

Interview with Agnes Carlson that must have been in about 1945 or '46. We went to the
November 24, 2001

Interviewer:

Transcribed: March 29, 2002 u saw?

AC: No. ...

INT: Thank you for sitting with us. State your name. ... when you were 16 or 18?

AC: Agnes Carlson.

INT: How about your maiden name.

AC: Agnes Lesjack. ... Dr. Hidenrack. I remember Stella Raboin.

INT: Your birthday? ... any of the businesses that were in Daggett or around here?

AC: November 4, 1929. ... two taverns...

INT: Birthplace? ... they called?

AC: Menominee.

INT: No address, or was it just the farm?

AC: It was just Menominee, MI ... something else. What was it...

INT: Local address? ... who ran them?

AC: Now?

INT: Yes. ... just remember seeing them.

AC: N9740 Earls Lane T4, Stevenson, MI ... it was Harold and Arbie or something.
Johnson's Tavern.

INT: Because of the closeness of the village of Daggett, do you have more contact with Daggett? Do you feel more associated with Daggett than Stevenson?

AC: Not really. ... was a dance hall here by Star Corner.

INT: What are your first memories of the Daggett/Stevenson area?

AC: The theater. ... that house. Right in back of the tavern you went a little ways and then they had a big building, dental.

INT: When was that? How old were you then?

INT: Was that basically for the township people?

AC: I was 18. No I was 16. That must have been in about 1945 or '46. We went to the movies there.

INT: Do you remember what you saw?

AC: No.

INT: Do you remember any of the people that you met when you were 16 or 18?

AC: In Daggett?

INT: Yes.

AC: Dr. Peterson and Dr. Hidenrack. I remember Stella Raboin.

INT: Do you remember any of the businesses that were in Daggett or around here?

AC: There was a drug store, two taverns...

INT: What were they called?

AC: One...

INT: Was it Bildo's yet?

AC: No it wasn't Bildo's it was something else. What was it...

INT: Do you remember who ran them?

AC: No.

INT: You just remember seeing them.

AC: Johnson's run that all the time. I think it was Harold and Arbie or something. Johnson's Tavern.

INT: ??? Corner still here when you were 16 or 18?

AC: Yes. There was a dance hall here by Star Corner.

INT: They had a big enough space for that.

AC: It was right by that house. Right in back of the tavern you went a little ways and then they had a big building, dental.

INT: Was that basically for the township people?

AC: Yes.

INT: How did you find the Daggett/Stevenson area since you were in Menominee?

AC: I was going with your grandfather.

INT: How did he meet you?

AC: Bobby was going with my sister at that time and that's how I met grandpa..through him. That's how I started coming up here. Otherwise I wouldn't have.

INT: You would have been isolated in Menominee. When did you marry Earl Carlson?

AC: 1947.

INT: You were how old?

AC: I was 18.

INT: How long did you date him before you married him? Two years? What was his background or childhood? He didn't talk much about it.

AC: I don't think he went much any place.

INT: What did he do when you met him?

AC: He was working in the woods.

INT: And you consider him what nationality?

AC: He was Swede and Dane and some Norwegian.

INT: How old was he when he married you?

AC: I think he was 24. 6 and 18 is 24.

INT: And you had 2 children?

AC: 2 boys.

INT: What were their names?

AC: Steven Lee and David Oscar.

INT: How did the middle name Lee come about?

AC: I liked it. That's the only thing. David's name, Grandpa wanted his Dad's name. So that's why he got it. Your father was David. He used to watch Davey Crockett so that's how he got his name.

INT: And you made your home about 1947 around this area. About 20 yards up there is the house. What kind of conveniences were there? Dad told me about out houses you still had.

AC: Out houses, lamps. Battery radio. I bought a battery radio with a big battery like that in the back. When it went low you stuck it in the oven and heated it up and it would play for another week.

INT: You stuck a battery in the oven? Isn't that dangerous?

AC: I don't know. Nothing ever happened.

INT: Do you remember what stations you were able to get or what programs you listened to?

