

West Custer County Library District Local History Collection
Oral History Collection

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Geroux, Elizabeth

January 1981

Introduced by Irene Francis; interviewed by Irene Francis

IF: "Reflections of Yesterday, an oral history of Custer County" – this collection was compiled by the residents of the Wet Mountain Valley in conversations with Deborah Hood. The following conversation took place in January of 1981 with Mrs. Elizabeth Geroux, wife of Dona Geroux who is now deceased. (Note: the interviewer sounds like Irene Francis, not Donna Hood)

IF: They settled in Junkins Park-

EG: Mm hmm.

IF: Your family, they settled in Junkins Park?

EG: Not in Junkins Park, Glover Park.

IF: Glover Park and where is that?

EG: You know where Silver Park is.

IF: No, I-

EG: Uh, do you know where the McKenzie Ranch is?

IF: Uh huh.

EG: As you're coming up from, oh, from down, Hardscrabble, well, where the McKenzie Ranch is, and then as you're coming up, you'll notice the first place that you pass, there's a gate and you'll look up in there, and there are buildings there.

IF: I see.

EG: And that's where I was raised.

IF: That is a beautiful-

EG: My home.

IF: Cause it's a large, large house.

EG: A big long house and a big barn. Now, that's Silver Park.

IF: I see. I didn't know what that area was called.

EG: Oh, do you?

IF: No, I really didn't. Well, you know, not having been raised here, I frequently don't know the name that some of the people who've been here a lot of years call these spots. What do you remember about that area as a little girl that is different from the way it is today?

EG: Well, my folks, I don't know, they homesteaded that and it must have been somewhere around, what's the, I must have been about four years old when we moved there. I don't remember very much about it but anyway, that must have been, let's see, I was born in 1894, so that must have been about 1898 when we moved to that, when my folks moved.

IF: I see. Where did they live before?

EG: Rockvale.

IF: Oh!

EG: Mm hmm.

IF: Is that where your father was a miner at that time?

EG: Mm hmm.

IF: I see.

EG: Yeah, he mined in, oh different mines around there, but mostly in the big mine in Rockvale.

IF: I see. What caused them to move, do you know?

EG: Well, they just wanted some land. He wanted to get away from the mines. But he did not farm. Mother and us kids took care of the ranch while he and my two older brothers stayed in Rockvale and he worked in the mine while the two of them were going to school. We didn't have any school in Silver Park at that time.

IF: I didn't remember hearing-

EG: Well, there wasn't any school. I don't remember just when that school was at first in progress because that could have been before I even started to school, but I know it wasn't very much before that.

IF: And where was the school when you[unintelligible]

EG: You know where that, where that building is where these people are living now? Their name is Camel[unintelligible]

IF: Ok.

EG: Uh huh. And they built this schoolhouse.

IF: I see.

EG: And if you'll notice as you go by, they're building and building and building more up all the time.

IF: Yes.

EG: Or I just saw, that was a [unintelligible] schoolhouse.

IF: And you have it always set right there at the-

EG: Uh huh, it was always there.

IF: I see. Just in the same place. It was what, maybe a mile and a half, two miles west of where your house was[unintelligible]

EG: I don't know.

IF: I thought maybe three miles.

EG: I don't think it was three, probably two and a half, maybe one or two miles. Anyway, I know it was a long walk. We always walked.

IF: Oh my gosh. What do you remember about starting school? Do you remember that?

EG: I barely could remember, we had a teacher, I don't remember, his name was Johnson, and I was very timid and he was very strict. A lot of kids will do, take the book up to your lap, and he'd, he stressed firstly that we were not supposed to chew on our books. I would not chew on the book but he had it up to my mouth and he came up and he spanked me for it.

IF: Oh dear!

EG: And I was so afraid. I didn't want to go back to school-

IF: Oh! I don't blame you.

EG: That's the first thing that I remember of my-

IF: It's not a very nice memory.

