

Interview with Marcel Cloutier

April 8, 1994

At Bates Mill

Rosa Hamilton

Julie Hardacker

Interviewee: Marcel Cloutier

Interviewer: Ms.

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Interviewer=Ms:...is to obtain some information concerning the Franco-American culture and specifically ah, concerning the mills, the laborers in the area and your name had been given to us because of your experience in the mills for so many years. There are ah, a set of questions that I'll ask and you can talk as much or as little as you want to. The more information the better. It's going to give us ah, a piece of the history of Lewiston-Auburn which will be put on an archive and will be kept for research purposes in the future. Initially it will be taped, which is what we're doing right now and in the future when the funding is available, those tapes will be converted into script, and then will be bound and kept in the Franco-American Library, ok. And that's basically what this little chapter is explaining, ok. Before we even get started I do have some releases which allow us to tape this and use this information for research purposes in the future, and I'm gonna have you sign, actually four of them and so that you can have a copy of everything you sign, and we have a copy for the files in the Franco-American festival, ah, Franco-American Library, I'm sorry. That festival's on my head right now. Ah,

Cloutier: I hope I can be of some ah, you know I, I was born in Brunswick and I left Brunswick when I was 15. Came back oh, 19 years ago. I worked all over all you know, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts...

Ms: But mostly in this kind of work?

Cloutier: Absolutely! Oh yeh, always.

Ms: OK. And that's what's interesting. And that's, that's and you're Franco-American. You know, you qualify.

Cloutier: OK.

Ms: OK. So it's M A R C E L.

Cloutier: Ya.

Ms: C L O U T I E R?

Cloutier: Ya.

Ms: I don't know what the access number is, do you? OK, I'm gonna leave that blank. And I just need your signature right here, right on that one,..oh I'm sorry here I am...

Cloutier: That's ok. This is just so you can use it?

Ms: We can use it, yes. That's ...no money changing hands or anything....I know...one, two, three, four...

Cloutier: Oh, jeez, this is worse than my house here.

Ms: OK, I am going to give you this copy and I will give you this copy, and I can fill in the rest later. I'll give this to you duly. Now I have a set of questions that ah, by all means we don't have to stick with this. If something comes up that's really much more interesting we'll take off on that avenue. Ah, what I want to do first of all is to start with a little bit of your history like ah tell us about your background, your childhood. You did mention that you had grown up in Brunswick ah, where did your parents come from, ah, where and when were you born and where did you live as a child and how many brothers and sisters. Just a little bit about your family background.

Cloutier: Well, I was born in Brunswick in 1939.

Ms: And that makes you how old?

Cloutier: Very old. (Laughter from both) Fifty-four.

Ms: OK.

Cloutier: And two sisters??? Like my father came from a family of eleven. There were eleven in his family. All worked in the mills in Brunswick.

Ms: Where did your family come from? Canada?

Cloutier: Ah, my grandfather I know for sure came from Canada because I remember when I was younger he went to Canada a couple of times to visit relatives and when he come back my grandmother had to go to customs and bring him back. He was never a citizen. My grandmother was born in Lewiston, my father was born in Lewiston. My mother was born in Topsham. Ah, I don't know where my mother's father was born.

Ms: What was her maiden name?

Cloutier: Levesque.

Ms: So she was french descent. Both sides.

Cloutier: Oh, yes! Absolutely!

Ms: Both sides of the family was french then?

Cloutier: My grandmother always told, my mother's mother always many times told me she had, her great, her grandmother was ah, I don't, I'm not sure if it was her grandmother or her great-grandmother was full blooded indian. She had pictures of either

her, either her or her grandmother and God, she looked just like a Navajo??? But I don't know, she was born in either Brunswick or Lewiston. The only one I know of that was born in Canada was my father's father. Go on.

Ms: Now you said you were raised in Brunswick for 15 years? What kind of schooling did you have?

Cloutier: Ya, ya. St. John's.

Ms: St. John's?

Cloutier: Went 'till I was a Freshman, no Sophomore. The mill closed down. Everybody's out of a job. My father was offered a job in Massachusetts, so we packed up ...and moved to Massachusetts.

Ms: Packed up the family and moved to Massachusetts, ok. And did you complete your high school down there?

Cloutier: Ya.

Ms: Now when did you start working in the mills?

Cloutier: Soon as I got out of high school.

Ms: Was your working ah, financial to support your family, to help you with your family?

Cloutier: To support me.

Ms: To support yourself. So you were out of the house when you turned what? Eighteen, seventeen, eighteen???

Cloutier: Nineteen.

Ms: Nineteen. OK. Uh,...

Cloutier: My grandfather worked for (Ernie, was Ernie???) then, I think it was Cabot before that. I forgot what the name of the mill but it's written on..I went by there a couple of weeks ago.

Ms: We're talking Auburn or Lewiston?

Cloutier: In Brunswick.

Ms: In Brunswick?

Cloutier: And ah, I can remember going in there and bring my mother her lunch at seven o'clock at night my father...

Ms: Is this the are you talking,...

Cloutier: It's the big mill in Brunswick.

Ms: Not the ah, Fort Andros...

Cloutier: Right where the power plant is, right on the river by the bridge.

Ms: Oh, ok! Ya, ok. They call it Fort Andros now.

Cloutier: I don't know.

Ms: Are you talking about the red brick

Cloutier: Ya,...

Ms:...building or the yellow one?

Ms: Ya. They call it Fort Andros

Cloutier: ...the L-shaped.

Ms: The back side of it is still in function

Cloutier:...right on the river.

Ms: ...and the front end is all businesses right now.

Cloutier: My grandfather went to work there when he was 15 and he retired from there when he was 66. It's the only job he ever had. In the same weave room too.

Ms: Now when you began work ah, what is it that you were doing then?

Cloutier: I worked in the mill. I was ah, rubber covering. I went in the mill and did a job a wasn't crazy about, about 6 months after I was in the mill, then I learned how to weave.

Ms: What was the first job that you had?

Cloutier: The first job I had?

Ms: Ya, the one that you didn't like.

Cloutier: It was in the mill but it was putting yarn in rubber, rubber covering machines. We wove, that mill made bathing suit material, girdle material, playtex for Rose Marie, Reid, Catalina and ah, at the time they put yarn around rubber those things were all stretch fabrics.

Ms: OK. You did that for six months.

Cloutier: My father was a fixer in the mill and my mother was a

weaver in that mill.

Ms: So you all worked in the same mill together then?

Cloutier: Ya.