AC: Not very far. I think in Menominee here, or Marinette, and I think Escanaba. There were only about 3 or 4 stations you could get.

INT: Is that how television was before we were able to get a satellite?

AC: Yes. Then you only had 3 stations. That was 3, 11, and 5. That's all you got.

INT: What businesses started when you were just starting to live here?

AC: Milk, because the cheese factory was out on Daggett Road there. Across from 41 was the Pully Cheese Factory. It was mostly woods work and farming were the two major things.

INT: I also heard there was an interesting hotel in Stevenson where they supplied women for the railroad workers.

AC: That I don't know. I couldn't tell you on that.

INT: I heard about that.

AC: I wouldn't be a bit surprised.

(skip in tape)

INT: Sorry to interrupt you. We were talking about businesses in the Stevenson area.

AC: There were grocery stores. Gambles was there. The next place was a clothing store.

INT: There were a lot of restaurants. I know that.

AC: Yes.

INT: You said there was a theater in Daggett. What else was in Daggett?

AC: There was the doctor and the drug store and the theater. After the theater went down there was a clothes factory there. The bank was gone before I come here.

INT: That was where?

AC: That was where I told you.

INT: You should tell the tape.

AC: Right by the railroad. I think you go to vote there now. That was the bank.

INT: Was it the same size it is today?

AC: Yes.

INT: Where were the schools located in Daggett?

AC: The high school and elementary school...

INT: There was actually a high school in Daggett?

AC: Yes because Alice's sister and brothers graduated from Daggett High School.

INT: Would that be where the elementary is now?

AC: No. It was by the old 41. Near your place somewhere.

INT: I think your son told me about that one. They had fights there every now and then.

AC: Your father remember where it is? I was only there once.

INT: Why were you there once?

AC: I don't know. I went there for something. I can't remember. But I know I was there. I couldn't remember where it was.

INT: There was a high school there.

AC: That was before my time, but there was a high school in Daggett.

INT: What about the medical facilities? Where was the nearest hospital for the Daggett-Stevenson area?

AC: All they had was a maternity home. That is the white house, the Emmanuel Lutheran Church is there. I think it is the second house. You have to go quite a way on the sidewalk to get to it.

INT: Where they have all the flowers in the spring time?

AC: I think so. That was the maternity home. That's all they had in Daggett.

INT: So how far did you have to go to get to a hospital?

AC: Menominee or Marinette.

INT: I thought Menominee didn't have a hospital.

AC: For many years.

INT: Why did they discontinue it, do you know?

AC: They went in with Marinette.

INT: Now it's a psychiatric hospital?

AC: No. They're supposed to have offices in it now. You remember Betty Blum when she had that stroke. She was there for quite a few years. There's a floor for the ones before they put them in a nursing home. That's what they turned that hospital into now.

INT: So basically if you had to have medical attention...

AC: You have to go to Marinette now, or Escanaba.

INT: Back then you weren't able to get anywhere.

AC: Years ago I guess they just went to the doctor. They didn't go to the hospital.

INT: Would they go to a vet every now and then if they couldn't find a doctor?

AC: Your great-grandma said the vet did things. Like if they had to have something stitched up or something, he could do it.

INT: Were there a lot of doctors in this area?

AC: No. When I came to the area there was only Hienracken-Petterson in Daggett, and Kervo in Stevenson.

INT: So 3 doctors in this area. For 200 some people. That's not much.

AC: No it wasn't. And there was only one dentist. And he was in Stevenson.

INT: So dentistry here is a new development. I heard rumors of chemical spraying while you guys were outside, like DDT...

AC: That's the co-op. They used to spray the brush.

INT: Do you know what they used?

AC: No, but it was bad because it made it all turn brown. It killed it.

INT: What did the children do when they were spraying?

AC: On day grandpa told them he didn't want them spraying. So they went and sprayed that way and got it anyway.

INT: Do you think it was possible that DDT was ??? or could have been Agent Orange?

AC: You didn't hear nothing about it. But DDT was still in there.

INT: Do you know what years they sprayed? How old is my father?

