

Kip Campbell

Interveiwed by Chris Callaghan, Nov. 16, 2000



Q. You can keep an eye on everything that's going on here, eh? Everybody going by.

A. Oh yes. And there's not much traffic here today, but my, my, as a rule the traffic is terrific here on this street.

Q. When is the traffic bad?

A. Well, all day and all night it has been, but they laid off a whole shift here you know. They laid off 80 men in the mill. And traffic was going here day and night, trucks right steady.

Q. Did you every know Scott Perry from Freeport?

A. Yeh. I don't know him personally, but I know of him.

Q. You know who he was on Lover's Lane, there.

A. Well, on Lover's Lane there, I use to have a distance cousin that lived there, MacNeil?

Q. Blair MacNeil? He is still there. He comes down every summer. He's a very good friend of ours. That would be Alton's son.

A. Well, old Ben Campbell, that'd be Alton MacNeil's wifes father. He was a second cousin to my father.

Q. Its recording, its fine.

A. Wife: you're going to have a recording.

Q. That's what we want. That's what we're here for!

A. Wife: I'd like to hear that recording afterwards.

Yeh, sure. You bet. It will probably be too long to play back today, but we'll certainly make one for you if you like. What we do also is transcribe them verbatim, we make fit and type everything everybody says and it ends up generally, depending how long the interview goes, between 30 and 40 pages. But they are very interesting. This interview will be one of about 50 or 60 that we are doing right from Westport to Bear River right back to Riverdale, with older people and it will be on video tape and audio tape, and its going to be on the internet and also they are going to make a CD Rom and its for high school students to study local history. It will be wonderful. For instance, the way it will

be set up, if someone goes to the internet, and say I'm talking about fires, if they are interested in fires, they can just click on fire and you're interview or at least the sections about fire will come up. Maybe somebody in Freeport remembers the school burning, ---

Wife: It will be interesting for somebody.

Q. Oh, yes, for lots of people.

A. Well, we will start with the very basics.

Q. What is your full name.

A. Clifford Edward Campbell.

Q. And how did you come to be known as Kip?

A. I don't know. It's a nickname I suppose.

Q. No story associated with it?

A. No, none whatsoever.

Q. And what were your parents names?

A. Wilfred Campbell and my mother Charlotte Campbell.

Q. What was your Mom's maiden name?

A. Lawrence.

Q. Where were her parents from?

A. She was from Weymouth.

Q. What year were you born?

A. 1911.

Q. And where were you born?

A. Right here in Weymouth.

Q. And where in Weymouth were you born?

A. Right down in the village.

Q. In your family home?

A. No we were renting.

Q. But you weren't born in a hospital?

A. No. No.

Q. What was your father's parents names?

A. Edward Campbell and my grandmother's name was Hattie.

Q. And did you say your Grandfather was from Freeport?

A. Yes, he was originally from Freeport but they moved to Digby, they were from Digby. They had been in Digby as long as I can remember.

Q. And did you tell me what your Grandmother's maiden name was?

A. I'm not sure. She was a Campbell. It was a Campbell married a Campbell. He was from Freeport and she was from Culloden.

Q. And your mother's parents names?

A. William Lawrence was my Grandfather - he was from Maine, and my Grandmother's name was, Amero, Mary Anne.

Q. And how did she spell Amero?

A. AMERO. That was the old original spelling of Amero as far as I know.

Q. How large was your family?

A. Five - three boys and two girls.

Q. And where were you in that?

A. Second.

Q. And what did your father do for a living, Kip?

A. He came down here from Digby and he worked in the Livery stable for Bub, Eliza, Hankinson. He'd be a brother to Ken Hankinson's father, George. And he had a livery stable, where they - you know it would be like driving taxi today, with horse and

Q. How many horses would they keep in that stable, do you remember?

A. I think there was about 6 horses.

Q. Do you remember that yourself?

A. Oh, yes.

Q. Would there have been anything like, not a Pony Express, but did they also change horses here?

A. No, they were just drive taxi - you know in them days the commercial travellers use to travel by train. And they'd put up at the hotel, then they'd hire a horse and team and a driver to drive them like to the stores down the shore, like Church Point, and Belliveau's Cove or Weymouth North or whatever.

