Sept. 22, 1955

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Dear Pat:

I have had in mind expressing a few thoughts to you ever since Emmett's sudden death.

Although his and my own dry dates were only a month apart, he was in squad 14 a long time (as our squad was so large) before I was even aware of his membership. He used to say later that he and I were "bankrupt" when AA got hold of us. I knew that I was ecomomically and financially bankrupt, and I guess Emmett felt that he was morally and spiritually bankrupt.

My first conscious contact with Emmett (after I had succeeded ~~xx~~ becoming re-employed here) was a letter or a telephone call from him one morning. One of you boys was in a certain difficulty with the local gendarmes and Emmett wanted it kept out of the newspapers.

I recall doing what I could about it, and whatever small effort it took must have been successful, because a few days later Emmett sent a check for $20, covered by a notation "For Services Rendered".

Broke as I was, I recall sending the check back to him with a sharply-worded note, in effect asking him who he thought he was throwing his weight around with $20 bills, impugning my imagined journalistic integrity, etc. He admitted later that my reply rocked him back on his heels, that he hadn't been accustomed to have people talk that way, but from then on we became good friends.

I recall the many,many talks we had in those early years about AA and the 12 steps, and the one that bothered him the most I guess was step five.

Out of these talks developed an arrangement whereby we met in his office nearly every Monday night for more than a year while Emmett poured out the story of his life. He used to say that he had told me more about himself than any man alive, and the better I came to know him the higher went my respect and admiration for him. Looking back now, I can appreciate that he was trying to rid himself of some of the bitterness which plagued him, and which he thought was preventir him from deriving the full fruition of the AA program.

The intimacy of these talks—between he and I with personalities, experiences, backgrounds and ages as far apart as the poles— bore two principle results as I look back on them now.

The major one, by any standard with which I am familiar, was his later willingness to join me for a weekend at Lake Demontrevill where, he confided later, he participated in the sacrements for the first time in 50 years. I can still hear him on that Monday morning when I drove him back to St. Paul and he said:

"Larry, I think I am the happiest man in the world".

The second result of our talks, and the one to which this note is essentially directed, has to do with more material aspects of the conversations.

As the story of his life unfolded, there were some things which were not "off the record", so to speak, and this data we ~~compiled~~ compiled in note form and when we were through I had about 100,000 words of notes.

During the following year, I re-worked this material and put it in the form of An Autobiography of Emmett Butler.

When Emmett first read it, he said he was immensely pleased. Later—I believe it was the 1952-53 winter at Tucson, he said he re-read it more liesurely and had some ideas for embellishing it. We had intended getting together to do that ever since, and I had ~~xxx~~ planned take a month's leave this winter to join him at Tucson for that purpose.

Now that can never be.

However, I have the biography in its original form. It may take some minor editing, but it is Emmett's story as he lived it and remembered it. If pulled together and put in some bound form, I like to think it is a document that his children, grandchildren and possibly a few friends will enjoy reading and possess copies of.

For me it represents my best efforts in treating a word story of a man who was, above all others, my best friend. You may want to talk to me about this matter.

Sincerely,

Sam Tilman

Fathers education before he went to college consisted mostly of learning acquired from a traveling teacher who called at fathers home from time to time. He was about 18 years of age when he started college and had to walk 6 Irish miles to and from college, and to pay for his education he established quite a name as a wrestler. He would wrestle at county fairs in Dublin or any other gatherings that would pay for such entertainment; he weighed about 160# was 5' 8" tall and he was very successful in his wrestling contests. The style of wrestling was either collar and elbow or finger hold. Aparently he graduated about 1846 when he was 23 yrs. of age as a civil engineer from Trinity College in Dublin. He was very good in mathematkes and quite a latin scholar. In the year 1846 he obtained a position of surveying the British Isles. Because of his father's objection to leaving home, he remained home until about 1852. At that time my father took steerage passage on a clipper ship_____and it took 49 days from Liverpool to _____. The passengers in steerage carried as much food and things with them as possible and they were provided with some cooking utensils to prepare their food as best

they could; there were no sleeping accomodations of any kind only what you brought along. Mother came over in 1848. No relatives or close friends accompanied him on the trip. He arrived in New Yoyk and it took about 10 days before he was released from quarrantin and staying in New York only a short time as he had no friends there, and being brought up on the land he immediately went by foot to Pennsylvania working his way so he could get something to eat on the way until he finally arrived at Motchunk Stuckertown no very far from Bethlehem, where he got employment with a Dutch farmer and remained with the same farmer for 3 years. This farmer operated a grain and dairy farm and evidently the farmer liked his work as he paid him $8.00 per month. He learned to speak the Dutch language fluently and never forgot it. Leaving there in some way he went to Galena, Ill. where he again met mother. Shortly thereafter they were married. He arrived in Galena by walking and stage coach and had about $160.00 in cash. It is my recollection that he went to work in the hotel as clerk and later as bartender and then leased the hotel called the Butler House. My mothers name was Mary Ann Gaffney and was seven years younger than father being born in 1830 in Dublin. My mother came to America with her parents in 1848

at the age of 18 years and settled near or at Galena, Ill. My father followed in 1852 and reached Galena in 1855 and renewed their acquaintanceship. In the meantime my mother had blossomed from girlhood into womanhood and they were married properly in the catholic church, which may still be there.

In the first years of their marriage father operated the Butler House, the hotel and bar catered to the then population, and most of the drinks at the bar were purchased on credit each day or during the mens drinking periods, he kept his record in day book form, heading the page the day of the week, month and year in engineering printing. When the customer had finished drinking the amount of mpneys worth he consumed was written down and the book was promptly turned to him to sign, most of the signors just signed with an X. Among his customers was Ulysses S. Grant. Grant was a heavy drinker. Looking thru the book it would start out on Monday about 7 drinks of whisky, on Tuesday it would at least be 14 to 16. Until the week progressed to Saturday it would be up to 30 for Grant. Grant's father had sent him out from Louisville where he operated a tannery. Grant did not like the tanning business so he was sent to Galena

where his father also operated a woodyard. In at least three places in the book on Saturday night Grant would write his name and state "I'll never drink no more". In the book also was a receipe for making Irish whisky, and this is the receipe:

5 gals Pure Grain Alcohol - 5# Round Steak - 5 gals distilled water in a charred barrel, whisky to be ready for drinking in twelve months, however, if needed, to be used at six months. In another place in the book was a notation of father's arrest for selling whisky. Most of his customers were illiterate and all signed with an X. He did not like Grant, because he was lazy, self-opinionated, dictoral until he was tight, then he was very easy to manage. Everybody came to Galena because it was the principal route on the river to the Northwest and the West. Mother helped father run the hotel, and it is my impression based on story and conversation mother was anxious to get out of the hotel business. The hotel was the only one in town, it being a red brick building containing about twenty rooms. Father rented the building, he did not own it. Do not know if there was any fur trading in those days mostly lumber. They stayed in Galena

about a year. They came to Minnesota which state was being greatly advertised at that time. Theybcame up the river on a sidewheeler and landed at Pine Bend at which place father taught school. Catherine was an infant. The reason they came north to Minnesota was the lure of riches held out to immigrants. Walter was born at Pine Bend. Upon arrival at Pine Bend he got a position of teaching school where he taught for two years at some elementary school. Father was strict with his pupils and had no trouble with the tough boys, he always had good discipline and was a good instructor. He taught all the subjects and had about 40 pupils in one room, ranging in ages up to 18 and 20 years. While in Pine Bend he rented a house and his salary was $35.00 per month for nine months of the year. During vacation periods he would work on farms and in the fields harvestingwheat, and at that time wheat was cut with a scythe. Shortly following that a tool called a cradle was perfected and permitted the user to stand erect and in cutting the wheat so the heads of the wheat all went in the same direction. Mother sewed, knitted and churned butter and also had a spinning wheel and made homespun clothing. Pine Bend was a river town, logging and general package freight, most people made their

living on or from the river, however, father never did this kind of work. Father had some sort of trouble in Pine Bend and do not know if it was just a fist fight or what, but mother was very anxious to leave there, and came by river to St.Paul, in either 1857 or 1858. They remained in St.Paul only a short time and then went to Rosemount, where he took a 40 acre claim and built a shack on it to live in, one room built of tar paper. Rosemount was an Irish settlement and still is today. Mother objected to that place because of the drinking and fighting in the village, and no doubt father was embroiled in the fighting and mother did not like it. Do not know how long they remained on the 40 acres and never took a crop out, just walked away from it. From there he went to a little town called ~~Hazelwood~~ Greenvail where Sister Belle was born. I do not know what he engaged in in ~~Hazelwood~~ Greenvail but in the years he rented a farm and remained on it. He also got a contract to do borrowpit work for the C.M.&St.P.Ry.Co., and was the sub-contractor employing about 16 men and motherdid the cooking for these men. I think this was in 1858, and the general contractor failed and the railroad Co also failed owing father about $500.00. They had no

money to pay him with, and all he received for this $500.00 was 2 barrels of whisky probably 60 gallons worth about $18.00. Father stated about the whisky that it didNOt last long enough and always accused Mary Ann of knocking the bung out of the barrels and she always would have a kind of sly smile but never denied it. While the whisky was ~~available~~ there was always a good deal of company around the shack, and all of a sudden it disappeared. The next move was to the 80 acres of school land situated at Waterford about 5 miles northeast of Northfield in Dakota County where he again erected a one room board house with a shed roof. There brother John was born followed by William, Pierce and Cooley. Father grew wheat and the only cash wheat market was at Hastings which was 20 miles away on the Mississippi, where he hauled his grain. Cooley was two years old. I recall on one of his trips to Hastings with a load of wheat his face broke out and when the doctor came he called it Whisky Blossoms, and mother of course did not believe it was whisky blossoms as he had no more than one drink of whisky. There was a midwife by the name of Barlow, and mother asked Mrs. Barlow to look at his face, she did and stated that's

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schoolhouse was moved it was not plastered just tarpapered. Walter was grown up and went to learn the plaster trade, and he and father procured sand and materials and plastered the schoolhouse. Mother raised poultry, 300 to 400 chickens and some turkeys, which they would take to Northfield and trade for sugar, clothing and shoes, twice a month with a team and wagon. Prior to that time they used oxen and father had two yoke of oxen. It was a good 5 miles to Northfield and the trip into town would take a day to get there and back, nothing but mud roads and no fences. There were no fences in Minnesota and cattle ran free and father always had more cattle than he had feed for, so that in the spring of the year cows would bring in calves. There was an unwritten law that in spring if cattle wandered off to your neighbor's land it was perfectly proper to drive them off but no dogs were to be used and cows bearing calves were not to be run. A neighbor who lived about 1½ miles from our place by the name of Bill Ryan got on a horse and with two shepherd dogs ran these cattle for a mile and a half to our place. Father had been watching him race the cattle from the shed door and as he raced the cattle into the yard

father grabbed Bill Ryan off his horse and backed him against a wagon wheel and went to work on him. Dad was working out on Ryan, and being a wrestler made a vicious kick and missed hitting his shin on the hub of the wagon wheel, and then he got Bill Ryan on the ground, mother and Kate came running and thought he was going to kill Ryan and made them stop. Finally got Ryan started home and the blood was running out of fathers shoe top, mother got hot water and started to work on him and said "Pat will you never learn to quit fighting", he answered "how did I know he was going to move his leg". We were the only catholic family in the school district, population was mostly Scotch Canadians and Mass. Yankees, Congregational Methodists and some not many Episcopaliens Bill Ryan was a north of Ireland ~~catholic~~ Irish.

In 1876 the first self binder was made by McCormick called the McCormick Reaper, which would cut the grain and fit in into bundles bound with wire. Father got the agency for selling these harvesters and binders and in his traveling he called on the Rosemount district where he had built his shack and discovered that his shack had been stolen and moved off the land, and came across a fellow named

Feeley, Mike Feeley, and had a hunch that Feeley was the party who stole his shack, and when he called at Feeley's place he said "Youre the son of a bitch that stole my shack". Well of course he did not sell Feeley any machinery.

There was no community life as far as the Butler family was concerned at Northfield, as we were the only cathelic family there and our family wwwe as a unit. If Walter got into a fight, Kate & John would see to it that Walter won the fight if they were able to. One of the stories is that one time Walter got into a fight with a party much larger than himself, and Bill who was years younger saw that Walter made out by sticking a pin in the other fellow's pants.

One time the school board decided not to let our family attend school in the district and three of the board members came to our house and notified father that we would not be allowed in the sxhool district, had circulated a petition and had signatures to keep us out. Father took them into the shed and gave them such a tongue lashing and would not let them out of the house until they agreed to let us attend school. In two years Sister Belle taught school there and also brothers Pierce and Cooley attended

Mother did not go to church more than 10 or 12 times as it was too hard going in a wagon. Kate when to church every Sunday and father went with her until they moved to St.Paul. Mother was a mild person rarely raised her voice or was cross with the children, and the children would anticipate her wants and there was an unwritten rule when we would finish our evening meal all the children would gather up the dishes, wash them and straighten out the kitchen. On Friday afternoon father would drive and get Belle and she would help mother from Friday night until she left again on Sunday. Mother never sat down always worked from early morning until ten o'clock at night. Sister Belle was a great knitter and handy with a needle. That was a bad winter, the cows went dry and no food for the pigs. We butchered our own pigs. That winter John taught school at Hazelwood as the boys there were tough and ran the school teacher out of town, for which he was paid $40.00 per month and stayed the term out. He had some fistfights etc., but he was a big man. Other families had social life but father was strange in this respect, did not care for any social life only his family life and when the children were invited to parties

he would object, just wanted his own family circle. Father was a great and brilliant man, wore a 7 and 3/4 hat, and many years x after leaving college he would work out logarithms without a formula. He was a driver and also an early riser; he would have the boys up at 4 A.M. and out to the chores. In the summer time he would be up at 3:30 A.M., and would walk around a 90 acre patch, and all the children had duties to do from the time they were able to do things. He started to plow ~~xxxxxx~~ when he was 8 years old. Father was kindly in many ways, very impulsive, and loved his children. We had a young sister who took up his attention, would give you everything he had. As the children grew up when a calf or a colt was born he would give it to the children. If he had good years and had any money he would give some of it to the children. Father was unbalanced in many ways, but was very liberal and very proud. Mother had no social life. She was quiet, refined and implanted some of her character into everyone of us; she was mild and with her mildness no child ever attempted to disobey. One time when it was my turn to dry the dishes I ducked, and for

[redacted] two weeks she wouldn't let me dry the dishes and that hurt. Father would have slapped my jaw and then in a couple of hours would give me a nickel. Character of the children, some are like mother and some like father. Walter was smart and father could never teach him. Father died in 1900and after his death Walter left Northfield and came to St.Paul and drove a dray for a while and then got into the bricklaying trade. Belle and Kate stayed in St.Paul that winter and lived with Uncle John, a brother of fathers.

I was 7 years of age when I started school which was located about a mile and a half from our home, and as I recall it the term started the first of November. Effie I was the youngest boy in our family, my youngest sister was two years of age, and probably some ~~kmt~~ timidity was acquired by me due to the attitude of people in that day and probably in my own home, where a child was to be seen and not heard and followed me both in school and out of school and even later in life. For instance, my first day in school my brother Cooley, who was 2½ years older, bigger and stronger both physicially and in character, had arranged I was to lick a boy by the name of Freeland. In the first place I did not want to fight as I couldn't lick anybody, and of course I was pushed into the fight, and Freeland did not want to fight, so the fight did not amount to much and I was laughed at. Mother and father would say "do not fight unless you have to, but father's idea was to lick him and particularly because his name was Freeland. There was some justification in father's mind about the Freelands, they had three or four boys, and the older boy was known as a chickenthief and had gotten into our chicken house, but still I could see no particular reason for fighting this Freeland boy. Father and one of the Freeland boys got into a fist fight, and in the fight father had his face scratched up. When brother Cooley came home he told everyone I wouldn't fight, and especially the Freeland boy. Father told me to grow up and take care of myself. As far as father was concerned for not liking him no matter who started the fight, his boys were never to blame and for not being an Irishman. That was fathers code. That code was developed I think from the narrowness on the part of the neighbors. Father was always looking for the

slight. somebody was doing something he should not have done. without a doubt he was oversensitive about things. I think along with his aggressiveness he had somewhat of an inferiore complex, founded on the fact that he was not a good farmer, and that the neighbors would have a butter ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ crop, it irritated him and he resented it. He knew nothing about farming that was so necessary in a new country. Had he been in a well settled community in Pennsylvania his approach would have been different with farmers than in this country. His father had only ten acres to farm and was what you might say extensive gardening, as he had only a cow or two. I wonder lots of times if the whole settlement envirnoment in ~~xx~~ Ireland did not warp his character, being brought about by the landlords and the hatred built up against the English landowners and nobility. Sister Belle still hates them and father hated them all his life, also the North of Ireland Orangeman, and it was like waving a red flag at a bull. There were some Orangemen or North of Ireland some four or five miles from us and whenever they would meet in town in would bring on a fight. Jerry ~~Clarke~~ Clark who was a close neighbor was a catholic but adopted the protestant religion and was referred to as a turncoat in these days and later as a lefthanded Irishman. My father taught me the a b c's, multiplication tables and long division. Father had a system of teaching at home, he would have the children sing the multiplication tables starting 1 x 1 equals 1 and so on up to twelve, all together. After that he would show that by adding you would arrive at the same conclusion, the same as by miltiplying, and later if you did not learn your arithmetic he would become impatient and probably call you a dummy, and usually

after the teaching period was over which lasted from 7:30PM until 9:00PM and to indicate his character about being cross if a child did not get the lesson, hewould pat them on the back and say "it would be all right tomorrow". This characteristic followed him all his life.

