

**ORAL HISTORY TRANSCRIPTION    FORMER GOVERNORS' MANSION**

**MISS MARION BURKE, DAUGHTER, BURKE ADMINISTRATION 1907-1912**

THIS IS ROBERT CARLSON. THE FOLLOWING IS AN INTERVIEW THAT JAMES SPERRY AND I RECORDED WITH MISS MARION BURKE AT HER APRTMENT HOME IN BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA, ON JANUARY 23, 1976, BEGINNING AT 9:30 A.M. THIS IS PART OF THE ORAL HISTORY COLLECTION ON THE OLD GOVERNORS' MANSION IN BISMARCK, WHERE MISS BURKE LIVED AS A CHILD DURING HER FATHER'S TERM AS GOVERNOR FROM 1907 TO 1912.

(TRANSCRIBER'S NOTE: THERE WAS QUITE A LONG BLANK ON TAPE AFTER ABOVE INTRODUCTION. PERHAPS MR. SPERRY AND MR. CARLSON CAN REMEMBER WHAT WAS SAID.)

M. BURKE: YOU SEE, GOVERNOR SARLES DIDN'T LIVE THERE. HE JUST CAME IF THERE WAS SOMETHING IMPORTANT; AND HIS SECRETARY LIVED IN THE HOUSE; AND IF THERE WAS SOMETHING THAT REQUIRED HIS ATTENTION, HED' COME FROM THE EASTERN PART OF THE STATE. SO, WHEN WE CAME, MOTHER HAD THAT BIG WINDOW PUT IN, BECAUSE THAT BACK ROOM WAS VERY DARK; AND SHE GOT NEW CURTAINS AND THEY HAD THE HOUSE PAPERED; AND I DON'T THINK WE DID MUCH IN THE DINING ROOM. SHE HAD VELVET DRAPES BETWEEN THE HALL GOING INTO THE DINING ROOM AND THEN TO THE BIG LIVING ROOM. SHE HAD THAT BATHROOM PUT IN THE BASEMENT.

J. SPERRY: THAT WAS THE ONE JUST OFF THE LAUNDRY ROOM?

M. BURKE: YES. AND I'M TRYING TO THINK WHAT ELSE' BUT ANYWAY THE HOUSE WAS SORT OF REFURBISHED WHILE WE WERE THERE. WE DIDN'T USE MANY OF OUR OWN THINGS; WE USED SOME RUGS, BUT' AND DISHES. NOW, THAT HOUSE DID NOT HAVE A BANQUET CLOTH OR ANYTHING FOR A NICE TEA CLOTH FOR ENTERTAINING; AND THE TABLE WAS SQUARE, DO YOU REMEMBER? ISN'T THAT THE TABLE THAT'S UP IN THE GOVERNOR'S HOUSE NOW IN THE FAMILY QUARTERS?

J. SPERRY: IT MAY BE' IN THE FAMILY QUARTERS. THE BUFFET THAT USED TO BE IN THE OLD MANSION IS THERE, BUT I'M NOT SURE OF THE TABLE.

M. BURKE: WELL, IT WAS A SQUARE TABLE, AS YOU CAN SEE IN THAT PICTURE, AND I CAN REMEMBER MOTHER HAD A HARD TIME GETTING A SQUARE CLOTH FOR IT.

J. SPERRY: THEY'RE STILL HAD TO FIND.

**M. BURKE:** WELL, SHE HAD A FRIEND WHO WAS TEACHING IN THE PHILIPPINES, AND SHE GOT HER A CLOTH AND SENT IT TO HER.

**R. CARLSON:** I'M GLAD YOU STARTED WITH THIS, BECAUSE I WANTED TO ASK YOU ABOUT YOUR FIRST IMPRESSIONS WERE OF THE MANSION WHEN YOU FIRST MOVED IN. APPARENTLY, IT WAS SOMEWHAT DILAPIDATED. HERE, LOOK AT THESE (SHOWING PICTURES).

**M. BURKE:** YES. LET ME SEE. NOW YOU SEE THE CURTAINS DIDN'T HANG RIGHT. DIDN'T LOOK GOOD.

**R. CARLSON:** WERE THOSE CURTAINS THAT YOU HAD PLACED IN THERE?

**M. BURKE:** NO, THOSE WERE THE ONES THAT WERE THERE WHEN WE WENT IN.

**R. CARLSON:** OH, I SEE. THAT WAS IN THAT BAY WINDOW SITTING ROOM.

**M. BURKE:** AND THESE. MOTHER DID AWAY WITH THESE DRAPES.

**R. CARLSON:** THOSE DRAPES?

**M. BURKE:** YES.

**R. CARLSON:** WHY DID THEY PUT DRAPES UP BETWEEN THOSE ROOMS WHEN THEY AD THE SLIDING DOORS? WERE THE DOORS HARD TO MOVE OR WHAT?

**M. BURKE:** NO. I DON'T KNOW, BUT MAYBE IT WAS EASIER TO PULL THE DRAPES.

**J. SPERRY:** THOSE ARE THE DOORS BETWEEN THE FRONT PARLOR AND THE HALL?

**M. BURKE:** YES.

**J. SPERRY:** --AND THE DINING ROOM AND THE HALL.

**M. BURKE:** YOU'D BE SURPRISED AT THE PEOPLE WHO WOULD COME TO SEE FATHER AT MEAL TIME; AND ONE NIGHT SOMEBODY CAME AND I DON'T KNOW WHETHER TOM LEE WAS WORKING FOR US THEN OR NOT. AND THEY SAID WE'LL GO IN THE LIVING ROOM AND SIT DOWN UNTIL DINNER IS OVER; AND THEY SAT ON THIS LITTLE CHAIR, AND THE CHAIR BROKE, AND WHEN HE WENT DOWN WITH THE CHAIR, THIS THING CAME OVER. FELL ON THE FLOOR; AND THE LITTLE CABINET WASN'T BROKEN, BUT MOST OF THE THINGS ON IT WERE BROKEN.

**R. CARLSON:** LET'S SEE NOW IF I'VE GOT THIS ORIENTED RIGHT. THAT IS THE MIRROR. THAT WOULD BE ABOVE THE FIREPLACE IN THE DINING ROOM?

**M. BURKE:** NO, NO; THIS WAS A LITTLE CABINET OF BRIC-A-BRAC THAT WAS BETWEEN THESE TWO WINDOWS IN THE FRONT ROOM.

**R. CARLSON:** OH, YES. RIGHT. THAT WOULD BE THE DOORWAY INTO THE HALLWAY.

**J. SPERRY:** THOSE PICTURES WERE TAKEN IN 1907. I THINK YOU TOLD ME JANUARY OF 1907. THAT WOULD BE JUST SHORTLY AFTER YOU MOVED IN?

**M. BURKE:** AFTER WE CAME. YOU SEE, A GROUP OF PEOPLE FROM DEVILS LAKE CAME DOWN FOR THE INAUGURAL, AND I DON'T KNOW WHO TOOK THOSE, BUT IT WAS SOMEBODY IN THAT GROUP THAT TOOK THESE PICTURES. THE CLARK KELLYS— YES, THE CLARK KELLYS WERE HERE— AND I THINK THE JOE KELLYS— AND I CAN'T REMEMBER ALL THE PEOPLE THAT CAME, BUT I KNOW ONE OF THE WOMEN THAT WAS IN THE— THAT CAME— TOOK THE PICTURES. I'M SURPRISED THEY REPRODUCED SO WELL.

**J. SPERRY:** THEY REPRODUCE VERY WELL. I THINK PERHAPS THAT THE PICTURE NOW OF TOM LEE— THAT WAS THE BLACK COOK—

**M. BURKE:** YES.

**J. SPERRY:** I THINK THAT'S MAYBE EVEN A LITTLE CLEARER THAN IT IS ON THE ORIGINAL.

**M. BURKE:** YES, I DO TOO.

**R. CARLSON:** WAS HE A BLACK COOK OR ORIENTAL?

**M. BURKE:** HE WAS BLACK.

**R. CARLSON:** HE WAS BLACK!

**M. BURKE:** HE WAS REAL BLACK.

**R. CARLSON:** YOU MENTIONED THAT YOUR MOTHER HAD A LARGE PICTURE WINDOW PUT INTO THE SITTING ROOM THAT HAS THE FIREPLACE.

