



Orleans County Historical
Association

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1892 - 1990



Orleans County Historical Association

ORAL HISTORY PROJECT INTERVIEW

Mrs. Marie Timmerman Stebbins
Odd Fellows & Rebekah Home
Lockport, New York

Marie T. Stebbins was born July 29, 1892.

The interview was conducted by Helen McAllister of Medina.



Mrs. Marie Timmerman Stebbins



Orleans County Historical Association

ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

The purpose of this project is to collect information about the historical development of Orleans County by means of tape-recorded conversations with people whose experiences reflect the county's growth.

These tapes and transcriptions will be preserved as educational resources and possible publication (all or in part).

I hereby release this tape and transcription to the Orleans County Historical Association.

Maria Stebbins

Signed

May 17, 1982

Date

Understood and agreed to:

Helen M. McAllister

INTERVIEWER

May 17, 1982

Date

May 17, 1982 at the Odd Fellows and Rebekah Home near Lockport, New York; Helen McAllister of Medina, New York is interviewing MRS. MARIE TIMMERMAN STEBBINS. Mrs. Stebbins is almost 90 years old. She was born July 29, 1892.

- S I was born in the grove.
- Mc Marie would you tell us about that? You said that you were born in the grove in Medina where the State Street Park is now located First of all, who were your parents ?
- S Sarah Ellicott Chamberlin^{Timmerman} was my mother, and my father Burt Timmerman and he was born in Yates. There's a nurse who works here who lives down there and comes in every morning. (In the Nursing Home where she presently lives)
- Mc Would you tell us the names of your grandparents ?
- S My grandfather's name was William H. Chamberlin^{Doctor} and my grandmother's name was Sarah Ellicott.
- Mc Would you tell us about your home, where you were born; was that your grandparents home ?
- S Yes, the big one in the grove, way back in.
- Mc Did you parents live ^{with} your grandparents for awhile ?
- S At the time and then they gave him that lot at the corner of Center Street and State Street and he built a house before anymore were born.
- Mc This is your father who you are speaking of ?
- S Yes.
- Mc Let's think about the house in which you were born; it was a very large house. Can you describe it ?
- S Didn't I show you the picture ?
- Mc Yes, I have seen the picture but can you describe what it was like to go inside?
- C You would go inside and at the right side of the hall there was a large staircase and it was about half of the width

of the hall. You went upstairs about halfway and then you turned and came back to the second floor; there was a turn in the stairway. In the side down at the bottom in the hall it went right through into the big room behind it. My grandfather had an office, a doctor's office, in the other side, the right side of the front.

Mc Where did the right (front) side face ?

S East Center Street. There was a long drive down the side. There was a bank at the side and there was a long drive down that to get to the street. S.A. Cook was there and pushed everything over and plugged the creek that was down there, but it was his property where they sell all the furniture now. On East Avenue was my grandfather's grape vineyard that's where S.A. Cook is now.

Mc Were there a lot of trees around the house where you were born ?

S Oh yes, big ones and a steep bank down the side to the creek. That creek in the back went under the canal.

Mc Did you have any pets when you lived there ?

S We never had any, not even a cat.

Mc Were there any quince trees in your grove ?

S Yes, I told you about the little quince park that we had out behind the house on State Street. There were three quince trees out there put a ^{board} platform on the ground so when we were kids we called it "Quince Park".

Mc What other kind of trees were ~~there~~ around there ?

S All kinds. We used to tap them for maple syrup.

Mc How long did your parents live in this beautiful home ?

S They were only there for a year and I was born in that year. Then they were given the lot on the corner and they built their house.

Mc Your grandfather owned that lot ?

