

Interview with Mrs. Dorothy Reist (nee Barnes.) Taped at the Waterton Park School Reunion.  
3 June, 1995. Interviewer: Leslie Robertson.

Time: Side A - 45 mins.  
Side B -

Topic of Interview

Family history - passage from England 1920. Arrived in WLNP 1924. Father Bert Barnes: Warden duties. Recollections of early Waterton: school, social activities, life at the Belly River Warden cabin, social events. The Depression, 1935 Fire, drownings, flood, illnesses.

Tape

Footage

Subject

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| 000 | Introduction.  |
| 002 | Arrivals<br>- England to Canada 1920.<br>- Arrived WLNP 1924.<br>- Father "old country" butcher Fort Macleod - advertizement for part-time Warden.   |
| 014 | Voyage from England  |
| 022 | Old waggon trail into WLNP<br>- tent camp at Lake Linnet.  |
| 033 | Town<br>anecdote: wheelbarrow cemented into the pillar of the Dance Hall.<br>- school in the Hotel.<br>- flower-picking for the Hotel lobby.<br>- tent camp - snow, Pop Harwood - telephones.                |
| 059 | Father and Mother<br>- military and telegraph operator during War in England.  |
| 064 | Wardens - 1930's<br>- clothing - buffalo coats, 10 gallon hats.<br>- Bo Holroyd, Bert Knight (Chief), Andy Bower.  |
| 075 | The Depression<br>- met husband Ed Johnson worker on Relief Camps.<br>- stayed at Belly River in the Summers.<br>- Mother worked at Hotel.<br>- built and rented building for first high school in Waterton. |

- Mark Kenny Orchestra.

- 093 Isolation  
- men travelled women usually stayed in town.  
anecdote: the "Seven Year Itch" arrives in Waterton from Fort Macleod 1926-27.
- 108 Medicine - health
- 115 Anecdote: children on the Lake on ic cream parlour boards.
- 120 School  
- Miss. Ellison, teacher, owner of store and cottages.  
anecdote: Arthur Fredrickson - pinching and poking Dorothy, name on the board, strapped.  
- Miss Keith, teacher from Victoria, lived on Mainstreet , bedroom a curtained-off area of living room.
- 155 Belly River Warden Station  
anecdote: winter - logs splitting in the cold sounded like a cannon.  
- father's patrols - horse and snowshoes - dog team.  
- shooting coyotes - predator control.  
- women - "fancy work," hauling water.
- 172 anecdote: butter from the cold box, killed a weasel, ruined the butter.
- 176 Native non-Native interaction Belly River
- 190 Summer  
- townsfolk rented houses to visitors.  
- Dance Hall.
- 205 - early 1930's - Cameron Lake- worked as chambermaid and cook. Frank Goble boat boy.
- 218 Wardens  
- insect inventories (shaking trees), flora, birds.  
- elk arrive through Belly River - count herds.  
- Coyotes, clearing trails.
- 253 anecdote: Bert Barnes severe cut on foot - doctor from Cardston. First aid kits for horses.
- 278 Community  
- no birthday party.  
- card-playing.
- 300 The Depression  
- good conditions in Waterton.

- Relief Camps - food rations, travel pools.
- Canadian - U.S.A. Customs in tents well into Canadian side near spring. Guns. anecdote: Dorothy and father checking man near Chief Mountain for liquor.
- Rum runners in WLNP - Pincher Creek area. Dry in U.S.A.

- 344 1935 Fire  
- hauling logs after the fire - drowning.
- 363 Drownings - Cameron Falls  
  
anecdote: Mrs. Hunter cut hand, caught largest fish in Lake (1923?)
- 380 Food / Fish  
- fish, baking powder biscuits - not much fresh meat.  
- Relief Camps fished out Creeks?  
- stocking Lakes with pack horses- fish hauled in cream cans.
- 395 Flood
- 412 Life and times  
- inconveniences, play.
- 427 Changes  
- vegetation - pine beetles Bertha.  
- insects.  
- wildlife - more bears before, not so many deer, not so many sheep.
- Archaeology  
- Human remains found when constructing Akamina Parkway.
- 466 Humans - bears, rubbish.
- 485 Community - friendly.
- 489 Crime  
- Andy Ford (RCMP) - drinking.  
- poaching - Wardens rode boundary during hunting season.
- 506 anecdote: at Belly River, U.S. Rangers in pursuit of poacher - Bert Barnes "sat" the poacher until they arrived - fined. Joe Cosley ? Beebe ?

### 536 END SIDE A

- 586 Wardens  
- U.S. Ranger Glacier - mail from Mountain View.  
- Park issued supplies.

605 Question: What do National Parks mean to you ?

"People were more careful than they are now - look at the fires that they have now. Careless. They throw their cigarettes out and set fires. Back in that day they were warned about it. And when they were warned, they did as they were told - and they brought their kids up to do as they were told. That's more than what they do now!"

618

"they don't really appreciate Parks like they used to. It used to be really - they'd come in waggons ! They'd come up here and pick huckleberries and they'd come up here and fish. They'd come in waggons and camp, so they really had a wonderful life. That would be their holiday."

623

Fall 1924  
- Duck dinners - Mrs. Nixon.  
- Hunter Family.

636

Businesses  
- butcher shop - Strate - bacon by the slab, short supply meat.  
- bread.

Anglican Church  
- women sold embroidery to raise money to build church.

663

Vegetables  
- Hutterites brought in meat and vegetables.  
- Bert Barnes grew vegetables in gardens at Belly R., Pass Creek and Waterton Cabins - only Warden with a garden.

679

Rotary Club.  
School - boarding out in Pincher Creek.

Travel  
- in and out of Park - shovel in and out, when rained everyone left Park - roads.

707

- Road to Pincher Creek - dangerous, backing-up the hills.

714

anecdote: First journey to Lethbridge with Nellie Hunter, 15 cent store.

722

German Measles  
- family in quarantine - lived in Mrs. Kemmis' house.

736

Weekends

- wood cutting from "the Flats"

746 Question: How do you imagine Waterton in another Hundred years ?

"Well, as far as the mountains and the lakes and that, it will still be the same. But the way their doing it - they're doing away with the school, there will be less people living here with children that will need to go to school. They put those little wee kids on a bus and take them all the way - that's a long ways to drive. I think they're trying to close out the Park - cut it down so it's just some permanent people here - keep all the Park wardens and the Government office and all that."

756 Kootenai brown  
- wife Isabelle - died first year Dorothy was here ? Burial

"I think we thought you could stay that age forever. So we didn't realize how later on in life how you would value things like that."

769 School Christmas Concerts  
-"box social"

778 Sports

786 Prince of Wales Hotel - "good playground"

800 Pack horse trains - Goat Haunt.  
- glacier travel - didn't think of the risks.

816 Wardens  
- duty to find out what goats ate - colourless moss with small leaves.  
- Bert Barnes took "big shots" out fishing.  
- supplies in to Crypt Lake - flat-bottom barge that sank towards Goat Haunt.  
- collect fees for camping - 50 cents ?

**847 END OF INTERVIEW**