- General account of his life.

Davis: Now this was the time you were having classes in adult education and organizing co-ops on the side. Was there anything else which you did in the way of community work?

Brady: Well, I would say that most of my community endeavors were directed along those lines.

Davis: You have a note under 1949 -- Quant resigns. Now what was the circumstances of that?

Brady: As far as I knew Quant resigned in protest against the officials' lying that was being carried out. You see, I have a certain degree of loyalty to Quant because after all, I had come into the department under him and he had been more or less responsible for my appointment. And I realized then that with this reactionary influence in the DNR there was very little possibility of being able to develop a real program, particularly when Quant was well disposed towards this program of co-operatives and adult education credit unions. In many respects he gave me very valuable assistance. After Quant's departure the climate changed.

Davis: Who succeeded Quant?

Brady: He was succeeded by Earl Dodds.

Davis: Stephanson was in Prince Albert, you say, in 1949?
Brady: Yes, I met him in Prince Albert that year.

Davis: What were your reactions to Stephanson?

Brady: Well, my reaction in the main was good but after all he worked for the United States navy, so I thought that he had to be approached with considerable trepidation.

Davis: Did you have much contact with him?

Brady: I met him twice when he was in Prince Albert. Oh yes... I met him a number...

Davis: (inaudible).

Brady: No, I was invited to meet him.

Davis: What was he doing up here at that time?

Brady: At that time he was engaged on preparing and editing an Arctic encyclopedia.

Davis: He has had headquarters at Dartmouth College, I think, for some time. He is one of the great names in the North. Did he live up to your expectations?

Brady: Yes, I would say that Stephanson did as a matter of fact. I felt that he had quite a healthy approach to all these problems. He could approach them realistically.

Davis: You didn't feel that the main thing he wanted was research and that had any great...

Brady: No, Stephanson struck me as a man who had independence of thought and I believe he valued it too. He had that integrity, I believe, as a man.

Davis: Have you corresponded at all with him since then, or seen him?

Brady: No, I haven't.

Davis: Who was Sister Jean?

Brady: She was my sister. She's a religious. She was teaching school in Saskatchewan for the Grey Nuns at Beauval and Ile-a-la-Crosse.

Davis: You saw something of her?

Brady: Yes, I met her in 1948. I haven't seen her for 12 years. She is now principal of the Mission School at Fort Chipewyan until she was purged, more or less, from the Saskatchewan scene.
Davis: What were the circumstances of the purge?

Brady: Well, she had a problem and she didn't get much support from the Saskatchewan Department of Education and she had certain definite views on Indian education and she wrote an article for the Native Voice, which is the official organ of the native brotherhood of British Columbia that was published. Apparently she had done this without any ecclesiastical consultation or approval.

Davis: Did it cast critical reflections upon the way that education was handled in northern Saskatchewan or in the church?

Brady: Well, if I accept her viewpoint of this I think there should be criticism directed towards both, because they were not conforming to the curriculum.

Davis: Her views were more or less like yours in this respect, were they?

Brady: Yes, to some extent I think, as far as Indian education was concerned. And we could see that it had to be conducted along certain lines if it was going to do the students any good.

Davis: 1950 -- Tompkins comes to Saskatchewan... Now Tompkins was the son or the nephew...

Brady: He was the son of the elderly Tompkins whom I mentioned had been a prisoner of Riel during the Northwest Rebellion.

Davis: Yes.

Brady: He was second vice-president of our people, Metis Association of Alberta, and he came to Saskatchewan and he was employed first I believe by the Saskatchewan Fish and Fur Marketing Service. And he carried on these Cree newscasts and he acted as an interpreter, you know, whenever a situation arose that required his services. He was sort of a roving commissioner who moved around throughout the North.

Davis: Where is he now?

Brady: He is in Calgary now.

Davis: Do you know what he is doing?

Brady: Well, he is not doing anything now. He is over 70, sort of semi-retired.

Davis: 1950... Was this the first time you met Bob Deverill?
Brady: Yes, I met Bob Deverill in 1950 in Cumberland. He was an information writer for the DNR for some time there.