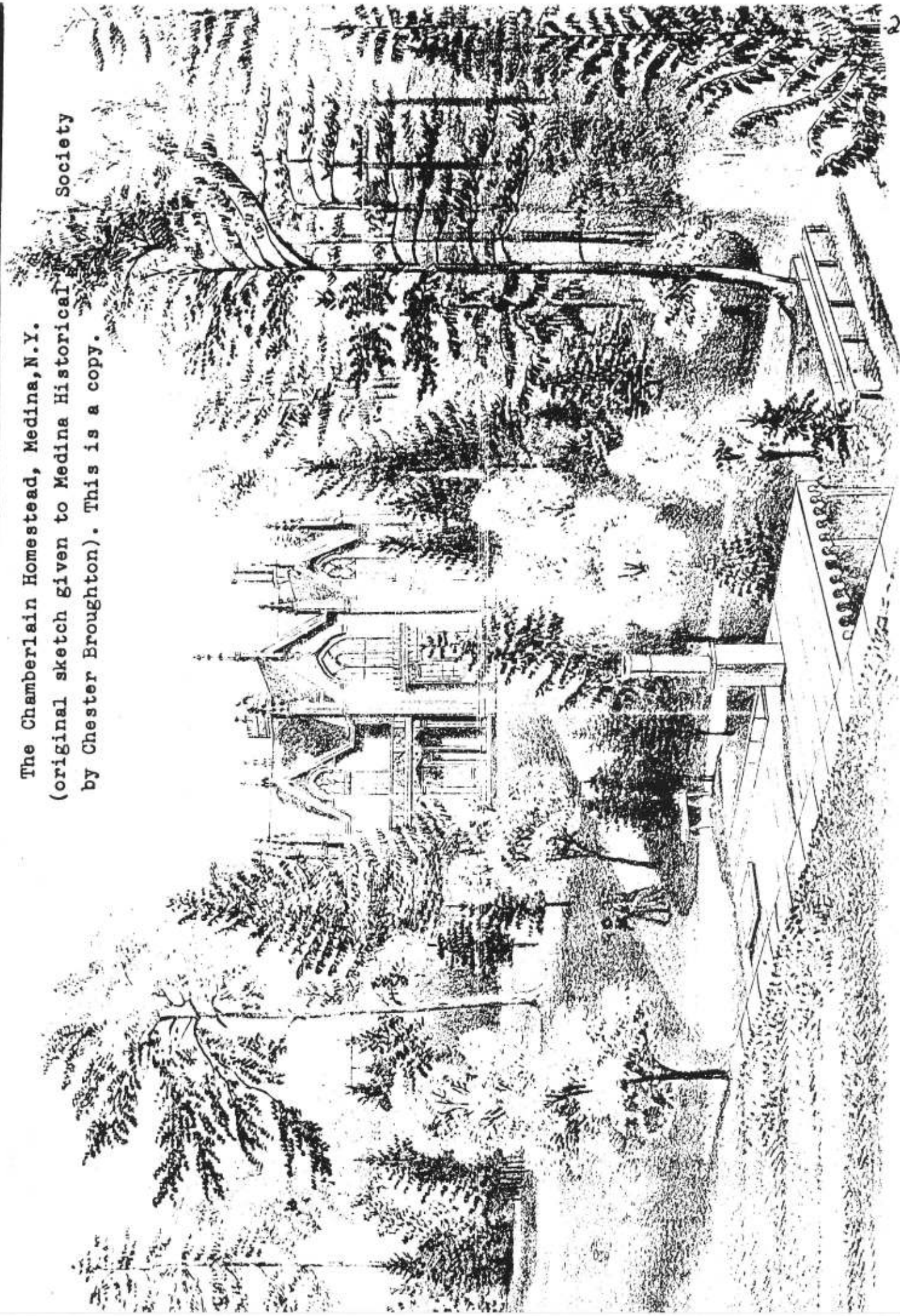
S Yes, it was part of the grove.

Mc What else can you remember about that big house, besides the stairway ?

S It took 50 yards of carpet a piece down the stairs and for two bedrooms above it. The hall downstairs was wide so there was the width of the stairway and the width of the hall back to the living room behind them.

Mc Did they have someone to help with the cooking and the cleaning ?

The Chamberlain Homestead, Medina, N.Y.
(original sketch given to Medina Historical Society
by Chester Broughton). This is a copy.





