Index	NAFOH	Int.	Catalog
			he had a modern idea - had inattentive children put slates away, stand up and sing while he play harmonica - <u>Joe Clausson</u> sang well, liked Americ <u>Joe</u> died in Civèl War-
		379	During 1870's the second schoolhouse was built there were more children and greater prosper ^e ty due to granite quarries. It was on the hill beyond <u>Zenos Clausson's</u> - Father, mother, uncle, cousins and eventually I went there. It had woodshed, two privies out back, interior crowded with desks - as many as 40 pupils at one time- teacher's desk on platform, behind which was blackbeard, stove in front attached to brick chimney by long stovepipe that ran length of the room - near door was a water pail with a dipper- diseases passed tha t way
	412		
		423	Behavior crisis in 70's - in Granite School #7 and in East Blue Hill School, children drove the teachers outdoors - teachers afraid to come back to school - schools closed for a few days; new teachers hired
		438	District agents - town divided into school districts each of which had an agent responsible for hiring teachers, deciding when schoòl began, closed, buying wood, overseeing painting of building, - the one in this distict was my'

East Blue Hill

Interviewer's tape #

NAFOH Tape # 1473 1

Catalog pg. #

Index	NAFOH	Int.	Catalog
		473	<p>greatgrandfather Grindell - <u>long</u> in Est Blue Hill- he and <u>Mr. Long</u> went to Bangor - drove To Ellsworth, left the horses took the train then in late afternoon returned having hired two cousins. The cousin hired for East Blue Hill was a retired prizefighter - they were in for a surprise when they returned to-school there was no more misbehavior in East Blue Hill. Children in Friend's Corner were fearful over arrival of the other cousin - on a late afternoon in March <u>Mr. Grindell</u> drove in with the new teacher - a woman. Much surprise, even greater surprise when she took off her cape because she had a withered arm. What thinking of to hire a woman with bad arm to teach problem children? Teacher went to school with youngest <u>Grindell</u> child - she carried two hammers, inside were boxes and barrels - she told big boys to unpack them - she had maps, atlases, crayons, compasses, picture books such as the children hadn't seen - said the boys should bring lumber for shelves lights have been promised - we can have singing school in the evening - I can teach navigation every Friday afternoon - we will challenge the EAST Blue Hill School to a spelling bee and maybe to debates - there was no more trouble in the Granite neighborhood</p>
509			<p style="text-align: right;">Ellsworth East Blue Hill Bangor</p>

Index	NAFOH	Int.	Catalog
		531	<p>Her name was <u>Addie Ure</u>, from Bangor. She married <u>Mr. Leiford</u> connected With Leiford and Woodard, Bangor furriers. She is still remembered as one of the best teachers</p>
		540	<p>I went to the rural school in its last days. There were 12 pupils, finally 5, then went to school in the village. Started at 4 years old - my mother gave in; my aunt was the teacher, my cousins <u>Olive</u> and <u>Austin</u> were there I loved the idea of going to school - my Father and mother, my <u>Aunt Fanny</u> and four great aunts had taught school also cousin <u>Eleanor</u> - going to school was the most desirable thing in the world. In the two and a half years at the rural school I had four different teachers, three were from Castine Normal SCHOOL - at that time a high school graduate could go to Normal School and at the end of one year teach. They taught, knew a little psychology, very little theory subject matter not deep but they did have enthusiasm and originality. No day was tiresome. Picnics, original things - merits for perfect papers - ten merits and you could buy something on Friday afternoon - teacher's desk was like a store without candy - had chalk,</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Bangor Castine</i></p>

Interviewer's tape #

NAFOH Tape #

1473 1

Catalog pg. #

Index	NAFOH	Int.	Catalog
		601	crayons, picture cards, coloring books
	607		every second Friday every child would have enough to get something Learning from the older children was pleasant. When you had finished your own work you could listen to them recite- when the teacher was busy she might ask the older child to work with the younger ones - good for both - more care taken with cleanliness Twenty years before I attended there had been a tragedy due to carelessness with the drinking mug - TB in the school- a girl died with it and in 4 or 5 years three others also died of it. Violent tragedy - in another school the teacher rang a bell and it fell from her hand killing a child who was visiting that day. Advantage of rural school was that a child felt at home there. Sending the child several miles is upsetting. Second advantage is that neighborhood people felt an interest in the school - in the fall the women cleaned - when children performed there was cake etc - the schoolhouse was used for other things - religious meetings in the evening, writing and singing schools - at least one funeral in Friend's Corner schoolhouse

Index	NAFOH	Int.	Catalog
		674	<p>[Clock chimes]</p> <p>I regret not having taught in a rural school there are human interest stories - <u>Zenos Clausson</u> had a cleft palate and a hare lip but his heart was big and he loved children His well provided drinking water - strip fish hung in his shed - dried cod- and when a child went for water he would help himself to some - in the fall they helped themselves to his apples - the only thing he disapproved of was the cutting of his turnip tops to be used for Indian scalps</p>
	699	704	<p>Cousin <u>Fanny Long</u> lived in East Blue Hill, taught on Long Island - had poor boarding place - often could not eat what was on the table for supper - 1870's, 80's - no market for lobster so fisherman brought them home and boiled them and fed them to the hens - after supper Fanny sometimes stole claws from the hens because she was hungry- used rocks to break open the shells - fisherman's wife finally sent for her sister to come and cook - after the sister came they had good meals.</p> <p>Boarding in rural home with large family- a different aunt - unheated bedroom so school</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>East Blue Hill Long Island</i></p>

