

KIRK LYMAN  
Dorothy

## Southern Utah Oral History Project

The Southern Utah Oral History Project was started in July of 1998. It began with an interest in preserving the cultural history of small towns in southern Utah that border the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument. The project was managed by Kent Powell, from the Utah Division of State History, who oversaw the collection of oral histories conducted in Boulder, Escalante, Bryce Valley, Long Valley, Kanab, the Kaibab Paiute Reservation, and Big Water, by Jay Haymond and Suzi Montgomery. Also in cooperation with the state was the Bureau of Land Management and the people of Garfield and Kane counties, with support from the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument. The goals of the project were first to interview long-time local residents and collect information about the people and the land during the first half of the twentieth century. In addition, the interviews were to be transcribed and copies of the transcripts were to be made available to the public at the Utah State Historical Society and at local repositories. Lastly, to build a relationship with state agencies and the local communities and provide a medium for the local communities to express their interest in preserving their own history and culture in the areas that are now included in the GSENM. Thank you to everyone who took the time to care and share their memories and stories.

Interview with: Ivan Lyman, Dorothy N. Lyman  
Interviewers: Jay Haymond, Grant Johnson and Anne Stansworth  
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Jay: This is an interview with Ivan and Dorothy N. Lyman. The date is July 8, 1997. We are in their home in Lower Boulder, Utah. We are talking today about the stock industry and their involvement in this industry. With us here are Grant Johnson and Anne Stansworth. My name is Jay Haymond. First of all, let's talk a little bit about your involvement in the stock industry. Have you lived here all of your life, Ivan?

Ivan: Yes, I have.

Jay: And this was stock country, and where almost everybody was involved in the stock industry. Isn't that true?

Ivan: Yes.

Jay: What are your first memories of being involved with the stock industry? Were you a herder as a young man?

Ivan: My dad was a sheep man up until about the time that I was seven or eight years old. And then he got into the cattle business. He went out of the sheep and went into the cattle business. And at that time the

winter range had been mostly taken up. He bought some summer range up on the east end of the Boulder Mountain off from his brother-in-law. And he took up some winter range down in the Circle Cliffs that had been used by the sheep men up until he started running cattle down there.

Jay: Are these permits now?

Ivan: Well the one in the Circle Cliffs is in the Capitol Reef National Park now, so we don't use it anymore.

Jay: I see.

Ivan: I think he acquired that down there in about 1930. And I would have been nine years old at that time.

Jay: What do you remember as a nine-year old? What were your jobs? What did they ask you to do when you were out herding cows?

Ivan: We didn't have any road down there. We took pack mules, and went. It would take one good long day to get all the way down. It's just up on top from where the switchbacks are in the road now. It's right on top there and it run back down to the south and to the north. It would take us all day to get down there. And then we usually gathered the cattle in the latter part of May to get them up on the mountain the first of June. My job was to help wrangle the horses. And then when we started moving the cattle, my job was to go along behind the cattle with a little willow or a little whip, one or the other, and switch the calves. Calves when they would get warm that time of day, they would want to lay down or get under the tree. I would have to switch them up and make them keep up with the mothers. And usually my dad and my older

brother were along. After they got me started following those cows up through those cedars up that trail. You can imagine what it is, just a cow trail. And they would leave me. One of them would go get the camp and put it on the pack and the other would ride either on one side or the other and gather in stray cattle. We came through from down--we called it the Burr Trail then. That was our range, the Burr Trail. But that's what it was, just on top of the switchbacks from there, up to Studhorse Peaks and up to Wagon Box Mesa. Then we would drive from there. Usually we would take one full day. We would get up real early in the morning, and come one full day and get to Horse Canyon. And that's just about a mile south of where the road crosses Horse Canyon now. We'd drive there the one day and the next day we would drive from there through Long Canyon and get just up the gulch a little ways and then go up Steep Creek. That's's the way the trail went. That would be two days. And then it would take about two more days, one day to get over in the lower end of the draw over here. We was up in upper Boulder then, and it would take another day to get there. Usually after we got them home, we just corralled them and branded the calves and went right on up on the east end of the mountain with them.

Jay: Would you follow what we would think of more or less now as the road that is Highway 12 that took you up on the east end there?

Ivan: Pretty much, yes. That is where the old wagon road went and that's pretty much the way we took the cattle. We would take one or two short cuts in there, but it ended up up on the mountain about the same place as where the road goes through now.

Jay: How far did the stock range during the summer time? Did they go clear up on the mountain, or did they stay in that general vicinity on the east end?

Ivan: They stayed in the general area.

Dorothy: Dorothy speaks. Unable to hear her on tape. It sounds like they are concerned with power to the recording machine.

Jay: We were talking about the Forest Service permits at the time. And did you see much of the Forest rangers in your travels?

Ivan: There was this one Forest ranger over this whole Dixie area. Escalante, Boulder, not Wayne County--they had a different one in Wayne County. But we had one ranger in this area. He covered it all.

Dorothy: Not only that, he covered everything. He covered the timber and the main range, too.

Ivan: They had some part-time workers, because my dad in about 1932 or 33, they started tagging the cattle to keep them from trespassing, and my dad used to have the job of tagging cattle for maybe a week. That was about the only extra employees they had besides the ranger, though.

Jay: Were these ear tags?

Ivan: Yes, they were ear tags; they were just metal ones.

Jay: They were aluminum?

Ivan: Yeah, they were aluminum. They would kind of be an antique now if you could find one.

Grant: I found one out in the desert at Powell.

Jay: That was the Powell National Forest, probably.

Ivan: Yeah, I think it was.

Jay: Now, we're talking about a spring drive that you just described for us. And what time of the year would that be--March, April?

Ivan: No, it was the latter part of May. We come off the winter range the last of May and went on the mountain the first of June. Now we were just one out of quite a few ranchers that had cattle. There was lots of cattle out in the Circle Cliffs. My dad just had a small herd. He just got started and he didn't have a very big permit. Some of the older stock men that was here, they had five hundred head. One man had close to a thousand head of cattle. They moved about the same way, though. They would come the latter part of May and on the mountain the first of June.

Jay: And so they would run the stock up there all year long. What was your job in the summer season? Did you have to go up and keep the stock in a certain area that is a permitted area, or was it animal months like they have now in a larger area?

Ivan: We kind of kept our cattle in a certain area. Each individual had pretty much a certain area. But ours was on the east end of the Boulder mountain, just straight up the mountain from Boulder here, over as far as Frisky Creek. We went on the other side of the creek. That's what they call the east end. But from Frisky Creek back over this way to Hell's Backbone at that time was pretty much one unit. Some individuals went on the west side, some went up the mountain, some moved a little over to the east side. But the cattle could roam the whole area if they were inclined to do that.

Dorothy: And at that time there were sheep up there. That's what I feel they ought to do now on the mountain.

Ivan: Sheep, Dorothy? The sheep were all on the east end.

Dorothy: That's what I mean. They went up there and they cleaned off all them little quakies. Now you can see the quakies are taking over the old stand on the outside. Pretty soon that will be all quakies up there.

Jay: Do you think the quakies will drive out the conifers?

Dorothy: The grass.

Jay: Oh, the grass. Of course.

Dorothy: Even since my time it has. The sheep went clear out on top there. And all they did was make a trip up there once a year and a trip back. They did a lot of cleaning up of junk, I felt, on the forest that they don't have now.

Jay: Make good mutton out of that junk.

Dorothy: Yeah, don't you think so, Ivan? I just really think that the Forest Service didn't understand what a good job sheep did. I know they can over graze. But they just took them up, put them on top, and brought them back down in the fall, see. I really feel that the sheep made the mountain much better than it is.

Ivan: Well the Forest Service knows that, Dorothy. They have talked about sheep, but they run the sheep men off to start with.

Jay: That's right.

Ivan: They made them change to cattle and now they can see where it would be better if they had some sheep up there, cause the sheep, they work the brush. They work the browse. And there are quite a lot of areas up here where there is too much brush. The old rose bush comes in.

Dorothy: I feel the brush up here makes for bad forest fires, but then maybe I don't know.

Jay: Well, there might be another problem. I am wondering if there is a market for wool and mutton. That may be one of the reasons they can't induce sheep back on to the mountain.

Dorothy: Well they were taking them off long before the prices went down. It wasn't a financial thing that they took them off for. They were showing their college education to prove a point and I feel like they failed.

