

Mrs. Sarah (J.) Gilbert

Interviewed April 8, 1972.

Children sent from Steveston Highway residence to Bridgeport School - consulted with Reeve Bridge for permission - Born 1888 - came from Ontario followed husband out to Marpole 1912 when married - first lived in Richmond near Blundell Station - Blundell - this street ended at Railway Ave. - eldest daughter born 1915 at home - climate milder then than now - remembers 1917 as very severe winter - farmed 5 years on No. 5 Road - came to Steveston and Gilbert residence in 1925 - dairy farmed - No. 5 Road was the Bath farm between No. 20 and the bridge - delivered and sold hay and oats to dairies and chinese garden farmers just over the North Arm - discusses Chinese paying accounts all in small bills - discusses birth practices then - Dr. Reeves was family physician from Marpole - Mr. Gilbert built house on land between No. 2 Road and No. 3 Road on south side of Steveston Highway - McKenzie lived on one side and ^{MILNES.} Millans had place on other side - (Discusses the origins of Gilbert road - road ran south from Steveston Highway to Monteith Road) talks about McKenzie Road as well - talks about people going to Marpole for water - had a strict upbringing in Ontario - attended South Arm Church - talks about social events associated with the Churches - member of Lady Carson Lodge - talks about Strawberry Festival held in the Orange Hall) - started dairy herd on No. 5 Road farm - mostly Gurnsey - when sold out had 30 milking and 56 head of cattle, mostly holstein - milking machines used (discusses feeding of hired herds) - had loganberries, raspberries and sold some to Empress Canneries - most wives then did a lot of home canning - helped husband milk by s tripping and carrying milk - discusses cooling of fresh milk - talks about raw milk - talks about utility services then - electricity, water,

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telephone - talks about interurban tram as a social event - tickets sold generally at Marpole and Steveston stations - school children given tickets for school transportation - Interurban ran every 1/2 hr. during morning, evening, every hour otherwise - talks about children going beyond high school then - daughter worked at Steveston telephone office after completing high school - talks about small birds - hunters used to shoot ducks and pheasants north of Steveston Highway around No. 2 and No. 3 Roads - talks about bog fires - talks about plank Road No. 5 Road - women rarely drove farm wagons, but did drive democrats and buggies - talks about father-in-law - talks about blacksmiths (Ireland and Richards) - had relatives in Marpole - (discusses early courtship) - Gilbert mostly had Japanese women and men for field work -talks about aviation accident on Steveston Highway - (discusses May 24th and Maypole affair at Brighthouse Grandstand) - talks about cannery tours - small boat - ferry from Steveston to Ladner started near Steveston Wye - (story about Aunt's funeral) - talks about Woodward's Landing ferry - discusses lumber for house and barn from Marpole - story about T.B. in cattle - farmers paid \$50.00 head for all T.B. contaminated cattle - cows often worth \$200.00 or more each - made own butter at Blundell farm with rotary churn.

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