Launer, Albert and Lulu Convis Launer

“An oral history with Albert and Lulu Launer”

Interviewed by Esther Cramer

Date: May 4, 1963

Language: English

Ephemera : photo

Projects: La Habra Valley, Orange County Pioneer Council

Status: Complete transcript, 44p. Bound with OH122b, OH122c, and OH122d

Abstract: This interview was conducted as part of a local history project supported by the Patrons of the Library of California State University, Fullerton. Both narrators provide their personal background and later community activities, he as a lawyer and she as a teacher and homemaker. History of transportation, including reaction to the early automobiles in the area and needed road improvements; early farming and water sources that developed; grocery suppliers to the oil fields, including Zachary Coy and the Glazier brothers; school experiences both as student and teacher, and the outside entertainers that performed at the schools; topographic descriptions and memories of childhood outings to local mountains; shopping in nearby cities; growth factors affecting La Habra, California.

Launer, Albert

“An oral history with Albert Launer”

Interviewed by David Williams and Richard Curtis

Date: December 11, 1964 and January 6, 1965

Language: English

Ephemera: none
Abstract: This interview was conducted as part of a local history project supported by the Patrons of the Library of California State University, Fullerton. Recaps background information, especially noting his father's various farming attempts and struggle to secure adequate water for crops, a buckboard trip to Yosemite, his college education, and events that shaped his political philosophy; describes early La Habra social and recreational life, the streets, businesses, and residents including Walking Elliott who was jailed for killing in a dispute over purchase of Liberty Bonds in World War I. Comments on bombing of the LA Times building in 1911 and subsequent trial of McNamara brothers run by Clarence Darrow and Earl Rogers, the Progressive Movement, Hiram Johnson, and the United Nations. Explains incorporation of Brea.

Launer, Albert

"An oral history with Albert Launer"

Interviewed by Keith Richard

Date: May 7, 1968

Language: English

Ephemera: none

Projects: Fullerton Community History, Orange County Pioneer Council

Status: Complete transcript, 22 pp. Bound with OH122a, OH122b, and OH122d

Abstract: This interview was conducted as part of a local history project supported by the Patrons of the Library of California State University, Fullerton. Discussion of the gentleman's agreement that elected state assembly members during the 1920s; Orange County legal system including the roles of Ike Craig, Charles Kuchel and Judge Cox and grand jury investigations; Bebe Daniels incarceration; municipal and school bond issues; racial discrimination. Names R. C. Hoile's Freedom Press newspapers in local communities and compares their philosophy with the L.A. Times owned by Harrison Otis and Otis Chandler. Names businesses in downtown Fullerton and nearby buildings.
OH122d

Launer, Lulu Convis

"An oral history with Lulu Launer"

Interviewed by Kay Heil

Date: September 29, 1970

Language: English

Ephemera: newspaper articles

Projects: Fullerton Community History, Orange County Pioneer Council

Status: Completed transcript, 41 pp. Bound with OH122a, OH122b, and OH122c

Abstract: This interview was conducted as part of a local history project supported by the Patrons of the Library of California State University, Fullerton. Wife of Albert Launer discusses conservatism in Orange County and its opposition to the United Nations, her involvement in the local United Nations Association chapter, and planning events for the 25th anniversary of the UN. Gives some personal background and information on her children and spouse, recalling how she integrated her involvement in club work with the family’s life. She was also active in PTA (Parent Teacher Association), Federation of Woman's Clubs, and local Red Cross. Gives history of the Ebell Club and Kate Rea's convalescent home for crippled children, Casa Colima. Discussion of parenting methods, levels of club involvement, and reaction to ritual changes in the Catholic Church. Named Woman of the Year in 1967 by the Fullerton Chamber of Commerce.

OH124

Launer, Nelson and Ruth Dallman

"An oral history with Nelson and Ruth Launer"

Interviewer: Esther Cramer

Date: February 23, 1963

Language: English
Abstract: Son of the first mayor of La Habra, California, discusses his citrus ranching and involvement in local water supply, his childhood trips to Los Angeles and the beach, community picnics, and oil industry in the hills. Ruth gives detailed list of native local flora and comments on her activity in the schools and library.

