

YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY

ORAL HISTORY PROGRAM

History of Leetonia Project

Personal Experience

O. H. 656

CHARLES L. STELTS

Interviewed

by

Paul Merz

on

October 19, 1981

CHARLES STELTS

Mr. Stelts was born in the Leetonia area 78 years ago. He has served as Salem Township Trustee (18 years) and Leetonia School Board member (16 years); he is a member of the Masonic Lodge and Leetonia Ruritans. His remembrances of Leetonia are based upon the fact that he spent much of his youth on a local farm.

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INTERVIEWEE: CHARLES STELTS

INTERVIEWER: Paul Merz

SUBJECT: railroads, streetcars, prejudice, industry,
transportation, working conditions, immigrants,
town life

DATE: October 19, 1981

M: This is an interview with Charles Stelts for the Youngstown State University Oral History Program regarding growing up in Leetonia, Ohio, at his home, on Route 558, on October 19, 1981, at approximately 4:30 in the afternoon.

What I would like you to do is take me back as far as you can remember concerning your family and things that you remember about your family, brothers, sisters, parents. Where did you grow up?

S: You mean go clear back to my childhood days?

M: Yes, as far back as you can remember. What do you remember about your family?

S: I lived with my mother, father, grandfather, and brother. We lived in the southwest corner of Fairfield Township. It was still the Leetonia area. We had Leetonia mail delivery.

M: What do you remember about school?

S: School?

M: Yes.

S: I went the first five years to a one-room country school, Woodville. After that, I went to Fairfield Centralized School by kid wagon.

M: Was that an early school bus?

- S: That was in the early days of the school bus, yes. We had four horses on a kid wagon in the spring of the year when the roads were muddy.
- M: Was it a one-room schoolhouse?
- S: No, Fairfield Centralized.
- M: I see.
- S: That was the first centralized school in the state of Ohio. It is Crestview now, the middle school of Crestview.
- M: About what year did you begin school?
- S: When I was five or six years old. I was born in 1903, so that would have been about 1908.
- M: What did your father do for a living?
- S: He farmed.
- M: You grew up on a farm.
- S: Yes. I grew up on the farm.
- M: How far did you go in school?
- S: This is embarrassing. It was eighth grade.
- M: I don't mean it to be embarrassing. I really don't. I think you have done amazingly well. In those days, that was about the extent of an education, wasn't it?
- S: No, we had a three-year high school over at Centralized School at that time.
- M: I see.
- S: I didn't see fit to continue to go to school.
- M: What did you do when you left school? Were did you work?
- S: I worked at home until 1923. April 1, 1923, I started working at the National Sanitary in Salem. I worked there for 44 and a half years.
- M: That became Eljers?
- S: Yes. It became Eljers. Wallace-Murray-Eljers Division is what it is now.
- M: What was it like to go to work in a factory then after

- working on the farm and only knowing the farm.
- S: It was mighty rough. I started in the foundry. I was pouring iron on the molding machine. I was labor at first until I got a regular job on the molding machine which was piece work.
- M: It was a big change from the farm.
- S: Yes.
- M: You wouldn't have preferred to be on the farm?
- S: No, I liked shop work. The kid that I was, I liked the money.
- M: What was the money like then in 1923?
- S: I made 45¢ per hour. I worked nine hours a day.
- M: You were making about \$4 per day.
- S: I was making \$4.05 as I remember.
- M: Give me an idea of what \$4 would buy you in those days? You were trading your labor for what?
- S: A good pair of shoes would cost \$5 or \$6. We used heavy molder shoes which we bought for \$4 to \$6.
- M: They weren't provided by the company?
- S: No.
- M: Was anything provided by the company in terms of any equipment at all?
- S: Nothing whatsoever. We didn't even have a washroom where we could take a bath at that time.
- M: Before we started this tape, we were talking about unions. Was there a union there then?
- S: No, there wasn't a union at that time.
- M: You worked your way up from the foundry to traffic manager several years before you retired?
- S: That is right. I worked in the foundry until 1932. I went up into the shipping and receiving. When the Second World War came along, I was in personnel work part-time and also in shipping. I was assistant traffic manager at that time.

