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JS. - Mrs. S b. 1901

SR. - Sara Randall

JS. I was born in Danderhall. It's no Danderhall in Edinburgh, Danderhall up the country, up past West Calder. And I was here for 40 years.

SR. Was that a shale mining village?

JS. No, it was just a wee farm place. 4 houses. It was a farm made into wee houses.

SR. Was your father a farmer?

JS. My father was a farmer's son. He was from the Bathgate area. But we worked in Camilty - where they made the gunpowder. And that was for the mines.

SR. You worked there in the gunpowder factory?

JS. Yes

SR. When was that? After you left school?

JS. Yes

SR. Was that near enough for you to go each day from where you lived?

JS. Each day, you cycled it.

SR. How far was it?

JS. About three miles I would think. A wee distance. But the money was good and that was that.

SR. How long did you work there?

JS. Till I was about 25.

SR. From 14?

JS. Mm - well mebbe 15. And it was a good firm to go up to. It's no longer there now.

SR. What sort of work did you do?

JS. Well, you wrapped the pellets, mebbe 2 or 3 together and rolled them. The miners used to use them.

SR. The shale miners?

JS. Yes

SR. Was it just women who worked there?

JS. No, women and men. But quite a lot of women. There was an explosion, killed 2 men. Never thought I'd go back.

SR. Were you there when it happened?

JS. Uh Huh. It was terrible. It was just the building further. It was in a valley and the building, down, the next building. My dad was in it, and that was all I seen him. The buildings was surrounded by bings that kept the glass in if anything happened. And that was the first I saw was my Dad. You got over that. If you hadnae gone back to pack that day or the next day, you'd never have gone back at all. You just had to go

back

SR. How much pay did you get?

JS. We got good pays. And then some girls were on piece work.

SR. But you got a wage did you?

JS. Oh, quite good wages you had. And we wore their clothing. We were the first to wear trousers. We were made trousers and a jacket and your head was covered to keep it clean and boots with galoshes at top if you went outside - So's you didn't collect any dirt and take it in the building. Well, we were there while the war was on, the 14 - 18 war, and we were protected by the Forces - in case anything went wrong.

SR. What sort of hours did you work?

JS. From 7.00 till 4.00

SR. Even when you started?

JS. Yes. And trudging thro' the snow. But we were happy.

SR. Did you get time off for lunch?

JS. Yes. And there was a room that you went to for your lunch, and a room where you washed and changed. It was kinda dirty work. Dust off it. It was constant work but you didnae mind.

SR. Tell me about your family.

JS. My father worked in it. But after that explosion it damaged his heart. He never was any good after that

SR. But he carried on working?

JS. He just finished, he got a pension.

SR. From the factory?

JS. Yes, I think that would be about the first pensions there was.

SR. And what did he do then?

JS. Just stayed at home. He'd a diseased artery in the heart.

SR. Did that mean you were much poorer then?

JS. Yes we were, because that we were earning - me with my sister and brothers, it took it all because there was no, nothing to help you like what there is nowadays. You've got help nowadays but there was nothing then. You just had to live accordingly.

SR. Were you the eldest child?

JS. No there was some of them married. And there was the two brothers in the war, the 14 - 18 war before that.

SR. How many children were there in your family?

JS. 9

SR. Which were you?

JS. About 5.

SR. Where did you go to school?

JS. West Calder. That's what I say, you had to walk it - there was nothing else. Rain, hail and shine.

...

What was at Hermand I don't know and I never could find out. Because, behind Danderhall there were big slabs and pieces of metal came up through. I there must have been a brick wall of some description. There was a bing, so where that came from we never find out. It was an old shale bing.

SR. When you were a child what sort of house did you live in? How many rooms did it have?

JS. Just a but and ben. Two double beds in the living room and 2 in the bedroom. That was what you had to live with.

SR. And how many children in each bed?

JS. Oh, about 3. Of course some of the older ones was away. One was living on a farm. And then when the war came, some of them married. One stayed in Coventry, one in North Berwick. He was married there.

SR. This was girls or boys?

JS. Boys.

SR. They went away to get work did they?

JS. They went away to the army. He was in the Royal Scots. I can always remember that day - being at my grandfather's farm. And the baker came in to West Calder and said "Your brother's away to war this morning. Your mother has washed clothes all night and dried them at the fire". I thought that was terrible. But he had been on Territorials and come back.

SR. Did your brothers ever work in the Shale mines?

JS. No, I don't think so. The one that went to Coventry,

he was in the car business and the other, he was in the farm business.