An exact copy of the "Chamberlain Home"
as described in the transcript/tape. ~~see~~

This location is
171 West Avenue, the Danforth Senior Center,
Rochester, New York. (photo by A. McAllister)

S I don't suppose so. I have no idea.

Mc Do you remember your grandfather being a doctor ?

S No. I was only four or five years old when he died. (1905)

Mc So you moved to the new house out on the corner where there is now an artificial cannon now sitting in the State Street Park. Were both of the other children born there ?

S Yes.

Mc Who was born first after you ?

S I had a sister.

Mc Was that Helen ?

S No, Josephine was born first after me. She married Chester Broughton. Then Helen and then Edwin my brother, that's all.

Mc So there were four of you all together.

Do you remember what that home was like ?

S Oh yes, I can see it myself.

Mc Can you describe it ?

S Well there was three rooms on the State Street side and then on the other side there was a place where my aunt was most of the day. My aunt was a cripple and never walked a step in her life.

Mc What was her name ?

S Anna Chamberlin.

Mc What caused her to be crippled ?

S God. She was born that way and she was always in a wheel chair.

Mc Can you remember the wooden sidewalks ?

S Oh sure, and my father shoveling 350 feet on State Street and 300 feet on East Center Street every day when there was any snow.

Mc That's a lot of work.

S Yes, but he did it.

Mc What kind of work did your father do ?

S He got so that he took care of the power plant at night.

Mc Was that Swett's Power Plant ?

S I think so. It was the power plant that turned off and on the lights. Albert Swett I think it was. They would go in the power plant and find - - what was that man's name that used to go over there so often - - they would find him asleep and they didn't want that, so one night the boss of the whole thing went in and didn't tell them he was coming and of course he was asleep. But the minute he touched the door,

Dad come right up like that. I'm like that too. Noise of any kind that comes in my room while I'm sleeping, it wakes me up.

Mc Did your mother always stay at home with the children ?

S She never worked out. She was too fleshy, too heavy. My aunt and Mother were both heavy. I'm the thin one.

Mc You are very slim. How tall are you ?

S I'm now five foot four, or something like that.

Mc You do pretty well. We came at a pretty good clip down from the room where they are playing Bingo.

Would you describe this cane that you use ?

S It was my father's and that's all I can tell you.

Mc Did he have it made ?

S No, he used it. You know back then the men would dress up in the afternoon and go walking and he used that. It's been broken off about four inches and it makes it just right so I can put my weight on it. But that was his cane and the bend in it is smaller than most canes now and the whole stick is smaller. I'd hate to lose that. I've got so I depend on it entirely.

Mc Tell me about your home life when you were a little girl, can you remember way back 90 years ago ?

S No.

Mc Did you have a big dinner on Sunday afternoons ?

S Oh yes, I suppose so. But I don't remember anything special. We went to Sunday School. My father was the superintendent in the Sunday School for years.

Mc What church was that ?

S Methodist. We went to Sunday School and in the afternoon my father went for a walk. I always remembered that and I don't know why.

Mc Did you go with him ?

S No.

Mc Did he walk along the canal ?

S No, not there. Up and down the street. State Street and East Center.

Mc Do you remember your mother going with him ?

S No, she didn't go with him. She was always heavy. Too heavy to walk. ~~They sort of had Florence Ives down there.~~ ~~She~~ lived the next house down.