EG: No (laughing) and of course I went to that school to the 8th grade, that schoolhouse, clear up to the 8th grade.

IF: About how many students were there, do you remember?

EG: I really don't know. I tell you at that time, they were all grown men. Boys, 18 or 19 years were going to school there because they only had three months schooling, all that time. Three months schooling-

IF: Well, the weather could be pretty bad down through the canyon.

EG: Yeah, well, we just had summer school. But anyway, once I remember too later on, this same man, Johnson, Steve Rawski, you probably don't know those people. But anyway, he was a man 18, maybe 19 years old and he and this teacher got into a fight in front of all of us kids.

IF: Oh, no.

EG: You can imagine.

IF: Oh my-

EG: But that is true and the teachers, they were both big, the teacher's a big man and he just tore the sleeve off of him, off of Steve Rawski's arm.

IF: Oh, for heaven's sake!

EG: The kids were real timid. We were frightened, I don't know how we ever learned anything because we were so frightened.

IF: And you must have been quite a young girl.

EG: Yeah, I was probably only six, maybe seven years old.

IF: That really made an impression on you, didn't it?

EG: It sure did.

IF: What an awful way to start in school-

EG: Wrong way.

IF: What about your graduation from the 8th grade? Did you have a graduation?

EG: Yes.

IF: Was it nice?

EG: I think there were three of us (laughing)

IF: And had you gone all through school with the same girls, or had some people moved here-

EG: Well, of course, after I graduated, then I went on to high school.

IF: Oh, you didn't. Where did you go to high school?

EG: I went to Florence my freshman year.

IF: Uh huh.

EG: I had to work my way through school and when I went to Florence, of course, I lived in an apartment and I didn't get started until I, school, of course, started in September. Well, I didn't get started until October because I really had to work at the ranch and I had to clean rooms until this was all done. But anyway, I know it was so hard for me because we just had that little bit of school where we did have six months after school, they had school for quite a while, six months, but you know, six months isn't very much.

IF: No, no.

EG: But anyway, I know it was so difficult for me to go into a high school.

IF: And you were, you did it with three children-

EG: Yeah, I was the only one.

IF: How did you get along?

EG: We wound up pretty, I thought I was pretty good until in the spring, but you know, I had the measles.

IF: Oh!

EG: And then, I was out of school for three weeks. I was so sick and I went to school three weeks, but I was just all but my eyes were affected, the skin of my teeth.

IF: Oh!

EG: But the next year, I didn't go back to Florence. I went to—they had advertisements where they hired a lot of girls to come in, live, you know, and act as babysitters, work for women. So, I went up to North Canyon myself and I stayed with some people by the name of Burton. He was a Dodge dealer at that time. And they had a little girl, I never will forget, Sharita was her name.

IF: Sharita?

EG: Sharita. There were people that came from Mexico, you know, they lived in Mexico and they had this little girl and they named her Sharita. I went to school in North Canyon and that year, and then, my second year in high school, I had to find another place to live because these Burtons moved away. They wanted me to go with them. They were going back east and they wanted me to go with them.

IF: My goodness!

EG: Oh, I would have gone but my parents wouldn't allow it. But anyway, then I, my second year I found other people, some people by the name of Grahams needed a girl to come and they had three little youngsters.

IF: Why, that was a handful, wasn't it?

EG: They used to go out quite a bit and I know there was times when I sat up until 11, 12 o'clock but I couldn't go to sleep, you know, till they got home.

IF: Mm hmm.

EG: But I did all my homework that way—

IF: I bet you had plenty of time to do it! (laughing)

EG: They were good little youngsters. They went to sleep. [unintelligible] So then, my third year in high school, I went to, this, in North Canyon.

IF: Mm hmm.

EG: Then my third year, I went to South Canyon. See, they hadn't consolidated, the schools were not consolidated at that time. They was North and South Canyon, and the two schools there were [unintelligible]

IF: Oh!