SR. So although you lived near the shale mines your family wasn't involved?

JS. My husband worked, when I got married, my husband worked in Addiewell oil works.

SR. What job was he doing?

JS. Oh a dirty job. Breaker hole he used to talk about. I've never seen it but my daughter says "I saw the breaker hole all right" She used to have to go with a piece for him. But we were happier then than what they are now. No matter what they have now they never put in. They're always to go one better. But we weren't like that. We were a big family but we were always content. We'd 7. 6 sons, 1 daughter. And they're all doing well.

SR. Do they all live round here?

JS. The nearest one's the girl. She's in Mid Calder There's 2 in West Calder. There's one above the post office. He's in the central heating business. Then the other one, he's in insurance business.

SR. In your childhood, in your house did you have water?

JS. No, we had a well outside. A pump that you turned and you carried the pails in and carried the dirty water out.

SR. Where did you throw the dirty water?

JS. Oh there was a drain right enough. It wasn't like what there was in West Calder in the Happy Land, they threw them in the gutter. We were lucky in that way.

SR. Did you have a dry toilet?

JS. Yes, just a dry toilet.

SR. One for your house, or did you share it?

JS. No, one for ourselves and a garden. That's one thing, we always had plenty of fresh veg - hens and plenty fresh eggs and that helped, helped the income.

SR. Did your mother work?

JS. No. She did a bit of milking at the farms at times. My father was from the Bathgate area. His father had a farm.

SR. He didn't want to go into the farming business?

JS. We didn't want to go, we thought we were great. We had a great job at Camilty at the gunpowder. And when it came that he could've had the farm, he wouldnae submit to it. He first said "no, we're all right where we are, we'll just stay where we are". But we were sorry for it. Well he got his share along with the rest.

SR. Where was your mother from?

JS. The West Calder area.

SR. Did you see much of your other relatives?

JS. We did - the Bathgate ones. They used to come on a wee gig.

SR. You left school at 14? Did all your brothers and sisters leave school.

JS. At that age as well. That was the age then.

SR. And you never thought of staying on at school to do ...

JS. I wish I had. I was intended to. I don't know. I stopped, I took a dislike. It's now that you learn what you could've done had you stayed on. But my family have all done well.

SR. Did you work at the munitions factory until you got married?

JS. Yes

SR. And you left when you got married?

JS. Yes

SR. Was that because they wouldn't employ married women?

JS. Well. You got married to have a family. If you had a family you had to look after them. There was none of this. "Oh my mum'll look after" and you go out to work. That wasn't done then. If you had babies, well you looked after them. You just had to.

SR. How old were you when you got married?

JS. 25

SR. Was your husband from West Calder?

JS. Stoneyburn, quite near.

SR. And he worked all his life in Addiewell oil works?

JS. Addiewell oil works. And then he went from there to Grangemouth. His health wasnae good. They said he'd have to finish work or else pack it in. So he got a wee job at Grangemouth and he used to go away by bus every morning at 5.00 am. I used to stand watching at the bedroom window at the bus calling down, see him going away. And it's a long journey. Some of the family have taken up residence there in fact there's one up in Shetland doing with the B.P.

SR. When you got married, where did you go and live?

JS. In a room. My Grans room.

SR. Where was that?

JS. Just at Hermand, just down the road.

SR. And you just had the one room for the 2 of you.

JS. Yes

SR. And was your Gran still there?

JS. Yes, she was in the one end and I was in the other. And I did the cooking and she got a share.

SR. And that worked o.k.?

JS. It weren't so bad.

SR. Was that because you could not afford to get a place of your own?

JS. You couldnae get a place, it was so hard to get a place. Then we waited till we got a place in Danderhall and I was there for 40 years.

SR. Were the houses in Danderhall owned by the oil Co.?

JS. No, the landlord that has that big house through there it was burnt down and now they're rebuilding it.

...

SR. Was he a good landlord?

JS. He was. He never came to collect his rent. We had to go and take it. There was one man had tae go out way and he'd bought a bike and he never went back for it. He said, just leave it to us and we just had to take the rent to him. At the main hall though we always got refreshment and you got a big bag of McKintosh Reds. It was worth it.

SR. When you went back to live there with your husband, did the house still have no water?

JS. No, no. Water was a long time. This was, Polbeth was the first house I had with water. And it was when I was - when they built this place, it was up the road, it was a 4 apartment then, and I knew I could never pay the rent on the wages that he was making on the roads then. And he got a job in Addiewell. He was on the roads before he was in Addiewell. The wages were poor on the roads then. They're no now - They're good.

