

*RL: When did you come to the Sunshine Coast?*

TP: 1937.

*RL: What brought you here?*

TP: Work.

*RL: Where had you lived before then?*

TP: My wife and I lived and worked at Mission.

*RL: What were you doing there?*

TP: I was just looking after a little stump ranch, and she did the housework for the people.

*RL: How did you hear about work on the Sunshine Coast?*

TP: Well, I came with people we worked for at Mission. They were in the process of moving here to log.

*RL: What were their names?*

TP: Osborne. You would know the name, I'm sure, if you've been here a while.

*RL: Is that who you logged for here?*

TP: Yes.

*RL: Where were they working at that time?*

TP: Halfmoon Bay.

*RL: Is that when you got this place?*

TP: No. That was later that I got this place, but I've had the property for many, many years.

*RL: What kind of logging were you doing when you first started?*

TP: Well, it was the old wooden spar high lead logging.

*RL: What was your first position?*

TP: I drove truck for a couple of years. Then I went into the actual logging production end of it.

*RL: What was your job?*

TP: Well, I've done it all.

*RL: But what did you start out as?*

TP: Well, you start out as a chokerman or the chaser, and as you learn you work up. I became a high rigger—that's the part I enjoyed mostly.

RL: *You'd climb to the top of the tree—was it scary?*

TP: Well . . . scary . . . thrilling—whatever you like.

RL: *Do you remember the first time you went up?*

TP: Oh, yes. You start out—when I was truck driving, at noon or something I'd go and get the climbing rigging and do a little tree climbing, small trees. Eventually you get to the regular spar tree. You either got to top it or give it up. But you get used to it.

RL: *How long were you a high rigger?*

TP: I was in logging for about 30 years. Then the high rigging was phased out and steel spars—the other type of logging—came in and replaced them.

RL: *What did you do then?*

TP: The last 10 years I worked, I worked for Swanson's Ready Mix. I worked in the gravel pit, on a crusher most of the time.

RL: *When you were doing the high lead logging, did you always work for Osborne or did you work for other companies?*

TP: I worked for years for Gus Crucil at Sechelt.

RL: *Any place else?*

TP: Oh, I worked for short periods at other places. Worked a year in the Queen Charlotte Islands.

RL: *Did you have any scary experiences?*

TP: I've been injured a few times. I survived. One time I was loading and I fell off a log—it was up in the air aways, and the logging truck below. I think that was the most serious one. I had a concussion—took a while to get over it.

RL: *Were you ever injured doing high rigging?*

TP: No, I never was hurt up a tree.

RL: *Did you live in camp or did you commute?*

TP: Mostly I lived at home. But I did live in camp on the Queen Charlotte Islands.

RL: *What was in Sechelt when you first came here?*

TP: Not much. Just a dirt road through it. Cowrie Street was just a residential street. First it was owned by Union Steamships and the store was on the waterfront.

RL: *You were quite young when you first came here—what did you and your wife do for entertainment?*

TP: Usually went to a Saturday night dance. We did play badminton. They had a lady's basketball team that she played on for a while.

RL: *Where did you play badminton at?*

TP: In Halfmoon Bay. Coopers Green actually. Different hall, of course.

RL: *Did you play against local teams or... ?*

TP: Yeah...we would have visiting teams, and we did play amongst ourselves, of course. But once a month we'd either visit or have another Sechelt or another team coming.

RL: *Sunshine Coast teams?*

TP: Yes, local.

RL: *Pender Harbour?*

TP: Yeah.

RL: *Did you ever go to the hospital up in Garden Bay?*

TP: Yep. Had my tonsils out. I needed them out, and that was it. Our son was born there. And there was no road at that time, either. You went to Madeira Park, and the maintenance man from the hospital came over and met us [in a boat] and took us back to the hospital. It all happened about 5 in the morning. But this was all prearranged. The neighbours we lived beside in Halfmoon Bay drove us there.

