

WALTER ENGBAUM

Interviewed March 1, 1972.

Born in Nebraska, August 13, 1876. Lived in South Dakota for 13 years and then moved to Seattle. He stayed there for 2 years then moved on to Burlington. Came by paddlewheel to Burlington, finished his education there. His brother Ralph had come on to Steveston so he joined him in 1896 to work in the canneries and the next year the rest of the family came. His two sisters came also and lived with them Nancy and Alice. His Dad and Otto brought cows and put up a tent in a yard on No. 1 Road where there was a barn. He hauled cord wood from Aburne. Recalled Billy Steves being killed by a tree on Grenville St. Drove by horse and buggy back and forth to Vancouver. Todd's Cannery Foot No. 2 Road, Grauer had a restaurant on Moncton St. at the turn of the Century. There was a two storey Boarding house across from the Sockeye Hotel. The first blacksmith came then. In the Fall of 98 he went to Grand Forks and then to Okanagan then back to Burlington and back again to Steveston. He spent that season fishing. They were getting 35¢ per fish, would bring in 200 fish at a time. They used boat with oars and would put out about 1200 feet, then pull it in and take the fish out as the net came in and the fish would be thrown into the boat. He only fished the one year and made \$100.00 for this season. The Cannery would get 2/3 and you would get 1/3. He lost his finger in gear of cement mixer. They had a Restaurant on Moncton St., Friday and Saturday would be wild nights, but Sunday was always very quiet. Dr. Herworth was the first Doctor he remembers at Steveston. Woodward's put in a drugstore and Intern Doctors would stay there all year round and practise. McKinney's had a farm on Steveston Hwy and also S. Franscombe. Many times they rode bicycles great distances up as far as Haney - no smooth pavements up and down hills. Sunday night the guns would go off at the different Conneries to start the fishing off.

Twigg had a fast horse and there was Rivalry between him and Lafonde. On Election day he was hauling a load of wood along River Road (plank road) to vote and Lafonde took Mrs. Trites and Twigg had another person with him, Twigg and Lafonde were racing, Twigg was behind and Lafonde was in the lead. When they reached him a buggy passed him on each side. Louie Lafonde's Hotel was the only one who escaped the fire. On May 24 they had races on No. 1 Road.

Seattle also was just getting started and there were only two streets. There were 12, 13 and 1400 acres of wheat grown at Greenwood. You could sell mostly anything during World War 1, prices went high and then dropped. Indians came to work at the Canneries and camped along the river. Chinese worked on the land and in the Canneries but never fished.

TAPE 6 - SIDE 1