DB: How do you spell Rangbal? How do you spell that? R-A-G-N-I-L-D?
OJ: Rangbal. R-A-N-G-B-A-L.
DB: R-A-N-G-B-I-L.
OJ: B-A-L
XF: B-A-L
DB: And he was a Larson.
OJ: Ja. He was a....I don't know if he was a cousin or...
XF: Well, that doesn't matter. Just get his name, that's all we need.
DB: OK. And who was the other man that you went with?
OJ: Jaugnes.
DB: How do you spell that?
OJ: J-A-U-G-N-E-S.
DB: So there were these two men and yourself, or was there another man too?
OJ: There were three of us.
DB: I see. And they all had $300 apiece.
OJ: In fact, four of us. I was the only one actually in the store, but the other three wanted to be partners.
DB: Just investors, I take it.
OJ: Ja. Hm-hm.
DB: What kinds of things did you sell in the store, back in the early days?
OJ: Shoes, and hats and pants and like that.
DB: What kind of shoes?
OJ: Well, they were dress shoes, shoes like we have now. They were most of them about that high. They weren't loose like you see those over there. About 6 inches high.
DB: How about cork boots? Did you ever sell those?
OJ: Yes, I sold Corin Cork boots like the last ones on the shelf there. They were eight and ten inch top then.
DB: I see.
OJ: They sold for $17.95.
DB: Back in those days, that was pretty expensive, wasn't it?
OJ: Well, that was expensive, but then they were the best boots you could buy.
DB: How long would they last?
OJ: They last two, three years, maybe four. Well, this is...$150. They were Corin-Greene, in Seattle.
DB: Did a lot of people from the lumber mill come and buy their boots from you?
OJ: Yes. I worked up a good reputation.
DB: How did you go about working up a good reputation?

OJ: Well, I gave them good merchandise. Then years ago, up in the camps I'd take orders for suits. I knew about that because my father was a tailor and I knew how to measure.
DB: So you took measurements out in the woods?
OJ: Yes. Used to go out there and stay out for a whole week. And I went from one camp to another, and I didn't have to pay room or board either. They wouldn't take any money.
DB: They would feed you when you were out in the woods?
OJ: Hm-hm.
DB: How long would you stay out in each camp?
OJ: About a day.
DB: So, how many camps did you go to?
OJ: Oh, it must have been a dozen camps.
DB: A dozen camps. You think you could locate....?
OJ: I even went up to Montana.
DB: Were most of the camps in the Kaniksu Forest here? In this area?
OJ: Ja. They were. Most of them.
DB: And, what years were those that you went to the camps?
OJ: It was 1908, I started. The first February, I had a sample line.
DB: You went out in February you say?
OJ: Ja. I went out to the camps in February.
(NOISE)
DB: Could you hold on a second? So how many years did you do this, go around to the camps?
OJ: Oh, four or five years.
DB. Four or five years. Did you always do it in February?
OJ: Oh, all year around.
DB: You did it all year around. What were the times you would go and do it? Were they special times?
OJ: Well, started in the Fall, and.....that's when they worked in the woods. But I'd measure them for their suits, and then usually on the Fourth of July, of the following year, I was usually ready for them.
DB: How may orders could you do in a year?
OJ: I took over 300 orders, first year. And the suits were only from $15 to $48 each. That's the price range.
DB: Where they...what kind of suits were they, that people ordered?
OJ: Pants and vest and coat.
DB: Where they dress clothes or work clothes?
OJ: Dress clothes.
DB: They were dress clothes. What did the people use these dress clothes for?
DB:...What would they dress up for?
OJ: When they go to church on Sunday.
DB: So, you started in 1908?
OJ: First of February, 1908. The day I went into business.
DB: OK. You went out to get the suit measurements for five years, approximately?