RL: *Must have been difficult having the hospital so far away?*

TP: Yeah.

RL: *Did your son go to school here then?*

TP: Yes. He started in Halfmoon Bay and finished up at Elphinstone in Gibsons.

RL: *Who taught you the most about logging?*

TP: Well, you learn as you go. The most intelligent logger I think I ever worked with was a black man. Can't remember his name now.

RL: *He was good in the woods?*

TP: Oh, yeah.

RL: *When did you become Woods Foreman?*

TP: About 1952. I was with Crucil Logging. I also was foreman for Ted Osborne when he was working at Halfmoon Bay. Then he moved away—that's the reason I didn't stay with him. He went to Narrows Arm and our son was having to be educated so we had to kind of stay around. Eventually wound up living in Sechelt, on Main Street. Mermaid.

RL: *How long did you live there?*

TP: 40 years.

RL: *Were you part of the fire department?*

TP: Yes, I belonged to the Sechelt Fire Department for years.

RL: *Were you part of the group who started it up?*

TP: No, not actually. It was just starting at the time that I moved to Sechelt.

RL: *What kind of things did you do for them?*

TP: Well, mostly the equipment we had to work with was old ARP equipment. All we had was a bunch of hose and I guess a portable pump, and that was about all there was.

RL: *What was the worst fire you had to deal with?*

TP: The Sechelt Inn. We just couldn't put that thing out.

RL: *What started that fire?*

TP: I'm not sure. It was in the middle of the day. I think it was probably a cooking fire. The people who owned it lived in the basement and that's where it started.

RL: *No one was hurt in it?*

TP: No.

RL: *What were you doing when they called you for that?*

TP: I don't remember now. It must have been on a weekend or something because otherwise I would have been at work.

RL: *Did you ever have any forest fires when you were logging?*

TP: Oh, yeah.

RL: *What were they like?*

TP: None of them are good. I've worked on quite a few forest fires. Usually, in the fall a lot of logging companies would burn the slash and sometimes they'd get out of control and you'd have to put them out. I think the one I worked on the longest was that Ruby Lake fire, about 40 to 50 years ago. Started along the highway, I guess, and went up over the top of the mountain towards Egmont. A lot of people worked on that for a long while, I'd say two weeks at least.

RL: *Do you know how it started?*

TP: [shook his head]

RL: *What was your job?*

TP: Well, I guess I was in charge of a crew putting in fire guards and pumping water where we could.

RL: *It must have been sad to see all that timber going up.*

TP: Yeah. Actually—there was some standing timber burned, but the ones that \_\_\_ in fell and bucked timber, we did keep it out of it and it ended there.

RL: *You call that buck timber?*

TP: Fell and bucked. Cut down, ready for . . .

RL: *So you kept it out of that?*

TP: No, it didn't get into it.

RL: *Because of the fire guard?*

TP: I think we did manage to prevent it. Weather is the main control of the fire, eventually the weather changes and the fire kind of goes out.

RL: *Was that in August?*

TP: No, it was earlier in the year.

RL: *When Osborne was working at Clowhom Lake—*

TP: I never did work up there.

RL: *You were working for Crucil then?*

TP: Yeah.

RL: *When did you first meet Bergliot Solberg?*

TP: About 1938 or something.

RL: *How old was she then?*

TP: Just a young woman, I think.

RL: *What was she like?*

TP: Like she was all her life, I guess. When Osborne was logging here, eventually he dumped logs into Porpoise Bay, and that was just about across from where the Solbergs lived. She had a trap line, I guess—that was her source of income. And she'd be around and meet the guys and if anybody wanted a fish they'd tell her and she'd get them a fish. Then eventually she did come and work with them in the logging. She was with Gus Crucil for a long time when I was there.

RL: *She was a whistle punk?*

TP: Yes.

RL: *Did you train her?*

TP: Well, I guess somebody had to train them.