AC: He wasn't too old. I'm trying to think when we got electricity in here. Davie was a baby and we still had a lamp. Dorthy came over and we still had a lamp. Davie was a year old when we got lights in here. I think it was two years after that they came and sprayed. Davie's 45. So about 40 years ago.

INT: Do you think that DDT spraying could be done today without you knowing about it? Even though they've outlawed it?

AC: Could be. I think there's still DDT around in these old barns yet. It wasn't so many years ago that I heard there were cans of DDT left in barns that they found. It was good stuff.

INT: It probably had bad side effects though.

AC: That could have been the problem on my ??? too. We sprayed around the hall for flies so they wouldn't come in. So you were breathing it all in. Nobody knows.

AC: No, remember when Cory and Dennis...

INT: I know remnants of Old US 41 still exist. A little north of here and a little south of here and they run pretty much to Menominee?

AC: Yes.

INT: Some of it disappeared. Where's the rest of it? Is it part of US 41 today?

AC: I think it's part of US 41. I'm not sure, but I think so.

INT: I see it then it goes away into US 41.

AC: Where it wasn't too crooked I think they put it in US 41. Where it was crooked they tried to straighten it out.

INT: Where did it start? I know it ends in Menominee. Where does it start from the other side of Daggett?

AC: I think it goes way up.

INT: Does it go all the way up to Iron Mountain and that area?

AC: I couldn't really tell you. I know it goes to Hermansville. I know it goes that far.

INT: Maybe it stops there. Hermansville goes into the Carnie area.

AC: Is Bark River ahead of Hermansville?

INT: Yes.

AC: I know it goes to Bark River. That's as far as I can remember.

INT: That's okay. I was just curious. I hear stories that the Old 41 was used a lot more than US 41. Do you remember when US 41 was put in? Or was that before or after you came in?

AC: No. I was a kid when they were putting that in. Not up here, but down toward Menominee.

INT: That must have been when they put the bridge in?

AC: No, when they put 41 from Birch Creek...oh, where did we go for weddings and stuff...

INT: The White Tail?

AC: No, remember when Cory and Dennis...

INT: I wasn't here for that wedding. But I know where you're talking...around Mary Ann...

AC: Pullman House. Now it's all grown up by our farm now. Before you could see right out to 41 and we watched them as they went...

AC: It was just the going price then. I think the butter was 40 cents a pound.
(skip in tape)

INT: What was your daily life like around your house?
AC: That's pretty good. Butter is about \$2 a pound I think. And Dad he likes butter. Those days. There were theaters and bowling alleys. Do you remember dances or dance halls?

AC: Going to the woods, coming home and milking cows and making ???

INT: Was it mostly stuff you had grown or was it store bought?

INT: Did they have party dances or seasonal dances?

AC: Most of the stuff we grew ourselves.

INT: Did you go shopping daily or weekly?
AC: No they had them every week. I think even Star Curners here used to have a dance winter not. They had these old barrel stoves, one on each end of the hall.

AC: Weekly.

INT: The people in the middle would freeze

INT: Do you remember what day you went shopping?

AC: Not as they couldn't keep it warm enough. Early in the fall somebody had a dance. Otherwise he discontinued. But in the summer there was one about every week there. Local people played. I don't know who they were.

INT: All the way down to Marinette.

INT: How far down?

AC: Brooke Meyers. Grocery store in Marinette.

AC: Anton ?? Louis Bergalov... 4 or 5 had a full band together.

INT: Why Marinette?

INT: What kind of music did they play?

AC: We found out it was cheaper stuff and better stuff.

AC: Waiters and waitresses were dancing

INT: Do you remember some of the prices of butter and milk?

INT: I don't know stories about you and bars. You would always visit them with

AC: A dollar and some cents per hundred pounds.

INT: A hundred pounds of butter?

AC: Milk. I can talk about it Grandma.

