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FLICKENGER
GT 2560

Interview with Henry Flickinger , December 1. 1981
139 E. Penn Street
Carlisle, Pa.

Indian School Recollections

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Mr. Flickinger is looking at a photograph of a CIS football team.
Q: Now tell me again, ^{about} what was it you were ^{looking at in these pictures that called} going to tell me about these pictures?
to mind something...?

A: Oh, I recognized some of the football players on this one picture (photograph)

Q: Now which one was it now, the boy who had this one steady gait?

A: Here it is, right there, I can't tell you his first name, but his last name was Bush.

Q: And he would go to the restaurant in Boslertown, was it?

A: In Boslertown, to a Mrs. McNeil. She had a small grocery store and restaurant. And my mother used to help her one or three days a week, bake pies, and cakes.

Q: And that was close enough for the students to get to?

A: It was within a quarter of a mile.

Q: Where is Boslertown exactly?

A: You know where the steel foundry is, on East High Street, now look you know where High Street is, go right straight down High Street until you get to the railroad tracks...

Q: Yes.

A: One road goes right and the other left. The left road takes you right down by the steel mill. The town is right on the edge of the steel mill. Now that used to be called Frog and Switch.

Q: I know, it's right behind the mill. It's still there. Nice old houses.

A: Yes! Yes. and that is called Boslertown, and that is where I lived.

Q: Now that's not Garrison Lane? Garrison Lane is out by the School?

A: Oh, no. We left Boslertown, moved over to Garrison Lane and mother and dad opened a little store.

Q: When was that, about?

A: 1913.

Q: So she saw the kids ^{from 1913 to 1916} for a longer period of time through helping out at this other Store.

A: Oh, yes, ^{yes, yes, . . .} Now here's this Joe Bush, that's Kalak. And that fella I should know - oh - now, I think, I think, this is Joe Guyon. I'm pretty sure of that. I'm almost sure of that.

Q: Now, did you get to know most of these people?

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A: Now, well look. I was only a kid.

Q: Well how did you get to know them?

A: I was around them. Even in Boslertown I would go up to the store - now we only lived a stone's throw from our house up to the store. Then, after we moved here to Garrison Ave. then I was in touch with the school all the time. I used to go over there during the skating season, that's the only place we had to skate except if we went to the crik, and that was right out there and that's where we skated as kids. Now. Gee, I'll never forget this fellow, I'll never forget that fellow, and I am almost certain that that is Joe Guyon.

Q: Did they skate too, did you notice?

A: Oh, no! Now, the boys and girls skated together on the pond that is, on Saturday afternoons and Sunday afternoons. The kids from the school, all the students. Now, understand, they ad a small boys' quarters and a large boys' quarters. Now the smallest boy that I ever seen there - he came here he was about - he wasn't any more than four or five years old. I think he was only about four. He was the smallest boy that ever came as a student. Now how he got here being so small, I can't tell you. But he was, I think, later adopted by a family here in town. Now he's dead. His name was Dick Kasettas. (Mr. Flickinger spells the name K-I-S-I-T-I-S.)

Q: I wonder who adopted him? Do you remember that?

A: Now, I think he was adopted, I'm almost sure because the family that took him in was named Culbertson. He owned Bellaire Park. And when they died, if I remember correctly, he inherited a lot of that ground up there at Bellaire Park. Now, Bellaire Park is a small place up above Cave Hill. Do you know where Cave Hill is/ Out here where water works is, now that is Ca ve Hill. Now, Jack Culbertson owned and operated Bellaire Park. Now Bellaire Park was using for recreational and swimming facilities. He also, had a launch that run from Cave Hill to Bellaire. Now at that time we had a trolley car here in town. Now the trolley car ran from the Indian School to the square, it extended from the square to Ridge Street, on Hanover now, then it come back to the Square and run out to Cave Hill. W

Q; Why would it go out there, for the swimming?

A: Why? For the people who lived in the North end of town and the students could also ride on the streetcar to go out to Bellaire. Or out to Cave Hill. And that launch operated on Saturday and Sunday in the summertime.

Q: So they could do that, did they have to have chaperones....?

A: Oh yes, always. Now whether they had to have them to take on the trolley, I couldn't tell you that, but when they went on like a picnic they always had a chaperone, Even on a skating pond down here at the Indian School, they had chaperones.

Q: Now, to get to the store and back, did they...?

A: No, no chaperones. Now the girls never went there, to the store, ^{in Boslertown} and bought things. The girls would come to our store, but only on Saturday or Sunday when they were brought into town. Now the boys and the girls came to town every other Sunday, what I mean the boys one Saturday the girls the next Saturday. Never together.

Q: How did the storekeepers, or people in town did they enjoy...?