RL: *What was she like to work with?*

TP: She was quiet. Never caused any eruptions or anything.

RL: *Was she a hard worker?*

TP: Oh, yeah! And strong.

RL: *Did you ever know her dad?*

TP: I have seen him, but I wouldn't say I knew him.

RL: *Did you ever work with Minnie, or was it just with Bergie?*

TP: Just Bergie.

RL: *Did you know her real well?*

TP: Just to work with.

RL: *Did you know any characters in the woods, in logging? Someone who did a tremendous job?*

TP: Well, there's exceptions in all jobs. I can't say that I'd want to name any one person.

RL: *What was the hardest thing about logging?*

TP: I don't know.

RL: *What was the part you liked the least?*

TP: We didn't like snow!

RL: *They pretty well shut down here in the snow, don't they?*

TP: Yeah. But you usually work a few days to try and get things finished up, and it's pretty miserable.

And of course, now everything is mobile and gets itself around. The old high lead logging, you had to move it onto trucks and off of trucks, through the woods and all this kind of stuff, up and down sidehills—that's the scary part.

RL: *What could happen?*

TP: Oh, something breaks and the whole machine runs away.

RL: *You did it with cable?*

TP: Yeah. They move themselves with their own power, and you've got line and blocks, all this kind of stuff to do it, of course.

RL: *Did you ever get confused with all those blocks?*

TP: No.

RL: *When you were high rigging what would you do? You get up on the tree and cut off the*

*top—do you limb it as you go up?*

TP: Cut the limbs off as you go up, and then you cut the top off. Then you've got to hang all the guy lines and the high lead blocks for the logging.

*RL: You carry all that up with you?*

TP: It's all moved up with power. First time you climb you hang what they call a pass line, which is a 3/8 line and then a block on the top. After that everything is \_\_\_ with a machine.

*RL: The first line—how would you secure it up there?*

TP: Put a strap, we'd all it, just a small cable built into a strap and that's how you'd anchor it—just like you'd hang a clothes line on a pole.

*RL: Was it heavy carrying it up?*

TP: Well, the small passline block, it's probably ten pounds. You've got to pull that up by hand. After that you have the line to pull it up. When you climb a tree you take a small line with you. You drop that down and haul a heavier line up. You don't do this all in one session.

An average tree to limb and top it is about a couple of hours or more. I worked a whole day on a tree one time. It had huge limbs on it and you've got to cut those all off by hand.

*RL: How did you cut them off? With a hand saw?*

TP: Chop them off with a hand saw. Not a carpenter's handsaw—like a half of a bucking saw, about a 3 ½ ft. saw.

*RL: So you've gone up and cut the limbs off—do you use the same saw to cut the top off?*

TP: Yeah.

*RL: What would the diameter be at the top?*

TP: About 20 inches.

*RL: So when you're up there, it's swaying?*

TP: Yeah.

*RL: So you would do this on a calm day, you wouldn't try to do it on a windy day. Or would you?*

TP: That's a kind of a good feeling, yeah. The top is off.

*RL: When the top is on, that's the most dangerous point?*

TP: Well, you have to know what you're doing, otherwise it could split. I've climbed trees which were rotten and you just abandon them, you come back down and don't use it.

RL: *What would be the sign that they were rotten?*

TP: Well, you could hear them. A hollow sound. And they're no good anyway because there's no strength in them.

RL: *It would be a pretty close call if you didn't recognize that sound.*

TP: Yeah, you pretty well can tell.

RL: *So if it was good, and you went up there—and you wouldn't go up on a windy day, or would you?*

TP: No, you can't work in the wind.

RL: *So you're up there, and you're strapped on. . .*

TP: Yeah

RL: *...and you cut off the top—how do you keep it from falling on top of you?*

TP: Oh, it always leaves the stump. You know, you cut a tree to fall it, you don't get underneath it of course, you get onto the opposite side to where it falls.