INT: Was that a good price for selling milk?
AC: No. They said if you drink Vodka and you didn't move all the stool, when you got up you would go flat on your face. Never did

AC: No. I said the same thing about Harvey Wallbangers...there were supposed to be as many different shots of whiskey in there. It's a tall glass. Me and ??? sat one New Years

INT: Why is that?
AC: I saw many of them we had. Never even phased me. Maybe I was smart.

AC: Because now you can get it for \$12 a hundred. In some places it wasn't even a dollar.

INT: Were you being ripped off at that time or was it just the price?

AC: It was just the going price then. I think the butter was 49 cents a pound.

INT: That's pretty good. Butter is about \$2 a pound I think. And Dad he likes butter. I'm going to ask you about some of the entertainment in those days. There were theaters and bowling allies. Do you remember dances or dance halls?

AC: ??? Dance Hall was out there just east of Daggett.

INT: Did they have yearly dances or seasonal dances?

AC: No, they had them every week. I think even Star Corners here used to have a dance lots of times. Mostly in the summer. In the winter not. They had these old barrel stoves, one on each end of the hall.

INT: The people in the middle would freeze.

AC: No, but they couldn't keep it warm enough. Early in the fall somebody had a wedding. Then he would have that. Otherwise he discontinued. But in the summer there was a dance about every week there. Local people played.

INT: Like Andersons?

AC: Anton, ??? Louis Bergeline...4 or 5 had a little band together.

INT: What kind of music did they play?

AC: Waltzes and polkas, square dancing.

INT: I heard some stories about you and bars. You would always visit them with Grandpa and have interesting drinks.

AC: Yes, I can say that.

INT: You can talk about it Grandma.

AC: I used to always want to try something new. They said if you drink Vodka and you didn't move off the stool, when you got up you would go flat on your face. Never did me. They said the same thing about Harvey Wallbangers...there were supposed to be so many different shots of whiskey in them. It's a tall glass. Me and ??? sat one New Years and I don't know how many of them we had. Never even phased me. Maybe I was smart

because I ate something with butter. They said if you did that then you're pretty safe. I did that. I ate something pretty good before.

INT: We should probably explain where Star Corners was, where it's located.

AC: It's 356 and 577. It was on the corner.

INT: Wasn't there a story behind that one?

INT: Did they have a boulevard? By the barber shop?

AC: Yes there was.

AC: Down in Daggett? Yes. For many years. That should be over 72 years. I remember my father sold him moonshine.

INT: Was it a black market item when he sold it at the time?

AC: Yes it was. He also got the stamps from Chicago.

INT: I heard you didn't need the stamps for liquor.

AC: They put the stamps on and if somebody seen it, the federal guys, they thought it was legal. The stamps that go over the top of them.

INT: Okay the sealer things. I was trying to explain that to someone and they didn't understand what they were either.

AC: If they put the stamps on they thought it was legal. I remember my father talking about that. Also, Dillinger came up here when they chased him that one time. He went through Daggett.

INT: How do you know that?

AC: I remember your grandfather or my father telling me that.

INT: Probably your father.

AC: Yes it was my father. He went through Daggett. The Sheriff from Menominee chased him up here. But they didn't get him.

AC: That was the beauty shop. I remember I went there.

INT: Well they got him somewhere else. What other businesses were in Daggett-Stevenson? There was Skagmos and that burned down some years ago. Did they have the library?

AC: Yes. She had it for years.

AC: I can't remember. They had a journal.

INT: Then her daughter took over. Mary Widstrom.

INT: Was it where it is now?

AC: Yes. Same place. They didn't have the laundry mat.

AC: I don't think she had it there did she? After she moved over to her house she had

INT: Everyone had the wringer washers. Was there anyone that beat their laundry on the rock?
with shop too.

AC: Not that I know. But I remember gas washing machines because I had one.

INT: Wasn't there a story behind that one?

AC: Yes there was. mercantile buildings?

INT: Do you want to tell it? .. it was right next to Bride's Bar there. Like a red barn.