Interviewer's tape #

NAFOH Tape #

1473 1

Catalog pg. #

Index	NAFOH	Int.	Catalog
			<p>work had to be done with the family - one evening women went to visit - supper had not agreed - father told son to take the dog out when it was her - son answered that it wasn't the dog's stomach, it's the teacher's</p> <p>My four aunts all taught school and talked about the joys of it. My teaching began when I was a child - the barn was filled with sample textbooks and on Saturdays cousin Olive and I would teach school, she in the sitting room and I in the dining room. Pleasant memory associated with rural schools.</p> <p>774 On disadvantage is the division between village children and country ones. Now the line isn't drawn</p> <p>As gas prices rise we may see return to the rural schools. There are places where they are trying it in New York and Vermont</p> <p>WE usually went home to dinner; if there was a lot of snow or it was cold we brought our dinners to school in shiny lard pails. My mother felt that doughnuts, cold mince pie, did not belong in dinner pails; she made sandwiches, cookies, cake, sometime a cream puff, turnover - that led to trading of food for food, crayons, assistance with subjects.</p>

New York
Vermont

Interviewer's tape #

NAFOH Tape #

1473 1

Catalog pg. #

Index	NAFOH	Int.	Catalog
805			<p>teacher sometimes made warm drink to go with dinner - cocoa, occassionally hot soup After dinner we wanted to play outside - tag, picking flowers .</p> <p>Supt. of schools sometimes came - when I was in first grade I looked forward to his visit with terroe - His name was <u>Thomas Grindell</u> midmorning we saw his buggy , he came in, shook hands and was introduced - we had been told that he would examine us in some subject- I was picked first- I have never been more terrified- he bekoned - I felt better when he pout his arm around me - told other children he'd hear them later- told me ot pick page where I'd</p> <p>848 read - the page had a yellow bird on top and I read it to hte bottom with increasing courage he said I read beatifully and that's enough - I said no, I want to read about the fox and I remember that.</p> <p>We could look out and see the birches and spruce and the birds, The road and its traffic were newarby - looked for man who drove the jigger- a low slung four wheeled prodace wagon- to the wharf His name was <u>James Leach</u> - jigger was</p>

Index	NAFOH	Int.	Catalog
			<p>empty in one direction and loaded with produce in the other. Flour, sugar also. We called him <u>Jimmy Jiggerwheel</u> when he went by at recess- out mother's would have corrected us if they had known - if he was empty he would stop and tell us to go in and ask the teacher if ride apiece with me. We'd get a ride and run back to the school. Became <u>Jimmy Autocrank</u> after he got a Model T. I knew him till he died I called him <u>Jimmy</u> or <u>James</u> but I always thought <u>Jimmy Jiggerwheel</u></p>
		893	<p><u>Cousin Eleanor</u> must have been somly tried to have to teach her brother <u>Austin</u>, her sister <u>Olive</u>, her cousin <u>Esther</u> If I remember correctly <u>Austin</u> and <u>Olive</u> caused <u>Eleanor</u> little trouble the one who caused it was I. One time she used superior judgment for a beginning teacher I was reading a piece listing the food served at Thanksgiving dinner and I read "turkey and smashed potatoed" - she said there was no "s" and I said its "smash potato" - my mother says smash potato and she knows more than you do - Eleanor said I hadn't been polite and sent me to walk arround the schoolhouse When I came in she said we'd not argue about the potato and go on from there but ask when you go home if she says mash or smash potato - I told my mother and she said she always says mashed</p>
	895		

Interviewer's tape #

NAFOH Tape # 1473 1

Catalog pg. #

Index	NAFOH	Int.	Catalog
			<p>you misunderstood me when you go back you appologize</p> <p>My grandmother Maddox always boarded the teacher fpor many years. Ethel Snowman boarded with her, said it was one of her favorite boarding places because there was a different kind of pe every night. My mother taught on many district and later in the academy, her favoritite boarding place was was Mrs. Henry Wood's who had linen tablecloth and napkins, changed every day, had cut glass,=made fresh busquits, made sour cream pie with raisins. A teacher was fortunate to get good boarding - sometimes it was bad-</p> <p>I did do a little boarding in my high school teaching at Stonington in 1926 - 27 , 27 - 28 Father and mother were there - when granite yard closed they returned to Blue Hill - One winter I boardedwith Capt & Mrs. Sellars - I expect she kept house as they did in the 1870's I remember her housekeeping quirks she had a linen tablecloth but at each place had 3 tray clothes, everything was covered for protection one set atop another, wore two aprons. She told me I was not to wipe a disk or make my bed - no 978 housekeeping Mrs. Sellars wanted to do her work her own way, one part of her way was to wipe the kitchen floor every day</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Stonington Blue Hill</i></p>

Interviewer's tape #

NAFOH Tape # 1473 1

Catalog pg. #

Index	NAFOH	Int.	Catalog
			<p><u>Capt. Sellars</u> had been on a yacht in the 1880's crew from Deer Isle he'd tell about a race but couldn't describe it although he seemed to feel sea dampness and hear the wind.</p>
		998	<p>Announcer says that it is refreshing and important to remember the way things were.</p>
	1002	1007	<p>End of tape, end of interview</p>

Deer Isle