Q. And would your father be one of the drivers?

A. Oh yeh.

Q. Did he ever take you along?

A. Oh yeh.

Q. Where were those commercial travellers coming from?

A. Oh, I really don't know where they come from but they were travelling for firms that sold good, drygoods or groceries or whatever.

Q. Now someone mentioned to us, Harold Cromwell, back at Weymouth Falls, told us about commercial travellers coming to the Goodwin Hotel and they'd have a sample room. What do you remember about the sample room?

A. That's right. It was a long building and they had tables all set out there and the travellers would all come on the train and they'd have all their trunks and they'd have all their samples in their trunks and they'd take them to the sample room and open them up and put the stuff all out on the tables on display, you know. And then the merchants would come and pick out what they wanted and put their order in, that type of thing.

Q. Pretty efficient way of doing it, eh?

A. Oh yes.

Q. But that was not for the general public to come and pick up things?

A. No, no. Just the retailers or wholesalers.

Q. Where were you living at this point?

A. Right down in the village.

Q. And you said your father rented that house?

A. Yes, we lived there until 1928. In 1928 we bought a house down towards Weymouth North, up on the other road.

Q. You probably started school when you were about 6 years old, I guess.

A. Eight years old, I started school.

Q. How come?

A. I don't know.

Q. Was that unusual in those days to wait until you were 8?

A. No, I don't know why.

Q. Where did you go to school?

A. Weymouth.

Q. And what was that school like?

A. Well, it was a four room school. It was like grade primary department was primary up to Grade 3, and then intermediate was 4 - 8, and they only used three rooms most of the time, and high school was 9 - 12.

Q. And where was that school located?

A. Right where the fire hall is now. On that lot this side of the legion.

Q. So you would walk to school, of course.

A. Oh yes. There was no busses in them days.

Q. And Dad wasn't going to hook up a team of horses!

A. No. No.

Q. How far did you go in school?

A. I only went half way through 8.

Q. And do you remember why you left?

A. Yes, but I think maybe I better keep that quiet.

Q. We have probably heard worse!

A. Well, the teacher and I didn't get along. When you're 16 years old, you think you know it all, and nobody can tell you anything, and things just happened.

Q. So what did you do then?

A. Well, I went out west , out to Saskatchewan harvesting. I had my 17th birthday out there. Harvesting wheat. Came back and I went to work in a service station and I worked there until the Depression hit and from then on, a young single couldn't buy a job, there was no work. There was no work at all.

Q. Go back to going out to Saskatchewan, how did you get out to Saskatchewan?

A. By train.

Q. And who did you go with?

A. There were quite a few young fellows from here that went out.

Q. And why did you decide to go out west?

A. Well, they put on an excursion , they use to have an excursion every fall to go out there, the farmers needed help. And the pay was good for that time of year for then. We got \$4.00 a day, stooking, \$5.00 a day thrashing. That was good pay to young fellas them days.

Q. How long would it take you to get from Weymouth to Saskatchewan?

A. Five days and four nights.

Q. What do you remember about that trip out?

A. Oh, there wasn't much to remember, it was just riding steady on the train. We didn't have a change to get off at all.

Q. What would you do for food?

A. Oh, you took basket of food with you.

Q. What was stooking?

A. Stooking was picking, they cut the wheat with what they call binders and it would cut it and bundle it up, tie it in bundles and drop it on the ground, and you had to come along and pick it up and stand it on end and the wheat up in the air so it would dry, you see. And that's the way you would dry it. And after it dried, then they would thrash it, they'd come along with thrashing machines and thrash it.

Q. Would they throw the whole bundle into the thrashing machine?

A. Oh yes.

Q. And did you call those a stook of grain?

A. Yes, that's what they were.

Q. And they would just stand up by themselves.

A. Oh yes. Well, the stubble, the bottom of the stook you know where it was cut, you could stand it up in that.

Q. Was that dangerous work?

A. No. No. Just long hard work. Worked 10 hours a day stooking, and thrashing we use to get up 3 o'clock in the morning and have our team ready to get out on the field by 4 and they'd bring your lunch out at like 10 o'clock, and another one at noon, and another 3 o'clock in the afternoon, and you'd come in at 7 at night out of the field.