A: Oh, yes, always did. We had a merchant here in town by the name of Moses

Blumenthal, it's Wardeckers today. And he was always a great friend of the boys. Always. Mostly boys, especially the boys that were connected with athletics. As I told you, they always seemed to have money, why, I don't know that, but they always seemed to have. You can surmise why they had money, because I think they were given it. For the sports activities people liked. Now some of them boys, Now I say some, had money. Some of them boys that came from Oklahoma especially, had money - why? oil was being found. (Knock on the door - interruption)
I can't tell, I think some of them were Cherokee boys and there was another, I think, there was one especially I remember, I think he was a Creek indian. I can't tell you his name, I used to know it, but I forgot... He could barely, I'll never forget him, because he could barely speak English. He came to the school rather late in life.

Q: Like in his late teens or...?

A: No, I think he was beyond his teens. I think he was, as I recall him, because he always seemed older to me than the rest of the boys.

Q: He'd come to the store... he didn't play sports?

A: Oh no, no, no, He could never speak English very well. But the rest of them spoke very, very good English. Especially the students that were of Cherokee origin.

Q: I wonder why?

A: I don't know, but I remember that very well.

Q: You mentioned before about the athletic program... was it only the football people who had special...

A: No, no, lacrosse was a great sport. They had great lacrosse players out there. And a number of good baseball players. If I remember, if I'm correct in recognizing this one student here, this fellow right here, if that is Joe Guyon, and I think it is, he played with a number, when he was able to., with the Carlisle baseball team. He was a very good, if I remember right, a very good catcher.

Q: Now did they share in the separate facilities, you mentioned that the football team had its own...

A: I won't call it the football team, I'll call it the athletic building and it's still standing there today.

Q: Now what went on in there?

A: They slept and they ate there. Took all their meals there.

Q: Now just in the season, or throughout the whole year?

A: Now I can't tell you that, I can't tell you that. I think it was just for in the season. Now, I'm not sure about that, because I'm recalling, now, I was only a kid, now I was only thirteen, twelve, thirteen.

Q: So you were still in school?

A: Oh, my gosh, I was still in school, I was still working on the milk wagon. I worked on the milk wagon seven days a week for fifty cents a week. But during the school season I had to leave the milk wagon about eight-thirty in the morning to go to school. I went over here to Penn school. And the old high school building that they

discontinued, I went there the first year that it was opened.

The Junior High/?

That was the HOgh School at that time.

Were you also.. when time permitted , you'd go out and take your mother's pies and...

Oh, yes! During the football season, that was the only time, they always had football practice at about four o'clock in the afternoon, and I got home from school mother always had - I don't know whether you've ever seen one of them - one of these baker baskets, they're about that long and about that wide, just about that deep. And I would carry that over there to the football field. The athletic field, which is there today. And I'd sell those pies. And mother never had too many cakes, but just pies, and I sold them there. And I wasn't the only one. We had Whitesell's Bakery was in town, but I don't think Mulgrew's, Mulgrew's had a bakery, too. But I don't think sold theirs there. Now, do you know where, - are you familiar with the post? Do you know where the athletic field is, did you ever see them big barracks, brick buildings right over on the east side? Now, there was no brick buildings there... there was no buildings at all. That was sort of an elevated piece of ground, and whitesell's bakery wagon was always parked up there on the top, and they were also selling pies and cakes. Now the large boys, the boys that were connected with the football team and so forth were all out there practicing, and Whitesell's bakery truck - bakery wagon, was always ... it was a horse drawn thing, was on one side and I was over right by the grandstand. Pop Warner, and Lone Star Dietz, he was the assistant, and Lone Star Dietz, ~~he was the assistant~~ was the man who I told you had the wolf hounds, and he'd always take them two or three times a week down by our house. And our front yard was open and one day them wolf hounds went in there and attacked our one fox hound in there. Now I don't know whether Dad was, he always - them dogs almost killed him (the dog) . But they didn't, he survived, and I know that Dad went over to the Indian School and seen Mr. Dietz. Now whether Mr. Dietz ever done anything I can't tell you that. I was only a kid, and I just remember this story.

Mr. Dietz was an INdian?

Oh, yes. I can't tell you what tribe of course. It's funny I never can find him in any of these pictures?

There are some more pictures. There's one with two men or three men in the background.

Oh wait let me see. --- This could be him because he was a big man. Lone Star Dietz was a big man.

Now, did he live - like Mr. Warner.. . did he live on the Post?

I know Lone Star Dietz did, but I don't know whether Pop Warner did or not.. I suppose he did. But I know Dietz did because he had a big kennel outside his house where he had these dogs. And we'd see him when we went over there skating. Yes. Pop Warner, I imagine lived there, but if he did I don't recall it.

Now did they have families? *Did Mr. Dietz have a family.*

I think they did. I'm not sure, I can't tell you that. But I imagine they did.

I wonder where their kids went to school.

Now I don't Pop Warner had children. I don't think so. I don't even know whether Dietz had children, I can't tell you that. I know a lot of the people that were employed out there that lived out there... used to have a family that lived right over here on Elm Street by the name of Carns - he was their head instructor, he was a painter. And I just seen Roy here, oh five, six months ago, oh not that long ago - since you first came down here and talked to me - I said "Roy, lady come down. You know, I wonder if you could give her any information." He said to me, he said, "Hen!" Now, he's about sixty four. He said to me, "Hen! Don't ever tell her to come around and see me, It keeps me busy to remeber my name"

His father was the head painter. He was a blacksmith, he use to live over here on North Street. Mr. Shambaugh. I knew the plumber, old George Gephart, I'll never forget him. He used to live right over here on East Street.

