

Michael Papritz  
Mass Media & Pop. Culture  
Nov 4th, 1988  
Journal for Nov. 2nd interview of Duval Newsham.

Today was to be the last day in the interviewing of Duval Newsham. I waited until I got there until I got there to set up the recorder and do my testing because I now thought she would be comfortable with the process. I didn't have as many questions as I had before and I think it showed in the beginning of the interview. It started off as a kind of a question and answer period and I had to pause the tape once because we both ran out of things to say. Then we collectively started to brainstorm ideas without writing anything down. After that, the interview went smooth. In fact I didn't know we were at the end of side one until it clicked off. I never felt uncomfortable and Duval was again unaware of the lapel mike being on her after awhile. I got there about 8:40am and we started at 8:50am. We finished with the interview and she fixed me ham & eggs as I am generally a good person.

OK

Michael Papritz  
Mass Media & Pop Culture  
Oct. 23, 1988  
Index of the taped  
interview of Duval  
Newsham

Narrator's Name: Elizabeth Duval Newsham.  
Born: Dec. 25th, 1919  
Interviewed by: Michael Papritz.  
Location: Lacey, Washington  
Brief biography: Parents came from different parts of Canada.  
Born in Seattle, lived in North Seattle on a two acre fox farm.  
Went to Ronald Middle School then went to Lincoln High School,  
then on to business college.

counter

000 Beginning of interview - side A  
007 Elizabeth Duval Newsham, Dec, 25th, 1919  
013 Date today is oct. 21st, 1988  
014 Located in Lacey, Washington.  
022 Agnus Parsons-mother  
023 William Beaton-father  
026 Mother was born in Newfoundland, one of five children.  
036 Grandmother moved to Boston with five kids where  
she was a housekeeper for Captain Jamison.  
054 Grandmother married Captain Jamison and moved to  
Port Gamble, Wasington, becoming his home port.  
066 Mother met William Beaton to marry.  
100 Lived on a two acre fox farm in North Seattle  
where father raised foxes.  
117 Attended Ronald Grade School.  
143 Took state exam to go on to high school  
148 went to Lincoln High School-1934.  
166 Became the girls ping-pong champ.  
178 What were your responsibilities for work around  
the house?  
202 age ten, went to Yelm in the summer to pick berries  
with grandmother.  
230 In the towns of Roy and Rainier there are dance  
halls which were the main social event.  
251 Did you have a piano in your North Seattle house?  
270 Dick Parker's Dance Hall- We four gals would walk  
to the dance hall to meet the guys.  
286 The cost for admission was ten cents.  
294 For fifty cents a night I would babysit.  
308 Ed Kean owned the parents house as well as most  
of the houses around the area.  
311 Two story house.  
316 Kitchen was the busy spot. Had an outhouse.  
321 Saturday night was the night they boiled the water  
to take the bath.  
357 Ed Kean paid for business college.  
362 Did you get married right out of college?  
378 Paid \$750.00 for first house in 1939.  
389 Moved to West Seattle and lived there for 22 years.

429 Got to vote for president for the first time.  
439 Went to take civil service exam.  
449 On birthcertificates they had either legitimate  
or illegitimate marked on each one.  
495 twenty four foxes got loose which was their yearly  
income.  
518 Had beautiful gardens probably because of the  
quality of manure.  
542 Did your mother have social time?  
552 Washing clothes.  
566 " I would get in on the peas to can for the year".  
573 The summer's in Yelm were really fun.  
591 We mainly picked raspberries, blackcaps.  
606 After picking we would play baseball or go to  
dances. We had alot of energy back then.