Q. And how long would that last?

A. Oh, probably a couple of weeks, something like that. Maybe 3 weeks.

Q. And then you just got back on the train and came back to Nova Scotia?

A. Came back.

Q. Quite an adventure for you.

A. I guess.

Q. How many times did you do that trip?

A. That was the last excursion that they had, in 1928 was the last excursion out west, from Saint John.

Q. What ended them?

A. Combines. There was 15 men on the outfit I worked on, and now two men does that same job. Combines were just coming in then, the year I was out there.

Q. So that would have been 1928. So you came back right at the start of the depression then.

A. Yeh.

Q. And I've talked to a lot of people who said they didn't find the depression particularly hard here, but you did?

A. Well, it depend on who you were. It depended on your circumstances. Like, Bette's people, she lived on a farm, and her father owned timberland and stuff like that and he could go in the woods and cut a few logs and buy what flour and sugar or whatever he needed and the rest of it they had his own beef and vegetables and everything. They didn't even know the depression was on. But people like myself and a good many others that didn't have that, they found it tough.

Q. So what do you remember about the depression? Did you spend it in Weymouth, the whole time?

A. Yeh.

Q. And how did it affect the community?

A. It affected everybody pretty much the same. Everybody found it pretty tough. Because there wa no money and no work, this was the problem.

Q. Who was the major employer in Weymouth at that time?

A. I would say George Hankinson was.

Q. He was the lumber mill. Do you have any idea how many people he would have employed before the depression?

A. No, because he had mills in the woods, he had men cutting in the woods cutting and stuff like that you know that I wouldn't know nothing about.

Q. But he was a major employer.

A. Oh yes, definitely. Actually, he was just about the only employer.

Q. So how did you manage to get through the depression? Were you living at home still?

A. Living at home. We had it tough. We were poor, as poor as they could be. It wasn't easy. But we pulled through.

Q. What kind of little odd jobs would you get? Can you remember at all?

A. Not really, whatever jobs you could get hold of.

Q. When you were a young person growing up here, how often would you get out of Weymouth?

A. Not very often. No. No. We just played a lot of baseball in the summer and hockey in the winter. That's all we had to do.

Q. Was there a movie theatre in Weymouth in those days?

A. Oh, yes.

Q. Where was that?

A. It was down where Ken Hankinson's show room is now.

Q. Do you remember any of the movies you would have seen?

A. Oh, I suppose. Charlie Chaplin, a few like that.

Q. But as far as buying anything you needed you could get it right here in Weymouth, could you?

A. Oh yes. Weymouth was a much larger place than it is today. Oh, yeh.

Q. Paint me a picture of Weymouth in 1925, say.

A. In 1925, I could show you one from 1910.

Q. What would the main street

A. There was a stores on both sides of the street all the way through. All drygood stores and grocery stores and tin smiths and restaurants and all this stuff.

Q. This is a silly question but what did a tin smith do?

A. Well, he made stove pipes and whenever you wanted something made in tin, he could make it. And blacksmith shops, two blacksmith shops going shoeing horses and cattle and making iron work and stuff like that. Weymouth was quite a spot in them days.

Q. It was a big shipping port too, wasn't it?

A. It was, it was.

Q. What do you remember about that, about going down to the waterfront?

A. Oh lots of ships in. All the wharves full of three masted schooners, you know.

Q. What kind of goods would they be carrying?

A. Lumber. Exporting lumber to the States and the West Indies.

Q. Now would they bring back cargo from the West Indies?

A. They would bring back salt and coal and things like that, you know.

Q. Would there be foreign sailors on those boats?

Q. Ah yeh. Well, not foreign, they would be Nova Scotians, you know. The vessels would be mostly Nova Scotia boats, you know, with Nova Scotian sailors. I went to sea on them. On three masted schooners.