OJ: Just about, yes.
DB: Just about. Why did you stop doing it when you did?
OJ: Well, I was doing it more or less. But I didn't go out in the camps, because the war started in 1942, I think it was. They telephoned me from Farragut. I was standing in the corner store, where Humbird is now. They owned that building, Mr. Larsen and myself, and they asked if I would come out and measure Captain Kelly for uniform. See, and that was in February, now I went home and shoveled out my car, I was walking at that time. And when I got to Farragut they had a tailor shop that's as big as this store over here. They had the same line of clothing that I had. A.B. Price Company from Chicago. But not a one had the nerve enough to measure Captain Kelly for uniform, they were afraid to make a mistake.
DB: Where was that tailor shop? The one with 20 tailors, where was that at?
OJ: At Farragut at the Naval Station.
DB: OK, that was at the naval station.
OJ: They was training 1,000s of young people for the war.
DB: So, you stopped going around to the camps regularly, in 19....?
OJ: Ja, I stopped then. This was in 1942, I think it was.
DB: When did you stop going around to the timber camps, do you remember what year that was?
OJ: Well, that didn't go all the way after five--six years, around there. I had to work in the store.
DB: So, people came into town after that to get their measurements?
OJ: Yes, they did. And I was very happy about this, because I was a good..I know how to measure people. I never had a misfit in all my life.
DB: Not a misfit.
OJ: Never had anybody that didn't agree that it was a perfect fit.
DB: Where did you get your cloth from, to make your suits?
OJ: I sent them to A.B. Price and Company in Chicago, they had a sample line. They picked up the cloth, they made the suits up in Chicago.
DB: Oh, so they made the suits and you just sent them the measurements?
OJ: When Captain Kelly was the commandant of the Farregut Naval Station and I came out there. He says I need a suit and I need it in a hurry. I said: "Well, when I get back to Sandpoint, I will send the measurements out by mail...by air-mail. And ask that they ship the...the uniform by air-mail to Farragut Naval Station." And about 10 days after I got back, I got this telephone call from Farragut--the two uniforms arrived, and they were both a

perfect fit. And then my reputation was made. Then all the lieutenants came in and wanted to get measured for suits. Because I could fit the head man there.

DB: Back in the old days, when you went out to the camps to get measurements for their suits, what...you said they had pants and what else?

OJ: Pants and vest and coat. Complete suit, like you buy now.

DB: Did they make any kind of material that they wanted?

OJ: Well, they had the material in the big sample line. Probably, 100 different materials.

DB: Was there a better time of the year for going out to the camps? I mean, when they were less busy? To get the measurements?

OJ: Well, well I went out in the Fall. But the suits weren't ready for them until next July. They they came to town to celebrate. Then they came into the store and got...and put their clothes on. And I haven't had a misfit yet. Every suit fit perfect.

DB: When you would go out in the Fall...was that a down time? Were the men working as much as the rest of the year?

OJ: Oh, yes. They were all working.

DB: What time of the day would you take the measurements?

OJ: Well, in the evening.

DB: In the evening. After they were done with work?

OJ: Yes.

XF: Perhaps I should interject here that...
(BREAK IN TAPE)

OJ: Well, they got the suit. Once in a while they got the $10 down payment, see.

DB: So you say, the suits cost between $15 and $48?

OJ: Yea.

DB: And usually they would not pay you till they collected their suits in July?

OJ: Yea. That's right.

DB: Did you ever work in a logging camp as a logger?

OJ: I worked for a couple of months, back in Wisconsin. Before I came over here.

DB: Did you ever work here in Idaho, in a logging camp?

OJ: No.

DB: Did you ever hear how it was different in Idaho versus Wisconsin? In the logging?

OJ: No, I haven't heard any different. In fact, Humbird Lumber Company owned a mill in Mason, Wisconsin. There was the White River Lumber Company, it was called then.

DB: When you worked as a lumber stacker here, did you ever work in the mill also? Or did you work mostly...?

OJ: No, no. I never worked in the mill.

DB: Did they pay you by the piece or by the hour?

OJ: They paid by the hour, I think.

DB: Do you have any idea what you got paid?

OJ: Two dollars a day.
DB: Two dollars a day?
OJ: Hm-hm.
DB: Did you ever use any of the timber for yourself?
OJ: No.
DB: I mean, did you ever buy timber from them?
OJ: No, never bought any timber at all. The house I live in now, I bought that. Complete.
DB: Did you ever hear any stories on how the new loggers were initiated?
OJ: No.
DB: No? How they were made a part of the group?
OJ: I haven't heard about that. If I have, I have forgotten.
DB: In terms of transportation around here. When you moved here in the early 1900s were all the railroads here already?
OJ: Yes. They were all here. Except for Spokane International. That one came through in 1917, I think. Or '18. But the Great Northern and Northern Pacific were here.
DB: Did people use the trains for passenger train very often?
OJ: They used the what?
DB: Did they use the trains for passenger trains very often?
OJ: I don't know.
DB: It was mostly logging trains?
OJ: Logging...passenger trains too.
DB: Where did they take the lumber from Sandpoint, from the Humbird?
OJ: I...I don't know where they...They had a big yard out there.
DB: How often did you leave Sandpoint when you were younger?
OJ: Well, to go out to the camps, to measure a person. I used to go out sometimes every other day.
DB: Every other day?
OJ: Every day.
DB: Did you ever take a major trip? Like to Spokane or Seattle, or anything, back in those old days?
OJ: No, no.
DB: Did you ever go back to Wisconsin?
OJ: No. I never went back to Wisconsin. I came out in 1905, I think it was.
DB: Did your family own a car, or a horse and buggy, out here?
OJ: I got my first car in 1918.
DB: I see. Before that, what did you have?
OJ: Well, I used a horse and buggy.
DB: Horse and buggy?
OJ: But I didn't own a horse, I paid for it.
DB: Did you ever take the train to Spokane?
OJ: I had to take the train to Spokane.
DB: How often did you get mail service here in Sandpoint?
OJ: I think, every day.
DB: And where was the post office at that time, back when you first moved here?

