

DOCUMENT NAME/INFORMANT: MAXINE GEORGE #4
INFORMANT'S ADDRESS:

INTERVIEW LOCATION:

TRIBE/NATION:
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DATE OF INTERVIEW:
INTERVIEWER: IMBERT ORCHARD
INTERPRETER:
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HIGHLIGHTS:

- Very garbled account of the Sun and the Moon.

NOTE: The quality of this tape is very poor and as a result
the dialogue is largely incomprehensible.

Maxine: Yeah, I think pretty near two years I work for ground
survey. They going to give me \$100 a month for head packer but
I say no. I don't want.

Lady: He can't (inaudible).

Maxine: I don't want it, I don't want to be boss. (laughs)

Lady: Oh, (laughs).

Imbert: You were packing then, were you? You were a packer?

Maxine: Yeah, pack train, pack train and we hauling scow. We
call was scow way up by the river and canoe, canoe man.

Wintertime we use sled, no, toboggan, dog team.

Imbert: The supplies for the railway.

Maxine: Yeah, we hauling, yeah, yeah.

Imbert: It's a big canyon there, isn't there?

Maxine: Yeah, Grand Canyon, way up there. I spend the whole of my life, young boy, I was young boy, no girls, no girls, no woman.

Lady: (Inaudible).

Imbert: Oh dear. (laughs) Too bad.

Maxine: Yeah, too bad, yeah.

Lady: (Inaudible).

Maxine: Maybe fifteen years old.

Lady: Just fifteen years old, (inaudible).

Maxine: Yeah, I was young boy.

Lady: He was fifteen when he first got married.

Maxine: Yeah.

Imbert: When he was working on the railway... How old were you when you were on the scow?

Maxine: On the scow? We make two trips to Canal, to Fort George. Then we find...

Lady: (Indian).

Maxine: Well, the same year, 1907.

Lady: Oh, 1907.

Maxine: Then this (inaudible) he buy a scow for camp. We used that scow and we got canoe and we got dog, twenty dogs. We make four dog teams.

Imbert: How old were you in 1907?

Maxine: Well, 1907 I was, uh, fifteen years old.

Lady: (Indian)

Maxine: Yeah, fifteen years old.

Imbert: You were born in '92?

Maxine: Yeah, 1892, I think.

Lady: Yeah, 1892.

Maxine: No, 1891. 1891. Then I work, then I lose my wife then I want to go back to Stellaquo. And my oldest brother, he stays Stony Creek. Then I get married at Stony Creek again, second marriage, second wife. Then flu come that Second World War, I think, no, no.

Lady: The flue epidemic in 1918.

Maxine: Yeah, flu come. I lose my wife. And me, finally I get too, myself. (laughs) Yeah.

Imbert: Do you remember seeing Cataline, the old Cataline?

Maxine: Yeah, here that was, (laughs) I use snuff. Put it in his mouth and (noises).

Lady: In his nose.

Maxine: Yeah, in his nose. Yeah, I know him. Yeah.

Imbert: He was famous all over the country.

Maxine: Yeah, yeah, and looks like he's Spanish. Yeah, Spanish.

Imbert: He was French actually.

Lady: Oh, was he?

Maxine: Yeah, but he talk French. French, here we call Muskego.

Imbert: French?

Maxine: French, yeah. Muskego.

Imbert: Mosquito?

Maxine: Muskego. Muskeg, French.

Lady: Oh, I see, oh.

Maxine: And we talk, we talk, I talk French that time. I talk French, I know. But now Frenchman, French language is different again. Yeah, it's different.

Lady: Yeah, it's French-Canadian. This French is the French from France.

Maxine: Yeah.

Lady: He used to talk French-Canadian.

Maxine: Yeah, and the white man same way. The first white man that came up here, he talk...

Lady: Chinook.

Maxine: Chinook. He talk Chinook. But Fort George and Fort St. Jim [St. James] and here, they talk French. Yeah, long time ago. They talk French, yeah. They talk French.

Imbert: Could you speak French well? Could you speak it?

Maxine: Oh yes, I was, yeah, I speak good.

Imbert: Vouz parlez francais un peu?