- Mc Oh she lived right near you?
- S Yes.
- Mc Florence Ives is now Florence Ives Cole. (See Cole transcript)
- S I haven't seen her in years and years.
- Mc I think she lives in Albion now.
Where did you go to school ?
- S There was a little school house down on State Street. It's still there. Way down to Elizabeth Street or somewhere like that. There was two rooms to it and it went to the fourth grade. After the fourth grade I had to go clear across town and I was the only one that had to go.
- Mc Where did you go when you went to the other school after fourth grade ?
- S Down on State Street. It was only a little ways. They made it into a apartment house I think.
- Mc Do you remember the name of your teacher ?
- S Catherine Touhey.
- Mc Did you go to Central School in Medina ?
- S In high school. There was only two schools. When we got out of that one we went up to Central where there was more room and more grades.
- Mc Did you graduate from high school ?
- S I went five years and couldn't graduate, so I quit.
- Mc I think a lot of people did that in those days.
- S Thought nothing of it then. If you graduated, it was something.
- Mc That would be like going to college today.
- S Yes.
- Mc What did you do when you got through school ?
- S I went up to Hens and Kelly and worked for six months and then my mother found me a better job at home so then I came home. Biggest mistake I ever made in my life.
- Mc What kind of a job did you have back in Medina ?
- S I didn't.
- Mc But you said she found you a different job ?
- S I studied stenography but I never did a day's work of it.
- Mc What did you do at Hens and Kelly ?
- S I was in the office part. When I was in Medina I was working in the office of the Empire Couch Company.

- Mc Where was that located ?
- S On Orient Street, just a little ways from my home, across the creek.
- Mc Did you work in the office of the Empire Couch Company ?
- S I wrote tickets to put on the furniture. They had a stenographer over me. She had a different job.
- Mc There were quite a few furniture factories in Medina at that time ?
- S Three. Empire Couch and Mahar Brothers and S.A. Cook. S.A. Cook is still there.
- Mc What did they do with their furniture, [?] Could the people in Medina keep them in business or was it shipped out ?
- S They always shipped it. One of the jobs was writing the tickets for it.
- Mc How did they ship it out, on the canal or train ?
- S It must have been trains. I don't remember. It might have been trucks or something.
- Mc Do you remember how much you were paid ?
- S Yes. I was paid \$15.00 a week and the other girl that was supposed to be over me got \$18.00. That was the height of our ambition!
- Mc I don't suppose they gave you money for time off.
- S We didn't have any time off.
- Mc How about coffee breaks. Did you have a coffee break ?
- S No, they didn't know anything about coffee breaks then.
- Mc No fringe benefits.
- S No, that's right.
- Mc How long did you work at The Empire Couch Company ?
- S I think it was three years.
- Mc Did you have another job after that ?
- S I don't know.
- Mc Did you live at home when you worked at Empire Couch ?
- S Yes.
- Mc You said that it was a mistake to come back, do you mean that ?
- S Yes, because I got a poorer job, and if I had stayed where I was I could have gone up from there instead of staying on my level or whatever. You're getting into deep history lady! (laughter).
I guess this was when I got married.

- Mc Do you remember when you got married ?
- S No, I've probably got my marriage certificate somewhere but I don't know where it is.
- Mc Tell me about your wedding ?
- S I don't know what I wore but I had it in our home and I remember the minister made us turn around so we faced the audience with our backs to him. That's the one thing that I do remember because nobody else ever did; you got up there and they stood with their backs to the audience.
- Mc That was the Methodist minister ?
- S Yes. I can't think what his name was.
- Mc So you were married in your home. You must have had quite a few people there.
- S Well they didn't have them so big then as they do now. You could see right through our house from the street because the trolleys came down the street and it was there was one in the morning that came along just as we were eating breakfast and ^{you} _^ could see right through our house. The three rooms on one side of our house and they could see right through them and the motorman always stopped right down where he could see through the house and we were all eating breakfast.
- Mc Did you like that ?
- S Well it was fun. My sister, Mrs. Broughton, thought it was terrible to be waving to the motorman, but the rest of us didn't.
- Mc The trolley must have gone by a number of times during the day?
- S Oh yes, every three or four hours. One night there was one of the boys that used to come to the house and the trolley stopped in front of our house out there. They could see right up to Main Street and they had stopped and the boy had tried to get on before it stopped and he fell and broke his finger. Well that stopped the trolley for about ten minutes and they could see it from Main Street and they said: "Well what's the matter now ?" And they said: "Probably gone into Timmerman's up there."
- Mc He was lucky it wasn't a worse accident.
- Going back to your wedding, what was your husband's name ?
- S Howard Stebbins. He was a jeweler.

