



JUNIOR LEAGUE OF CEDAR RAPIDS
ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

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INTERVIEW TOPICS
CEDAR RAPIDS: THE EARLY DECADES OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY

I. PERSONAL LEAD-IN QUESTIONS

- ~~1~~ When were you born? Where?
- ~~1~~ How long have you lived in Cedar Rapids?
- ~~2~~ What are your parents' names?
- ~~3~~ Where did you go to school?
- ~~3~~ Are you married or single?
- ~~4~~ Did you raise a family? How big?
- What has been your occupation (career) during your adult years?
4,5 Eldora, Iowa

II. COMMUNITY TOPICS

A. Technology in the Community

1. Transportation

- ~~3~~ Railway travel (Union Station, trips to Iowa City on Crandic)
- Trolleys (the Interurban)
- 11, ~~17~~ Horses and First Automobiles
- ~~11~~ Mud roads and the seedling mile
- Hunter Airport and the first planes
- Cedar River (ferries, floods, dams)

2. Communications

- Newspapers
- Radios
- Advertising
- Telephones

B. People in the Community

1. Amusements/Recreation

- Motion Pictures
- Cedar Rapids Parks
- ~~20~~ Dances
- Carnival Week
- Chautauqua
- Community Theater
- Little Gallery
- Symphony Orchestra
- Circus
- Greene's Opera House
- Amusement Parks (Alamo)
- Camps
- ~~43~~ Community Centers (YWCA, YMCA)
- 11 St. Paul's

2. Famous Characters

- Cherry Sisters
- Grant Wood
- Carl Van Vechten (The Tattooed Countess)
- Marvin Cone

3. Lifestyle
 - Life before air conditioning
 - Winter Activities
 - Holidays (Memorial Day, July 4, Thanksgiving, Christmas)
 - Clothing
 - Toys
 - Saloons/Taverns
 - Farm Life

4. Family Life
 - Household Help
 - Women's Roles
 - 8,9 Childrens' Activities/Behavior
 - Sunday activities (Church life, Sunday Blue Laws)
 - 5-7 Adoption Train

5. Ethnic/Minority Life
 - Immigrants (Czech, Greek, German, etc.)
 - Indians
 - Segregation of Blacks
 - Jobs Available

C. Organizations and Institutions in the Community

1. Education

- Cedar Rapids Schools 22-23 Teaching
- Coe College
- 18-21 Mount Mercy College
- 13 Cornell College
- 13 Grinnell

2. Government

- City Services
- Streets/Roads
- Relationship with Marion (Courthouse Dispute)

3. Medical

- Hospitals
- Patient-Doctor Relationship
- Broken Bones
- Polio, TB, Debilitating Diseases
- House Calls
- Home Delivery of Babies