**M. BURKE:** YES.

**R. CARLSON:** WHAT WAS THERE BEFORE?

**M. BURKE:** JUST A TALL, NARROW WINDOW; AND THAT ROOM WAS DARK.

**J. SPERRY:** NOW, THERE WAS A LITTLE BALCONY OUTSIDE THE WINDOW.

**M. BURKE:** YES, NOW, I'LL TELL YOU, IN SOME OF THE OLD BLUE BOOKS THERE'S A PICTURE OF THE HOUSE AND IT SHOWS THE LITTLE BALCONY, AND THERE WAS A WINDOW BOX, AND THERE WERE ALWAYS FLOWERS IN IT IN THE SPRING.

**J. SPERRY:** AS FAR AS YOU KNOW, THAT WAS A WINDOW THERE? THERE WAS NEVER A DOOR THAT ANYONE COULD WALK OUT OF?

**M. BURKE:** NO, IT WAS JUST A BIG WINDOW, BUT THEY PUT IT THERE BECAUSE THEY THOUGHT THE HOUSE LOOKED BETTER ON THE OUTSIDE— IT BROKE THE— IT MADE THE— IT DIDN'T LOOK SO STARK; AND I DON'T KNOW WHO DID IT— WHETHER THE—

**J. SPERRY:** THE THING WAS THERE ORIGINALLY.

**M. BURKE:** THE CARPENTERS AT THE CAPITOL— THEY USED TO DO ODDS AND ENDS JOBS AROUND THE HOUSE.

**J. SPERRY:** OH, YOU MEAN INSTALLING THE LARGER WINDOW.

**R. CARLSON:** COULD YOU GO THROUGH THESE PICTURES AND TELL US WHICH PIECES OF FURNITURE WERE YOURS, AND WHICH WERE FURNISHED BY THE STATE?

**M. BURKE:** NONE OF THE FURNITURE WAS OURS.

**R. CARLSON:** IT WAS ALL STATE?

**M. BURKE:** MOTHER GOT THE GRAND PIANO WHEN SHE WAS THERE. NOW, THIS IS STILL IN THE GOVERNORS' HOUSE. THIS TABLE THAT'S IN THE GUEST ROOM; AND I DON'T KNOW. THIS TABLE WHEN WE WERE THERE IT HAD A MARBLE TOP HERE AND A MARBLE TOP ON MARBLE PIECE DOWN HERE. AND APPARENTLY THE MARBLE CRACKED, AND IT'S GLASS NOW.

**J. SPERRY:** THAT'S THE TABLE THAT'S SITTING IN THE BAY WINDOW.

**R. CARLSON:** NOW, THE PIANO THAT YOUR MOTHER BOUGHT WAS A GRAND PIANO, WASN'T IT? A STEINWAY?

**M. BURKE:** YES.

**J. SPERRY:** AND THE ONE THAT IS HERE, DID THEY MOVE THAT OUT THEN?

**M. BURKE:** I DON'T KNOW. I DON'T KNOW WHETHER THE PEOPLE THAT WE BOUGHT THE PIANO FROM TOOK THIS IN ON A DEAL OR. I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THAT.

**J. SPERRY:** WHERE DID YOUR MOTHER BUY THE GRAND PIANO?

**M. BURKE:** WELL, I THINK SHE GOT IT IN FARGO; I'M NOT SURE ABOUT THAT. I'M NOT SURE.

**J. SPERRY:** THAT WAS PROBABLY THE SAME PIANO THAT WAS USED IN THERE UP UNTIL FAIRLY RECENT TIMES.

**M. BURKE:** YES, THEY MOVED IT INTO THE NEW GOVERNORS' MANSION; AND IT USED TO BE IN THE ENTRANCE HALL. I CAN REMEMBER GOING TO A RECEPTION UP THERE, AND THEY HAD ABOUT A THREE PIECE STRING. THEY HAD A PIANO AND A CELLO AND A VIOLIN I THINK. AND THEY PLAYED ALL EVENING. BUT I SUPPOSE WHEN THEY CUT THE STAIRWAY FOR THAT REC ROOM DOWNSTAIRS, THAT TOOK OFF THE ENTRANCE HALL. BECAUSE THAT'S WHERE THE PIANO WAS.

**J. SPERRY:** I THINK IT WENT TO ONE OF THE INSTITUTIONS.

**M. BURKE:** IT WENT TO GRAFTON, SOMEBODY TOLD ME. I DON'T SEE WHY THEY DIDN'T PUT IT DOWNSTAIRS IN THE REC ROOM.

**J. SPERRY:** WE'LL HAVE TO SEE IF WE CAN TRACE THAT DOWN AND PERHAPS RELOCATE IT.

**M. BURKE:** I'VE FORGOTTEN WHO TOLD ME IT WENT TO GRAFTON.

**J. SPERRY:** NOW, THEN, YOU DIDN'T HAVE ANY OF YOUR OWN FURNITURE?

**M. BURKE:** NO.

**J. SPERRY:** NOT EVEN A PIECE?

**M. BURKE:** NO FURNITURE. WE HAD SOME RUGS AND WE USED. SOMEBODY CAME THROUGH AND HE WAS DOWN AT THE OLD NORTHWEST HOTEL. HAD BEAUTIFUL RUGS. AND MOTHER AND FATHER WENT DOWN AND THEY BOUGHT A LOVELY ORIENTAL RUG. AND I'VE STILL GOT THE RECEIPT!

**J. SPERRY: IS THAT RIGHT!**

M. BURKE: I DON'T KNOW BUT MOTHER KEPT IT, BECAUSE, WELL, SHE THOUGHT IT WAS GOOD BUSINESS. OH, HERE, THAT WAS A PARTY MOTHER HAD.

J. SPERRY: OH. NOW, WHAT ABOUT OTHER PERSONAL THINGS SUCH AS PHOTOGRAPHS, PICTURES ON THE WALL, VASES, SCARVES, DID YOU UTILIZE A LOT OF YOUR OWN PERSONAL THINGS OF THAT SORT?

M. BURKE: NO, YOU SEE WHEN WE CAME HERE WE ONLY THOUGHT WE WERE COMING FOR TWO YEARS, AND WE DIDN'T BRING ANYTHING REALLY.

J. SPERRY: WELL, THEN, YOU DEPENDED PRIMARILY UPON THINGS THAT WERE ACTUALLY FURNISHED BY THE STATE?

M. BURKE: YES. MOTHER BROUGHT HER SILVER AND DON'T TELL ME I'VE THROWN THAT OUT THERE'S THE LETTER. WE USED THAT RUG IN THE LIVING ROOM AND THE RUG THAT'S IN THAT FRONT PARLOR WE PUT THAT BACK IN THE BACK ROOM; AND MOTHER USED SOME OF HER SILVER NOT MUCH, BECAUSE THE HOUSE HAD VERY NICE SILVER.

J. SPERRY: NOW, YOU MENTIONED THE PATTERN TO ME ONCE BEFORE.

M. BURKE: YES; IT'S I HAD SOME CLIPPINGS THEY AREN'T IN THAT ON SOME OF THE ENTERTAINING THE PARTIES THAT MOTHER HAD. YOU KNOW, THAT PARTY THAT MOTHER HAD, THAT ST. PATRICK'S DAY, THE ONLY WOMAN THAT IS ALIVE TODAY IS MRS. JOHN SULLIVAN; AND MRS. SULLIVAN WASN'T ABLE TO GET OVER FROM MANDAN BECAUSE THE RIVER WENT OUT THAT DAY; AND THERE WAS NO

R. CARLSON: SHE MISSED HER PART OF THE PROGRAM?

M. BURKE: YES.

R. CARLSON: DID YOUR MOTHER DO QUITE A BIT OF ENTERTAINING IN THE HOUSE?

M. BURKE: YES, SHE DID. EVERY TWO YEARS THEY HAD A BIG PARTY THEY HAD THAT DOWNTOWN THOUGH THAT WAS A DANCING PARTY, AND IT USED TO BE AT THE ARMORY; AND THEY ENTERTAINED ALL THE MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATURE AND THEIR WIVES; BUT NOW, PEOPLE ENTERTAINED A LOT, WHICH PEOPLE DON'T DO NOW WELL, I CAN REMEMBER ONE TIME MR. STOCKWELL WAS HEAD OF THE DEPARTMENT OF INSTRUCTION SUPERINTENDENT, I GUESS AND DID YOU EVER KNOW MRS. DAVIS WHO USED TO BE HISTORICAL LIBRARIAN?