000 Beginning of side B.  
014 Betty Pierce was my best friend.  
031 We had alot of homework to do.  
058 Greenlake would freeze over once in awhile so  
we could skate on the lake.  
106 Mother said I couldn't see Len anymore.  
116 We were married ar Rev. Aterberry's house next  
to the church.  
142 We had dinner without Agnus. Daddy wanted to see  
us so bad.  
164 Daddy died in his sleep.  
173 I think daddy knew he was dieing.  
198 Every hour you would have another flat tire on  
the ride from Seattle to Yelm.  
207 You would pack a big lunch because there was no  
place to stop for food.  
223 The train would stop to drop my grandfather off  
at the house and picked him up there also.  
234 Is the house in North Seattle still there?  
265 Christmas was the day I got the big present  
because my birthday was the day after.  
295 I've got a warm feeling about christmas at home.  
300 We had snow most every winter.  
309 What about Thanksgiving?  
314 We went to the double-header at the U.W. for  
Thanksgiving.  
342 After the dinner, the guys would do the dishes  
which was nice.  
378 Out a Shorewood where we lived, we had a bridge  
club but I felt doing things with the kids was  
more important-girl scouts.  
395 Jo Jo the dog got run over by a car.  
407 When the cat had kittens, the dog picked up one  
of the kittens, took it outside to lick it.  
426 I forgot this is all on tape.  
432 In our graduating class at Lincoln high school  
there was over 500 students.

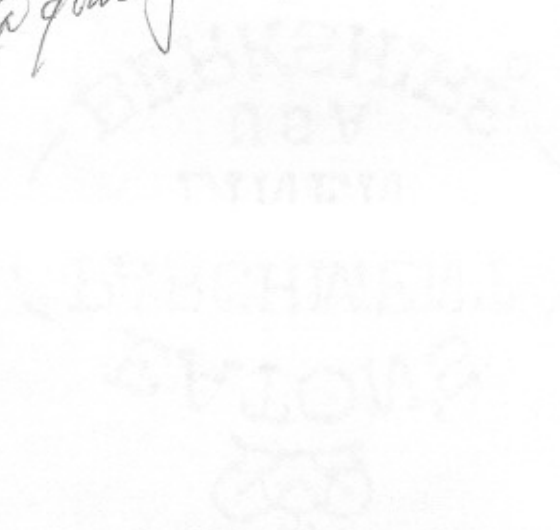
460 The years I went to high school-1934 to 1937.  
 471 Kids that brought the store bought bread.  
 488 Ballroom dancing was such a wonderful thing.  
 502 I went to Spanish Castle for a yoldoling contest.  
 513 I won the prize at Spanish Castle.  
 522 The echo in the tunnel with the grandkids.

Matthew -

I think you'd be better  
 off w/ more space between each  
 item you index & make the items  
 longer... i.e. you wind up w/

012 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 022 \_\_\_\_\_  
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 031 \_\_\_\_\_  
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need to look @ your journal



Michael Papritz  
Mass Media & Pop. Culture  
Interview of Duval Newsham  
Index-Nov 4th, 1988

000 Beginning of tape-side A.  
024 Diane was born June 24th, 1939.  
042 Len was working in the shipyards during the war.  
065 Joanne was born on Aug. 24th, 1943.  
078 We got our first B&W TV and watched all the high school games. *what for?*  
101 We loved the Oregon coast, in particular Lincoln city as our favorite vacation spot.  
015 Diane started at P.L.U. in college, then transferred to W.W.U.  
127 We would draw names for Christmas gifts as we got together with Len's family- a much enjoyable time.  
139 I went to work as a bookkeeper.  
167 I went in and talked to the office manager about a raise but the manager said everybody was getting paid too much as it was, so I went elsewhere.  
193 I ended up working for this millionaire named Rolli Chin.  
205 We went on a two week vacation in Hawaii thanks to Mr. Chin who had a house there.  
231 Love and caring with the Christian Science Church  
It was just a good feeling being in church.  
268 I just can't help to notice how much your daughter looks like Shirley Temple.  
297 Diane got the measles so I had to go out and deliver all those cookies for the Girls Scouts.  
325 The house we had at the time in this market would be about \$70,000-80,000.  
354 When we were first married, he took photo's of the kids though within time they often got restless.  
381 I sent in the name Sonics when the basketball team was being formed and I got two free tickets to one of the games back in 1967.