Ms: At the same time.

Cloutier: Um-um.

Ms: Did you live with your family at that time?

Cloutier: Um-um.

Ms: So you were on your own completely.

Cloutier: Um.

Ms: OK. What ah, what kind of working conditions did you have?

Cloutier: Pretty good.

Ms: Did you have...

Cloutier: Worked hard.

Ms: OK. What were your hours?

Cloutier: God knows, I worked 16 hours a day.

Ms: Sixteen hours a day.

Cloutier: Eighty hours a week wasn't unusual.

Ms: What was the normal paycheck for you?

Cloutier: For 80 hours a week, about 80 bucks.

Ms: Eighty bucks and you got paid every week?

Cloutier: Oh, ya.

Ms: Eighty hours a week!!!

Cloutier: Oh, sure.

Ms: So you're talking almost a dollar an hour.

Cloutier: Well, minimum wage then was \$1.07 an hour. By the time they took everything out...

Ms: So about a dollar...

Cloutier: you get to take home about \$80.

Ms: But how about the working conditions, like what was the mill like?

Cloutier: Clean.

Ms: Very clean? Were there any safety problems?

Cloutier: Ah, no, no.

Ms: Do you remember anyone ever getting hurt?

Cloutier: Oh sure.

Ms: We're talking about before occupational health and safety there...

Cloutier: Ya, ah, I remember when I was a k., I remember when I was younger and wasn't working over there and somebody, my father come home at night and said, jeez, somebody got killed, you know. Ah, something wrong with the wiring, I don't know what it was. Course the looms were close together then.

Ms: Ya.

Cloutier: And you walk along you know, you, both hands on one side and the other hand on the other side feeling the loom fabric and something went wrong and it shot it out and killed the guy.

Ms: But what kind of injuries when you went to work?

Cloutier: Ah, no I don't remember, I don't remember anything any different than you do today, probably somebody hurt his back or somebody cut himself with a knife or, no I don't remember ah...

Ms: How about the air? Was the air clean?

Cloutier: Well,...

Ms: Did you have a lot of dust or....

Cloutier: Ya, ha, ha. Of course there's dust,...

Ms: I mean, I know there is a lot in a mill...

Cloutier: Ya. It depends on where. If you work in a synthetic mill there's no dust at all. If you work in a cotton mill, like we do here, there's dust, or a woolen mill there's dust. Ah, ya I'm sure there was, you know. But today, ya. I'm sure there was.

Ms: Well, being a nurse you know, I'm interested in to see what

kind of ah what kind of working situation you had back then, you know whether that affected the health in the long run as years go by, ah, ..

Cloutier: No, I don't really, I don't know anyone who, I can't think back and remember anyone who died or because of the health conditions or the air or, and I'm sure some probably did, I don't know but I can't off the top of my head name them, unless it was a freak accident. Like I worked in the mill and somebody did something wrong and the pressure kettle, and the kettle flew off and hit his head and killed him, you know that kind of stu... But as far as somebody dying from white lung or or ah, I just don't know.

Ms: You don't know. That's ok.

Cloutier: You know my mother worked, my grandfather and all my aunts and uncles...

Ms: So how were the general working conditions, working through your bosses and your supervisors?

Cloutier: Not bad.

Ms: Did you ever have any trouble with them?

Cloutier: It's difficult for me to say because I don't, I've never worked in any other industry.

Ms: Ya.

Cloutier: And, and, textiles are textiles. You know. And nothing very much changes from one mill to another. Ah, oh I worked with some good people and some not so good people.

Ms: If you had a problem...

Cloutier: Ya, ..

Ms: with someone, how did you have it taken care of? Did you have to go through the chain of command, or were you, were you in a union, where you went to your what do you call it, lead man or something?

Cloutier: Ya, ...chain of commands naturally ah. Most of the mills I worked with have been very close to the people who owned the companies you know. And a lot of time worked for Bradford??? or in Massachusetts for the...??? I don't have to go through the chain of commands. Of course if I had supervisors working for me then naturally they went through the chain of commands. Solving problems, solve problems then the same way you do today. Ah, I think there're a lot, I personally think there're a lot more

problems today then there were 30 years ago.

Ms: How many ah, in the mills that you worked in say, then to now, what was the largest number of people that you worked with? The largest ah, organization that you worked with? Because my impression is that you're telling me you worked usually small places where it was easier to get things done so you didn't have too much trouble getting along with your workers or having trouble. But ah, just give me an idea, you know.

Cloutier: Well, I worked for Guilford back in '74 and for four and half years and they had five or six hundred people. And I went to work for them again in Massachusetts ah, twelve years ago. Both mills then ah must have been eight, nine hundred people. Then I worked for a mill back in the early sixties and seventies in Massachusetts in the (upholstery ???) mills and I know we had a thousand people in there, so. And I worked in mills where there were only five people, so. I don't know that, I think more people the less you notice the problems. And if you put a half a dozen people in here working or take 'em and spread 'em out all over the place, you're gonna have more problems in this room with the five or six people then you would if they're spread out. Oh, and the problems are, ah the problems are the same whether there are a lot of people or not so many people. I, I think if you have a lot of people you don't have too many problems. I really do.

Ms: Can you talk about why you think there were less problems 30 years ago than there are now? You made that comment.

Cloutier: Well, probably because people weren't so demanding. You know, people were happy with going to work, earning a living ah, things have changed, times have changed...

Ms: Do you think any of the regulations...

Cloutier: Now, now you know, I went for an interview 30 years ago, I wanted the job, I listened to what he had to say, what he had to offer you know. I didn't make any demands on him. I sat down and interviewed somebody with an honor a few years ago and we didn't have much to say, we listened to what he wanted. How many days off he wanted, how much vacation time he wanted and this, and if his wife had a baby, he wanted two weeks off. Oh, everything is different. People demand, people expect a lot more. Makes it difficult for people like me.

Ms: Because you're in a higher position now, is that what you mean?

Cloutier: Pardon?

Ms: Because you're in a higher position now?

Cloutier: Well, I've always done this...

Ms: Ya.

Cloutier: but it wasn't so you know, if you went to someone 25 years, and I've never been unreasonable - I wouldn't ask anybody to do anything I wouldn't do, but if I went to somebody and say, say would you do this, they'd say "sure, wow." And you go today, they may look at you and say "hey, that's not my job."

Ms: Is this reason because of too many rules, regulations and maybe unions and organizations?