J. SPERRY: I KNOW OF HER, YES.

M. BURKE: WELL, SHE WAS FLORENCE BALDWIN THEN; AND FLORENCE IF MOTHER AND FATHER WERE JUST GOING AWAY FOR, OH, MAYBE, A WEEKEND OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT, FLORENCE ALWAYS CAME AND STAYED NIGHTS, BECAUSE MOTHER FELT THERE SHOULD BE SOMEBODY

THERE BESIDES THE HELP; AND SHE KNEW THE HOUSE PRETTY WELL. SHE WORKED FOR MR. STOCKWELL; AND MR. STOCKWELL CALLED MOTHER ONE MORNING, AND SAID, "MRS. BURKE, THE COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT'S MEETING IS FINISHING AHEAD OF SCHEDULE; AND COULD YOU HAVE THEM FOR THIS AFTERNOON FOR TEA?" AND, WELL, THERE ARE FIFTY-TWO COUNTIES, AREN'T THERE, IN THE STATE? AND MOTHER SAID, "I CAN DO IT ON ONE CONDITION." AND HE SAID, "WHAT'S THAT?" AND SHE SAID, "THAT YOU LET ME HAVE MRS. BALDWIN." AND HE SAID, "ALL RIGHT," SO MRS. BALDWIN TOOK THE STREETCAR AND CAME DOWN, AND SHE TOOK CARE OF THE DINING ROOM, AND GOT OUT THE DISHES AND THE SILVER AND ALL THAT, AND MOTHER SET TO IN THE KITCHEN WITH "I DON'T KNOW WHETHER TOM WAS WITH US THEN OR NOT" BUT SHE AND WHOEVER WAS IN THE KITCHEN STARTED MAKING CAKES AND SANDWICHES, AND WE HAD THE TEA PARTY; AND MOTHER ENTERTAINED THE STATE OFFICIALS ONCE A YEAR, AND WE ALWAYS HAD JUDGE MORGAN AND HIS SISTER WHO KEPT HOUSE FOR HIM FOR CHRISTMAS. HE WAS A BACHELOR BUT THAT WAS NOT ENTERTAINING THAT WAS JUST THE FAMILY AND THEN SHE ENTERTAINED ALL THE HELP "I CAN REMEMBER A BEAUTIFUL PARTY SHE HAD, FOR ALL THE EMPLOYEES AT THE CAPITOL" AND J. SPERRY: WAS THAT PARTY RIGHT IN THE MANSION TOO?

M. BURKE: YES, THAT WAS IN THE HOUSE. OF COURSE, THE STAFF WASN'T BIG LIKE IT IS NOW; AND I TRYING TO THINK OF AND, OF COURSE, IN THOSE DAYS THEY USED TO ENTERTAIN THE TEACHERS "I THINK THEY'VE GOTTEN AWAY FROM THAT ALTOGETHER NOW, DON'T YOU?"

J. SPERRY: YES, I KNOW.

M. BURKE: PEOPLE DON'T HAVE TEACHERS LIKE THEY USED TO HAVE.

R. CARLSON: WOULD YOUR FATHER HOLD POLITICAL MEETINGS IN THE HOUSE TOO?

M. BURKE: NO.

R. CARLSON: STRATEGY MEETINGS OR ANYTHING LIKE THAT?

M. BURKE: NO, I CAN NEVER REMEMBER ANYTHING LIKE THAT.

R. CARLSON: HE LEFT THOSE WOES AT THE OFFICE?

M. BURKE: YES. NOW, I THINK WHEN GOVERNOR MOSES WAS GOVERNOR, I THINK THEY WUSED TO HAVE MEETINGS, AND I KNOW THEY DID "I SHOULDN'T SAY I KNOW" I THINK THEY DID WHEN BILL LANGER WAS GOVERNOR BUT WE HAD NONE OF THAT.

R. CARLSON: HOW DID YOU HAPPEN TO GET TOM LEE; I'M CURIOUS ABOUT THAT?

M. BURKE: WELL, TOM AS AT THE UNIVERSITY. HE WORKED FOR ONE OF THE FRATERNITIES, AND HE CAME UP TO DEVILS LAKE, AND WANTED A JOB, AND TOM CAME WITH US; HE CAME DOWN ON THE TRAIN WITH US FROM DEVILS LAKE.

**R. CARLSON:** HOW DID HE LIKE IT HERE IN BISMARCK? DID HE HAVE ANY DIFFICULTY WITH<sup>Ø</sup> I SUPPOSE THIS IS KIND OF A TICKLISH QUESTION<sup>Ø</sup> BUT I<sup>Ø</sup>M CURIOUS?

**M. BURKE:** WELL, NOW, I DON<sup>Ø</sup>T KNOW ABOUT THAT. TOM WAS A MARVELOUS COOK AND HE LOVED COMPANY. YOU COULD ALWAYS BRING SOMEBODY HOME. YOU DIDN<sup>Ø</sup>T HAVE TO CALL HIM AND SAY, <sup>Ø</sup>IS IT ALRIGHT?<sup>Ø</sup> YOU COULD JUST BRING THEM HOME, BECAUSE HE LIKED COMPANY<sup>Ø</sup> AND HE WAS KIND OF POSSESSIVE IN SOME WAYS<sup>Ø</sup> HE DIDN<sup>Ø</sup>T WANT ANY OF THE CHILDREN TO OPEN THE DOOR. HE FELT THAT WAS PART OF HIS DUTY; AND HE WANTED TO OPEN THE DOOR AND HE WANTED TO TAKE CRE OF THE TELEPHONE<sup>Ø</sup> AND AS I SAID HE NEVER OBJECTED TO COMPANY, WHICH IS MARVELOUS IN A PLACE LIKE THE GOVERNOR<sup>Ø</sup>S RESIDENCE.

**R. CARLSON:** HE SERVED AS BUTLER THEN TOO?

**M. BURKE:** OH, YES, YES. HE WAS THE<sup>Ø</sup> THE FIRST FLOOR WAS HIS.

**R. CARLSON:** DID YOU HAVE OTHER HELP BESIDES TOM?

**M. BURKE:** WE HAD A WOMAN THAT CAME IN AND DID THE LAUNDRY.

**R. CARLSON:** OH, BUT SHE DIDN<sup>Ø</sup>T LIVE IN?

**M. BURKE:** NO, SHE JUST CAME. SHE WAS DAY HELP.

**J. SPERRY:** DID SHE ALSO DO CLEANING<sup>Ø</sup> HOUSE CLEANING OR THE HOUSEWORK<sup>Ø</sup> WHO DID THAT?

**M. BURKE:** WELL, NOW, I DON<sup>Ø</sup>T KNOW ABOUT THAT. I CAN<sup>Ø</sup>T REMEMBER. I CAN REMEMBER THE SPRING AND FALL HOUSECLEANINGS<sup>Ø</sup> THEY WERE MAJOR OPERATIONS, BECAUSE WE HAD<sup>Ø</sup> THE RUGS WERE ALL TAKEN UP<sup>Ø</sup> AND THE FLOORS WERE WAXED<sup>Ø</sup> WE HAD THOSE WEIGHTED BRUSHES, YOU KNOW<sup>Ø</sup> AND THE PRISONERS USED TO COME IN AND WASH THE WINDOWS<sup>Ø</sup> AND POLISH THE FLOORS AND DO THAT TYPE OF WORK, BUT THAT WAS JUST TWICE A YEAR. I CAN<sup>Ø</sup>T REMEMBER; I THINK TOM DID THE DUSTING IN THE DOWNSTAIRS<sup>Ø</sup> I CAN<sup>Ø</sup>T REMEMBER.

**R. CARLSON:** DID YOU HAVE A CHAUFFEUR ALSO?

**M. BURKE:** NO, WE DIDN<sup>Ø</sup>T HAVE CARS THEN. THERE WAS A BEAUTIFUL CARRIAGE OUT IN THE BARN; AND WE HAD A SADDLE HORSE, AND MOTHER USED TO RIDE QUITE A BIT; AND THEN FATHER WOULD RENT A HORSE FROM HINCKLEYS; AND IN THE SUMMER THEY<sup>Ø</sup>D RIDE IN THE EVENING AFTER DINNER; BUT WE ALWAYS DEPENDED UPON HINCKLEY<sup>Ø</sup>S HACKS FOR GOING ANYPLACE.