In our family all the children from the oldest to the youngest had duties to perform from the time you were able to reason say five years of age, you would pick up the eggs, which was the duty of the youngest, your next job would be to fill the woodbox, and the older children had other duties, and as long as I can remember each had duties to perform. When I was five years of age my sister Effie was a baby we used to burn candles, there being no kerosene, and when you ran short of candles and if there was no tallow, you usually put some lard in a saucer and some woolen rags for a wick and you have a glow in the house. Mother was rocking my sister Effie and she asked me very quietly if I would move the saucer that had the light in closer to the chair, and I was so delighted mother asking me to do something that I hollered "MA - MA, you want me to get some lard" that I woke up the baby. She said "come here, damn you, and I'll put some lard on you". One time when I had a fever and when I was getting better I got quite disagreeable she told me to go to bed, and I told her to shut up, I was 5 or 6 years old at that time, and it was the only time she thrashed me, she put me across her knees and picked up a sheepskin mit and hit me across the bottom three or four times, and was the only time she ever licked me, she had other ways of punishing you and rarely lost her temper, and that was the character of my mother as I remember.

Father would rant and scold the children, Walter, John or Bill and mother would say "Pat do you want these boys to leave home" she wanted to keep the family with her, and her judgment was sound until she was very old, and all through her lifetime whenever father would get rough with the children no matter if they were well gown, she would say "Pat we want them together" and usually he would calm down and discontinue his tirade. All through her life shewould say to the boys, and particularly to the boys "you must stick together", as the girls would be together.

The only trip I can remember going with father was in 1876 when I was six years old and a man named Pennington who married my sister Belle, we drove to Northfield to dig a grave in the catholic cemetary for a neighbor's child who had died. When we drove into Northfield - that is to the vemetary - we noticed eight men ride into town on horseback and they were headed for the saloon. Father stopped on the hill and looked back and seeing them going into the saloon said, "I suppose they are going for a good time" and continued on our way to the cemetary acrossed the river just as the shooting started in the streets of Northfield known as Bridge Square where the First National Bank of Northfield was located. As the shooting was going on in the street two of the robbers were killed, I think their names ~~xxx~~ were Stiles and Pitts. A man by the name of Manning had a hardware store near the bank, and as ColeYounger came out the side door he and Manning exchanged several shots. A Swede chap was walking up a set of stairs when Cole Younger hollered at him, but as the Swede could not understand him

not being able to speak English, Cole Younger shot him thru the head with a revolver. Dr. Wheeler was a pretty good shot, Had office over, and ~~ran~~ to the hardware store and got a gun and picked these two men off in the street; he also shot Bob Younger in the balls and he was in no shape to ride. There was a one armed miller by name of John Ames and after the men were dead in the street and the rest of the community rode after the Younger and James gang, Ames walk up to the two dead men in the street and kicked them, and father said "do not do that they are dead, leave them alone, or that he was hurted, leave him alone". A sheriff living a few miles from there by name of Barden, and father was quite an admirer of the sheriff, got up a posse and followed the bank robbers out of town. When the posse go too close to the bank robbers they would stop their horses and fire at the posse who would then stop. They finally were driven into a swamp and surrounded, but the James Brothers escaped, but the Youngers were caught, because they would not leave Bob Younger who had been wounded. Cashier Haywood was killed, Bank and he was a very well liked man. Father had no inclination to join the posse, as he had a big family at home.

At Thanksgiving and Christmas mother alwayw prepared a big meal, either turkeys or geese and as I remember always a big day in the Butler family up until the time of the split up, especially Christmas and the children would always comehome for those two days. Did not know what a Christmas present was until we came to St.Paul; mother would knit socks and mittens and save them for Christmas, and everybody knew she was knitting them. I believed

in Santa Clause until I went to school. Never had a Christmas tree in the Butler family, no Christmas trees in the area. The rest of the people in the community gathered in the district school for a celebration but we never attended these. Father very much objected, even until the boys became 16 or 17 years of age, of taking a horse out for a social gathering, did not believe xkxi in it, and objected to the boys going out with girls when they became 18 years of age. John and Pierce as I recall it used to go sparking on Saturday and Sunday nights to a place called Greenvale which is still there. In that township there was a family by the name of Cannery and they had seven daughters, John called on the oldest girl and Pierce on another of the girls. Mother preferred a social life but fathervobjected and had his way until the boys got big enough they paid no attention to him and he had little control over them. Pierce was a good speller in school and Sister Belle also was good, the rest of us were bad. Sister Belle most always won the prize in spelling and father was proud and would say that was fine, but if you did not win, he would say "you didn't study your lesson", either you were at the head of the class or you were no good, in fighting the neighbors, or in spelling at school, you had to be the top man. While Sister Belle was teaching school in our district, there was a boy by the name of Elmer Holland, and this boy Holland had a yen for figures and was good. In setting up the problems Sister Belle would always have me work the problems on the blackboard for the class, and only once was I able to win the prize from Holland and of course that was always a credit to Belle. She liked Holland and he liked Belle. Sister Belle was considered the best teacher in the neighborhood and never showed any pxr favoritism or partiality to any

one, and was the fairness instilled by mother to be fair and made us the characters we were, but some cheated a little later on. My school days were very short as were all the other children, to me particularly for this reason, after I became about 14 years of age I was a delicate youngster, had tonsilitis or called quinsy two or three times each winter and would miss a lot of school, and there always a comparison between the boys Pierce and Bill and the rest of us as they would learn without instructions from father and of course that made them . If any of the children argued Belle would cry, and the children because of this probably qould get their jaw slapped. To depict my character I have to tell a good deal about Pearce who was brilliant and had finished Robertson's Arithmetic between eleven and twelve years of age. Walter left home when he was about 16 ye ars old, and when he would come home he always wanted to be the best man physicially, but he was smaller than the rest, and would try to down John and get the best of him and if he didn't succeed he would figure out other ways. Father and Mother never butted in unless someone was hurt, and if a smaller child was hurt by an older child, mother would take the older one to one side and give him a dressing down about the necessity of not hurting the younger children and about fair play. Cooley was a big boy and used to push me around a good deal but he was kind of awkward, and I learned to milk before any of the boys. I remember one time in Spring I started out to milk with two empty pails and Cooley hit me with a snowball in the head and knocked me down, he could throw a snowball as straight as a die, getting up I hit him and thrw him down and licked him, he was so surprised he did not know what happened, and the older boys made him leave me alone; Cooley was vicious.

used to like to fish, there was a creek running across the farm with a rail fence alongside, and in the spring of the year it was good fishing for bullheads. Cooley was sitting on the top rail of the fence and I noticed the nail was rusted so I got a piece of wood hit the fence and Cooley rolled into the creek. I knew I was in trouble and ran like hell, and father was out on the west 40 and I ran to dad to save me, and Cooley caught me running and threw a stone and hit me in the foot.

The older boys Bill, Walter and Cooley never went to school a day that they did not have a fight, Walter in particular, there was a boy by the name of Hunter who was older and bigger than Walter and they had about three fights a month, and Hunter would always lick Walter but he would always try to figure out a way to lick Hunter, was always picking on somebody older and bigger and stronger than he was, and that followed him all his life. It was the same in business if someone was better he would try to lick him. It always was the boy and was the fellow he wanted to lick and never gave up trying. When Walter left home he worked for another farmer and got along well with him, and following that he went to Carlton College for one term, and when in Carlton College he became acquainted with a man by the name of Henry Martin who had a lumberyard and doing house building and learned the plastering trade. When he had learned the plastering trade St.Paul was booming and came to St.Paul in winter and drove a truck for my Uncle John, and in the spring got a job with a firm of contractors Boyd and Burroughs and learned the bricklaying trade, and continued to work for them until the Merchants Bank building was built, then he became foreman of the brickwork, on the site which is now the First National Bank at Fourth and Robert Streets. He also be-

came president of the bricklayers union. Brother Bill came to town and started to work for Walter laying brick, there was a strike and as Walter was president of the union Walter started the strike and Burroughs fired Walter and Bill. It was about 1884 or 1885 that Bill came to St.Paul. In 1886 Walter formed a partnership with a man by the name of Dominic Feeley; Walter took charge of the work and Feeley was business manager, and whatever money was collected Feeley collected it and promptly spent it, so they went broke. The next year Bill took a job putting up telephone wires between here and Hastings, then Bill went out to Glendive, Mont., as a journeyman bricklayer and was paid bricklayers wages, and when he came back he had some money and promptly spent it. Was married when he was 20 years old. In 1886 Walter and Bill together got jobs what was called lumping fronts, meaning laying the first brick on the building for which they charged so much a thousand. In 1887 they got a contract to do all the brickwork inside and out, and Macalester College was their first big job, they were the sub-contractor, and Taylor & Creag were the contractors. For some years following that Taylor & Creag would take a contract, and Walter and Bill would always do the brickwork at a price. On New Years in 1886 Cooley left and came to St.Paul. John and I were left on the farm, John was nine years older than I, and we would supply them with driving horses. Walter was married in 1886 and came out to the farm and wanted to get $200 from John. John and I were running the farm, I was about 14 years old, and the farm was John's so far as running it, as father had moved to St.Paul the year Pierce graduated which was in 1886 and opened a milk station near Seven Corners, and Pierce drove a milk wagon for father. Pierce never went to law school but leaarned his law in Pinch & Towey law offices. Walter needed $200.00 and there was no bank to loan it to

to Walter so John mortgaged 100 head of cattle and 20 head of horses to get the $200.00, and the interest for one year was taken out of the $200.00 at the rate of 12% per year, the loan was made by a man by the name of Jack Empty who ran a store at Waterford so they would be able to pay their bills through 1886. When Cooley came to St.Paul in 1886 he worked for a time with Walter and Bill. In 1887 they got a contract from the Street Railway Company and did some work on the East Seventh Street Powerhouse and Selby Avenue Powerhouse. Walter and Bill wanted John to come to St.paul in the winter of 1887 or 1888, John, however, decided to remain on the farm until the crop was in. Walter and John wanted horses and wagons, so John and I came to St.Paul each driving four horses and made the trip in about ten hours, and brought everything we had. Mother did not accompany father to St.Paul, and he never went back to the farm, and the title later became the property of Butler Brothers. Our credit was not very good and father had the name of not paying his bills, and of course these days this reputation was hard to live down in a community. He would pay his bills if he had the money, he was always land hungry. When he would get out of debt he would buy more l and and kept us land poor. He started with 80 acres and out of the work of the farm he acquired 320 acres and with a debt against it when he left the farm of about $2,000.00. What he had in mind was to keep the boys on the farm we would always have a place as a home and mother was inclined that way. The reason we left the farm was that mother was working too hard looking after the family and keeping up the house, you could not get an immigrant girl to help, as the hours were long and a large family and the pay was $1.00 per week. There was a boom on in St.Paul and horses were worth about $400.00 a pair.

When John and I came to St.Paul, Sister Belle and her husband John Pennington rented the farm, we left the cattle, stock and some horses. John and I immediately went to work with the horses as Bill came to the Gross Hotel the night we arrived and had us haul brick from the M. & St.L. Ry. Co. John bought me my first suit of store clothes, a suit of cordurey for $9.00. Mother and Sister Kate rented a house on Carroll Avenue. I hauled brick from the M. & St.L.Ry.Co., to a Jewishsynagogue which was being built on College Avenue. After I drove team for a few days and my inability to learn the city and know places, I was replaced by a man named Tom B Blake, and had to work as a laborer. I was 18 years of age and went to work on the synagogue on College near Wabasha and think it was was the first Jewish synagogue in town and my job was carrying up brick in a hod. Bill was in charge of the building and told me I might as well learn to carry the hod. He had an Irishman and six negroes carrying hod; the Irishman was the leader and immediately started me in to carry the hod which was quite an art and took a few days before you could climb with both hands carrying the hod. I carried hod and after two days the blood ran from my shoulders, and one day when we were having lunch I said to Bill "can't we pull the bricks up with a horse" but Bill didn't think it could be done with a horse, so I rigged up a block and tackle with a pulley and rope and a horse, and in that way I saved my shoulders. The Irishman was the leader and would run up the ladder like a squirrel carrying hod, the negroes had to follow him and I followed them. This was my first invention. Jim Boyd and Jim Burous were contractors and they later introduced a double balanced skip drawn by a horse for hauling brick. The following

year we were working on the Noyes Bros. & Cutler building when the American Hoist & Derrick invesnted a steam derrick. John thought he was an equal partner and when we finished the work around Christmas time John came to the office and it was found going over the books that Butler Brothers had made about $4,000.00 above expenses, and John inquired about his share, and Walter and Bill told him he wasn't in. I was paid $3.00 per week and John got full labeeres pay 12½¢ per hour; Walter and Bill drew what they needed. When we left the farm father never returned to the farm. He did no work but would look over the horses and see that they were taken care of. Father died in 1900. We brought lots of feeds when we came from the farm, and paid $12.00 per month for house rent.

After that business meeting John decided that he and I should return back to the farm and he told me that even before 1889, but I did not want to go back and John would not go without me, so after we had quite a talk a few days later Walter and Bill advised John he would be made an equal partner from 1889. I, of course, had no interest being a 19 year old boy, doing what I was asked to do. In the winter of 1889 I hauled stone from the West Side and made three trips in two days, and after doing that for about three months, I got the first money Walter gave me $100.00 in one dollar bills in one big bundle. Walter and Bill were married. John never learned to lay brick, as he was too old to learn, after all he was schooled in farming. I worked as a laborer and bricklayer and remained with my brothers and was paid 40¢ per hour, nine hours a day. Then went to Fergus Falls a nd then to Superior in 1890 and 1891, then was put on as timekeeper

cashier and kept track of materials. In the winter of 1891 I started Madison School in the 8th grade and was not very good in spelling or english as I never had been taught these subjects by father. General Smith was principal. Walter had rented a house on Fuller Street and we all moved in with Walter but did not work out well. Coming home from school one day in February three chaps were walking behind me and hit me with a snowball. I came up to them and asked "who threw that snowball" and the biggest of the three named Houghton said he did and I hit him, he hit me about seven or eight times on the nose. The story got to Gen. Smith and when I returned to school with my eyes blackened he notified me I had to apologize to Houghton, I would not, and he said I could not come back to school until I did, so I quit school and went to work. The following winter I went to business college for three months, was 21 years old working on an apartment building laying brick; Walter had a bricklayer foreman who would get drunk each payday, so he put me in charge.

The first school I attended was located about a mile and a half from home, and the second school about two miles, and I walked to and from school. About the time I was eight years old my job was to milk the cows, we had eight to ten milk cows, and Brother Pierce was the first boy to help me milk the cows. Never get up later than four o'clock in the morning. There was no heat in the house except the first floor, the stove pipe came through the floor connected to a heating drum would circulate and this would heat one of the rooms in which my two sisters slept, the other room was directly over from where the stove was. We had three bedrooms, and one downstairs which mother and father slept in and the heating stove was in the dining room and the heat from ~~thx~~ that stove was reasonably comfortable. Fuel was wood and the fires would be out in the morning; stoves would be filled at nine o'clock at night when we went to bed. Kindling wood was prepared by me or one of the other boys and left conveniently to be put into the stoves; father would be the first one up in the morning light the fires in the three stoves abd then call the boys before it got warm. One of our beds was a four post bed which was brought from Galena, Ill., with a store mattress and straw tick filled with oats straw, on top of that a goose feather tick and then another goose feather downtick; which were plucked from our own geese, and on top of these ticks we had quilts to keep you warm. You covered up everything but your nose and many mornings there would be a chimney of frost where your breath came out, and believe me you didn't take much time for your toilet, we slept in our underclothes.

It was the custom for everybody to get up when called about four o'clock in the morning up until the time I was fourteen years old and then we got up at three thirty. Cows would be milked, barn cleaned up, horses curried and the pigs fed before breakfast. It became a necessity to get up early, there were so many chores that had to be done before eight because school started at nine and everything had to be taken care of before we left, and there were many things that took longer time, and anybody that did not live in these days can't imagine. I think we were up earlier in the morning than any of our neighbors, but it was usual for the women of the house to take great pride to have their washing out early on Monday morning and fitted into the whole scheme of early rising, and our family because dad was a natural early riser, liked to get up in the morning and from the time the snow left he had the habit of walking around 80 acres of land before breakfast, no doubt his pride of ownership. If I had the power to select my parents, I would select my father and mother, as well as my brothers and sisters, and even though we did not always agree in all matters, I had more regard for my people than anyone else. I milked cows earlier than some of the other boys they did other things. Pierce handily took to milking cows and he could milk them fast and did not object because part of the milk money was putting him through school; I learned to milk early and got to be a proficient milker to save mother and the girls; father never milked because he did not like to milk and that was the wife's job in Ireland and milking cows was beneath the dignity of the male. In the winter time our breakfast was fried saltpork, there was no thing such as fruit,

homemade bread and butter and many times with chickory as coffee. The coffee was purchased in the green stage and roasted in the oven; all our family had good appetites. Father always sat at the head of the table with a platter of pork and gravey and boiled potatoes, and you passed up your plate for a helping of food, and that was one thing that he took delight in, in serving you food. He had a peculiar way of complimenting the children, he would ask them if they were feeling well, or if they did their chores well, and if they had he would say "pass your plate for another helping". Our meals were always delightful, and we would talk about everything we were doing on the farm and about what we had read, which was not very much, no mail or papers and a few books, one of which was the bible and father would turn to it many times and some times in a discussion he would remember some passage and turn to it tosee if he was right, and often his talks would be particularly about something that happened in the old country or in Ireland. A great many Irish crossing in our country would stop in with the exception of County Connaught; he would first ask them from what part of the country they came from, would ask them what county or town or parish they were from, he would jump up and grab them by the hand and say "By God, we're from the same county." If they were from county Mayo he would say "God help us", and if they were from Tipperary "You are a rearing Tip from Mana". Many times if these people had not eaten, the folks would prepare something to eat for them. Most of these people had a brogue and each county was different and you could recognize them. Some headed for St.Paul who had been working on farms; the farmers did not take good care of their

help and when their work was through they would pay them off and they would start to look for another job or a place to sleep, a great many followed railroad work. Many would stay over night and sleep in our stables which were straw sheds. When I was 12 years of age we had the first wooden barn. After the grain was threshed, we would nail some poles togwther and then cover them with straw; father andmother never turned anyone away particularly if they were Irish, and I thihk now that father enjoyed their company. Father and Mother talked very little between themselves, all family talk. Mother was very quiet and that developed more as we grew older; talked very little when three or four of the children were around, but she had a way of gathering them one by one and sit down with it, talking quietly and asking them of their troubles and then she would offer a solution, she would find out if you were to blame and if you were she would ask you not to do it again and avoid trouble. Father talked politics a great deal, he was a democrat and was a Southern sympathiser and he was termed in these days "a copperhead" but never got into serious trouble. Dad was drafted and had to report to Fort Snelling and walked from Northfield and his complaint was that he was too old to get into service, and his reason for fudging about his age was because of his family. Some of the neighbors and I have Billy Clark in mind, who had a son who didn't want to go to war so thisson shot off some of his fingers. Some got themselves hurt and crippled so they couldn't march and they were called war dodger, and of course when the soldiers got back they got plenty rough with the war dodgers. There were few objectors to the war, and great patriotism was shown and many volunteered

for the army, and believe it was in the third year of the war before they started to draft men. Of course this is all hearsay from father, as I was born six years after the war. Sister Kate was six years old when the war broke out and knew some of the youngmen when the war was over. Father used to get active at presidential election, and always was a democrat and was hgs reason for being against the war; he used to talk about Stephan A. Douglas and made speechew in Northfield for the democratic candidates and used to get into bitter arguments and fist fights and had a yen to talk about religion, and this did not make things easier for him.