Lindauer, Magdalena Sansinena

"An oral history with Magdalena Lindauer"

Interviewer: Esther Cramer

Date: September 18 and 23, 1963

Language: English

Abstract: Daughter of Jose Sansenina, whose 30,000 sheep were a familiar sight on hills around La Habra, gives some family history and shares memories of school mates and activities at the 2-room Washington School, home medical remedies, and sources for home supplies. Linguistic skill of her mother was extensive and narrator spoke several languages to communicate with shepherds and shearers; gives some details on care and marketing of sheep. Stepfather was Ysidoro Eseverri; husband Gus Lindauer had a sand and gravel business.
Abstract: The Hill family arrived in the county in 1886. Lucy recalls in her childhood the Santa Ana Laundry, groceries being delivered, dressing like her sister. Summers were spent in Newport at house grandfather built; father commuted by train to Santa Ana to run hardware store. Explains connections between the Hill, Smith, Birch and Axelson families. Details Christmas activities, toys, local parades, and early family automobiles. Recalls trips to the Carnegie Library, construction of county courthouse and the rivalry to be county seat, school children riding “Dummy” public steam car to school, and the burning of Chinatown in Santa Ana.
**Abstract:** Recalls childhood schooling, summers at Newport, concerts and silent movies; describes McFadden landing and its railway that took lumber from the north to inland cities for building houses; various transportation, telephone systems, roads, and businesses in Santa Ana; rationing in World War I. Attended normal school and then taught in rural canyon schools. Lists mother’s activities with Woman’s Christian Temperance Union (WCTU) and national Parent Teacher Association (PTA). Comments on religious ties of leading families in Santa Ana and attitudes toward higher education for women.

OH2530

**Long, Lois Lamb Winter**

"An oral history with Lois Long"

Interviewed by Maureen Rischard

Date: March 19 and 26, 1997

Language: English

Ephemera: photos, genealogy, manuscript, map

Project: Orange County Pioneer Council

Status: Completed transcript, 21 pp.

**Abstract:** Personal recollections of childhood in Talbert and Santa Ana including schools, churches, and chautauquas; summers at San Juan Capistrano hot springs; performing in musical trio with sister and mother; and details of her wedding. Father was born in Gospel Swamp and farmed sugar beets, lima beans, and alfalfa; her first husband worked on the farm with him. Lamb and Stockton family histories.

OH69

**Luehm, Edgar Logan**

"An oral history with Edgar Luehm"
Interviewed by Esther Cramer

Date: March 17, 1963

Language: English

Ephemera : photos and a news clipping

Project: La Habra Valley

Status: Complete transcript , 13 pp., bound in La Habra Pioneers , vol. 1

**Abstract:** The La Habra Valley was studied in a series of thirty interviews conducted in 1964. The interviews lay dormant until 1999 when the Pioneer Council provided funds to process them. They are collected in five volumes; the last was completed in 2005.

Explains how family came to La Habra. Describes farming, processing produce, and obtaining water. Discusses his schooling, raising citrus, and obtaining mail, groceries, and clothes. Recalls picnic spots and other recreation. Discusses sources of fuel, factors in La Habra growth, parents' community activities, and families from old Swiss community in Illinois who followed his parents' example in coming to La Habra.
Abstract: Narrator began working in the Irvine ranch office as bookkeeper in 1929 and gives brief description of the operations of the Irvine ranch: use of time clocks on the ranch, land management policies, pest control, and drilling water wells. Comments on the personality and habits of James Irvine II.

OH154a

McFadden, Arthur J.

"An oral history with Arthur J. McFadden"

Interviewed by Jim Sleeper

Date: July 6, November 1, 1967; May 23, 1968

Language: English

Ephemera: photos, newspaper clippings

Project: Newport Beach Community History, Orange County Pioneer Council

Status: Complete transcript, 46 pp.

Abstract: Native Californian who grew up in the Santa Ana and Newport Beach, California areas discusses the development of Newport Beach, McFadden's Landing, and early residents; shipping and fishing at Newport pier; and his family's lumber company. Comments on old hotels built in Santa Ana and Tustin, California; dealings with James Irvine on the Irvine ranch.

OH154b

McFadden, Arthur J.