- M: What do you remember about that? What do you remember about working there that you liked in the 1920's? Was there anything that you thoroughly enjoyed about the place?
- S: Actually, no. It was a matter of having a place to work and making a living. When I was on piece work in the foundry, we made wages that were above the average wages at that time.
- M: I see. Was it something that you were glad to do? You were thankful to have the job.
- S: Yes, I was thankful to have a job. The Depression was on in 1930. That was when I got married. It was rough.
- M: Did you manage to hold onto a steady job during the Depression?
- S: Yes. I never missed a payday in my life, forty-four and a half years at Eljers. Sometimes it was only a few dollars.
- M: There was always something.
- S: I never missed a payday.
- M: What do you remember about Leetonia during the 1920's?
- S: Leetonia at that time was entirely different than what it is today. We had lots of saloons. We had two blast furnaces. I can't tell you the date on the Grafton Furnace. Cherry Valley Furnace was still running when we got married in 1930.
- M: Was Grafton gone before that?
- S: Yes.
- M: Someone told me that there was once a brickyard in Leetonia? Do you remember that by any chance?
- S: No, I don't remember a brickyard. I remember a pottery.
- M: Where was the pottery located?
- S: Do you know where the hotel is down there?
- M: Yes.
- S: It was right in that area there along the west side of that street there.
- M: Was that Madison? I am not even sure.

S: I don't know. On the other side where the ball diamond is now.

M: Okay.

S: It is where Ben's store is. It is in that area.

M: A hotel, two furnaces, and saloons?

S: There were three hotels that I know of in Leetonia at that time.

M: What was a day like in Leetonia then if you could take me back? What would I see, say, in 1929 or 1930, before the Depression? What was Main Street like? Was it crowded?

S: Oh, yes. All of the stores were full. There were no empty places on Main Street in Leetonia. We had four butcher shops, just butcher shops, in Leetonia that I remember.

M: That was in the day before refrigeration?

S: Yes, ice refrigeration.

M: Were the animals only killed in the morning and sold that day?

S: Oh, no, not necessarily. No. They had good refrigeration for that at that time.

M: It was all ice?

S: Yes, it was all ice. They made their own ice here in Leetonia. You probably noticed that the ice pond is still down here at Flodings.

M: No, I didn't know that. Where is Flodings? I don't even know where that is.

S: It is going down the road back into Leetonia. Go down over the last hill before you get into Leetonia. Off to the right there is a flat place there. It looks like a swamp now. That used to be squared up, beautiful, clear water in there. They made ice there. There was an ice-house just south of it. It was the whole upstairs. It was a big building. That was where the slaughterhouse was.

M: I see.

S: They pulled the ice up there in the wintertime. They covered it with sawdust and that ice lasted the year round.

M: I see. I didn't know that even such a place existed.

S: You didn't?

M: No. There is a big house now on that hill, isn't there?

S: Yes.

M: Did that somehow go with that?

S: That was the original Floding home. And there is a big barn there.

M: Yes, behind the house.

S: On this side of the barn, there used to be a slaughterhouse. It was a pretty big slaughterhouse. That is where we used to bring our hogs from down in the country with the wagon and team up here to the slaughterhouse. That is where we sold them.

M: When did you normally butcher? Did you have a certain time of the year?

S: Yes, yes. Most of the butchering was done after freezing in the Fall.

M: So you could keep the meat?

S: Yes. It wasn't unusual to hang a beef, half a beef, up in the barn during the winter. You would just leave it hang there. Of course, the hogs were killed, slaughtered, and dressed, sugar cured, and put in the smokehouse.

M: That is where the smoked ham and sausage comes from?

S: That is right.

M: I have never actually seen a smokehouse. I have heard stories about them.

S: You haven't?

M: No. Do you, by any chance, still smoke meat yourself?

S: Sure, we smoke it ourselves.

M: Do you do any now?

S: No.

M: What do you remember in 1929 in October when the Depression struck? Do you remember that day?

S: No, I don't.

M: You would have been about . . .

S: Probably down in the country and didn't pay that much attention. We would go into town every day.

M: How did you get your news if you didn't get to town every day? You didn't buy a newspaper?

S: A newspaper used to be delivered. Our neighbor, Hugh Farmer, used to get the Pittsburgh paper. He would read it and then give it to us. We had radio.

M: Radio came out in the late 1920's?

S: It wasn't too late in the 1920's.

M: No?

S: I remember buying my first radio from Joe Wagenhouser in Leetonia. It was an Atwater Ten. It had five tuning tubes on it. It ran off of storage batteries. I think the whole thing, batteries and everything, was \$135.

M: That was when you were making about \$4 a day.

S: That was when I was working in the foundry.

M: That was a lot of money.

S: Yes.

M: When did you get your first automobile?