Milk was stored and put into a flat pan that held about half a gallon and put in a place to cool, and after 24 hours the cream was skimmed off the milk; the skim milk was fed to the pigs and to calves that had been weaned; some of the milk was permitted to sour and out of the sour milk mother made cottage cheese. In those days there were no cream separators, just a skimmer to take off the cream. The cream was then put into a container and churned; sometimes it might take you two hours for butter to raise depending on the temperature of the cream, working the churn up and down, once in a while mother came in to see if the temperature was right, if not she would either add a little warm or a little cold water to change the temperature. It was the youngest child's job two or three times a week to churn the butter, and each churn full would make about ten pounds of butter. Butter was then washed with cold spring water until all the milk was washed away as that way butter would keep longer. After the butter was churned and clean, the butter was worked in a wooden container with water and then squeezed the butter through your fingers. When you got a jar of butter you got it to the store

quickley and hauled it to the general store in Northfield and traded it for clothing; eggs were handled the same way and had to be marketed each week. We received 15cents for a pound of butter. I remember Brother Walter wanted a pair of ice skates which were made of cast iron and cost about one dollar, and mother told him he could have the skates when there was butter enough to pay for them; that meant a firken of butter which was about 40#, the butter did not fill the firken and Walter told this story himself. He promptly filled the bottom of the firken with lard and topped it off with butter and took it to the general store operated by a man named Skinner. Well Skinner had some sort of a scoop and stuck it into the firken of butter and pulled it out and found part of it lard, when I saw Skinner pull out the lard I wanted to kill him because I saw my skates going to hell. Skinner was a very decent fellow and all he said to Walter was "you should not do this, and if you agree not to do this again and bring me in enough butter, I will give you the skates which he did. Walter was about 14 or 15 years old and this was the only pair of skates in the Butler family. Everything was on a barter basis no money for anything except wheat, butter eggs and poultry was all barter. Hastings about 20 miles away was the only cash market for wheat. You took as much wheat as you wanted ground up for flour and cornmeal for family use, and when you wanted cash you took in wheat or a pair of oxen, which was before my time, they had two pairs of oxen and a pair of horses. Father came to St.Paul to purchase a horse and was very poorly matched and known as a spiked team, one horse larger than the other and walked faster than the other horse; father bought a Morgan mare and that Morgan mare supplied about half of the horses we bred and were the ones we brought to St.Paul weighing from 1500# to 1600# each. Whenever father went to Northfield he would get tight and it would take two full days to make

the trip of 20 miles each way, he would have a written list of supplies for the house which he would buy in Hastings for cash. Usually he brought home most all his money after his drunks, sometimes he would spend it all, but that was infrequent abd was never talked about in his presence. Mother was in need of a lot of things and if she did not get them from this load of wheat she did not get them. Womens dresses were all bought in bolts, such as calico and one Sunday dress and that was worn for many years, and the same was true of the girls; the boys she made all of their clothes. Mother had a spinning wheel, bought the wool and carded it; Kate and Belle had some experience in spinning. The spinning wheel is still around somewhere in the family.

Belle taught school in the Pennington district which was two or three miles north at Castle Rock and boarded with a family named George Major, who was an uncle to John Pennington. John Pennington died in 1922 on the farm. Brother Bill purchased all his Stock and traded a house that Butler Brothers built for me when he came back from Detroit; wanted Belle to leave the farm, purchased the stock and this house and money to live on and moved to St.Paul and lived there two or three years. John Pennington was elected to the legislature two or three times and once after he was living in St.Paul, he would return to the farm for a short time to maintain his residence. and had some schooling before coming to Minnesota and was a fine looking man and very well educated man, born in Indiana. He had an uncontrolable temper and was a poor farmer. He and his brothers early in their lives purchased threshing machines and would thresh grain for the neighbors and was not a profitable operation. Instead of spending time on his own farm and raising crops he would be threshing and was paid 2 cents a bushel for oats and three cents a bushel for wheat. His first threshing machine was operated by horsepower and

later with a little steam engine.

My last schooling was in Northfield when I was 15 years of age. Most of my schooling was missed by sickness; the first three winters until I was ten years old I developed quinsy sore throat. School term would start Nov. 1st and last until the first of April, that was the scheduled term, after that date we worked on the farm doing the plowing and the seeding. Because of throat illness and delicate condition, sickness hit me in the fall, probably going to school a few days until cold weather set in, not being very well clothed I would take sick. All my clothes were homemade, knitted scarfs, mittens and stockings. Two or three winters I got outside very little, up and around in the house and would help mother when I was able. My health came back when I was about 13 years old, and was quite large when I was sixteen. My health was good the winter I was 15 years old. We were then shipping milk to St.Paul by train after hauling by team to Northfield to meet the seven o'clock milk train every morning. We would put the milk cans in cold water in a tank to cool them so as not to sour. Met the train every morning and for part of one winter. I drove the milk wagon to town and then went to school at Northfield and was admitted into the eight grade, a Mr. Hathaway was principal. The maximum months I attended school were about sixteen months. Sisters and brothers taught me some; also mother would tell me when I was able to "get your books and study". Was good in mathematics and spelling also in reading. When I was in school a short time Mr. Hathaway said, "well Emmett you are going to be a laboring man" that was his prediction "you want all the mathematics you can get so you won't be cheated by everybody". I was admitted into the eight grade solely on my knowledge of mathematics.

Teachers took a great deal of interest in me, and tried to get me to stand up on my feet and to talk, which was tough. Geography came easy, I liked it; and the teacher had a habit of making all the students make a map of the United States and I remember one time I was complimented about the drawing of my map, I had a little help from Brother John as he was very good at drawing maps. Was very much interested in geography especially about the United States. I liked to read the descriptions of the various cities, and could describe accurately the principal industries of the principal cities and was more to my liking than the mountains and rivers. Never had any interest in grammar as I could see no need for it. In my conversations that I had, it was more from absorption and what use of the english language I had is what I picked up by reading and listening to conversation. I try to read about an hour each day and it is still hard work for me. We got our religious training outside by conversation about it, and the fact that the catholic was the only church, we had very little religious training; mother very rarely went to church; father continued to go to church until 1884 and then he somehow drifted away. Before that period and largely through the insistence of my sister Kate who would go to church every Sunday and some times would insist on some of the boys going along. Sister Belle because of her housekeeping ability would stay home from church to help mother, but kate went to church even though she had to walk the five miles each way; I went to church very little. We were not catholics with the exception of Kate and Pierce, and I think Sister Belle could qualify; outside of these three the others could not qualify. Walter joined the Masons and never

attended at the masonic lodge after he was initiated and the reason for that was fundamentally he knew he should be a catholic, and I recall one story he told me that John Buroughs who was a protestant and a mason told him "Walter you should not be a mason, you should be a catholic". In his sickness some ten years before he died he renounced the masonic doctrine and was annointed by a catholic priest at his own request, so there was still a spark of the catholic faith. Had father and mother gone to church we would have had more social life and of the goings on in the parish, but the priest we had at Northfield, do not know if he was German or Swiss and father took a dislike to him. I called on him once after I Northfield and he was very nice to me quietly told me to come into the church. I was never baptized until I was married and refused to be married by anyone but a catholic priest. This priest was quite old and stayed at Northfield for many years and was well liked by either German or Swiss catholics that lived there. My wife was a protestant and should have been a catholic. Her mother became a widow and she married an Englishman who was a non-catholic.

My happiest period before I left the farm was when I got to be about 15 years old and was able to do as much work as my brothers John and Cooley or any of the hired men. I remember when I was 16 after Cooley left the farm we had 60 acres of corn, and corn had to cut with a corn knife and shocked and John came to St.Paul to hire five Swede boys to cut corn. Corn has to be cut in about a weeks time, from the time corn reaches it's maturity until the time of frost particlarly short until this new seed corn was introduced by Henry Wallace. The Swede boys would take six rows a nd John eight rows

and I was able to take my eight rows and cut as much corn as John. John was a fast cutter and I was very excited and he would always leave one of his rows next to mine, hoping in my excitement I would cut his row of corn. It was a thrill first, to be able to beat the Swede boys and then to match John, and he would compliment me. I felt I was the weakling of the family and it made me feel bad.

The most tragic incident for the whole family, not just an incident but the continuance of the inability of all of us, particularly myself to take care of mother better than she was and would stand out in my mind and John's mind and all of the boys minds, the tragic thing about it was mother's slavery, and to solve situations she would take the load. It was a disaster each time one of the boys left home, she would cry and anything that made hardships, made her sad. She always was cheerful and for that reason everybody felt sorry for her. She was without any social life and very seldom called or went to neighbors. Father, mother and Sister Kate were invited over to Prairie Creek to a family by the name of Mike Trench for Sunday dinner. Mrs. Trench kept apologizing about being late wit the dinner, very little house, she would come in from the kitchen and say "your dinner is a little late, but it will be good when it comes". She rarely went out and if people called and you did return the call they would not come back. She was satisfied with her family and did not care to go out, and I think she was too tired and just crawled into her shell until she died. She read a great deal when she was about seventy. The priest in St. Lukes Parish, a Father McNulty who visited her; she told him she did not like to go to church, he would say "well Mrs. Butler you do not need to go to church, you are a christian women" and she felt better about it. Sister Kate would talk church to her and went to church every morning when she came to St, Paul. There

was no question about mother's christianity, everything she did was christian, and anybody that had less than she had could have part of what she had; father was much the same way but did not help much to provide, I think, maybe I might be wrong about him. Father wanted to know if you had grown up, if you had hair on your chest. Up until you were about 15 or 16 years old if you spoke up you would get quite a tongue lashing. Bill, Walter and Cooley would argue; John and Kate would not argue with dad, and I didn't want to get slapped down so I didn't argue. Father spoke with a very little brogue he would use the saying hurted but he used very good english without an accent. Geo. M. Cohan reminded me very much of my father. When there was too much conversation going on father would rub his teeth together and get up out of his chair walk across the room and would say"enough said" and kind of paw his feet generally when he became irked about a conversation. When we lived on Virginia Avenue in St.Paul we had a vestibule in the house and used to hang our coats and things there; father had a sealskin cap and set it in the window and went to sleep, the outside door and vestibule were never locked and someone came in and stole his coat and cap. A fellow by the name of Geo. Behlig used to peddle sewing machines with a horse and buggy used to go from house to house selling the machines on time. He would go into the houses and set the machine down, just then dad awoke and missed his coat and cap and accused Behlig of stealing them and walked him up to the Ronde Police Station which was located on Ronde Street and Western Avenue. When I came home that night dad told me he took this man Behlig to the police station, I said "he didn't steal your coat and cap you got the wrong fellow". I was well acquainted with Behlig's son.

Father said "are you sure about that". I answered "of ceuse I'm sure. Behlig wouldn't steal a thing" and he said "let's go up and get him out". Dad never did find his coat and cap which Brother Bill gave him.

After Cooley left the farm in 1886 that spring I planted about 200 acres of oats and wheat and about 60 acres of corn. the fall of 1886 I get a thrill out of plowing with a 16" walking plow and plowed 200 acres and the next spring planted the same number of acres with corn, wheat and oats by myself, besides milking about 20 cows each morning and night. When I get through with my work I was very tired and went to bed which was not until nine o'clock at night, and never stirred from then until three thirty in the morning to get up and milk the cows and help load the milk; Pierce was still in school and part of the time drove the milk wagon. John also went and came back about noon and was the business head of the farm, did all the hauling of cream and hogs and ~~grain~~ grain to the elevator for cash. John did not get a great deal of time to work in the fields, and I loved the field work and liked to plow. Of course John would compliment me on the work I did and when the wheat came up in the field in straight lines and the corn was in nice rows in every direction, all the work was worth it.

All of my brothers and sisters were very kind to me but my brother Walter was the kindliest of all, and his attitude towards me was one of great devotion. I remember when Walter would drive the horses he would make it a point to set me on the horses, and in this respect showed greater consideration than any of the other brothers and that attitude towards me continued for many years. In general there was very little dissention in the family, there would be quarrels and even fist fights, but when ~~they~~ they were over they were forgotten even my brother Cooley who was two years older than I, but in general the relationship of the family were kindly to one another. My older brothers taught me how to work as milking cows, clean the barn, feed the horses and pigs and how to protect myself. In doing the work on the farm none of my brothers ever had any broken bones and then only after maturity, myself, and Walter a broken hand. Mother and father always cautioned us to be careful while working; the only chances we ever took would be to ride a steer, bull cow or colt. We had no saddle and would catch a colt in the pasture and ride it bareback, so were not afraid of livestock of any kind, but so far as taking chances with our work we were very careful. Many farmer boys were crippled through being careless with farm implements but it was drilled into us from childhood not to take chances of getting maimed.

I slept with all of my brothers; three or four boys all slept in a poster bed. I slept with John the most because he was home more years, but in my younger days up until I was twelve or thirteen years old I slept with Pierce and Cooley.

I slept with Pierce for several years while he went to college; in xf after years John and I slept together after we came to St.Paul. Walter was the oldest brother and I was his favorite brother all through life up until the time I had a break with him in a business way; he being the eldest and I the youngest he was very kindly to me. Walter left home early when he was about sixteen years of age, he being about twelve years elder than I, I was not of working age. My experience with Walter in his work way after he came to St.Paul. Walter used to come home in the winter, and when the house was enlarged, I suppose I was about twelve years of xg age, he came home to plaster the house, he was a plasterer and bricklayer by trade, and I was supposed to help mix the mortar and carry it in pails to Walter who was plastering the house. Walter came to me and said "Oh! you fill the pails and I'll carry them. Walter was always considerate of me and I think to g greater degree than any of my other brothers. Walter came home every winter until he married in 1886, and would bring me such things as a scarf, mittens, etc., but generally he was always broke. Walter was a spendthrift and continued so all his life. After he was married he brought his wife home to the farm and his first son was born there. Of course as usual the baby came about two in the morning, nobody home that night but myself so it was my job to get the horse and drive to Northfield and get the doctor. Drove to Northfield and knocked on Dr. Pringle's door who came down in his nightshirt, told him what was wanted and he said "I'll be dressed in a few minutes". Drove him to the farm and it was very cold, and of course the baby did not come until two in the afternoon, and that was one of the few times Walter

was not there himself. His son was named Pierce and was drowned in the Cannon River when he was a youngster. When I look back there was nothing to criticize about my brothers. I worked with brother John more than any of the rest. I workedxwith Walter and Bil in the building business until 1906, after Bill went to New York in 1907-1908 then I was under John's direction, and he was quite a severe taskmaster, there was no feeling and he believed nobody ever got tired and expected the same from everybody else. John was 27 years old when he left the farm and was a mature man; he reached maturity early and stayed on the farm on account of father and mother. All my brothers attended the school about two miles from home. Walter attended the first school that any of us went to called the Sullivan School House, and I had just started school when Walter left home. Walter went two winters to Carlton College; also John, Kate Belle and Pierce. Pierce graduated from there. Bill went there to school (Carlton College) but he was not a student and left home when he was sixteen years of age. They rented rooms in Northfield and got their own meals, the boys batched it. Belle and John went to school about the same time and had rooms in separate places; Belle cooked John's meals. Pierce worked just a part of his school term, taught school about four months while in Carlton when he was 16 years of age. There was very little work to be had in Carlton when the other boys attended school there, sawed some wood to make a few pennies, as wood was the fuel in these days, but generally Pierce never sawed wood, he rode horse-back to school and worked on the farm when he got home about two in the afternoon, and if there was any work to do he did it and

helped milk the cows at night and when we could get him out of bed in the morning, of course the fellow was tired as he worked hard his senior year. Whatever money was earned went into the family pot to pay for schooling; sisters taught school and every cent went into the family jackpot, there was no division of money in the Butler family; the first dividend was paid in 1917. The financing from the time John was eighteen years old was handled by him, he was three years younger than Walter. The other boys had left home except Cooley and myself and John was the older of the boys left and by that time father had dropped out in the way of marketing and John took charge of the farm from the time he was eighteen years old. Things about the farm were discussed as to what would planted, and father was the advisor, but once the crops were harvested and sold, John was in charge of the finances, and was the reason he stayed on the farm, he was indispensible.

Kate was the oldest of the family and taught school in all about seven or eight years and would come home weekends and vacations; Sister Belle also taught school. They were paid about $25.00 per month and generally theyvwere boarded around at the different directors of the school homes maybe two or three weeks at one place, then maybe a week or two at another place. Sometimes in some of the school directors homes they had to sleep with two other girls and that was not very good. Later they were paid $35.00 per month and paid $10.00 per month and selected their own boarding house. All the money the girls earned went into the jackpot, and when they needed shoes they were provided, except in the case of Walter and Bill as they would spend their money.