- Mc How did you happen to meet him ?
- S That I wouldn't know. I don't remember. He was 17 years older than I. He worked in Mr. Hurd's jewelry store. He fixed watches all his life.
- Mc Did you live with your parents for awhile after you were married ?
- S He was a widower and he had been married 17 years, or something like that, when I married him because he had a sick wife. They never had any children. When we got married we had four.
- Mc Then you went to his house to live ?
- S Yes. Right across the street from the Masonic Temple.
- Mc You said you had four children. You had Dorothy - -
- S I call her 'Edwine, her middle name after a cousin of my mother who lived in Rochester, Dorothy Edwine. She married John Pittsley of Lockport.
- Mc Then there is Luther, and William, and Mary Jane who is married to a Wilson.
- S Yes. William lives in Houston, Texas.
- Mc And Mary Jane lives in Lockport ?
- S Yes, she's out on the east end.
- Mc They were four healthy children, right ?
- S Very. We never had any sickness in our family.
- Mc Were they all born at home ?
- S - I can't remember. Couldn't have been. Because one of them was born - - I was home and I commenced to have the pains and went to the hospital and she was born within 35 minutes after I felt I had to go.
- Mc Where was the hospital ?
- S Way across town. (Note: See page 17 & 18 notes).
- Mc Is that where the hospital is located now or at the foot of the hill down at Eagle Street ?
- S Oh dear, I can't remember.
- Mc Going back to your wedding. I have it written down that you were married in 1929, would that be right ?
- S I have no idea.
- Mc I think you told me before you were married in 1929. That would have been about the time of the Great Depression. Did you have any children when we were in the Great Depression?

- S I can't remember.
- Mc I guess if I got to be 90 years old, I would have a hard time going that far back. What do you remember about the Depression ?
- S We lost our home and our business all the same summer and we had to go into the country to find a house that we could pay the rent on. We got a welfare worker who was doing welfare work then, she got us an elderly couple that came in and we lived on a farm and they told us that we could cut the dead trees for wood. So this elderly man and his wife lived there, ~~and~~ I had more trouble with her than I did him. They cut wood all one winter to keep us going, so we didn't have to have any fuel. Those were the days.
- Mc That was pretty hard wasn't it because there was no welfare, no help at all.
- S No, they don't do that nowadays.
- Mc When you say you lost the jewelry business and your house, do you remember the banks closing ?
- S I don't remember it, but I know they did. That was an awful year but I don't remember too much of it.
- Mc Do you remember what you did for food ?
- S We had to get it somehow. We always had a garden on the back of our lot. There was 13 acres in our backyard and we had a garden.
- Mc You probably did a lot of canning ?
- S Yes.
- Mc After your husband lost the jewelry store, what did he do to keep busy ?
- S He went to work for Leo LeBar and he was a jeweler, ~~and~~ ~~Then~~ after awhile Leo sent his work to Buffalo because he could get it done quicker. My husband would always like to have a watch run about a week to know that it was alright but it got so they had to put them out faster than that so he lost that job too. Then we had to take in welfare boarders.
- Mc When you say welfare boarders, you had to do the cooking ?
- S Oh yes. Had 13 in my family once for awhile.