OJ: It was across the street there.
DB: On First Street?
OJ: Ja. Right there. Directly across from here.
DB: Do you know who the postmaster was?
OJ: Well, yea. Let me think. Who was the first postmaster here, Edith? Seems to me that I should remember the name, but I don't remember the name.
DB: Did most people...did anyone have radio in this community?
OJ: No, not to start with. But we finally got the radio. I had one too, not now.
DB: When did people start getting radios around here?
OJ: I suppose when everywhere else did.
DB: Were there any other industries around here besides lumber?
OJ: Let's see, what was it?
XF: Primarily lumber in the early days. Dairying.
DB: Was there any kind of mining around here?
OJ: Well, there was some mining at Clark Fork.
DB: What kind of mining was that?
OJ: Silver. Silver, lead.
DB: Were they doing hard rock mining or placer mining or...?
OJ: I don't know what you call it. Did some but never got paid for it.
DB: Oh, you did some yourself?
OJ: No, I bought some stock in that and never collected a penny. Not a whole lot.
DB: Was there ever any large scale farming around here?
OJ: No, I don't think so. There is at Clark Fork, there is a ruins. Probably the largest farm there.
DB: Ah, ruins?
OJ: Ja.
DB: What kind of farm?
OJ: Well, I don't know what kind of farm it is. But connected with Clark Fork on the other side of the river.
DB: Were any of your family or friends involved in mining?
OJ: No. Except that I bought some stock, in mining company.
DB: Was that common for people to buy stock in mining?
OJ: Yea. They came around here and said that we could double our money.
DB: Was that business men who did this, or was that the miners themselves?
OJ: No. They were no business men because their business was mining.
DB: So they were the miners themselves?
OJ: Ja. I bought some stock, not too much..
DB: What kinds of things would they say to try to get you interested, in mining?
OJ: Well, I couldn't say. Except, what I said, a lot of the people interested, thinking about making double their money back, by buying mining stock.

DB: When you owned a store here in Sandpoint, how many other stores were there here in this town, other than the Humbird Store?
OJ: Well, we had the George M. Volker. It was down on the other side of the street.
DB: What did he sell?
OJ: He sold the same thing that I did.
DB: Did you ever sell any groceries?
OJ: No. Sold no groceries.
DB: So it was all dry goods?
OJ: All dry goods?
DB: Did they have a name for the kinds of workers pants that the lumber men had?
OJ: I don't remember.
DB: Did you ever hear the term "stag" pants?
OJ: Ja. They cut them off here.
DB: Why would they cut them off?
OJ: They cut them off well above the boots.
DB: Was there any reason...?
OJ: They wore 10 inch boots. Ten to 12 inch boots. They cut the pants off about two inches above that.
DB: Did everyone wear suspenders, in those days?
OJ: Ja, I think so.
DB: Did you carry suspenders?
OJ: Yes.
DB: What kind of hats would people wear to go to work?
OJ: Well, just like they have now.
DB: Back then, did the lumbermen talk about which were the best jobs, to have out on the lumbering crew?
OJ: Well, piling lumber was the best paid, and was the hardest work too. That's what I did.
DB: Why was that the best paid?
OJ: Well, because it took a lot of strength to handle those heavy planks and boards.
DB: Was it a dangerous job, at all?
OJ: Well, not too dangerous. I never got hurt, or anything.
DB: How did you go about piling the lumber when it came off the belts in the mill? What would you do?
OJ: It came off the chain, you know. And then they load it on the cars. Then you push the cars on the tram. Then they were piled 10 to 12 feet high, above the ground. So the first part pf the lumber went down, and then they build it up to 20 feet high.
DB: And then how would you drag the carts around the yard?
OJ: Well, they were pushed by the horses...
DB: Well, how much would those carts weigh, do you think?
OJ: I don't know--several hundred pounds.
DB: Who made the carts?
OJ: That, I don't know.
DB: And, you would do that all day? For eight hours?