When Walter married he rented a house and Bill did the same and maintained separate households, but would buy their groceries and meats, pork was shipped to them from the farm in the winter for which no charge was made. Remember one instance brother Bill first year he was married we sent him a pig weighing one hundred twenty five pounds and neglected to prepay the express charges, and Bill had to wire us to get money to pay the express and he got it. And the same was true of Walter he also got a pig. When Walter built his large house on Summit Avenue everything was charged and Butler Brothers paid for it, as there was no division of profits; each would draw from the bank account whatever they needed except me, and when I wanted some money I asked for it, and it would be limited. Cooley left St.Paul in 1890 and went out to Salt Lake City laying brick and came back with one thousand dollars which he had saved and that bought him a one-fourth partnership with Walter, Bill and John. They drew whatever money they needed to live, but Cooley and John were very frugile and saved their money. I did not get enough to save as far as I was concerned, but the home on Summit Avenue was built in 1895 and Butler Brothers paid for it, all the four brothers, I had no interest only a working interest. In 1900 Walter had overdrawn John, Cooley and Bill by about forty to fifty thousand dollars, the three brothers divided his overdraft equally and cancelled it off. Again in 1914 Walter was overdrawn through high spending about $140,000 and the other brothers again shared his overdraft. From that time on there was a change each one had a salary and mine was $2,000 per year in 1914, and had been $2,000.00 per year from 1902 on. In 1916 I was put on the same

salary basis as the rest which was $20,000.00 per year. Then high taxes came along and World War No. 1 and each of us then drew $50,000.00 per year. In 1917 there was a dividend of which I received 10% and was about $200,000.00. Cooley left Butler Brothers in 1918 and moved to California but continued to draw $50,000.00 per year because he demanded it. Cooley left home on New Years in 1886 and Pierce graduated in June 1886.

There were unions in the building trade in the early years and you had to serve your apprenticeship before you were paid full wages, and the bricklayers association decided when you were able to hold a job as a bricklayer; your apprenticeship was less than three years,; three seasons or eighteen months before you got your journeyman card. First you had an apprenticeship card and then a journeyman card and then you could not accept less than journeyman wages which were 40¢ per hour nine hour day. The general run of bricklayers did nothing in the winterbut this was not true of us. The boys being in the contractor business would get repair work, putting a chimney on some house, or Guttermann Bros., would want a hole cut in a wall and was employed to some extent with that kind of work, put in cement floor, in fact anything we could get would take it at any price. Butler Brothers became known before I came to St.Paul, Walter and Bill established Butler Brothers as a partnership about 1884. Do not recall if you had to file papers, all you did was to write an agreement of the partnership which Walter and Bill did, equal division but never lived up to it, both took money when they needed it, and need it they did. Butler Brothers partner-

ship first was Walter and Bill, then Walter, Bill, John and Cooley in 1890 as a partnership and continued until 1894 when a company waw formed called the Butler-Ryan Company. Ryan and twe ether steelholders were in the company besides the Butlers, and the efficers of the company were Watler Butler, Presidemt, Mike Ryah, Vice-President, John Butler, Secretary and Bill Butler, Treasurer. Cooley had no title, I had no title or interest in the company, just a fixed salary of $75.00 per month. Ryan only drew $75.00 per month, and never objected to Walter, Bill or any of the Butlers to draw whatever they wanted. When the contract for the State Capitol was taken in the fall of 1898, Ryan was asked to personally guarantee a bond and refused to do it, so Walter said "all right Mike, I want to buy your stock". John and Fred Jaeger were the ether twe stockholders in the company, and were alse in the brick business. Both Jaegers particularly John were fine men, and were with the company from 1904 through 1906 and their money was returned to them with interest at 6%; and Fred Jaeger went to Remshern to epen a brickyard and the rest of the stockholders of Butler Brothers advanced him the money plus $2,500.00 to get him started in his brickyard and they never asked him for the additional $2,500.00. Ryan stayed in until the spring of 1898. When he refused to guarantee the bond, and the bonding company shied at it without some guarantee, Ryan refused to risk his money on that job. Butler Brothers had to put up everything they had to get the bond. The first contract was doing the brick work on the Administration Building of Macalester College;.Tayler & ~~Craig~~ were the carpenter contractors and Walter and Bill took the subcontract to do the brickwork for them.

Early that year was when John and I mortgaged the horses and cows to send them up $200.00 to pay their bills. They made a little money on the Macalester College job about two or three thousand dollars. Did the brickwork on some houses, but their original job was to only laying the face brick called lumping fronts. Laying pressed brick always was a special job and many bricklayers were imported from St.Louis and took special training to do this kind of work, had to be careful with the joints and see that each course was of the same thickness and the brick had to be gauged. That year I think they got the Forpaugh Building and did all the brickwork on that building. They also built a house for Mr. Kuhles of Kuhles and Stock; in 1891 or 1892 they built a house for Denny Lyons and was a very fine house in these days. Built a lot of school buildings in the early 1900's in St.Paul, Harrison School, Lakepark School, Webster School, John Ericksen School, Hazel Park School and did only the brickwork; built a house for one of the Burningham Brothers. I worked on that house with a team of horses and laid some brick on it.

Mike Ryan was about ten years older than Walter and was a grand fellow; was a bachelor and lived with a sister, he was born in this country and said to be the brainest man in town, small in stature. Ryan owned a fifth interest and was an equal partner with the four Butlers, and when Walter asked him what he wanted for his stock Mike said "I'll leave it up to you Walter" and Walter said $8,000.00. Mike said to Walter, "if my stock is worth $8000.00 give me a check for that amount". He was one of the grandest fellows I ever worked under. He used to go on about four big

drunks each year and had made a lot of money in real estate. His sister used to come in when he was gone about a week to ten days and want one of the Butlers to go and find him. Mike would hide out and have his drunk and when the time came to go and get him he was always ready to come and go to work. Ryan was the man that ordered the timber for the buildings, and when he was to order the timber he would go out on one of his drunks and forget about it so we finally get a timber man in our office who could learn how to order timber and take care of things when Ryan was on one of his benders, and I believe this was the reason he was easy to deal with. He never drew his full $75.00 per month until the end of the year. He drove a horse and buggy and when he was on the job he would drive and always had charge of the carpenter work, had a very good foreman that could get a lot out of the carpenters and know how to direct men. Last work I did under Mike Ryan was the interior of the old Post Office Building on Fifth Street which is now the Federal Courts Building. After Mike left the firm name was changed to Butler Brothers. Butler Bros. & Ryan were engaged in the general contracting business. Walter and Bill had earlier taken in John and Cooley. Walter and Bill became partners in 1884, then John came in next in 1889 and Cooley came back and joined the partnership in 1890. From 1890 to 1894 the four Butler brothers were engaged in sub-contracting in brick and also in plastering work. Two mill buildings were built in Superior, one for the Freeman Milling Co., and one for the Russell Milling Co in 1891 or 1892, and after doing some work for Mike Ryan he would call for no other bricklayers only the Butlers

of course he was wise about the cost of laying brick and knew our price was right and I attribute Mike Ryan's acceptance of Walters figure for the sale of his stock largely to the fact that he made a good deal of money off our labor laying brick for him and he remembered it. Another contractor we did work for was a man by the name of Tim Reardon. It was not unusual for the four Butler brothers, John never learned bricklaying work, he was beyond the age when he came to St.Paul, but Walter, Bill, Cooley and myself would be laying brick at the same time. Later on Walter would lay brick only two or three hours, as he was the business head figuring on contracts, but only if he had time he would come up and lay brick. The office work was done at night by Walter with John usually helping him. Walter and Bill were the first to form a partnership and get trusted for their contract and that was what the $200.00 was for when John and I mortgaged our horses and cows and really started them in business. Mother, father, Kate, Pierce, Cooley and myself lived on Aurora and Virginia. When John joined the partnership he was given credit for four pairs of horses that we brought from the farm and with John's horses and some wagons that was his contribution to make up the one thousand dollars; Bill, Walter and Cooley had put in cash each the same amount. John came in one year before Cooley. Cooley laid brick for nine hours and received $6.00 a day and paid $3.00 a week for board. In the spring of 1894 the Butler-Ryan Company was formed, and the first building that firm built was the Board of Trade

Building, a six story building in Duluth, same year built the Providence Building, five stories high and an addition to the St.Louis Hotel a five story building. We also had a contract to build the Twey Mercantile Co. Building in Superior; John had charge of that building. We built the Administration Building for the State Hospital in Fergus Falls, and Bill was in charge and I went with him, it was the first state contract and called for $90,000.00, I would guess it was three stories high and was about 100 x 150. That building was a general contract, steel floor construction, and the suppliers of the steel erected the steel namely the St.Paul Foundry Co. That year we got a contract for building the Freeman Mills and I went from Fergus Falls with Bill to Superior and that is where I met my wife she was in Superior. Could not wait for a passenger train so took a freight train there. She had a stepfather a man by name of John Bagley who operated a wholesale candy company in Superior. I first met her in St.Paul where she attended business school in the spring of 1890. I knew a little girl by name of Annie Manke who attended the Curtis Business College and Louise Bagley (now my wife) went there the same time. My brother had some driving horses anf through this Manke girl I met my wife, and of course this meant that when I wanted to take a girl out these horses belonged to me. I met another girl by name of Sadie Barbeau through the Manke girl and would take these three girls out for rides.

Real Estate and building boomed in 1884 in St.Paul and a lot of the brick homes on Summit Avenue, New York Life Building, Ryan Hotel, Pioneer Press Building, Manhattan Building, Globe Building were all built between 1884 and 1890 the same time the old

West Hotel in Minneapolis. Depression of 1892 came along and of course it was blamed on Grover Cleveland, the depression really started in 1891 and the real estate bubble burst in St.Paul and we had to get work place and figured on out state work but at that time we built the Noyes Bros. & Cutler Building and the Hackett, Gates Hurty Building and the school houses previousely mentioned and two apartment buildings on Summit Ave., but our first out of town work was the insane hospital at Fergus Falls, seems to me there were some small buildings built out of town but I can't recall.

In 1889 we did quite a lot of work for the City Railway Company, put in cable ways and built a couple of power houses on E. 7th Street. In the fall of 1888 we built a sub-station at Dale & Selby Ave., which entailed a lot of brickwork. I went back to the farm that fall for a month and sold off all the cattle. When I came back the first work I did was on the smokestack on the E. 7th Street power house which was a steam plant driving a heist to pull the street railway cars up and down. In the winter of 1889 and 1890 did some work in Minneapolis, and part of the time was digging a tunnel under the street to get the river water into the powerhouse; John handled that work. From the E. 7th St., plant to the sub-station at Dale & Selby was a cable way and went up over the Selby Hill which is now the Selby tunnel worked along the street putting in manholes and brick them up and set the idlers that the cable ran over. As I recall it there were three to a block and I was enough of a bricklayer then that I could build them and Walter

gave me some laborers to dig the holes. The cable cars had a clutch with a spring in it to stop the cars and operated on an endless cable. In addition as I recall it each street where the manholes were was a cemented small tunnel large enough for the cable to run through a pulley to hold the cable from dragging on the ground. The cable was an endless cable about x 2½" in diameter and the cars moved at a speed of about ten miles per hour, and all cars moved at the same speed. Brakes used were hand brakes. This was our first operation in utility construction. Whenever the other four brothers were engaged in a building contract I would take charge. I did most all of the smaller buildings, the Hiawatha Apartments opposite the State Capitol in 1895. If there were no jobs to go on I went to work on the railroad and when the state capitol was under construction I went to work there. If I had any length of time to remain there Bill would put me in charge of the bricklayers. If I had only a few days between another job starting I would lay brick, and that was the way we all worked. Whenever any of us were out of jobs we would double up with the brothers who had work. After I came back from Duluth after building ore docks in Ashland in 1889 I was on the interior work of the postoffice building getting $125.00 per month and had two children and another one coming, old Jim Boyd who owned some apartment buildings came to me and said "Emmett how would you like to go into partnership with me", I said I haven't any money. He said I have a contract to build an apartment, a $30,000 contract if you go in with me I'll give you one-half of the profits. Just getting through with the postoffice building

Walter came up to me and said "Emmett, why don't you go out on your own you could make more money". I told him I was going out on my own and he said it was a good idea and wanted to know if I would like a partner, he had a man in mind by name of Ed. Hyland, an old bricklayer. I said I had to have someone with money and had arranged to build a building. Bill was at the capitol and Walter came up and told him about me, and Bill was down shortly and said "What the hell's the matter with you? You nuts, you can't leave Butler Brothers". I said "Ill leave them for more money", he said "keep your shirt on you'll get more money". It was in 1902 that each of them put in 2½% making me a 10% stockholder. By that time I was working on the Endicott Building and was very busy that summer building train sheds for the old Union Station when Bill came down and told me I was a stockholder. Had then been working for them fourteen years. I always felt I was getting nowhere and started to get restless getting to be thirty years of age and it was apparent to me the other boys were making good money and if I was going to take care of my family, had to do something besides a days pay. Then told Boyd I would not go in with him and he said that was the best thing to do. Never asked for a raise in wages just wasn't done in those days it was ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ an invitation to get fired and usually that is what happened. Butler-Ryan Co. always paid a little above the scale about 25¢ per day and in that way you could select the men you wanted and bricklayers 5¢ per hour more than the scale and if we did not have any work they would work for someone else. We had a following, in other ~~xxx~~ words, the mechanics would always come back to us and were glad to work for us. If we had no work nobody had work.

We had many bricklayers that worked for us all of their building career. Top crew up until the Capitol building would be 125 to 130 men of all crafts, laborers, etc. In 1907 when we built the Lindeke building and we were also building freight houses for the Soo Line in Minneapolis we employed 125 bricklayers and 750 men of other crafts and laborers. All public work was advertised; private work on invitation would ask certain groups of contractors to bid. Some of the other contractors were John Agnew, Pat Hennessey, Jimmie Cox who built the New York Life Bldg., and the Ryan Hotel. Another contracting firm was the Geo. J. Grant Construction Co. Grant usually did his work on a percentage basis, kind of cost plus. Grant was quite a promoter and had the confidence of many people and was our chief competitor. Walter had an estimator with him for many years by name of August Lenzer a very good man who came from Germany was a trained mechanic and estimator. He and I get to be good friends. When he estimated a job and we get the contract he could order the material for the building on the original estimate. He was the estimator on the Capitol job with Walter and continued with us for several years; he was a bachelor and just a hell of a good man, very orderly and exacting. Walter had a buzzer installed and when he wanted Lenzer he buzzed him, Lenzer came out of his office with his fists and said "Walter do not buzz me you disturb me, takes me a long time to pick up the threads, it is not very far to my office". Was always checking to see if the work was coming out with his estimate; work

was to cost so much, special work so much and he would come and tell the man in charge they were running over his estimate because he knew his figures were right. Way an educated thorough man, figures were figures, cold calculating mind. Under Linzer's methods Walter would cut 10% to get the job, you had to fit your calendar to the business in order to get business. Linzer would estimate cost of materials and putting them in place; in the usual handling of the building you could make it up on labor which was about 20% of the cost, and then you bargained for your materials to cut down the price. When Mr. Lindeke wanted to put two or three stories on his building to told Walter to bring me back from the Range to do the work, but I did not come back I liked working on the Range better.

COPY

Our housexwas a log house in which all but the first three children were born, father hauled the legs from Brush Prairie by ox team; one large room one story, which contained three beds, father and mother slept with two children, Pierce and Cooley, and the other two beds were occupied by the other five children, a curtain divided the kitchen and placed arpund mother's bed when she gave birth to a child. Mother never had a doctor when the children were born only a midwife a Mrs. Barlow. Walter, Kate, John, Pierce and Cooley all had the smallpox, they were vaccinated after they progressed and the doctor was not afraid to go into the house. There were two Dr. Armington, father and son; the son Dr. Charles Armington did not know smallpox when he saw it called it whisky blossom, then the father came and he vaccinated all the children and it took on Belle and Bill so they did not have smallpox but all the other children had it and were marked up some but not enough to disfigure them.

Our Sunday night suppers consisted of corn meal mush which was the standard supper, boiled in a three gallon iron kettle with three legs and usually it was the youngest childs job to stir the mush while boiling to keep it from sticking, and after sufficiently cooked it was put in a large bowl on the table and each child got a dish and spoon and dipped out the mush as best he or she could. I remember one incident was talked of a great deal about brother Bill who had a big appetite so he decided he was going to get a big spoon to get more mush; so mother must of heard something about it so she hid all the large spoons and by the time Bill found one all the mush was gone, and

of course mother made an example that greediness did not pay.

About the time of the smallpox Belle was nine years old and it was her job to take care of Pierce and Cooley. There was one rocking chair, a large rocking chair, mother covered it with quilting and then fixed up that chair so Pierce could be put in it anf Belle laid Cooley in her lap and rocked this rocking chair with her feet. The water had to be carried about three rods from the creek and that also was Belle's job. There was a neighbor named John Merrill who had a son Frank, they came over every day to help us withbthe chores and they endeared themselves to the Butler family. Belle recalls Mr. Merrill asking her to wash his handkerchiefs, and she would take his red bandanas down to the creek and wash them for him. It was Sister Kate's job to herd the neighbors cattle out of our corn field and Kate was on horsebavk all the hours of daylight riding herd on the cattle that came into our corn fields, there were no fences in these days. Belle about nine years old and John seven and a half years old, and was the first of the children to be up and around after the smallpox and always very helpful so that you had in the family then as infants Bill, Pierce and Cooley about two years difference in their ages. After the chores were done An Sundays, and this was before my time and I judge after the midday meal, chores were done up and those that went to church and many did, except the baby and mother, and so between them and the other children , father and mother would gather them around say their prayers and get religious instructions. When everything was quiet the children would gather

around and mother had a way of sitting down and telling them something to make them laugh, she had a crooked index finger and would wiggle it and get them all laughing she would call them "ninneys" an Irish term for people who were not all there. Whenever the boys or the children were cutting up father would absent himself and disappear and keep out of sight and let them have their fun. During the study period everybody had to be quiet, that was father's period, and with the smaller children playing in the one room it was very distracting they were put to bed and for that period about an hour and a half it was quiet which was every day except Sundays.

First light we had were candles moulded with tallow, often times we were without candles. Kerosene did not come into general use until I was six or seven years old and then only one lamp in the dining room, and the kitchen and bed rooms were lighted with candles. The first lamp was a hanging glass lamp and had to be taken down and cleaned every day and later on of course lamps got plentiful and then we were permitted to take them out of the room where father and mother were. The lamps had wicks and the wicks had to be trimmed with a shears or they would smoke up the glass chimneys and that was Belle's job to keep the lamps clean.