Did you ever visit the classrooms.

Oh no. Never. I was in the large boys quarters many times when I'd go over there. I knew them all, they all knew me, practically all of them knew me knew who I was. Cause as I told you they'd come over, come down to the store. And they knew Mother and they knew me, cause the boys to go to the store in Boslertown had to come right past my house, right past where I lived on Spruce Street.

So you could go and visit them...

Oh! I was there, practically all of them knew me. I was over there a lot. Over there a lot.

Did you ever take a meal with them?

Never. I was never invited to the mess hall. Never. But they had a nice mess hall. It's torn down now. Now my brother-in-law, Montreville Yuda, he palyed in the band, I think it was the piccolo. And as I told you, my sister used to play for the boys to rehearse, it was the orchestra, but my sister can't remember today that she ever played. I used to talk to her. Six or eight years ago, I'd say "Sis, don't you ever remember playing the piano when they came down to our home there on Garrison Avenue?" . It was usually on a Friday, but I can't tell you if it was every Friday night. It might have been every other one, because Mother, when they were done rehearsing always had pie, cake and coffee for them. Then in summertime she'd have ice cream for them. She sold it right in the store.

Now how many would come for your sister to play for tehms?

Just about five. About five. There was a trumpet player, and a saxophone, trumpet, saxophone ... I can't recall a drum, but there might have been. And I believe there was but I just can't recall. The trumpet player was a man by the name of James Garvie.

I'm going to see him next week.

You are! Well you just tell him that you talked to Montreville Yuda's wife's brother. Because I talked to him here five or six years ago. It might have been a little longer, when they had that - oh some kind of a celebration here in town. And James Wardecker seen me coming up Hanover Street, and he says,

"Hey, Hen! Take a walk up to the square. James Garvie and a few of the boys are going to be up there!" And I said, "All right. I'm on my way up." So I walked up, walked across High Street, and here I see this fellow standing there. Now mind I haven't seen him for sixty years anyhow. And I walked right up to him I said to my self, "That's him." I walked up to him and I said, "I don't think you would remember me". And he said, "No". Well, I said, "I remember you." And I said "I know it's sixty years since I've seen you, you're James Garvie aren't you?" "Well, yes", he says. "Well, I guess you wouldn't recognize me, but do you remember Montreville Yuda's wife?" "Why, of course I remember!" "I'm her brother." And while we were standing there talking here his son came down the street. He said, "here comes my son". You'd never recognize him for an Indian. Now James Garvie was a very, very light colored Indian. There was a lot of them, especially the Cherokee, were very light in color. It was hard to tell that they wer Indian. But his boy, you would never take for part Indian. Now he was like my brother-in-law , married a white girl.

Now, many of the other children (students) were obviously Indian?

As I told you, the Cherokkee were more fair than others, now, as I told you James Garvie was not highly colored. I mean dark in color. He was not at all. Now he was the director of the Lebanon band for many, many years. I don't know whether he is yet or not. He's well up in years. Because I'm eighty-one. And he's older than I am. Because I was only, you know, a small boy when he came down to our house, many times.

What - did they enjoy coming to socialize ...?

Oh, my, yes. Oh they thought Mother was great. They thought mother was great. All of them. Always liked her.

And a good baker, too.

Ohhh! A baker and a cook, my gosh.

Did you know whether many of the students had been to other schools before coming here, or whether they missed home, or how they felt about being in school?

Not that I remember. You know I was only small, and I wouldn't think about talking like that.

Or whether they would, in getting together around the piano would reminisce about other things.

Not too much. The only time they got around was when they came to rehearse. That's the only time. No that was a wonderful experience for me, when I think back on it. But at the time, you don't think anything of that. That's just an everyday affair. Now when I come back from the Army, in nineteen-hundred and I guess, nineteen, the school was gone! The Army had been moved in. I think it was an ambulance company that was here first, if I remmber right. Now have you ever, have you talked to this Mr. Brown much?

Who's Mr. Brown? Oh, you mean Mr. Martin?

Not Brown. Mr. Martin. Have you talked with him much?

Just once, I'm going to go back to see him.

He ought to be able to tell you that because he's older than I am.
END OF TAPE ONE, SIDE ONE

Tape one - Side Two

Can you tell me about the time that your sister and Montreville Yuda were courting?

Now I can't tell you that. Because Montreville graduated from the Carlisle Indian School, I can't tell you the date, and as I told you, I went to the Army.

Did he graduate while you were in the Army?