Davis: The Co-op school, what was that?

Brady: Well, I attended the co-op school in 1950.

Davis: Where was that held?

Brady: Prince Albert. You see, as a result of our co-op and adult education efforts in Cumberland, a co-op school was set up for a week's course in Prince Albert in June, 1950. Sufficient interest had been developed in the community at Cumberland that the community sent three delegates to the co-op school to take in that week's course.

Davis: This is the year you went to Batoche?

Brady: We had a number of delegates, Indian and Metis delegates who attended co-op schools in other points, like La Ronge, Pelican Narrows, Stanley and other places, and when we were in Prince Albert we went down and visited the battleground.

Davis: Was that your first visit?

Brady: That was the first time I ever had been at Batoche.

Davis: Have you been there since?

Brady: I passed through there once, but I didn't go to the main place.

Davis: Do you know anyone there at Batoche?

Brady: No, I am not acquainted with anyone at Batoche.

Davis: How did you see this, how did it affect you?

Brady: Well, I found it very interesting because I had considerable historic knowledge of the Rebellion and also people who had participated in it, so actually it was very interesting to me. I wasn't bored anyway.

Davis: Now you said you had been purged from the DNR. What were the circumstances of that?

Brady: Well, that's a long story, you know. I would hesitate to put it on paper.

Davis: Does this have something to do with your two children?

Brady: No, this thing was dirty political.
Davis: You were fired then, I take it?

Brady: No, I wasn't fired, I was transferred to Uranium City and I refused to go.

Davis: Why were you transferred?

Brady: Well...

Davis: Was it to get you out of Cumberland or was there really a job to be done up there?

Brady: There was a job to be done, you see, but the point there... You see, what actually happened, I didn't get along well with the northern administrator because he was the individual who I had previously criticized at these conferences.

Davis: This would be O'Donnell?

Brady: No, MacLean. You see the incident that happened there was when I first went to Cumberland we had a junior field officer there by the name of Marcel Charo, and he was a French Canadian who had come from Quebec. He was a war veteran. It was really a bad situation in one way because Charo, you see, was actually a round peg in a square hole. In my opinion his capabilities as a field officer were certainly very limited. You see, he had been under my predecessor. I thought, you see, that I don't think he had been given a fair opportunity, but then he didn't get along too well with some of the people in Cumberland. And after I had been there a while some of them approached me about this and pointed out to me his shortcomings and failings. They didn't ask me to do this but they inferred to me that they would welcome the idea of him being transferred somewhere else. After careful consideration of this thing I brought this matter to the attention of Quant. And I felt in a way that I didn't want to see him dismissed from the department, because in the first place I don't really feel that personally I had any grounds to make any complaints about him to the Civil Service Commission, because he always almost religiously carried out any of the directions I gave him. He was well-intentioned as far as I could see, but just plainly incompetent.

When Allan came down he discussed this question and it was suggested (I suggested to Allan) that he be moved. Well Allan said, "If you feel that way we could let him out of the department." I said, "No, I don't think that we should because," I said, "If any one person should bear the responsibility for this situation was the man who selected him for this field officer's post." But you see, he didn't come out of the field officer's school like we have nowadays, he came from the forestry school.

On the other hand, you see, Marcel had served during
the war and he had been badly wounded and I didn't feel that it was right to arrange for his dismissal. After all, he had spent all of his war credits, his re-establishment credits, to put himself into that position. I realized, as a war veteran myself, and undergoing the problems that I had to get readjusted after the war, I felt a certain sympathy for him. I felt that he should be given another opportunity. Allan saw it the same way and they arranged for him and gave him a new district at Cree Lake to replace Clinton.

Davis: How did he work out up there?

Brady: Well apparently, as I said before, he lacked the capabilities of a good field officer, although I don't doubt his honesty and sincerity for one moment.