S: When I was a kid at home yet we had a secondhand Auburn Touring car. That was the first car. After I started to work, I got a new car. I think it was a Overland Puddle Jumper. That is what we called them at that time.

M: Why? Because the roads were covered with puddles?

S: Yes, and the springs on it came out to a V in front which extended the wheel base of the car.

M: I see, Puddle Jumper?

S: Puddle Jumper.

M: How did Leetonia change during the Depression in the small town? What effect did it have on small town people that you remember?

S: Not nearly as much as it did on city people. They got along. We didn't have all of this giveaway program that the government has today. People got along. One of the things that I especially remember was farmers would grow potatoes around here. In the Fall of the year at digging time, the people from Leetonia would get a ride or walk out and take baskets. After the farmers were through digging the potatoes, the people would go through all of the fields and pick up potatoes. The farmers allowed them to do that.

M: I see.

S: They helped themselves. A lot of people did.

M: Small townspeople were willing to help each other and were more self-reliant to begin with?

S: That is right.

M: Do you remember people doing without? Do you remember people who were really against it? How about elderly people? How did they handle it.

S: Their families took care of them usually. Children took care of their parents. Times have changed considerably since I was a boy.

M: Yes. Through the 1930's, you worked the whole time?

S: Yes.

M: Then came the war in 1941?

S: I still worked. At that time, we weren't making bathtubs for awhile. We were finishing bombs. We were welding them and making war material. That was when I was mostly doing personnel work.

M: Was that in the old Mullen's building?

S: Oh, no.

M: That is down the street and across the railroad from Mullen's?

S: Yes.

M: I know exactly where you mean. You retired in 1968?

S: Right.

M: I assume you saw great change in the attitude of workers from the time you started until the time you finished?

S: Definitely. A big change.

M: When did you first see that change?

S: It affected me more when I got to be traffic manager.

M: Explain to me what traffic manager was? What exactly were you doing?

S: Traffic and transportation. That is controlling in and outbound traffic shipments of all kinds, carloads, truckloads, LCL, and LTL. My job was to order in the right amount of boxcars that we needed and to get trucks to load and schedule and be there at the right time and look after the billing after they were loaded.

M: You were in charge of shipping the finished product?

S: That is right.

M: How did the change in worker attitude touch you?

S: It got to the place. Suppose that we had a truck to finish loading. Our quitting time was 4:30. If I would go down and see that they weren't going to get through, I might ask them to hurry up. Well, that got to be illegal. They didn't go for it. So you didn't dare ask anybody to hurry up a little.

M: Did you see a correlation between the unions and that attitude, in other words if the unions became stronger? Did you see more of that type of thing?

S: As the unions got stronger you saw more of it.

M: When did you first notice the big change in the unions?

S: I couldn't give you an intelligent answer on that because during that period of time I was assistant traffic manager. I was in the office building doing office work.

M: You were away from it.

S: Yes, I was away from it.

M: When you were in the shop, did they have a union?

S: Not when I was in the foundry, no.

M: That came later?

S: yes.

- M: How about Leetonia during the war, the town itself? What changes did you see, say, if you would compare Leetonia in 1939 to Leetonia in 1945? You said that the Depression didn't mean a great deal of change for Leetonia. How about the war?
- S: It didn't have a big change either as far as I remember. I wasn't around Leetonia a great deal or in Leetonia. Of course, I was interested in schools. We had children who were in school. That would have been around 1930 or 1935. I don't know when I got on the school board in there first.
- M: That was for sixteen years?
- S: Yes.
- M: Was that a continuous term?
- S: Yes, four four-year terms.
- M: When did you finish your last term?
- S: I don't even remember.
- M: During the 1950's and 1960's?
- S: I have been township trustee for eighteen years. If you take that back . . .
- M: In other words you went from school board right to township trustee.
- S: No, there was about two years in there that I didn't.
- M: Okay, so it was about twenty years ago that you left the school board, 1961.
- S: Yes.
- M: So that would have been from about 1945 until 1961. Is that right? That would be about sixteen years.
- S: Yes, probably.
- M: What do you remember about the school board from back in the 1940's? First of all, how did you decide to run for school board?
- S: A friend of ours out here in the country wanted to run for trustee. He came up and said, "Why don't you run for school board, and I will run for trustee." That was the first I even thought of it. I figured that I didn't have

anything to lose. I ran and I got it. Then I got it three times after that. School board was rather nice at that time. We had good people on there. We had very, very little trouble. We had good superintendents, and they were supposed to run the school. Occasionally, we would get a parent who would be a little unhappy, but it wasn't too bad.