RL: *You knew how to cut it so it would fall where you wanted it to?*

TP: Oh, yeah.

RL: *Did one ever get away on you?*

TP: No, I never did have one go bad.

RL: *They said you were the best.*

*So you're up on the tree and you cut the top off and it's falling down below—do you yell that it's coming down so people get out of the way?*

TP: Oh, yeah.

RL: *Do you develop a pretty good voice?*

TP: Yeah.

RL: *Then you take the wire you hauled up with you and you pull up the tackle with the blocks attached. Then you fasten the block on with cable to the top of that tree.*

TP: Yeah.

RL: *Do you make niches in it, or just tighten it?*

TP: Yeah.

RL: *Then you pull up more blocks and rig them around?*

TP: Yeah, more blocks and guy lines.

RL: *Once you've got it rigged up you go down. And how long would that tree last. You run it as long as you're working that area?*

TP: Yeah, you usually cleared about 800 to 1000 feet all the way around. So it would last quite a long while, depending on the logging. Timber grows in patches, sometimes it's thick and sometimes it's not.

RL: *So the falling wouldn't be done until you put your spar tree up?*

TP: No. The falling is all done before this happens.

RL: *And they just left you a tree. What happens if they've left you a rotten tree?*

TP: Well, usually what happens, the timber is all fell and the tree is topped though it may not be used for a month or two months, but it's topped so it won't blow down.

RL: *So you've already gone up there and topped it?*

TP: Yes.

RL: *So you'd know then if it was good or not. Then they'd fall the trees around it and you'd go back in and set up the tackle.*

TP: Yeah.

RL: *When you say it would last a long time, would that be months or weeks?*

TP: It could be a month or two months.

RL: *So you'd be rigging one of these up every two months or so?*

TP: Something like that.

RL: *And when you weren't rigging a tree, what would your job be?*

TP: Oh, there's lots of other jobs to do. A lot of men hire out—they're classified as Hook and Rig. A hook tender is the boss of a yarding crew. That's usually what I did. When we went to logging I decided which way and how it should be done, and seeing that it was done.

RL: *So you supervised, but you also worked as you were supervising?*

TP: Yeah.

RL: *What kind of things would you do? Set chokers?*

TP: Yeah, you could set chokers. A hook tender, actually, his job is—when you're logging you do have hangups—trees don't just always come in. They get behind stumps and boulders, and this was usually the hook tender's job, he goes and fixes this and gets them out of there, because it may be 300 or 400 feet from where the crew hooked them on.

RL: *That could be dangerous.*

TP: Well, you've got to know what you're doing.

RL: *Did you ever have any bad accidents out there?*

TP: Not really.

RL: *I guess that would be the sign of a well-run operation. Did you get to decide on the crew or were you just sent people.*

TP: Well, you like to pick your crew if you could. But the company hires the people and you

use them. But if you say, well I need a hook tender, they will have to get you an experienced man, they can't get you a chokerman. Same as an engineer to run these logging machines. They're pretty important to the operation—the most important of the whole crew I would say.

They've got to know what's happening and have to see what's happening. They have those men working around the tree where the logs come in. They've got to always be sure that they're out of the way when they're bringing them in. Although it's up to the man himself to be out of the way, you wouldn't just haul a log over top of a man because he didn't move!

*RL: Did you ever get someone in who didn't work well?*

TP: Yeah, you have to tell people once in a while that they're just not making it and they better try something else.

*RL: I guess if you had a man who wasn't doing his job properly, it could endanger everybody.*

TP: Yeah.

*RL: What would be the most common mistake out there?*

TP: I don't know what to say.

*RL: When you were working, were they using steam donkeys?*

TP: No, they'd just gone. They were using gasoline or diesel.

*RL: Did you ever repair the equipment or did they have mechanics?*

TP: Well most people had mechanics. The donkey engineer, he's usually able to do what's necessary to keep it running. But all logging had to have a mechanic and if you break down they'd come out and fix it.