When I went to field officer's conference I was called into the Northern Administrator's office and I was told by the Northern Administrator, MacLean, that they were transferring Charo back to Cumberland. I pointed out to the Northern Administrator that I didn't believe that Charo should be sent back to me and I refused to accept him. I said, "I can't do that because everyone in Cumberland knows that I was responsible for (or instrumental) in getting him transferred to Cree Lake and out of my district." I said, "This move met with the approbation of the community at Cumberland House and," I said, "the community at Cumberland is not going to be very satisfied if he is brought back. Consequently," I said, "I'm opposed to it."

Then Bob Elvis who was the junior field officer who had been there previously, he was stationed at Flin Flon under Oakley. Well then, when I objected to Charo being brought back to Cumberland, MacLean told Elvis that he would transfer him back to Cumberland from Flin Flon and then Charo to Flin Flon. Well, when Bob was told about this he came to see me. He said, "Well, Jim, you know I'm not objecting to going back to Cumberland." He said, "When I was at Cumberland as a your junior field officer you and I got along very well together, but I don't want to go back to Cumberland because if I do there is no possibility of me being able to get a district of my own. I want it clearly understood," he said, "that I am not objecting to working under you because you and I get along fine together, but it is just a matter," he said, "I intend to go somewhere in the department and I can't very well do it if I work under you as junior at Cumberland." The result of this was that finally he got hold of Beaupre, his superior, and the next day they went to see MacLean in his office, and as we were sitting there MacLean informed Oakley that he was going to send Charo to Flin Flon. Frank Oakley said to him, "I don't think you should have done anything. I don't want that. I just found out that McNeill and Stoney don't want him and Clinton at La Ronge doesn't want him. Now I have never met this man but I think I have sufficient confidence in Jim's judgment to know
that if he doesn't want him," he said, "I don't want him either." The result of this was, you see, that in the end I didn't get him. But the following day I was called back into MacLean's office and I was asked by MacLean, "Look," he said, "I am going to send Charo to Cumberland." In other words he was telling me that he was coming anyway, in spite of the fact that I didn't want him nor the people in Cumberland didn't want him.

"Well," I said, "you put me in a very difficult position." "Jim," he said, "that's easy. You keep him there a month and then you make a report to the Civil Service in Regina. In another (about another two months) about 90 days, you write a second report at the end of that time and you will get him out of there because I will arrange to see the Civil Service fire him after they get two complaints from you." I said, "Look, MacLean, I'm not that kind of a rat. If you want any dirty work done you go and do it yourself. I've got no reason to make any complaints about Charo. When Charo left Cumberland he was called into the office at Cumberland House with Allan Quant and I and we discussed this whole situation with him man to man. I criticized him openly and asked him if he had any criticisms against me to speak frankly. When Charo left Cumberland House he shook hands with me and he thanked me for what I had done. Now," I said, "if you people in the department want to run things that way, you go ahead and run them, but I am not making any complaint against Charo if you send him there. But there is one complaint that I am going to make to the Civil Service Commission, if I have to write one,

and I will write it about you, the Northern Administrator. You are responsible for the field officers and your own personnel."

Davis: He was the guy who hired Charo in the first place?

Brady: No, not originally. But he came in as Northern Administrator after Wheaton and that's what actually happened.

But you see as early as 1950, when MacLean began making these promises to these people, he actually intended to seek the CCF nomination.

What happened at that time, there was some talk about redistribution because at that time La Ronge was in the same constituency as Cumberland. He had intentions, you see, of becoming the CCF candidate for Cumberland the next election. That was the reason he went around making these promises to these native people.

Davis: Did he ever run?

Brady: Yes, he did eventually. In 1950 he came to me and asked me if I would support him. The redistribution was to take place and he asked me if I would support him. I pointed out to him quite frankly, I said, "No, I can't and I won't." "Well," he said, "why?" I said, "Let's be honest about it.
The people of Cumberland don't like you," which they didn't. I said, "I can't come out and support you. After all, I'm an employee of the department." I wasn't actually pulling the usual excuse that most civil servants have that they can't take part in political activity but I was conscious of the fact that the Indian people, the native people of the North did not like him, that he was unpopular among them. I told him frankly,

"Look, I can't do that." He said, "Why?" "Well," I said, "I am not going to be considered a traitor by my own people. That's exactly the position I put myself in if I support you."