**R. CARLSON:** YOU DIDN<sup>Ø</sup>T HAVE A DRIVER LIVING IN THEN?

**M. BURKE:** NO.

**J. SPERRY:** I<sup>Ø</sup>M CURIOUS ABOUT THAT. HOW DID YOUR FATHER GET TO WORK THEN? DID HE WALK OR<sup>Ø</sup>

**M. BURKE:** THE STREETCAR.

**J. SPERRY:** THE STREETCAR! HE RODE THE STATE STREETCAR.

**R. CARLSON:** DID YOU HAVE A COW IN THE BARN TO MILK?

**M. BURKE:** YES.

**R. CARLSON:** THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT, BECAUSE I TALKED TO AN OLD GENTLEMAN IN TOWN WHO SAID HE'D MILKED GOVERNOR BURKE'S COW.

**M. BURKE:** WELL, I'LL TELL YOU ABOUT THE COW. THERE WAS A FAMILY HERE BY THE NAME OF BREEN AND THEY HAD A BIG FARM UT JUST NORTH OF TOWN. NOW, MRS. PAUL HALLORAN WAS A BEEN GIRL. DO YOU KNOW MRS. PAUL HALLORAN?

**J. SPERRY:** I'VE MET HER.

**M. BURKE:** WELL, SHE WAS A BREEN, AND MR. HALLORAN THOUGHT THAT THEY SHOULD MOVE TO TOWN AND HAVE THE CHILDREN HAVE THE ADVANTAGE OF GOING TO SCHOOLS AND SO FORTH SO THEY BUILT A HOUSE ON FOURTH STREE. THE BLOCK BELOW THE GOVERNORS. YOU KNOW, WHERE THAT, IS IT A GOODYEAR. WELL, THAT TOOK PART OF THEIR PROPERTY AND THE HOUSE IS GONE NOW, AND MR. BREEN DIDN'T BUILD THE HOUSE AND HE DIDN'T BUILD A BARN AND HE DIDN'T KNOW WHAT HE WAS GOING TO DO ABOUT IT. AND I THINK HE APPROACHED FATHER. I DON'T KNOW; HE MUST HAVE. AND HE WANTED TO KNOW IF HE COULD PUT THE COW UP THERE, AND WE HAD ONE MILKING A DAY AND BREENS HAD ONE; AND MR. BREEN USUALLY TOOK MOST OF THE CARE. AND I DON'T KNOW, WHEN SUMMER CAME AND THEY MOVED BACK TO THE FARM. I DON'T KNOW WHAT THEY DID, IF THEY LEFT THE COW; I IMAGINE THEY DID, AND PROBABLY ONE OF THE MEN FROM THE CAPITOL TOOK CARE OF IT.

**J. SPERRY:** YOU DIDN'T USE THAT CARRIAGE THOUGH?

**M. BURKE:** I CAN NEVER REMEMBER. WE USED TO PLAY IN IT. I DON'T KNOW WHO BOUGHT IT, WHETHER IT WAS BBOUGHT DURING THE SARLES. BUT IT WAS MUCH, MUCH TOO FORMAL. DO YOU KNOW IT HAD TWO LITTLE SEATS ON THE OUTSIDE ON THE BACK FOR FOOTMEN!

**J. SPERRY:** OH, IT DID!

**M. BURKE:** YES, THEY CAME DOWN, AND IT WOULD ONLY. THE MAIN PART. WOULD ONLY HOLD TWO PEOPLE.

**J. SPERRY:** WAS IT OPEN OR ENCLOSED?

**M. BURKE:** NO, IT WAS ENCLOSED, AND IT HAD A BOX UP QUITE HIGH WHERE THE DRIVER SAT, AND IT WOULD ONLY TAKE CARE OF TWO PEOPLE IN THE BACK, AND THEN IT HAD THOSE TWO LITTLE SEATS THAT CAME. FOLDED UP AND DOWN. FOR FOOTMEN.

**J. SPERRY:** I THINK I KNOW THE TYPE OF VEHICLE YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT. I CAN'T THINK WHAT THE NAME WOULD BE.

**M. BURKE:** NO, I CAN'T EITHER.

**J. SPERRY:** THAT'S INTERESTING.



**R. CARLSON:** HERE ARE TWO DIFFERENT SHOTS OF THE EXTERIOR.

**M. BURKE:** OH, YES.

**R. CARLSON:** NOW, I DON'T KNOW WHAT THE DATE IS ON THAT ONE.

**M. BURKE:** WELL, THIS IS HOW IT LOOKED WHEN WE MOVED IN. OH, MOTHER HAD THIS PORCH SCREENED AND THIS ONE.

**R. CARLSON:** SHE HAD THIS BOTTOM PORCH SCREENED? AND SHE HAD JUST THIS LITTLE SPOT UP HERE SCREENED?

**M. BURKE:** YES, WE USED TO SLEEP OUT THERE. WE HAD ONE COT AT ONE END AND TWO AT THIS END, AND IN THE SUMMERTIME ELIZABETH AND I SLEPT UP HERE AND TOM SLEPT DOWN HERE; AND ELIZABETH AND TOME USED TO VIE WITH ONE ANOTHER TO SEE WHO COULD STAY OUT THE LATEST IN THE WINTERTIME.

**R. CARLSON:** DO YOU MEAN THAT SHE HAD BOTH THESE PORCHES ADDED AS YOU SEE THEM HERE?

**M. BURKE:** NO, NO, THESE WERE ADDED DURING THE FRASER

**J. SPERRY:** WOULD THAT BE ABOUT 1918 OR SO THAT THE NEW PORCH ON THE FRONT WAS ADDED?

**M. BURKE:** YES, I SHOULD THINK SO. SAY, IN SPEAKING OF FRASER, WHOM DID NYE SUCCEED? DO YOU KNOW WHICH GOVERNOR APPOINTED HIM? WAS IT SORLIE?

**J. SPERRY:** DO YOU RECALL, BOB? I SHOULD HAVE BROUGHT THAT LIST ALONG. WE HAVE THE BLUE BOOK LISTING WHERE WE COULD CHECK THOSE DATES, BUT I DON'T HAVE IT WITH ME.

**R. CARLSON:** I DON'T KNOW WHEN NYE BECAME SENATOR. IT MUST HAVE BEEN SORLIE.

**M. BURKE:** WELL, THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT, AND I'M READING WHAT HIS NAME, ELLIOT MORRISON?

**R. CARLSON:** OH, YES.

**M. BURKE:** AND HE TELLS ABOUT I'M SURE HE'S RIGHT ABOUT NYE INVESTIGATING THE TEAPOT DOME THE HARDING WHEN HE WENT TO WASHINGTON, HARDING WAS GONE. OF COURSE, MAYBE IT WAS SOMETHING THAT THEY RESURRECTED AFTERWARDS. AND HE MENTIONED SENATOR WALSH WELL, I CAN REMEMBER WHEN SENATOR WALSH DIED; WE WERE LIVING IN BISMARCK AND WE WERE BACK THE SECOND TIME, AND MOTHER AND FATHER AND I WENT DOWN TO THE DEPOT WHEN THE FUNERAL PARTY WENT THROUGH; YOU SEE, WE LIVED IN THE SAME APARTMENT HOUSE WITH SENATOR WALSH, AND HIS DAUGHTER, WHO WAS MARRIED TO A CONGRESSMAN, GUDGER, LIVED IN THE BUILDING; AND WE WENT DOWN AND SAW GENEVIEVE WALSH GUDGER, AND I THOUGHT WELL, GEE, THIS DOESN'T TALLY UP.

**R. CARLSON:** YES. WELL, NYE WAS IN THERE DURING WORLD WAR I, BECAUSE HE INVESTIGATED THE MERCHANTS OF DEATH AND ALL THAT THE INVESTIGATION OF THE--?