Jay: They may feel that same way, but it's hard to admit an error like that.

Dorothy: And I really feel we have fought endangered plant life. I really feel like a lot of the vegetation on the mountain was carried there from way down there where the sheep went to the Henries, carried it up on top of the Boulder Mountain. That's where we got it from. The sheep brought it. What do you think, Ivan?

Ivan: What plants are you talking about that they are trying to protect? Them yellow ones?

Dorothy: Some of that yellow. They say they were originally there. I don't believe they were originally there. I believe the sheep ate their seeds and

brought them in.

Ivan: I can't think of the name of it. There is one plant on top of the Boulder mountain now, a yellow paintbrush.

Dorothy: Yeah, it's a paint brush, but it's a yellow paint brush.

Jay: A protected plant huh? Entirely possible. A lot of those plant biologists haven't been around since the sheep were working that.

Dorothy: Well and you've got to know when they say we were on the Boulder Mountain in the early part of the 1900s, they're telling lies because even when I came here fifty years ago, nobody hardly ever came to Boulder Mountain. It was a terrible road. What do you think, Ivan?

Ivan: Yes, anybody who came here paid a local citizen to show them around or they would have been lost. And if it rained the mud was so deep on the road that they couldn't have got around either.

Dorothy: It was just like slick grease. Man, it would just throw you right off the road. Besides you didn't have four-wheel drive and sometimes you would lose your oil pan and your gas cap. That wasn't unusual when you traveled that road. That was a terrible road.

Jay: I remember coming over that road in the early 1970s. And it was still pretty awful in a spot or two. Had it not been for my experience driving on that kind of road, I don't think I would have made it to Boulder. Because when you get to a bad spot, you hurry, you don't go slow and be careful. But I know what you mean. That soil was awful greasy.

Dorothy: That road was well known with spots like Clyde King's bedroom and Truman's tip-over. We knew all these directions where somebody had had a catastrophe going out over that territory.

Jay: We didn't get Truman to tell us about his tip-over.

Dorothy: There were lots of spots that were well marked by the town because of catastrophes that happened.

Jay: Let's talk a minute about the way the Forest Service regulated the stock industry in your experience. It's pretty much benign neglect, if I hear you right. They weren't around very much, is that true?

Ivan: No, no they weren't.

Jay: So you guys were left to more or less treat the grazing with a respect you thought it deserved?

Ivan: Yes, that's true.

Jay: Was there any such thing as abuse? In other words, were there people that put more stock on the range than they had permits to do that?

Ivan: Yes, I think so.

Jay: Do we attribute that to human nature?

Ivan: Yes.

Jay: I do too.

Dorothy: I think we ought to mention about somebody had a big herd of cattle. They usually hired a rider. We had out on the east end a little short cowboy and he lived with the cattle, didn't he, Ivan?

Ivan: Yeah, but that was even later on. As far back as I can remember, they didn't have a herder. To begin with they let them put cattle up here on the low part of the range the first of May. And then they had a herder up there to keep them from going up and tromping on the range where it was muddy before it had dried up.

Jay: Was this an employee of the Forest Service?

Ivan: No, this was the stockmen.

Jay: The stockmen would hire these people in compliance with their agreed rules.

Ivan: Yeah.

Dorothy: I think Alton was hired by June King to take care of his cattle and put them where he wanted them. He wanted the better grass.

Ivan: No, Dorothy. Before Alton's time though on the east end, they used to give each one of the cattlemen a specific time to ride. Mostly we herded the cattle off from the old dirt road. I think somebody butchered one or two along the road, so they herded them off to the side of the road. Lymans would have a herder for a week and the Williamses would have a herder for a week or two, and June King would have a herder. That was before your time. Do you understand?

Dorothy: But they'd move them cattle around to the grassy spots and keep them

off that that was over grazed. They couldn't have made any money if they'd not done that.

Jay: That's right. As you describe this for Dorothy it sounds to me like we're talking about a community herd. Is that true?

Ivan: Yeah, pretty much, pretty much.

Jay: What that means to me is, you know there is kind of an American ideal: "Every man for himself." But in Utah there is more of a community cooperative spirit to some extent. Are we talking about that prevailing in this case?

Ivan: Yes.

Jay: So that sounds like a good thing especially where we are talking about a community resource. Okay, let's say we get through a season and it's nearly time to take them off the summer grazing. Describe that process.

Ivan: Usually the cows knew it was time to come off before the ranchers wanted them to come off; they started coming off by their selves. But then about the tenth of October, I think, was when they got out and made a big drive to get them all off.

Jay: But there were some coming off before then?

Ivan: Yes, there were some coming off.

Jay: Was it temperature or adverse weather of other kinds, or was it shortage of feed?

- Ivan: It was homesickness of the cows that made them come home.  
(everyone laughs) They feel it's still that way. They will come down off of there the first of October. Even before that some of them will be coming home and there will be lots of feed still up there.
- Dorothy: Not only that, the cattle men wanted them home because in those days they had to drive the cattle to market over the top of the Boulder to Bicknell or one of those towns, and ship them to market. They could never wait until it snowed very bad because the cattle had to be taken or else they had to winter over here. Most people wouldn't have that much hay out on the calf operation. That's what we've always seen here in Boulder.
- Ivan: Well back in the early days when we had to drive them to market, we would drive them over to Loa. They were yearlings that we sold then.
- Dorothy: Yeah, but right over the top. It didn't go around. It went right over the top where it was high and snowy.
- Jay: Where was the market for this operation? You'd go to Loa. Did you load them out there, or did you keep herding them down?
- Ivan: No, we usually had a buyer come in here and give a price for them delivered out to Loa, and we'd deliver them out there.
- Jay: I see. Well that sounds like a good deal for everybody. It would be hard even for a community herd to organize a shipping operation.
- Ivan: We didn't do that on a community basis. They would be probably two or three ranchers get together, cause that would be enough for a drive anyway.

- Jay: Would it be true that a roundup would be a community event? In other words, everybody thought of that as a good time and sort of as a time when the job might not be completely done, but it was sort of in that spirit.
- Ivan: That's when the income come in, was in the fall after they made the roundup. Cut out the ones they wanted to sell. Yes, I would say it was an enjoyable time and they all liked to do it.
- Jay: What were some of the times that you were paid, or you knew about the pay. What were the prices like? Was it something to help you winter over, or was it just something to pay the bills?
- Ivan: You mean the price for the cattle?
- Jay: Yeah.
- Ivan: I'll tell you, you might not believe it, but I've sold yearling steers out to Loa and they've brought about five cents a pound. They weighed five or six hundred pounds, say. Thirty dollars a head wasn't a bad price after two or three years. That was just before the bad depression. I don't know that it got worse than that in the depression.
- Dorothy: They stayed that way till the Second World War and when the men got thirty cents a pound during the Second World War, they thought they'd died and gone to heaven. They couldn't believe thirty cents a pound.
- Jay: Well wasn't there some of that during World War I, too? Wasn't there kind of a floor on the price of commodities like beef and that sort of thing?

- Ivan: See, I wasn't born then, but I understand, and this is about the sheep herders, but they were getting a real good wage about the time World War I ended.
- Jay: And then they dropped those regulations and the price went down.
- Ivan: Yeah.
- Jay: They don't talk a lot about that 1921 depression, but it was a reality.
- Ivan: That's when I was born, in 1921, so I didn't know too much about it. But I've heard the older men talk about it.
- Jay: Where did we go then, what sort of bunch of cows did you keep? Do we call them brooders?
- Ivan: Breeding stock, yes.
- Jay: How many of those would you bring home in a year after the roundup?
- Ivan: You mean to feed through the winter? We didn't bring them home. They had to stay out on the winter range down to Circle Cliffs.
- Jay: So you would go down to the Circle Cliffs again? Start all over.
- Ivan: Yes.
- Jay: What about the bulls? Were bulls part of that herd?
- Ivan: Yes. Usually we kept the bulls to home. Right about that time it was a cow-calf yearling operation. You would keep the calves home through

the winter. Usually there would be hardly enough hay to feed them, not enough, but we would feed some through the winter,

Jay: What would a typical cowboy's job be during the winter, speaking from your experience?

Ivan: Well, we had to depend on snow quite a lot for water out in the Circle Cliffs.