Davis: That was in '51?
Brady: '50.
Davis: Now I don't suppose this helped your...
Brady: It certainly didn't because when MacLean found out that I was politically passive and I have no sympathy with his political aspirations, well then, he made the decision to get me out of Cumberland.
Davis: Now when did you get word that you were to be transferred?
Brady: That was in August.
Davis: And you simply refused to go?
Brady: Well, I refused to go, you see, because I know how these white supremicists act. The point was he wanted to transfer me to Uranium City and I asked him why. "Well," he said, "we need somebody up there who can administer things, and besides that we have a lot of machinery there." Well, apparently in their viewpoint machinery was more important than people. I was quite quick to grasp one thing and that was that Uranium City was a mining boom town at that time and the natives who had been there are mostly Chipewyans, and I had no avenue of communication with these people. And at that time, you see, if I had left Cumberland it would disrupt this entire co-operative program. MacLean knew that at this time I was on the verge of organizing the timber co-operative.

Davis: This is what you have noted here, Cumberland House Wood Products Co-op?
Brady: This arose as a result of co-operative education and we had timber resources, particularly at MacDonald Bay. And through those summer months we had proposed to have a co-operative timber operation during the winter.
Davis: Now this was organized in 1950?
Brady: 1950.

Davis: How long did it last?

Brady: Well, we operated at MacDonald Bay during the winter of 1950 and 1951 and I acted as their secretary and manager and more or less assisted in directing the operations. Well, I left Cumberland in May 1951 and it carried on, I believe, for a year or two after I did, but it actually failed because it had no genuine support.

Davis: What about the proposed transfer to Uranium City? After you turned it down you were...

Brady: Well, I refused to accept it. I told them, "No, I'm not going to do that. I was brought here to do co-operative and educational work among natives because that's the type of work I was accustomed to doing in Alberta." As a matter of fact, I had done it for the Alberta government. But suddenly, as I said before, machines were more important than people.

I knew that if I got up into a place like Uranium City, where the majority of the people are white, that I would find considerable hostility against myself. So it was better to quit.

Davis: After you quit... it would be May, 1951...

Brady: Well, I actually left there in October, 1951, which was when my employment expired.

Davis: And then what did you do?

Brady: We proceeded with the organization of the Timber Co-operative and I went to the bush with this crew for the winter at MacDonald Bay.

Davis: You were cutting timber?

Brady: Yes. We were freezing timber.

Davis: Where was it sold?

Brady: Well, there is only one outlet to which you can sell anywhere in the province of Saskatchewan and that's the Saskatchewan Timber Board. We had to deliver it to their yard at Hudson Bay.

Davis: How did you get it down there?

Brady: It was freighted out by tractor train to Wanless north of The Pas and then from there it was shipped by rail to Hudson Bay.

Davis: Now if you had been able to sell elsewhere would it have worked out any better?
Brady: Yes, I believe it would have. If you study the financial statement for that winter's operation you will find that if we had got an additional $7 or $8 a thousand, the project would have at least drawn evenly. One of the reasons for it was, you see, the Saskatchewan Timber Board didn't pay us enough. We only got $35 per thousand for our lumber.

Davis: How did that compare with prices elsewhere?

Brady: Well, our co-operative was offered by a Manitoba buyer that he would give us $42 a thousand for our lumber. But that wasn't all, we didn't have to load it on a car because they would have taken it away by truck. That additional $6 or $7 a thousand would have put our operation into the black.

Davis: It would have made the difference!

Brady: It would have made the difference. But it is absolutely impossible for a co-op, especially a northern co-op, to expect that they are going to be able to survive as long as this policy of the Saskatchewan Timber Board continues. As I see it, the Saskatchewan Timber Board, under the present set-up, they can't play any part in community development because they are not oriented in that direction. As a matter of fact, they are no different than any other monopolistic business concern.