I think just shortly before, because I was only seventeen years old when I went into the Army. I told them I was eighteen. But then, he graduated from school and then he - World War I was coming on at that time, and he got a job at Hog Island, that was a ship building concern in New Jersey. And he got a job there in the ship yard. And I think he got a number of the boys jobs, Indian boys, jobs there. And it was during that time that he married my sister. I remember Mother telling me, writing and telling me, that she had married Montreville. Now she had known him for quite a while because he used to come down to the store with the rest of the boys, and I guess she got acquainted with him there because she was helping Mother in the store and with the baking, and so forth. And I think that's how it came about.

Were they married in town here?

No, I think they were married in New Jersey. Hog Island. I think so. Camden. I think that's where it was. Now I don't know, I don't remember anymore, but I'm pretty sure. And they lived there for a couple of years, until Hog Island closed up at the end of the war.

I wonder whether any of his family went ...?

Oh, his parents... that's how he came here, he was an orphan. His mother and father both died, his mother died very young, his father died later on. Now, how do I know this? George Yuda, their one son, Jeffrey, found out that by writing to the Bureau of Indian Affairs he was able to get a background of his grandparents. And they sent him a parcel, as much of that as they had. And I read that some years ago and it was very interesting. Now, I'll tell you what to do. If you want to get any of the background of Montreville Yuda, that is, his background, you get in touch with Skip. Because you can do it through, what do they call it - dossiers -? He has one, one of the most interesting ones I ever read. Oh, it's a very thick pamphlet, very interesting. They have some of the background of the grandparents. Now, you see, if I remember right, the grandmother came from one tribe and the grandmother from another. I think the grandmother came from the Algonquin tribe? and that comes from Maine. And what was the grandfather's tribe? Penobscot?

That's also from Maine.

I think from that area. You just ask Georgette (Jeffrey's (Skip) wife if you, if she could get the dossier that Jeff has on his great-grandfather. That would be interesting for anyone who wants to do a little bit... because one day I'm going to ask for it again.

I wonder if he had any brothers? Or whether any came who had brothers or sisters here?

Oh no. Now I can't tell you. I don't know that, well, I never had that question come up. I never even thought of it. I wouldn't doubt that there would have been brothers and sisters here. I wouldn't doubt that.

Did pe-ple that you knew, Mr. Shambaugh the blacksmith, and the others, did they ever bring the kids home.

Oh, no. No. Now the only time that the children would get away was, how shall I say? I shouldn't say 'get away', During summer vacation a number of students could get - some of them went to farms for the summer, they had a way to make a little money to pay for things themselves, and some in different trades, if they could find a sponsor. I know that a number of the boys could get out to farm that way because they had a beautiful farm down here. They had some herd of cattle, they used their own milk, done their own milking down there. They had a beautiful farm. Now a large herd of cattle. They had raised a lot of hogs too, a number of hogs. Oh they had a beautiful farm.

They were really quite self supporting?

Oh, yes. In a way. In a way.

I'm kind of interested in when they would come to the store... well, the ones who had money and the ones who didn't. I guess the ones who didn't might never get there...

They didn't, they didn't. A number of them would ask Dad for credit, but he never would give it. That was against the rule of the Indian School. Same way selling of tobacco. You wouldn't dare to sell tobacco. But now Dad had tobacco. He'd have it under the counter. Now if he wouldn't sell it, they'd go into town and get it. It was never approved. But he'd never sell it to the really young boys.

No, well that's still true, not selling cigarettes to kids.

He never handled cigarettes.

People rolled their own I guess.

A lot of them did, a lot of them did, because at that time, that was. now how shall I say this. They didn't have too many. No, I'll say it this way, ready-made cigarettes were not as hand as they are today.

Weren't as well made or not as available?

Not as available.

Well, I would imagine that that would go in town too (the prohibition) as far as selling alcohol or beer too.

Oh, they couldn't buy anything as I told you, some of the boys would get loaded a little. Once in a while a few of them. But a lot of that was the purpose of vanilla extract. At that time a lot of store, a lot of little stores all around town, and whenever one of them could sneak in, or get somebody to but them a bottle of vanilla extract, all they had to do was just get some. Some of them would get a little high sometimes. Very few though, very few. That was a very rare occasion.

Who would the people be who would buty for them?

Maybe they would know somebody, or see somebody that they knew. Or maybe they could get it themselves, because we had some stores here in town when I was a kid, you couldn't buy cigarettes - only at a certain place, and then if you had a penny you might be able to get two cigarettes for a penny. I done that same

thing myself when I was a kid. So I'm telling you just how some of those things happened. There was a lot of stores in town, during the time of the Indian School, small stores, small ones.

And a lot of hotels.

Oh yes, a lot of hotels, but they could never buy things there.

Did parents come to visit to stay in the hotels?

Not that I recall. I never recall of one instance of that.

I wondered if parents would be brought in to meet their friends (at the store) ?

No, I think that was a very rare thing.

Now I know Monte was an orphan.

I wonder if many of them were?

I imagine there were?

Had he ever been to school before?

Not that I know of.

He was an Oneida?

Oneida.

Did they ever play Dickinson?

Oh, Dickinson used to scrimmage out there during the football season once or twice a week, with the Indian boys.

What happened over vacations, like a Christmas vacation? Go with townspeople?