AC: That was when I had to fight to get it. We were staying by grandma and she was scared of it. It had along hose so you could put the exhaust out the window. But it made a lot of noise. Finally we talked her into it because we had to do the laundry on the scrub board. When your father was small, Beady wouldn't let me have the diapers soaking in the house. We had to put them outside and they froze. So I got that. Then after a while when we moved down here grandpa wouldn't have it in the house. So I had it outside there. I had to go outside and wash clothes out there. We had a box made, put a wash tub out there and heat water. Right in the back yard by the lilac bushes. If it was windy the cover would blow off and leaves would blow in. Then I had to try and get all the leaves out so I could use that water to wash clothes. So it wasn't easy. Then before we drilled the well we had to haul water from Grandma's. They had a pump up there. Once in a while it was easier to go down to the creek for rinsing. But then I went up there to get the water to heat for washing.

INT: I went to school with one of his daughters, or granddaughter.

INT: They must have had a beauty shop in Daggett.

AC: He married... she did. He died young. She married one Tommas, Kermit. She

AC: Yes. That little one. Is it still there just north of...right next to the bar there.

INT: They used to have a little opening and a stone building right next to it.

AC: This was almost like a little house. So Stevenson.

INT: That's still there.

AC: That was the beauty shop. I remember I went there.

INT: Helen Kizer had it. one store right next to the boulevard too.

AC: Yes. She had it for years. ...right next door. Big clothing store. Lucky's used to run that. Then there was that little restaurant on the corner there. Even my sister Mary

INT: Then her daughter took over. Mary Widstrom

INT: Was it good food?

AC: I don't think she had it there did she? After she moved over to her house she had the beauty shop in the sun porch of her house. I remember going there. There was a blacksmith shop too.

INT: Where?

AC: Right where that red shed is still.

INT: You mean the mercantile buildings?

AC: No, it's on the north side, it was right next to Bildo's Bar there. Like a red barn.

INT: I thought that was a mercantile or grain area.

AC: No. That was a blacksmith shop. Stodola. He was supposed to be a darn good blacksmith.

INT: Did you get your television set locally?

AC: Yes, from VanCourts.

INT: Isn't he a dentist now? Bernie or something like that?

AC: One of his sons was with your father.

INT: I went to school with one of his daughters, or granddaughter.

AC: He married...she did. He died young. She married that Tessner, Kermit. She married him.

INT: Was that where Roger's Electronic is?

AC: No, it was in Stevenson. He had it in Stevenson.

INT: Was it on the corner?

AC: I'm trying to think...I think it was in one of those buildings.

INT: There was also a shoe store right next to the boulevard too.

AC: Yes there was a clothing store right next door. Big clothing store. Lucky's used to run that. Then there was that little restaurant on the corner there. Even my sister Mary and Randy used to come up here and eat there.

INT: Was it good food?

AC: Yes. And it was cheap I guess.

INT: So you ate here most of the time?

AC: Well when we came up here. We'd come up to dance and that. We always had to stop and get lunch before your grandfather took me home to Menominee. We were hungry.

INT: You weren't a cheap date. Well so far we've been talking about Daggett being a thriving place with multiple businesses.

AC: Yes it was. So was Stevenson. Now there's nothing

INT: Why do you think Daggett has died in a sense?

AC: I don't know. People wanted to come here but others didn't want them. There were so many...American ??? Factory was a big factory that wanted to come into Stevenson and the older people didn't want them because they were so scared that bad people would come in.

INT: Oh, they were worried about crime?

AC: Yes, they were worried about that. That's why they just wanted the local. They never got no business. The same thing happened in Daggett.

INT: Did Daggett get an offer that they refused?

AC: Not that I know of, but they could have. At one time people never...unless there were two when they started getting better automobiles they went farther to Menominee or Escanaba or someplace. Then they didn't patronize Daggett so much. Before that, that was as far as you went to the Daggett Merchandise. They used to have fresh meat they used to cut up for you. I remember we went and bought a lot of stuff there. Then of course at that time you could credit us too.

INT: Now everything is cash or you can't buy it.

AC: But at that time you could credit. A lot of places you only got paid once a month or so. You had to credit the groceries until you got paid. Then you went to straighten them up.