We had a small organ pumped by feet and sister Belle learned to play the organ and was the only one that cared for it. A girl by name of Julia Oakens used to come around and give lessons on the organ and Belle took quite a few lessons from her. The Oakens girl usually played hymns and the entire family would gather around and sing. We used to make fun of the Oakens girl

she had crossed eyes and we would call her cockeye Oakens. After Kate and Belle grew up to womanhood and they started to teach school, they had friends that came on Sunday afternoons and I know on rare occasxions they used to go to some barn dances but none of the boys, old fashioned barn dances, squqre dances and waltzes after they left home to teach school.

Land was prairie nextimber except along the creek bottoms and that was generally willow with an occasional elm tree. The Cannon River was about a half mile from our land. All learned to swim with the exception of myself; father took all of the boys in summer time, June usually was the start of the swimming period in a little creek which ran within five rods of our house. Father would take all the boys down, first to a small feet bridge which crossed the creek which was about six feet wide and wade, then he took the boys on this bridge or some place where he would throw them in one at a time until they learned to swim, not much chance to drown, but often times one would sink and father would jump in and pull them out and promptly throw them in again until they learned to swim.

They had school meetings and town meetings but father went in his earlier days attending some school board meetings when we had school trouble, outside of that he attended very few gatherings. Cannot recall of any recreation that father had except he loved to walk, and if anybody came around particularly young men he would always invite them to wrestle and he would always win as he was a scientific wrestler. He used the fingergrip you had to lift one feet and try to trip him and if you did not lift your foot he would kick you in the shins, the ideaxxxxxx idea was

to try to trip him with your feet and when you get your feet off the ground he would hit the one that held you up and as soon as you fell that counted a fall, and I never saw anyone that could beat him. The collar and elbow hold was another hold he used. Another hold he was good at was the back hold, locked your arms, one arm over and one arm under and around the waist and then the thing to do was to get your two arms around the waist if you could and apply pressure on the kidneys and injure them or either break his back. Father did not like this hold it was brutal. If you were strong enough you either broke the man's back or crushed his ribs. Catch-as-catch can you would try to get a man off his feet and tip him over, and would wrestle three falls out of four and did this until he was an old man and set me on my ears when he was over sixty years of age, and it was no disgrace to have him throw you. Father was 47 years of age when I was born and died in 1900. He threw all of the boys he would wrestle with after he came to St. Paul he was a scientific wrestler. I used to take in wrestling matches until they got to faking the bouts as now days. I saw Frank Gotch, Farmer Burns and a fellow by name of Dwyer. In 1893-4-5 in through there there were regular wrestling matches here. The popular method was catch-as-catch can and also a style called Bernish style, they wore a sx jacket with tights below, and these jackets were loose and the idea was to take the slack in the bellie and twist it in your hands and then used their feet to trip you. Once in a great while father would play with the boys he would pitch horseshoes, that went out of style completely and recently came back and was the sport the farmer boys had. John was champion horseshoe pitcher in our family.

Horses were shod by blacksmith and many blacksmiths shed the oxen. Later years almost every farm had horses and a buggy. Had two pair of good driving horses when we were on the farm.

Principal crops in my early years was wheat, but wheat ran out because a rust came that struck it just before it became ripe and then the wheat was planted or sewn together with oats and was called succotash. The rust did not seem to attack the oats so by mixing oats and wheat it made a better feed for the stock. We raised corn after we went into the dairy business. When the corn was filled and ripe it was cut and shocked and after it had dried in the shocks until the first part of November it would be husked and allowed to cure so it would not mold in the cribs. Then the shock were pulled down and would be cut by hand with a knife and put into silos. In later years when the corn was cut some of it was left in the fields for the cattle to eat and the cows liked it. Shipped milk to St.Paul before anyone else to a milk distributor by name of Peck & Johnson. In the winter months the feed that the cows got had a great deal to do with the kind of milk they gave, of course if you fed the cows grain the milk was heavy but if you fed cornfodder the milk was thin, and I recall Johnson complaining about the milk being thin by letter first, and John wrote a letter to Johnson attributing the thinness of the milk feeding too much cornfodder, but the milk did not get any better, the fact of the matter was we made up by the quality by adding good spring water to the milk. We got another letter from Johnson in which he said "Please John, do not feed so many corn stocks" and finally came down to the farm in February or March. After the grass came the milk got to be good again. After

the elevators arrived at Castle Rock and Waterford the farmers hauled their grain there, the elevator men would fix their scales to cheat you on the weight and would amount to several bushels of each load. Wheat and oats was put into sacks of about two and a half bushels and John always complained about short weight. In those days it was the custom to weigh the driver with the load, so John would distract the elevator man get off the waged to be weighed but would stand on the scales along side the wagon; John weighed about 180# and sold himself for wheat and in this manner he got even with the elevator man. Later almost every farmer had a set of light scales and would weigh his own grain so the elevator man did not knew what farmer had scales. Fairbanks & Morse sold all the scales to farmers to weigh hogs and poultry, as there were no laws coverin short weight in those days.

1922 When I was building the Jefferson Highway from here to Northfield, it was called the Dodd Road. I was in the streets of Northfield talking to a man named Casseau, an elderly man named Bill King whose son was superintendent in the stockyards at S. St.Paul and his father used to ride around the country in a Ford car and buy up all the sick pigs giving the farmer little or nothing for them, and Frank would often fatten them up and sell them for pork. Casseau said "Emmett, I want you to come over and meet Bill King" who was a man about eightyyears old, I started over to meet Mr. King and Casseau said "Mr. King I want you to meet Mr. Butler", I stuck out my hand to shake hands with him but he did not ~~stick~~ stick out his hand, he said "What Butler", I said

"My father's name is Pat", he said "You son of a --- I wouldn't shake hands with a son of Pat Butler". Father had been to St.Paul with a load of grain with a young team of ozen a good many years earlier and wgen father was on his way home from St.Paul he hoped to make Rosemount that night. When he got to Bill King's house which was a board cabin he knew King, he wanted to get a drink, so the team being young oxen would not stand like horses, took the rope into King's house and tied the knot of the rope to the bedstead where Mr. & Mrs. King were sleeping. Well father stayed too long and the team ran away and pulled the legs of the bed out from under and out through the cabin and went down the road and father after them so Mr. King didn't want anything to do with a son of that fellow. Of course I heard the story from father just as King told it and Casseau said "Mr. King, Emmett isn't to blame for that" but King said "the breed is wrong". Father went to see him but he never let father in.

John Phillip Crowley was superintendent of schools in Dakota County and used to drive through the country visiting the county schools, and was an old county Irishman, well educated. When he called on the schools he would take charge upon entering the rooms and call on the various children to recite, and was a great school superintendent and held the position as long as he lived. He would always reach our house in the winter time arrive about dark would say he just wanted to get his feet warm and be moving. He drove a sorrel mare and a cutter, and the mare would wait for him he never tied her, would cover her with a buffalo robe

and come in and would have dinner and he and father would get into an argument about something and they would continue to about nine o'clock and then it was too late to go home and it was my job to go out and unhitch the mare and take off the harness and currie her give her oats and hay and then go to bed. He was against liquer and came from Dublin. I can recall on three different occasions these arguments would get quite heated, and generally after going to bed he would wake up and shout to father "Pat I have the answer" and then they would get up and go at it again in the middle of the night and neither of them ever won the argument and I think Crowley made our place just to argue with father. Crowley's place was on the line between Dakota and Ramsey counties, so when the surveyors were surveying they found Crowley's house on the Ramsey side of the road, and of course that wouldn't do, so between father and several of the other people they got the surveyors to put a bend in the road and father being a surveyor, they fixed it so Crowley's house was in Dakota County so he could stay as superintendent. Generally they argued about mathametics, history, etc. Crowley was a catholic. Crowley had two sons, one was head of the St.Paul Gas Light Co., until the Northern States Power Co., purchased it, and the other son was with the St.Paul Water Works and remained there until he died. Crowley always got to our house at supper time, always going to some other place and stayed, dad was glad to have him was about dad's age or a little older. He was a well educated man and a grand fellow. I think one of the reasons why father did not mix much with the neighbors was they were not educated and if he got into that kind of a gathering he would correct them properly and rightfully so.

I think his main reason for not mixing in his early days of course was his alcohol and constant drinking he would get more arrogant, I never saw it it was before my time. He was over forty five years of age when he quit drinking, guess Pierce told me he never saw dad tight and I never saw him take a drink but once when Ed. Butler from St.Louis sent him a case of champagne, father passed the champagne around and we drank it, it tastedx alright and we got tight, do not know if that was after dad came to St.Paul. Father never ran for office, he just figgred he couldn't make it not being a mixer in the community, and besides he was a democrat there was no such party in that community. Northfield went for John A. Johnson for Govenor and ran on the democratic ticket. Brother Pierce stumped the state for John A. Johnson and Bob Dunn was Auditor and ran against Johnson. Pierce was down to Northfield to make a Johnson speech and Pierce at that time was a well known attorney and the people of Northfield were proud of him and met him at the train and made quite a fuss over him and some of the good presbyterians had heard that Bob Dunn was quite a drinking man and had been a lumberjack, and of course Pierce had known Dunn for a number of years and never knew him to take a drink, and of course asked him if it was true. Pierce told them Dunnwas a friend of his and a fine man, but after all he came here to ask them to vote for Johnson and that Johnson would make a better Govenor. Johnson carried Northfield.

Our farm contained eighty acres which was xx a school land claim, was a law in these days you could buy eighty acres of ground with twenty years to pay for it, you had $500 to pay over a twenty year period. Father bought the land adjoining in every

direction until he had acquired 320 acres. The first land that he bought was 80 acres just north of us across the creek, the creek divided our 80 acres from an 80 acres known as the Sackett 80, owned by John Sackett who had taken it as a school land claim and acquired it the same way father did and afterwards sold it to a Fred Dean. Dean lived there for some years and had the place mortgaged and father bought hisequity for $500.00, there was a pretty fair house on the property. Dean moved to South Dakota near Huron when that country was just being settled. Father had the house moved across the creek by a man named Burdean and he joined the two houses together and the carpenter work was done by Bill Bowe who was a civil war veteran and later married my sister Kate. Was about 25 or 26 years old, and that was the finest house there. It was fathers idea to settle all of the family there and their children, as each boy became of age a part of this land would be his and enough to build a home for his family, but this notion waned as Walter, Bill left home and the girls married. The only farmer that was successful in the pioneer days was the farmer with a large family of children, no difference whether they were boys or girls, they worked the ground and place together, of course the city to dad was no place for children to be, morally they would go to hell. Father was land hungry and whenever he had any money he would buy more land and bury himself deeper in debt. He was proud when the crops came up or when the harvest was over, he would go out and stand on the bluff the lord of his domain, wanted to own it all. There was a man by the name of Hugh Durham that was a great stock raiser and father was jealous of his success, no reason why he couldn't do it, Durham was somewhat older than father, a man that knew land and he knew stock raising and race horses and was

the first man in that section of the country to get into bloaded cattle and horses.. After all left the farm with the exception of John and myself we hired a man for eight months and paid him $25.00 per month and keep which was standard pay. Then in the winter if he stayed, we had one or two who did, without pay in the winter for four months, then it got so we would pay them in winter as we had all the cows to milk and finally got to be a problem. After father came to St.Paul and was through with the milk station he never did any more work, had no hobbies other than reading. In the day time he would visit with men about his own age, many were from Ireland, and liked Germans pretty well. He could talk Dutch and used to enjoygoing to the beer saloon getting these Germans full of beer and then they would sing. Father and mother never went out together, mother never went out always stayed home with the children.

Kate's husband was a sickly man and because he was sick and unable to work a good deal of the time us boys thought he was a lazy man but I think the man was ill a good deal of the time and not able to work, and died in the soldiers home. Kate rented a little house in St.Paul and made dresses for several years after he died, she knew of course he was not liked by us boys, he brought it upon himself, when he made a few dollars he loved to drink beer and play billiards which was alright, but he made a business of it and anybody that did not work when there was work to do wasn't popular and we probably wrongfully accused him of not wanting to work thinking he was able to work. Had dysentery in the civil war and also served six months in prison during the war. Kate never remarried and was twelve years old when his father died. ? how walter

In 1905 Walter separated from his first wife and Kate went to the big house on Summit Avenue to keep house and take care of his family. Bob Butler was born after they were separated; Walter's first wife was an alcoholic and was a fine looking big woman but liked liquor too well and Kate kept house and mother and father lived with them until father died, then Walter married again and a house was built for Kate by Butler Brothers on Hague near Dunlap 1150 Hague next door where Mrs. Pennington now lives.

In later years any time a St.Paul contract was gotten by the boys father would get years younger, was very proud of their success and when the capitol was built he would meet his cronnies and see what the boys were doing all of them except Pierce, who was a good lawyer. Talked very little to the boys directly, but talked to some of the men on the building and of course endeared himself with them he had a pat on the back for them now and then, a lot of things that I never realized, if you had to make men work it was easier by being kind than by abusing them, and a lot of times he would stand on the sidelines and tell you how to handle men. Recall whenever contracts were being figured on when we lived on Virginia Avenue, Walter lived in one house and Bill in another all would gather around the dining room table and father would take a lively interest in the calculations not interested in mechanical work but had some ideas about it, he was a trained surveyor and engineer, did not know the cost of brick or timber in a building but he knew how to calculate the material of it, he was better than any of us and always when you arrived at your results he would say, "you have not put them in an orderly fashion so you can check them" and am wondering now with all our disregard for him that we did not

absorb more of his wisdom.

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Incorperaters of the Butler-Ryan Co., were Walter, Bill, John, Cooley, Mike Ryan and Fred Jaegger. The reason for making it a corporation was not so much for the proper division as between the interested parties, but to get the talents of Mike Ryan as a master carpenter and builder. Mike Ryan had been a carpenter and general contractor for many years and we did the sub-work for him on thesex contracts, it was thought that he had substantial prestege and wanted him as one of the incorperaters. Officers were, Walter Butler, President, Mike Ryan, Vice-President, John Butler, Secretary, William Butler, Vice-President and Treasurer, and remained that way until Mike Ryan retired. Fred Jaegger was the only man to put in cash, Mike Ryan put in building equipment and an interest he had in a sash, door and lumber company operated by a man by name of Bjornsted; he owned the building and property and turned that in to give him his interest of $8,000.00, and Jaegger $5,000 in cash and the Butler family, that is the four brothers put in as their shares building supplies, scaffolding, planks, bricks, etc., an amount to equal four times what Ryan put in was the total capitalization as I recall it was around $50,000. in 1894. Prior to that time Butler Brothers never made any division except actual living expenses everything remained without division. While the partnership was equal none of the Butlers drew any more money than was necessary to live. In 1894-5 Walter started his house on Summit Avenue and the brothers paid for everything that went into that house. Walter with the consent of the brothers drew out funds to pay for the house which cost $15,000 this same house if built today probably would cost $75,000. It was

a double house Pierce lived on one side and Walter in the other side. When the corporation was formed I never was present, the conversations and discussions were of course to get Ryan in, he had the reputation as a general contractor ans some following with people who would want to do some building. Doing the brickwork on a sub-contract you never became acquainted with the owner. Ryan would receive the money and pay off Butler Brothers and other sub-contractors such as plumbing, etc., Butler Brothers were not identified with the business as operators of the business and under that arrangement the men who paid for and owned the building did not know Butler Brothers and only knew Mike Ryan. The last couple of years they were operating as Butler Brothers building mill buildings in Superior and elevators they became known as general contractors with Mike Ryan sub-contracting for them the woodwork that went into the buildings. Jaegger sold his interest in 1894 because he became unhappy about his interest in the business, he got his money back plus interest, that left the four Butler Brothers and Ryan and were equal each owning 20% of the company. In the winter of 1895 and 1896 John and I went to Ashland, Wis.

I had a great deal to do with the handling of the material that went into the Board of Trade, the St. Louis Hotel and the Provident Building in Duluth. I in fact took a contract but did not get paid as a contractor but agreed with brother Bill to look after the hauling of the building materials and everything that went into the building for 20¢ per ton insofar as steel was concerned, insofar as the brick was concerned 25¢ per thousand which hauling was done with horses together with keeping time on the building. Materials had to be hauled about six blocks, bricks were unloaded from the cars and delivered them at the building site for 25¢ per thousand.

Butler & Ryan were the contractors I simply went to work for them doing this work for $65.00 per month and was the year I was married June 23rd, 1894 and was 24 years of age, married on Saturday afternoon and was back on the job Monday morning. Was married in Superior, Wisc. Twey Mercantile building was built in Superior and handled by brother John. Bill was in charge of the building the St.Louis Hotel and the Provident Building, and Cooley was in St.Paul building an apartment house on Iglehart Ave the ~~Fxxlxxxxxx~~ Feelhauer Apartments, and in the fall of that year Cooley built the Harvester Works Plant at Hazel Park, these buildings have since been torn down. Afterwards Cooley was in Duluth during the building of these buildings. The Brunick Block Building was built in Superior in 1891, was three stories high of brick. The Freeman Mill was built in 1890, and the Russell-Miller Mill built in 1892. Went to Ashland after finishing work in Duluth in 1895. I came down to St.Paul and Bill remained in Duluth to look after some work. I came back to St.Paul in May 1895 and the first work I looked after was a building for the Archer-Daniels Linseed Oil Mill on Raymond Avenue in St.Paul and when that ~~xxxx~~ was completed Cooley had started an apartment building called the Hiawatha Flats and got into trouble with the owner and I was sent down to finish this building, which was owned by Mr, Bjernsted, the same man that knew Mike Ryan. Then we built an amusement hall and kitchen at the Insane Hospital at Rochester, Minn., I was in charge of this building. In the fall of 1895 we received a contract to raise the ore docks for the then Wisconsin Central Railway Co., in Ashland, Wisc., and John went down there and immediately sent for me, letting Cooley complete the Rochester job.

That spring we got a contract to build fifteen bridges along the line of the Wisconsin Central Railway exclusive of the work in Manitowoc and Bill came down and took charge and was called from there to complete the N.P. General Office, this building has since been razed.