Davis: Are they still a Crown corporation?

Brady: Yes, they are still a Crown corporation.

Davis: I wonder how come they have never been changed over?

Brady: Well, they are one of the few vested interests or empires in the CCF movement in government that is a sacred cow. Nobody has dared touch them yet. Actually, they play a very reactionary role as far as we northern people are concerned. They are actually inimical to the economic betterment of the North.

Davis: Now you have left Cumberland. Were you sorry to leave this place?

Brady: Yes, I felt rather sorry to leave Cumberland because I found them a very good group of people, they were very good people to work with.

Davis: How does that place compare with other places you have lived? I mean in terms of how you like it and how you don't like it.

Brady: Well, of all the settlements that I've lived in or worked in in Saskatchewan, I always liked Cumberland the best because, like I said before, the people are a little more advanced, a little more progressive. And besides, they have a certain degree of pride and independence that I have always
admired.

Davis: So these three years that you were there, this was one of the high points in your career?

Brady: Yes, well it was one time that I felt that I was actually accomplishing something constructive.

Davis: How did your work there compare, how do you feel that your work there compared with (inaudible) what you believe in? How did that compare with the work you did for the Metis Association in Alberta?

Brady: Well, when I worked for the Alberta government, which was purely a reactionary government, I found out that as far as my work in the field among the Alberta Metis was concerned, during the short time I worked for the Alberta government, that I actually got far better support and understanding from the Alberta government than I got from our own CCF government of Saskatchewan. They were more fully aware of the necessity for doing things. That's rather odd in view of the fact that they were a reactionary Social Credit government, and in many respects Fascist-minded in some of their attitudes. But nevertheless they were far more realistic, I believe.

Davis: Quite a paradox!

Brady: Yes it is, extremely so.

Davis: Well, you went to Dschambault again in '51.

Brady: I worked there that summer for Laurian Williams, the Fish Marketing Service contractor.

Davis: Were you glad to go back to Deschambault?

Brady: Yes, I enjoyed going back to Deschambault, as I have always liked Deschambault. Scenically it is a very beautiful place and I have always liked living at Deschambault.

Davis: Do you like the scenery in the North?

Brady: Yes, I like the Cambrian country especially.

Davis: You prefer that, say, to the prairies or the high mountains?

Brady: Yes, I prefer the bush.

Davis: In coming back to Prince Albert and La Ronge, did you sort of hit La Ronge by chance?

Brady: What actually happened, the fall of '51 I was looking around and of course, naturally, I was interested in going north again. And through Malcolm Norris I got in touch with Bill Bowland, who at that time was the manager of La Ronge
Uranium Mine, and I was hired to go up there and work at the La Ronge Uranium Mine. Previous to this I had never been in La Ronge. And I left Prince Albert on the 2nd of November, 1951. I arrived in La Ronge and the following day I discovered that the operations had been suspended for the winter and the crew were going back to Toronto. As a matter of fact, I met them all in La Ronge. So I was suddenly unemployed, without a job, without money, stranded in La Ronge. As a matter of fact, I had to borrow $5 from Malcolm to go to La Ronge to pay my bus fare. But I lived. Like I said before, the Indian community there, they looked after me.

Davis: Now this fact that they looked after you that winter, this, I suppose, established a sort of a tie, did it?

Brady: It is rather difficult, you know, but among Indians and Metis there is a sort of a loose fraternity. If you haven't got it, well they have, so all you have to do is go looking for them. I don't know a soul here outside of you people and the people at the University, but I'll bet you I won't starve in this town as long as there are any Indians or natives around. I'll just find out where they are and who they are and that's it, I'll be all right.

Davis: Now tell me about the election. This would be '52 -- Berezowski elected in Cumberland. Did that include La Ronge at that time?

Brady: No, because you see at the time of the redistribution, La Ronge was put back into Athabasca riding.

Davis: So it would be the same in '52 as it is now, wouldn't it, the line?

Brady: Yes.