"An oral history with Arthur J. McFadden"

Interviewed by Stephen Gould

Date: May 6, 14, 29 and June 4, 6, 17, 1970

Language: English
Abstract: McFadden describes the early Orange County area; his family's activities in politics, including influencing the break from Los Angeles County; the lumber business; his friendship with James Irvine II, and operations on the Irvine ranch. Narrator served on the State Board of Agriculture, the University of California Board of Regents, and Southern California Edison Company, among others.

OH129a

McGill, Charles L., V. Douglas, and Katharine Brown

"An oral history with Charles, Douglas and Katharine McGill"

Interviewed by Esther Cramer

Date: January 21, 1965

Language: English

Abstract: Brown and Dauser Lumber Yard, having 5 locations, was one of the largest businesses in Orange County at the turn of the twentieth century. Charles worked there, met and married the boss's daughter, Katharine, who worked in the office. The company had a teaming service that took lumber, tanks and blocks to the oil fields; provided special spacers for construction of the Santa Fe Railway lines; and made troughs for local livestock. Discussion of the "orchard service" for his citrus grove, various street routes between La Habra and Fullerton, and water supply for the area. Their son V. Douglas recalls working in the lumber yard, runaway horses, hauling vehicles, and his own wife and children.
**McGill, V. Douglas and Leota Hains**

"An oral history with Douglas and Leota McGill"

Interviewed by Eunice Harris

Date: April 15 and 20, 1999

Language: English

Ephemera: photos, manuscript, documents

Project: Orange County Pioneer Council

Status: Complete transcript, 19 pp.

**Abstract:** Douglas recalls driving the school bus from La Habra to Fullerton High School, living in a tent after the 1933 earthquake, and playing in a musical group with his wife and friends at various campgrounds and assemblies. Gives brief history of Brown and Dauser Lumber Company, describes jobs of family members who worked there, and interchange of stock between lumber yards. Explains road control in San Bernardino mountains. Leota came from a musical family and gives some personal background.

**OH 1858**

**Marks, Cecil J.**

"An oral history with Cecil Marks"

Interviewed by Dennis Swift

Date: October 14, 1986

Language: English

Ephemera: photos and news article

Project: Orange County history, Orange County Pioneer Council

Status: Complete transcript, 16 pp.
Abstract: This interview is included in the Orange County Pioneer Council collection because he was the husband of Claire Sharpless Marks, a narrator for the Council's project. Cecil Marks was manager/executive secretary for thirty-five years of the Orange County Farm Bureau and editor/advertising manager of the Farm Bureau News. Outlines the organizational structure and functions of the American Farm Bureau from national level through local centers, the changing range of agricultural activity in the county, and potential for great personal gain for farmers who sold land for development. Comments on the 1936 citrus strike, including working conditions prior to it and nature of the farm bureau's response. Describes grove removal after “quick decline” infestations.

OH1884

Marks, Claire Sharpless

"An oral history with Claire Marks"

Interviewed by Ann L. Spencer

Date: July 31 and November 20, 1984

Language: English

Ephemera: none

Project: Orange County Pioneer Council

Status: Complete transcript, 38 pp.

Abstract: Claire Sharpless, born in a tent in Long Beach, recalls her childhood toys, dolls, and games; Christmas and family traditions; family camping at the beach and in the mountains, and playing in irrigation ditches. Describes family home and daily routines, as well as grove maintenance with smudge pots and fumigation, and treatment for victims of 1918 flu. Witnessed Halley's comet, the departure of Company L for World War I, circus with Bill Cody. Comments on modes of transportation and saloons in Anaheim.

OH1889a

Martin, Eddie
"An oral history with Eddie Martin"

Interviewed by Suzanne Wood

Date: June 16, 1983

Language: English

Ephemera : photos, newspaper articles, pamphlet

Project: Santa Ana Library project

Status: Complete transcript , 32 pp., bound with OH1889b

Abstract : This interview was conducted as part of a local history project supported by the Santa Ana Public Library. It was bound with a later interview of Eddie Martin that was completed with funding from the Pioneer Council. The aviation pioneer recalls the early days of farming in the county and aviation's growth in popularity; his employment with Western Air Express, Macmillan Oil Company, American Airlines and operating, with his younger brother, Martin Aviation; interaction with daredevil pilot Clarence Prest and Rear Admiral William Moffet. Brief comments on controversy of renaming Orange County Airport to John Wayne Airport.