- S I forgot to call my daughter. She said she wished to be here when you were.
- Mc She could probably help us out in lots of ways, but we'll do just fine. That would be your daughter, Mary Jane ?
- S No, my oldest one.
- Mc Oh, Dorothy ?
- S Edwine.
- Mc Right, Dorothy Edwine; you call her Edwine.
- S The family does and my daughter-in-law does but the rest all call her Dorothy.
- Mc Going back to the Depression when you had 13 boarders, my mother's mother and her husband took in roomers and boarders and I remember that my grandmother only wanted to take in men. She said they were less bother.
- S I can imagine so.
- Mc Did you have chickens and a cow to help out ?
- S No cows. We had a few chickens I think at one time but they didn't last very long.
- Mc Did you eat them all up ?
- S Maybe as far as I know.
- Mc Did quite a few people take in welfare boarders during that time of the Depression ?
- S I can't answer that either because there weren't the number of welfare boarders then that there is now under the same title.
- Mc Do you remember the Hobos that came around during the Depression ?
- S Oh yes, they never got anything to eat at our house because if they got anything to eat once then you had a raft of them.
- Mc Would they walk or come on the train ?
- S A lot of them walked, and some of them hitched rides on the trains and they'd come off of the train. You're getting back into history.
- Mc Sure. This is for history, it's trying to remember way back when.
- If your husband lost his job as a jeweler working for Mr. LeBar, what did he do then ?
- S We went into the country to live and we had an old man and his wife living with us and they helped on the farm to cut the wood.

Where we got our groceries I wouldn't know. The welfare got them for me sometimes when we got low.

Mc You belonged to the Methodist Church at that time, did the church give you any kind of help ?

S No.

Mc Probably a lot of people were in the same situation.

S I remember getting house rent for one month from The Order of the Eastern Star.

Mc You belong to the Eastern Star?

S I did and now I do, as far as I know, I should be because I have the cards for it and everything. Membership cards. My daughter pays it every year.

Mc That means a lot doesn't it ?

S Yes. She don't pay it; it comes out of my money and she has charge of my money.

Mc My mother belonged to the Eastern Star. Was your husband a Mason ?

S Oh yes. That was one trouble, after we were married he would go to the Masonic Temple every night to play cards or pool. He was never home evenings. I never thought anything of it, but I was alone.

Mc That was before television too.

S Yes.

Mc Did you have a radio ?

S I can't remember.

Mc Well you got through the Depression alright; did you husband ever work again ?

S Oh yes but when we moved out onto the farm he went to working out there on the farm to get our food and things like that.

Mc Did you live there from then on ?

S Oh yes. Then we moved from there to Millville and kept welfare boarders. She was a friend of mine and she got them for us.

Mc Who was that ?

S Rose Cobb.

Mc Her son was Mayor of Medina for a long time. (Jack Cobb).

S Yes he just quit awhile ago.

Mc So you made your home in Millville ?

S For awhile.

Mc While we are talking of long ago, do you remember when

women first got the vote ?

S No, not especially.

Mc Do you remember when women first got their hair bobbed ?

S Not especially. I knew that I wore mine long. I got my hair somewhere now. If I had only sold it at the time I had it cut off I'd have made some money on it because it's real hair and they paid a lot for it then.

Mc What did they do with hair ?

S They made wigs and things like that. But they made them out of artificial hair. My hair was heavy and it still is and it will never be white because it was always sandy. My daughter gets hers colored now.

Mc A lot of people do. Did you get your hair cut at a barber shop or a beauty parlor ? I bet it was a barber shop.

S Probably.

Mc Do you remember the time of Prohibition when people weren't supposed to have any drinking ?

S I can't remember it.

Mc Did your children go to school in Medina ?

S Yes.

Mc Do you remember anything about a revival meeting in Medina where they put up a big temporary building ?

S Just that much of it.

Mc Did you ever go to it ?

S I don't remember that. But I know they did have one.

Mc I think that lasted for about a week, it was on Park Avenue and West Avenue along in there.

Do you remember anything about the Swett Home on Eagle Street. About the beautiful home and the beautiful driveway ?

S I can't remember it. I know they had plenty of money. A.L. Swett or the son was the manager of the whole thing, Albert Swett.

Mc In Medina you have always been active in the Methodist Church and you belong to the Berean Class, is that right ?

S Yes. And just two years ago my daughter stopped me from going to the reunion because she thought it tired me out too much. I get awfully tired when I do anything like that. We used to go down and have a banquet, they still do.

Mc What do you remember about the Berean Class ? Who was

the leader ?

S Dorthea Stockfield is now.

Mc You've been able to keep in touch with the Berean Class?

