

Mr. and Mrs. Donald McKay

Interviewed April 11, 1972.

976 No. 3 Road

-father Donald McKay came to Richmond from Woodstock, Ont. 1889 and worked for Carvel Steves on farm west end of Steveston Hwy.

-then father had Post Office at south end No. 2 Road.

-then partnered with Sam Churchill (brother-in-law) ran store at site of future Grauer's store about 1897 - left 1903 - went farming on Brighthouse Estate.

Donald born 1903 in family house at Eburne brother Gordon now farms No. 7 Road and Westminster Hwy.

-land cleared - only 2 - 3 farms had any timber - went to Lulu School then No. 2 Road and Westminster Hwy. for couple years.

-transferred to Bridgeport school, drove with sisters Pearl and Irene in horse and buggy - horse in shed.

-wife Evelyn McCallan came 1907 to Ladner, then Mud Bay, then father farmed in Richmond to Bridgeport 1919 in entrance class (grade 8) left at grade 10, then to Vancouver, parents moved back, living in Richmond when married October 22, 1927, in Cook and Tolley farm owned by father.

-Donald finished public school - W.W. 1 on hard to get help - joined father farming - father also bought 40 acre farm corner Garden City and Steveston Hwy.

-when married Donald and wife lived on Brighthouse farm 120 acres rented.

-worked at Bridghouse race track 1920 with team, harrowing the track, watering - Lansdowne track was built 1924.

-to dance went to Odd Fellows Hall, Marpole and Steveston Opera House

-to show drive to Marpole, left horse in barn, took tram to movie one Saturday night - McDonalds, Thompsons, etc. - also on Toonerville

Trolley - went to Pantages (where Beacon is now) - then later to Empress

theatre for plays - 60¢ for lodges in Pantages - Rex was a nickel - trolley a dime - nickel left for candy.

-price of meat when married - 25¢ for 3 lbs. stewing beef - 3 lbs. block of butter \$1.50 at Grauers - shipped in milk, picked up by dairies -as a kid hauled water from Marpole by a team - at one time hauled their milk to Cambie Station, 3 farmers, Peters and Brighthouse took turns to freight car 1910 - recalls water in wooden pipes wrapped with wire - got water from Westminster - remembers telephone, crank phone • electricity in at end of W.W. I.

Races held 2 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. for 14 days. 1929 got a starting gate put Donald's team on gate, on til 1955 then put on tractor when horse broke tendon -Donald at starting gate every morning since 1960, his first horses (team) were Flossie and Nellie.

-now training colts at Gate, near Garden City Rd. in east corner of track, 3/4 chute - train 2 year olds for a month - Races start May 3rd - run 92 days (108 days last year.) - remembers all roads gravelled except No. 4 Road and Westminster Hwy. from No. 5 Rd. to Queensboro, planked - No. 5 Rd. planked from Steveston Hwy. to Westminster Hwy. - all gravel hauled by team - gravel from Westminster to end No. 2 Road or No. 3 Road, landing places, backed on to scows, shoveled on to wagon by hand - paid \$1.00 hour self and team - lost a horse off the scow once.

-their doctor was Dr. Hall, Marpole, closest - had apples, pears, plums, in orchard - picked wild blackberries.

-recalls in youth 8,000 - 10,000 people in tents for fishing season 1891 -no time to fish - went on dyke - bought sockeye from fishermen for 25¢ -heard Sunday night gun go off for fishermen to start.

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Cannery on Dinsmore Island across river from their house - now covered with sand - Johnson's on Blundell were early blueberry farmers - children are : Doreen (Mrs. John May), and Audrey (Mrs. James Baker) both in Richmond.

TAPE 15 - SIDE 2.