*RL: Did you work 7 days a week or what?*

TP: We worked 6 days a week. Then they got the 40 hour week.

*RL: What time would you start and quit on the six-day week?*

TP: Usually 8 o'clock. And quit a 4.

*RL: Would that vary in the winter?*

TP: No. Sometimes they'd do a double shift, like they'd do what they call coal decking. The machine, you take it out away from the road and rig a tree and gather all the logs, and then you skyline them to the roadside. Sometimes you'd work a double shift on this if the coal decks were behind, and during the summer when the days were long. Everytime you come to work, somebody else had worked the shift before you so you had to figure out what happened and start out from there.

RL: *So you wouldn't work two shifts, you'd work one shift and then another crew would come in...*

TP: Another crew would work the shift. Two crews working one side or coal deck or what ever you want to call it.

RL: *Is that c-o-a-l or c-o-l-d?*

TP: I guess c-o-l-d . . . I don't know. I'm not sure.

RL: *So your crew would be kind of like a big family, or were they always changing?*

TP: Well, you like to keep the same crew.

RL: *Who were some of the guys you worked with?*

TP: Most of them were good family men.

RL: *Did you get together when you were at home at night?*

TP: Sometimes.

RL: *Did you have Christmas parties, things like that?*

TP: Yeah, there was Christmas parties, all that kind of stuff.

RL: *Were the camps you worked in unionized?*

TP: Not always. But they all worked by union rules, paid union wages and all this kind of stuff.

RL: *That was all settled when you started logging?*

TP: No the unions came in while I was logging.

RL: *How was that?*

TP: Well, there'd be a few people who figured they weren't getting the right kind of deal out of it and they'd start agitating and if you get enough people who want it and they go for certification and it passes, and then the company has to live by the rules too. Also the crew has to.

But the union themselves, the crew, it was their job to protect their fellow workers. If the company was discriminating it's up to them to go out and make a complaint and get it fixed.

RL: *When you worked for Osborne, was that unionized?*

TP: I think he was, but not at Halfmoon Bay. Crucil never was unionized.

RL: *Do you think the unions were good?*

TP: Well, yeah, I guess they were. Otherwise some companies would take advantage of their crews.

*RL: How did you end up going to work for Swansons?*

TP: That's another story. Remember when cable vision came in here? They needed someone to set up 70 foot poles to hang their cable vision equipment on. Swanson hired me to do this job for them, and I stayed on. I had to set these poles up the same way you'd set up a spar tree.

*RL: What year would that be?*

TP: 1969, I guess.

*RL: Did you feel bad leaving the logging?*

TP: Yeah I did. I think it was the best part of my life. I enjoyed it the most. There was always something different. Every day you find a different problem.

*RL: I guess it would be more physical than operating a loader.*

TP: Oh, yeah.

*RL: So you would have been in pretty good physical shape.*

TP: Oh, yes. I was in good shape when I was younger.

*RL: Did you smoke?*

TP: No. Never did. I won't say I have never smoked—I never had the habit.

*RL: Did you like being out in the woods?*

TP: Yeah.

*RL: After you quit logging, did you still go out into the woods?*

TP: Oh, I'd usually go out and wander around.

*RL: Which Swanson did you work for?*

TP: Harold and Len. They were the original \_\_\_\_\_. L & H Swanson originally, I guess, and now it's Swanson's Ready Mix.

*RL: They did logging first didn't they?*

TP: They both worked in logging.

*RL: Did you work with them in logging?*

TP: Not actually. But Len did work at Halfmoon Bay one summer, the same year I worked there, but we never did work together. I've worked a lot with Harold—not logging—but at other jobs. Just general chores, you know.

*RL: Would you have long layoffs during the logging season?*

TP: We used to get laid off in the winter time for a few months. That's one of the reasons this place is here. I had the property and I used to come up here and clear it, just to put in time, get out of the house, out of my wife's way.