M: It was something that when you look back on is something that you enjoyed.

S: Yes, it was alright. Of course, I think I liked the township trustee better because I would rather hear somebody complain about a hole in a road than have a parent complain about something with a child.

M: It was an easier problem to deal with?

S: Yes, easier problem to deal with.

M: Eighteen years as township trustee.

S: Right.

M: That goes back to the early 1960's. What do you recall that you find most favorable in your memory of being a trustee?

S: Again I say that we had a good group of township trustees. We always got along well, and that is the big thing. I liked to serve on the board of trustees. Everybody has a mind of his own and he will speak it. Even though you have some misunderstandings, when you go out the door, everybody is as good a friend as you ever were. That is what I liked about it.

M: In other words you agreed to disagree.

S: That is right.

M: How did the demands upon you change over the last eighteen years as a trustee? Have people's demands changed?

S: Oh, yes, very much so because of the new people who are in the country now. As a lot of folks come out from town and build or buy a home, they expect the same services out in the country as they had in town. They don't always get it. Overall, I have enjoyed my township trustee work very much. Every three months we have a county association meeting around somewhere in the county. We have a nice dinner, and we have good fellowship. There are some questions that we get settled there. Then we have the state convention which I used to go to very regularly which I always got some good out of and also had some fun.

M: Mix some business with pleasure.

S: Right.

M: How about politics back in the 1940's in Leetonia? Were you involved in that at all?

S: No, I was never involved in politics. In the trustee business I put out a few signs.

M: That was the extent of it.

S: That was the extent of it. I didn't seem to have any trouble getting elected. I guess that is the reason I am quitting. I am running ahead.

M: I am interested in Leetonia now. Do you have vivid recollections from the 1930's? Can you tell me, for instance, was the town clean in the 1930's? Was it safe?

S: It wasn't as safe as it should have been. Leetonia was a rather rough town going back to when both furnaces were working. In fact we used to have some unsolved murders up there. There were quite a few foreigners. There was a little friction between Catholic and Protestant at that time which I am happy to say is all over. It was a pretty rough town; there is just no doubt about it.

M: Was it a place where you would have wanted to raise your children in Leetonia in the 1920's and 1930's?

S: Had I been a native of Leetonia and lived there, I probably would have, but no, I wouldn't have wanted to move from the country into Leetonia.

M: It wasn't very desirable?

S: No.

M: Crime and there were rough people.

S: That is right; there was some crime, and there were some rough people. I have been going to the Lutheran church in Leetonia even when I was going out to see Ersol. In fact I started in the Lutheran church when I was about fifteen years old. We have always had a nice church there and nice people.

M: The foreign people in the 1920's and 1930's in Leetonia were primarily Italian I assume.

S: Yes.

M: And they were Catholic.

S: Yes.

M: Those people worked primarily in the furnaces.

S: Yes, yes. With some of them you wouldn't find any finer people anywhere than they were and still are.

M: Did they tend to be undesirable jobs that the foreign people got? What was it about the furnaces that attracted the Italian workers?

S: It was just work; that was all, labor, most of it.

M: Do you remember Leetonia before the furnaces?

S: No.

M: They go back that far?

S: Oh, yes, they go back. No, I have no recollection of Leetonia before. They were there before I was born.

M: I find it fascinating about the Italian and the Catholics because I think there are so many Italians still there and you mentioned friction. Now what sorts of examples of friction do you recall?

S: They just more or less didn't want to associate with each other.

M: Was it more than just name calling?

S: No, no.

M: It wasn't ugly sort of things?

S: Oh, no, no. There seemed to be an undercurrent of dislike. You stay on your side of the fence, and I will stay on mine. It was that type of idea. It is a bit hard to describe.

M: Yes, I can understand that. You mentioned the saloons. Were there saloons that you didn't go into, or did you go into any of the saloons?

S: No, I never went into any of the saloons.

M: Were those normally places where decent people didn't go?

S: No, I wouldn't say that, no. At that time, I didn't know much about saloon business. I do know where they were located and whose they were. We've probably got some

rougher places in Leetonia right now. I don't know. I wouldn't be able to say today.

M: I understand. That is fascinating. I asked you if the small town was clean. What were sanitary conditions like?