Jay: Pot holes?

Ivan: Well there was a few small seeps that we kept dug out with a shovel so cattle could water. But we was always waiting for the snow so we could push them out in the breaks where the feed was better. They kept the feed pretty close around the water down into the Circle Cliffs. So we were always waiting for that snow, wishing it could hurry and come so we could get those cattle out in the breaks where the feed was better. And that was a lot of the cowboys' work in the winter time, to move those cattle, to not get too many congregated in one place.

Jay: We haven't talked about cowboy clothing on the Circle Cliffs in the winter time.

Dorothy: I'd like to tell you something before you go on to that.

Jay: Okay, please.

Dorothy: You don't realize that the men worked really hard in the winter time. They'd go down below about every other week and be home for a week. It would take about all day to go down to the cabin.

Ivan: Now you don't know what you're talking about.

Dorothy: That's when you went to take the cattle during the winter time. And us women were widows. Every other week and we always used to tease that our husbands had Indian wives down there in Circle Cliffs and they had to go see them.

Jay: Two families, probably.

Dorothy: Just very, very regular. Wasn't it regular, Ivan?

Ivan: Oh yeah, quite regular.

Dorothy: Yeah, and the women were widowed. In fact there was not much going on in Boulder. And there were so many of them with their husbands being gone in the winter time. Anybody strange would come to town, we'd get on the old crank telephone. You know if you seen somebody come around, make sure your doors were locked. Women used to cooperate together and take care of the children because the men were gone a lot, weren't they Ivan? Maybe the days were shorter so they couldn't work as long, but in the evening they'd be fixing their saddles or doing other things like that. Well the days were longer in the summer time, but he was gone all winter. What do you think, Ivan?

Ivan: Oh, I didn't think I was gone that much. But I was accustomed to it (everyone laughs). Did you ever hear that saying she was saying, "down below?" Have you heard that before?

Jay: Yes.

Ivan: Some of those newcomers come to Boulder and hear that "down below"

and scratch their heads. What do you mean "down below"?

Jay: Whenever you talk to people in the livestock industry, you know there is a cycle between the high country and down below. You know that down below reference means almost a whole spectrum of possibilities. For instance, some of the stock people I know used to run livestock on the west desert. I mean it was way out there on the west desert. And weather out there could be quite adverse. I remember in 1948, 1949, when the ground blizzard hit it was problematic how to save that livestock.

Ivan: It was rough around here that winter.

Jay: I'll bet. See, that's down below for these livestock people.

Dorothy: Well that's what I mean. These men went out in terrible weather and everything in the winter time you know, taking care of cattle. I really felt like the men worked more than a forty-hour week that the city men work.

Jay: I think you're right. Let me turn this tape.

Dorothy: Lots of people wondered what we'd do in the winter time not to get bored. Guess what? The women did the chores while the men were gone, fed the bulls and the cows. And everybody needed milk to drink. Everybody usually milked three or four cows. The store was open during mail time, which was about three hours of the day. That's the only time you could get into the store. So we were kind of self taking care of. If we didn't grow it and bottle it and milk it and have our eggs, we went without.

(End of side 1)

Jay: I believe you. I was going in the direction of asking what kind of clothing kept you from perishing in the winter time? Heavy leather chaps, blue jeans, long-handled underwear. More than that?

Ivan: We had the long underwear, yes.

Jay: Was it red?

Ivan: No. (laughter) I never had any red. It was always white. We usually had heavy coats. Some fellows wore the old Lee denim jackets. But most of us had leather coats, two or three leather-lined coats.

Jay: A duster maybe over the top?

Ivan: I don't believe we ever had a duster.

Dorothy: I want to tell you, we never washed the Levis, though. If you washed the Levis, it would take the starch out of them. Those Levis could stand alone, couldn't they, Ivan?

Ivan: Yeah, they could.

Dorothy: And that heavy starch in them protected them from the wind. Sometimes they'd put them on the kitchen table and try to brush them down with a little water, sparingly though, cause they really started stinking. They really liked starched jeans. And I've seen men that their jeans could almost stand alone.

Jay: Stand them up in the corner at night.

Ivan: I can remember when I was growing up, we just thought that somebody

was a sissy that wore washed Levis.

Dorothy: They were warm, you can say that.

Jay: What kind of shade did you need in those times? Was it the standard five-gallon, three-inch brim kind of shade or hat?

Ivan: Yes, we all pretty much wore that same kind of hat. Some was made of wool, with a wider brim than others, but anywhere from three to four inch brim on them and cocked the same way.

Grant: How about camp tents?

Ivan: I don't believe I ever camped in a tent in the winter time until after World War II. We had the caves and we would get under a rock, where the rain couldn't get to us. Cause we was always open to the wind, you know. The wind would about blow you away sometimes. We never had a tent. Oh, I can remember my dad used to carry a mattress just for himself, special, a light mattress on the pack. But usually we cut boughs and put them down and then put tarps down, then lay the bed and then covered it over with a tarp.

Jay: This is a cotton mattress you're referring to?

Ivan: Well, I think so. It was just a light one. It didn't have no springs to it. I guess he thought he was getting kind of old and he thought he had to have the mattress. Us kids could sleep on anything. (everyone laughs)

Grant: Was it juniper, cedar boughs?

Ivan: Yeah. Haven't you ever used them to sleep on?

Grant: No.

Ivan: Well, you've got some learning to do.

Jay: Education is incomplete.

Grant: I'd rather use the horse pad.

Dorothy: Ivan, when did you take that old springs down to Burr Trail the first time? You know them old coil springs. They're not as nice as they even were twenty years ago, and somebody took it down and left it at the Burr Trail and no mattress on it, but I thought that was a nice bed.

Ivan: You mean when we had that old house down there?

Dorothy: Well you had that coil spring by the tree before you ever had a house down there.

Ivan: Probably so. I don't know where it come from.

Dorothy: I couldn't believe they'd sleep on that spring without no mattress. What about the first house you had down there, something the County Road left down there?

Ivan: When we was hunting for uranium, it was an old State Road wagon they used to have. I think they just had hard rubber for tires. That was the first house we had.

Jay: Still had the wheels on it?

Ivan: Yeah.

Jay: Well that kind of kept you out of the weather, though.

Ivan: Oh yeah, you bet. That was a luxury when we got that house, you bet. We got a corral built and about that time we had roads so we could haul some hay down for the horses. I didn't tell you, when I first can remember, we used to have to put our horses out on some banks at some point where we could get a fence up there to hold them up on there at night.

Grant: What area did you use for the horse stanchions?

Ivan: Right on top just before you go down the switchbacks. We used to have that area there and it just had a trail go up there. We could pretty well hold them. We could take them up the canyon just above that and hold them out over night on there. Then down in around where the next part goes in Muley twist. I don't know if you have ever been down there.

Grant: By Rainy Day?

Ivan: No, not quite that far. Before you get over to Rainy Day there's another fork that goes down in there and there is some Indian writings on the rocks there. But anyway, back up to the south behind that big steep side there is a big rock about that wide that the horses could get around and get on there. Then there was a two or three-acre bench. That's where we put them at night.

Grant: Up on one of those tilted benches?

Ivan: No, it wasn't tilted. It was just real steep till it got up to the big high rock, up to the top, you know. And then there was just a little pasture out on there.

Jay: How did you keep them up there?

Ivan: Well we would hobble them. We put hobbles on them and like I said, there was just a little narrow trail went on to there and we could easy lay a stick across that and keep the horses from coming off.

Grant: I found lots of horse down on the river documenting those two places where you could see they built the trail up to a low bench and then had a log or two they'd throw across.

Ivan: You find them all over, though, wherever these old cowboys camped. When you were down in Horse Canyon where we've got our cabin there, there is a little bench that sits right up, it's connected on to Little Bowns and the terrain kind of fenced it off from Little Bowns too. But you can get horses up there, and starting on Little Bowns and then just go around on that little mesa.

Grant: Underneath Max's cabin?

Ivan: Underneath that old cabin of Max's. And there is another one on the canyon just a little ways that went up on the other side, up farther than this cabin.

Grant: Downstream of the trail you used to get in at Horse Canyon?

Ivan: Yeah, it's a little ways down from where the trail comes off King's Bench. It's just down the road about one point. It's kind of steep where you first start up, but there's a place you can get a horse up on there, a little horse pasture. You can get horses till you start up on Little Bowns

and then just go around to Little Baker.

