

Interview with Dorothy Baynton and granddaughter Kathy Baynton**Recorded** April 26, 1996**Typed** July 27, 2001

First of all, I wonder if we could talk a little bit about your mom and dad. I have never heard anything about your parents. What were their names?

My mother's name was Ellen Brown before she was married and she came from Kent, England. She was a quiet young lady; very prim and proper. My dad came to Kent...Sussex, is that right?..(Yes, it is) ... Yes, I get mixed up with those townships.

Did they meet there? Did they meet in England?

Yes, yes. But they weren't married there.

So did they come over together then, Dorothy?

No. When mom knew him in England he was a married man with a grown up family.

What was his name again?

Joseph George Willard. He was an only child, but um... Dad came out shortly after the Barr colonists. His sons came out ahead. He came out later, brought his mother out and some of the family - some of his daughters, and his sons too. There were 4 sons in all, and 2 girls. They went ahead and got a farm down near Marshal.

If you described your dad, what would you say he was like?

Dapper.

Really? A "Dapper Englishman".

Yes. Smart. Used to walk off to church every Sunday, well dressed, with a flower -whatever happened to be blooming at that time of the year- in his vest, and his walking stick. And his one pair of the 6 best types of shoes you could buy. That's the way he went on Sunday; to him, he just got out of those work clothes and made it feel like a Sunday.

He was a farmer, right?

Well, he didn't know so much about that; he was brought up on a Dairy at home and he really didn't know much about farming.

Neither did his sons, but they all had a go at it. They had 4 pieces of land between them over near Marshall where the farm was and all of them all got frozen out eventually, which was really too bad. It set them back terribly.

So those were his sons from his first marriage.

Yes.

What were the names of them, his sons?

According to age: Ted, Alf, Fred, and Bill.

So how did your dad meet your mom?

They knew one another in England. Mom used to work amongst the royalty quite a lot so she was exposed to all their beautiful drawing rooms, their meals, and that sort of thing...all the expenses to go to when they had special occasions. Some of them used to have a "box" as they called - a box in the country - I don't know what they really meant by that. A "box", where they used to shoot, and hunt, and one thing or another.

So, if you described your mom, your memories of your mom, what would they be?

Quiet. Very um, what's the word I want to use Kathy (her granddaughter)? Kind of...you wouldn't know she was around until you spoke to her.

K- Right. I want to say reserved, refined. Does that...?

Yes.

So did she come straight to Lloydminster from England?

Yes, she did.

What did she do when she got here?

They got married, first thing.

Did she come here because of your dad? Is that the reason she came here to begin with?

Oh yes. Although, she'd been out here traveling. She had traveled quite a bit. She had been out here to Canada on two different occasions.

So she knew what she was coming to, unlike so many.

Unlike so many who said "My goodness, if we had known what we were coming out to we would have never have done it!"

If they could sit in this room today, what do you think they would say about 1996?

Oh my goodness. There would be a lot about what they would like and a lot about what they wouldn't like.

What do you think they'd like?

All the modern conveniences, and all those kinds of thing. They're wonderful! Because they had to endure a lot of hardships when they first came out.

What kind of things did they tell you that they had? Did they tell you how they had lived when they had first come here?

Well, my dad had at one time a real important position at what they called the "Willage Arsenal" and he had some around 600 men under him. They were all engraving medals, war medals in Wullage, England. And dad worked there for a number of years. Of course he was always interested in journalism and that kind of thing. He went as a ..ahh...what do you call it?...they talk about articling but I don't know the word I want to use here..

K- Apprentice?

Yes, that's it. He apprenticed with a paper in England. And then I think he took some courses.

And then when he came over here, when he came over to Canada, what were some of the things he used to tell you he would do?

Mostly just about his work and that kind of thing. Because he....

Well, he was the one who started the paper, right? Did he try to farm first and then decide to start the paper?

Yes, yes. Oh yeah, they weren't going anywhere with that. Just kept getting frozen out. All of them, just losing everything they had.

So did they start the paper in 1910?

Three.

1903 is when they started the paper? And they did that in Lloydminster?

Mmmhmm...the Lloydminster Times.

And tell me something. If your mom could sit here today, what kinds of things do you think she'd be horrified about?