INT: I also heard that one time on July 4th it actually snowed.

AC: Yes it did. It was so gall darn cold out. It was in Stevenson. Everyone crowded into the doorways. They were packed like sardines to get out of the wind. It didn't snow much but it dusted the ground. It wasn't that much, but it was cold.

INT: We should probably explain that Daggett and Stevenson share the 4th of July. Every other year they celebrate it. In 2002 it will be Stevenson's turn wouldn't it? They had it in Daggett this year?

AC: No it's in Daggett this year.

INT: What kinds of changes have you seen in Daggett or Stevenson that you think are negative? For instance businesses?

AC: Yes a lot of businesses went down. Everything almost went out except the bowling alley? And the one tavern. And the convenience store.

INT: There is the elementary school and the post office.

AC: Oh yes the elementary school.

INT: When did the elementary school start? It must have been in the '50s.

AC: Yes because David started there. It had to be.

INT: They still have kids there.

AC: I wonder for how long.

INT: I don't know. They have to have so many because...

AC: About 15 years ago they darn near lost Daggett Elementary School.

INT: Why is that?

AC: They went around with a petition. People signed it and didn't know what they were signing. They were signing to put them in Stevenson and shut that school down.

INT: You know how crowded Stevenson Elementary would be with all those people!

AC: I remember Alice said Teddy Gabola was on that. He had the Star Corner Tavern here. He went around with that petition. I couldn't figure it out. Alice and him were both Polish and Polish stick together pretty good. She was so ugly at him for that. I couldn't figure out why she was so mad at another Polish person. Then she said that she had found out he was on it. He wanted to shut down the Daggett Elementary school. He was one of them that went around.

INT: Do you think Stevenson will eventually end up the same way as Daggett?

AC: Yes I do.

INT: Why?

AC: Because it's going down more and more. Unless they start getting different stuff in.

INT: In other conversations you were talking about the community and how they all knew each other.

AC: Everybody knew where everybody else lived. Now there's so many outsiders.

INT: You consider them outsiders?

AC: Well they're from different parts. I don't really consider them outsiders, but from different places.

INT: Do you think their attitudes are different from the core group in Daggett and Stevenson?

AC: No I wouldn't say so.

INT: Like they would stick to their own business instead of gossiping with the next door neighbor?

AC: Yes.

INT: That kind of thing. You probably did a lot of that when you were growing up didn't you Grandma. We have a big question for you. What is your prediction of Daggett's future in the next 20 years?

AC: I think there won't be nothing left there. I get that feeling. I wouldn't be a bit surprised if in a few years they don't take the post office out.

INT: Where do you think they'll put it?

AC: They might only have the post office if Stevenson stays a little bigger. Otherwise they might move it all down to Menominee.

INT: Wouldn't that be an inconvenience?

AC: They don't care anymore it seems like. If they want to close something down they just close it down. You take the bank. The bank was doing good. I don't know why they moved down there. It was handy for people, especially older people. They moved away. That's why I think...in time the school will close and everything.

INT: What about the grocery store? Do you think Roy Burdo might actually pack up and leave?

AC: He might stay there, but that's not saying somebody else will take over after he's...

INT: We had Haywards for a while. Do you think we'll always have the boulevard where JR is?

AC: That probably will stay there. It's getting harder and harder though. Even if you're there, you're kind of scared of getting picked up even if you had only one or two beers. People are scared of losing their license because most of them have to drive to work. You don't have buses no more. The Grayhound used to stop. In Menominee they used to have buses. People came up here too and went to taverns because they were out there.

INT: Is that because our police force is here?

AC: At one time the police weren't here. There was the deputy sheriff and he couldn't...he had a big area to cover. A lot of them could time where he was going and what he was doing.

INT: Did that come in handy at times?

AC: Well it did for me. I didn't drive.

INT: Do you think people will stay until Daggett is dead?