SR. That was just repairing roads and makings roads?

JS. Shovelling stone, quite heavy.

...

SR. What sort of hours did he have to work on the roads?

JS. About the same, from 7 or 8 until 4.

SR. And was it the same when he went to the oil works?

JS. Uh huh. No I don't think it was so long.

SR. And he got a better wage in the oil works?

JS. Uh huh. That's why he had to move. We'd got a big rent, to pay. And there was no help with your rent as there is now. Some of them living on nothing!

SR. So when did you move to Polbeth?

JS. Oh. I forget. It must have been after the 2nd world war because one of the boys was born during the 2nd world war. And he would just be about 8 months when we came to Polbeth, - I remember.

... about her family

SR. When you moved to Polbeth you got water. Did you get electricity as well?

JS. On no. Just paraffin lamps. But it was good. You had them clean and you got a good light. And it was a light that hung like this over the mantelpiece

...

SR. Did your husband get cheap paraffin from the oil works because he worked there?

JS. No. There was nothing like that. The cooperative brought it.

SR. Tell me about when you had your children. Did you

have then at home?

JS. Everyone of them was born at home. None in the hospital. I had a doctor visited me previous before I had my first one. It was a long time right enough. And I had the nurse came. A trained nurse. Nurse Carnegie. She was awful good.

SR. So you didn't have any problems?

JS. Nae problems. I've had mare problems this last 2 years than all my days in my life.

SR. When you were bringing up your children, did you have problems making ends meet?

JS. Oh definitely. Things were hard. You made do. I used to make rugs and an odd one I would sell and it was extra money for clothing, or I would knit things, I used to crochet a lot. These things I used to do a lot of that and sell it.

SR. To people in West Calder or to a shop?

JS. Oh no, just privately. Somebody that had seen and liked them.

...

SR. When you were bringing up your family, were there any weeks when you just didn't have enough money for food?

JS. That's true. Definitely true. I'm no ashamed to say it.

SR. What did you do?

JS. As long as you had as much as would get you bread, cos we always plenty of fresh eggs, plenty fresh veg. And you could always make soup and boil eggs for sandwiches. You lived that way.

SR. And what about clothes?

JS. Well you just had to make do with what you could get.

...

SR. When you went back to Danderhall after you got married - was that the same size of house - but and ben.

JS. But and ben.

SR. And apart from the last child they were all brought up there?

JS. They were all brought up in Danderhall, but Walter.

SR. And even though you had very little money, you never never went out to work yourself.

JS. No, no. Just doing bits and pieces in the house. On no, you couldnae. You've nobody to leave your children with. My mum and dad were both dead by then.

SR. When you were a child did you often get sick?

JS. Oh aye.

... story about needle in toe ...

SR. In those days were there many children got sick and died?

JS. No really, if it was - I lost a brother at 12. Appendicitis. He died. He died in the Infirmary. My dad went and sat him out. And then he walked from Edinburgh back here. Got a lift with a milk van and walked the rest.

...

SR. Do you think it was healthy for people living then?

JS. People were content then. Happier than what they are now. It's what they can make to spend at the weekend now....

SR. What was it made you more content?

JS. Well, we'd one another, and we used to have the family for a long walk at weekends. That was all that we had. Until they got up a bit and then maybe you got a night out at the pictures if you saw something you liked. That was all, that was all the entertainment.

SR. And when you were children, were did you play?

JS. Outside.

SR. What sort of things did you play?

JS. Oh, I cannae mind. Skipping ropes and that. It was a nice place to live.

... nostalgia about Danderhall ...

They (houses at Danderhall) would be condemned in a way.

SR. Do you think they should have been condemned?

JS. Oh aye. They couldnae have renovated them. Although my sister had one next to us after she was married and she took out the old grates and put in new grates and renovated it, but then there was never running water inside. It was no good without that.

SR. Do you think they were actually unhealthy to live in?

JS. No I don't. Nurse Carnegie's used to say to me "you're awfully lucky. You've got the green fields in front for your children to play and you're a very lucky woman".

...

SR. Do you remember the big strike in 1926?

JS. That was the year we got married. Oh that was a terrible strike ... Well the weather was perfect. Just like what this summer was. Just perfect. We got a load of wood. And my youngest sister was holding the sticks for my father to saw. And he took her pinkie off. And I got the job to walk to West Calder to see what could be done. We couldnae find the pinkie and it would've been stitched on. Well, no in these days, for they hadnae the knowledge I don't suppose. Well I cried and the doctor's just put me out.