Well, there's one thing that took her a long time to get over: the lack of respect of the kids for the parents.

So did you have a very strict upbringing?

Quite.

What kinds of things did your parents do to you if you didn't obey?

Well, it didn't ever happen to me, so..(laughing)

Oh, you were a good kid.

There's only one girl who got it; that was Florence! (laughing)

That was your sister?

Not my twin sister, but the other one. There were 3 of us.

Your parents had 3 children. The first child your parents had was who?

Twins.

Oh, you there were twins! I didn't know that!

First twins in Lloydminster.

You were born in Lloyd?

Yes, we had Dr. Hugue officiating at the birth. And he was assisted by Dr. Amos.

What day were you born?

I don't know that. I can't tell that.

I mean your birthday?

Oh, I see what you mean! June 22. 1910.

So it was a nice day. Not a snowy day like today.

There was a terrible thunderstorm the day we were born. My mother was all upset.. It kind of upset her. My dad was at..there was a nursing home at that time across 47th St..and mom was at this nursing home, waiting around. Dad went down to see her this particular night and she was quite scared of this terrible electrical storm.

Did she know she was having twins?

No. They didn't know in those days.

How big were you when you were born?

Well, I'll tell you. Dad went to see the doctor that night and the babies had been born. Dad said "What are they? What are they?" and the doctor answered "Are they?" so Dad said " What is it?" and the doctor said "It's they! You've got two!" he said. Well, Dad thought this was terrific.

He was happy?

Yes he was. And Mom was over 40.

Were you tiny babies?

One of us was 3 1/2, the other was 3 3/4. One was born half an hour before the other. I was the second one. And I say that that accounted for my being a little heavier. I was in the womb a little longer. A little more time to eat! I gained some strength. There were no patent foods for us, nothing. That's when mom said "Oh, this is the wild country!" Terrible to come to a place like this. No food, no nothing! She had a terrible time. She didn't have her clothes off for 2 weeks.

Why?

Because she was up with one of us or the other the whole time. We were sick and Dad..we used to live right over there, right over there, you know Kathy? (K: Yep, right over there, right beside the trees") That's where our home was. Dad used to get up at night and sleep in a tent! Because we cried all night! He must have had good kids before us. But I don't know, I suppose that at his old age, and that kind of thing....

How old was he when you were born?

That's a good question, now.

He was probably older than your mom anyway.

Six years. He would have been close to 50.

So your mom was not young when she had you, was she?

No, she was past 40. I was over forty when I had George.

Really? So when you grew up you had a twin sister and a younger sister?

Yes, a year and a half younger. Her name was Florence.

So when you grew up, do you remember playing well together?

Yes. But there was always, um. Things would go wild because my twin and I always stick together and there was always the third. And there's always the misfit, there's always the odd man out.

So, tell me. What school did you go to at first?

We started out at what they called the Saskatchewan school. It was in the city, but on the eastern side.

Do you remember any of your teachers?

Yes, I do. I remember one of our favorite in the early stages was a Miss. Kousler. She was very nice. And she used to teach in an older building. It was a Catholic, no it was a Baptist, Church. And it went back again as a church.

Did you get school reports in those days, and did you keep them? What did your reports say?

Well, I was pretty level headed. I did very well. I didn't have much to say to anybody. I just figured, you know, that it was a good business going to school and I had to make the most of it.

Were you athletic at all?

Yes, in a way. I used to do all kinds of things with my children. That's when my ability that way came out. I used to make them play robbers and cops or whatever, and build them places in the he bluff here.

That's when you had your own children? Did you have a special teacher, somebody who was your favorite?

Yes, I do, I just can't remember her name. A very nice lady; very quiet.

Was it because she was quiet that you liked her?

No, not necessarily. I didn't get to see her in any temper tantrums or anything like that. She ruled quietly without putting on an exhibit.

When you were a little girl did you have any special toys?

Oh yes. We didn't have many. Our parents couldn't afford it. I remember the first doll carriage they got me. And my twin got one too, and my little sister. But hers wasn't up to ours. That's when she first noticed the distinction when it came between the three of us. She said "Look at the twins' doll carriages. They're a lot nicer than mine." Dad said, "Oh, but you're a little girl, you're a bit younger."

What other toys did you play with?