EG: And at any rate, I liked South Canyon the best because most of the kids in South Canyon were kids from out in the country.

IF: Did you have a lot more in common with them.

EG: Uh huh.

IF: I was going to ask you something that has always intrigued me. I myself have moved quite a bit, but you know nowadays, a lot of people move and it's not quite the same. You're a new student in school for a while and then people accept you. When you came from Silver Park and you went to Florence and then to North Canyon, did you find that the kids had been raised in the city felt differently towards you than they did to someone who maybe was from another place?

EG: Quite a bit.

IF: Was it hard to get a job—

EG: It was just a little hard.

IF: Uh huh.

EG: Just a little hard. I felt out of place.

IF: Did you?

EG: Uh huh.

IF: I'd be so unhappy if this was the place you go and you hadn't been a whole lot of places-

EG: No!

IF: To high school and you had to-

EG: That was the farthest away from home that I'd been

IF: How did your folks feel about you going away to school?

EG: Well, they'd always make you go but the thing was, you know, they couldn't finance it so I just had to work my way through school. Oh, yes, I got my clothing and-

IF: Mm hmm. Now, there wasn't any sort of tuition that you had to pay for school. It was only what you needed to live on and survive while you were going to school.

EG: No, there wasn't any tuition. I couldn't have gone you know; I know the folks couldn't.

IF: It seems quite unusual to me and I think it would to a great many people. We don't think about people, young people, wanting to go to school bad enough that they would work their way through high school.

EG: No.

IF: We know about people working their way through college indeed, but high school, I think, we take for granted.

EG: Mm hmm. I think that's the reason, it's the money that children don't appreciate their school because-

IF: This could well be.

EG: You can work for them. It's easy for them.

IF: But you worked for everything-

EG: I worked; I sure did!

IF: And you wanted to graduate, didn't you?

EG: Oh yes. I graduated in 1917. That's about 69 years ago.

IF: Yes, it is. (laughing)

EG: And then, Silver Park was my first school.

IF: You taught!

EG: Yeah, I taught at Silver Park.

IF: I had no idea that you taught.

EG: Oh yes! I taught school for a long time, even after I was married. But anyway, that was my first school.

IF: I bet you had lots of ideas about how you wanted to conduct your classes after having been through Mr. Johnson, didn't you?

EG: (laughing) Yeah! I don't know, I really didn't have any children trouble with them. I taught, let's see, I taught Silver Park. Then, I taught Ilse. Then I taught the Willows two years, and then, during World War II, I quit that for a while when I was married, and then when World War II came along, why they were asking, they were conscripting all of their old teachers.

IF: Oh.

EG: So-then I taught Greenleaf. Of course, there's no school there now, but-

IF: Where is Greenleaf?

EG: You know where the road turns off to up where Merrill's lived?

IF: Mm hmm.

EG: And their son lives there, too, Chuck.

IF: Yes, uh huh.

EG: Well, the school is just about there, kind of on the hill.

IF: Uh huh, where they have been on the Merrill's land or was it-

EG: It's some of Jack's land.

IF: I thought, up on the hill, Jack was down-

EG: Yeah, then it's oh, maybe, an eighth of a mile. It's kind of built on the hill.

IF: I'm talking to Hattie Berry just yesterday and she was telling me about Briarcliffe school burning down. Of course, that was up in the 50s when-

EG: Uh huh.

IF: But I think it's so ironic that so many of the old schools always have been lost to fire.

EG: Mm hmm.

IF: You know, I think they would just enjoy hearing what happened to them.

EG: Then I taught in so many different schools, and then, they were consolidated by Westcliffe and Silver Cliff. I taught the 4th and 5th grade up there for one, just half of a term-

IF: Just half?!