AC: Yes. Probably would stay there even after there was nothing. Now there are good vehicles that can go...to go to Green Bay or Escanaba or wherever. It don't seem like it's nothing for people to go now. Years ago you wouldn't hardly go from here to Stevenson because your vehicle wasn't that good. A person driving wasn't that good.

INT: We won't even ask why they weren't driving so well. I did have another question. I forgot. You're rubbing off on me. Could Daggett merge with Stevenson? Did they talk about that at one time?

AC: They could do that. Years ago they figured they were going to do that. They were even going to build a new high school. They wanted to build it in between somehow. I don't know how they were going to do it, but they talked about it because they wanted to merge way up to Carnie. From Stevenson to Carnie.

INT: That's a big area.

AC: Yes.

INT: You know how big the high school and elementary schools would have to be?

AC: Yes. But that's what they wanted to do at one time. But they couldn't agree on something. If it wasn't Carnie and Stevenson or if it was Daggett and Stevenson that couldn't agree. There was something so it never really came about. They just dropped it.

INT: Do you think because Daggett has a smaller individuality it wants to stick together and have a smaller core group?

AC: Now the people are different, but years ago they all kind of stayed in their bunch. They really didn't want nobody else. It was like a family and they didn't want nobody.

INT: Are you saying Daggett is kind of like the Mafia?

AC: No, not really, but people were like that. Stevenson was the same thing. They had their people they wanted there. People from around, the just came in and went out again.

INT: If you had a choice, would you actually stay in Daggett again? Or the Daggett Stevenson area?

AC: Yes.

INT: Why?

AC: Because it's more quiet.

INT: You don't like big cities?

AC: No. As a matter of fact I never even liked going through Menominee and I was born and raised down there. I always liked it where it was quiet and you could do what you wanted to do. There was nobody looking over your shoulder.

INT: You like the privacy. But you don't seem to have privacy anyway. People come and knock on your door and says can I have a cup of coffee?

AC: Now it's changing. I still got good neighbors.

INT: Should we tell them the reason why we always have our doors open during the winter? They're unlocked most of the time...so they don't freeze outside. Basically anyone can walk in and leave you a note and walk out.

AC: And I have two big dogs. All the people at the restaurant, they say we won't go to Aggie's house because she has a big dog there. When I had my German shepherd and husky. They're friendly but nobody believed it. If you have a big dog they figure he guards the place.

INT: The restaurant she's referring to is ??? located on 10th Street in Menominee.

AC: It started with Gerald Unley.

INT: So you like Daggett because it's quiet and the neighbors are good. They won't destroy your property. And they'll sit here and wait for you basically if you're out of town. Do you want to add anything else? There comes Alan. He plows your snow doesn't he. If they don't see you they kind of wonder about you don't they.

AC: Yes. They call up and want to know if I'm alright. The minister will even come out and give me Holy Communion once a month.

INT: I thought they did that for shut ins.

AC: They figure I can't get to church no more.

INT: You haven't told them the real reason.

AC: They keep it so hot there. If I go I won't be able to stay for 10 minutes and I'd have to get out. Even when I went it was hot and I could stand it yet. Now I can't breathe when it gets real hot. The other night when the house was warm I had to get up. Friday he was going to come... Wednesday. Then I had to go to Stevenson. I told him I couldn't be there so he's coming Monday instead. That's pretty good when the minister will come out and give you communion. In a bigger city I don't think they would do that.

INT: How has your family spread out from your home? Where are they located now?

AC: Not very far. One in Daggett and one at home. The grandkids are different. One is in Marquette. Gonna go to England. The other is in Georgia. The third one is still in Daggett. We don't know how far she's going to venture out.

INT: Do you think in this area families stay in close contact?

AC: They do. Mostly everybody talks to their families and comes home for Christmas and stuff.

INT: Well that is good. We can say Daggett is very community oriented and everyone knows your business even before you do. You knew about me going to England without me telling you. I only told one person. I told my Dad and somehow Rose from the library knew.

AC: Well he was pretty proud of that. He had to tell.

INT: This is the interview with Agnes Carlson. November 24, 2001 about the Daggett and Stevenson area between 1947 and the present.