The ore dock feature was not a new contract, they were built some years before, but the boats were made larger and with the present docks the ore would not fill the boats properly, so it was either tearing down the old docks or building new ones and Walter conceived the idea of jacking up the dock and putting in thirteen feet underneath, the docks were all built of woodx piles driven into the bay and these piles were capped with timber below the water level and the dock structure was built on top of that. This idea of jacking saved the railway company an enormous amount of money. The dock was 1500 feet long with 315 pockets in it and the way this work was done was to place jack screws six feet apart and then raise them thirteen feet, then move more jacks to a lower level and raise to the height desired, and was something new in ore dock building. It was in 1894 that the Rockefellers came out with their big boats and with the lower docks the ore would not load properly in the boats and it was necessary to get ore trimmers who would go down into the boat and move the ore with shovels to the other side of the boat for 40¢ per hour, but with the higher docks you did away with the ore trimmers. These boats were small compared to present boats were 7000 ton capacity but were large in those days, previous to this the boats were four to five thousand ton capacity. Was under J. D. Rockefeller Sr., they invested and owned vast tonnages of ore on the Missabe Range bought out the Merritt Brothers for

$400,000.00 and sold out to the U.S.Steel Corporation for $80,000,000.00. At that time Ashland was the major ore port on Lake Superior and the Gogebic Range in Michigan. Ashland had been operating several years before the Missabe Range was opened. John and I started in December 1895 and 1896 and worked until the first of May, deck had to be ready as soon as navigation opened. We had 136 men on this job which took about five months; and the weather was very cold, and was the first contract that had to do with ore. Then we got a contract from the Wisconsin Central Ry. Co., putting in steel spans to take care of the heavier ore cars instead of the old wooden pile bridges. Ashland to Ironwood, Mich., where the mines were and across the Montreal River, we put in about fifteen bridges starting at Ironwood and finished the last bridge at New Richmond, Wis., along in December. Cooley came back to St.Paul to work on the N.P. Office Bdlg., as he got into a row with the engineering department in 1896, and John and I finished the bridges. After we finished the bridges I went to work on the N.P. building as a bricklayer, Cooley and Bill were also working there; later on Bill left and went to Duluth to get new jobs while the N.P. job was being completed, and then in the spring of 1897 we got a contract for work at the Insane Hospital. Ore deck contract was for $138,000; bridges contfact was about $150,000. We had a crew of men that had been with Butler & Ryan and the carpenters were mostly Icelanders and they followed us wherever we had work to do. The stone mason crew consisted of one stonemason and a little crew of laborersto do the excavating and where piles were needed they would drive the piles. Under this contract we did a lot of work on the railroad for the $150,000.00. At that time I was 26 years of age.

They were timbermen in Iceland and I never saw such men, the Scandinavians were next to them. We had a crew of about forty Icelanders split up in smaller crews and they were the toughest men I ever saw for the work, by that I do not mean they were rowdy, they were tough physicially, we had one Icelander by name of Charlie Johnson who was foreman of the timber crew and never put any gloves on his hands all winter the temperature was near forty degrees below zero with the wind coming off the lake. They were well dressed however, dressed in woolens and overalls to keep the wind out, and most of them were six feet or more tall, and spoke broken English and could make themselves understood and talked very little during working hours. After they were through for the day in the boarding house at night they would talk in groups in their language, very little drinking until the job was finished then they would put on a big drunk. Certain number of men for each job and there always was a race between them to see what crew could do the most work, it was no place for a loafer. In Ashland we picked up as laborers men that worked on ore docks in the summer and they were good men, French and Irish and went into the woods in thexwinter working twelve hours a day, six to six, later in the year 1895 they worked fourteen hours a day, it was a hurry-up job and could use only so many men and you had to fit them in. Remember one time we had a big Irishman and a little Frenchman who would land these timbers when swung up by the derrick, timbers were 8"x16" 32' long and one fellow would stand on the out end and when the derrick swung them around he would grab the timber and land it, the Frenchman was standing on timbers about 65' above the ice and the Irishman was on the inside and he had to be careful how he swung the timber or he would knock the

Frenchman off and almost did that and they got into a fight on top of these timbers. I was standing on the base of the derrick giving the signals to the stationary engineer, so I jumped down and ran back and told them it was working time, to wait until quitting time for their fight which they did on the ground along the ore dock office. Of all the murderous things you never saw anything like it the way they pummeled each other for twenty minutes, when one went down they tried to spike the one down, we were all gathered around them, the Irishman was about 6'3" a fine looking man and this Frenchman was only 5'7" but put up a great rough and tumble fight, and was glad to see the cop come and stop it. These men would fight about the efficiency of their work. The docks were built with white pine timber and the pieces in these docks were 55' long 12x12 timber without knots in them, and this timber was purchased for $11.00 per M at the saw mill. White pine was worth $125.00 per M before war #2, there is no such thing as white pine now. Specifications called for white pine and no knots and this timber came from Penochia, Wisc. Built the stone abutments for the steel spans putting the foundations on the banks of the streams in some cases were ground was good and if so in a bed of concrete, some places you had to drive piles and they had to be capped up below water level and often was a difficult job because most of the rivers had driven logs and when you attempted to put in a cofferdam you encountered sunken logs and bark and was very difficult in many places. In this work we met with a lot of delays due to the ore trains, very little money for the risk envolved. Losses were very rare on any work we took. The bridges were not

profitable, did not make any money, the whole summer's work John and I, total profitswere about $4,500.00 for the company and not figuring anything for us. The ore docks were more profitable only took about three months. Bill and Cooley were working on the N.P.Office Building and I went to work as a bricklayer on that building which was completed in 1896. Walter was always in the office at St.Paul; I do not recall what John did when he came back to St.Paul. Early in 1897 we got a contract to build an insane hospital at Cherokee, Iowa, and the four of us went there, everybody but Walter. That building was 1-1/4 miles around the walls, three stories, two wings and Administration Building. This job ran about $300,000.00, built of brick and steel, and in the fall I worked there my son Hazen was born. Walter was in St.Paul trying to get the contract for the Minnesota State Capitol. I left Cherokee that year to go back to Ashland to build another ore dock for the C. & N. W. Ry. they had two at Ashland and the Wisconsin Central had one there, John and Cooley remained in Cherokee that winter and the contract for the capitol was procured. I remained in Cherokee about six months as all work had to be done in the winter time and ran in all $300,000 and made good money on that job about $12,000 profit was something and was very good on a job that size, practically nothing invested about $10,000 to $15,000, estimates were paid every month as you went along. Winter of 1897 and 1898 Bill came back and took charge of the Capitol, except John who went to Georgia to quarry marble. The architect was Cass Gilbert. For many years there was a great agitation for a new capitol and Mr. Gilbert was appointed architect to draw the

plans, there also was a Capitol Commission consisting of.

Get list of commissioners.

Sub-basement of the building built by the Geo. J. Grant Construction Co., then bids were advertised and the stone selected was Georgia marble. Norcross Brothers who had quarries in Georgia and the Georgia Marble Co., were competitors, about five contractors in all bid and Butler Brothers were the low bidders. A fellow a Mr. Hanson offered to lease us some ground, Ballground, Pickens County Georgia and gave us a bid on the marble quarry and loaded on cars in Georgia, this property was about six miles from a railroad, then we found out Hanson had no money to open a quarry, so John went down to Georgia and when we found out he had no money, then John went to the Georgia Marble Co., and Norcross Brothers to see if Butler Brothers could buy marble for the building the figured on and their price was 40¢ per cu.ft., in the blocks. Specifications called for the stone to be cut here in Minnesota so as to employ Minnesota labor, and as our bid was for 25¢ per cu.ft., so it was necessary to find some way to get cheaper marble when Hanson was unable to deliver, he went down and made some sort of an effort to get out the stone, he was an inexperienced man and it was immediately recognized he was unable to get out the stone so John took a lease from Hanson and paid him a very small royalty 2¢ per cu.ft., for marble in the ground and had to remove some overburden to to 15 feet in the township Ballground, Pickens County sixty miles North of Atlanta and it was considered impossible to find marble in that section. Norcross Bros., got their marble from the mountains and they had been there over fifty years quarring marble, but John built a railroad and moved the overburden with mules and scrappers, employed negroes, set up a derrick and started to ship

marble. John employed some men that had been working for Norcross Bros., and the Georgia Marble Co., colored help received 80¢ per day for ten hours, engineers and skilled men received $1.12 to $1.25 for ten hours,; we brought up here about twelve negroes who had been raised and their peopple were slaves and owned by the Norcross and Tate families. John lived in Georgia for several months before his w wife went down, and he bearded with a woman by name of Mrs. ~~Dyxi~~ Dishhound and built a shack to sleep in. Charges for board was $2.50 per week and John paid her $3.50 per week ~~if she would take~~ a brush and keep the flies off him while he would eat. John got sick and I went down there, Mrs. Dishhound was not a very good cook, she used to chew snuff and would spit across the table into the fireplace right across the diningroom table, finally John's wife came down and took care of him. The marble when you did not rub it was very white, and when you started to rub it it would get blue with clouds and when we finished the first few blocks of the marble Cass Gilbert hit the ceiling. The Georgia Marble Co., had supplied marble for St. Joseph's Hospital in New York that had been rubbed and also brought out the color, and to get them to accept the stone for the Capitol because of these blue clouds in it, Cass Gilbert, Bill Butler and a stonecutter by name of Joe Beaucheaut, who was a master stone man brought up here by us from Georgia were to go to New York to look this stone over. Joe Beaucheaut lived only about six months after coming up here and was a good man. When we finished the stone this Georgia concern got ~~in~~ the idea of making a pattern out of these blue clouds and blending ~~the~~ them to look like the sky but that was an enormous job. Finally get the Capitol Commission to let Gilbert, Bill and Beaucheaut go down to New York and inspect the hospital that had been built by marble with

the same color and they accepted it. Basement part is St. Cloud granite. There was a lot of bickering going on to get the stone accepted and it looked bad for Butler Brothers. Cass Gilbert, the architect, was vicious, in addition the State had an inspector by name of Behland, and Gilbert had an inspector by name of Charlie Abbott, a State of Maine Yankee and a mean fellow, nothing you did was right and he had made the statement that he was going to break Butler Brothers. Cooley was not married and Abbott liked the gals and Cooley had a gal come down from Duluth to see the laying of the corner stone and she managed to get to old Charlie Abbott, and the day the corner stone was laid, Charlie a long slender Yankee moved in on this girl and took her to a saloon on Tenth and Rice Street, took her in the backroom of the saloon going to work on her and Cooley came in and gave Abbott a going over, scratched all the skin off his face and Abbott, who lived up on the hill, had to have an excuse about having his face scratched, he properly fell off a cable car that ran up Selby Avenue so he could tell how he got his face scratched. He told the story to Gilbert about Cooley and Gilbert got hold of Bill Butler and wanted Cooley to apologize to him and to Mr. Abbott, and Cooley said he would. Cooley met Gilbert at the Capitol building and he asked Cooley about this situation, Cooley said yes he did it, and did not approve of his girl being bothered by other men, he said "you better not bother her I'll scratch your face. It resulted in Abbott getting discharged. From that time on the building went right along and everything was built right. Used negro labor on the rubbing job to smooth it up we had gauges cheaper to do the work this way. Big saving to Butler Brothers on the granite columns for the out-

side were not polished came all ready to set up from Ortenville. John had about 25 to 30 men in Georgia to keepmthe marble coming up here, they were given the dimensions of stone as required and would quarry it getting the size stone they wanted without flaws, columns 32' long took time to quarry about 26 days, had to be at least three feet squqre 32' long which was quite a stone, one stone on a flatcar 20 ton the largest two on a forty ton car. All shipped by M. & ST.L.Ry. Co., who at that time get all the marble out of Chicago for the State Capitol. In these days you get freight refund for volume making a cheaper price than the other railroads, later laws were passed to change this. Refunds were made to Butler Brothers to get this hauling; also all the brick that came from Chaska. Once we get operations started in Georgia and with the 2¢ royalty we quarried stone for much less than the price of 25¢ we figured to pay. Norcross Bros. and Georgia Marble Co., wanted 45¢ cu.ft. which was a considerable increase in the purchase of the stone. Everything Butler Brothers had was put up to get the bond. Bond for the first year was for 2% of the total amount of the contract was written by the National Surety Co., man by name of Bill Joyce had charge of the agency, and broke every rule in the book to get this bond. There was a special contract for putting on the dome $400,000.00; total contract that we had about $3,000,000 on the capitol and was let in nine different contracts to Butler Brothers each phase of the structure, you had to do a certain amount of work between sessions of the legislature. Work continued for three sessions of the legislature or six years that money was appropriated for each step of the building. There

was a gentlemen's agreement in those days among contractors not to cut in, and we would get friendly with the Capitol Commission, no money ever changed hands, but Walter got around to see the contractors that were likely to bid that did not put in previous bids and bid higher more from necessity, as we were on the ground and had all the equipment, nobody could underbid us. Brother Bill was elected to the legislature to hurry through the appropriations from the St.Paul District No. 90 as a Representative of the Legislature, and was the last session to appropriate money and was able to get enough through to finish the building. Capitol cost the State about $4,500,000 and if built today would cost $50,000,000. Cass Gilbert wanted publicity and one winter had an engineer that laid out the work Billie Brink, that was the year the dome was finished and Gilbert came here from New York and he wanted to know exactly how much the dome of the capitol had settled. So Brink had a level, it was colder than damnation and I just came off a job and Bill told me to help Brink run the levels from a benchwork across University Avenue to the center of the dome and then measure up from that level to the side of the copper ball on top of the dome 240'6". Well Brink knew how high the dome should be and he had a 100' tape line and put a mark on the surface and went on up and put another mark then we figured out how high it was and Bill figured that the settlement of the dome was less than 5/16", he had all the figures down so many feet and so many inches and decided 5/16" was right and reported to Mr. Gilbert and the next morning the big headlines were CAPITOL DOME SETTLES EXACTLY THE AMOUNT MR. GILBERT SAID IT WOULD SETTLE, just about the time of the finish of the dome. Took about four years to finish

the exterior of the building. Various sub-contracts such as plumbing, heating, etc., which work was sublet. Purchased the steel and erected it ourselves from the Herzog Iron Works, stone for the floor came from Winona all ready to lay which we did. The electrical contfact was handled by a son of John Pillsbury who was an electric engineer a fine young man about 30 years of age laid out the work for the entire building. In our job of subcontract they were bound to us and we were bound to the State. Total men employed never reached over 200, and had only one man killed, he fell off a scaffold and only one stone dropped from the building. We made $900,000 profit on this job and considered a fair profit, and the building of the capitol put us in business so we were able to take good sized contracts from then on.

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Conditions of building as they were had no responsibilities as today, the efficiency of labor and wages which were paid. The carpenters rate of pay was 22½¢ per hour ten hour day; stonemasons and bricklayers worked nine hours a day. Head stonesetter started at 45¢ per hour, and one stonesetter with a crew consisting of a hoisting enfineer, a fireman and three laborers set 75% of the stone on the Minnesota State Capitol. This derrick was set up above the roof so everything in the interior steel beams for floor spans were set in between the ledges of a trestle and was different than any building encountered and would leave only a small hole when the derrick was pulled out, the trestle was supported on the bottom by four piers and arch from pier to pier from the first floor landing and this derrick was so arranged came out the louvre windows that all the stone could be set from this one derrick and then removed from the windows and fimally completed and that in itself was quite a job. The laying out of the dome was done by a man 22 years of age and was laid out in full size on the gymnasium floor of the Y.M.CAA. and then made out a ticket for every stone with the dimension on it and there was no mistake, his name was Everett Shean. He started to work for us on the Cherokee Insane Hospital with his father who was a stonesetter, and there was some stone cutting came up and worked for a time cutting stone 1898 and 1899, he was a marvel at stonecutting, a peculiar fellow, homely but a genius in mathamatics without any schooling in it. Six months after he started to cut stone here he led the crews and that was unusual because the marble was peculiar stone to cut. We had imported some men from Georgia, but he had never cut large stone or any other kind

and held the record of cutting more stone than any other man and that was the first time in the stonecutting industry in this district where a man was given a ticket when he finished his stone with his name on it, these men always were eager to see who waw the best stone cutter, and was a form of cost accounting for cost of stonecutters work for your record you had something to go on. Had no trouble getting permission to use the Y.M.C.A. floor as everybody was greatly interested in the building of the Capitol. To follow through on that young man in the Detroit River tunnel, he had a brother who was timekeeper and his father was a stonesetter, but Everett was the genius, he went to New York with us doing a lot of electrification for the New York Central starting in 1904 and brother Bill who this young man worked under, took him to New York and his job there was laying out the work for all sorts of crafts, this job was a large powerhouse at Yonkers. Then later we got the contract for the Detroit River tunnel and we had association with a man by the name of Olaf Hoff who was Asst. Chief Engineer of the New York Central and went to work with us on the Detroit River tunnel and was to get part of the profits. He was undertaken with nervous prostration and Everett Shean took over the engineering of the tunnel originally started by Butler-Hoff Co., a subsidiary of Butler Brothers. After working there for a while he became enamored in horse racing and worked out a system to beat the Jews and of course he would sit up all night, never drank anything, but in order to keep him working Bill had to put a man alongside of him to keep him awake.