Cloutier: Well, ya, peo, people have just, people have changed, you know, people have changed. Attitudes have changed. Ah, I'm not saying people are bad today and I'm not saying they're not, it's just completely different, not completely but but very, very different. Working with people 30 years ago versus people today. And you had a lot more people, more people 20 years ago I think were a lot better, they had a lot more skill, you know they went to work in the mill and they planned that was their job and they wanted to stay there forever until they died or they retired. People don't think that way today. They come in, they don't like it or, ...pack up and go someplace else. I think, I don't know the word to use to I think probably more dedicated, I don't know. My father was happy working at (Ernie's???) all his life, you know, until he retired. I don't think people think about that today and I don't blame 'em blame 'em in a way because jobs today definitely aren't as secure today as they were 30 years ago.

Ms: Ya, especially in this field now, ya. Ah, can you talk a little bit about ah, unions. Have you had any dealings with unions?

Cloutier: Oh ya. This is an organized...

Ms: This is an organized...

Cloutier: This is a union...

Ms: how long have you been in the union?

Cloutier: I don't belong in the union.

Ms: You don't belong in the union. But, so you've never belonged in the union.

Cloutier: The union has been here I believe as long as the mill has.

Ms: OK. Do you have good dealings with them or bad dealings with them or could you talk a little bit about that?

Cloutier: Not really. (Laughter)

Ms: Not really.

Cloutier: Well, I don't even...

Ms: You don't have to give me any real incidences, but...

Cloutier: Ya, ya, ya.

Ms: Your general feeling.

Cloutier: I've been on both sides. Vice-president of the union in Massachusetts, of a union for two years.

Ms: And what, what was that like?

Cloutier: Well, I learned a, I learned, the thing that sticks out in my mind the most about being on that side is, if I owned a business, and it's my money, I want to run it and manage it the way I want to not the way someone else tells me I have to do it.

Ms: Uh, uh.

Cloutier: Ah, I don't, I worked, in most of the mills I worked in were non-union mills and those people weren't treated any different. We didn't treat people any differently than you do in the union mills. Benefits were the same, as a matter of fact the wages might have been a little more than union mills to keep the unions out. Ah, it went by seniority, you know, really nothing any, when you terminated somebody, you, whether there's a union there or not I can't just come up to someone and say "you're all done." You have to give them a verbal warning and you have to give them a written warning and another written warning finally, so, probably 50 years ago unions were great because they did protect people you know, but today people have as much protection with or without a union, because of labor laws and, so...

Ms: It's interesting to hear a different perspective.

Cloutier: Ya.

Ms: Ya.

Cloutier: Unions make it difficult. They do. You know, we have I think a good relationship. Every once in a while you know. First of all you can't have a union contract today that was good for the union, for the people, and for the company 30 years ago.

Ms: Um.

Cloutier: Times have changed. Contracts made the change. I ah,

I'm not crazy about unions. They just make it difficult as far as I'm concerned. I don't, they're great, well I don't know if they are today. I know 30 - 40 years ago they did a lot for the textile people, did a lot for for ah, working people. I'll tell, I'll tell you why another reason, the mill I worked in in Massachusetts the first mill I ever worked in went on strike twice in four years and really for nothing because we went back and if you're out two weeks on strike and you end up getting 2 cents an hour more than they were gonna give you, it takes you a hundred years to make up those two weeks.

Ms: That you lost.

Cloutier: So when I and the two young gentlemen who owned the company, a young man by the name of Berkerwitz and one by the name of (Squire???) ah, very young guys, a beautiful mill and we went back to work after that last strike and I got another job and went to work someplace else. I worked there for seven years, I think. Six months later they sold the company because they didn't they just, it was their company, they couldn't do what they wanted, every time they tried to do something the union'd step in, arbitration, you know, it's a big hassle and the mon, the money you make if you own a textile company is probably not as much as you could make if you put your money in the bank and just let it draw interest and you end up with 4 - 5 percent at the end of the year. So those guys just said hey, we don't want this anymore, we don't need it, sell it, take our money and invest it and, and be trouble free. No headaches, no problems and and that's what they did. And there's no question in my mind or anyone else's why ??? that the union had a lot to do with it.

Ms: Uh, uh. OK, ah, oh, you know what I never did ask you, when you were working when you were younger and up until now, when you were working when you turned 18 and you were living with your parents, what kind of benefits did, what kind of, you know, you told me the salary,

Cloutier: Ya, good...

Ms: ...but did you know, insurance or paid vacation...

Cloutier: Oh ya, oh sure. Oh ya. Oh ya.

Ms: Even when you were 18?

Cloutier: Even when my father, even when I didn't work they had paid holidays, insurance...

Ms: Where in Massachusetts was this?

Cloutier: Thornton.

Ms: Thornton?

Cloutier: Thornton, south of Boston. About forty miles south of Boston.

Ms: What kind of a mill was that?

Cloutier: Ah, it was a tex., a weaving ah,

Ms: A weaving mill?

Cloutier: Ya, you know, we had two hundred looms. There must have been 4 or 5 hundred people, I'm not sure. A long time ago. Back in the fifties, late fifties, early sixties.

Ms: Were jobs plentiful back then or scarce?

Cloutier: Pardon?

Ms: Were they plentiful, the jobs, plentiful, or were they scarce?

Cloutier: Plenty of work in those days.

Ms: And so...

Cloutier: If you walked out on this one you could go to the other one.

Ms: OK. And when do you remember that starting to decline, that ah, when do you remember the jobs starting to go down?

Cloutier: Well, you know, in my mind is when (Ernie???) went out of business, you know.

Ms: And that was when?

Cloutier: That's the mill in Brunswick. I think there were 1100 people working there. Everybody in Brunswick worked there. Aunts and my uncles well my grandfather that died. And ah, then probably of course that mill in Massachusetts that we were working in didn't go out of business, well it did go out of business, but didn't liquidate or go bankrupt, they just sold the contents of the building and the business one of their competitors. Ah, probably in the early seventies late sixties, and then I ??? Berkshire & Hathaway closed another mill, ah and since then it's been that way. I know Burlington four years ago had I think seventeen mills sale, you know. The big textile companies are down south, not up here.

Ms: Why do you think that is?

Cloutier: I think one of the reasons they left again is because of organized labor. Not cheap labor, people in the south now doing

the same job or comparable jobs, as people in New England make the same money. They don't pay them any less, as a matter of fact a lot of the technicians for example, make more money down south than they do up here without organized labor. So (laughter). It's not that I don't like union, I think (laughter) it certainly sounds that way.