Q: Now tell me about that.

A. Well, there isn't much to tell.

Q. You don't think so, I'm fascinated.

You ate sour bread and sour greens at \$18.00 a month.

Where did you go?

A. To the States mostly.

Q. How many voyages did you take?

A. Oh, let me see, I was on it two different - I was the Daniel Getson and on the E.P. Theriault. About five voyages I think.

Q. And how old were you at that point?

A. About 19 or 20 I guess.

Q. What was your job?

A. Just a sailor. Plain sailors.

Q. Would you have to handle the rigging and stuff?

A. Oh yes. You only had a Captain, a mate, a cook and three sailors. So the sailors had to do the work, whatever there was to do.

Q. Where did you learn to do that?

A. Aboard the boat. You started out as a greenhorn and learned as you went along.

Q. Now you mentioned on the phone that you worked in service stations. When did you start doing that kind of work?

A. I started it on Capt. Moores around Weymouth there. That would be where the drug store is now, there was a big service station there. I started there in 1929. I was working when they had the big fire in Weymouth.

Q. What do you remember about that?

A. Well, don't remember too much about it. I tried to work along with the rest of them to put the fire out is about all you can remember.

Q. How did it start?

A. I don't really know but that always said it started in one of the stores there. There was a little party in the office I guess, quite late at night and somebody must have thrown a match or cigarette or something in a waste paper basket. So they claim. I would imagine they were drinking, I don't know, you know. Anyway, that's where it started in that store.

Q. What time of year was that?

A. That was in - I believe it was in October - the latter part of October. It might have been November, but I think it was October. It was late in the fall anyway.

Q. And how was the village organized to deal with the fire?

A. Well, they weren't too well organized. They had organized a fire department in 1926, but they hadn't had too much practice, they didn't have too much organization either. They had a fire chief and a few volunteer fighters and that was just about it.

Q. Were you part of the volunteer fire department?

A. Not at that time. I was in later years, I was on the fire department for 17 years.

Q. So was that a major fire?

A. It did a lot of damage. It took 21 buildings on both sides of the street. And all up the hill there. All big buildings. I'll show you some pictures before the fire. I think it was \$250,000.00 damage and at that time that was a lot of money. I think it was a quarter of a million dollars, something like that.

Q. What did people do for insurance in those days?

A. I have no idea. Some had a little insurance, but there wasn't too much insurance.

Q. That really devastated the business section.

A. Well, Weymouth has never bounced back from it. And another fire in 1959.

Q. When you say it hasn't bounced back, do you mean some business just didn't bother to reopen. Yes.

A. They've had two fires since that in Weymouth.

Q. Do you remember that fire, you must remember that fire too.

A. Oh yes.

Q. What did it look like?

A. Well, it wasn't very pleasant I know that. We had a pumper which wouldn't go. It wouldn't start. Digby sent down a truck with a bunch of hose on and wanted to know where the hydrants were to hook onto, which was something we didn't have, of course. And the Lands and Forest Ranger had his little pumper. He was the only one who pumped any water at all until Yarmouth got up here with a big pumper and they soon got it under control.

Q. How much later was that?

A. Oh, I suppose close to noon by that time and the fire had started early in the morning.

Q. Were there any fatalities in that fire?

A. No.

Q. So when you started working for the service station, I imagine cars were still much a luxury item, were they?

A. Yes, but there were cheap. You could buy, at that time you could buy a new Chev or a Ford or a Plymouth for \$1,000.00 or less.
We're talking about the start of the depression here, about the same time.

Q. So I suppose a lot of people didn't have the money for that?

A. \$1,000.00 was a lot of money in them days.

Q. So who was your employer?

A. My first service station was Capt. Moore, Capt. Arthur Moore.

Q. And what was your job at that point?

A. Oh, driving a little taxi and tending the pumps and working around the service station. He also did repair work, but I wasn't involved in the mechanical end of it same as the garage down here on the other side of the corner where Foodland is, there use to be a garage there. I worked 14 years for him.