S Up until last year and my daughter wrote and told them that she thought I wasn't able to come. I think I was worse a year ago than I am now, physically. I go now every Tuesday down to the senior citizens center.

Mc And you play Bingo ? (The Spires, Senior Citizens Center).

S Yes, but I don't play cards. I never learned. I saw him every night for six nights a week when I was younger and I got kind of sick of it I guess. There was a couple of ladies that lived across the street from us and they came over every night in the week to play cards.

Mc Your husband worked in Lockport for Mr. LeBar - -

S For awhile. He got his work finished up quicker by sending it to Buffalo and so he did.

Mc Then you have lived in Lockport for quite long time ?

S Since 1942.

Mc That's 40 years, that's quite awhile.

S I'm waiting for my next birthday.

Mc And your next birthday is July 29 and you are going to be 90. That's wonderful. How do you feel about the world today; do you think it's changed a lot since you were a young girl ?

S I never thought anything about it. Everything is going so much faster now. So much more to do, and not to do. When we moved up here in 1942 I had an extra room and I had a roomer for quite awhile. We had four garages in the backyard so I rented them. I got \$7.00 a week. The boys wanted them to put their cars in in the daytime 'cause we were right near Harrisons and they didn't want to leave them out on the street and they put them in there in the daytime.

Mc That helped a little bit when you got some money for that.

S That was \$14.00 a week. Then we made our house into a double house and rented one side of it for an apartment.

- Mc That's a good idea.
- S My husband put a doorway in between the front room and the cellar stairway then he cut that side right off. He nailed up the doors that went into their kitchen and we used the door that he put in so we could go down from our side. That was on West Avenue.
- Mc Did either of your sons ever have to go to war ?
- S No. Luther works now for the city.
- Mc In Medina ?
- S Here in Lockport. He lives out on the Hinman Road. This is my daughter's picture that I just got the other day, from Texas.
- Mc That's a lovely young lady.
- S She's 13 years old now. She's my granddaughter. Her name is Athena Stebbins.
- Mc So you are a grandmother ?
- S A great-grandmother too, I have five or six great-grandchildren. I really never see them, very seldom see them.
- Mc What is it like living in a nursing home, do you like it ?
- S There is no choice. It's alright.
- Mc For awhile you lived in the other nursing home. How does this one compare to the other one ?
- S What other one ?
- Mc You lived in the senior citizen housing for awhile. They called it something else. It's in Lockport.
- S Oh, Mount View ^{Nursing Home.} I was there six months then I was well enough so they put me out and I had to go somewhere else and I was able to get in here. They all felt that was the best thing to do. I suppose I'm here for the rest of my life.
- Mc The rooms are nice and cheery and light and clean.
- S And all on the same floor.
- Mc That's important.
- S Yes it is. I could climb a stairway if I had to, but my knees today, I can feel them. They are kind of lame.
- Mc Being a homemaker you must have mopped many floors in your life.
- S Not that many.
- Mc Can you think of anything else that might be of interest

to young boys and girls who wonder what it's like to be 90 years old?

S I don't know.

Mc Do you know how to drive ?

S Oh no, not then.

Mc Did you learn how to drive ?

S Yes, we had a car and I learned how to drive.

Mc What was it like when you first got behind the wheel ?

S I don't remember. We had a good car and it was made out of real stuff and then they got to making them out of tin practically and we finally gave ours up because we didn't have the money to buy another one, and I quit driving. I used to go to my sister's over to Elba. That's about the only place I ever went. She's gone now and I'm the only one left out of four. Mr. Broughton's wife was always sick. They took her out of school.

Mc Do you mean Josephine ?

S Yes.

Mc I remember she loved flowers.

S We all did but she had a chance to have some. She never had any children. If anybody wanted to go to the city they got Jo to drive.

Mc You called her Jo ?

S Yes.

Mc I just knew her a little bit. When we first came to Medina we rented an apartment from Chester and Josephine. She was lovely.

S She was entirely different from the rest of us, very strait-laced.

Mc You mean you were not strait-laced ?

S Not to the amount that she was!