Ms: No, everyone is entitled to their own ...

Cloutier: No, it's, it's ...

Ms: You're on a different end of looking at it.

Cloutier: Right, right and then you take the teamsters are on strike now for example. Those guys make nineteen bucks an hour. And the people in here average ten dollars an hour you know, and a loaf of bread is still a buck and a quarter or a buck eighty or whatever. It went, it just went out of whack. You, I think if you go to France, they're organized ninety percent of the people in France are organized but they all work, it's all the same union. You know, you don't have the teamsters, you don't have a, a textile worker, ??? or mechanics, you know. They belong to the same union. Everybody makes the same kind of money. You take a union like, take the teamsters you know they've done right for them and the ship, they're making eighteen, nineteen dollars an hour. What about the poor guy who's only making eight dollars an hour.

Ms: You think it would make a difference if they were all, one if we'd have one big union ..

Cloutier: Of course it would.

Ms: in the United States?

Cloutier: Oh, sure, listen, like take the one in Europe, you know France, England, of course it'd work. I think at one time they had five or six unions in here. They had a union for the general membership, they had a fix, loom fixers union, they had weaving, you know, it went on and on and on.

Ms: Trying to keep them all straight eh.

Cloutier: Ya. Impossible, you know it's just difficult. I think today, well of course the trend is everybody is taking reduction in pay ah, I don't know that anybody can do anything about that, but I think any shop, any textile mill if you will, from here course it depends on the location, what the wages are you know, the area you're living at, but whether there's a union or there aren't everybody is just about. Textile industry pays weavers so much, that's what it's worth, and they pay technicians or loom fixers so much, that's what it's worth. It doesn't matter if the mill across the street has a union or it doesn't, that's what they get.

Ms: Ah...

Cloutier: But as far as declining, ah jeez, ever since I can remember textile industry you know that was a **major**, that was **the** industry in Maine you know, and New England for that matter. That and shoes. Shoes are gone.

Ms: Now have you ever worked in a shoe shop or a shoe mill?

Cloutier: No.

Ms: No shoe, it's always been textile for you?

Cloutier: No, always been textile.

Ms: Could you sort of take me through your first job to what you're doing now, tell me a description of what you've been doing over the years?

Cloutier: You want a resume.

Ms: Well...

Cloutier: Ya, I'll give you a resume, is that what you want?

Ms: Sure, an oral resume, if you don't mind.

Cloutier: Ya.

Ms: I mean just tell me you know, what you did when you were 18, and the next job after that, next job after that and what did that entail, you know what exactly is that? OK.

Cloutier: Ya. (pause)

Ms: Go. What's the first job that you had?

Cloutier: Oh, you want me to do it now?

Ms: Yes, yes, oral.

Cloutier: Holy Moses! What time is it here? Wait a minute, wait a minute here. (Laughter from both)

Ms: We've only been here for about a half an hour.

Cloutier: A half an hour. I broke my watch. Well, the first job is the one I told you about in Massachusetts and then I went to work in Rhode Island. Do you want to write this down or you just want to...

Ms: I know that you, well I'm gonna take a lot from the tape later

on, but...

Cloutier: OK. First job was in Massachusetts. I had a tough time, I had a rough time getting in the mill because my father had told the people don't hire him, I don't want him in the mill, you know.

Ms: Because he didn't want you to do the same thing he did?

Cloutier: He just didn't want me to work in the mill.

Ms: What did he want you to do?

Cloutier: Anything else. Go to school you know. Don't work in the mill.

Ms: Do you ever have any regrets about working in the mill?

Cloutier: No, I made a decent living you know. No, I don't. That's, I've never done anything else. How do I know if I have any regrets or not? No, I don't...

Ms: Do you mind if I ask, do you have children?

Cloutier: Yeh.

Ms: And did you, did you encourage them one way or the other about the mill?

Cloutier: Absolutely not. Didn't encourage 'em at all. As a matter of fact, (laughter) you couldn't pay 'em enough to work in the mill cause they've seen what I've done ah, all over the place away from home all the time...???

Ms: Now, did you settle here in Lewiston-Auburn and then take off...

Cloutier: No. I don't live here. I live just below Moosehead lake. I live over a hundred and twenty miles, a hundred and ten miles from here.

Ms: Do you do that every day?

Cloutier? No, no. I stay here during the week,

Ms: Oh, ok.

Cloutier: and go home on weekends.

Ms: But you raised your family away from Lewiston-Auburn then?

Cloutier: Yes, once, when we came back to Maine in 1974, my oldest

son was 15 and my youngest was 5. ??? And that's strange too because the only one left up here is the old one, and he's the one that had spent more time in the city. I have one in ???, Massachusetts, one in Washington, D.C., one in Cincinnati, and the other one's here. OK.

Ms: Now, let's, ok, what I'd like to do...

Cloutier: That was the first job for seven years then I took a job...

Ms: Now what exactly was that job? You said first of all you were spinning for six months ah...

Cloutier: Ya, then I learned to weave for a lot of years then I went fixing.

Ms: In the same mill?

Cloutier: Ya.

Ms: And fixing is...what exactly?

Cloutier: Repairing the machines with the looms, loom fixers.

Ms: That was a little bit more money, little bit more ah,...

Cloutier: Oh, ya.

Ms: ...prestige.

Cloutier: Oh, ya.

Ms: Better working conditions?

Cloutier: Ahh...more respect, ya better work...no you worked hard, you worked hard. You know, there was matter of fact,...

Ms: Was that the pinnacle of a job in that mill to be able to be a fixer?

Cloutier: And then to...

Ms: Then to be supervisor or whatever?

Cloutier: Right, exactly.

Ms: OK, so it was sort of like walking up the ladder?

Cloutier: Sure.

Ms: OK.

Cloutier: Ya.

Ms: And how did you learn the job of fixer? Did someone...

Cloutier: Oh, they put you on with someone. You know, on the job training for six months or three months or until somebody leaves or somebody dies and they need to put, whether you're trained or you aren't. That's one thing about if somebody leaves and, and, and I wasn't really properly trained and boy I'll tell you I don't know that anybody today, that's another thing, people worked a lot harder in those days than they do today.

Ms: Uhm, uhm.

Cloutier: It seems like, ah they did.

Ms: Well from what we've read, that's what it sounds like.

