

Mrs. Ada Trites, 76

Interviewed May 11, 1972.

211 - 1531 Davie St., Vancouver (Member of Rees family)

Born Ada Annie Dahl, May 11, 1896 at Lulu Island at home - mid-wife Mrs. Marrington, Doctor Robertson - parents lived 15 acre farm south of No. 5 Road with sister Jean (died)

later mother married Rice Rees - farm between Shell Rd. and No. 5 Rd. - 40 acres later bought Thomas Kidd farm, total 80 acres.

Rees at around 16 years of age arrived from Cardiff, Wales, on sailing ship at Port Moody, got to Woodward's Landing end No. 5 Road - worked for Dan Woodward - bought own place - land cheap - end of 1800's second family of Rees: Liz - Mrs. McLeod, Bob, Vic.

Had mixed farming, pigs, chickens, cream sent at week-end to Westminster on "Transfer" paddlewheel steamer, at Woodward's Landing - later sold milk to Vancouver - hauled to Branscombe Station on interurban around 1912 - Ada went to Branscombe Station with milk - boarded at Mrs. Wilson during week attended Bridgeport School til entrance exams - later as family grew - drove in horse, buggy to Bridgeport - left horses unhitched, tied - earlier walked 1 1/2 miles to English School - Annie McConnell walked 3 miles from No. 3 Road - had farm chores summer - drove hay fork - ploughing driving horses - lots fish in River - salted down just salmonbellies in kegs - cured pork.

Later Jewish fellow, Joe came with meat wagon - got groceries at Hunt's Store, Steveston using horse and wagon - got car 1913 - 1914 'push-pedal' Ford - then supplies from grocery store opposite Woodward's on Hastings St. - picked blueberries on bogland for selves - smoke later people out from city - fires - picked some wild blackberries - few on Lulu Is. more North Vancouver.

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-picked on own farm - had strawberry patches lasting 20 years -
 -strawberry festivals - 24th May - Steveston event - men brought horses
 raced - also sports events - raced against Grauer girl - Bridgeport
 School invited parents - brought lunches - sports.

English School: 1 teacher came drunk - 20-25 pupils

Teachers: Mr. Gower

Mr. Messinger (later school inspector)

Bridgeport Teachers: Mr. McIntosh.

Ada with group of 8 at Bridgeport - only 4 (group) to finish together:

John Buchanan, now Chancellor, Wilf Cook, Edith Lynas, Ada.

Ada then boarded at Eburne - went to old McGill before U.B.C. there

(1 year) - then boarded for Normal School - exchange: friend Edith Lyna

boarded at her home, taught at English School - Steveston May Day re-

called - Wagners had hotel there - outbreak W.W. 1, went to South

America - Waddell Police Chief - had flight time 1st airplane at

Richmond - father Rees loved horse races Minoru Park - Ada joined him

after school for ride home - taught Trites school, corner No. 7 and

Westminster Hwy. name from husband's father, mother lived near. A.B.

Trites (wealthy mining name searched origin of Trites, French, German,

Dutch?

Ada taught at age 19 Trites School- all classes beginners to entrance 1

1 room - old stove - pupils obedient - taught 1 year - teacher asked to

homes - made own fun very early had Clay's Hall close to home dances -

later dances Orange Hall - celebrations July 12 - father an Orangeman -

social - families stayed overnight - to get salmon - walk banks South

Arm - wave to fisherman buy a fish for 50 cents (?) now 50¢ lb.

-brothers, father hunted, anywhere - no restrictions - large flocks

ducks, pheasants on ground grew oats, hay, potatoes, turnips for cows

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handcutter sliced them -

threshing - farmers helped each other - returned help - 25 men to feed
-2 places Mother cooked pies - Jean and Ada cooked vegetables at second
place.

Incident: Rained a lot - father decided when rain stopped to thresh
middle of night - no floods - recalls farmers kept up own hand dykes
till got Big Dyke - built by Mr. Pike - father Rees and Thos. Kidd
arranged water system connected with Westminster - earlier had rain
barrel outside house and water tank for washing of water hauled from
Fraser River - around 1909 farmers started first telephone system,
Lulu Is.

Ada married James Trites January 1917 - finished teaching school year -
husband farmed Sea Island, south side - mixed farming - husband into
trucking business, Eburne - he died 1942 - Ada returned to Richmond -
built house, north Steveston Hwy. No. 5 Road, planted trees in front -
eventually moved to Apartment, Vancouver.

Ada kept 15 acre farm left by own father - rented to Chinese - sold it
this year 1972.

Children: 1 son: James Victor, died, widow re-married.

TAPE 21 - SIDE 1.