EG: I had to give it up because I had to take care of my mother and my brother-in-law was dying of the cancer and I just had so much on my mind and I got so I couldn't take it and the doctor told me I'd have to quit. So, I did. I finished up until Mardi Gras, that's, and so Helen Hibbs took my classes. She was easy-

IF: Oh gosh! When you taught at different schools, did you move when you taught at the Willows, did you have to move then from Silver Park out-

EG: Oh no! I boarded.

IF: Oh, you did.

EG: I boarded out, I boarded with Mrs. Walker for two years.

IF: Oh, I see.

EG: Mrs. Walker's gone. They died, both of, she would just love to sit and the managers loved her.

IF: That's Martha, I will copy to Hazel and she was remembering having the schoolteachers board with them when she was a girl. So, did you teach Hazel in school?

EG: Mm hmm.

IF: Did you? I didn't know how much difference there was in your ages.

EG: Oh, I was quite a bit older than Hazel, probably eight or nine years or something. Hazel was in, was going to school in Canon. She was going through the academy in Canon when I was teaching up here.

IF: I see.

EG: Yeah. [unintelligible]

IF: Oh, yeah. You know, I've been meaning to ask you this, what was your name before you were married?

EG: Kattnig.

IF: Kattnig!

EG: [unintelligible] and John were two of my brothers.

IF: I didn't know you were brother and sister.

EG: Mm hmm.

IF: Were you the oldest in your family?

EG: Oh, no! I had two, um, let's see, Tom and Mary. I was fourth. I'm a twin.

IF: Oh, you are!

EG: Mm hmm. I'm a twin. My brother [unintelligible] There were six boys and three of us girls.

IF: You were a large family.

EG: I have two brothers left and just one sister.

IF: Tell me how you met your husband [unintelligible]

EG: Well, they lived over in the Willow district where the Cooks live.

IF: Which Cooks?

EG: Charles.

IF: Oh, yes?

EG: And so, they bought that place where his folks lived.

IF: I see. Now did his folks-

EG: I don't think so. Uh huh, because they lived just, his folks lived at the cheese factory first, and then they lived down here, as you go down by my house, where Leyman Cook lives now. They lived there last.

IF: Oh, I see.

[unintelligible]

EG: But anyway, Dona's oldest sister and I were quite timid. I used to go[unintelligible] Tape distortion

IF: How many children did you and Dona have?

EG: A boy and three girls.

IF: A boy and three girls! [unintelligible]

Tape distortion. Stop, then restarts.

IF: We then turned to weather in the Wet Mountain Valley and Mrs. Geroux remembered some snowstorms that she'd been through.

EG: Oh, I remember one year when we lived, when it snowed. Actually, we couldn't find the car That snow was so. Oh, that was a-

IF: But the car would be shorter too, but still (laughing)

EG: That bad snow, had to have a shovel.

IF: Oh, now I see. [unintelligible]

EG: Yes, we were out of Kettle [unintelligible] for nine years.

IF: Oh, how nice!

EG: Dona was the foreman there.

IF: I see.

EG: The best part of our new[unintelligible] Was nothing.

IF: Oh. That's hard, isn't it?

EG: That's how it goes.

IF: Yeah. That really is. Well, let me see. That was at a time when there was not a whole lot of money to be had.

EG: That's right. That was the Depression. We was lucky to have a home.

IF: Yeah, did you teach during that time?

EG: No.

IF: Well, you were probably fitting into your-

EG: I was cooking for about seven or eight men.

IF: Oh, my goodness!

EG: Because at that time, we didn't have machinery, it was all horses.

IF: Of course.

EG: And we had men from Kansas, you know, different places, they were there all the time. They just had [unintelligible] supper for weeks!

IF: Yes.

EG: And we didn't have running water and electricity like we have now.

IF: Did you have a current in your house or did you have to go outside?

EG: I had to go out, just the water.

IF: Oh my.

EG: From the well. We had to heat it on the stove.