OH1889b

Martin, Eddie

"An oral history with Eddie Martin"

Interviewed by Lucia Barker

Date: April 24, 1985

Language: English

Ephemera : photos, newspaper articles, pamphlet

Project: Orange County Pioneer Council

Status: Complete transcript , 31 pp., bound with OH1889a
Abstract: Recollections of his father's ranch and growing up in Newhope, including floods that destroyed the crops, seeing Halley's comet in 1910, and selling or trading apples, peaches and plums from their trees at the local general store. Gives account of boating in Balboa Bay before it was dredged, riding a train for the first time, and coastal net fishing with teams of horses. Describes how aviation provided him a livelihood through Martin Aviation until 1938 and various other companies that employed him including Fokker Aircraft and Lockheed corporation.

Mathis, Charlotte Moulton

"An oral history with Charlotte Mathis"
Interviewed by Bettie Webber
Date: May 28, 1991
Language: English
Ephemera: photos, letter, manuscript
Project: Orange County Pioneer Council
Status: Complete transcript, 18 pp.

Abstract: Daughter of Lewis Fenno Moulton and Nellie Gail outlines acquisition of land and partnerships of her father and his interaction with employees on the 21,000 acre ranch, her education and family traditions, and her own line of descendants. Recalls effects of flu epidemic in 1918; division of the property in 1951; and Leisure World, first major development on the property.

Mitchell, Nellie Munger

"An oral history with Nellie Mitchell"
Interviewed by Ann L. Spencer
Date: May 8, 1985
Abstract: Reticent narrator gives glimpse of early life in El Toro, its one-room school with eight grades, the recess games and school picnic. Mentions the grain house in El Toro and father's work on O'Neill ranch.

OH517

Mitchell, Ralph John

"An oral history with Ralph Mitchell"

Interviewed by Stephen Gould

Date: April 24 and 29, 1970

Language: English

Ephemera: photos, newspaper articles

Project: Orange County Pioneer Council

Status: Complete transcript, 31 pp.

Abstract: Mitchell's father leased land on the Irvine ranch, became manager of the alfalfa ranch for the Irvine Company, and later was ranch superintendent. Ralph gives personal observations of James Irvine II and his children, Jimmy, Kathryn, and Myford; lists other tenant farmers on the ranch; discusses various crops, details operations, and describes labor supply for the ranch. Worked with A. J. McFadden on raising citrus and Shosuke Nitta on prorating tomatoes.
**OH2039**

**Moore, Ethel Huff**

"An oral history with Ethel Moore"

Interviewed by Bettie Webber

Date: May 18, 1988

Language: English

Ephemera: photos, diploma

Project: Orange County Pioneer Council

Status: Complete transcript, 28 pp.; bound with OH 2037 and OH 2038

**Abstract**: Granddaughter of Dr. Willella Howe Waffle, first woman doctor in Santa Ana, tells of days spent with her grandmother visiting patients, reading books, feeding the pet macaw, and having a picnic with avocado ice cream. Describes grandmother's home, her treatment for small pox, her involvement in the local church, and her generous nature toward her patients. Ethel recalls toys made by her own mother and hearing about her father trading a large diamond for the first car in Santa Ana.

**OH140**

**Morlan, William E. and Lucille**

"An oral history with William and Lucille Morlan"

Interviewed by Esther Cramer

Date: January 20, 1964

Language: English

Ephemera: photos, genealogy survey

Project: La Habra Valley

Status: Complete transcript, 38 pp., bound in *La Habra Pioneers*, vol. 4
Abstract: Married in 1914, this couple recalls coming to La Habra Valley with their respective families as early as 1895. William discusses road alignments and his work on California Highway Commission and later in the nearby oil fields, dry farming in the valley and his father’s ability as a water witch, and his own early childhood enterprise catching tarantulas that his mother sold in Los Angeles to supplement the family income. He names many early families in La Habra and relates accidents they suffered. Lucille provides her own family background, discusses her children and her involvement in the Woman's Relief Corps, an auxiliary of the Grand Army of the Republic.