SR. About the strike - was your husband on strike?

JS. He was. Before he was married he was in the coal pits - Stoneyburn.

SR. Why did he leave the coal pits?

JS. I cannae mind why he left. Then he got a job on the roads. Well it was nearer where we were living. I guess that was it.

...

SR. When you were a child and you were all living in the house. What sort of meals did you have?

JS. Plain.

SR. Did you all eat together?

JS. Yes

SR. So you had 10, 11 chairs in the house?

JS. We were never really all living together at the same

time. The elder ones were in farms or something. They lived in bothies. You'll have heard about a bothy. They lived on a farm. My elder brother lived there. And then the others one he went away to Coventry and worked in the motor factories. And the next one, that was the one that died. But it never happened that we were all together.

SR. And did you have three meals a day?

JS. Oh aye. We were well fed. You just had to like the the plain food - there was nothing fancy. But my mother was a great baker. Scones and a good cook and good soup. We were fed well.

SR. Did you have to help in the house a lot when you were still young?

JS. Oh aye. I did the bedroom and my other sister did the sitting room and all the brasses and things like that.

SR. That was while you were still at school?

JS. Yes

SR. And did the boys do anything to help in the house?

JS. Oh they had to help with sticks and things and that for the fire. We'd always plenty sticks and wood. We had a big coal cellar and we used to have wood in that - a great help.

SR. How about washing?

JS. It was an outside wash house round at the back.

SR. And each house has a wash house.

JS. Each had their own place.

SR. And was it dried in a pulley area over the fire?

JS. Well we had a pulley in the sitting room and we had the heat off this lamp as I say. But it was great. Babies nappies could be dry in no time.

SR. Was it your mother did the washing, or you?

JS. Myself. Well, my sister and I shared that. My sister washed one day and I look after her children. Then I washed the next day and she looked after my children and we made the midday meal. We helped one another.

SR. And you always lived next door to your sister?

JS. Oh aye, after she got married. She got my mother's house you see, when they died.

SR. Was it hard work for women?

JS. It was hard work then, for a woman. Because, you had all the washing and ironing.

SR. And the women had to do all the housekeeping and makes the wages meet?

JS. Make ends meet

SR. Did your father used to give all his wages to your mother?

JS. Oh yes, my dad was a very quiet man. Didna bother about that. The only time he went away was at New Year, to see his own Dad.

SR. He didn't drink and smoke a lot?

JS. No he smoked his pipe right enough, but he never drunk. We'd nae troubles that way.

SR. When you were working did you give your wages to your mother?

JS. To my mother, no all. Just so much and you saved the rest for a rainy day. Saved it at home in case it was needed. And it was needed in 1926 because there was nothing coming in and I had 2 or 3 years of wages saved.

...

JS. I'd a sister worked in the office at Camilty. She was awful lucky. She used to get a posh car stop at the door every morning to take her up to her work. And I just

pugged it up on an old bike. She was lucky right enough. Having a good job.

SR. But you enjoyed your job there as well?

JS. I did.

SR. Was it very dusty?

JS. Dirty, dusty. You made it into a pellet. Pressed it in a machine, and the next time you would dry it up into papers and pack it into boxes - ready for the miners.

SR. And then it was sold to the miners by the oil company?

JS. Yes it all went through the office.

SR. Were there a lot of people employed there?

JS. There was quite a lot. Because I had a brother in it. My father was in it till he wasnae able and my sister was in the office. And I'd another sister worked

beside me. So there was quite a lot.

SR. And you all gave your wages to your mother?

JS. Well you gave what she wanted and saved the rest.

SR. And when you got married did you have to buy furniture and so on out of your savings?

JS. Oh aye. Off your savings, between him and her. Oh it was. You started with everything, paid. You'd never dream of doing what they do now. Pay up things. It was all paid for. And I'd a lovely wee place - where my grandmother lived. Then we got a house at Danderhall.

- List of things to buy when we got married -

...

SR. Did you have to save up to get married?

JS Oh aye.

SR You'd have got married earlier if you had more money.

JS Well we had money, but then the strike came and it had to be used. To keep us all.

SR And when you get married, did you go away for a holiday.

JS Just stayed at home. Never dreamed on anything like that. We were away for a day, for an afternoon. That was the lot. Nae Majorca then.

SR Were weddings a big celebration then?