408 I had a pen pal in Paris and when the war broke out  
and they bombed Paris I never heard heard from her again.

428 My dad went to some business college in Canada and  
why he ended up as a farmer I have no idea.

450 We had this Ford, 1941 model- then we had a Chevy  
when we had the kids to drive them around in.

474 It was such a blow when J.F.K. was killed, kids were  
rebellling at the U.W.- alot because of the Vietnam War.

512 Alot of black kids had to go to Vietnam because they  
couldn't afford college.

529 I never saw a black until I was twenty years old.

537 The first time I took Diane on the bus downtown,  
she turned around and saw a black lady and said,"mom  
she's got a dirty face".

571 It's sort of scary how material possessions are so  
important nowadays.

607 There is so much more violence now- it really closes  
off neighbor relations.

000 Beginning of side B

033 See... abortion was a thing that wasn't talked about  
very much and only the rich people were able to have  
an abortion.

082 I knew very few people that were involved in divorce  
but nowadays, my god- it's happening every minute.

101 Gardening around the house.

118 We had raspberry rows and lot of tomatoes in the garden  
in Shorewood.

165 I didn't know how to cook anyway, so len had no choice  
and really, I was a much better cook than len's mother.

199 Salmon loaf was one of my favorite dishes to make.

221 I'll see something in the receipt book that I hadn't  
made for years and I'd make it.

242 I work crossword puzzles- I love them, I can't leave  
them alone- I'm addicted.

252 I like autobiography and travel books.

cont

278 Ms. Wickland in grade school said, "look at what our  
straight A student draws. I wasn't a good drawer.  
312 I took college prep classes in hopes to get into college.  
337 You see the indians on the reservations, I don't  
know what happened to the indians, shoving them onto  
reservations and that was that.

*Good*

Michael Papritz  
Mass Media & Pop. Culture  
Dec. 1st 1988

Transcription of a story by Duval Newsham

Duval-

And oh I, this was an experience we had there where just before pelting season, daddy would take them out of their regular pens and put them in a deal that had a wire flooring so they would keep their furs clean and they would be in this for about six weeks or so and one a, one night one of them got broke through and all twenty-four of them got loose, this was our yearly income. Well, I'll always remember my dad coming in that morning and that look on his face was absolutely unreal, completely drained of color. He said those foxes got out of that pen and were gone and so we went, he went to the vets and they gave him something to put around the fox farm that would attract them back and of course this was mainly woods around there, a lot of woods and, so they started coming tracked down this smell whatever was in it and we all sat up, we took turns sitting up at night to let daddy know if we saw a fox coming into the yard and we had one fox in particular we called her silvertip and it just was a glorious pelt and we knew we would get good money for this one you know and so it happened to be my duty that night I was sitting out I remember the moon was big and I was looking out there and there was this beautiful white tip coming down the road and I went and called daddy and it got to this place where this stuff was they were smelling and he was there to catch it. And out of those we only lost one and that was run over by a car and was pretty well, the fur was pretty well demolished but people were calling us, they were getting into their chicken houses and but wasn't that amazing...



Michael Papritz  
Mass Media. & Pop. Culture  
Dec. 1st 1988

Interpretation of a story by Duval Newsham

This story by Duval Newsham was one of the more colorful stories she told during the interview and the story yells much about the times as well as the circumstance of survival. As I have gotten to know Duval better, I find her to be an extremely caring individual and she would strongly oppose what was going on when she was a child but as it was, she had to deal with a period of hard times. The family didn't have a tremendous amount of money and this is especially evident when ones yearly income depends on twenty-four foxes. I think it expresses an attitude of make do, whatever happens to fall in your way and the family knew they had to retrieve those foxes or the upcoming year might be harder than ever. The fact that they raised foxes showed the need to survive whatever it took and it also showed that these pelts had value and there was a market for them. It also shows a country without a strong push to save certain animals. About ten years prior to the family's fox farm and on a larger scale there was almost an extinction of different kinds of whales around the world and this really show, during this time period, a lack of knowledge of awareness toward animals. The whale issue and hunting was in full force in the early 1900's.