Maxine: Oui, oui, (laughs). I stay one time Fort George, (name). Yeah, that's my, my father's first cousin.

Lady: Oh, that's right, yes, yes.

Maxine: Yeah, yeah.

Lady: (Inaudible).

Maxine: (Indian) Yeah.

Lady: (Indian). That's his relative. He's related to Margaret Seymour.

Imbert: Granny Seymour.

Lady: Granny Seymour.

Imbert: I remember her.

Lady: (Indian).

Maxine: And cousin.

Lady: (Inaudible).

Maxine: (Indian).

Lady: (Inaudible)

Imbert: You were going to sing a song.

Maxine: White man song, long time ago, sure. All right.

Imbert: I think it's nice and quiet.

Maxine: Yeah, all right.

Imbert: Just a minute.

Maxine: All right?

Lady: Yeah.

Maxine: (Sings) I used to look at the mountains. I used to look at the mountains. (Indian) I used to look at the mountains. I used to look at the mountains. (Indian) Yeah, that's the one. That's like white man's song.

Imbert: Can you tell me what it means in English?

Maxine: Little bit, little bit.

Lady: (Inaudible).

Maxine: Yeah.

Lady: (Indian).

Maxine: Chinook (Indian).

Imbert: But can he translate it into English?

Maxine: The last one, (Indian). Uh, sore my heart.

Imbert: That's the heart.

Maxine: Yeah, tum-tum(?).

Imbert: Not here.

Maxine: No, (laughs).

Imbert: I know a little Chinook.

Maxine: Yeah, yeah, okay.

Lady: Yeah, he says it's part English and part Chinook.

Imbert: Oh yeah. I would like to see if I could get all the words quite clear. You know, try to write them down.

Lady: Yeah.

Imbert: Maybe take the first line. How does it start?

Maxine: (Indian) Lots of snow on the mountain.

Imbert: High snow on the mountains.

Maxine: Yeah. (Indian)

Lady: Oh, that's in Chinook.

Maxine: Chinook, yeah.

Lady: I'm happy.

Maxine: (Indian) My heart is sore, my heart is sick. Yeah.

Imbert: Sick, tum-tum(?).

Maxine: Sick, tum-tum(?), yeah.

Imbert: Just again, the first line...

Lady: High snow on the mountain.

Maxine: High snow on the mountain.

Lady: Up the mountain.

Maxine: Yeah, up the mountain. (Sings) (Indian)

Lady: Oh, that's in Chinook.

Maxine: Chinook, Chinook.

Lady: Yeah.

Maxine: High snow up on mountain. I don't like (Indian)
Sick my heart.

Lady: Yeah.

Imbert: I don't like it.

Maxine: Yeah, yeah.

Imbert: I'm sickly, I'm tired.

Maxine: Yeah.

Lady: I'm sick and it's lonely at the mountain.

Maxine: Then goes the white man now, after that white man, he
make not the song, um, Oh Canada... (laughs).

Lady: (Inaudible).

Maxine: (Sings in Indian) That's all. (laughs)

Imbert: Do you know...

Maxine: (Sings)

Imbert: Will you sing that again? I didn't get the
beginning.

Maxine: Oh.

Lady: (Indian).

Maxine: (Sings)

Imbert: What was that song?

Lady: That was sung for the Bishop, I think for the...

Maxine: Yeah, that's Bishop's song.

Imbert: L'eveque, I heard l'eveque and that's the Bishop. That's French.

Maxine: That's the Bishop, Chinook says (Indian). We gonna say a prayer, big prayer. All together, that's what it means. Chinook, yeah, Chinook.

Lady: This was for the Bishop.

Imbert: When would they sing that? When would you sing that?

Maxine: When Bishop, he come.

Imbert: When he comes.

Lady: In June, eh?

Maxine: Yeah, in June or May.

Imbert: I know they sing the other song (inaudible).

Maxine: Yeah, the same one, yeah, same one.

Imbert: Any other, do you know any other Chinook songs?

Lady: (Inaudible).

Maxine: (Indian). (Sings) Lahal(?).

Imbert: Oh yeah.

