Born - Westham Is. 1894, moved to July Island about 1902 - born at home midwife rather than doctor - no high school in Richmond so went to King Edward in Vancouver - old farm on Gilmore property on No. 4 Road built by Mother's family from lumber floated down river from Fraser Mills lumber was traded for hay - main commerce was done on river - swam in ditches, sloughs, but river was very cold - boys went swimming but girls didn't as a rule - hunting off Sturgeon Bank which was called Terra Nova flats - owned land bordering this part - sold it which became later first subdivision - 200 acres south of Blundell Bd. - (story about adopting 2 of the Bridge children) - (examines picture on wall) - no peat in this area - only clay which was also good as a growing medium - first crop was hay which was sold to Victoria, New Westminster, Vancouver, etc. picked up right at the river's edge - discusses mowing techniques owned large threshing outfit for own use and did other meonle's fields as well - worked as a teenager on thresher - Lulu Island wheat not a good milling wheat - oats was big grain crop - local oats considered better than Prairie oats - didn't have own oats milled but sold directly to feed companies - (discusses dyke road along edge of property) - while on Westham Is. saw many four mast schooners - was friendly with sailors from schooners - locals gave dances for them - (Story about Gilmore's harbouring sailor who jumped ship) -first school was English School - teacher taught all grades up to high school. last year of English School was called entrance year - this was before Miss Bothwell's time - talks about ducks flying into fields east of dyke - property north of Gilmore's place was all bog - talks about bog conditions - discusses hunting bear and deer east end of Island - talks about a few fox still around and racouns -clearing land for farming pushed back the population of small ground animals. Talks about birds then and now - farmers had bees for own use

no mosquitoes at this end of island - many mosquitoes at West end of Lulu Island - sprayed later - Ilats outside dyke supported mosquitoes whereas bog area not having surface water did not - discusses having bees brought on to property to aid cross pollination of cucumbers - most chinese originally in Steveston but with development of roads into Vancouver; chinese went into truck farming extensively - very good farmers for truck gardening - hard, conscientious workers - knew Mah Bing well -Mah Bing delivered truckload of produce into Vancouver every day -(discussion about co-operative Marketing Roard and reluctance of Chinese to join) - Man Bin g boarded Vancouver chinese men, single men, during produce season - Chinese who lived in Steveston worked in Canneries and lived in cannery houses - during slow fishing, Chinese worked on local farms including Gilmores - Japanese good fishermen and good people -(discusses Japanese generally) - racial & friction in early days. according to Gilmore, was between Chinese and Whites - farmers didn!t make much wine and beer because of access to Steveston Hotels - doesn't remember smuggling during Canadian Prohibition - heard about Canadian smuggling during U.S. Prohibition - some of Gilmore's friends considered smuggling whiskey in to the States as a legitimate business - talks about early weather patterns -(discusses 1948 flood) - brother "Cap" in charge. of dykes - when he came here dykes all hand made - dykes surrounded each farm - south end of No. 4 Road originally a dyke - (discusses this in some detail) - discusses natural ditches, road ditches, and farmer built ditches - ditches in fields were traversed by horse and wagon by means of small bridge or culvert - talks about ditches as source of water during dry season - discusses flood gates at end of drainage canals early times, small flood boxes built and maintained by early farmers

Les Gilmore

many community affairs held at old Opera House - Jack O'Neil, a coal and wood dealer was responsible for putting on shows at early days, before coal, driftwoood from river used as fuel for heating talks about early days as boy with others cutting up driftwood - Fraser Mills may have been the first sawmill - logbooms always on river sometimes when a boom broke up, Gilmore would hide log in the bush to be cut up later - knew Jas. Francis and wife - talks about his race-horses as a hobby started 20 years ago - worked on Brighouse Track with team of horses and scrappers (story about this) - paid \$5.00 day for team, man and scraper - talks about Lansdowne Track - both tracks considered very good at that time - Chas. Oldfield in charge of construction of Lansdowne - the quality of milk in those days was considered very good -Gilmore use to ship cream everyday up Fraser by steamer to New Westminster skim milk given to pigs - went into dairy business just after W.W.I with brother - had largest holstein herd in Canada at that time - top herd in production and showing in Canada - set some Canadian and world records in production - Steves famous also for holstein cattle - supposed to have introduced holstein breed to Julu Island - talks about R.O.P. only a few hours between (record of production) system milking and receiving 10 gal. cans of milk at the Vancouver dairies farmers delivered milk to Branscomb station where B.C. Electric would have box cars to transport cans into town - watermains and telephones early installed in South Arm Area - before that, rainwater was caught river water was drank - pumped from river by hand and allowed to settle in barrel - once-a-veck -both where all children used same water - talks about staples bought at Steveston - Walker's store carried everything and would deliver food ordered by telephone - had regular delivery days -

use to walk to English school as a boy - had a nony later - always had a Santa Claus in the family - Gilmore was the Santy for family for a number of years - each family then had a Santa Claus suit - there was a good

and horse races on No. 1 Road between Steveston Highway and Moncton trotters pulled a little buggy also regular races - Big ball that night at opera house - Brighouse Grandstand was built later and the formal Maypole dances with children replaced earlier May 24th celebrations -Pole played in infield at Brighouse Grandstand chiefly by Vancouver people - before W.W.I, Gilmore's (main crop was hay and pats, after W.W.I it was milk - mangels apparently did not flavor milk - Joe Steves grew good crop of mangel seeds -although Gilmore grew some mangels he fed cows culled potatoes mostly - good for milk production -(talks about potatoes)-early days farmers had cows, chickens, pigs, etc. to be completely self sufficient - later, farmers specialized - first car was Model T Ford (story about father driving car) - talks about horses being afraid of cars - talks about hazards of plank roads - Gilmore shipped milk by water - talks about local dairies - pasteurization became mandatory about 30 years ago - talks about raw milk being beneficial discusses early cooling system of milk) - extended story about putting in own electricity - had large barn where Seafair shooping Centre is milked 60 cows by hand daily - original property belonged to Fentiman - ((discusses early barn-building practices) - married first wife in Archie Blair's house - second wife in little Church No. 3 and Steveston Highway - (talks about outbreak of glandars) - Gilmore involved in the petition to have cows tested for T.B. - (Story about this) - story about herd that supplied milk to Children's Hospital

ted with T.B. - B.C. (Lower mainland) considered to be first T.B. free

Mr. Les Gilmore

area in all Canada - suspects feed companies put iodine in cattle feed to off-set iodine missing from soil.

TAPE 12 - SIDE 1.