Duval also mentioned during the interview that they had rabbits that were slaughtered for food and people asked her why kill those pretty rabbits but she said, "that was just the way it was. It was just a matter of surviving". Later on in the interview she mentioned after was married, she had had a few chickens around the property but she felt that they had enough money with her

husband working hard so they wouldn't have to go through the pain of slaughtering and to this day she hasn't had to go through that pain again.

This story was a story of her family. She tells of her sister and her as well as her father dealing with the situation and I found through the interviews that her mother, in the true sense of their mother doing the cooking, cleaning and washing, didn't have a kind of respect that moms have with children and I think that resulted when the mother wouldn't allow Duval to marry her, now husband. The only time duval talked about her mother was when I asked questions and I think that is interesting in terms of an interviewer's perspective but maybe more interesting was the family relations that Duval was dealing with when she was a teenager.

I don't think this story told so much about a woman's place in American society at a certain time as much as it reinforced the hardships the families without much money had to deal with. Yet as I said this was a very creative story that Duval told and I think upon reflections of situations people become satisfied with themselves knowing they were able to make it through the tough times.

Times have changed and a result of these changes include where the fox farm was located. It was in North Seattle where there was "mainly woods around there", and where there are no longer woods, Just houses, houses and more houses.



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Dec. 1st. 1988

Transcription of a story by Duval Newsham

Q- And you also mentioned that you would go to another place to ? You and a few other girls ?

Duval And then there was Dick Parker's Dance Hall that was about three... two or three miles from our house and there was about four of us girls that quite often walked... walked there and stag and the guys would come and they would be stag too and we would dance all night, they had a nice orchestra and because none of us had cars or we couldn't afford to pay for anybody else we were lucky to pay to get ourselves in, we kept it this way and when the dance was over we each went our separate ways, us four girls would walk home and the guys would go...and once in a while one of the guys would drive by and give us the horn that we just (laugh) went on our merry way.

Q- How much did it cost to get into Dick Parson's place ?

Duval I think it was... Dick Parker's is the name of it, I think it was ten cents.

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Dec. 1st 1988

Interpretation of a story by Duval Newsham

The story of Duval and her experience with dancing really shows an entertainment that continues to progress and actually has branched out over the years. Dance itself was a physical activity that Duval use to love and probably still does.

She mentioned quite a few times of the summer dances in Yelm or the dance hall down the street which had a piano that all the kids would go to on a saturday night. It really seemed the whole social sphere was first around school and second around these dances. Saturday night was when Duval and her sister would boil the hot water to take their only bath at home, once a week on the saturday night, then dress all up to attend these dances.

The rituals of dances have changed but the principals/principles are still much the same. Nowadays girls all get together, go to a lounge if they're old enough or park and drink if they're under age, then go to the dance and attempt to be noticed. The same thing happens to the guys these days and I think the only exception are these formal dances. Sometimes the gals will go with the guys in a big group and all dance but Duval said that things happened when they went to Dick Parker's. They didn't have money to go buy liquor and they didn't have money to drink in their cars and they probably didn't have money to buy all these expensive outfits the gals and guys wear today. It was very simple and the amount of money spent

was really worked for and I think was better spent than today's admission to a place to dance because I think they appreciated the fact that they worked hard to get enough money together to go enjoy a night of dancing. They didn't have much money yet dance was a priority when it came to spending that tidy and small of fun money.

They would also walk three or four miles which you would never find these days, you would also go stag which is a word slowly going out of style. They would dance to a nice orchestra compared to nowadays only dancing to D.J. music or even better, a live band of good rock and roll. The fact that money was quite limited, ten cents for admission was quite a large amount of money and surely is a change of the times. Duval mentioned that none of the girls had cars and few guys had cars which shows the economic viewpoint of the teenager's life.

In an earlier interview Duval said that she had been able to get a babysitting job for fifty cents a night so she was able to continue her habit of dance. Also, in an earlier section she said that dance was a great way to exercise and they would all work up a good sweat out on the dance floor.

Dick Parker's Dance Hall was on Aurora Way in North Seattle but with the change of times also has come the change of attitude toward dance halls. Dick Parker's Dance Hall is no longer an establishment. Duval's story shows us an example of what teenagers were doing in the 1920's. Duval also mentioned that her

cont

father was the piano player at the small hall down the street which was important for her because of the pride she felt by her daddy striking the notes so her and her friends could enjoy a night of dancing.