Davis: Well, how did this appear to you, this election, did you take any part in it?

Brady: Well no, not actually, because you see I was working in the bush. I had started prospecting so I couldn't take an active part in it. But I had joined the La Ronge CCF club that spring. I had a membership then. We had a membership of 13 at that time. Of course, you see, we weren't quite satisfied with what developed and we weren't satisfied with our candidate because our candidate was foisted on us by the provincial executive.

Davis: That was MacLean?

Brady: MacLean, yes. And we people who were members of the club didn't want him; we wanted Quant, who was a local.

Davis: Well what happened, did you support MacLean?

Brady: Well what actually happened, the provincial executive committee didn't pay any attention to our local CCF club. And
as a matter of fact, MacLean was selected on the basis of a petition bearing 36 signatures which later we proved had been circulated in the bar room. And as a matter of fact, 18 of those signatures actively supported Ripley, the Liberal candidate during the election. So as far as the selection of the candidate was concerned, he was steamrollered by the provincial executive in Regina.

Davis: Would that be the Ripley over in Sandy Bay?
Brady: Yes.
Davis: The trader. He ran on what, the Liberal...?
Brady: The Liberal ticket.
Davis: He won, did he?
Brady: Yes, he defeated... I think he had 215 majority. I'm not certain but I believe that's what it was. We felt at that time if we had run a local man we could have defeated Ripley, and undoubtedly we would have too, because our CCF organization was ignored and MacLean seemed to place his dependence upon the administrative apparatus of the DNR to elect him.

Davis: It didn't come through, I take it!
Brady: No, with good sense the people rejected it. Sure, I voted for MacLean, but I might tell you quite frankly and in honesty that there was nothing more repugnant to my feelings when I walked into the polling booth and voted for a man whom I really despised. But I could see the political importance and the necessity of keeping the Liberals out.

Davis: Well, Berezowski was elected in Cumberland. You probably had a little better attitude, or a better feeling about that, about that case.

Brady: Well, Bill Berezowski has always had a fair and open-minded attitude to all of these northern problems. And besides that, he has a better understanding than the average, because he has lived in extreme settlements, and besides that, he has prospected in the North and he has some knowledge of these conditions.

Davis: La Ronge in '52... Oh yes, the election had just taken place and this Schemala Lake strike, what was that? How far is that from La Ronge?
Brady: It is about 50 miles by winter road east of Hunter Bay.
Davis: Oh I see, across the lake then. Was there a strike there at one time?
Brady: Well, there was considerable excitement about it at the time, but it wasn't a very extensive deposit and I think it
was really overplayed promotionally.

Davis: You worked on this for a while?

Brady: Yes. As a matter of fact, these claims had been staked by three American prospectors from Wisconsin in 1950, and they staked the ground and had done a little trenching and the property had eventually come into the hands of La Ronge Uranium. In the summer of 1953 Bill sent me up there with his son and crew to do some assessment work. We began to blast and as a result of this work we discovered what was later known as a 'main showing'.

Davis: Now this was a streak of the stuff from the rocks?

Brady: It was a high concentration of uranium in what we call a bio-tight shift.

Davis: And it looked as if it might be worth something?

Brady: Yes. It looked like it had possibilities so there was close detailed prospecting done and later there was a drilling program. Eventually, in 1954, a plunge shaft was sunk, about 140 feet in depth. Then as we all know the bottom fell out of the uranium market and nothing further was done in the area after that.

Davis: Do you know if the entire north of Saskatchewan has been thoroughly prospected?

Brady: Barely scratched. There have been geological survey parcels out and that covered a good deal of the territory, they've already mapped it. There are areas which have never been mapped and there are areas that the white prospectors haven't penetrated to any extent yet.

Davis: Now you mention the Rosenberg case in your notes for 1953. Did this make some impression upon you?

Brady: Yes it did, because I thought it was a frame-up.

Davis: What paper or books did you have on this case?

Brady: Well, I used to read the National Guardian at that time, and I followed the case quite fully because it was always reported in detail.