Jay: Did we say all we wanted to about cowboy dress? What about boots? What was a typical cowboy using for boots in those days? Did he go to Panguitch and purchase...

Ivan: No. We had cowboys catalogs. We had to order them. Do you remember the old Newton boots?

Jay: No.

Ivan: They was made out of leather about a half inch thick. When a man got to where he would buy Newton boots, he knew he had a pair of boots that would last a life time. Some of them had a heel on them about that high, and under slung. You could hardly walk in them. I never did wear a pair of Newton boots. By the time I got big enough to have boots, we were wearing Justin boots. But we all had to have boots. We didn't wear shoes in those days. Even some of us young guys, when we were pitching hay we had to wear our cowboy boots. Probably that's what wore my ankles out.

Jay: Well there's a practical argument for those boots and for those heels to keep your feet in the stirrups, weren't they?

Ivan: Oh, yeah. Those underslung heels, that's what they were for. Your foot would never go through the stirrup, and they were down far enough so you could keep your foot in the stirrup too.

Jay: You never got thrown from a horse, I guess.

Ivan: Well, a few times.

Dorothy: Well he never rode a horse that was really tame. He only rode a horse that was half broke. The only thing that was tame was the two mules.

Ivan: I'll have to tell you a story. Max Behunin--and his wife still lives up here on the corner--he went a couple of times with me and my younger brother down on the Burr Trail. We had the packs on the mules and he said afterward, I never had to worry about seeing a rodeo cause every morning we would get the mules packed up and the horses saddled up and get on and start out. And the mule would go one direction a bucking and trying to throw the pack off. And Kirk would be going one direction and Ivan would be going the other direction, all three of them putting on a rodeo at the same time. But we didn't do that all the time.

Dorothy: That's how they broke the horses. You know if you take a horse and ride him every day. Isn't that right, Ivan?

Ivan: Sure, that's the quickest way to break them.

Dorothy: You can't ride them around town for very long. But when you've got three or four horses like that and you use them.

Jay: Did you ever have any injury when you got dumped?

Ivan: Yeah, that was after we was married. I can't remember getting throwed off and hurt when I was younger before I got married. Once after I got married, Farlon Behunin, that's Max's son, we had cattle on what we call the Reef. It's a water pocket fold after you climb out of Moody down here, and go out through there. I had a horse I was breaking, a young horse, a real nice horse. But Farlon and me drove a bunch of cattle out there and we was taking them down the bench where there was water down there. I rode that horse all day and he hadn't been broken very

long. He just kept fighting me and wanting to go and wanting to go faster. He just kept fighting. He didn't want to stay behind the cows. Along about sundown, it was getting close to evening anyway, I thought well now, I'm just going to show you mister just who is the boss. So I rammed him with my spurs just as hard as I could. Boy, he made about three jumps and Ivan went for the sky. When he come down, he lit right on his back on some sand rock. Poor old Farlon, I think he came near to dying as I did. He could just see himself having to carry me out because of my back. It kind of hurt me in the back and right down between my hips here. I didn't dare ride that horse again. I had to ride an old gentle horse till I got back home. That's as near as I can remember of ever getting hurt.

Grant: Is the Reef up the hill on the drainage right up on the ridge there?

Ivan: Well, it's clear out on top of the water pocket fold there.

Grant: Big Canyon?

Ivan: Yup. Have you ever tried to go up that canyon?

Grant: Not on a horse. I used to hike up there. There's an old drill steel on the ledge up there. Max was telling me about shooting that ledge down. I think he said you were there.

Ivan: Yeah. Me and him worked that trail and cut it. We put cattle over there. We traveled up and down there two or three years.

Grant: Had it been used before?

Ivan: It had been a trail before, yeah, a long time before.

Grant: And then abandoned?

Ivan: Yeah, it had been abandoned.

Grant: Did the cows, once you got them up on top, did they go all the way down to Iron Top or did you pretty much keep them on that upper...

Ivan: We stayed pretty much on the upper end. You know where Tin Can Knoll is?

Grant: Yeah.

Ivan: You know where the trail comes out from Bull Frog? We didn't go down any farther than that.

Grant: Tin Can Knoll is where it drops off a couple thousand feet both sides of it?

Ivan: Pretty much, yeah.

Grant: Do you know why it's called Tin Can Knoll?

Ivan: I really don't.

Grant: Max told me they found a tin can with John Wesley Powell's name and his crews' names in it.

Ivan: That might have been why it got the name of Tin Can Knoll then.

Grant: I've only heard that from Max.

- Ivan: Have you ever been up the trail from Baker Ranch up on there?
- Grant: Nope, I haven't. I've been up there on foot, but not on the trail.
- Ivan: Oh, you've been on foot?
- Grant: I'm itching to go over that one, though.
- Ivan: It's a long ways down there any more. It was a long ways then. But every place was a long ways then. We had lots of time and nothing else to do, so we didn't seem to worry about it.
- Grant: The feed must have been good up on that reef.
- Ivan: That was as good as I ever seen it. We were just looking for more range. We didn't have the money to buy it but we was looking for more range.
- Grant: It was pretty grassy the last time I was on there. There was a wild cow up there. It's been ten years since I've been up there. A wild cow running around.
- Jay: That's another topic, the subject of wild cows. I acknowledge or at least I understand why there would be wild cows. But why would the livestock man let his livestock get away, so to speak, and not claim it, or are these of such low value that you don't get back to pick up one that you missed, or maybe they were hiding. What's going on there?
- Ivan: Well there's always been wild cattle around here up until the last fifteen or twenty years. And they were just cattle that I suppose were a little bit hard to handle and they weren't even worth that much that the

rancher would spend a lot of time to get them. There were wild cattle up there on the east end of the mountain where they would go down to the breaks in the winter and stay there all winter. And out in the Circle Cliffs there were wild cattle. Just about everywhere you went, there was wild cattle back until I would say after World War II, and then they kind of got cleaned up and taken out.

Dorothy: Some of them were calves, left to grow, not even marked, you know what I mean. And if you have ever been around a wild cow, and even to bring them in. Sometimes it wasn't worth bringing them in, cause they die in civilization, don't they Ivan?

Ivan: Well I better tell you about them wild cattle. There's pictures of them in that old post corral down off the switchbacks down there. I think that post corral's still down there. But anyway we got my brother Kirk and Mac LeFevre and I went down there one fall about Thanksgiving time. The fellow that owned the cattle had told us he would give us half of them if we could get them out. Well we worked our tails off for about two weeks, so we came out with twenty-seven head (everyone laughs).

Grant: Where were they? In Grand Gulch?

Ivan: No, they were out on the reef. They were in Long Canyon in Bowns Canyon and some of them were out on top down toward Steer Tanks and some tanks even down farther than Steer Tanks. But we got them gathered up. I think we got twenty-seven head off of there. We hauled them out to the auction.

Jay: Salina?

Ivan: Yeah. And at the time Kirk had taken time off from work. He was

working out there in Sevier Valley. And he went to the auction and watched some of those guys buy them. And I even kept one or two around here. And Evan Peterson kept one or two. But you know those doggone things, they would not eat hay. They didn't have sense enough to eat that hay. The guys that bought them out of the auction told the same story. They took them home and fed them and they just starved their selves right to death.

Dorothy: I'll be darned.

Jay: Homesick?

Ivan: That might have been part of it, but they had never eaten--it had been mostly browse that they had eaten. Grant said there was a lot of grass down there now, but there wasn't much grass then. They had pretty much killed that out.

Jay: There is something about what you grow up with.

Ivan: I think so, yep.

Dorothy: Well when the old cow has a mind of her own, you're going to have a hard time changing it, especially if it comes from a calf, you know it's never been around people.

Jay: Even domestic livestock.

Ivan: It didn't seem to make much difference with those cattle whether they was around domestic stock or not. These we kept around here and were fed right with the cattle, either the stomach wouldn't handle it when they eat it, or they just wouldn't eat it. I don't know what it was.

Dorothy: That one time Dell was on a really big horse and the old horse bucked him off. Do you remember that? The wild cow came after the horse.

Ivan: I can't remember that one. I can remember a lot of tales, but I haven't got time to tell them to him. We've got to get on with this story.