We had all kinds of dolls. Before we had the carriages, we wanted something to pull them around in. So we'd get old Rice Crispy boxes, and we'd cut them down the front, put a good string on it and put them in that. We used to pull them through this bluff here. Of course it was all bluffs, same as 'tis now. We used to go pull these dolls around, have the greatest time.

And do you remember celebrating birthday parties?

Oh, yes. We would have the greatest time. Mom would have a lovely party for us.

Did you have your own cake, or did you share a cake?

No, we would have our own cake.

So, what about Christmas then? What was Christmas like at your house?

Oh, we'd have a wonderful Christmas. Mom and Dad went out of their way to have us enjoy ourselves. I remember Dad would say "Mother? Are the youngsters all looked after? Do you have everything looked after?" He'd want to make sure that no one had been left out in any shape or form.

Did you play games at Christmas time? What did you play?

We used to have games that we had bought. They weren't card games. Dad wouldn't have a card in the house. He would not; oh no. I'm the only amongst us whole bunch who has stayed true to what I promised him. I told him "I know what those cards meant to you"- this was on his dying bed - and I said "I'm not going to partake in that kind of thing." I'm the only out of the whole bunch, even the grandchildren. I don't know whether they need to promise or not, but I did, and I kept it. It appears as though I'm not being very sociable, Kathy, but just that my dad had such a hatred to cards and that sort of thing. He was very strict in a lot of ways. Very strict, but we used to have a lot of fun and amusement without playing cards.

Was your dad a strong disciplinarian?

Yes.

Did he spank?

Yes, but I never got any. Only my younger sister.

Is she still spankable? Still rebellious?

No, she's in a nursing home now.

She was pretty feisty though, wasn't she, all through her life?

Oh yes. She was, yes. Just ready to fly off the handle on anything.

Did your mom discipline you at all?

Yes, sometimes she was better at it than Dad was.

What kinds of things did she do?

She used to - not argue - but reason with us.

Did you ever get sent to bed early?

No, never in my life. I don't think my twin did either.

Did you have a favorite room in your house?

Yes, I would say the living room. I'm thinking about the later years. We used to always have people in from the church every Sunday. That's what my dad liked very much. He was very outgoing. He used to have them in, didn't he Kathy? Of course, you wouldn't remember that; you're too young. But we'd have our group up from the church. Anybody especially who had musical ability. They'd come up and of course we had the piano. Dad had his violin and we'd used to really go to town.

Did you use to visit your grandparents at all?

No, they were in England. I never met my grandparents on my mother's side but Dad brought his mother out and she lived with us for a short time. I remember getting her adjusted. She was in the hospital and hers was the first funeral that we ever witnessed.

In Lloydminster? As a family. Did she live with you until she died?

No, she didn't live with us. She lived out in the country. She was housekeeper to a nice farmer out there.

Did your mom talk about her parents at all?

Well, she said that her mom was a very hardworking person and she used to take in laundry to help.

They seemed to do that quite a bit in those days, didn't they?

Yes, and her dad wasn't very strong. He had...it wasn't asthma, but something like that.

It was too bad that you never saw them, wasn't it?

Yes; yes it was.

So, do you remember ever going to the doctor as a little girl?

I don't know if I can remember. I think that the first time we ever went to a doctor or a nurse was for vaccinations. We had those done

at the clinic.

You were saying that the first funeral you went to was your grandma's. What was it like?

Well, I don't remember very much about it. But all I can remember was that terrible dreadful hideous black hearse. Oh, I thought that was the most dreadful thing that I had ever seen on wheels. Oh!

You were a little girl then?

I was scared of it.

Do you remember seeing your grandmother when she was dead?

No, they kind of kept that from us.

.....Side B of Tape 1 begins: dialogue begins without a recorded question....

Dorothy seems to be quoting someone's words of recommendation for her advancement to college:

"You'll never be sorry because she's very meticulous in her work and a good worker, very neat and tidy". Anyway, I was a good student, in other words. I enjoyed it. I really did. So she sent me over to Hinton (?). I finished up with spending ten years there.

So it took you 9 months to go to college. You learned short hand, typing and bookkeeping.

Yes.

And then you went to work for Mr....

Minor

And he had a firm here in Lloyminster?