**M. BURKE:** NO, I DON'T THINK SO, BECAUSE WE LEFT THERE IN '20, AND IT WAS PORTER MCCUMBER AND GRONNA.

**R. CARLSON:** WELL, THEN HE MUST HAVE BEEN LATER.

**J. SPERRY:** DID YOU SAY SOMETHING ABOUT THE COLORS OF THE HOUSE NOW, WHEN YOU LIVED THERE, THE EXTERIOR?

**M. BURKE:** YES, IT WAS YELLOW WITH RED TRIM.

**J. SPERRY:** DID YOU TELL ME YOUR MOTHER AND DAD HAD IT REPAINTED?

**M. BURKE:** YES, HAD IT PAINTED WHITE.

**J. SPERRY:** THAT WAS THE FIRST TIME IT WOULD HAVE BEEN PAINTED WHITE?

**M. BURKE:** I THINK SO.

**J. SPERRY:** AND APPARENTLY IT'S BEEN WHITE EVER SINCE?

**M. BURKE:** YES.

**R. CARLSON:** DID SHE HAVE IT PAINTED COMPLETELY WHITE, OR WAS THE TRIM A DIFFERENT COLOR?

**M. BURKE:** NO, IT WAS ALL WHITE.

**R. CARLSON:** WAS THERE THIS LITTLE WROUGHT IRON FENCE OR STEEL RAIL FENCE?

**M. BURKE:** YES, AND THE GRAMBS THEY BUILT THE BIG HOUSE ON THE CORNER NORTH THEY WERE HARDLY IN BEFORE MR. AND MRS. GRAMBS CAME IN ONE EVENING TO CALL, AND THE FIRST THING THEY WANTED WAS THE FENCE TAKEN DOWN, AND THIS FENCE ON THE NORTH THAT WAS A WOODEN FENCE BUT ALL ON THE AVENUE AND ON FOURTH STREET THEY HAD WONDERFUL GATES THEY HAD DOUBLE GATES AT THE DRIVE AND A SINGLE GATE HERE, AND I THINK THERE WERE DOUBLE GATES HERE; MAYBE IT WAS JUST ONE.

**J. SPERRY:** DO YOU RECALL THE DRIVE IN TO THE BARN? WAS THAT BRICKED OR WAS IT GRAVELED?

**M. BURKE:** I THINK IT WAS GRAVEL.

**R. CARLSON:** YOU MEAN THIS WAS TAKEN DOWN THEN WHILE YOU

**M. BURKE:** NO, NO, MOTHER SAID, "NO!" SHE SAID, AS LONG AS I'M HERE, THE FENCE STAYS UP. THAT'S THE ONLY THING I HAVE TO PROTECT ME FROM THE PUBLIC.

**R. CARLSON:** WAS THERE A GARDEN OUTSIDE TOO NEAR THE HOUSE SOMEWHERE? EITHER A VEGETABLE GARDEN OR A FLOWER GARDEN OR-

**M. BURKE:** WE HAD A FLOWER GARDEN. WE HAD A LOVELY FLOWER GARDEN A GREAT BIG CIRCULAR ONE OVER HERE.

**J. SPERRY:** THAT WOULD BE TO THE WEST?

**M. BURKE:** YES. YOU SEE, THE HOUSE HAD AT ONE TIME TWO CESSPOOLS.

**J. SPERRY:** OH, BEFORE IT WAS HOOKED TO CITY SEWER.

**M. BURKE:** ONE HERE ON THE WEST, AND THEN ONE UP BY THE BARN; AND MOTHER WAS ALWAYS A LITTLE BIT AFRAID OF THEMô THOUGHT MAYBE WITH THE CHILDREN PLAYINGô THIS SPOT ON THE WEST MADE A WONDERFUL PLACE FOR PLAYINGô AND SO SHE HAD THEM FILLED IN.

**J. SPERRY:** NOW, WERE YOU ON CITY WATER AT THAT TIME, OR HAD THERE EVER BEEN A WELL THERE AT THE MANSION?

**M. BURKE:** NOT THAT I KNOW OF. THEREô NO, THAT WAS A CISTERN, BECAUSE IN THE KITCHEN WE HAD A PUMPô THAT WAS A CISTERN.

**J. SPERRY:** OH, SO THERE IS A CISTERN?

**M. BURKE:** THERE WAS. I DONôT KNOW WHETHER IT IS STILL THERE.

**J. SPERRY:** IôM NOT SURE EITHER.

**M. BURKE:** MOTHER HAD THOSE TWO CESSPOOLS FILLED IN, AND THE ONE DIRECTLY WEST OF THE HOUSEô OH, I DONôT KNOW HOW BIG IT WASô IT MUST HAVE BEEN, IF IT WERE CIRCULARô AS BIG AS THIS ROOM, AND THAT WAS A BEAUTIFUL FLOWER GARDEN. WE HAD LOVELY CANNA LILIES IN THE FALL.

**R. CARLSON:** WAS THERE A FLAG POLE THERE WHEN YOU LIVED THERE?

**M. BURKE:** NO.

**J. SPERRY:** WEôVE NEVERô

**M. BURKE:** OH, SAY; IôVE MADE SOME COFFEE; MAYBE IT ISNôT FIT TO DRINK; I JUST GOT A WHIFF OF IT.

**R. CARLSON:** ISNôT THAT A BEAUTIFUL INLAID CHEST?

**J. SPERRY:** IT SURE IS.

**M. BURKE:** I DONôT KNOW WHETHER YOU CAN DRINK THIS; ITôS SO STRONG, BUT IôLL GET SOME HOT WATER.

**J. SPERRY:** ITôLL BE FINE, IôM SURE.

**R. CARLSON:** YES, I HAVENôT HAD MUCH COFFEE TODAY, SO A STRONG CUP IN THE MORNING IS ALWAYS GOOD.

**M. BURKE:** IôM SORRY; I FORGOT IT.

**R. CARLSON:** NO, NO, THATôS ALL RIGHT. THIS LITTLE PORCH THAT USED TO BE ON THE SECOND FLOOR MUST HAVE BEEN COMPLETELY TAKEN OFF WHEN THE BIG SCREENED PORCH WAS PUT IN.

**J. SPERRY:** BOTH WERE, IôM SURE.

**M. BURKE:** WOULD YOU LIKE TO SIT OVER HERE, AND THEN YOUôLL HAVE A PLACE FOR YOUR COFFEE.

**J. SPERRY:** ALL RIGHT. I DONôT WANT TO DEPRIVE YOU OF A PLACE?

**M. BURKE:** NO. WILL YOU HAVE A COOKIE?

**J. SPERRY:** THANK YOU. I LOVE THOSE CHOCOLATE CHIPS.

**R. CARLSON:** CERTAINLY. THANK YOU. OH, I SHOULD ASK ABOUT THIS GRILL WORK BETWEEN THE TWO SITTING ROOMS TOO. I FORGOT THIS ONE FOLDER HERE.

**J. SPERRY:** WE HAVE ABOUT A THOUSAND MORE QUESTIONS I WANT TO ASK.

**M. BURKE:** WOULD YOU LIKE SOME HOT WATER FOR YOUR COFFEE? IS IT TOO STRONG?

**J. SPERRY:** NO, IT'S FINE.

**R. CARLSON:** IT'S JUST FINE. THANKS. I WANT TO GIVE YOU A CHANCE TO DRINK YOUR COFFEE, BUT I WANT TO ASK YOU SOME MORE QUESTIONS TOO. NOW, THIS IS A PHOTO FROM ABOUT 1897. DO YOU NOTICE ANYTHING DIFFERENT IN THAT PICTURE THAT WAS NOT THERE WHEN YOU WERE THERE; FOR EXAMPLE, THAT GRILL WORK BETWEEN THE TWO SITTING ROOMS?

**M. BURKE:** YES, THAT'S DIFFERENT. LET ME GET MY GLASSES. AND THE MIRROR OVER THE FIREPLACE WAS DIFFERENT.

**R. CARLSON:** DO YOU MEAN ALL THAT HEAVY FRAME AND SO FORTH THAT'S ON THE MANTEL WAS NOT THERE WHEN YOU LIVED THERE?

**M. BURKE:** NO, BUT THIS WAS THERE WHEN WE WERE THERE; THAT SCREEN; AND MOTHER HAD THAT RECOVERED, OR HAD NEW SILK PUT ON IT. I CAN'T REMEMBER THE PICTURE MOULDING.