RL: *Did you build the house yourself?*

TP: Yeah. After my wife died. She died young—67. I was only 68. I had lots of energy and I had to do something, so I started getting the stuff together and in 1985 I got my building permit.

RL: *Did you design it yourself?*

TP: Yeah. This all relates to the logging practices. They [the posts] were all stood up with — I used my truck for the power . . . the A-frames, I built them on the ground and the put them up. And Harold Swanson helped me a lot. He helped me put that stairway in.

RL: *Did you get the wood off of this property?*

TP: Yeah, actually that wood did come from just by the gate as you come in. Ah, I've always tinkered around with woodwork a little bit. I built the table. A friend of mine built these chairs for me.

RL: *Did the burl (table) come from the property here?*

TP: No it came out of the logging from somewhere. I had it laying around for years, but I never used it. That's pretty old—it's at least 30 years since I made it, I guess.

RL: *Does your son still live on the coast?*

TP: Yeah. In fact, he's just moved. Living right beside the Senior Citizen's complex now. He come up Monday and took me down and showed me. I think he has a nice place.

RL: *Did you ever fish?*

TP: A little, not a lot. I never got too interested in it.

RL: *How about hunting?*

TP: I used to hunt. I hunted here, I hunted in the interior. A long while ago now. I've had deer. I've had moose.

RL: *Did you ever go hunting with Bergie?*

TP: No.

RL: *Did you ever talk to her about hunting?*

TP: Oh, yeah. She used to go goat hunting in Narrows Arm.

RL: *Who helped you the most in logging—gave you advice . . .*

TP: I really don't know. I've worked with a lot of good men, and you learn from all of them. They all have a little different idea and it all helps.

RL: *Did you like Sechelt better when you were first here?*

TP: I think so. It was quieter. I knew everybody in Sechelt.

RL: *When did you get your first car over here?*

TP: 1943. A Hudson. It had to be shipped up by Union Steamships and they off-loaded it at Roberts Creek. Had to get down to get it.

RL: *How did you get down there?*

TP: Oh somebody . . . people had cars.

RL: *You couldn't drive very far?*

TP: When I moved here you could drive from Langdale to the YMCA camp, that was the end of the road.

RL: *And how far this way?*

TP: Kleindale. That's where Garden Bay Road takes off.

RL: *Did you grow up on the prairies?*

TP: Yeah, I did. Born in Whitewood, Saskatchewan. Southeast part.

RL: *So you grew up in Saskatchewan?*

TP: Yeah. When I was 18 I moved to Manitoba, just to work.

RL: *You went to school in Saskatchewan. What grade did you go to?*

TP: 8. Barely 8. Soon as I was 14 I was no longer in school! I didn't like school.

RL: *What did you do then?*

TP: I did farm work. In Manitoba I worked on farms.

RL: *And you met your wife in Manitoba?*

TP: I met my wife in Manitoba.

RL: *That must have been quite a change to come out here. When did you com to BC?*

TP: It was quite a step when we decided we had to move out of there. There was no future there that I could see. We thought we could probably get work out here. She had a grandmother and grandfather who were living in Vancouver at that time, so that was our contact when we arrived.

RL: *It must have been difficult to come out here all by yourselves.*

TP: Yeah.

RL: *The land was so different. Did you get claustrophobic?*

TP: No, it never did bother me. Where I grew up, it wasn't prairie, it was bluffy country, popular trees and sloughs, it wasn't a wheat growing part of Saskatchewan, it was mixed farms, some stock.. Cold winters. I've had a few frozen toes.

RL: *Your parents were farmers?*

TP: Yeah, they were farmers.

RL: *Did you like the water when you got out here?*

TP: Yeah.

RL: *How did Sechelt as a community compare with the communities you'd lived in on the prairies?*

TP: I guess about the same. Prairie people are very friendly. They all get together.