Mc Why was she like that ?

S I wouldn't know. She was always very prim and precise.

Mc You've enjoyed good health for the most part.

S Yes. At my age I see so many who are worse off than I am. I don't have a ache nor pain of any kind.

Mc You just zipped right along when we came down the hall!

S I always walked like that. I have to slow up for the people I'm walking with. I get by.

- Mc Well if you can't think of anything else, I guess I can't either. I know so many people in Medina have said "For goodness sakes get her to talk about the Chamberlin mansion." because it was so large.
- S It was built in 1848 but they didn't build it. I don't know who did, but they got ahold of it somehow. My grandfather was a doctor and that's all I know.
- Mc Do you remember when that house was torn down ?
- S It was burned down because there was a vagrant that went through the yard from State Street to Center Street, a short cut, and he kept at it 'till he got a fire in the wine cellar stairways and burned it down.
- Mc Why would he do that ?
- S Being miserable that's all.
- Mc Wasn't that house at one time used for Pest House ?
- S Smallpox. Italians lived it in too.
- Mc When they came through working on the canal ?
- S Yes, I suppose so. I don't know what the reason was then but when they used it for a Pest House that was for the smallpox. The Italians lived in it because they couldn't rent it to anybody else after that. The fire-man finally got it.
- Mc Did they ever prove that this one man burned it down ?
- S No, they just took it for granted. They all practically knew it was him.
- Mc When was that sold to Medina for a park ?
- S I can't tell you now. We moved to Lockport in 1942 but I can't remember that other question you asked.
- Mc Let me just ask you this, Marie. If you had the opportunity to get in a space ship and go up to the moon like some people have done, would you take it ?
- S I wouldn't go to the moon, but I've been in airplane four times.
- Mc Did you like it ?
- S It was just wonderful going through that haze and my daughter today when she flies, she hangs on and is afraid when she goes up, but she goes. I thought it was wonderful.
- Mc I feel if it's good enough for the Pope and the President, it's good enough for me.
- Did you ever think you would live long enough to really

believe that people walked on the moon ?

S I never thought it and I never thought about it that way, but they did. That was wonderful. I don't know how they could but they did, that's something else. I can't realize that the moon was close enough so that they could get to it and know that it was the moon.

MC Boggles the mind doesn't it ?

S Yes. I can't think of the names of who walked on the moon. - *John Glenn*.

MC You're not alone in forgetting names.

Thank you very much, I really appreciate it and I thank you for all the people who are going to be listening to your tape and reading your transcript.

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MC This is an additional note to Marie Timmerman Stebbins interview:

My first meeting with Mrs. Stebbins was at the suggestion of Chester Broughton of Medina. Mrs. Stebbins first telephoned me at my home several years ago, about 1980, after she had read of a program that I had presented on the Oral History Project. She told very briefly of some of her life's activities and interests, especially that her husband had been a jeweler, that they had lost everything in the Depression and moved to Lockport. She did mention that she had been born in what we in Medina call the Chamberlin mansion. Following Mr. Broughton's suggestion, my husband, Arden, and I went to Lockport and first met Mrs. Stebbins in March of 1982. We told her of the program, showed her several of the transcripts, etc. She was very alert, very interested, she was very willing to talk; she was full of interesting and important historical information. We set up a time for the interview. She said the only day she could not be interviewed would be Tuesday because she goes out to play Bingo with other senior citizens in the Rebekah Home. Therefore it was a week and a half

later that I went over on a Wednesday. Alas, she had overdone and did not feel well and was flat in bed; therefore I returned home without the interview. This interview was done approximately three or four weeks later on May 17, 1982. Mrs. Stebbins was very willing, very cooperative, but her mind was not at its brightest; however I feel that the interview was worth doing and I thank her for her interest, and I thank Mr. Chester Broughton for his interest and encouragement. — (Helen McAllister)

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Typed by Lysbeth Hoffman, Lakeside Bluff, Waterport, New York.

This interview was conducted by Helen McAllister, Medina, N.Y.