**J. SPERRY:** BUT THAT GRILL WORK; THE LARGE OPENING BETWEEN THE FRONT AND REAR PARLOR; THAT WASN'T THERE THAT YOU RECALL, WHEN YOU MOVED IN?

**M. BURKE:** I DON'T THINK SO. I CAN'T REMEMBER.

**R. CARLSON:** THAT PICTURE LOOKS KIND OF GLOOMY. I THINK IT WAS TAKEN AT A FUNERAL. GOVERNOR BRIGGS'S FAMILY WAS IN MOURNING YET, I'M SURE, WHEN THAT WAS TAKEN. I THINK THAT'S PROBABLY MOURNING DRAPERY, ISN'T IT; OR DO YOU THINK THAT WOULD HAVE BEEN; NORMAL DRAPERY FOR THAT TIME?

**M. BURKE:** I DON'T KNOW. IT HAS QUITE ELEGANT FRINGE. I THINK MAYBE IT MUST HAVE BEEN PERMANENT.

**J. SPERRY:** NOW, THE LIGHT FIXTURES ARE THE SAME, I BELIEVE, THAT SHOW IN THE PHOTOGRAPHS WHEN YOU MOVED IN.

**M. BURKE:** I THINK SO.

**J. SPERRY:** AND I BELIEVE THOSE WERE IN UNTIL, I THINK, IT WAS DURING GOVERNOR LANGER'S ADMINISTRATION. GOVERNOR LANGER'S DAUGHTER HAD MENTIONED THAT HER MOTHER HAD HAD THOSE LIGHT FIXTURES CHANGED.

**R. CARLSON:** WELL, ACCORDING TO HER, THERE WERE JUST SINGLE BARE BULBS HANGING FROM THE CEILING WHEN THEY MOVED IN, WHICH IS A LITTLE HARD TO BELIEVE.

**M. BURKE:** THAT'S WHAT I WAS GOING TO SAY. NOW, THERE MIGHT HAVE BEEN SOME LIKE THAT UPSTAIRS, BECAUSE I CAN REMEMBER WHEN WE WENT THERE, WHEN I WENT UP TO BED, SOMEONE ALWAYS WENT UP WITH ME, BECAUSE I WASN'T TALL ENOUGH TO PULL THE CHAIN TO LIGHT THE LIGHT.

**R. CARLSON:** NO SWITCHES ON THE WALL, THEN?

**M. BURKE:** OH, NO.

**J. SPERRY:** I WOULDN'T BE SURPRISED THEN IF SOME OF THOSE UPSTAIRS ONES MAY HAVE BEEN RATHER SIMPLE FIXTURES.

**M. BURKE:** THEY COULD HAVE BEEN.

**J. SPERRY:** BUT CERTAINLY FROM THE PHOTOGRAPH WE KNOW, BOTH FROM THIS EARLIEST PHOTOGRAPH AND THEN FROM THOSE THAT WERE TAKEN WHEN YOU WERE THERE IN 1907, THAT THERE WERE THOSE ELABORATE BRASS FIXTURES. RATHER BEAUTIFUL ONES IN THOSE THREE ROOMS.

**M. BURKE:** YES.

**J. SPERRY:** ONE THING WE DON'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT, I GUESS, IS THE KITCHEN. CAN YOU THINK OF DETAILS, LIKE THE STOVE, THE SINK, AND-?

**M. BURKE:** OH, YES, WE HAD A BEAUTIFUL BIG MAJESTIC RANGE THAT WAS ON THE NORTH WALL, AND THEN ON THE SOUTH WALL IN THE SUMMERTIME WE HAD A THREE BURNER I THINK IT WAS A DEROSENE STOVE AND IT HAD AN OVEN THAT LIFTED ON AND OFF, AND YOU PUT THE BURNER OVER TWO BURNERS IF YOU WANTED TO USE THE OVEN; AND, LET ME SEE NOW MOTHER HAD SOMETHING DONE TO THE SINK. I THINK SHE HAD A NEW SINK PUT IN.

**J. SPERRY:** YOU MENTIONED THAT YOU HAD A PUMP IN THE KITCHEN FROM THE CISTERN. WHICH WALL WAS THAT ON?

**M. BURKE:** THAT WAS ON THE WEST. THAT WAS WHERE THE SINK WAS.

**J. SPERRY:** WOULD IT HAVE BEEN BETWEEN THOSE TWO WINDOWS? THE TWO TALL WINDOWS?

**M. BURKE:** YES, AND THEN THE ICE BOX THAT WAS BUILT IN MOTHER HAD THAT CHANGED. THAT WAS BUILT IN AND YOU ICED IT FROM THE OUTSIDE THROUGH THAT REAR SHED, AND THAT WAS WHERE WE KEPT THE WOOD FOR THE STOVE AND THE COAL; AND THERE WAS A PANTRY OFF OF THAT THAT HAD NO HEAT IN IT. OF COURSE, THE KITCHEN DIDN'T HAVE THE KITCHEN HAD ONE VERY SMALL RADIATOR, BUT THE ONLY HEAT THE KITCHEN HAD REALLY THE PRINCIPAL HEAT WAS FROM THAT STOVE.

**J. SPERRY:** THERE WAS A SMALL PANTRY IN THAT REAR SHED OR OFF OF IT?

**M. BURKE:** NO, NOT IN THAT SHED, BUT, WELL, YOU KNOW, BETWEEN THE KITCHEN AND DINING ROOM YOU GO THROUGH A PANTRY AND ON THE OTHER SIDE OF IT WAS A PANTRY WITH A PASS THROUGH. IT HAD A LITTLE SLIDING DOOR THAT WENT UP AND DOWN.

**J. SPERRY:** I'M TRYING TO GET MY BEARINGS NOW. WHICH SIDE? WHICH DIRECTION?

**M. BURKE:** WELL, IT'S ON THE WEST SIDE OF THE HOUSE; IT'S BETWEEN THE KITCHEN AND THE DINING ROOM.

**J. SPERRY:** NOW, PRESENTLY THERE IS A PANTRY THERE, AND THERE ARE SOME GLASS CUPBOARDS THAT SEPARATE THE PANTRY FROM THE PASSAGEWAY WHERE YOU WALK FROM THE KITCHEN TO THE DINING ROOM. I'M SURE THOSE WERE INSTALLED AT SOME LATER TIME, BUT THIS WAS A PANTRY ALSO WHEN YOU WERE THERE?

**M. BURKE:** THAT'S WHERE THE GOOD DISHES WERE KEPT, AND THEN THE PANTRY THAT HAD NO HEAT, THAT HAD AN OUTSIDE WINDOW IN IT, THAT WAS KIND OF A STOREROOM, AND MOTHER KEPT A LOT OF CANNED STUFF; AND, OH, I CAN REMEMBER, LIKE CHRISTMAS COMING, FRITCAKE AND ALL THAT. CHEESES AND ALL THAT STUFF SHE HAD IN THERE.

**J. SPERRY:** NOW, WHERE WAS THAT PANTRY?

**M. BURKE:** THAT WAS RIGHT NEXT TO THE ONE WHERE YOU GO INTO THE DINING ROOM; AND, AS I SAID, THERE WAS A PASS THROUGH; YOU COULD ARRANGE YOUR PLATES, YOUR SALAD PLATES OR YOUR DESSERT PLATES, ANYTHING YOU WANTED COOL, AND IT WOULD BE COOL; AND THEN YOU COULD JUST PASS IT THROUGH TO THE PANTRY WHERE YOU WENT DIRECTLY INTO THE KITCHEN, IN TO THE DINING ROOM.

**J. SPERRY:** OH, I SEE, SO VERY SIMILAR TO THE WAY IT STILL IS?

**M. BURKE:** I SUPPOSE.

**J. SPERRY:** AND THERE IS A WINDOW IN THAT. IN THE WESTERMOST OF THOSE PANTRIES. THE ICE BOX? THAT WAS BUILT IN ICE BOX?

**M. BURKE:** YES, A GREAT BIG ONE.

**J. SPERRY:** AND THERE STILL IS A WOODEN ICE BOX BUILT IN THERE.

**M. BURKE:** OH, IS THERE?

**J. SPERRY:** BUT IT SAYS "FRIGIDAIRE ELECTRIC", AS THOUGH THAT WAS AN ELECTRIC MODEL, BUT THE ONE THAT YOU HAD WAS ICE?