Q. Who's that?

A. Denny Theriault. Theriaults garage but I wasn't involved in the mechanical end of it.

Q. Who sold you your gas?

A. Imperial Oil down here, Esso.

Q. And how would they deliver it?

A. In tanks like they do now.

Q. Do you remember what it cost for a gallon of gas when you first started?

A. Oh, it was 28 to 30 cents a gallon.

Q. So when did you get your first car?

A. Oh my. I never got a car until about 1955, I suppose.

Q. And what was that?

A. A Plymouth.

Q. Where did you go to buy that?

A. Second handed. Who'd I buy it from? I don't know who I bought that from. I know who's car it was before I owned it, but I don't remember where I bought it.

Q. Who owned it before you did?

A. Father Comeau, a priest.

Q. So it must have been a nice clean car.

A. It was, it was a nice car. Well kept, you know.

Q. Where was Father Comeau from, down the shore?

A. He was the local priest here. But he was from Meteghan.

Q. So you spent all your working life except for the harvest excursion, you worked all your life in Weymouth, did you?

A. I worked for 3 years in the States.

Q. Did you? Whereabouts?

A. East Boston, I was working on a boat in Boston harbour but I was living in East Boston. Taking fishing parties out and parties out and the like.

Q. When was that?

A. 1960 I went over. I stayed there about a year and I didn't like that, kind of rough. East Boston is a pretty rough spot, kind of rough for a country boy. I moved out of there and moved up to Lynn. I lived in Lynn for a couple years and I got a job with a contractor painting houses, shingling roofs and whatever. Just a general contractor.

Q. Why did you move to the States? Did you have relatives there?

A. No, I had no more work here. I ran out of work here.

Q. Did you have a family at that point, Kip?

A. No I never had any family. We never had any family.

Q. So you were a little freer to move then.

A. Well, the wife's mother, the wife took care of her mother and she was with us close to 20 years. But she was bed ridden the last 7 years and at that time she stayed home taking care of her mother and I went over there to work.

Q. And why did you decide to move back to Weymouth, then?

A. Well, all of a sudden one day I just started thinking what was I doing over there. My wife was over there. My wife was here, my home was here, everything I worked for in my life was here and what was I doing over there alone? So I packed up and come home.

Q. You were still young to retire at that time, though.

A. Oh yes. I was in my 50's, early 50's.

Q. So what did you do after that?

A. Came home and went into the painting business. Painting houses.

Q. And was there enough work in this area to keep you pretty busy?

A. Oh yeh. I started working for different painters, you know. Different contractors.

Q. Now I know you didn't work in the mills, but I am just curious. There is a black community back Weymouth Falls and most of those people worked in the mills, didn't they?

A. Yes, I would think they did, most of them.

Q. Do you remember when you were growing up, were there difficult relations between the blacks and the whites?

A. Not in my days, but before my days they were. People before me, I've heard that they had pretty - they didn't get along with the black community very well. They tell me they use to run them right out of Weymouth altogether, they didn't allow the black people in town after 6 o'clock at night. But that's heresay. But in my day we never had any problem with the black people. I knew all the young men up there my age, and we always got along well with all of them.

Q. Everybody has read this book "Electric City" now. Do you remember the Stalins at all?

A. Oh yes.

Q. What do you remember about them?

A. Well, I remember him and her - the old man and the old lady when they moved out from New France. They moved here to Weymouth and they lived in the house right across from the school - that was the old Blacks Hotel Building.

Q. Is that building still there?

A. No. That's where Bell, do you know Bell? Where he lives?

Q. Yes.

A. It would be right there where he lives. On that Y going up - one road goes up to the Legion and one goes to Weymouth North. That big white house there, it was there on that lot, and they moved out there and they stayed there - well we were going to school at the time - that's why I remember them. They were there a year or so and then they moved down to the Goodwin Hotel and they stayed at the Goodwin Hotel after that. And I

remember well Louie, I remember Louie Saline and Simone, his sister and Morris and most of the boys.

Q. They were a good bit older than you, I suppose.

A. Oh yes, quite a bit. The author of the book, Paul, him and I were about the same age. I knew Paul too. I knew him through playing baseball. He played for Church Point - he was from Church Point. And he played for Church Point and I played for Weymouth so.....