Yes, the building's still there. It's just north of the medical ___?___; it's been there for years. Brick building. They renovated it and fixed it all up.

Close to City Hall, then?

That's right.

So when you were not at work, what kinds of things did you do as a young person?

I was never a reader so I never spent any time reading. My dad used to say "You'll never know anything because you won't read!" I still don't care much for reading. And I always said that I'd never go into a legal office because I had a girlfriend who had an older sister in a legal office and this friend was always telling me about the terrible things she had to do and...one thing another, but I found myself there settled for life.

What do you think those terrible things she had to do were?

Well, I don't know really just what she meant by "terrible things"; I know what I meant! Used to have to take all the information in regards to divorces. And that took me...I wiggled about on my chair for some time getting used to that. Mr. Minor said "Don't let this bother you, Dorothy. Just take it all in stride"

K - Did you work there before or after you married Grandpa?

Before. Long before.

In the evenings did you do crafty things? Did you knit or sew? Did you have a bicycle?

No, I never had a bike. I used to do a lot of knitting, embroidery, crocheting; I made a number of baby outfits and that kind of thing. I really enjoyed that.

K - Did you do a lot with the youth group at the church? With the young people?

Yes. That's right. That's when I got a little older. There were a lot of us that had joined up as young people, just shortly after I first started working. I enjoyed it very much.

So tell me all about how you met your hubby.

I was just going to say "that leads me up"... I knew George when he and his family first came to town. They had come from Ontario. And George was noticed. He used to have big ears, or we used to think anyway. And they used to always be talking about this big eared boy who was always talking about his mother and dad eating frogs' legs. Of course, to us then that was a terrible thing to do! They were just about cannibals! This little story that he had...the grades he passed on from one grade to another... they all finally got this story before he finished with them. But I guess they were a delicacy at that time; we didn't know that. Anyway, they came up from Ontario where his

dad had had a dairy farm. A fine fellow. A nice little quiet Englishman he was. His wife was a very fine lady too; very active in musical circles. And ah, George and I were first brought together, after getting to know each other through the church, by being sent as a couple to one of those church conventions down in...

Sorry; how old was he when he moved here?

He was just a kid with long hair cut like the boys used to. And bangs.

So he went to school here?

Oh yes, he went all through here. I don't know what grade. There was a brother too; Bob. He went into the drug store business.

So he wasn't in the same grade as you, was he?

No, he was 2 grades younger.

So tell me, when you first dated him, what was that like?

Very interesting! Let's see...I'd say that it wasn't when we first dated but it was before we ever used to go anywhere that meant anything. We would just use to go driving, that kind of thing. But this time they sent us down to that city over here, south of us, oh what's the name of it? A big city. Moose Jaw. That was quite a city then. The church did.

What were you supposed to do at the convention?

Get notes.

How did you get there?

Oh, my husband George's father lent us the car and he drove us down. And dad went down, and a deacon, and three men besides us two. But my dad was a little bit nervous about driving with a young fellow and so he left the night we got there and came home again by train! (Laughing).

When did you know that he was pretty special?

Then. We walked around the park half the night.

Tut, tut.

Yes, most tut tut. That was June 13th; we were engaged June 13th; I got my ring June 13th; we were married on June the 13th. That's how we did that.

What was the year you were married?

I can't remember that now. It's the first time I've forgotten that.

K - How many years were you married before Uncle George came? Four? So that means it must have been in 1934.

Yes, because we were both working and agreed that we shouldn't get a family started and go home with the baby and upset their home life. We were married in 1936.

K - George was born in '40, Fred was born in '42, and then Rod was born in '50, and then Aunty Lynne was born in '53. You've got a good memory, Kathy!

So tell me something. What did you like about your husband? What attracted you to him?

Because he was different. He said to me "Shorty," - he always called me "Shorty" - he said "Shorty, I'll never be able to give you lots of money but I can always be sure to give you a good time. I'll give you an interesting time". Those were his words.

What did he mean by an "interesting" time?

He was always doing something a little bit different; kind of crazy. He gave me a very interesting time. I went to lots of places and did lots of things that I would never have attempted to do on my own. And George was a good mixer and he got involved in politics and I don't know..he was responsible pretty much for that bridge out there.

That was really lovely.