Lady: I thought it sounded familiar.

Maxine: That's a Lahal(?) song.

Imbert: That was Chinook?

Maxine: Chinook, yeah, Chinook.

Imbert: What were the Chinook words?

Maxine: Well, they go, try to catch, you know. He missed him. Then it says not me, shame. That's that it means.

Imbert: What are the words in Chinook?

Maxine: Well, Chinook says...

Imbert: Chinook says what, what was the first?

Maxine: (Sings) hello my casam(?), (Indian). One side they call boon(?). That one not there, that's what it means. Chinook.

Lady: (Inaudible).

Imbert: Same words over and over again.

Lady: Yes.

Maxine: Same ones, yeah, same ones.

Lady: The same, the meaning, the same, you have to guess which ones.

Imbert: And then the words are the same, you don't change the words.

Maxine: Yeah, it don't change, no, no, they don't change.

Imbert: That's very nice.

Maxine: These words go around. It same that Sun, it go around. And earth same way. These words they stay there but Sun, they go around. They go like this and they go in the water, water come up. Then they come out, gather in. That's what we think long time ago. And white man, same way. Then after they find out. Not long ago they find out, yeah.

Imbert: The world is round.

Maxine: Yeah, yeah, yeah. Long time ago they gamble, one Indian, he gambles. And he lose all he got. And he lose his children. At last he bet his wife but he lose them and he got no clothes and he go. He get one camp, he get there. Somebody he call them, come in. And he give lots of clothes. In the

morning, man is gone but the clothes is there yet. He didn't touch them. Then keep on going, keep on going. Somebody he give some clothes but no, he leave it there and he go. Keep on going, keep on going until the other end, the other end of the world. And there was a house there. And evening, no, evening, man he comes back. That was Moon. And Moon, he talked to that man. And this, Sun I mean, Sun. Moon he don't want to talk to man. He don't want to talk. And the Sun, he come back and he tell that man, "Better you go back where you come from. That woman, maybe he kill you." So all right, next day he left there and he started come home. Then he come home. Then they got nothing to eat. Then people, they got a cabin they get there. And well, we say he got house anyway. And he give something to eat, some fish, dried fish. And he tell them, "You stay there, you stay overnight here and maybe I try to catch fish for you tonight." So all right, after, "If something, noise, don't look. Don't look out. Stay covered at your head. Don't look."

So nighttime was when the loon start to holler and then this loon wake up. But now, no, that loon was, he do fishing. He holler nighttime, he do fishing. And when he do fishing, holler long time so man, he look. Oh, that loon was, it dived down, it come up with a trout. So when he see him, the loon, he stopped. And he bring some trout. And he stayed there and he fixed that trout, he make him dry and he give them. When, that summer, when the loon holler, then this (inaudible) tear him out and throw in the lake. So this man, he get back home and summertime when the loon get hungry, holler, holler. Then this, they tear him out and they throw him in the lake. The loon he dive down, he come up with trout, big trout. That's all. (Inaudible). Story?

Lady: Story. (Inaudible) (laughs)

Maxine: (Indian)

(Break in tape)

Imbert: What was that you were saying?

Lady: Yes, yes, we had to say 'huh'. Somebody used to tell us stories and if we kept quiet and they would say, "Now, I won't tell you anymore if you don't say 'huh'." And we had to say 'huh' every once in a while when, to show that we were awake and listening to them. Yeah.

Maxine: He says, one, two, three, four, that's why you can sleep quick. But in then you say 'huh, huh, huh, huh,' and when he tell a story, bedtime story, when we quit saying 'huh,' well that, we're asleep, he knows. That why he found out we're asleep.

Imbert: I think when we put the stories in our book, when we put the stories, we're going to have to call the book, 'Huh'.

Maxine: Yeah, 'Huh', yeah, 'Huh'.

Imbert: Yeah, 'Huh'.

Maxine: Yeah.

Imbert: 'Yuh' means what?

Maxine: 'Huh'.

Imbert: 'Huh' (laughs).

(END OF SIDE A (SIDE B IS A REPEAT OF SIDE A))
(END OF INTERVIEW)

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