He worked out the system of putting in the timber for the concrete that went into the side of the tunnel and the Jack system of driving the tunnel in under compressed air and it was his job to work all this out which he did, but because of his other interests in horse racing he would sit up all night the business of horse racing and turned into a regular screwball, and Bill after the approach tunnel was through, divided some money with many of the employees and Everett Shean received $4,000 which he immediately lost on his system and that ruined him. He was a freak of a man came back here but Bill did not want him as he would not concentrate on his work, and got a job as foreman cutting stone in Chicago and worked in St.Cloud in the same capacity. When we were building washing plants he was sent up on the Range, in fact he built the original washing plant at the Harrison Mine at Nashwauk under Walter'sxinstructions. He came up there to erect some washing plants and I discharged him for the reason I was in a hurry to get the plant up, and Everett would sit around and doze and one day I was standing talking to him when a jackrabbit ran out he started out after the rabbit, I told him to go home as you couldn't catch the rabbits. In later years 1931-1932 went to work for us laying out work in underground mines but you could not keep him at work. When a kid he drove you crazy with a banjo, but here was a fellow with a remarkable mechanical mind. Never had any labor troubles on the capitol job very little labor trouble in those days, and Butler Brothers never had a strike in the history of the company, until strike was called by the C.I.O.

on the Range, had been in business 58 years without a strike, we had a few interruptions of scraps bricklayers had between themselves but would settle before serious trouble and Butler Brothers never had a strike until Roosevelt came in for his second term, and the avoidance of trouble I think was due to our ability to get along with labor of all kinds, and our success could most be attributed to the fact that we could work with our men, and brother Bill had the knack when some of the men did something out of the way he would come around the job with a smile on his face he liked his men and they would work like hell for him and the same with the inspectors on the Capitol building and at that time was the most unusualcarried on building work for a job in this section or any other section of the country, the way it was equipped it took the very minimum of help, and had a small narrow gauge railroad that ran around the building, and stone put on cars and pushed where the derrick was located, and it was the handling of material and equipment that was the talk of the nation had never been done on any building, as well planned. Of course we were very careful to follow what was called for by the specifications, and the cement was all tested before put in the building, and had to be delivered on the site 28 days before it was made into mortar. Briquets of cement were made and tested in the laboratories at the University of Minnesota, sample of every load of cement was taken out by the inspectors and briquets were made of it and tested on seven, fourteen and twenty eight day tests before permitting it to be put into the building. This is not being done anymore now it is recognized cement is now made to

standard. The sand was also tested and was dug out of a sand bank right at the capitol site. At the building site lived a man by the name of John Larkin and as the building got going Larkin's house was left about ~~xxx~~ 40 feet in the air, he would not sell but remained until finally he was paid; another fellow by name of Pat Reagan that had a building on the capitol site, was a mean fellow and finally got his price for the property. Reagan was one of the watchmen around there for us. One night he put his feet under the stove in the watchman's shanty and went to sleep, some coals fell out and burned his feet. A ~~xxxxxx~~ pickpocket by name of Al Childs who had held up a bank in ~~xxxxxxxx~~ Indiana also worked for us and later was on the police force here. The O'Conners were great fellows for keeping such characters out of jail and did get him out, and Jack O'Connor was chief of police, and to get him out he had to have a job so Bill gave him a job as watchman. After finishing a job I came back and Childs being a watchman was not going to let me in, and I said "what are you doing here". I remember one time went into a saloon ran by Charlie Rogg at Seventh & Jackson Streets, used to go there and have some fun and was sitting there with a friend or two, and Childs was dancing with a Swede boy and saw him take nine dollars out of his pocket. I said "what the hell are you doing here" he said "I am a watchman" and I asked him when do you watch, he said, "let me alone, your brother Bill put me to work". When I saw Bill I asked him where the hell he got this Childs, and he said he wants to work for Jack O'Connor. O'Cohner never believed a man should be kept in jail. He worked out all right with us and later on joined the police force.

The work was carried on in a pretty modern way, of course there were some humerous things about the whole thing, inspections and all that sort of thing, and particularly with Cass Gilbert who was a thoroughly incompetent man. He was an artist, as far as being a construction man he had a limited knowledge of that work being done by construction engineers, but as far as the artist there was no question about Gilbert he had that, and because he did not know construction work he was always suspicious it was not being done right, and the State had a good inspector who worked efficiently, John Bohland, and had just completed the courthouse in Minneapolis, he was a good man and an honest man and what was written in the specifications there was no deviation. There were some foolish things as I look back now with the change in construction and specifications. Of course the laying out of the building was difficult because they made it difficult, to have a straight ceiling the elevation of the bottom of one beam had to be on the same level and that required splitting of a course of brick to match the top of the beam and meant a little more steel and we would have saved it in construction costs, but in general the work was perfect. Some odd things happened, those marble columns on the outside of the building they were turned in a lathe, and on the column had to be placed a little block of steel and a hole on one end called a dowel hole and this hole was filled with plaster paris and when we set this column nobody thought of moisture getting in there and freezing and after these columns were set moisture got into the plaster paris and busted the bottoms out of the columns a strange thing to happen and could not imagine water

getting in under the cement, fitted a new base under and did not have to replace columns set and looks like a part of the column and these patches had to be put on without the knowledge of the inspecters or they would make you replace all stone. Whenever a stone was chipped we had a fellow named Mike Angelo who was a stone carver and patcher, and every stone mill has that kind of a man, he would come down at night which was the only time you could do this, put in a patch and then polish it down and could not be seen and just as good as new.

Stonemason was a redheaded Swede H. L. Nelson who came here from Chicago and had been a sailor, and had a red goatee and was a big fellow and of course he could set up derricks and all that sort of things with two or three men, and was an expert rigger and when he was doing that kind of work or other work nobody spoke he was the captain, everybody took orders from him. he would take green Scandinavians and break them in and in a very short time make good men and everybody worked like clock work and if he wanted to take a few minutes off nobody said anything to Nelson, always smoked a pipe. Many things about Nelson were unusual, Bill got along with him very well and I got along with him, he was a man and knew it and was the best man in every way, physicially, mentally and morally, his father was a sailor captain and Nelson went before the mast when he was 12 years of age. I think an old man Jim Gibson sent here to set stone for J.J.Hill's house brought him with him and when he left, he left Nelson here and he started to work for us. Nelson was setting stone on the interior of the building and had a small derrick that was used for this work and could be moved around and had two men putting up the interior stone as fast as you could walk; Cass Gilbert came and after watching hollered "Stop" and Nelson was waiting for the stone to come up said "What

thehell you braying at" Gilbert said "that rope is going to break" Nelson said "I sent all the stone in this building and no rope broke yet". Of course Gilbert was all het up about it and found Bill and told him to get that man off the job. Bill said "Mr. Gilbert that man set nearly all of the stone on the building and before I let him go I'll have to ask you to get me a better man" anyhow he had to apologize. Had a little office room fixed in the building and told Nelson he would have to apologize to Gilbert and said all right if you want me to, so Gilbert came in and said. "Mr. Nelson, you have been a sailor", Nelson replied "Yes sir". Gilbert said "Since you were a sailor, you took orders from your captain didn't you"? Nelson said "You damn fool sailers don't take orders from the captain, they take orders from the boatswain" "This is the order it is done, have you not read the rules of sailers"? "Bill Butler is the captain around here, I'm the boatswain, and you're just nothing". When the dome was started and before the work was finished we had very little trouble with the inspectors, brother Bill was very particular to get the work done as you could not take chances of having it taken down, you got your organization so that they had it right in the first place, and if you look at the interior work in that building with an eye to finding flaws you will fid some; the Italian marble columns wax will run out of every one this stone did not make up in solid unblemished stone and these columns are full of defects and all filled with wax and polished over. Everybody knows you cannot get Italian marble perfect and it is a general practice to doctor it up. Wax will last unless you pick it out. A great deal of the interior

stone came from Kasota and that was a suggestion of brother Bill's and he had many. Bill conceived the idea of polishing up some Kasota stone and setting up a panel of it and Gilbert came along and said "this is what we are looking for, it is not good stone for outside, but makes fine finish on the inside". Many larger buildings, one at Albany, New York, which took 20 years to build, had a lot of trouble. Foundations were bad and a lot of political mixup with it. The one at Lincoln, Neb., is an outstanding building and they say that the Minnesota Capitol building is the outstanding building in the United States; the dome is a replica of the dome of St.Peters Cathedral in Rome, and the Senate Room, the Supreme Court room and the Governor's Reception room are all beautiful rooms.

We had an old man by name of Magnus Magnuson, and had been with Walter and the Butlers since they first started in the contracting business, he made mortar and Magnus was an efficient man, and by the way, set up the first brick elevator on the Noyes Bros. & Cutler building and was one of the most efficient men I ever saw. He had been away and came back in the winter, met Magnuson and stopped to talk with him and asked him how he was getting along, he said he was fine but his little toe hurt him, he drank quite a lot of whisky, so I said "Cut the toe off" and a couple of hours later Magnus had cut off his toe, took off his shoe placed the toe on a block and cut it off with a handax and was going back to work. When he told me what he had done I said "get that toe fixed up or you will die", so I took him to the hotel on Rosabel Street and called a doctor and Magnus never worked for a month or so.

In 1889 when the Capitol buildingng was going along

pretty well the first job I worked after coming back from Ashland was putting inbridge abutments across Summit Avenue for the Milwaukee Railroad and that was a costly little job, ground was bad and had to go down to the tracks and put in concrete and I had a man working for me a long time, can't recall his name, he had red whiskers, was the signalman for the engineer hoisting the stone who was on the street level. Stone came in cars on tracks 60 feet below, had a Frenchman by name of Beaudette who ran the hoist engine, and this Swede stood on the car below from which the stone was hoisted and signaled them up and would ride the stone where he was going to land it to be put in place and then ride down again. He got off the car quick and of course would hook on the stone and signal the engineer to hoist it up, and this time as he turned his back to get something one of the hooks caught him by the pants he hollered, but Beaudette did not like him and kept right on hoisting him up to the street level.

After we had the roof on the Capitol building, the interior tile arches in between the beams, and when the windows were closed the men worked in the winter putting in tile arches. The stonecutters worked in winter cutting stone and piled them in order so when spring came they could be loaded on cars and taken from the stockpile to the small derrick to be placed in position on the building, it was necessary to have the stone properly cut so as to fit, and meant that the work had to be laid out and entailed a lot of careful planning. As the stone had to go in piece by piece you couldn't afford to spend time looking for stone, it had to be in order for each course of the building and the planning was a large

part of brother Bill's job and he did a very good job of it, took a lot of careful planning. Steel work largely done by carpenters in those days, steel furnished by the Herzog Iron Works who put on all angles, etc., steel furnished by the Carnege Steel Co. The class of labor that goes to make up building construction crew in that building took in all of the building crafts. Stonecutters were the highest paid mechanics at 60¢ per hour, going rate was 50¢ per hour, stone cutters got 45¢ per hour, some were graded on their skill that is stonecarvers, rate about $1.00 per day, nine hours for just plain stonecuttar. Common labor started at 12½¢ per hour and paid up to 17½¢ per hour 10 hours, there were no unions at that time. Years back they had hodcarriers union started in St.Louis but never here, class of laborers that followed the building trades they could get 10 to 15¢ per day more than the fellow with pick and shovel, they were good men. When the interior of that building was completed, never over 60 men, after they to interior piers and hardwood finish, men who laid the stone floors and tile, many men of different crafts employed such as plumbers, heating men, probably three to four hundred men, the exterior took few men, stonecutters employed was about 45, planning the interior was routine, took good mechankes and they were available at that time, of course the woodwork and trim for a building of that kind was all right. We started out with about one-third of the men who came from Georgia and then we started training local men, provision was we had to use all the Minnesota labor we could and this was closely watched by the various crafts and would call your attention to it.

The remerkable thing about quarrying marble in Georgia was the type of labor and verysmall wages they got and they were very skilled men on that sort of work. First job in a quarry of that

type to get your stone out is to get a channel in the quarry to the depth desired, then there is a channeling machine that works on the stone so as to have few flaws and then the channeling machine will channel down to the depth to take two or three stones, the channel would be cut with a piece of steel, also with steel shot and water; sand and water will do the same thing and this channeling machine works a great deal like a tamping machine. You could cut the stone the length you wanted it, the length of the cutting blade was 8 feet. You could get a pretty straight face on the stone, you had to cut both sides to get a square block, and to break this stone m off at a certain thickness say 3 feet wide, they would drill a line of holes at that depth to break the stone and then put in two pieces of steel called feather and in between this feather drive another steel wedge and a line of holes about about one footapart, a man with a hammer would keep driving the wedges in and finally split off. Stone was pulled out of the quarry with a derrick and used chains with one inch iron rings. Columns twenty-two feet long came out in one square chunk close to 36" square, then set them up and took hand tools, etc., and turned them to octagon. Not necessarily a hard stone to work after you knew how to work it. Bedford stone is softer than St.Cloud granite, say it does not absorb water less than 1% moisture, and absorbs about as much water as a piece of steel; very few voids in Georgia marble and makes it a good exterior stone absorbs no dirt and needs no cuting. Columns would be 19 or 20 feet and weigh about 24 tons. Some of this granite appears at the south entrance that I think weighs 26 tons, and everybody was watching the derrick when they were put in place.

During construction of the Capitol building Walter was in the office and got up there periodically but the work was carried on by brother Bill, who was in charge of that job from it's inception and his tireless efforts and ingenuity and I think he had more ingenuity on a building job than Walter had; think he had more ingenuity about kweping costs down and gad many ideas which were carried out. In his organization he had a way of getting men to do things for him when he wanted them done, he was patient and a good mechanic himself, he was a student, spent a lot of time on schemes for simplyfing work that required equipment and the handling of equipment. Walter was a different type of a man if things were not done the way he wanted them done he would become impatient, do not think he had any more ideas than Walter. John was not a builder, never learned a trade, but if there was any excavation work or that sort of thing to do John did it. He did build some places such as the Twey Merc. Co., and some railroad shops.
I was not at the site of the Capitol all of the time, was doing such work as building the bridge in Summit Avenue, after that I went on the interior of the postoffice building and when there were any out state jobs I would be put on them. Last worked on the Capitol in 1904 when I finished the balustrade work there.. Bill, Cooley and Walter went to New York and I was here alone most of the time, during that period I built the Booth Cold Storage Plant in St.Paul, and the Hackett, Gates, Hurty Building, Lindeke Building and the Soo Freight Houses in Minneapolis, which was the period from 1903 through 1907. The Booth Plant was the first concrete floor and concrete pier construction in St.Paul, and next came the Hackett, Gates, Hurty building sametype of construction, and the Lindeke building was the first

flat slab type no beams in ceiling and was designed by a man named Brathen, and Brathan was a fellow Walter employed and came from the East for that sort of work. When the Lindeke building was constructed Brathan had gone into business for himself and C.A.P.Turner designed the floor slabs and the concrete work for the Lindeke building, Patterson building and the Soo Freight Houses. The outstanding thing about that was that Turner either did not know or did not want to tell how to figure strains on a cement slab, and for that reason the building inspector would not give us a permit to build the building. I did not know anything about engineering or an engineer that knew whether the building would stand up or not, but I found out before I started that it would stand up; I built a panel of the floor and loaded it with pig iron until it broke. I set up a scale section of the building out in the stone yard on Rice Street, so the Lindeke people said alright, if you cannot get a permit you will have to put up a bond that the building will stand up, and that was my job no one else here, and the engineers of the N.P.Ry.Co., right across the street, used to look out the windows and shake their heads ans said it will not stand up. James J. Hill was a friend of the Lindeke's and whenever he was in town , he would come on the floor of the Lindeke building with old man Lindeke, who always played up to J. J. Hill, no question took a great deal of interest in the building. D. C. Sheppard was an old New York contractor, built the Burlington Railroad, and he always said the building will stand up, and one of the largest stockholders of the N. P. Ry. Co. The name of the contracting company was Sheppard, Morris & Dougherty. Sheppard was only a few years older than I when he died.

The Lindeke building was re-inforced steel, no beams, and many buildings have been built like that now with flat slab concrete, rods 3/8" thick in columns, rods from the top of column to the floor and rods in floor laid diagonal. The unusual thing about that building was the method used in constructing it. To get the concrete up in the building, in the first place we put a concrete mixing hopper up, then the sand was put in. hauled by teams and wagons, two yards of sand and then the required coarse aggregate of gravel backed on a platform and dumped into this bin which was about two stories high in the building, and was something nobody ever done before, used wheelbarrows and then there was a bucket that held a yard of concrete went up and dumped into cars on the floors, cars set on a little trestle, and so a floor was put on this building every week from the basement to the roof. I moved the Lindeke people into the building in one hundred days, a building six stories high 165 x 230', took just one hundred days from the street level, and was the last work I did in St.Paul. Brickwork went right along and never had been done before in 1907. Started to put in foundations and walls in the winter of 1906, finished the building and got through with it in September. Lindeke, Warner & Sons were a wholesale dry goods store. The building still remains and is now divided into smaller jobbing units. In the period from 1903 and 1904 on I built a postoffice building in Iowa City, Iowa, and one in Grand Forks, N.D. The postoffice building at Iowa City was a small building, and on that building or on any government building samples of all the materials that go into it must be sent to the architect of the Treasury Dept. for inspection and acceptance. The peculiar thing about materials they pay most attention to tin and the interior varnish on the woodwork.

After you got your contract you would start out by sending them samples of all the tin manufactured or the different brands, but found out that Taylor's Old Style tin was the brand they used. Tin is all alike, method of making is generally the same, and of course all it is, is thin pieces of steel size 24" sq. and dipped in a tin bath, taken out of the tin bath and placed on the floor. Sometimes tin was put in the bath in bunches and inspected by a bunch of girls about 25% of these sheets were not entirely covered and were not put back in the bath, so every manufacturer of tin plating used the same construction. Taylor's Old Style Tin is made by Weirton. Sent them the samples and also Taylor's Old Style and they refused them all, then I started all over again and sent Taylor Old Style, takes months to get a report back and it was then accepted. An old man named Bassford was Superintendent, said you get your tin accepted first and then the varnish. On the postoffice building in Iowa City, which was a one story building, got the tin accepted and then started on the varnish. Sent them samples of all the varnish there was and I could not get them to accept any of it, but reporting on them old inspector by name of King, who had young son who worked for me had been on several postoffice buildings around, King said "Hell I can't tell you what varnish they accept except coach varnish, three coats of coach varnish". "Seems to me you cannot have any dust on it and to let it dry let it stand for ~~three~~ three weeks 100 degree temperature". He would not tell me but the boy did. I used to buy old man King three drinks of whisky each day.

he liked whisky and it was hard to get whisky in Iowa in those days, but the boy told me, you get 10 gallons of this coach varnish and set it here on the floor, and they had taken some samples and sent it to Washington, so I left the can there and got some varnish from the city and varnished the building with it and brought the coach varnish back with me.

In Grand Forks I had the same inspector as at Albert Lea; got in trouble with sub-contractor Walter Bowe, now dead, and he came out to inspect the Grand Forks job. I had Shean's father out there as foreman, and found when I got there, he was having a tough time with the inspector, had a big stone arch over the main entrance and inset keystone, there was a small split in the keystone and would not be noticed when the brickwork was put on top of it. Well the inspector said it had to come out, so I told him that was a big job to take that building down to get that keystone out, well he said it had to come down, and the traveling inspector was there the next day, his name was Forsythe, he was on the other buildings, and Forsythe said he would look into it. That night he came down to the hotel and we had a few drinks and I told him about this stone and the inspector, so the next day he found some way of sending the old inspector away on some other job, and he said "get your scaffolding up but a patch on the stone take out the joints and put fresh mortar on the stone". It was all right as it was. I told you of the efficiency of the government, how much trouble they cam make for you.