Oh, yes. And they know him down there because he's such a pill. He would always talk about people being "pills"! Such a fellow.

At what stage did he go into the Times?

Hmm. Good Night! He and Fred went in there together from school. Their dad needed them so they went right to work.

K- So your dad was running the paper. When did Grandpa Willard get in? (*That would be George*)

He started in before we were married. I'm sure he did. Just shortly before.

You said that he promised you an interesting time. Was he a romantic?

Oh yes, very.

Could you describe an evening that you would call a romantic evening with him?

Oh dear. Well, George saw the romance in everything.

Did you have special dinners together?

Oh yes, yes. we had many romantic dinners together. He kept me amused.

Can you describe your wedding?

Yes; it was hectic. I had to still work at Mr. Minors' office. I was working day and night. Even going to the house and taking dictation's so we could crowd it all in before I went away. I had to there the night before and then work until noon the next morning. I had to leave and mom and dad pulled up right in front of me. I just left the office and stepped right into the car. George took over the car. He took us all over to Edmonton to get married. We were the 2nd ones married in the chapel at the University - Uof A. The second ones married. George wanted that. He knew a couple of the "powers that be" up there, and Rev. Stone signed as a witness. He was quite prominent up there. So the next day was supposed to our honeymoon. George went to Uof B for summer school. He was very energetic, that George. He had goals and he just never stopped. He worked like a work horse from the very beginning until he accomplished what he wanted.

Did you go there with him?

I was out there while he attended but during that time he had to leave. He won a wonderful scholarship at McGill. So he had to get down there somehow. His folks had no money and neither did George. So he arranged to go down on a cattle train. While were still there in Vancouver..not the University..what was he attending? He wanted to get teachers training..

K: Teacher's college?

Yes, that was it. And he had to leave there. Went right down to Montreal.

K: To study at McGill. But you didn't go with him though, di you?

I couldn't. I was still working.

K: So he went off to McGill, and you must have gone back to Lloyd.

And he was down there for years at McGill, and hardly got home because he couldn't afford to. And I gave him two years UBC, no Edmonton, two years because he wanted to get his teachers degree at Uof A. He needed a little footing because he wanted to be a teacher; that's what he was aiming for. ANd anyway, he was down there for quite awhile. We went on for 4 years. George never looked at another one and neither did I. Kids won't believe me when I tell them that. There are a lot of French people there and the French women are very dainty and attractive, a lot of them, and they used to be running around. I us to say "Yah, I'm always wondering what's going on, whether there's any of those French women who has captivated you." He used to laugh. And he stayed true to me all that time and eventually came home. He came home when my dad died. Mom wanted him to take over the paper. Get into the business. So that's when we got together again. That's when George decided to take a school. THE first school he got wa a high school down in B.C. There were so many young couples who had settled there. They were working in that area. It was on a hill. IT was beautiful among the trees, great big trees. You had to go in by boat. So George went there and took the school, taught school for awhile. I had an apartment, between us of course, in Vancouver, and that's where we had our home. George used to catch a ferry very early monday morning to where he belonged and would stay there all week, coming back on the boat on the friday evening. We went along like that for quite awhile until mom said "We'd like you to come home". She was there all alone with (Gwyn?). She said "You know, Gwyn isn't feeling very well." So George was quite concerned and so was I'll. He said "I'll take you back home, finish my term, and then come back too". So that's what he did.

You had no children at the time, right?

No, we had no children.

So where did you live then?

I lived at home and George...well, he lived at home with me in our spare room. After that, I just can't seem to remember what happened.

Tell me about your children. Tell me about each one and how you would describe them.

George was the heaviest and got off to a good start as a baby. He was quiet as a youngster, especially with his friends. He wasn't altogether what you would call a...what's the word you want to say..when you're a good mixer? No, George wasn't what you would have called sociable. Not as a kid. A bit of an introvert and quite content to do his own thing and accomplish what he was doing instead of just standing around. Kind of like that. ANd a very hard worker. Studied hard. Oh he surely did. I gave him 2 years there at UBC. That gave him his footing. He got his degree in, his B.A, and kind of got his start, and then got his M.A. Had everything already, had his papers and everything else; I guess they gave him what the topic was and then he had to use it for his thesis. But he never finished his thesis, which is too bad. A lot of wasted time down there but that's beside the point.