**M. BURKE:** THAT WAS ICE. WACHTERS KEPT IT. OH, WELL, YOU KNOW, IN THE WINTERTIME, WE USED TO HAVE ICE FROM THE RIVER. WE'D HAVE A PILE OUT IN THE BACK. A GREAT BIG PILE OF ICE; AND WE USED ONE OF THEM. SEE, THERE WAS ALWAYS A JANITOR ASSIGNED TO THE HOUSE FROM THE CAPITOL.

**J. SPERRY:** OH.

**M. BURKE:** AND HE KEPT THE FURNACE. HE CAME EVERY MORNING, AND CHECKED THE FURNACE AND PUT COAL ON, AND THEN HE CAME AT NIGHT, AND HE ALWAYS SAW THAT THERE WAS WOOD FOR THE STOVE, AND COAL FOR THE STOVE, AND THEN HE CAME AT NIGHT AND CHECKED ON THE FURNACE.

**J. SPERRY:** THE FURNACE DID IT HAVE A STOKER OF ANY KIND? OR WAS IT COMPLETELY MANUAL?

**M. BURKE:** NO. WE DID HAVE A THERMOSTAT, BUT NO, THE FURNACE DIDN'T THAT WAS BEFORE STOCKERS. MAY I GET YOU A LITTLE MORE COFFEE?

**R. CARLSON:** NO, THANKS.

**M. BURKE:** HOW ABOUT YOU, MR. SPERRY?

**J. SPERRY:** MAYBE JUST A LITTLE

**M. BURKE:** I'M AFRAID IT'S A LITTLE BIT ON THE STRONG SIDE.

**J. SPERRY:** I'LL JUST BRING MY CUP OUT. I DON'T WANT TO INTERRUPT YOUR TRAIN OF QUESTIONS HERE, BOB, EITHER.

**R. CARLSON:** NO, NO, GO RIGHT AHEAD. WAS THE HOUSE DIFFICULT TO HEAT?

**M. BURKE:** NO, AND THAT'S THE THING THAT AMAZES ME, BECAUSE PEOPLE SAID IT WAS COLD. I DON'T KNOW WHETHER IT WAS MRS. LANGER OR SOMEONE SAID THAT SHE HAD TO WEAR OVERSHOES. WE NEARLY DIED OF HEAT; AND AT NIGHT IN THE WINTERTIME WE'D HAVE TO OPEN THE FRONT DOOR TO COOL IT OFF.

**J. SPERRY:** THE JANITOR MUST HAVE KEPT THE FURNACE WELL STOCKED.

**M. BURKE:** HE DID.

**R. CARLSON:** DID YOU MAKE MUCH USE OF THE FIREPLACES?

**M. BURKE:** ONLY WHEN IN THE SPRING AND THE FALL, AND SOMETIMES IN THE SUMMER WE'D USE THEM. NOW, WHEN WE LIVED THERE, THERE WERE TWO MANTELS UPSTAIRS, ONE IN THE NORTHEAST BEDROOM AND ONE IN THE SOUTHWEST BEDROOM; AND I DON'T KNOW WHEN THEY WERE TAKEN OUT.

**R. CARLSON:** BUT THERE WAS ACTUALLY YOU COULD HAVE BUILT A FIRE IN THOSE BEDROOMS TOO, IS THAT RIGHT?

**M. BURKE:** YES.

**R. CARLSON:** THEY MUST HAVE COMPLETELY REMOVED THOSE MANTELS.

**J. SPERRY:** THERE'S NO SIGN, NO EVIDENCE THAT THERE EVER WAS ONE.

**M. BURKE:** WHEN WE CAME BACK IN, WHAT, ABOUT '25 THE SORLIES, GOVERNOR SORLIE, CAME IN THAT JANUARY AND WE WERE THERE AT A PARTY, AND I WAS SURPRISED TO SEE THAT THEY WERE GONE.

**J. SPERRY:** THEY WERE GONE AT THAT TIME?

**M. BURKE:** OH, MOTHER GOT A LOVELY BEDROOM SET FOR THE MASTER BEDROOM WHEN WE WERE THERE, AND THERE IS A LITTLE WALNUT DESK IN THE FAMILY QUARTERS IN THE NEW GOVERNORS'S RESIDENCE THAT BELONGED TO THAT SET; AND I DON'T KNOW IF THERE'S ANY MORE OF THE SET OR NOT. IT WAS SURCASIAN(SP.?) WALNUT BUT THE DESK IS IN THE NEW HOME.

**J. SPERRY:** MAYBE YOU'D LIKE TO GLANCE THROUGH THESE. THESE ARE FROM THE LANGER PERIOD. YOU MAY SEE SOMETHING THERE THAT YOU (SHOWED PICTURES).

**M. BURKE:** WELL, MRS. LANGER BROUGHT MOST OF HER OWN FURNITURE.

**R. CARLSON:** YES. THAT'S WHAT HER DAUGHTER MENTIONED.

**M. BURKE:** NOW THIS THIS IS ONE OF THE BEDROOMS. YOU SEE, YOU CAN SEE THE CHIMNEY.

**R. CARLSON:** YES. THAT WOULD BE THE SOUTHWEST BEDROOM.

**M. BURKE:** THAT'S THE ROOM WE USED AS THE GUEST ROOM.

**R. CARLSON:** I SEE.

**J. SPERRY:** THAT'S THAT SMALL ROOM THAT GOES OUT ONTO THE PORCH. WHAT DID YOU USE THAT ROOM FOR?

**M. BURKE:** THAT WAS TOM'S ROOM.

**R. CARLSON:** OH.

**M. BURKE:** ELIZABETH AND I HAD THE NORTHEAST, AND TOM HAD THIS, AND THEN WE HAD THE ROOM ON THE OTHER SIDE AS A GUEST ROOM.

**J. SPERRY:** AND THOSE TWO SMALL BACK BEDROOMS? WERE THOSE USED THEN AS SERVANTS' QUARTERS?

**M. BURKE:** THE ONE FURTHEST NORTH HAD NO HEAT IN IT. THE ONLY HEAT IT HAD WAS A REGISTER IN THE FLOOR ABOVE THE RANGE, AND THAT WAS THE ONLY HEAT IT HAD. WE USED IT FOR A STOREROOM HAD TRUNKS IN IT AND

**J. SPERRY:** NOW, THE BATHROOM WAS THERE AT THAT TIME?

**M. BURKE:** YES. WELL, NOW, I DON'T SEE I WONDER IF THIS IS THE DESK THAT'S IN THAT PICTURE THAT OF OURS, WHEN WE WERE THERE, IN THE FRONT ROOM? I WONDER IF THAT--? I DON'T THINK SO.

**J. SPERRY:** NO, THAT'S A SINGLE DRAWER DESK, I BELIEVE.

**M. BURKE:** THAT WAS REALLY A LOVELY DESK.

**J. SPERRY:** THAT'S THE PIANO THAT YOUR MOTHER PURCHASED?

**M. BURKE:** YES. MOTHER GOT A BEAUTIFUL RUG THAT WE HAD BETWEEN THOSE TWO ROOMS, AND IT WAS THE ONLY THING SHE WANTED TO TAKE, AND SHE SAID TO FATHER, "CAN YOU PAY THE STATE FOR IT?" AND HE SAID, "I COULD, I SUPPOSE, BUT WE'D ALWAYS HAVE TROUBLE CONVINCING PEOPLE."