Jay: Well, we are about at the end of our first tape and so maybe we'd ask that you add something that we have forgotten in the last few minutes of this tape. What have we neglected to ask about?

Ivan: I think one thing we might have went around was that there used to be quite a lot of sheep up here on the mountain. The ones that were on the east end of the mountain, they wintered down on the south side of the Henry Mountains and down around Bullfrog and in there. And they would come right up what we called the Burr Trail. That's where the switchbacks are now. They would go from there up around through the Circle Cliffs up in Dry Bench and come out of Indian Gulch on the east end of the mountain. There was a lot of sheep then up on the east end of the mountain. And the Forest Service worked on those sheep men and finally got all of them to sell the sheep out and go to cattle. But in this process the Forest Service also cut their permits quite a lot. I know some sheep men that had, oh probably three or four thousand sheep, and ended up maybe with four or five hundred head of cattle. They really nicked them on that.

Jay: Why do you think they did that?

Ivan: Well the range was overstocked. They had to take them one way or another. The Forest Service had to cut them the only way they could, I guess, just tell them they were overstocked and they had to cut them.

- Grant: Do you remember anyone using the trail that went up Muley Twist, up on Dry Bench, that way?
- Ivan: Well, they didn't use that very much, Grant. But I remember Truman and I went up through there one year and got up there and killed some wild cattle and had to come home and get some packs, and he went back and packed them out. It was late enough in the winter that the meat just froze and he went back and got it.
- Grant: By using that trail?
- Ivan: No, they went from Boulder and back and got them after we killed them, but we went up on there from down to the Burr Trail, up Muley Twist and up on there.
- Grant: Do you know of any old inscriptions in that area from old timers? I found one that was your dad's. It said LF and had what looked like a cavalry man drawn at Muley Twist, one canyon below. You know the canyon you have to go down to get on that trail at Muley Twist to Dry Bench. One canyon south of there, there are some cottonwoods and it runs into Muley Twist. You go up the stream and it gets narrow. Right in there, there's an overhang and there are some Indian writings, and there is an LF.
- Ivan: That's my dad's granddad, LF.
- Grant: Yeah, 1923, February 14th or something. And it looked like a cavalry man with a big hat on. It's all scratched into the rock.
- Ivan: I don't even remember seeing that, Grant. I probably have, but I don't remember.

Dorothy: Well you've seen the one they have at the head of Long Canyon. Remember you took me that one time to see that. It's at that table where your dad used to get in under there and sleep, right on that Horse Canyon Wash, right on through there.

Ivan: That wouldn't have been Long Canyon. That was down at the Horse Canyon tanks.

Dorothy: No, it was just at the head of Long Canyon where you drop off into Horse canyon.

Grant: Is there an inscription there?

Dorothy: Yeah. There's a big old rock, it's a little bigger than that table. You know how like a mouse has eat out the rocks there in that area of the country and he said his dad used to get underneath there and sleep for the night.

Ivan: Yeah, that's the rock we used to sleep under. Yeah. But they were just kids, mostly, just boys.

Dorothy: Yeah. There was inscriptions on that rock.

Grant: How do you find that?

Ivan: From the bridge in Horse Canyon.

Grant: The new bridge, the one that's clear down?

Ivan: Yeah, but don't mistake me. It's the wooden bridge that crosses Horse Canyon. Instead of crossing it, you go back, right back down and cross

the wash about a quarter of a mile. The canyon goes to the west and then it makes a turn back like this and swings around.

Grant: Is that downstream below the bench?

Ivan: Yeah. You go down not any more than a mile and there are some big tanks unless they are filled up with sand. And there used to be even some water that seeped up in the bottom there. But this big rock is down there about close to a mile. It's just a big red rock that sets up on the bank above the bottom of the canyon, and you can get by. You will probably see some tin cans or wood chips or stuff like somebody's camped by it. There has been some shooting, some tin cans, some kids where there has been a campfire there, stuff like that. Well, it's down canyon from the bridge, down the way the water runs. So you just have to follow the water. It's pretty much south from the bridge.

Grant: I better write that down or I'll forget.

Ivan: In the process, when you go down there, about half of that distance down there, we used to turn out of Horse Canyon to the east and you go up one of them red back bones that went up on there and that's the way our trail went. We went out through Gray Breaks and never came back in where the road is until we got out between the peaks there, and then we came back in there.

Grant: You went around White Canyon?

Ivan: Yeah, we crossed the head of White Canyon. There is an old trail out through there.

Grant: I've never been in that country much except looking for cedar posts.

Ivan: Yeah, there's a lot.

Dorothy: I'd like to mention something. Me and Ivan were talking today when we went to see if we could find Grant's house. You know the day will come that they'll want to bring cattle back into this country. Cattle used to clean off the tall grass. You can't even see Deer Creek from the road now. The willows and the grass are so tall. Same with Calf Creek. We had cattle killed in the river. We had the river permit and we had 25 cattle shot and killed. Finally after two or three years, the Park got a conservation outfit to get us out of there, and they bought us out. But the willows are going to get so thick in the river, there's no way that the hikers can get up there. The hikers hiked the trails the cows went and that's why there are cow patterns on the trail. We've been out of there about five years now, haven't we, Ivan? I bet you another five years, the hikers won't even be able to hike in there because the willows and the vegetation are so high and not only that, the water ways are washing the sand, changing the banks, making higher jump-offs and everything else, because there's no cattle in there to make it a hikable place. I think more and more of these washes are going to be the same way.

Grant: Have you been in it going up and down the river? It's getting deeper in the channel. The banks will get higher. I used to rely on the cow trails to get off the banks and now you have to look for ripples in the river to cross or else you might hit quicksand. You have to find the ripples and then you also have to find the sloped banks, and finding the two together is hard now. Once you get down below Twenty-five Mile, you have to ride in the river pretty much. Those bends that used to have trails, the willows have grown in. I get a string of packs when I get into those willows, they'll get so thick that I can't turn around and I can't go ahead and I have pack horses behind me and it's a nightmare now. And

then once you get below Moody, there's no riding on the bank. You have to ride right in the river. It's really hard. And then you hit quicksand, so you have to figure out how to get around the quicksand.

Ivan: I don't envy you a bit. That quicksand cured me. I don't like that river.

Grant: I haven't ever really hit quicksand much. You know where you find it, wherever the river makes a little turn.

Ivan: I know about where it is, but then you can't always tell. Most places it will be hardened up so you can ride across and then some places you can't.

Dorothy: To me, I think the country's going to change a whole lot. What the tourists have enjoyed when they've come here before, they aren't going to be able to enjoy the places they used to.

Grant: More backpackers say it's miserable. They say I want to get out of there. I just ran into some people and they had to meet somebody at Harris Wash. I was down at Egypt and they were going down stream looking for Harris Wash and I didn't know which way they were going. They said how far to Harris Wash? And I said about three or four miles. They said which way, and I said that way. And they said, oh, no. I said, Well, are you having fun? They said, frankly, we're sick of it. We're sick of willows beating us to death.

Jay: That click tells us the tape is out. So we appreciate very much your time.

Dorothy: The willows are just coming in so thick, and the tall grass.

(End of audio tape. The following narrative was taken from the videotape made by Ann Stansworth concurrent with the audio taping of this interview.)

Ivan: That's fine. I don't know whether you got very much information or not.

Grant: I don't know if you want to, but I would sure like to sometime meet with you again and get more details on trails and also take it all the way to where you bought that range down there and where your cows were shot and try to get the whole story.

Dorothy: Well, the first thing, we had range on the Burr Trail and the Park took it.

Ivan: Well, they didn't take it. They bought it from us.

Dorothy: Well it took five or ten years. Johnson took it away from us. He said you could have it for ten years. Then after about five years the Park wanted it and they called us and they invited three or four of us down there. It was just like buying a used car. We went in there and will you sell it to us for so and so? And we debated back and forth and dickered back and forth and finally they bought it. And that's what we bought the river permit out of.

Grant: That's how you replaced it?

Dorothy: Yes, and we bought the Escalante desert after they killed our cows and the conservation outfit bought our river permit. We bought that between the ten and the twenty mile on the Escalante Desert.

Grant: Do you still have that?

Dorothy: We have it but we are going to sell out. We're tired of being harassed.

There is a man that wants to buy it in September. We've been harassed too long.