Your next child was who?

Fred came next. Fred was entirely different. Very much! An extrovert. Always jolly and bubbly. Just a pleasure to have him around anywhere. Oh, I really thought a lot of Fred. Oh, I surely did. And I got over it.

And your next?

Rob. Rob was kind of a mixer between the two Rob was witty, unlike Fred.

Did he get that form you?

(Laughing) I don't know where he got it from. Rod was....I can't even talk straight right now. He went along, neither being really up or down, on an even keel.

And then did you have anyone after that?

(Gwyn?) our daughter. (Gwyn) wasn't nearly as disagreeable as Fred was. She was, I think, a little bit like George.

Was she spoiled being the only girl?

A little bit (laughing).

What was it like having babies?

Oh, great. The more we had, the more we wanted. I lost one but we didn't give up. The doctor said "No, you're still good, I'll keep you in my books" so Fred came along.

Who was your doctor?

Hemstock.

What was the hardest thing for you raising a family?

The hardest things for me was when it was time for them to go to school. I thought about that while it was still years ahead. Oh, and I used to cry when these little kids were going to be big enough and old enough to go to school. Because they do, in a sense, leave. That was the biggest trouble I had.

What do you think is the most important thing to teach your children?

Hmm. Well, just to always respect their parents because, as a rule, they'll never find anyone who will do more for them are who will help them through life it all possible. And to stick amongst each other too. Above all things, we taught the children about God and led them to the Lord at an early age

If you had a possession that you really prized, what would it be?

You mean something that you can touch and handle?

Yes, that you could touch.

Oh my, I haven't thought about anything like that.

Maybe things like that are not very important to you.

K: Did anyone leave anything to you that you've kept?

Yes, were turning out all of our dresser drawers and all that a few weeks ago and we came across several things of your grandfather. My dad. I always do. Oh, little things that he used to have on his chain. On his watch chain

Do you have any regrets?

No, I really can't say so.

Anything that you would like to have changed?

Well, I guess that my dear husband hadn't been such a busy man, that he could have spent more time with the family while they were growing up. He was awfully good. He used to get the car out. We wouldn't run it on a Sunday. But I was busy too. Kept after the young brood - ruffians! And ha, for a while there I did not have particularly good health. Not like I do now! (Laughs)

You and your husband were very involved in the community, weren't you? Tell me about that.

George was so outgoing and in view of the nature of his business, I go involved too. This is what he meant, I think, when he said that he would make life interesting. He took me lots of places where he went. Always wanted the best for me.

When he was involved in the community in Lloydminster, was he involved in the service clubs?

I'll get this little card here.

It's a coffee card and it says "Upon presentation of this card to George F. Baynton, the bearer is entitled to a cup of coffee anywhere, any time. George Baynton, born on March 19th, 1912 and raised on the farm. Graduated in Arts from Uof A, teachers certificates from Victoria, B.C., and UBC graduate studies in education, scholarship to McGill, principle of Woodfiber, B.C. consolidated school. Married Dorothy Evelyn Willard, one of Lloydminster's first twins, and fathered three sons and one daughter. Presently publisher of Lloydminster Times...this was obviously some years ago..and first weekly publisher in Saskatchewan to install Web Offset. Past Chairman and Deacon of First Baptist Church Lloydminster; a Guidean; Director of Lloyd. Agriculture Exhibition Association; Director of Lloydminster Rodeo Association; twelve years as Trustee and Chairman several times of the Lloydminster Public School Board and 5 years as High School Trustee; Chairman of one of the Sask. program commissions for the Canadian Conference on Education; past president and for over twenty years Chairman of the Highways Association, Lloydminster Chamber of Commerce; member of the Executive Committee and close to 30 years Director of the Yellowhead Route Association; Honourary Jaycee; Chairman and a member since 1942 organizational meeting of the Air Cadets..

Excuse me. That just brings me up to the fact that ever since George has been gone, I've been presenting, on behalf of the Air Cadets that you are speaking of here, to the youngest Air Cadet who has been making the most progress.