I don't know that. I don't recall it.

They would come in to church though. Yes, the Catholic Church especially. Pomfet Street. Funny thing, one week the boys would go in one way to the Catholic Church. Next week the girls would go in the other way. The other day they'd come on past our store. And they never went together, never together. That is as well as I remember.

I wish your mother was still around making pies. What Carlisle needs is a bakery.

Oh, my God, a good one. Right in town. Let me tell you something, one was right up here on Bedford Street, one was down here at the railroad track, one right over on Louther Street. Bakeries now I'm telling you about. There was one out at the corner of Pitt and Sout. Mulgrew's. Oh, one right over here on Louther Street, Whitesell's. Any number of bakeries. One right over here on North Street. Oh, my God. If we'd run short like on cake, if Mother hadn't been able to bake pies or something, I'd come over here to Whitesell's = I had to do all the shopping that was to come in with the basket. I'd go home with my basket. Go over to Whitesell's there. They were over on Louther Street first, then they moved over here to the corner of North and East. Bakeries all around, and you could smell them even before you got to them. Yes.

Wonder Bread just doesn't take the place of them.

No it doesn't.

I was wondering about this picture. It seems to have a mane - the Standard Society.

No, I don't recall that at all.

And they're all in ...

Coats, I don't recall those suits. I don't know whether the band was dressed like that or not, it might be so. Here's another one. You know they might be members of the Band because of the stripe (on some trousers pictured). But I don't recall that.

I wonder what date this would be.

I don't know what date that could be.

The school really seemed to emphasize boys more than girls, ...

Yes, I don't doubt but what they had a larger percentage of boys than girls. As a matter of fact I believe they did.

I wonder what became of the girls... whether they married the young men or...

Some of the girls married Indian boys.

Did they ever settle locally?

Never did they settle locally around here. The only one I can recall, well this Dick Casetta with the family that adopted him, who settled locally, well Monte settled here, well James Garvie settled down in Lebanon.

I wonder whether they ever had reunions. Whether Mr. Yuda would, you know...

Not that I recall, not that I recall.

Whether the feeling on the grounds, at the school was, you know whether there was a lot of morale? for the class or the group you were in?

No answer.

Is this Jim Thorpe? (looking at pictures again)

Yes, yes, that's him, you bet, um hm.

Is this Lewis Tewanima?

Oh, I couldn't recognize him. He looks more like a runner. But that's Jim Thorpe.

They must have been a group apart in many ways, to be so famous.

Well, they got ... well, I'll say it this way, sort of special treatment. He used to come over to see Monte - to Monte's place - after his athletic glory had faded. And you'd a been surprised to see how he sort of fell apart. To me, it sort of gave me the horrors. I remember many times when my brother-in-law lived over there on Hamilton Street. He used to come to see Monte on a visit

and the only time - I always thought that he come to see him when he was a little hard up for money- and Monte would give him a dollar, dollar and a half. I could always tell he was there before I went in the house because whenever I seen that old shabby looking automobile sitting out in front. He put me in mind of ... what would you call these people during the dust storms that travelled out to the west...

Migrant workers, Refugees. How sad.

Oh, was that ever sad.

Now when was this, after the school was closed.

Oh this was after that. Oh, yes, after the war, long after the war. I'll say it this way. When Jim was starting to get to the end of his career in any way he'd he was just sad.

Was this after they had take the medals from him?

Yes , oh yes, long after that.

That would ge a disappointment for someone to take.

Oh yes. He said one time. "Hen, I didn't have too much, and now I don't have the medals." Now I wouldn't want you to repeat that. Now, you know how a fellow who's on the downward scale, alcholic minded, even in appearances.

Was he working at all?

No. no.

Where did he live that he could drive over to see ...?

I think he was living in Oklahoma.

Oh, a couple of times.

I could always tell when he was there./ They'd be out there on the hammock.

They must have been close?

Oh well, Yuda knew them all. He knew them practically all. And he was a friend of his. He was in school when he was there. Monte was there, Jim was there. Monte played in the band.

Monte sounds like a very steady sort of person.

Oh he was.

Were many of them steady?

Oh yes.. I was just trying to recognize the one fellow I met down in the Depot in Harrisburg. The day I enlisted in the army, I met him there. He was waiting for one train and I was waiting for another. He said. "Man, I'm going to ..." someplace in Virginia. Newport New. I think it was. He was in the Navy. And we met right tin the Depot. He was going one way and I was going the other. An d I spotted him. Possum Powell was his name, and darn it I don't recognize him. He ought to be on this photograph here, but I don't recognize him. This fellow, I'll never forget him. Bush. And here's Peter Calac. And I think this is Joe Guyon.

He was a neat looking man.

Oh yes, he was a nice looking man. But Possum Powell, I don't recognize him. I sort of forgotten him.

I wonder what became of them? Well, Guyon may have played baseball somewhere? No well, I guess it was just with the Casrlisle team... But I wonder what happened to them after?