Cloutier: Oh, God...and you didn't mind, you know, you didn't. You went to work and went to work, I'd go to work at night, take with a lunch or in the morning, go back home at night, or in the afternoon with the same lunch. I didn't have time to eat it, you know, you didn't. Today, 9 o'clock break, doesn't matter what you're doing you stop! In those days you didn't do that, you know. You could if you wanted to, nobody ever, I don't think anybody would've said anything, you just didn't do it you know. And ah,..

Ms: OK, after that job...

Cloutier: And then I went to work for ah, smaller place in ah Central Falls, Rhode Island. And that's, that's ironic that we're talking about it because I got a letter this week from friend of mine in Rhode Island and he's offering for me to buy this mill.

Ms: He's offering you a mill?

Cloutier: Honest to God, so help me God. My wife...he called me last week and said "Hey, guy wants to sell, you know he's pretty old." But I'm too old now and and and I know the mill and I know the machinery and I could buy the place for twenty-five bucks, twenty-five thousand dollars.

Ms: Is it a large mill? Or,...how many people...

Cloutier: Well, jeez, I would imagine you could probably, I know when I worked there and that was a long time ago I would imagine you could do 2 - 3 million dollars worth of business a year, you know.

Ms: How many ah, employees for something like that?

Cloutier: As many as sixty when I worked there before.

Ms: Sixty?

Cloutier: Ya. The father died, left the son a lot, a lot of money. The son didn't want to do it you know, he doesn't need to, he doesn't want to work, I don't know what he's gonna do.

Ms: And what did you do at this mill.

Cloutier: What would I do with it?

Ms: What did you do at that mill? And then what would you do with it?

Cloutier: Well, what did I do with it? I went to work as a I, we had so many looms, so many knitting machines, was a one, one and a half, twelve hour day operation, that's all. And I took care of everything...

Ms: You took care...

Cloutier: including...

Ms: of the fixer or weaving?

Cloutier: the fixing part of it.

Ms: And a weaver also at the same time?

Cloutier: No, we had a weaver.

Ms: Oh, so you were just a fixer.

Cloutier: And responsible for that small area.

Ms: How, how many times a day would something break?

Cloutier: Oh, jeez, they could never, sometimes, you could come in and, if you were fixing 30 looms for example, ok, that's your, that's your set. You have 30 looms to fix. And they have a board there and they put the loom number down the weaver does and what's wrong with it. You could be 8, 9, 10 jobs behind all day long and never get caught up, it could happen.

Ms: They were constantly breaking down?

Cloutier: Well, ya. And you may have a good day where you had 2 or 3 jobs all day. You know it, you could never tell.

Ms: What was the next one after that? How long were you there?

Cloutier: Uhm...about 3 1/2 years. And then I went to work for ???, no, it was ??? and ??? This was in Fall River, Massachusetts.

Ms: Fall River, Mass?

Cloutier: Ya.

Ms: What were you doing there?

Cloutier: This was big time for me. This was a job, the opportunity of a lifetime, you know. Providence Pile was a very progressive company and they were the pioneers I believe of of ah, polypropalene ??? upholstery fabric, and ah very modern you know, installing machines all the time. It took me a long time. I had to fool around with, I had to, I went for an for an, I went for 2 interviews and I, it took me six months before I got the job.

Ms: And ah...

Cloutier: And they, they're what they call, this was fabric development, was a general ??? fabric development at the time. Research and development.

Ms: So...

Cloutier: It really had very, very little to do with manufacturing.

Ms: So what, what, what was the job.

Cloutier: Well, we had, we, we, we did you know experiments, we experimented you know, we had jeez, I don't know, 12 - 13 people, weavers, fixers and any new fabric, we developed any new fabric that was going to be...

Ms: OK.

Cloutier: Very good, interesting job. I worked for an old gent by the name of Tom Riding. He was an Englishman. He was the smartest textile person I've ever known. Ahm, I learned, boy did I learn.

Ms: How many years were you there?

Cloutier: Seven years.

Ms: Seven years?

Cloutier: Ya.

Ms: Why did you leave?

Cloutier: Well, I didn't leave voluntarily. The gent I told you about retired. He was phasing out the last year or so and worked 2 - 3 days a week and they hired a gent, an Italian gentleman from Italy and we really didn't see eye to eye. So I left.

Ms: A volunteer...

Cloutier: No, I didn't leave voluntarily, no, no, no, no. No, no. This is not unusual in textile mills. Ah, while I worked for Quaker we had eleven plant managers in seven years. Textile industry hire people and they use 'em for until they can be useful and then when they become you know, when you've done everything you can and you can't be of any use anymore you get rid of 'em and you get someone else. That was, I didn't get along.

Ms: How do you feel about that?

Cloutier: How do I feel about it?

Ms: Ya, about being used and...

Cloutier: Well, that

Ms: ...passed on.

Cloutier: ...only happens on the management level, not, not...how do I feel about it? I don't know. I suppose at that time I was probably glad. Seven years in one mill is a long time. At least as far as I'm concerned. I don't think like my father and my grandfather did. And ah...

Ms: But you were still moving up...

Cloutier: Sure, you know...

Ms: ...from what I understand.

Cloutier: ...all these jobs were better jobs for me.

Ms: OK.

Cloutier: So I didn't mind and, and, and, and I worked in a lot of other little places part-time but I'm not gonna get into it like. I worked in, in this mill here for example from ah, 7 to 3 and then I'd go across town to another mill and work from 4 to midnight if there wasn't any overtime in the mill I worked at.

Ms: This is when you were young, right? You could do stuff like that? (Laughter)

Cloutier: Well jeez, I don't know I did that, I did that until I was, jeez I did it 'till I was 34 - 35.

Ms: Wow! That didn't leave...

Cloutier: And even this job here, this was...

Ms: ...too much time for family

Cloutier: ...this was, this was not a forty hour job. I'd get a phone call at home at 1 o'clock on a Sunday afternoon. We need to make some samples, we're going to see this customer Monday, he wants us there, so we get on the phone, we make some phone calls, get some people in, go to work and maybe stay 'till seven the next morning, I don't know. I've never had a forty hour a week job.

Ms: Uhm.

Cloutier: So no, I didn't mind, I didn't mind to 16 hours a day.

Ms: Didn't leave too much time for family though, I...

Cloutier: Aye, I built a house while I was doing it too.

Ms: Oh, jeez!

Cloutier: You know. Oh, it depends you know some people don't like to work, some people, know...I go to work, weekends I go home, we raise sheep. When I get home on the weekend you know, I work longer hours during, a day there than I do here. I come back on Mondays to rest up a little. (Laughter)

Ms: How many hours do you work now?

Cloutier: Here?

Ms: Uhm, uhm.