S: Sanitary conditions weren't up to par I didn't think, but I was a young fellow at that time. I didn't pay any attention. I think they had outhouses mostly. I don't think the sanitray sewers were all over town. Their buildings weren't kept up as well as they are today. Practically all, especially the Italian families, would have a nice garden in the back of their house where all these plants grew.

M: Do you remember it being noisy with the industry there and the furnaces and the railroad I assume which would have been hustling and bustling?

S: Sure, that was quite a railroad center in Leetonia. Furnaces weren't real noisy; of course, they were smoky and dirty. We had a lot of dirt in Leetonia from the furnaces. That is what you have. When you make pig iron, you are going to have dirt. They would pour slag out over the hill out there, and you would get fumes from it. There was also a certain amount of dust that would come up.

M: What do you remember about the railroads? There are two in Leetonia, right?

S: Yes.

M: Were they the Erie and the Pennsylvania even then?

S: Right, right.

M: What do you remember about those? What sticks in your mind about those?

S: Well . . .

M: Remember I am in the age of the diesel. Take me back, now. I don't know.

S: I can remember when the first diesel came through up here.

M: Was that a big occasion?

S: Oh, sure.

M: Everybody turned out.

- S: Oh, sure. They were making a big deal of it. I wouldn't try to tell you how many years ago that has been either, but it is not that many years. That was when I was working in Salem. Before that we had all steam engines. First of all, they had two stations there.
- M: In Leetonia?
- S: Oh, yes.
- M: Tell me where they were located.
- S: Do you know where we sell Christmas trees?
- M: Yes.
- S: That whole thing was covered with the station there.
- M: Okay, which station?
- S: That was both the Pennsylvania and the Erie. The Erie Railroad had a part of it.
- M: In other words the part that faced the Erie track belonged to the Erie.
- S: Yes.
- M: I thought they were two separate stations.
- S: There was another one right across the railroad.
- M: Across from the hotel?
- S: Yes, that was the freight station.
- M: The Pennsylvania?
- S: Pennsylvania Freight Station.
- M: And the other one was for passengers?
- S: Yes, they had a big waiting room there full of benches, long benches. There were two waiting rooms on the outside that had coal stoves in them at either end. There was one on either side of the track.
- M: You rode the train out of Leetonia.
- S: Oh, yes, I have.
- M: Did you take it to work?

- S: No, no. I rode the Y&O Railroad to work in my early days.
- M: That was the streetcar.
- S: Streetcar.
- M: Now that came into Leetonia along with the two railroads.
- S: Yes.
- M: So we had a little industrial town and a transportation center.
- S: Oh, sure, that is right. A lot of the original freight rates were made from Leetonia. It still is in the tariffs, in the freight tariffs. Freight rates originated in Leetonia.
- M: Could you explain that a little further.
- S: It is where a rate is from and to. If you want a rate from Leetonia to Pittsburgh--one carload of coal--the tariff was made up with that right in it from Leetonia.
- M: It was like a center for the railroad?
- S: That is right. It was a shipping center more so than Salem or Columbiana.
- M: You mentioned the Y&O streetcar. That had a trolley and a wire.
- S: Right, all electric.
- M: Now was that originally a railroad?
- S: No, it was built for an electric line.
- M: Was it common for people to come into Leetonia on a streetcar and get on a railroad, get on the train?
- S: They could, yes. They could take a taxi. We had taxis then in Leetonia, or they could walk down and catch the railroad. They had lots of rail service out of Leetonia.
- M: Passenger and freight?
- S: Right.
- M: What do you remember about riding on a passenger train in those days?
- S: I remember Ersol and I taking our kids to Pittsburgh one time up to visit our relatives. We took a train from Leetonia. Her relatives from Pittsburgh used to come

- out here on a train.
- M: What was the ride like? What did it feel like to ride on a train?
- S: Just like riding in a bus today practically, but the seats were more solid. They were alright. It was the same way with the streetcar. Did you ever see one of the old streetcars?
- M: I remember seeing them in Pittsburgh. I think there is one still sitting over there on Pearl Street next to Weikart's Store. I think there is still an old streetcar over there. Maybe I told you something that you didn't know.
- S: You did.
- M: I assume they ran pretty close to the schedule.
- S: Oh, yes. They would run every hour. The Y&O did every hour into Leetonia and from there on into Salem down to East Liverpool; you could ride the streetcar every hour. They hauled milk. The farmers would bring milk in and put it on a stand next to the track. They would pick it up. Pennsylvania Railroad used to do that between here and Pittsburgh.
- M: Haul milk?
- S: Yes, sir. I have ridden on that early train into Pittsburgh. It would stop at different stations and would pick up milk, ten gallon cans of milk.
- M: We have talked about Leetonia and the fact that it was an industrial transportation center. What did other people in the county think of Leetonia? Suppose you went to Columbiana or East Liverpool.
- S: They thought Leetonia was bad.
- M: It had a bad reputation?
- S: Yes.
- M: Was it worse than Youngstown would you say?
- S: It probably was a little worse. You can see why with all of these railroads coming in here, the furnaces, the coal mines all the way around Leetonia all booming at that time.
- M: This was in the 1920's.
- S: Yes, and naturally there would be some rowdiness.