OJ: Ja. Hm-hm.
DB: Did you ever take any rest stops, or breaks, or anything like that?
OJ: Well, we ate our lunch. At noon.
DB: If something broke down out at the mill, or whatever, who would you have fix it?
OJ: I don't know.
DB: Did they have a blacksmith. Did they have a blacksmith?
OJ: Yes they had one, every mill had a blacksmith there. Humbird...
DB: Ok. Where was the blacksmith at the mill?
OJ: Connected with the mill.
DB: Was his shop right there at the mill?
OJ: Yea.
DB: I am interested in the different ethnic groups around here. Were there any Italians in this community?
OJ: Not many.
DB: How about Chinese?
OJ: No.
DB: No Chinese? Were there any blacks?
OJ: No. Had no Negroes, either.
DB: Then, it was mostly Norwegians and Swedes?
OJ: Ja. That's right.
DB: Any Dutchmen?
OJ: I think there were some Dutchmen.
DB: Any Englishmen?
OJ: Could be.
DB: What kind of community activities did people participate in? Around here, besides church?
OJ: Well, they had lodges.
DB: What kind of lodges?
OJ: They had Lumberman's Lodge, and Masonic Lodge too.
DB: Which was more popular?
OJ: Well, I don't know. I joined the Masonic Lodge.
DB: Were you a Mason?
OJ: Yea.
DB: When did you join that?
OJ: It was 1913, I think. I am a 50 year member.
DB: 50 year member, I see. How many people were in your lodge?
OJ: I don't know - I am a past commander.
DB: You are a past commander? Where is the lodge building?
OJ: That's on the street there. There's two stores there now.
DB: Which street is that? Second Street?
OJ: Second and Cedar.
DB: Second and Cedar. What did people do for fun in Sandpoint, back then?
OJ: Well, they had dances.
DB: OK.
(BREAK IN TAPE)
OJ: Wages, wages were $1.25 a day.
DB: Was that about what everybody made?

OJ: Ja.
DB: Were the lumbermen paid, out in the woods, by the hour...?
OJ: Paid all the same.
DB: Ok. Out in the woods, how much did people make?
OJ: Well, out in the woods they made $2.00 a day.
DB: Did people participate in the Grange?
OJ: That I don't know.
DB: How about the Chautauqua?
OJ: Chautauqua?
DB: Well, there was like a community group, in many communities...
OJ: They had one every year, or every other year.
DB: Where was that held?
OJ: Where the bank is now.
DB: Did you go to the Chautauqua?
OJ: Yea.
DB: What kind of activities did they have there?
OJ: Well, they gave talks.
DB: About farming?
OJ: Almost anything.
DB: What time of the year was that in?
OJ: Usually in the Fall, I think.
DB: Usually in the Fall. Where were the community dances at?
OJ: Well they had the Rink Opera House. You know there's a store there now.
DB: What street is that on?
OJ: Well, Pine Street.
DB: What? Pine Street?
OJ: That's where President Roosevelt came here and visited. He gave a speech there, too.
DB: Were you there, at the speech?
OJ: Yes, I was there. And there were so many people that there was only standing room.
DB: What did he talk about?
OJ: I don't remember, now. He talked about some of the people around here that he knew.
DB: Was he trying to get votes?
OJ: Oh, I don't think so. Everyone voted for him anyway. It was in 1905.
DB: And that was over in the Rink?
OJ: Opera House, yea.
DB: Rink Opera House. Did they have operas back then? At the Opera House?
OJ: I don't know if they did, couldn't say.
DB: Did they have dances, there, at the opera house?
OJ: Yes.
DB: What time of week was that? What day?
OJ: I never went to these dances, I couldn't tell you.
DB: Were there many taverns in this town?
OJ: Oh yes.
DB: Where were they?