Cloutier: In this mill oh I ah, probably 50 to 55 a week.

Ms: Wow! It's a lot. OK...

Cloutier: Not that I have to, not because I have to. Oh, no, you know, I worked, I worked in places where person who hires you says, "When your work is done you can go home." But number one, I live in a motel, so what am I gonna do if I go home. So, I don't mind. I don't have to work.

Ms: This, after this job that you left that was for seven years ah, in Fall River, Mass. doing the Research and Development what did you do, where did you go after that?

Cloutier: I worked in a little mill, we won't get into that. I worked in a little mill in Rhode Island for about 3 months. About a year before I left Quaker, Providence Pile, Guilford in Maine had gotten in touch with me and wanted to know if I was interested in, I was, but I didn't want to bring my wife and kids up for, especially not up there. Sixty miles to the nearest McDonald's, you know you can't... (Laughter from Ms.) I'm not kidding you,

when I first went there the nearest McDonald was sixty miles. So my wife said, you know "What about that job in Maine?", and I'm saying, "Boy, you don't know what you're getting into." So I called the guy and I said, "Hey, you still interested?" He said, "Ya, come up and see me." So I went up and see him, had an interview, I got the job...

Ms: As, as what?

Cloutier: Guilford.

Ms: But as what at Guilford?

Cloutier: As what they call an area management, which is a weaving superintendent. And that was when I went to work there they were on the verge of bankruptcy. I didn't know. You know, when I walked through the mill and I went for the interview, half the machines were stopped. They said, "Oh, it's the change of season..." and I was 34 - 35, didn't matter to me. It was a job, you know. Money was ok. So..that was, that was, I went to work there in August and my wife came, my wife and children came, I bought a house, she hadn't even seen. She had a brand new home in Mass., you know. It was only four and a half years old. I just got through doing it all, everything was finished, you know, all I had to do now was mow the grass, and you know odds and ends. This is ??? it's closer to one ??? . And I remember I came in August and I bought a house, and she didn't, she'd never seen the house so I said to Jim, my boss, "Jeez, I got to get my wife up here to see this house, you know." He said, "Well, fly her up." I said, "Alright." So I picked her up in Bangor, tell, go up the road and I turned up the driveway and I stopped. It's a long driveway, up a hill and she didn't say much for a few seconds, and then she said, "I'm not loving it Max. (Laughter from both)

Ms: That bad eh?

Cloutier: No it wasn't bad, it was just you know, it was an old farmhouse, a nice farmhouse, great big barn you know, a lot of land you know. I said, "Jeez this is great, what a place to raise kids." And it took a long time for her to adjust, believe me a long, long time. But now you couldn't, I couldn't...

Ms: Couldn't get her out of there...

Cloutier: Couldn't get her out of there for nothing. So things always work out for the best.

Ms: So how long were you at Guilford?

Cloutier: I worked for Guilford for four and a half years and the guy, the gentleman who hired me the general manager of Guilford went to work, went to work for Miller Industry put up in Dexter.

And he asked me if I wanted to go with him, the money was you know, every time was always better you know. You can't turn, in those days, jeez, thirty thousand dollars, holy cow that's a lot of money.

Ms: It's still a lot of money now you know.

Cloutier: Ya, ya it is, ya you're right, it is.

Ms: So what was the name of the mill in Dexter?

Cloutier: Dexter Mill.

Ms: Just Dexter.

Cloutier: Ya. Mr. Miller, Herb Miller owned it.

Ms: OK.

Cloutier: And I worked for Mr. Miller, he had a lot of weaving at the time. He had two or three weaving mills down here, he, this, the mill up there had closed down, going out of business so he bought the contents, not the building. And I ran it for about a year and half and then I moved some machinery from Dexter to Augusta. ??? was in Augusta and I stayed there from November 'till, (write faster,) November 'till ??? moved the machinery, set it up, trained some people. I was all done in February but he kept me on 'till July. And I could've stayed on but I didn't really like, I didn't, I wasn't crazy about, I just wasn't crazy about it so I didn't stay on. And then I went to work for a mill in Skowhegan. Heh, heh, heh, heh.

Ms: I'm trying to spell Skowhegan. Excuse me, I just massacred it but that's ok. I'll get it later. (Laughter)

Cloutier: And I worked for them ah, two or three years, a couple or three years.

Ms: Now is that the same position as...

Cloutier: Ya, ya...

Ms: ...weaving supervisor?

Cloutier: No, no, no. I ran, I managed that whole company.

Ms: OK.

Cloutier: It was a, not a big company. Well, you know we could do three, four or five million dollars...that's a lot of money. Five million dollars, that's a lot. And then Guilford bought a company, no, where did I go after that? Ya, Guilford bought a mill in

Massachusetts and they called me and said "Would you like to go look at the mill we bought in Massachusetts", and I said "Sure." And ah, I went, took the job and I worked for them three, three and a half years in the, the same capacity. But then they decided to move the looms to Maine. So I went to work in another little place just down the street, Stevens Linen.

Ms: And that was in Massachusetts also?

Cloutier: Ya.

Ms: After you'd all moved the family up to Maine?

Cloutier: Ya, great, wonderful. (Laughter)

Ms: Has that been hard on your wife, to have you gone so much? She got used to it.

Cloutier: Well...

Ms: It's like you being in the service.

Cloutier: It depends, it would depend. Sometimes I think she, sometimes I think she was happy to see me come and other times I think she might have been happy to see me go. (Laughter)

Ms: OK, and after Stevens in Massachusetts...

Cloutier: And then I went to work for, in Thomaston for a lady with a, we, when I worked at Stevens we'd sold this lady some machinery and ah she had called me and it was close to home. At that point I was getting tired of traveling and so I worked for her for six or seven months then I went to ??? New Hampshire for about six months and then I went to Connecticut. Connecticut. That was, I don't know if that was a mistake or not. I went to work for Dow Chemical, and it was more money than I ever imagined I would ever make. And it was great, but it was seven hours away.

Ms: What was the ah, the job title?

Cloutier: It was Experimental Weaving,...

Ms: Research?...

Cloutier: Composites, Graphite, Kemplar all these crazy fibers. Developmental work. It's a, well it was Dow Chemical and United Technology had merged. Dow Chemical had the engineering, no, Dow Chemical had the chemical the chemistry background and United Technology had the engineering background. It was beautiful, my God it was incredible, and, and they put me up in a residency and it was just gorgeous.

Ms: How long ago was this?

Cloutier: Ah, two years ago?...