Grant: The comments up on the hiker box--your cows have been out of there for five years and people are still writing on that comment box, "Get the cows out of here." There's no cows.

Ivan: [Ivan is showing Grant some pictures in an album.] Here's a few. I suppose these two are in Bowns Canyon. That's on the reef where we got the wild cattle. That's the dead cows that was shot. That's some of them anyway. This is the vet working on getting the lead out of their heads, trying to get evidence so they could convict somebody.

Grant: Was anybody ever?

Dorothy: No.

Grant: There's a pile of bones on a bench above Wide Mouth in a cave.

Ivan: That's where they was, between Fence Canyon and Harris Wash.

Grant: I've seen bones. Oh and the burned cabin--that makes me sick.

Ivan: That's some of the pictures right there. That's a hook trap. Don't ever let me see you get you a hook trap like that, or I might shoot you.

Grant: I just went down to that Soda cabin and saw that burned. That made me sick.

Dorothy: I'll tell you, Grant, Ivan has said since we lost our Burr Trail permit, he always said, I wish they'd put a bomb where they entered the highway

out here and a bomb on the Hogback and just leave us here alone and don't let anybody in.

Grant: You know, that's why I've always been against paving the Burr Trail. I have always said you get everybody in the world in here and they are going to say "What are these cattle doing on our land?"

Dorothy: It's just progress. Like the Indians, you've got to move on. You've got to relocate.

Grant: I don't think there's anywhere to relocate to.

Dorothy: We're looking at buying other ranches. We're going to relocate.

Grant: You know there's an awfully strong movement to keep the cows here, though.

Dorothy: How can you? You can't even drive cattle up Highway 12.

Grant: But isn't everywhere getting that way?

Dorothy: Oh, there's some places over in Eastern Oregon and Idaho and Wyoming. We want to go back to the boondocks where we can be like what we were when we first come to Boulder. It's just different, even in Boulder. Everybody knew everybody and their business. And now I bet you there's only three or four of us left who were originally in there. They've all died off or gone elsewhere.

Dorothy: Ivan's folks was the ones that settled here first. I think a rancher is just like an old wild cow. Take so much and they get out..

(balance here unintelligible because everyone is talking at the same time.)

Dorothy: Just like Ivan. We have a son buy things when he goes up to Salt Lake. Ivan needs a new cowboy hat so bad. Usually I have Jack buy it. The other day we was going out I said don't wear that hat. It's got a big grease spot on it. So he went and got a cap. It's the first time he's ever worn a cap anyplace and everybody was remarking on it. I said to Ivan, I'll have Jack get you another cowboy hat. Ivan said, when I go out, I'm going to get my own hat and I'm going to get it just the right size and just the way I want it. I said, Ivan, am I going to have to wait that long? When was the last time you were out to buy a hat? Oh, he said, probably it's been a year ago. I said, if I have to wait another year I'm going to throw that stinky old hat out and you are going to have to wear a cap. You see, it's born and bred in him.

Jay: I'd better be careful getting my hat out here.

Ivan: I need one like that. Then I could give it to her and let her wash it every week.

Dorothy: He likes it when his western hat gets like that because they go through the oak and the thick brush sometimes and it protects his eyes. Sloppy old stinky thing. He loves them that you can pull way down over your head and go through all that brush and not hit you.

Jay: That's practical reasons.

Grant: Something I wanted to ask you. Vernon Hansen said there was a time when they were paid to maintain their trails and that's when that one trail off Brigham Tea down into the gulch, they shot a ledge to bypass it. I just wonder if you remember any of that at all.

Ivan: I don't ever remember getting paid. The only pay that I remember is when they built the wagon road from here out to Long Canyon and Horse Canyon. I believe they went clear on down and down to the Moodys, made a wagon road out there.

Grant: When was that?

Ivan: Oh it was back in the 30s sometime.

Grant: Max told me about shooting the ledges in Deer Creek to get down off of there and taking a jeep out there. I think he was telling me it was the first time they got a vehicle past the end of the draw and across Deer Creek and over to the gulch.

Ivan: You have never seen the old \_\_\_\_\_ first of all. Do you know where it goes?

Grant: Do you mean at Deer Creek, down stream? Yeah, I have seen that.

Ivan: Go down through the draw and into Deer Creek.

Grant: I've seen different routes. One's on the sand and one's up on the slick rock. I ride that a lot. When I cut across the bottom, I go across there. Is that the one Max is talking about?

Ivan: It must be. It must be.

Grant: It looks like you're staying out of the sand and so you don't get stuck. It's quite a bit shorter, too. It cuts off that, goes up that little draw.

Ivan: Yes.

Grant: How did the Depression affect you? Did it affect you at all?

Ivan: We were so poor before the Depression, we didn't even know, it Grant. I suppose they got such a little bit out of the cattle. Most of these ranchers around here went as far in debt as they could, which wasn't very much because the banks wouldn't loan very much. My dad got killed in 1948 or '49 and he had in mind to sell enough cattle to get out of debt. But he didn't live long enough to do that and it took my mother and us kids about five or six years before we got to the point where she could even get a little money from the bank. We finally paid enough with the few cattle we had, to get that \$7000 down a little bit. We really had a struggle, I'm telling you.

Dorothy: Ivan wasn't your dad about '38?

Ivan: I think he was 49. He was killed in '39. He was 49.

Dorothy: Oh, your dad was 49. I thought you meant the year '39. Excuse me. I'll tell you Grant, when I come here 50 years ago, some of these kids had never been out of here, never had a boughten dress. Everything was homespun. They didn't understand they were poor. You know if you eat milk and eggs and that, you don't know you're missing candy out of the store. Candy was at Christmas time and you got a big bucket full of hard tack candy. You know what I mean? Kids didn't know about anything like that. To them, they felt like they were well to do. If my dad's got so many cows, he's well to do.

Grant: How was it you got from where Dell's ranch is now? Weren't you living up there as a kid?

Ivan: Yes. That's where I lived.

Grant: So how did you get from there down to the draw?

Ivan: My dad took up a homestead over in the draw. You know where Greer's cattle corrals are now, or Stucki's corrals. He had a house, a half a house. He got that much of it done. But he had a house pretty well done, and that's where we lived while he was proving up on that homestead. But he kept the other place up there and his brother lived on it for I don't know how many years, a couple or three years and run that ranch up there for him. When Dorothy and I got married, my mother let me have that piece of ground down there in the draw. We tried to live there--how many years? A couple of years or one year?

Dorothy: Ivan, it was two or three years cause you put all those fences around.

Ivan: We couldn't get enough water down there to even raise a garden there.

Dorothy: You couldn't do anything with that ground without sprinklers. It washes too bad.

Ivan: It's just plain old sand.

Grant: I know about that. I fixed a three-foot gully this morning with a shovel.

Ivan: After I had the place down there, then Kirk, he was my younger brother. He had stayed up there during World War II cause they wouldn't have him in the Army. He got married and his wife didn't want to live here, so he sold that to me up there. Then he moved out and up around Vernal. That's how come I got that place. Then I sold it to Dell.

Dorothy: Well, the place in the draw that you're talking about over by Greer's,

Max Behunin had this ranch. He'd taken it over because his sister-in-law's husband had died. He wanted to buy that off of us for a down payment on this place, and that's how we got this place. That's why Max had all that when he was going.

Grant: That's right. When I worked for Max ...

Dorothy: The first year we had this place we ditch watered, and this is the truth: Ivan planted oats with young lucern in it and we baled 400 bales of hay, and we were overjoyed to get 400 bales of hay. As time went by and we got sprinkler systems in, how many bales did we get?

Ivan: About 5000 from the first crop this year.

Dorothy: With the sprinklers. We have the best water right in Lower Boulder, but lots of times by the time the water got down here, the ditch had absorbed a lot when you run it out onto the ground in the sand washes. We were overjoyed that first year we raised 400 bales. I remember that.

Ivan: You've got a better memory than I have.

Dorothy: Then we got more and more when we put the sprinklers in.

Grant: So you pretty much started farming all of this.

Ivan: Yes.

Dorothy: Just this little piece here is all that was watered. There is a meadow down underneath. They know it comes from seep. There's a lot of difference that comes with education. Education could be like when they brought sprinklers and farmed all over Lower Boulder. So much better.

Grant: Because of the sand?