JS Old fashioned weddings - on quite good. But you didna need to have a hall. You'd have it in your own home.

SR When you worked at the gunpowder factory, did you get holidays?

JS Oh aye.

SR. Paid holidays?

JS. I think we did. Aye, I think we were paid.

SR. And how long did you get?

JS. Oh about a week if you were lucky.

SR. So you were much better off than the people working in the shale mines and the oil works.

JS. Oh, I don't know about that. The shale miners got quite good time off.

SR. Did you ever go away for your holiday or did you just stay at home?

JS. One day. Aberdour we went. That was a holiday.

SR. Usually you just stayed at home?

JS. Stayed at home. If you'd 2 or 3 bairns it was nae

holiday. You were better just having a wee picnic up at the burn. That was all we did.

SR. Was there much pollution from the oil works and the shale bings?

JS. I didn't think so.

...

SR. You didn't avoid the oil works because it was smoky or anything like that.

JS. No, that didn't bother. Grangemouth was worse than that. One of my sons worked in Grangemouth and the works was just beside it. And if there was anything happened at the works the windows were out.

JS. Both he (my son) and my husband were in Addiewell at the same time.

SR. So your son worked in Addiewell for a time as well then?

JS. He did. He's awa up in the Shetland now.

SR. And your son left school at 14 and went straight to Addiewell did he?

JS. Well he was a wee while on the farms. Then he did his service, his National Service. Then he came back and he went to B.P. It's a good firm to be with. They're good to their pensioners. We all ken that. The two men and my sister, although they were in the mines with the B.P. I was the oil works. They were all the same.

...

SR. When you were a child what sort of medical services were there?

JS. Very good.

SR. Would the doctor come out and visit you if you were ill?

JS. Aye, in a gig. Dr. Young. He was very good.

SR. Did you have to pay for medical services?

JS. The only time you had to pay was when there was a baby born. But you didn't have to pay for their services. Well that was taken off them at the work.

SR. Where you worked as well at the gunpowder factory, was that the same?

JS. Aye, there was so much taken off you.

...

SR. How about your mother, when she had her children, was there a doctor?

JS. Something the same, similar. But not a trained nurse. at that time. Just a woman that could come and help. But they hadnae a trained nurse. We had trained nurses.

...

Side 2

SR. Has the area around here changed a lot?

JS. No really in Polbeth, so that you would notice.

SR. Before they built all these Polbeth houses, was there an old village of Polbeth, or was there just nothing at all?

JS. Nothing. In fact they couldnae finish these houses for lack of wood, because of the war. Any they took the huts that the men used and they took the wood out of that for the floors to get them finished up in Polbeth Avenue. I thought what a terrible place I'd come to, windows rattling all night and everything

SR. So they're not particularly good houses?

JS. Oh they're good houses. But they're better now.

because they have rewired than and put new pipes in and different things. And the cupboards and the cupboards and that - you used to have your coal in your kitchenette, which was horrible. But I took it and made the coal cellar into a cupboard and put your coal outside so's you didna get all the dust. We'd plenty of dust when I put my man's clothes to wash. Oo, terrible, Addiewell works.

SR. What job was he doing exactly?

JS. First breaker hole, that's where they broke up the shale.

SR. And he did that all the time that he worked there?

JS. Yes,

SR. And did you wash his clothes every day. They were so dirty?

JS. No every day. They changed and travelled in their own and left the other things in the locker.

SR. And they would bring them back once a week to be

washed?

JS. Yes And when you put them in the water, the smell of them - oil.

SR. Were they difficult to wash.

JS. Aye, because you hadnae a machine then. If you'd had a machine like what you have nowadays, it'd have been different. But you hadnae.

...

SR. When you were married and lived at Danderhall, what would you do during, the day?

JS. A full day.

SR. Do you think it was harder for the women or harder for the men?

JS. It was hard for the women. Ken didnae dae anything then, in these days. Men are different now. Many can turn their hands to anything. But when they married they couldna

paper or do anything like that. It was women did that. I did it. It's different now.

They can turn their hands to anything.

SR. So everything that was to do with the house it was women that did it.

JS. Women that did it.

SR. So when the men came home from work, what did he do?

JS. Well, the dinner was to be on the table, that was the main thing.

...

SR. Were there families with problems where the men were very aggressive towards their wives?

JS. No, no really. Unless you made the wrong friend. No. They were happier days then wi' nothing, that what they are now wi' everything.

SR. Did your husband drink or smoke?

JS. Smoked but didna drink.