Ms: About two years ago.

Cloutier: Ya, two and a half years. But it was so far to travel you know. My God. And so I left. The lady in Thomaston called me up and said, "You want to come back to work?" I said, "Sure." And that didn't make my wife very happy because the money was, phew! I think, what I should, what I should have thought ahead and said well I'm gonna stay here for three years and then I'm gonna retire, is what I should have done. Too far to travel, I don't mind a couple of hours, like in Lewiston. If I want to go home, I jump in my car and go home, I make it in less than two hours. But in Connecticut ah, I'd leave I'd get home Friday night at midnight, leave again Sunday afternoon at 1 o'clock...

Ms: And then after that?

Cloutier: And then after that I came to work for, work for the lady in Thomaston, and I took a lot of time off in between. Like I worked six months, and that's really what, that's really what I would've like to have done for the rest of my life. Work six months and take six months off. Stay home and play with the sheep farm, you know, whatever. Heh, heh. And that was ok with me but, as a matter of fact that job in Connecticut, my wife called me from the hospital, my wife's a nurse, she called me from the hospital and said, "Did you see in the paper?" I said, and I don't read the news...I don't want to look in the paper, I'll find a job if I do. (Laughter) You know I was happy with six months a year. And she sent my resume and I got the job in Connecticut. You know, they called me up and said, "Come on, we want to talk to you." I don't want to go to Connecticut. I didn't want to go there again. So I said well, I'm gonna go and when they ask me what I have to make I'm gonna give them a ridiculous, ridiculous figure. You know, like three times what the job, three times what the job is worth, and I'll be damned they said OK.

Ms: (Laughter) How many times does that happen, really?

Cloutier: How many times? No, ya, no. I didn't realize you know these guys have more money, you know, money's no object. They don't care. So ah, that's how I got that job. And then Fred, Maurice Provencher was the...did what I did and he retired and Fred needed somebody and I know, known Fred for a long time. Fred called me and asked me if I'd be in... and by that time my wife's calling me a bum again. Go to work, you bum, you know. So ah...

Ms: That's how you got this job?

Cloutier: Ya, I've had other little things in between but,

Ms: So you really had a, quite of a...

Cloutier: That's not all of it...

Ms: ...an experience...Oh, I'm sure you left out a couple of ah, two months, three months stints here, six months stints there but ahm, that's quite a resume, to have you know held all these positions where each one was better than the previous one...

Cloutier: Well,...towards...

Ms: Or maybe something that you didn't have...

Cloutier: Well, what I did toward the end, like when I worked for that lady in Thomaston, I'd subcontract. You know, I wouldn't be on the payroll or anything like that, and ah, and when I did... well, I'm not...

Ms: Not...a lot of them. Ahm, can you tell me ah, what is exactly that you do right now? What is your job right now?

Cloutier: Well, I'm responsible for weaving, slashing and of course involved in the rest of the mill too, cause you have to be, and ah,

Cloutier: .. I have, I don't know, forty people, fifty people, I'm not sure.

Ms: You supervise these people too?

Cloutier: Oh, I have, ya.

Ms: What, what exactly is weaving for someone like me who has no idea what that means other than what you see these people on TV do like this all the time. Can you give me a verbal...

Cloutier: Ah, weaving, weaving is weaving you know. The first time it was done, it's no different now than the first time somebody did it whether they did it by accident or knew what they were doing. Cause weaving is weaving. Technology, you know the machines are much, much faster, much, much more precise, don't break down as much, much, much more expensive. But weaving is still weaving, you know. Yarn goes up and down and you put yarn in between and it locks it in, weaving hasn't changed.

Ms: Is it done by hand now or is it....

Cloutier: Oh, no. It's all automated.

Ms: ...done by machine? So what does the worker do?

Cloutier: Same thing he did fifty years ago.

Ms: Which is?

Cloutier: Tends the machines, if the yarn breaks a weaver will respond to both running the machine and if the yarn breaks they repair what broke, start the loom up again. And if the yarn breaks down mechanically then you call a technician or the loom fixer. Ah, one fascinating thing is years ago, I think the mill in Brunswick had 1100 looms and it took a lot of people to run those or supply or service those or run those hundreds looms. Today you could probably put out just as much fabric on ah, 300 machines, even less than 300 machines.

Ms: In less time?

Cloutier: With 60 - 70 percent fewer people and better quality too.

Ms: Do you think that's one of the reasons that mills have declined?

Cloutier: It hasn't, it...

Ms: If we take away the financial and the union and all the problems that you that, that, you feel are causing for the decline up here, do you think that's one of the reasons why...

Cloutier: That's one of the reasons, a lot of reasons. That's one of the reasons, imports are another reason, you know ah,

Ms: What do you see the future being for mills?

Cloutier: Future. Oh we're always gonna have mills you know. Ah, I don't know that I can answer that. We're always gonna have mills. They, they...they're certainly aren't going to be as many people in the industry because you don't need as many people, you know, they have machines now that Japanese make the weave ah, sheeting material, ??? material that go 1200 rpm versus ah 100 rpms so you buy one of those it replaces 12 of the old ones so naturally you don't need as many people. You used to go in mills forty years ago and they'd have 5,000 looms, now they do the same thing with 500. And they're always gonna make fabric, you know. As far as the labor (side 1 of tape ended.)

Cloutier: A lot of the mills like the mill in Guilford for example, was a woolen mill, was a *seasonal* mill and the bad season always came around at Christmas time. Mom and Dad were laid off a month, month and a half before Christmas, children had a terrible Christmas, you know. Mill people lived from week to week. Wow! Daughter and son, the children, were raised, jeez, I'm not working in there, you know. I remember the Christmases I had because they laid 'em off every year. Ah, there aren't, it's hard to get people to come to work no matter where you live because the same things

happened everywhere.

Ms: Well, we can start wrapping this up just a little bit. Ahm, what do you like best about what you do, or what you have done?

Cloutier: I feel comfortable doing it, you know. I just feel comfortable doing it, I've done it for so long, eh, I feel good about working here for Bates, you know. This company's had a lot of problems, it's turning around, will turn around and some day, never employ 5,000 people again, but Bates bedspreads are still gonna be sold and were gonna keep making, you know, it's. My father fixed looms here in the forties you know. I think he worked here for a while before he took the job in Massachusetts. I know other people who worked here. It's a good feeling. A year ago we were down to 45 people and now we're close to 100 you know, so it's 50 more jobs. I like that you know.