Oh, I don't know. I imagine there all practically all passed on. Pretty sure of it. I've forgotten. (Long pause) So, that is how I remember ... but if you want to read something get in touch with Georgette.

Jo (Yuda Lipson) gave me her number...

End of tape.

I'm with Mr. Flickinger in his living room and we're talking about the Congressional Hearings...

Yes, now, Mrs. Norton. If I remember correctly that happened - I was in the army, now that was in 1917. Now how do I remember so much of this. I wasn't here. My mother sent me the Evening Sentinel every week, she'd save them and at the end of the week she'd wrap them in a bundle and sent them to me in Texas where I was stationed. And that's how I remember so much of that - reading it. Now those hearings came about through - how shall I say this - through the petitions or the actions of some of the students appealing for an investigation of the kind of food and the amount of food that they had. Now, the Superintendent of the school at that time was a man by the name of Morris Friedman. And as I recall it he was called before this Congressional Hearing. Now, what the results were I do not know, but he was relieved as Superintendent. And my future brother-in-law was a participant as a student - Georgette Yuda's grandfather. And he appeared before that Congressional Committee. Did he ever speak about that time?

Never, never, uh, not that I remember, but I do know that Morris Friedman was relieved as Superintendent, I don't know who finished out the Superintendency. I don't recall, because when I come home the Indian School had just left - they had disbanded the Indian School, and the Army had moved in.

I wonder if that was partly as a result of that investigation.

I don't think so, I think the Army wanted to use this --- now I don't remember whether they had any of the wounded veterans from the First World War out here or not. I don't recall that but I know that the hospital was enlarged - the hospital part of the Indian School - but I don't remember whether they brought any of the wounded from the First World War here or not. I don't recall that. I know there was an ambulance company moved here and the medical school moved in, that part of the medical department out there, and I think that had all taken place when I come home. If I remember rightly now, it's been so long ago, and I do forget.

Well, I was interested in that because it sounded --- I know that the boys and girls did produce the food, on the farms and in the dairy.

This was, they had a beautiful dairy out there. They had two farms' one was along the poor house road and the other one was just a small farm, and I don't know, I can't recall whether they had any dairy cattle there or not, but here along the Poor House road they had an immense farm, it was beautiful. They had a beautiful springhouse there, and it's there today. The home is still there but the barn had burned down. And I remember that they used to keep their milk in this spring house. And the spring house is still standing today. I just passed it the other week. Last week one day, I went down to see my sister (Lillian, in the County Nursing Home) And I walked down through the Post and I took the road over to the Claremont Farm Road, and I passed the spring house. Beautiful spring there, been there ever since I ~~was~~ remember.

Is that the Henderson's?

Oh, no, no. No indeed. Henderson's - what I knew as Hendersons is out along the CARlisle Pike (Rte 11, north) what we had - Henderson's Mill, Henderson's mill is still standing today. But it's apraments - when I was kid they operated that mill.

Now is thzt the one on the Post - sort of a tall structure.

A big stone struc ture... off of the Harrisburg Pike, you can see the ... twenty-five yards, yeah (off the road) They just took the big wheel down, out of there just last year, it was there ever since I was a kid and I see it standing in among some of the buildings down here at the post. I see it there off a couple of weeks ago. I seen the old water wheel.

I wonder what they are going to do with it?

I don't know. And the water wheel was what they used to grind the millet with, wheat and grain.

Did the school ever volunteer the students to do Public Words, like...

No,, but now, summertimes, some of the students would go out to some of the farms that were interested in agriculture. And I think some of the students went home, now as far as I remember, the majority of the students didn't have very much money, some of them did have money. Some of them had it, I think from Cil if I remember correctly, There was a number 9of the students out here from Oklahama. And I think about that time somewhere they had discovered oil in some of the southern states, and I think Oklahama was one of them. Some of the boys had money. What I often thought and ~~g~~ felt the boys that participated in sports, football, lacrosse, track, always seemed to me to have some money. Now how that come about I dont know.

It must have been difficult for the one who didn't have any.

Yes, now you know they were dressed in like, now the boys clothes were mostly semi-military uniform, you know, the blue. Now the girls, let me see, they had cloaks, capes. You know the boys and the girls they used to go to the Catholic Church. One week the girls would c come by our house there at Garrison Avenue, and the nest week they'd come in Hanover Street. Now the boys would come in Garrison lane one week and it was just vice versa.

One other thing that I read, oh, it's about the discipline, I talked to a woman who said that her father had several times been confined to the guardhouse...

That could be...

And that it was pretty strict, pretty hard..., you know without warmth...

Yes, As I say now, I was never in the guardhouse, never, but I passed as close, now I'd go over to the school - we didn't call it the Post then - I'd pass that guardhouse window no farther than from here to that radio (five feet distant) and I know on several occasions they never used ~~it~~ - it was used when I was a kid because I heard some of the boys moaning in there. I think they were getting over a drunk, now that didn't happen very often. In fact, as I told you, there were a lot of taverns around, ^{were} that was before Prohibition- but they never served the Indians, I told you once that they would get high on extract of vanilla. At that time Extractof Vanilla was about seventy-five percent alcohol.

ell, you wouldn't need much of that.