Have you? What a wonderful thing! What else does it say here? Chairman for several years of the Lloydminster Soldier's Memorial Committee; hounorary lifetime member of the R.C.F.A; private and C company B.L.I of Lloydminster; Secretary and Treasurer of the Lloydminster Kinsman Club Milk for Britain Fund; past Director of C.W.N.A....what would that be?

Canadian Weekly Newspaper Association.

What was the Milk for Britain Fund?

I don't know. I remember they collected to send overseas for babies.

Was this during the war?

Does it say there? During the war, I bet.

Member of the Barr Colonists' Golden and Diamond Jubilee Committees and responsible for raising close to half of the Bishop Lloyd Foundation Fund for Scholarships; member of the City of Lloydminster's Golden Jubilee and Canada's Centennial Committees; past Vice President of the Lloydminster branch of Mental Health Association and honoured by Red Cross and Cancer Society for citations presented to the Lloydminster Times; past President of the Rotary Club. Then it says "He stood up and was counted on on many occasions"

So this coffee card, Dorothy, was something that was handed out to people?

Yes. George took it down to one of the conventions. He was very interested in politics and that sort of thing and he took this along and gave it to a number of people.

So that was his idea. He printed them up and handed them out so that when people came to Lloydminster they would come and see him and he'd give them a free cup of coffee?

Well, it didn't even half to be Lloyd. Down in there in the province.

He was a creative man, wasn't he?

Yes, he was very creative.

Did you get involved in a lot of these organizations?

To a point, yes. I never went anywhere much, just through working with him here at the home. I couldn't get away much because I was tied down with the family.

Do you have an admiration for any leaders of your time?

Goodness, I should be able to think of somebody.

Did you really like Diefenbaker? Because there were a lot of political issues that came up in your lifetime. A lot of political events.

Oh yes.

What events in particular do you remember?

I was never like George was, getting out and rubbing shoulders with all these kinds of people. I was at home with the family.

What event was the most important during your life? What would you say it was?

Well, I'd say the birth of our children. That meant a great deal to me. And the more we had, the more we wanted. We were both agreed on that,

I'm sure they felt loved in your home too.

Oh yeah. They surely were.

What have you tried to contribute to life?

Oh goodness me, that's...! You're going to embarrass me! I'm trying to think of something and I can't come up with anything.

Maybe Kathy can help us. She's your granddaughter.

K: Well, I'd have to say that from what I know she was always contributing...knowing specifically Grandpa, he'd give you the shirt of his back...if you had a need or a problem he was always there to help...I remember that very much...and just knowing that he was always there when you needed him..to anyone. I mean, he rubbed noses, I mean rubbed shoulders with important people as well as "regular people". He never made any distinctions. He wasn't intimidated by the prestigious. And um, that's one thing that I always remembered was that...you had a friend wherever you were, whoever you were. He wasn't anything of a social climber or...

He must have gained a lot of respect because of that.

Oh yes. Not too long ago I was talking to someone who said your dad (Fred - Kathy's father) was always willing to help. He'd go to those auction sales and see someone without a jacket and he'd make it his business, in a quiet underlying way, to get a coat for that man. He did an awful lot of that.

He took after your husband, it seems. Did you ever imagine what it would be like to be a great-grandparent?

Oh no.

Because you are one now, aren't you?

Yes, twice over now. Joe Baynton and George and Sylvia's little girl Christy. When it comes to raising these children, I've always been so interested in trying to keep the family name going. Because I just idolize my husband in a lot of ways. When I think of the things he used to do, the good aspirations and one thing or another he had...he used to be Justice of the Peace. He quite often had the power to fine people and 9 out of 10 times he would turn it around and give it to them back. Unheard of, you know, but that was George. It wasn't supposed to be so but he just couldn't take the money. They were hard up for money and George knew what it was like for them.

That's a really neat memory.

Yah. And George was never satisfied with mediocrity. Is that the right word? Mediocrity. Not be satisfied. Just keep stepping higher and higher.

K: Laziness was not even in his vocabulary. Hard working and...driven, would probably be a good word for him.

So tell me, Mrs. Baynton, if they have such things as tape players a hundred years from now, and somebody could hear us talking, what would you like them to know?

To let them know that everything that we've been telling them is true (laughing).

That's smart! That's great. Well, I really appreciate all this time you've given us.

Oh, you'll never know how much this has meant to me.

Thank you very much.