Ms: We, we had ah, several gentlemen that had worked ??? and talk to our class about how it had turned around...

Cloutier: Sure, sure. And it's not easy, believe me. It's tough.

Ms: Is it stressful? Mentally stressful work for you?

Cloutier: It, it can be sometimes. You know, I try not to ah, I do the best I can around here.

Ms: And that leads in to what do you least like about your work?

Cloutier: I'd like to retire.

Ms: You'd like to retire.

Cloutier: Sure.

Ms: Raise sheep.

Cloutier: Have to work all the time.

Ms: Uh-huh.

Cloutier: That's why I did six months a year for three years.

Ms: Uh-huh.

Cloutier: Like I said, oh, it wasn't bad when I worked for six months, and then I went home for a month or two it wasn't too bad. But I don't blame my wife, you know. Here she was going to work, so when she started saying, "When you gonna get a job?" you know, "You bum." Ha, ha. Then I'd have to go to work. No, I'm 54 years old. I don't, if people want to work 'till they're 80, that's fine. I'm just not crazy about it, you know, I've worked now for

what 36, 37 years. That's a long time. And probably if you add 40 hours a week, I've worked 50 years. You know, if you want to make it 40 hours a week.

Ms: So you have a, you've had a very interesting span of time and seen a lot of changes between the, the time you started and up 'till now.

Cloutier: Ah, incredible. It's been...I'll give you an example. How you were talking about weaving and machinery and so on, back in 1958, 59 you could buy a brand new loom, built in this country for \$7500. Now we don't make textile machinery in this country anymore. There were too many to produce, there was Crompton & Knowles??? and Ray??? Corporation and they didn't keep up. Now there are still, I don't know, there must still be at least 20 loom manufacturers, people who make looms, but either in Asia or in Europe. We don't make textile machinery in this country. So anyway, we went to buy a brand new machine, oh we do have we have a trial machine there. It would c..., it would...

Ms: Oh, man...

Cloutier: I'm talking ???

Ms: No, she looked and I looked too.

Cloutier: Anyway, \$7500 in 1960 versus \$125,000 in 1994. You know, changes in the loom speed and the, the...all electronic. The weaving is still the same, but it's all electronic, all electronic. You run looms with a soft disk or an a prong, you know. You program it just like you do a computer.

Ms: Does this mean that the worker that works on the loom has to be able, has to have a sort of a training or higher intelligence to be able to run this, or...

Cloutier: No.

Ms: ...or is it the fixer now that has to be more...

Cloutier: Even the fixer. All these loom manufacturers work from the South and they have schools. If you bring someone in the mill and put him on with a weaver so he can understand what weaving...on new looms, they do everything for ya. I can bring somebody in off the street and teach 'em how to run the machine in a week, a couple of weeks. Years ago, well, we're teaching people on the old looms here and we brought a guy in, a new person in Wednesday and if he can do the job in three months I'll be just as happy as can be, on the old machine. New machines do everything for ya. They think, they compute.

Ms: Do they break down...

Cloutier: A lot easier to train someone today. Pardon?

Ms: Do they break down as frequently as the older ones?

Cloutier: Oh, ya. Years ago there were weavers and machine operators. Skill is you know, the craftsmanship is...you don't need to be a craftsman anymore...and you need to be a good mechanic, you don't really need to understand weaving to be a good loom fixer. Like I say it does everything for you.

Ms: Change.

Cloutier: It's become, it's changed dramatically.

Ms: (To a third person) Anything you can think of?

Third person: No, I've been looking at this...

Ms: Following through. We have a list of questions that we wanted to make sure that we had touched bases with.

Cloutier: Ya.

Ms: I think you've done a very good job, I mean, half the questions you went right in...

Cloutier: Rattled away.

Ms: Ya. But that was what we wanted here.

Cloutier: I don't talk much, you just have to wind me up a little bit and I'll just...

Ms: Is there anything else you'd like to add to the interview at all, ah...any pertinent information you think we didn't touch base with or...

Cloutier: It's sad, not only the textile industry but if you walk through this mill, this is a big,...walking through this mill is a perfect example of what's happened to this country. We don't make anything anymore.

Ms: I, to tell you the truth, when we walked into the other room I expected a full, full room. Ah, and I saw it was all sort of like in the center of the room and it looked like a lot. So, I can understand what you're saying.

Cloutier: If you walk, I don't know how many acres of floor space are in a couple of dozen of acres and if you walk through, it's a perfect...

Ms: So, not even half this building is being...

Cloutier: Well, people...Gates uses a lot of it but all, most of the machinery, you have to remember, one time was a textile mill and Hall??? built the machinery and it's gone, you know, it's... and you drive through down 495 when you get to Holyoke and you get to Lowell you can see all the mill abandoned, you know.

Ms: Oh, ya.

Cloutier: And the shoe industry, the whole country for that matter, you know, we just don't...we were an industrialized nation at one time, what do we make now? We perform services, sell computers, repair computers...

Ms: We're users.

Cloutier: Uh?

Ms: We're users, we're not makers anymore.

Cloutier: Right, right.

Ms: Do you see that ever coming back?

Cloutier: Nah, not for me to see, I don't think. Well, it...no I don't think so. At one time this country was a large manufacturer of textile equipment. Ninety, ninety-nine percent of the all these mills that you see, all the machines were made in this country. Not anymore. The looms we have out there someone made in Switzerland, the newer ones, and the others are made in ah, Italy. Can't buy one that was made in this country, we don't make 'em. We didn't keep up. We weren't progressive you know. ??? keep making this for the next 20 years so.

Ms: Well, I think that was a wonderful interview.

Cloutier: Well, I hope so.

Ms: I want to thank you for it and ah, like I said they will eventually be ah typing.....

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Interview Agreement

I, Julie Hardacker/Rosa Hamilton, in view of the historical
(Interviewer: type or print)
and scholarly value of the information contained in the

interview(s) with Marcel Cloutier
(Interviewee(s): type or print)

and designated as accession number _____, knowingly and voluntarily permit the Franco-American Collection of Lewiston-Auburn College the full use of this information, the tapes and transcripts and all other material in this accession, and hereby grant and assign to the Franco-American Collection of Lewiston-Auburn College all rights of every kind pertaining to this information, whether or not such rights are now known, recognized, or contemplated, except for such restrictions as are specified below.

4-8-94

(Date)

Julie Hardacker/Rosa Hamilton
(Interviewer's signature)

Restrictions:

Understood and agreed to:

Madeleine Higuere
(Director)

4-14-94
(Date)