M: Was it the kind of a place where you wouldn't walk down the street at night by yourself?

S: Oh, I don't think it was like that.

M: It wasn't that bad.

S: No, as far as I know it wasn't.

M: But there was trouble there if you wanted to find it.

S: Yes, that is right. Any time anyone wanted to have a good fight they could find it. They loved to fight. Baseball, football, all of that stuff, every once in awhile it would end up in a fight, a big brawl.

M: It changed drastically then after the Depression.

S: Oh, yes.

M: It never bounced back.

S: No.

M: So the people themselves weren't touched by the Depression that much. What happened to all of those workers--the two furnaces, the coal mines? Did they leave?

S: A lot of them went elsewhere to work.

M: Did those people normally have families with them, or was it the kind of place where just guys were there and that was it?

S: Oh, no, they had families. When the furnaces were going good over here, we had lots of company houses, rows of them.

M: Would that be on the road across from the legion?

S: Yes.

M: I mean on the hill across from the legion.

S: Yes, right.

M: When were they torn down?

S: In the 1930's.

M: That would be Main Street. I think they called that Main Street past the police station. It would be up on that hill there below where Roose's live.

S: No, they were across . . . You know where the sportsmen's club is.

M: That is across the Erie track.

S: That is right. You go back in where that entrance goes back into their place. That entrance is the old Y&O Railroad.

M: I didn't know that. That was the streetcar line.

S: That was the streetcar line. These big company houses were east of that. There was a road right in front of it. The Cherry Valley Coal Mine was right up in there.

M: Cherry Valley Furnace was across the Erie track. That would be on the west side of the track. Is that right?

S: Yes.

M: What do you remember about the coal mines in those days?

S: That I don't remember too much. I remember going up here with my father and my grandfather with the horses and wagon to haul coal down to our place. That was where we bought part of our coal here and part of our coal at Delmore Coal Mine which is out on 344 out of Leetonia. It was all good number three coal. There was a slope part of Delmore and there was a shaft up here at Cherry Valley.

M: Do you remember them having accidents in the mines? Were there people killed then?

S: Not that I ever heard of, no.

M: The jobs that we have talked about . . . We have talked about the furnaces, the coal mines, working in town as a merchant, and the railroad. Which of those four do you remember as being most desirable?

S: Which of the people?

M: Which of the jobs.

S: Oh, the jobs.

M: Yes. Which was highest paying? Were they pretty much the same?

S: I would think as far as the amount of pay was concerned that they all would be competitive, similar. Of course, there were more office jobs. Furnaces had offices, and they had several people in there.

- M: Was it usual, common for people to start at the bottom and work up into the office like you did for Eljer?
- S: Oh, sure.
- M: That was where the office people came from.
- S: That is right.
- M: You personally think that is the way to do it? You think that provides a man with incentive?
- S: I personally do.
- M: Because you were through that?
- S: That is right. My son Jim is doing the same thing. Of course, he got his college degree. When he started, he was all over the shop. Now he runs the plant.
- M: I didn't know that. He runs the entire plant?
- S: Yes, he is the plant superintendent. There is only one fellow up there who is plant manager.
- M: Let's take the decades of the 1930's, 1940's, 1950's, and 1960's in Leetonia. If you had to choose one to relive, which one would you choose? Which one do you have the fondest memories of?
- S: I would think the 1940's.
- M: Why? What was it about the 1940's?
- S: I don't know other than the fact that was about the time I was getting best acquainted with Leetonia. That was when I was living handier here in Leetonia. That was when I had my family. I had kids in school who were active in the church, and the lodge . . . I have always been active in the Masonic Lodge.
- M: Do you have anything you want to add to this?
- S: I think I have added too much already.
- M: No, no, not at all. I really enjoyed it.

END OF INTERVIEW