No. Now as I remember, it was vanilla because I bought it for ~~mom~~ my mother more than once, anybody could buy, it only comes in a little bottle about that high (indicating a two to three inch narrow bottle - the type still in use for bottlet extracts) About that high, that wide and ... no bigger than that. Because my mother done that in baking, and I'd go to the grocery store, and you could buy it anywhere and there was a lot of grocery stores, all over town-anywhere.

I remember that from when I was a kid there were groceries on every other corner.

Yes, and now maybe some of them had a way to get alcohol, I don't know ... but I do remember of them saying that some of the boys would get high on this extract of vanilla.

But, you think that was the only reason they would be put in..,

Yes, I would say so. I would say so. NOW, I remember that a couple of times that I heard a couple of boys moaning in there, and I thought now they've got high on extract of vanilla, because all the taverns and hotels were forbidden to sell to the Indian boys, and they never came, they never came to town unless they had their uniforms on. But if I remember rightly, I think sometimes some of the boys who were athletes were on the football team and so forth - because they come to down to our little store there where mother had the restaurant- and they had civilian clothes on. They did now. But when the majority came to town on Saturay afternoon, like I told you, they would be in uniform.

I hope I don't embarrass you by this question but I've been thinking about it, I'm embarrassed myself...

Go ahead, go ahead...

But was Bessie's house around at that time?

Oh sure.

Do you think there was any trafficking there between the...?

Now, I can't tell you that. Now, did I know about Bessie's house, now I'll tell you how I knew about Bessie's house. I knew Bessie. Now I was only a kid. My father at that time was working at Zinn's bottling works. Now Zinn's bottling works bottled beer and sold beer in kegs and barrels. Delivered it by wagon to the different hotels, my father worked there. And on Sturday afternoons - they worked all day Saturday - I'd go along with him and he'd deliver beer. And the last place that they delivered was Bessie's house and it was only the distance from my curb (on E. Penn Street to across the narrow street) across the street. Bessie and her daughters ~~you know~~, would be sitting out there on Saturday night, cause that was the last place that Zinn's delivered beer was over to Bessie's house. We only had to carry it across, like across the street. I knew Bessie and I knew all of them. My father worked there only the width of the street across.

I've always wanted to read that book but I haven't yet.

Well, I read it. Yes, and oh , ... it was too much.

It wasn't true?

Well, we used to sit there on the ~~steep~~ outside steps there and talk back and forth ... (Mr. Flickinger began to speak with his head turned away from the microphone - he was speaking of Bessie and her daughters being good looking women, that the daughters or some of them were quite fair-skinned so that one couldn't tell that they were partly black, and that they were pleasant as neighbors) I think there were four. Now, I went to school with Mr. Zinn's daughters, they lived over on South Bedford street. But Billie was one (of Bessie's daughters) and, ... now let me tell you that wasn't the only sporting house

I wonder why it was so famous or became so famous.

Well, I think there was two daughters (Mr. Flickinger is speaking away from the microphone again - he is saying that one of the daughters married or had a permanent relationship with a druggist's son) I think it was Harriet. She wasn't married to him but she had a child by him, by the name of Frank Conley. His father had a tobacco shop = you know where the old railroad depot used to be? That's where that gas station is, that's where the depot was - the building where Sera's cleaners is - Mr. Conley's tobacco shop, and at that time that was some tobacco shop - nice, not a big one but nice. I can still see old Mr. Conley - portly, grey hair, a lot of hair. He had a wonderful shop, but his son was one heck of a nice looking fellow, and he became enamored of one of Bessie's daughters. Now I don't know whether they were ever married. They said he was, but I know that she had a child with him, that I know. Frank Conley I'll never forget him. He was a young fellow, a nice fellow. I don't know what ever became of him.

They were an integral part of the community then...?

Yes! Now Bessie. I was only a kid, nine or ten years old. I knew them all, but I've forgotten them, but there's one of the daughters... I do see one of the daughters around town. Bessie had a lot of money at one time. A lot of money. I worked on the milk wagon. Well I put in - I think I told you - seven -days a week, but during school I had to leave at nine o'clock. I worked for this one man by the name of George Eply - he worked for his father and mother - they had a farm on the Boiling Springs Road. And I met him down at the old Reading/Depot every morning at around five-thirty, something like that, but there was another milk route in town, and a man by the name of George Richter. All these different milk routes and milk wagons - we became known to each other- one day this man by the name of George Richter seen me uptown and said, "How'd you like to go to work for me?" Well, I was still working for George Eply. He says, "He say- what do you make?". "Fifty cents ", I say. "Well, I'll give you a dollar." Well, it wasn't too long I went to work for George Richter. Now, George Richter often passed where he lived, where he had his milk plant out there on North no South Pitt Street, between South and Pomfret on the left ~~there~~ had side going out, now George Richter was a portly man, he had only one failing - he liked liquor too well. Now, in those days a man who drank a lot of liquor wasn't known as an alcoholic, but he became one many years later, and that was what George Richter was. Now, it came to a point, I worked for him for I guess a couple of years, over at Bessie's place - we were on our way home down that alley, and every now and then he'd say to me, "Now Harry, you take the wagon on home, I'm going to stop here a while." Now, why did he stop there? His wife had him muzzled at all the hotels in town - he couldn't buy any liquor anyplace - his wife had him muzzled. It was called muzzling at that time, and I guess maybe it still is, I don't know. But when I would drive home - the stable and barn were in the back yard but I had to go down the alley, and I'd put the wagon away and the horse away, and the wife'd seen that George wasn't along, and she'd say, "Where's George?"