**J. SPERRY:** NOW, THE ORIENTAL RUG THAT YOU HAVE THE RECEIPT FOR HERE WAS THAT PURCHASE PERSONALLY BY YOUR FATHER?

**M. BURKE:** YES.

**J. SPERRY:** AND YOU TOOK THAT ONE WITH YOU WHEN YOU--?

**M. BURKE:** YES. NOW, I CAN SEE THESE ELECTRIC LIGHT FIXTURES ARE DIFFERENT.

**J. SPERRY:** YES, THEY HAD BEEN CHANGED BY THEN. ID YOU TELL ME BEFORE THAT THAT RUG, YOU KNEW WHO HAD ACQUIRED THAT?

**M. BURKE:** JESSIE WEBB CORWIN.

**J. SPERRY:** IN FARGO?

**M. BURKE:** YES.

**J. SPERRY:** THERE MAY BE SOME POSSIBILITY THAT RUG STILL EXISTS?

**M. BURKE:** WELL, I DON'T KNOW. IT COULD BE. IT WAS A LOVELY RUG AND IT WAS A BIG RUG, AND IT WAS A SCHU (SP.?) RUG IT WAS AN ORIENTAL; AND JESSIE GOT IT SHE AND THE HANNA GIRLS THE HANNA GIRLS WERE UP VISITING JESSIE AND THEY CALLED ON THE FRASERS AND MRS. FRASER INSISTED ON SENDING THEM HOME THEY HAD A DRIVER AND DOROTHY HANNA OR JEAN, I DON'T KNOW WHICH ONE OF THEM, SAID TO THE DRIVER THEY KNEW HIM, BECAUSE HE HAD BEEN THERE WHEN THEY WERE THERE AND SHE SAID, "WHAT HAPPENED TO THE ORIENTAL RUGS?" AND HE SAID, "OH, THEY'RE UP IN THE BARN. THEY'RE STORED UP IN THE BARN;" AND JESSIE SAID, "OH, I WISH I COULD GET ONE." AND HE SAID, "I'LL GET YOU ONE," AND SO HE SOLD IT TO HER FOR \$25.00, I THINK.

**J. SPERRY:** YOU MEAN STORED IN THE BARN AT THE GOVERNORS MANSION? OH, THEN YOU HAD LEFT IT? YOUR FATHER HAD LEFT?

**M. BURKE:** WE LEFT EVERYTHING.

**J. SPERRY:** YOU'D LEFT THE RUGS?

**M. BURKE:** YES, AND THEN THE FRASERS DIDN'T LIKE THEM.

**J. SPERRY:** BUT YOUR FATHER HAD PAID FOR THAT FIRST RUG?

**M. BURKE:** NO, NO.

**J. SPERRY:** IT WAS PURCHASED WITH STATE MONEY?

**M. BURKE:** YES.

**J. SPERRY:** I SEE. THAT'S WHAT I WASN'T CLEAR ON.

**M. BURKE:** NO, WE TOOK OUR RUG, AND THAT RUG WAS LEFT. I'M GOING TO SEE IF I CAN MAKE ONE MORE EFFORT TO FIND IT I DON'T THINK I CAN THIS

**J. SPERRY:** I GUESS I'M STILL NOT CLEAR ON THIS. THIS LETTER THAT YOU HAVE HERE WAS THE RUG THAT YOUR FAMILY HAD PURCHASED? AND THAT ONE YOU TOOK WITH YOU?

**M. BURKE:** YES.

**J. SPERRY:** AND WHAT HAPPENED TO IT THEN? IS IT STILL IN THE FAMILY?

**M. BURKE:** NO. I'VE GIVEN A LOT OF THINGS AWAY, BECAUSE, WELL, I NO LONGER REALLY HAD USE FOR THEM, AND MY NEICES WERE SETTING UP HOUSEKEEPING, AND OUR GRAND PIANO I SENT TO OR MOTHER SENT TO MY SISTER IN ST. PAUL AND I'VE GIVEN A LOT OF THINGS TO MY NIECES, BUT THAT RUG WAS PRETTY WELL WORN IT WAS USED MANY YEARS, AND IT WAS PRETTY WORN.

**J. SPERRY:** I WAS CURIOUS BECAUSE IT HAD MENTIONED IT WAS AN ANTIQUE RUG 85 OR 100 YEARS OLD WHEN IT WAS PURCHASED?

**M. BURKE:** WELL, WHEN THE SISTERS BOUGHT COLONEL LITTLE'S HOUSE, THEY WERE SHORT OF THINGS, SO I GAVE IT TO THEM; AND IT WAS TOO BIG FOR THEIR RECEPTION ROOM, AND I DON'T KNOW WHAT THEY DID WITH IT, IF THEY PUT IT IN THE BIG ROOM OR NOT, BUT LING IN SMALL QUARTERS, I HAD NO USE FOR IT, SO I GAVE IT TO THEM. I HOPE I HAVEN'T MISPLACED THOSE PICTURES.

**R. CARLSON:** I DIDN'T NOTICE IT BEFORE, BUT IN THIS 1897 PHOTO, THIS CARPET LOOKS ALMOST WALL-TO-WALL. IT'S NOT JUST A THROW CARPET.

**J. SPERRY:** IT'S HARD TO TELL. YOU CAN'T REALLY SEE THE MARGINS, BUT IT'S A STRIP CARPET, YOU CAN SEE

**R. CARLSON:** YES, BUT IT LOOKS LIKE IT GOES OUT RIGHT OUT TO THE EDGES OF THE DOORWAY AND RIGHT INTO THE NEXT ROOM.

**J. SPERRY:** IT DOES. THAT'S AN EXCEPTIONALLY CLEAR PRINT THERE. OH, THE INTERIOR SHUTTERS AND THE VENETIAN BLINDS I WAS GOING TO ASK ABOUT THAT TOO.

**M. BURKE:** I HAVE SOME PICTURES I WANTED TO FRAME, BUT, DO YOU KNOW, IT'S SO COSTLY. OH, I WANT TO ASK YOU SOMETHING THERE WAS A LARGE PICTURE LIKE THIS THAT HUNG IN THE GOVERNOR'S CONFERENCE ROOM. IT WAS THERE WHEN GOVERNOR MOSES WAS GOVERNOR. WELL, I WANT TO KNOW WHO'S WHO IN THE PICTURE. MY SISTER WANTS TO KNOW FOR GOVERNOR ANDERSON OF MINNESOTA SO I CALLED THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE, AND IT'S NO LONGER THERE.

**J. SPERRY:** NO, I'VE NEVER SEEN IT THERE.

**M. BURKE:** AND THE SECRETARY SAID TO CALL THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY MAYBE IT WENT OVER THERE AND

**J. SPERRY:** I DON'T KNOW. DO YOU KNOW WHAT THE OCCASION IS?

**M. BURKE:** YES. THE WESTERN GOVERNORS' SPECIAL. THAT WAS JIM HILL PROMOTED THAT.

**J. SPERRY:** I'LL CHECK ON THAT.

**M. BURKE:** AND THE GOVERNORS WENT EAST NOW THAT PLATE UP ABOVE THAT WAS GIVEN TO FATHER AT SYRACUSE, NEW YOURK; AND THEY HAD DISPLAYS OF THINGS THAT WERE RAISED IN ALL THESE STATES. IT WAS A SPECIAL TRAIN, AND JIM HILL IS IN THAT PICTURE. NOW, THERE THAT'S MOTHER.

**R. CARLSON:** AND THIS IS IN THE MANSION, ISN'T IT?

**M. BURKE:** YES. THAT WAS THE LAST SUNDAY WE WERE IN THE HOUSE.

**R. CARLSON:** THAT'S QUITE A PICTURE. LOOK AT THAT! THAT CHAIR.

**M. BURKE:** THAT WAS THE MOST BEAUTIFUL DRESS MOTHER EVER HAD.

**J. SPERRY:** AND THAT'S THE REAR FIREPLACE?

**M. BURKE:** YES.

**J. SPERRY:** THAT'S EXCELLENT.

**R. CARLSON:** IS THAT? IS THAT THE MIRROR, THEN?

**M. BURKE:** YES, THAT'S THE MIRROR.

**J. SPERRY:** THE OVAL MIRROR. NOW, COULD WE BORROW THESE LONG ENOUGH TO PHOTOGRAPH THEM.

**M. BURKE:** YES. YES. I THOUGHT I HAD ANOTHER ONE. I THOUGHT I HAD THE FAMILY GROUP, BUT I HAVEN'T.

**R. CARLSON:** HOW DID YOUR OTHER LIKE THE HOUSE? HOW DID SHE ADJUST TO THAT PLACE? HAD SHE COME FROM A LARGE HOUSE?

**M. BURKE:** NO, OUR HOUSE IN DEVILS LAKE WASN'T LARGE; AND, WELL, I KNOW WHEN SHE LEFT THERE SHE SAID, "FATHER, I WANT A SMALL HOUSE WITH BIG ROOMS," AND "I DON'T KNOW" SHE NEVER SAID. THERE IS THE FIRST GOVERNORS' CONVENTION.

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