OJ: They was in the other side of the street.
DB: On First Street?
OJ: Yea.
DB: Did most of the lumbermen go there?
OJ: Oh yes.
DB: Anybody else?
OJ: Well, almost anybody else who wanted to...drink.
DB: Were there any ones that were most popular, most frequented?
OJ: There probably was, but I don't go and get drunk there.
DB: Where did people get alcohol around here?
OJ: Well, I don't know..the saloons over here.
DB: Did they ever have moonshine whiskey in this area?
OJ: That I don't know.
DB: You don't know. Were there many of the lumbermen that got into gambling?
OJ: Oh yes. They...they gambled too...some of them lost some money too.
DB: What kind of gambling would they do? What kind of things?
OJ: I think that...I really...I don't know...I never did it myself. But I got mixed in, every once in a while, in a poker game.
DB: Did they ever have...
OJ: ...I always lost money. I never made money.
DB: That's like me, I never play because I always lose. Did they ever have one-armed-bandits--Slot machines?
OJ: Well, the...a lot of people worked slot machines. I did myself too. I never made any money on it.
DB: Where were the slot machines located?
OJ: In the saloons.
DB: So every saloon had a slot machine?
OJ: I guess most of them did have one.
DB: Did you ever hear if there were any prostitutes in Sandpoint?
OJ: No. I never heard about that.
DB: Was life in the mill, was work in the mill ever dangerous?
OJ: No, I don't think so.
DB: If somebody were to get hurt, where would they go?
OJ: They would go to the hospital. There is a hospital on the other side of the river. At Page.
DB: When you moved here to Sandpoint, how many people were living here? What would you estimate?
OJ: Oh, about 3,000 people.
DB: How many people are here now?
OJ: Well, probably 6,000.
DB: What do you think has caused the doubling of the population?
OJ: At the Great Northern Depot they had a billboard at the depot at Sandpoint: "three-fourths of a mile east of Sandpoint population 5,500."
DB: When was that?
OJ: 1905.
DB: 1905.

OJ: But then, when the government started to take census, several years after that, the first time there was 4,800, something. And every 10 years it went down 200. Now when you come in from the north it says: "Enter Sandpoint. Population 4,140."
DB: Do you think that the population is really going down?
OJ: No. They tell me at the courthouse that it's going up all the time. There are more people here now than ever before.
DB: Why do people move in here, Sandpoint?
OJ: Well I guess, it's...pretty nice...a nice lake here. They like it here.
DB: Can you think of any major events in town history, that have happened? You mentioned Teddy Roosevelt, coming here in 1905. Can you think of anything else that happened, major?
OJ: Well, I can't think of anything.
DB: OK. There are a bunch of unusual names for mountains and creeks around here and I made a list of them. I was wondering if you have heard how they got named. Maybe you could tell me. Do you know where the name Johnny Long Mountain came from?
OJ: No.
DB: Did you ever hear of Johnny Long?
OJ: No.
DB: How about Stone Johnny Mountain? Heard of that?
OJ: No.
DB: Why would they call it the Happy Fork of Big Creek? Do you have any idea?
OJ: No.
DB: Did you know a man named Watson? There is a Watson Mountain around here.
OJ: No. Is there a Watson Mountain?
XF: I never heard of it, but there are so many of 'em.
DB: Yea. How about Rapid Lightening Creek? Did you ever hear of that?
OJ: Yea, I heard of that several times.
DB: Why do you think that is?
OJ: ...I don't know exactly where it is either.
XF: Well, it is just north of town here.
DB: Aha. How about Myrtle Creek? You heard of that?
XF: I heard of that name.
DB: Do you have any idea why it was called that?
XF: Hm-hm.
DB: How about Roman Nose Lake?
XF: Wea...
OJ: There's a Roman Nose Mountain.
XF: I suppose there's a lake. See, there's so many lakes around here, we don't even know them.
DB: How about, Hell Roaring Ridge? I saw that on the map. Do you have any idea why that?
OJ: No.

DB: And, then there is Elmyra. That's a town, right?
OJ: Yea that's a town. It's between here and Bonners Ferry.
DB: Do you have any idea why that got its name? How that got its name?
OJ: No.
DB: And then there's Gold Cup Mountain, around here somewhere. Well, I've taken up about an hour of your time. I appreciate you talking to us.
(BREAK IN TAPE)
DB: ...you say you took the railroad from Sandpoint?
OJ: Sandpoint.
DB: Up to where?
OJ: Selle.
DB: How do you spell that?
OJ: S-E-L-L-E. North about seven miles.
DB: I see. You'd take it up there...was that the Great Northern?
OJ: Ja. Great Northern.
DB: Then you'd hop off the train, and walk to the camps?
OJ: Yea.
DB: What was the farthest camp from Selle? How far did you have to walk?
OJ: Oh, probably four or five miles. Carrying a suitcase. Sometimes two suitcases.
DB: What was in your suitcases?
OJ: Samples.
DB: To show the men what they could have them made out of?
OJ: Yea.
(BREAK IN TAPE)
OJ: ...they say "You come to Paris, Montana, you could get a lot of orders started. They all want a suit of clothes. You could measure them." So I went out there on a Sunday, got the early train. The train had one hour to stay at Paradise before the other train had to take me back to Sandpoint. I made...I made...measured 10 people for suits.
DB: Ten people for suits.
OJ: Ja.
DB: And you didn't make a mistake, did you?
OJ: Didn't make a mistake.
DB: That's good. And you did that one time, in Montana?
OJ: Yea. Well, there was several times but this was a special time.

(END OF TAPE 4; SIDE 2)