Dorothy: Yeah, and the ditches just sucked that water right up. By the time you'd get it, you'd lost half of it.

Jay: It seems to me it is hard to find a situation that isn't made better by sprinklers.

Ivan: Yes.

Grant: I sure like ditches, though. I was helping Curtis water Peterson's pasture for a while the other day. It's like paradise up there.

Ivan: It's cool.

Dorothy: I have dug ditches with Ivan, right by his side. He'd dig the bottom and I'd dig the side. Every other year, that old broad leaf grass. Oh!

Ivan: Dorothy came down here from Salt Lake in 1946. She had been in a home that had tap water and indoor toilet and all those modern things, and she got down here and had to live in an old house that didn't have a toilet or running water in the house.

Dorothy: Very few homes in Boulder had toilets or running water, except running to the ditch. We didn't have no monthly bills to pay in the early days. You had the old crank telephone so you could talk to your neighbors, and the pay on that was just keep your line up along the fence, you know.

Jay: Where did you grow up in Salt Lake?

Dorothy: My folks lived on 30th South between Main and State. I wouldn't even

go there now. Terrible. Then they moved up on Butler Hill after I got married, and I wouldn't live there now. They bought an apple orchard. It is so crowded now up by Brighton High School, I wouldn't live there. In fact, I don't like Salt Lake at all. I don't know why anybody lives there. It's just quite a bit different. The reason I stayed here was because I couldn't get back out.

Ivan: Have you ever heard that saying? She couldn't go back cause she was bare footed and pregnant.

Dorothy: Grant, you go talk to Idona. We've laughed and laughed about that. You know once Idona had that house down underneath the hill. And then they got this place in town.

Ivan: They don't know about this house under the hill.

Dorothy: And Otto had left some old clothes down there in an old box. One day Idona saw this man go out of there with one of Otto's old overcoats on. And she called us all: There is a tramp in town. Be sure you lock your door and don't let anybody in.

Grant: A tramp, huh?

Dorothy: She knew he must have come to town up the creek and been in that old house of hers. It was just an old shell of a house. Us women made our own entertainment.

Grant: Where was that?

Ivan: You know where Flakes got his ranch up there and it runs in the creek up there, up where the second barn is. That is where Otto and Idona lived.

Grant: That old house that's still there?

Ivan: Yeah.

Dorothy: Well, there ain't much left of it.

Grant: It's kind of fallen down.

Dorothy: But you didn't have to pay to go to a dance. There wasn't no movies. A lot of the time you could get the radio station. And it was like any small community. We put on our own plays and everything else. People got close together, I felt.

Grant: I have never seen any nicer people than I have seen at Boulder. So I think it had a real good effect.

Grant: It sure is interesting hearing your perspective.

Ivan: To hear what?

Grant: Dorothy's perspective, when you were out on the winter range and she was holding down the fort.

Ivan: She likes to talk anyway, and I'm not much for talking.

Dorothy: Honest, Grant. I milked five cows and had a bunch of chickens, and I was usually pregnant too.

Jay: I was just thinking about all that training you got in Salt Lake to bring down to use on those cows and chickens.

Dorothy: I'll tell you a story. When we were first married, I knew how to open a can or maybe buy a little slice of ham to make a meal. His mother tried to teach me how to do a few things, like make bread. I made bread one day. I was just so proud of myself. It wouldn't raise. It just stayed there and stayed there. I thought, Ivan will be so mad at me for wasting all that flour. So I went down the path that went to the old outhouse and I dug this big hole and I put the bread in it. About two days later, Ivan came back to the house. He said, Dorothy, come and see this ground. It's different. It's making a hole and it's making a mound. And I had to tell him I buried that bread out there.

Jay: It finally rose.

Dorothy: It finally rose and the ground was starting to come up from that hole. But I should have got farther away than the path to the outhouse and then he wouldn't have seen it. But I had to learn lots of things like that, cooking on the old wood stove. It was a lot different. A lot of folks stuff spoiled because there was no refrigeration. But people around Boulder had their places in their ditches. Some of them could even set a Jell-O. I never could set a Jell-o. Ivan's mother used to cure hams. She had her own dirt cellar and she put her hams in there. She could make the best head cheese. She'd take one of them big old granite bowls, and put the head cheese in it. Then she'd melt the lard and make a layer of lard about three inches thick. And that would keep for a long time.

Jay: Seal it right off.

Dorothy: Yeah. Then they cut that grease back when they got ready to eat it. In fact, Ivan was over in Okinawa in the service. He was so homesick it was terrible. His mother used to cure deer hams. She sent him a deer ham clear across the ocean to Okinawa for Christmas, didn't she, Ivan?

Ivan: Maybe she did. She used to send them to me in California. I worked in the ship yards down there before I went in the Army, and she would send me deer hams all the time.

Jay: These are not bottled; these are cured?

Dorothy: Yes. When I first came to Boulder, Ivan brought me here before I married him. Max Behunin had a card party that night. After the card party was over and everybody left old Max went in the other room and he brought this great big deer ham out and they were just slicing it off and eating it raw. I thought, this is a bunch of cannibals. I wouldn't taste that meat. Until after I was married, I never tasted it. The ones that were left there after the party were slicing it off there and eating it. And lots of people did it. didn't they, Ivan?

Ivan: Oh, yes.

Dorothy: They had their own curing and their own smoke house. That was good refreshments, but not for a city girl. They did lots of things that was totally different from what I knew.

Jay: What were the reasons he brought you down to Boulder before you were married? How did he do that?

Dorothy: In Ivan's family, when you got to be in the eighth grade, they had to go elsewhere to school. They graduated from the eighth grade. Ivan's sister came to live with some other sisters in Salt Lake and went to Granite High where I went. He came at one Conference time to be inducted into Fort Douglas. When he got here, he couldn't find any place to stay. My friends and I was going to a picture show and his sister was with us and we met him at--I can't remember if we went to the train to meet him or

where. But he looked all over. He couldn't find no place to stay. He said I'll go to the Police Station and see if they will put me up for the night. I said, I'll call my folks and see if you can sleep on the couch. Well he did. He came to my house and when he went into the service, I had a steady boy friend and my girl friend wrote to him all the time. And he kept saying, tell Dorothy to write. Tell Dorothy to write. And I wasn't interested. It took a year and a half and he went over seas. Or was that just before you went overseas?

Ivan: It was before I went.

Dorothy: He wrote me a letter and wanted to know if I would come to Boulder with him cause he had a furlough. So I did, and then he wouldn't leave me alone.

Ivan: They don't know how we went to Boulder.

Dorothy: We came to Boulder on the Marysvale Creeper. We left at midnight and we got to Marysvale at 8:00 which is about a three hour drive slow now, in a car. Then we got on the mail...

Ivan: Which was a pick-up truck.

Dorothy: ...and came down around Junction and through that way and into Escalante. When I got to Escalante, they had the old board sidewalks. Did you ever see them? And the men were whittling and visiting there. And here was this hair-cutting pole on the corner. I thought my gad. I've just gone back in time. Where have I been? When the mail come on over here, I went to sleep and I woke up just as you can look down there into Calf Creek. Oh, it scared me. I just thought that was terrible.

Grant: Was that the road over on Home Bench then?

Dorothy: Yeah.

Ivan: It didn't come off in the river where it does now. Didn't it go winding around then?

Dorothy: There was different changes made now. But you could look off, no railing or anything. You could look off and hardly any traffic. It was a dirt road. I thought I had gone way back in time.

Ivan: Well you had.

Jay: That's right.

Dorothy: But he kept after me until I finally give up and told him I would marry him.

Ivan: The only thing, she didn't know what she was getting into.

Dorothy: He told me, if you'll come to Boulder, next year we'll be rich.

Ivan: I have been telling her every year since: Hang on another year and we'll be rich.

Jay: And you're right, both of you.

Dorothy: I wouldn't have had it any other way. We had eight children and this is a good place. All our children know how to work.

Jay: That is worth a lot.

Dorothy: They know how to take responsibility. It's is a great country. The kids all used to make fun of me after we got a car and could go to Salt Lake. Ivan would never drive past Nephi. I had to drive around up to Salt Lake. My in-laws thought that was terrible. Men always did the driving. Ivan would never drive and he would never go very often, period, would you? He would say where are all these people going? Why don't they just go home and get off the road?