SR. But there were a lot of families where the men did drink a lot?

JS. Oh aye. It was a joke really more than anything else. There was aye something cheery about it.

SR. Did you go to church?

JS. We had to, my dad, 'cos he was that way minded. My mother couldna go and handle the house as well, so it was my dad that took us.

SR. Why couldn't your mother go?

JS. Well, she was left to do the cooking and what was to be done. She would go occasionally. That was the last war.

. . . bit about church and the minister . . .

Sunday school

SR. When you were a child and also when you were married, was there community help, if one family was very poor and

couldn't cope or someone was ill, would other people go and help them.

JS. Aye they die that. If you hadna what you needed, well they would help. I was right fortunate enough to have what I needed. And there were washing put away for the next baby.

SR. When you were a child did you have enough money for shoes?

JS. Oh, I never had my bare feet.

SR. Because some people did, didn't they?

JS. I know. I believe my man did when he was just a laddie - had bare feet.

SR. Did you know him when he was a child?

JS. No, I didnae, I'd be about 16 when I knew him first. He was best man at my sister's wedding.

SR. Then he courted you for about 9 years.

JS. A long while, a long, long while. You see we were going

to get married, but the money was spent - on other tilings.

SR When you were courting in those days, what did you do?

JS Just went walking. We were quite happy to do that. But noo, they're all sitting in the house noo.

SR You didn't used to go to the cinema?

JS Oh I used to love a night of the cinema. We went to the cinema right enough. There was one in West Calder. And there was another at the top of the street.

... About engagement rings....

<u>Transcript</u>	Mrs J. S (Anon)
<u>Birth Place</u>	I was born in Danderhall in 1901.
<u>Industrial Information</u>	My late husband used to work In the shale works at Addiewell Oil works as a breaker. This was where the shale was broken up.
<u>Grangemouth</u>	From there he went to Grange- mouth because his health wasn't good. He was told to finish work at Addiewell. He then got a wee job at Grangemouth.
<u>Illness</u>	He had to give this job up too because he had a diseased artery in his heart.
<u>Pension</u>	I think he was the first one to get the pension from Grangemouth.
<u>Woman's Work</u>	When my husband had to retire due to ill health, I had to go out and look for work. I was wrapping the pellets, two or three together for the miners to us.
<u>Hours</u>	My working hours were seven o'clock in the morning until four o'clock in the afternoon.
<u>Lunch</u>	There was a room that you went to for your lunch.
<u>Washed and Changed</u>	This was where we washed and changed because it was kind of dirty work.

<u>Strike</u>	I can remember the 1926 strike. That was the year we got married. That was a terrible strike. My husband didn't join the strike.
<u>Domestic Life</u> <u>Housing</u>	We just lived in a butt and ben with two bedrooms.
<u>Sleeping Arrangements</u>	We had two double beds in the living room and two in the bedroom. That was what you had to live with.
<u>Washhouse</u>	We had an outside washhouse round the back. Each house had their own washhouse.
<u>Drying Pulley</u>	We had a pulley in the sitting room and we had the heat off the lamp to dry the clothes.
<u>Ironing</u>	The woman had to do all the ironing in those days, and it took a lot of doing.
<u>Housekeeping</u>	The woman had all the house-keeping to do and makes all the wages meet.
<u>Water</u>	In my childhood we had an outside well with a pump that you turned and you carried the pails of clean water into the house and the dirty water outside .
<u>Drain</u>	We threw the dirty water down a drain, but when we lived in West Calder we threw the dirty water in the gutter.
<u>Toilets</u>	We had a dry toilet in the

garden. Each house had their own toilet, so we didn't have to share.

Lighting

We had paraffin lamps which were quite good. We had to clean them. We hung them over the mantelpiece.

Paraffin

We didn't get cheap paraffin from the oil works where he worked before he had to retire through ill health. We bought it from the co-operative.

Clothing

Things were hard and I used to make rugs and the odd one I would sell and that gave me extra money for clothing. Really we just had to make do with the clothes we had.

Food

We had plenty of fresh eggs and fresh vegetables, so we could always make soup and boil eggs for sandwiches.

Illness

I lost a brother at twelve years old. He died in the Infirmary from appendicitis. We had to walk to Edinburgh and back to visit him in the Infirmary before he died. Sometimes we got lift with the milk van and we had to walk the rest.

Social Life Walks

We used to go for long walks at the weekends.

Pictures

Maybe we got a night out at the pictures if we saw some-

thing that we liked.