IF: Did you? Makes you think twice about using too much water, didn't it? (laughing)

During the Depression, were there a lot of transient people through the Valley who came looking for work?

EG: Quite a lot.

IF: Were they?

EG: When you start, uh, home, nearly every day somebody would come by and want to know if we had something they could do.

IF: You had some strangers and then-cause I know you said that basically I mean, in general, the Valley was better off than a lot of the surrounding areas during the Depression because the small farms and ranches, you had vegetable gardens. You had-

EG: Oh, yes, things were better, I mean, people could make their own living. The crops were better than they are now. Now, it's pitiful, you know.

IF: It certainly is.

EG: you just know whether your crops or not [unintelligible] but of course we have mountains of snow and good moisture. You couldn't hardly go through this Valley, you couldn't possibly go through it with a car if there were cars at that time, because it was all so wet and swampy. That's how it come to be called the Wet Mountain Valley.

IF: Yes, that's right!

EG: Got a [unintelligible] now. Used to be the Wet Mountain Valley.

IF: It sure did. Why did it change? I've been able to learn about over the years by talking to people why that, remarkable, the change and the generations.

IF: Gradually, our talk returned to Mrs. Geroux's time as a schoolteacher and her memories of those days.

IF: You were telling me about during World War II, about teachers being recalled to teach. Now, who was doing the calling up of the teachers?

EG: The county superintendent.

IF: Mm hmm, and this was before consolidation too, wasn't it?

EG: Yes.

IF: When was consolidation?

EG: Yeah, I can't remember.

IF: It seemed it was in the early 50s, I cannot name, are you on your own term by that time?

EG: We were living over here, you know where the cemetery is, the Ulay cemetery[unintelligible] We were living on what they call a[unintelligible] place. That was our place. We bought that.

IF: Oh, I see.

EG: We were living there at that time.

IF: Who lives there now that I might know?

EG: Bud Camper.

IF: Oh, Bud Camper. I couldn't quite think-

EG: We bought that. Then we sold it and moved up to Canon.

IF: You moved up to Canon.

EG: For several years.

IF: And Mr. Dona didn't manage [unintelligible]

EG: I'll tell you what he did most of the time, he just came back and forth from Canon over to Blackjack?

He hated Canon. If he didn't have [unintelligible], we had a little 10-acre plot down there. [unintelligible]

He had machinery and all, he did custom work.

IF: Oh, i-

EG: That didn't satisfy him. So, then he decided to sell and I didn't want to because I loved Canon.

[unintelligible]But I'm not sorry, I like it up here now. I was also disappointed when I came back.

IF: Who among you [unintelligible]

EG: I had never lived in town before and when we moved over here, I could just imagine over there [unintelligible]

IF: I cannot imagine that, having been through the same circumstances. [unintelligible]

EG: (laughing) I like it. Lovely neighbors, I'm just so fortunate.\

IF: [unintelligible] you do have neighbors and you get to talking-

EG: My whole neighborhood, we're all widows. We're all widows.

IF: That's right.

EG: We're all[unintelligible] but then-

IF: That's something that could never happen if you still lived in the-

EG: But I love the country.

IF: Did your husband [unintelligible]

EG: No, he wasn't [unintelligible] well, a lot of them come up from Pueblo now. But I'm a neighbor, but they are cleaning up, they are mopping up [unintelligible]

IF: Oh, I see.

(some talk about her son going to Korea, most of it unintelligible)

EG: I had a grandson in Vietnam. [unintelligible] He was just about ready to finish a college course, I think about five more weeks to finish his college course and then-

IF: Good grief.

EG: But they both made it. [unintelligible] My parents came from Austria and all of my brothers and

sisters, except my younger sister and my oldest brother were born in [unintelligible] my twin brother and I, my father was called back to Austria to settle some kind of a, you know, real estate or something. So, while we were out there, why, I was born out there.

IF: Oh!