I said, "He stopped in town, you know where he stopped." She'd call up a fellow in town here, had a little taxi cab, Ben Jackson was his name - he was a colored fellow- He'd get there and Jackson would take her down to Bessie's house and she'd get George and bring him home about half, three quarters shot. She worked the same as a man. Hell, if it weren't for her he'd never had a good milk route. And I'd I worked for her for a couple of years. And, oh, I got a dollar a week and my breakfast.

That was very generous compared to the other.

Yes, I got one dollar and my breakfast.

Well five-thirty in the morning is no picnic.

No. Especially in the winter time.

Now you asked one time = I think I told you this - do you remember about the assistant to Pop Warner when he was football coach - his name was LoneStar Dietz?

Yes-

Yes, he rode a bicycle?

Yes, he rode a bicycle and he would take his dogs - now he had a kennel with these Russian wolfhounds- at least six or eight, and a couple of time a week he'd come down. past our house, go down the poorhouse road and take the dogs off for a run --- (Mr. Flickinger repeats the story of the dogs' attack on his father's fox hound)

Did he breed them?

I don't know whether he did, but they were beautiful.

And he'd couple of times a week he'd come down by the house on the bicycle and go out North Street, down North Street down Poorhouse Road, and I guess he'd take them the whole way around and bring them into the bottom of the - the lower end of the Indian School. Now those Indians, well now I told you that my brother-in-law was one... and ...

Well, you never know, I guess that was what struck me in reading in the transcript, (Congressional Hearings on Indian School) that all it would take would be a couple of people to decide that this was a good way place to make money and sell the food rather than serve the food...

Oh, they had a nice dining hall, (yeah) It's burned down now. Number of years ago.

It must have been quite a school...

Oh, it was nice and they kept it so nice, and there were quite a few civilians worked out there, from town here. Our next door neighbor here, at one time, Mrs. Bogert, she worked there in the laundry for years and years. The lady who lived across the street here, her mother worked in the laundry for years and years, and those were all civilians from town here, the same way with the old heating plant that they have. Now the heating plant that they have in today is right here at the edge of the Spring and the railroad track. That's an immense heating plant - when I was a kid it was right in the midst of the Indian School. They had a greenhouse and everything out here, they raised a lot of vegetables, they had a nice tract of land there. In the winter time they would flood the ponds down here and the Indian boys and girls, they'd all go skating you know, and the same way with the kids from town, they'd all go out there.

So it was your impression that it was a place where the kids were happy...

Yes! There was never as far as mistreatment now there was none of that that I knew of, or even heard of. The only fellow I ever heard groaning, like I told you was a couple of time when I went by the old guard house when I heard some of them moaning. And I think that's where they put them till they sobered up. Because I can't recall of another place where they kept boys that misbehaved. they never had, I don't think that children, now look, the smallest one I ever seen - I told you his name was Dick Kasetta, he was the smallest boy that I ever seen there and I can't remember any more how old he was at that time - but if I remember right, Wallace Denny. he and his wife took this boy into their house and raised him, until he became ten or eight years old, until they moved him into the large boys quarters.

Who are the Dennys?

He had - Wallace Denny - had charge of the small boys quarters - they had small boys quarters and they had large boys quarters - now I never heard of small girls quarters- I never knew of it - now they had girls quarters, that I know. And I think they're still standing today.

He was a disciplinarian then, Mr. Denny?

I would say that in a way. He was a big man, I can still see him today.

Now he was Indian?

Oh, yes, he was Indian. They had a studio there, and I was just trying to think of that fellow's name - I believe it was Norcross, I think that's what it was, he was married to a white girl, but he lived in town. He lived across from the Linder Shoe company. The studio where they had curios and I think they done photography work. Took pictures and so forth. And that building is still standing today, it was right inside- you know the trolley used to run out there. Right at the two gates where the trolley run up to - two standard gates they were made out of brick and cement - they stand about six foot apart - they're still standing today because I often go out that way on my way fishing. And the trolley used to run right in at that gate.

I wonder if he had been a student before, or Mr. Denny..

I don't know that. Now he was no young man at that time.

End of tape. Mr. Flickinger was not really responding to questions for this last portion of the interview, but was reiterating earlier stories and facts. It was my impression that he was somewhat uncomfortable about the questions about the hearings and also that what he did not know about should at least be answered with any information, pertinent or not.