I love to dance but I feel too much is asked of people who dance which includes, what to wear, how to wear it, how to dance, who to dance with and who to be around and I think the free flowing aspect of dance is overseen but I also think Duval understood what dance was all about. I think she feels to dance is to have fun and that is what it's all about.

There's a real bit  
of confusion of "voice" here  
and there, i.e., whether it's you speaking  
or Duval.



Michael Papritz  
Mass Media & Pop. Culture  
Dec. 1st 1988

Transcription of a story by Duval Newsham

Duval

Up until the war which was which when, Pearl Harbor in 1941 gradually we were coming out of the depression and then we got into the war and then course everything boomed then, I did go to work for a little while during the war cause they needed help so badly and the city, lets see the city, what do I want to call it, Pain City Hall needed, I went down to take a civil service exam cause I thought, Len was working swing shift at the shipyards and I thought well I can get someone to watch the kids for awhile during the day till he gets home and then he'll be home and so we could work it out together and so even before I took my civil service exam they hired me, they needed help that badly and I was put in the birth certificate department because it, all the fellows that wanted to go into officers training school had to have a birth certificate so there was a tremendous clamor for birth certificates at that time and I was in the mailing department and I'd get all these letters and, and then we'd go to make a copy of their birth certificate and mail it to them or they would come in for it and what got me at the time was that these birth certificates were made up and on it was whether your, the child was legitimate or illegitimate and I had one guy, he looked at it and he just got tears in his eyes and he said, "do you have to put that on," and I couldn't do anything about it and I just thought how unfair that was that the kid didn't have anything to do with it and yet have to be branded that way on that birth certificate, they have since cut that out but that was ridiculous...

Michael Papritz  
Mass Media & Pop. Culture  
Dec. 3rd, 1988

Interpretation of a story by Duval Newsham

1941 became an important year for America. It was not only the beginning of World War II for the United States but also the period when the work force included a percentage of women.

Duval decided that because there were so many jobs and not enough people to fill those positions she would help out but as she came to realize later on in life, what an impact forty years can do. An unbelievable branding in my eyes was the idea of a mark on a birth certificate noting if one was a legitimate child or not. By branding a person as an illegitimate human being sure does have a bias towards unequal rights among humans. Things still make me concerned on whether or not this land is for the people by the people and that all men have been created as equal when seeing or hearing about something like this. It really is amazing the political actions that have been taken in the past. Duval's story tells of a person wanting to do good for the nation yet getting slapped around to do what maybe her ideological senses might think as wrong. The pain the fellow must have had because he had this sign posted on his birth certificate must have been such a powerful tool on ones self esteem, he had to have been scared for life. The issue of legitimate and illegitimate raises an important question about the change of times. The question it presents is whether or not the symbol of illegitimate

*A common branding  
to non-whites who  
served in the  
military*

cont

is more powerful now for breaking the spirit of what it is to be human than before when Duval was living out this story.

Today's awareness and communication about birth control is heightened and I would tend to believe that the Illegitimacy rate has dropped but the single mother situation has certainly risen. Maybe an even more important issue lies in the arena of abortion. From stories told by ladies alive during the early part of the century, the word abortion could only be spoken to and acted upon by wealthy people and wealthy people were treated by family doctors even though abortion was illegal. The poor people had nothing but maybe a coat hanger when dealing with abortion. Many women opted not to have an abortion and the result was what Duval saw when passing out birth certificates.

Duval's story isn't about her job or about the beginning of World War II or even her family though they all played a part in her story. Her story was about the injustice that still happens to this day. Her story is about the realization of birth and its wonderful effects that is inherent in every human being. Duval wouldn't have had any feeling for that young chap that seen had never seen before if her story and feelings were dishonest but they were very honest and caring. I think this is an important story to tell so we can understand what it's like to be unfair and degrading. Duval had a hard time telling this story and after writing these few pages, I can feel why she had such a hard time.