EG: Of course, I don't remember any of this cause I was only three years old when we came back. But anyway, the funny part of this is when my brother Martin went into the service during World War I, when they had to designate where they were born, he said he was born in Austria.

IF: Because with the ill feeling to foreigners at that time?

EG: No, I have a list in my bag of all of the births down.

IF: Mm hmm.

EG: And where they were born, and everything, and he has mine and Martin's name down but not where we were born.

IF: Oh!

EG: Because, you see, we were, he was a citizen of the United States. I don't know what his idea was, but he didn't say where we were born. But I don't know where I was born

IF: You don't have a birth certificate issued by the local officialry[unintelligible]

EG: I wrote back to Washington and, years ago, but they just Census Bureau, that was the only way I could see where I, you know, kind of back way where I was born. I don't know. How could you prove where you were born if you don't have-

IF: I don't know. Obviously, you're not-

EG: No.

IF: I really don't know.

EG: I do have a thing that came from Washington and they said the Census that was taken in 1910, those papers were all destroyed. So, then they had another census there taken in 1920, and they have me down there, you know, and my parents and all. But they made a mistake on my birth. They had me down in January instead of October and that's my sister's, my oldest sister's birthday, and see, whoever was taking the census made that mistake.

IF: I see. Uh huh, yeah.

EG: But I was still born the 5th of October. I wasn't born in January. (laughing)

IF: At the time you were born, I'm understanding that a lot of official records of births were not kept.

EG: That's right.

IF: Nowadays, a baby gets issued a birth certificate practically the day they leave the hospital. There's a lot of information in there.

EG: When Hendrick was in Austria, he was there for a year, you know-

Tape stops and restarts.

IF: Mrs. Geroux refers here to her grandson Dick Kastendick.

EG: Well, he wrote to me and wanted to know some particulars he was going to investigate. Find Uncle Alex Marbury. He couldn't find anything. Said all those records were destroyed.

IF: Uh huh.

EG: All those records were destroyed.

IF: That's too bad.

EG: Just tell people I was born in Colorado, don't make any difference. (laughing)

IF: Well, I would think so, but personally it might be kind of special to have been born in Austria.

EG: But you know, it's a funny thing now. Now, my third brother was supposed to have been born in Russia and I was born in Austria. Of course, in this day and age, that could happen. (laughing)
(overlapping voices) Oh, we laugh about that.

IF: I can imagine.

EG: But as far as it goes, I, we took a trip up into Canada, a bunch of us. You know, when you cross the border, there they ask you these things, and I told them I was born in Austria. You know, they weren't going to let us go through. They was going to keep me. Go find out, I have, I had to prove that I [unintelligible] all these years but still-

IF: But you could not prove that you were an American citizen. Oh, my goodness!

EG: How we got through I don't know how that happened, but anyway. Good that he didn't keep all of us hold up there.

IF: And you were in a line, just had to stand and you said you were born, for a lot of them [unintelligible] officials are like that [unintelligible] needs to do you know.

EG: Right.

IF: Oh golly. Do you think that anything out of your life or your life before you were married that would be important for people to know about that I don't know now how to ask you?

EG: Well, there wasn't really much of anything else, you know, I talked all year [unintelligible] and a sip of [unintelligible] in school-so there.

IF: What if you don't mind asking about two things-you have for the most part eight classes. I know that there were not always children in each year at class. How did that every day-

EG: What?

IF: How did you set up your day teaching?

EG: It was pretty difficult.

IF: Yeah?

EG: It was pretty difficult. You could give such little bit of time to each class, you know, because, I'd ask for a lot of times, I even taught the 9th grade. There was a girl at the Willows, she couldn't go to high school so she wanted to know if I would give her 9th grade work and I said, yes, I'd give her 9th grade work. So, she'd study and then after the rest of them went home, why, I helped her.

IF: I see.

EG: So, I was really teaching, you know, from the beginners through the 9th grade.

IF: Was it getting really exhausting for you?