Davis: Yes, I remember passing out leaflets in Time Square on that case.

Brady: I was in the bush at Foster Lake and Davey Lake there and I remember when one of the prospectors came up and came off the train and he said, "I guess you heard they really fired those Red bastards." I remember I felt considerable emotion about it. As a matter of fact I had to go and sit down behind the powder house until I regained myself. It was a frame-up, just like the fact of old man (inaudible).
Davis: I remember I was travelling from New York City to Vermont at the time by car and it came over the radio when I got to Vermont. I didn't sleep all night.

Brady: Yes, I had to go off and sit down in the bush by myself because I was very emotionally upset and I didn't want to betray this thing in front of (inaudible).

Davis: Well, for '53 you also have a note on the federal election. How did that appear to you?

Brady: Well, as a matter of fact I spent most of that summer in the bush and the whole thing seemed remote to me. I had sort of lost political contact with everyone.

Davis: So this was something a way, way off at the time?

Brady: Well, I was aware of the issues in the general way, but it didn't involve me directly. I was in an isolated area and I had very little communication with the outside.

Davis: How did you happen to visit Fort a la Corne?

Brady: Oh, I came out from Foster Lake that fall and I had been up there all summer. I had bad teeth, I needed dental attention, and when Bill came up I asked him if I could come down to Prince Albert for four or five days and get this looked after and he said, sure. I came out from Foster on the 5th of October and when I got down to La Ronge I was up to Harry Houghton's hotel. Bill had left a letter behind with a 40 ounce bottle of Scotch and he asked me, as a favor, if I could go back to Jahalla Lake and complete a survey there for him. It was very important because this was sort of a rough job and had to be completed by the end of the month. I did, I went back. I spent one night in La Ronge, I went back up to Jahalla and spent another 18 days there. When I came down to La Ronge I met Bill. Well, Bill was an old Arctic veteran. He had spent years in the North. So I asked him if it would be possible then to go down and get dental attention. "Oh," he said, "sure. Go on down to Prince Albert and get your teeth looked after. Take a week off, take ten days off. Oh hell," he said, "take enough time off until you get Foster Lake out of your system."

So I came down to PA at the time. I got dental attention and I happened to run into an Indian, a Treaty Indian from Fort a la Corne by the name of MacLeod, and I was overseas with him during the war and hadn't seen him since. I left him in England before D-Day and he invited me to come down to the reserve and visit him, so I went and spent two weeks there with him. I was also interested in la Corne, you know, historically, because you know la Corne was founded by the French traders even before Cumberland, although it wasn't a continuously settled area. It is 20 years at least, or more, older than Cumberland.
Davis: Have you ever gone back to la Corne since then?

Brady: No I haven't, although I received various invitations from people on the reserve to go back and visit them.

Davis: Well then, you went back to La Ronge for the winter?

Brady: Yes, I spent the winter there. Except I went to Cumberland House for Christmas and the New Year holidays.

Davis: Usually you hit Cumberland for the holidays, do you?

Brady: Well, the last number of years I have gone to Cumberland for my Christmas holidays.

Davis: So your life in these times was a little heavy, as I suspect you were contracting, working out of La Ronge.

Brady: I was prospecting and doing other mining development work.

Davis: Do you like this work?

Brady: Yes, I do. I like it because it is outdoors frontier type of life. You are not actually tied down like a factory slave of punching a clock, and you have considerable initiative and to a great extent you have considerable independence in deciding your program for yourself.

Davis: Did you ever strike any claims on your own?

Brady: Yes, in the spring of 1957 I went to McTavish Lake with my partner George Miller, who is a real old-timer in the North, and staked a property there and staked 36 claims that spring, known as the Valley Union. We disposed of it later to International Nickel for a paltry consideration. In the fall and winter they had a building program there but the claims... later he dropped the option with us.

Davis: So you have never made any comparable strikes or claims of your own?

Brady: I and my partner have never made any strikes that would give us the means of coming down to Saskatoon and making nightclub history or anything of that type of thing.

(END OF PART III)
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