

West Custer County Library District Local History Collection
Oral History Collection

LP2009.013.131

McGregor, Pauline

February 27, 1985

Interviewed by Ted James

Pauline MacGregor is interviewed by Ted James on February 27, 1985 about her husband, Archie MacGregor's mining experiences.

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00:00	Ilse, Mining; Archie McGregor, now Dilly Ranch
2:15	Eagle Pitcher Co owned Ilse; hard rock lead mine early 1900s
3:30	housing for single and married
7:00	the fire, election day (1928?)
14:00	100 houses in Ilse, closed the post office, description of houses
18:00	1936 after mine closed went into sheep business
19:45	walked 5 miles to Silver Park Church
20:15	schools, Querida, Silver Park, Ilse
20:45	every Saturday night dance at Ilse school; Dr. Webb had the mine then
24:15	\$4-day top money at the mine
25:15	had cars to go to town
29:30	water had arsenic in it, used lead for paint
31:00	coal \$4 ton, lasted a month
32:00	entertainment: gambling, baseball, boxing, big July 4th
39:45	Mr. Dahl ran the company store
44:00	\$40-50 for a 4-room house when sold off
45:00	mine cave in, put out the carbide lights for more air; Archie led them out, found a dead man at the top; "Moser's nigger is dead in the manway," said somebody but it wasn't,

was a man looking for work, robbed and thrown down there (1927?); had a trial, real killer confessed to Archie

- 53:00 men rode up and down in coal cars 700 ft.
- 53:45 can still see streaks of lead and gold down the shaft
- 54:30 the boarding house, 3 meals, 7 days a week, Fletcher, Art Peck
- 56:30 picked peas in the valley and potatoes, lettuce shed, Clarence Dolan
- 1:00:00 cows, chickens, eggs, kept meat in the shed then got an ice box
- 1:01:30 end