EG: Oh, no!

IF: Wasn't it?

EG: No. I loved school.

IF: Uh huh, that's nice. You said you never really had any discipline problems?

EG: I never did. The only time that I can remember that I, I took one of the little girls and shook her. That's as bad as I ever did, no my teaching.

IF: You didn't have any trouble with the big boys or anything?

EG: No. No, I never did have trouble. I was always one of them. At recess, you remember, we had time with them playing. I was just one with them. And then, they knew that when business was on and I was in school. When I moved, I never had any trouble with my youngsters.

IF: Did you know teachers who did have discipline problems?

EG: There was a teacher but [unintelligible] and they have a little clothes closet there and the kids took her and shoved her in that closet and her dress was sticking out and they kept her dress up. They told me about it.

IF: Oh my, did this worry you? I mean-

EG: Uh uh, she didn't have much discipline. I thought you had to, when you start, you have to let the children know what you expect of them and, not really be bossy, you know, but kids weren't as tough like they are now, but kids [unintelligible] the parents taught their children to respect the teacher. But nowadays, they don't.

IF: You really think it's a little bit different having to try-

EG: Yeah, it's, I didn't have to [unintelligible]

IF: There's something I need to ask you before. After, for so many years, teaching grades 1-8 and possibly 1-9, you said after they consolidated Westcliffe and Silver Cliff, then you had grades 4 and 5?

EG: Just 4 and 5.

IF: What did you do with your day when you just had two grades?

EG: I had 32 pupils!

IF: Oh, my word! That made up for it, didn't it?

EG: Yeah. I just had all I could do.

IF: Oh! Yes. Did you find that a difficult age group to teach after dealing with so many-

EG: No, not really. Uh uh. I don't think they're a difficult grade. 4th and 6th grade, there's enough=?

IF: Just a little there, all you'd have to do things?

EG: That's right.

IF: Yeah. Where was it that you taught when you just had the two grades?

EG: At Silver Cliff.

IF: In the old school at Silver Cliff?

EG: Uh huh.

IF: Mm hmm.

EG: You see, they had, there they had 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th, up there, and then the little classes were over here. (overlapping voices) There were three.

IF: Mm hmm. Ah, why was it split up in that way? I could see like 1-6 down here or up there but not 1-3 down here and 4-8 up there.

EG: The school up there was so much bigger. They needed more room, I think.

IF: They just had more older kids than younger.

EG: Yeah, they had [unintelligible] from the 4th grade on through the 8th.

IF: I see. It had nothing to do with if you lived in Silver Cliff, Westcliffe-

EG: No, uh uh, no. They got a man as superintendent up there.

IF: Now, where did you live when you taught in Silver Cliff?

EG: Over on that, what do you call, by the cemetery there.

IF: Oh, uh huh [unintelligible]

EG: I liked driving back and forth.

IF: I see. How was that in bad weather?

EG: It wasn't bad.

IF: Uh huh.

EG: Quick at least-

IF: What, two miles, maybe three?

EG: Well, I was, see I had to stop, I just stopped up until Mom-

IF: Oh.

EG: I had a, in my school.

IF: Yeah. Now was that the last time you taught?

EG: That's the last time I taught, mm hmm.

IF: Well, you really had a very full career-

EG: I sure did!

IF: And beautiful kids in the meantime (laughing) I was going to ask you if you taught while you lived in Canon.

EG: What?

IF: Did you teach while you were in Canon?

EG: No, no.

IF: Did you have any desire to teach in one of the larger schools down there?

EG: No, not really.

IF: It would have been different, I'm sure.

EG: I'm sure it would have been. (laughing)

IF: Well, I think I've about asked you all the questions I have in my mind to ask you. I really appreciate your telling me things.

This concludes the conversation. I would to thank Mrs. Geroux again for the afternoon that she spent with me and for her candor in the comments she made.

End of recording.