RL: *Where did you shop in Sechelt?*

TP: Well first it was the Union Steamship store, and then Clayton set up his business and I shopped there afterwards.

RL: *You had the old-fashioned telephones?*

TP: Oh, yeah. Party line.

RL: *Did you have electricity when you first came here?*

TP: No. Yeah, well there was in Sechelt. But when we lived at Halfmoon Bay there was no electricity.

RL: *Had you been used to electricity on the prairies?*

TP: No, never had it.

RL: *Must have been a good feeling when you finally got it hooked up.*

TP: Yeah.

RL: *Is it when you moved into Sechelt that you finally got it?*

TP: Yeah. We finally got electricity.

RL: *Did you feel rich?*

TP: No.

RL: *Did you have running water in Halfmoon Bay.*

TP: We had a cold running water tap, but it did make it into the house. Just enough pressure to get it into the house, that was all.

RL: *Is there anything I haven't asked you, that you'd like to share?*

TP: I think you've pretty well covered it.

[Shows pictures of logging, including a spar tree. Conversation indecipherable.]

RL: *They had quite a close community here in Halfmoon Bay, didn't they?*

TP: Yeah.

RL: *They used to have a little newspaper. Do you remember that?*

TP: I can remember the first newspaper we had here. Ernie Pearson started it. This was Harold Pearson's older brother. Harold was Barrie Pearson's father. Ernie was older than Harold.

RL: *Did you know the Hied's in Halfmoon Bay?*

TP: Yeah.

RL: *Were they part of your camp?*

TP: No. Harold Pearson was in that. Right at Coopers Green.

RL: *Were you working at Halfmoon Bay at that time?*

TP: Yeah.

RL: *I guess on the Sunshine Coast most of the loggers all knew each other.*

TP: Oh, yeah.

RL: *Did you have blasting crews at your operation...for road work?*

TP: Well, pretty near every camp had what you call a Powder Man to do any blasting that needed to be done, but I blasted lots of stuff off the road.

RL: *I guess once you got the spar tree up you had to make a road into there.*

TP: Yeah.

RL: *Did you do the drilling yourself?*

TP: Well, I have done a little drilling in hard rock. It was mostly just stumps for clearing roadway. Now they just dig them out. They don't have to blast them out. Big machines just rip them out.

RL: *Have you liked living in Sechelt?*

TP: Yeah, I think so. We had a good life in Sechelt I think.

RL: *Did you belong to any committees, other than the Fire Department?*

TP: No.

RL: *That would have taken a lot of your time. You [the firemen] had to go around and beg for money to keep the fire department going at one time?*

TP: Yeah, that was the hard part. We started with nothing, but we did get the Fire Protection District. That happened while I was the Chief. I was chief for 12 years—1954 or 1955 to 1967.

RL: *Were you instrumental in getting the Fire Protection District?*

TP: Well, yeah I worked on it. There was one man who did most of the work—he still lives in

Sechelt. I cannot think of his name right now.

*RL: Was that a pretty big responsibility being Fire Chief?*

TP: Well, I suppose it is.

*RL: You volunteered? How many hours per week?*

TP: We had a fire practice once a week for 2 to 3 hours.

*RL: Were you working when the Residential School burned down?*

TP: Must have been, yeah.

*RL: When did you quit working for the Fire Department?*

TP: 1967. I had to go away from Sechelt to get work, so I gave up the Fire Department.

*RL: Is that when you went to the Queen Charlottes?*

TP: Yeah. I worked away two years. One year in Loughborough Inlet—same people as the Queen Charlottes.

*RL: Did you like the Queen Charlottes?*

TP: I did. Nice country. It was I guess a good year while I was there. We had one terrific storm. The camp I was on was in Masset Inlet. Just a small camp.

*RL: Did you come back to Sechelt for work?*

TP: I just come back. I was getting tired of logging then.

*RL: So that's when you went to work for Swanson?*

TP: Yeah.