Jay: You've heard of all the road repair that's going on right now? Boulder looks awful good.

Dorothy: Boy, it really does.

Grant: I hate to see you looking somewhere else. Everywhere you've got a population explosion going on.

Dorothy: We have two children who live here, our son, Arthur, and Dell LeFevre {who is married to our daughter}. Our son, Jack, works for UDOT (Utah Department of Transportation) up in Orem. He had a house down here. We aren't that far away. Some of our children are far away, but we aren't that far away.

Ivan: Do you think you have learned anything that will do you any good?

Jay: You bet. One thing I've learned is we need to talk to you another time. We are going to come back in November and we have got some more questions we ought to ask. And especially do we need to have you explain some of these photographs and get the imagery on video so that it becomes part of the record. It is wonderful to have it in this form, especially where it is identified.

Grant: I would like to know your history of how you got Big Bowns Bench, and how you got Baker Bench, and where you went from there. All the areas you have ridden a horse. I think it's all really interesting and I think it is important to get it on video so that it is part of this record. It is wonderful to have it in this land.

Dorothy: And then another thing with our boys. Ivan's got a log cabin down on the reef. Every Christmas, the day after Christmas our three married boys and Dell LeFevre, they went down there for two weeks and chased them wild cows. Then they got so they took a horse or two down there, a good stud to have there. And it would take them two or three days to get in there. That was an annual occurrence for about five or six years for our boys. That was their Christmas treat to all come here and go down and chase the wild cows.

Jay: About six weeks ago we went down and filmed the people on the Sandy Ranch moving their livestock up Oak Creek to the mountain. Talk about an event. They made a party out of it. I think they have been doing that for some years. They've have that event and then go back to the ranch and sit around and tell stories and brag on each other. It's a big time.

Grant: One thing to this day I still can't fathom how you did it. I had been down camping on the river and I came riding out and just making it back home by the skin of my teeth. It was snowing hard and it was getting dark. I was just getting to Deer Creek. You were on a horse going out fourteen or fifteen miles to your cabin. My, it was snowing hard. You were going out, just leaving at dark. I don't think I'll ever figure out how you did that.

Ivan: The cold gets to me any more. I'll tell you a story about my one oldest boy. We used to like to chase wild horses in the Circle Cliffs; they have

wild horses out there. We had been down in the head of the Moodys and chased wild horses. I think I had Arthur and Monte both with me. We got separated from Arthur and I got back to the truck and we was waiting for Arthur. We was out on top of the ridge where the old road goes down and into Muley Twist. Have you ever been on that?

Grant: Over by Wagon Box Mesa?

Ivan: Well it's south of Wagon Box. From this side you go down past Wagon Box Mesa a bit and then you turn back and go up a ways. Then you go down the ridge for a couple of miles and back down in to Muley Twist. Anyway, we was out chasing wild horses and we got separated and it was after dark, and it was really dark. I was getting a little bit worried about Arthur. We was on a high place looking down on the road cause we knew that was the way he would have to come. Pretty soon I could see a fire and it would move. I kept watching that fire and it kept moving. We hollered and we honked, it didn't move any faster. So finally I went back to meet Arthur. And what he'd done, he'd built a fire and got a log burning and he took that log in his hand and got on his horse and was coming up the road with that flame. And that horse couldn't see. You know, a horse couldn't see in the dark. He was having a struggle getting up there. I'll never forget that. I suppose he hadn't ever been out in the dark alone. That old horse was about give out and he couldn't see. Can you remember that, Dorothy, or was you with us?

Dorothy: I don't believe I was there.

Grant: You know that horse, Cougar, I got from you, I rode her up Fool's Canyon, way down the river where there's banks and you have to go in between the boulders on that lower end to find that Less George Point

Trail. I wanted to see if I could get up it. I ended up going up it.

Ivan: That's down farther to the Fence Creek, isn't it?

Grant: Yeah. Fools Canyon. It's way down there. It goes up past George Point.

Ivan: I've never been off in the river down that far.

Grant: Actually there's a lot of big boulders and you have to go in the water a lot. There's a lot of ice. It got dark on me and I rode for hours and couldn't see a thing. That old horse knew the right way to go. He only slipped and fell one time. It's amazing.

Ivan: What did you do when he slipped and fell? Did you stay on or did you get wet?

Grant: I got wet and got back on. I was soaked.

Ivan: That doesn't sound like fun.

Grant: I had fun. At George Point, that trail that goes up there is so cool. There's a little trail about this wide and a hundred feet up that you had to get onto and go across there. Then there is a U-shaped canyon, all filled with water. I had to make him ride in it and break ice to get up in there. It was scary.

Dorothy: Isn't that where you and Arthur put cattle up on there for a year or two?

Ivan: We didn't put them up on there from the river. We took them down through the Escalante desert and out on there. I think I've been down in there where the trail goes off. It goes into a canyon. It don't go straight

into the river.

Grant: A big sand dune and then down a canyon. I found Ezra McNelly's inscription once on that same trail. That is a wild trail.

Ivan: There is one bank they call Ezra Mac Bench. Well if I was forty years younger, Grant, I would join with you and go with you, but I'm not going down there now unless I have to. If your wife comes and tells me poor old Grant's down there with a broken leg or something and you have got to get him, I might try it, but I don't think you could get me down there again.

Grant: Well, I have missed out then.

Jay: Maybe we better go before our welcome's completely worn out.

Ivan: If you will let me know when you want to come again. I'll try to get some of these best pictures out so I can explain to you. There's one in there of the wild cattle coming off that reef out there. I think that would be interesting. Then there's others of cattle coming out of Horse Canyon. I'll get some of them out.

Jay: Very good. Let's plan on that.

Grant: I wish I would have had a camera last year. I saw you and Arthur and I don't know who else coming off King Bench and I was on the Wolverine Bench trail with my kids. And I watched you guys ride where the trail's right next to that 500 foot drop-off where you go through those boulders. I wish I would have had a camera for that.

Ivan: You know one time I was driving a little bunch of cattle around there and

I had an old black dog of Dell's. And a calf walked around a tree right along where you start around that narrow shelf. And that old dog came running and grabbed that calf and knocked it off that bench. And it went down there a considerable distance and caught on the next shelf down there. There was no way I could get down to it. I had to go clear on down the trail half a mile and get off the next jump and come back around that point up there. I believe I put a rope on that calf and kind of put one leg up and packed it up. I got it with its mother, but it lived. It lived through the winter. That dog just tied into that calf, and the calf let out a blat.

Jay: The dog didn't go with the calf.

Ivan: No, he was smart enough to know when to stop.

Grant: A long ways down.

Ivan: Well it didn't drop clear to the bottom. It just dropped to the next shelf but it was a ways down there to get it out.

Grant: I sure thank you for talking to us.

Ivan: You don't need to thank me. I have enjoyed it. And I am glad somebody's getting some of this wrote down because I don't even keep a personal history, which I feel like I ought to, but I just never seem to get around to doing it. But this will be something that will...

Jay: You will have copies.

Grant: Think about what things, stories you could come up with, anything about your lives or grazing for next time. If it's okay if we come back. We have barely scratched the surface.

Ivan: I don't think you got very much today, but I don't know how you are going to get any more. Dorothy's a good talker. She can tell you what she knows and what she thinks.

Grant: It's really valuable.

Ivan: Another thing I was thinking about when we was talking about the food. When I was about twelve or somewhere along there, I might have been a little older than that. We never had oranges and one day a peddler came by and my mother bought a case of oranges from him. You know, I doggone near eat that whole case of oranges. I didn't know anything tasted so good and I just couldn't quit eating them. I thought about that that today when we was talking about the kind of food we eat. Oranges was something different.

(End of interview)

UTAH DIVISION OF STATE HISTORY  
Oral History Program  
300 Rio Grande  
Salt Lake City, UT 84101  
ph.(801)533-3574 Fax (801)533-3503

Interview Agreement and Deed of Gift

In view of the historical value of this oral history interview and my interest in Utah history,

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Interview Description

Date of Interview Aug 13, 1999

Primary Subject Boulder, UTAH Early ranching day in a small isolated town.

Other Topics \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Tapes \_\_\_\_\_

Signature Ivan Lyman Date MAY 16, 1999

Address 1453 Talley Robbins Ln Phone 5419563263  
HANES. OR 97933