Q. So did you have a real organized baseball team here in Weymouth.

A. Oh yes.

Q. With uniforms and everything?

A. Oh yes. We use to have a league. Freeport use to have a ball team too. We use to play against them.

Q. How would you get all the way to Freeport?

A. On the back of a truck. That's the way we travelled.

Q. That would be quite a trip in those days, all the way down the neck.

A. Oh yes. But that's the only way we had to travel. Nobody had any cars. None of the young people had a car. Couldn't afford one.

Q. Now you pronounce the last name STALINE?

A. Yes.

Q. That's how they said it?

A. When you were growing up, your Mom worked in the home of course, raising her family, right?

Q. My mother, yes.

A. Would she have kept animals or a garden or anything?

Q. No, we had no garden or animals. We had animals after we moved out of Weymouth. Dad always had a cow and hens and stuff like that. But while we lived in the village, you had nowhere to keep animals or anything else.

A. For sure, you were right in town.

Q. How important was religion in your family when you were a little boy?

A. Well, my Father was Protestant and my Mother was Catholic. So you know, it wasn't something that really seem to amount to too much at the time. But we were all brought up Catholic.

Q. You know, in those days that would be a big deal for a Catholic to marry a Protestant, right?

A. Yes. Yes, it was - especially like - my Father was a Baptist.

Q. Do you remember, did either side of the family give that couple a hard time because of that?

A. Not really, I suppose if we had been close to my Grandparents they would have been a little friction, but we were 20 miles away and they had no car and we had no car or no way of getting in. Dad use to go and see his Mother once in a while on the train, something like that or bus. Outside of that, why.....so there was never any big friction.

Q. Interesting when you think 20 miles was such a journey in those days.

A. It certainly was.

Q. Now it would be right next door, practically.

A. Oh yes. Oh yes.

Q. Did you have any need for medical care as a young boy, that you can remember?

A. No. No.

Q. If you did, where would you have gone?

A. Well, we had two doctors here in Weymouth. Had three at one time. And a dentist. We use to have everything we needed and now we don't have anything. Well, we have one very good doctor, Dr. Felix he is good doctor alright, but he is crippled up, he can't move around much and he can't get out hardly. But Dr. Westby is top notch.

Q. So you had a dentist right here in the village?

A. We had two dentists. Dr. Hogan was a dentist and Dr. Cormier was a dentist, and we always had a dentist. And a Dr. Felix Comeau was a dentist here in Weymouth at one time. Oh yes, we always had a dentist.

Q. How would you take care of your teeth as a young boy?

A. We couldn't - we couldn't afford to unless we had to have one hauled out or something like that.

Q. But was there daily brushing like there is today?

A. Oh yes.

Q. Nothing new about that! And you already told me you wouldn't leave here very often. Did you ever take one of the boats over to Saint John, across the bay?

A. Oh yes. Oh yes. Not when we were young. Not like during depression, but in late years, yes.

Q. How did you meet Betty?

A. Well, she came up - she's from Church Point - her home is at Church Point. And she came up here working for some family and we met everything seem to work out all right.

Q. The rest is history! What was Betty's maiden name?

A. Thibault. That was 61 years ago. Be 61 years the 28th of this month.

Q. Well, congratulations. You don't come across that very often, do you!

A. No you certainly don't.

Q. Where did you get married?

A. Church Point.

Q. In the church?

A. Yes.

Q. Was that a large ceremony?

A. Oh no. Oh no.

Q. I don't think I've met one person that has had a big ceremony.

A. That so?

Q. They just say they might have had a brother and a sister stand for them and.....

Q. What was your salary when you started working in the garage?

A. I hate to tell you that. \$3.00 a week.

Q. Was that an average salary in those days?

A. I don't think so, no.

Q. It was low even then?

A. Oh yeh.

Q. When you were a young adult, and all the years that you worked, how did you plan for your retirement?

A. Never thought of it. Never made enough money to plan for it.

Q. When did you first buy a home?

A. This was the first one, 1942.

Q. You were still young then, 30, 31 years old.

A. Do you remember what you paid for this house?

Q. Yeh.
Going to tell me?

A. \$1,500.00. It was auctioned off. In fact, one of the Stalines owned this house at one time. Charlie.

Q. And its an old house, you were saying?

A. Yes. I would think it is about 130 years old.

Q. And which of the Stalines owned it?

A. Charlie. Charlie Staline. A fella by the name of Jim Brown had the house built and he lived here and when he died his widow married this Charles Staline and they lived here. And after they died, the blacksmith, Seyforth Theriault bought it and him and his wife lived here until they died, and then they auctioned the place off and I put a bid of \$1,500.00 on it and I got it.

Q. What changes have you made to it, if any?

A. None, really. Outside of fixing it up inside. There has never been a child born in this house. Never.

Q. Never in its whole history?

A. None of them had children, not one of them.

Q. Isn't that fascinating.

A. This is the fourth owner and none of us had children.

Q. That's very interesting, isn't it. Some of the people we interview, we say, where were you born and they say in that room right there! Its amazing.
When Weymouth was a bustling community when you were still a boy, what role did the company store play in the lives of the people who worked in the mills?

A. That would be George Hankinsons' store, wouldn't it. The people that worked for him, they took most of their things out of the store. There was very little cash changed hands them days, you know. Very little.

Q. Do you remember here trading with people on the neck for fish and stuff.

A. Yeh.

Q. Obviously, a certain time of year that would happen?

A. In the fall. Burpee and his father Arthur and old Ben they use to all come up here to Weymouth and trade dry fish in bundles, I guess they were 25 pound bundles of dry fish, for vegetables. There was a lot of people from down Digby neck and the Islands that use to come around - they use to come into Digby and down to Weymouth and around different places. They all had their spots, you know where they would come each fall. They had nice dry fish too. I wish I could get some now.

Q. Indeed. When they came over, this would be your cousins coming from the Islands - would you have a little visit with them?

A. Oh yes. They always come to visit with us.

Q. How long would they stay?

A. Oh, they'd stay a couple of days.

Q. And how often would you see them?

A. Not very often. Only about once a year in them days. We had no way of getting down to the Island, that was a long ways away.

Q. Can you remember getting a telephone or was there always a telephone in your lifetime?

A. Well, there was always a telephone in my lifetime. We didn't have one, but.....they were a luxury in them days. There was very few phones. Now everybody has one. Everybody has four or six! I think I got 4 of them in the house here too.

Q. How about electricity?

A. Well, electricity only came in in the '20's. Sometime in the '20's. I don't know just what year. But I think it was in the '20's.

Q. What difference do you remember it making in your life?

A. None really.

Q. Is that so?

A. We couldn't afford electricity for many years.

Q. I was going to ask you something about that. Were the Stalines considered well off people.

A. Yes, oh yes. They had - the boys all rode nice horses, you know, and rode in and out from France. That's the way they use to travel - by horseback. And they were considered very well off people.

Q. Was there a part of Weymouth where the better off people lived?

A. I suppose, more or less, but not too much.

Q. Where would that part have been?

A. Well, there would be like a, you know where the bank is - well from there up along there most of the merchants lived, up along there.

Q. Still some lovely homes up along there. Course, I find Weymouth a very nice little village.

A. It use to be a whole lot nicer.

Q. When you were young, how often would you see Micmacs?

A. There use to be 3 families of Micmacs that lived just down here, it would be I suppose St. Bernard. On the Ohio road. By the crossing there.

Q. What was their family name?

A. Clark, Clark Charles. He lives down in St. Bernard.

Q. Kind of lonely!

A. Yeh.

Q. Well, what have I not asked you that you think is important that kids should know about comparing you day to now?

A. Well, I can tell you I have seen a good many changes. If the world changes as much in the next 50 years as it has in the last 50 years, she will be quite a world.

Q. For better or for worse?

A. Well, that's a good question. I don't know the answer to that.

Q. We are making some gains, but I think we are losing a few things too.

A. Well, I thank you very much.