Inspector by name of Garretson came from West Point who was a drinker and the first day he came into the building and stood around, and about the first thing he said was "I want a drink bad"

so I took him to a saloon across and bought him a drink, told him I couldn't drink I had to work. Well the next day it was the same thing and went on for three days and it was in the morning and afternoon, so I went a got a jug of whisky and put it down in the detective entrance of the mail room, later took the whisky and put it in the sub-basement took Garretson down and showed him where it was so he could go down and take a drink whenever he wanted one. Was there two or three weeks and then one night about five o'clock, he was very drunk, "You have to take this plaster off", just got through putting it on. I had his record from Leach & Sons of Kansas City, so I said "I think you are kidding Mr. I won't take this plaster off at all" he said it isn't right, so I said "What the hell do you want"? "My family hasn't enoughto get along on, I have six children, I need $500" I tild him I haven't got $500 and he said "you better get it". I told him I would see what I could do, so Ryan said give him $500 and take his note for it, which I did, then he was back again for more money. Then I told Bassford about it, he said "I know Jim Taylor in the Treasury Department, I'll write Jim to take him away from here" So they moved him to Beaumont, Texas, and the C. W. Green Construction Co., was a firm of Jews and had a contract, and of course the Jews found out what kind of a man Garretson was so they just gave him the money when he wanted it, but the traveling inspectpr came along and did not get the job inspected and when he went down could not tell the building from the plans, and he just made the construction company take it down to street level and start all over again. Garretson was inspector on a building Leach was building, had the building all finished and putting in the floor strips to nail to floor on studs to be filled with concrete, and when they started to put in

concrete several brickbats broke off and fell into the concrete, Garretson said nothing but made a small mark without them knowing it and then sent for a traveling inspector and when he arrived told him where to dig and find the brickbats, and made him do all the work over again. I never got back the $500 but had his note, so Mike Ryan gave me the $500 so I wouldn't be out. Later I got a letter from Garretson he got interested with some fellows and made a fortune in oil; he wrote me several letters but never sent me the $500, I wrote him several times I needed it.

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Mother left the farm with us in 1888 and was 58 years of age. Because of her confinement and duties she had become aged at 58 years and was as old as a person 88 years of age today. Father was seven years old he was 65 years of age and robust and I thought dad was an old man as long as I can remember. When you analyze their ages and compare them to people of today, they would have been in their prime. That is something that is hard to explain.

Every Christmas after we all came to St.Paul, Walter bought every woman in the family a bolt of cloth to make dresses for themselves, and he went to great ~~xxxxxxx~~ ceremony to deliver this cloth to each one of his sisters, brothers wives and mother, of course, it was all paid for by Butler Brothers but Walter thought of it, so whenever I get critical of Walter I cannot help but remember the many pleasant things he used to think of. It was the whole attitude of all of us and it never changed until money got quite plentiful, split it up, gave it to anyone who wanted it, was O.K. take it. John was the tightest of all but in the end he was liberal, had a different method, of course, John thought $600.00 per year was enoughto live on, $600 went a long way then, doesn't go very far now.

The relationship amongst the brothers and the whole family at that time and much later, was as cordial and as co-operative as it is possible for a family or a group of men to have in business. The peculiar part of the organization was that no regular meetings of the directors or stockholders of the company were held as such, nothing formal. It was the habit for years for all of us to have dinner, a Christmas dinner, after mother and father broke up housekeeping lived with Walter in 1895, to have dinner at Walter's or Bill's house, the whole family and all of the children and that was a feast. Plenty of food and turkey and a suckling pig at each end of the table, and father when he lived at the head of the table with a sharp knife, and that meal was prepared by the wife of the household with the help of the visitors, mother and the twp sisters, and whatever servants were around the house wherever the meal was given, except in the case of Walter, and there it was carried on by sister Kate and mother when they lived with Walter. After the completion of the meal we enjoyed the evening, and during the conversation, during the time between hot turkey and hot pig to calf turkey and cold pig around about nine o'clock, the discussion was all about the work that was being carried on and the procuring of new work, completely informal with all the brothers, about various experiences, work that was coming up that we might bid on tp get the contracts, and perhaps in many cases the selection of one of the brothers, outside of Walter, to carry on whatever work there was in the offing. It was the general opinion that work was not well carried on, unless one of the brothers was in charge. We never had a superintendent, that is, with that title. There were no formal meetings, just a discussion

no formal minutes, of the past year's business, and the appointing of the heads for the following year jobs, and from that time on Walter was in charge of the business office without question, no one questioned his authority or his judgment. We had little qualms about it, but never of a disturbing nature, had charge of everything, to take any work at a price that he thought right and on the delegation to a large degree, of one of the brothers that was to do the work. He was the President of the company and also the board of directors.

Walter's anbition had no boundry, he was a very forward looking man, no task seemed impossible to him, and I might state an example of what his forsight really was. Thirty years before ready mixed concrete was general practice, Walter talked at length about depositing concrete on highways and in building foundations by that method, that took place as soon as contracts started to materialize, and had the specifications for mixing concrete permitted, he would have had that in effect in 1920, but at that time would not let you mix concrete any other way than by hand. The G.N. Ry.Co., was building breakwater outside of Duluth Harbor and the GN Engineers would not permit concrete to be mixed by machine, specifications told you how many times you turned it over with a #2 shovel and how much water to add. That followed Walter all his life. Other pecularity about Walter was he never picked up a set of plans to look over them and make an estimate of the cost of erecting the work that he did not try to improve on the architect's plans and that always created a sore spot with the architect, but he usually would

back away, and do not think he ever lost any jobs for that reason, however, that did not make them. It was different with Bill he would adjust himself to the man in charge as to his desires, because it was easier that way. Walter had a great desire for great wealth, not by saving or by denying himself anything, as he often put it "by making so much money that all of us could not spend it" that was his desire, he was shooting for wealth and position. I have a fair idea of that in 1928 when we bought Walter out, that the purchase price together with his savings or what his share of the profits amounted to in the neighborhood of $5,000,000 I think that is close, and on my recommendation Butler Brothers paid Walter $1,900,000 in cash for his interest in the company. I know that John had more wealth than Walter he was more economical, however, I gave the picture on that before, Walter owed the rest of the brothers a substantial some of money in 1914, and from that time on everybody started to look out for himself, that was brought about by family conditions, all had wives, some grown children, except Bill and Cooley and John Pierce had a family, I had a family and Walter had a family. I think there was perhaps no difference in the brothers so far as their desires to accumulate wealth and no limit to their ambitions.

Brother John was the most economical in his personal habits and in his operations, and he was particularly fitted for the mining industry as it was when he went on the range in 1902, it was as he put it "a very simple operation, all you had to do was to dig dirt from here and put it over there", that was his analysis of things. He never sat down without a pencil and piece of paper in his hand but would make fugures and talk, discuss

with me or anybody available his plans of this simple process of handling earth, and he got the reputation very quickly the first few years on the range of being the most efficient earth handler in the business. He new everyone of his men and their traits of care or carelessness whichever it was, and he never failed to compliment a man on a good job, and would eat the ass out of him or anybody for a poor job, that was his character He would come into the shop every morning and stand next to the fellow that blew the whistle ten minutes to seven and behind him a little after six at night. Usually met the nightshift going off duty and the day-shift, ten hour shifts in those days, thirteen shifts per week, and Sunday was the only day that we did not actually dig. He always lived close to where he was doing any work. John always became friendly with the company or people he was operating for, it was quite easy for him to get good work done, and when he agreed to it if there was a dispute about anything it was always settled up each season before the holidays. Our first contract was getten from an old man Capt. Sellwood in Duluth. John Sellwood was broke and had a lease on the Latonia Mine. Cooley was in Duluth working on the breakwater and came in contact with the fact that Sellwood expected to get the contract for removal of overburden and lead of ore of the Latonia Mine and found out who had figured on it. Cooley got to br friendly with the lady stenographer that worked in Porter Brothers office in Duluth and she tipped him off what Porter Bros., were going to bid on that job, and we got the job. Cooley and Walter went up to look over the work, neither one of them knew very much abou

it. John was down doing some work near Council Bluffs, Iowa, and after Coolet got the tip that procured for us the contract, Walter decided to put John in charge, and he was right about it. Cooley was sent down to finish the work in Iowa that John started and I think it was very fortunate in carrying on that work. Got the contract started in August, stripping was shallow to get at the first ore, and Sellwood was very desirous of getting a cargo of ore down, because at that time theMesaba Range ores had to compete with the Michigan ores. Sellwood was anxious to get a cargo down in the fall of 1907 which John did with great trouble, nothing in our contract that we had to do so. As soon as the ore showed up Sellwood made a sale of 5500 tons of Latonia Mine Ore and John cleaned up enough ore to get it out, which endeared him to Sellwood and this insight was worth recording, because it showed John's character of desiring to please the people he worked for. There was no classification in the contract for the handling of rock, which was general in contracts prepared by mining engineers, Sellwood was a Cornish miner and did not try to cover all of these things, so John billed him $1.25 per yard for the service, and it was being moved by him for 27¢ per yard, and in addition to that when he was loading the ore, he billed him for delay of all ore cars. It was the duty of the G.N. Ry. Co., well of course he was wrong, he sent in these bills to the St.Paul office and Walter went over them and presented them to Sellwood in Duluth and wrote letters about payment of these extra claims. Sellwood had a _____

who was instructed to see the ore was properly cleaned, he could not read or write, and when he would get a letter from Sellwood in Duluth he brought it out to John and John would read it and hand it back to *

Hawthern who would say "read it out loud, have no glasses" so John would read Sellwood's letter and was telling Hawthern to write to John, but Johnwould skip that part of the letter. I went up on the range in the middle of November to deliver a locomotive and John came down to Duluth and I remained with him until Christmas time, and was my first impression of the range. So John ~~xxxx~~had written Walter to quit sending Sellwood bills and let me handle that and Walter agreed, so we went to Sellwood's office and you could see he was madder than hell about something. In his discussion he said "John I don't like these bills" John said "What's the matter with them"? He said "Do not think you have that money coming". John said "Let me have these bills,"took the bills and tore them up and threw them in the waste paper basket. John said "Now some things in those bills you should pay for, some price for moving rock" He said "You are right about that. Tell you what we will do, we will call in Capt. Tom Walters"who was a mining captain and came from where Sellwood did "and if he says we should pay for the rock, I will pay for it and how much". So we stayed over until the next day and went up to Sellwood's office, he had him making the yardage and the price he claimed and most of the bills for the delays waiting for ore cars, not much money, and as Sellwood told him about it Walters said "Damn you John you cannot do that, bill the railroad for it" John said "I did but they will not pay for it". Sellwood said "Now about the rock". Walters said "Damn you John, that was loose taconite at $1.25 per yard too much". John said "All right Capt. what is the rate?" Walters said "78¢ per yard". John said "All right". Well you see from that time on there was nobody that could do work but John Butler, nobody else knew how to move dirt, and one of the things

that Capt. Sellwood always used to tell me was that John was the most resourceful men he knew. Sellwood later sold his mine to Jones & Laughlin. Of course the foundation was laid for continued business for Butler Brothers by Sellwood, and it was John's skillful handling that did it.

Bill had a head in a different way of getting along, his business was different, his business was building and he was a good builder. Bill was a little different than the rest of us, he could take a man like Gilbert or like the President of the Capitol Commission or any other man in charge, and study the character of the man and find out if there was any particular way he wanted his work done and as soon as Bill would get the idea he would put in effect. John of course was rough and the work John did was rough work, but Bill was very careful about his work and done an exceptional job, and figured out different ideas that became the greatest money maker to us, his practice to accomplish the work at a reasonable price that makes a profit on the job.

Father died in 1900. When we were building the capitol he used to come up every day, was proud of his boys and used to strut around and talk to the different men on the job and visit with them about their job, told them the necessity of working hard so his boys could make some money and it helped. Would pick out a fellow and get a lot of work done, stonecutters he would flatter them, and of course he did a lot of good, but we never saw it and should have given him a pat on the back, the same as the fellows he patted on the back. We were too busy to give him much credit or attention.

In general and I think this went for all of them, it was his desire and pride to have the best automobile built, when auto-

were plentiful and took a great pride in that he would own two cars just he and his wife. His first car was a Pope-Hartford, an open car a roadster was a two seated car with a jump seat in the back. That was in 1909 and the only automobile in the Butler family. John never learned to drive an automobile he had a driver and often ~~mx~~ used to take Maggie (his wife) with him, and she used to ride in the ~~x~~ jump seat and that jump seat was a rough one dusty and muddy as hell when it was muddy. She would ride around the mines with John, by that time we had six or seven different stripping jobs going on and John would visit these mines regularly and take this car. When I first started did not have any automobile the mines were located about twelve miles from the office and then used a horse and buggy.

Nothing or much in the way of entertainment, work was their entertainment., I, John and all of us would on occasions, generally at the end of the season get into some bar and drink considerable whisky for a day or two before and after the holidays, and the characteristic of John was he was a big man and could drink a lot of whisky without showing it, and in these drinking parties he was very free buying drinks, kept everybody's glass filled, and generally some or many employees would come in and have a good time, and having a good time himself listening. Whisky did not make him talk, made him laugh and he would laugh his head off at the antics of the boys when they were tight. He would stand there and drink, drink after drink say nothing only a great bright smile and get everything his men were talking about, and of course sometimes he would pick out one fellow that he wanted to get tight and proceed to do it.

I remember one instance when a little fellow, superintendent for Drake & Stratton, was at the St.Louis Hotel bar in Duluth, John

didn't like this fellow he was a cocky little fellow and I guess he didn't like John, I was in the bar drinking a little beer and the first thing I knew John got a gold of this fellow and told him to go to bed but the fellow wouldn't go so John pushed him out. A few minutes later the fellow was back again and John said "Didn't I tell you to go to bed" so John took a hold of him got the key to his room and got on the elevator with him and put him in his room and locked the door and locked him in, and was before they had telephones in the rooms so Thompson had to go to bed. Manager couldn't do anything with John except call the cops and he wouldn't do that because John was spending money. John lived in a $15.00 per month house, first rent he paid was $12.50 including a three stall garage. Heating cost him about $40.00 in the winter to heat the garage and he would arrange it so the heat was not recording very well, anyway the mining companies were paying for everything, then later raised his rent to $15.00 per month and he hollered his head off, and lived there until he went to _____ 1909 to 1926. He was worth around about $5,000,000 continued to live there always was his home. Before that he lived in a shack at the Latonia Mine. He kept a store and boarding house, all of the single men, Italians all of the different races boarded there, had four Italians live in a four yard steamshovel bucket, the general way was to get the G.N. Ry. Co., to leave a box xx car on the place and John appropriated it and put it on a sidetrack in the woods for the Italians to live in in the summer. The G.N. could not find their car and lost two cars in one summer, finally somebody told them they were out at the Cypress Mine in the woods.

Another instance worth recording. We used to get supplies shipped up from the Bucyrus Co., at South Milwaukee, Wis., John ordered a dipper handle and this handle weighed three or four tons, and gave the shipping instructions Minnesota Transfer, N.W. road out of Milwaukee, G.N. from the Minnesota Transfer to the Latonia Mine. Instead of the GN the D.M.&N. Ry. picked up the car, but the D.M.&N. had no connection to the Latonia Mine, so when the dipper handle arrived in Hibbing in the car, the D.M.&N. freight agent called up John and told him the dipper handle was here and to come down and get it. John said "No I won't come and get it, it was routed over the G.N. you get it to the G.N. and send it to the Latonia Mine where it was billed". He said "Can't do that, have to charge you more freight from Hibbing on the G.N. and then to the Latonia Mine would be as much as delivery to Hibbing." Mileage very short. John refused to unload the dipper handle, did not need it it was winter not until spring, so Shiely had to unload the car and put the dipper handle on the platform and told John it was there and to get it. John told him it was supposed to be delivered at the Latonia Mine and it is up to you; Shiely told him to go to hell and John told him he would not pay the freight on it, so Shiely left the dipper handle on the platform. During that winter the freight station caught fire and burned up. When the fire department arrived Shiely said "The hell with the station , don't let that dipper handle burn". The freight station was located about three miles from the mine. Along about March John wanted the dipper handle so he sent some men, horses and a sleigh to get it, but as the freight had not been paid they did not get the dipper handle so John went down to

freight station to talk to Shiely and said "Lets go up to the saloon and get a few drinks", so Shiely and John went up to have a drink and when Shiely had a drink or two stated that he had to get back but John bought another drink and kept him there over two hours and when he went down to the freight station the dipper handle was gone and never got paid for the freight. Shiely told that story to everybody that would listen told it about a thousand times and he had it exactly right and was a comical sort of a devil. It was quite a job to get it on the sleigh and drive off with the dipper handle while John was telling him stories and buying drinks, Shiely thought it funny because John never bought him any drinks before. Shiely was also telegraph operator and after the new station was built, living quarters were over the station, and there was a promotor a fellow by name of Wilcox came to Hibbing had the habit of sending wires after the office closed, so this happened three or four days in succession, pound on the door and get Shiely up to take a telwgram, so one night he came down Shiely decided on him sending these telegrams during working hours so he got a pail of water ready at the window. So one nice summer night nice bright moon when Wilcox came down Shiely saw him coming took this pail of water and threw it on him pail and all. Wilcox complained and wrote letters to the superintendent about thisx performance and Credder took it up with Shiely who wrote back this letter. "Dear Mr. Credder: We have no refrigeration in our house and the water gets warm and to cool it off in the afternoon I set a pail of water out on the window sill to keep cool and when Wilcox came along just in the act of reaching out and getting a drink and happened to upset the pail". Shiely showed me the file

of letters that Credder wrote to Wilcox and Wilcox wrote to Credder, there was quite a file of correspondence and finally in reply to one of Credder's letters, John Shiely wrote in longhand "Oh! Shit". And this is of record and was the last letter. Wilcox wanted damages for his wetting. John lived at the Latonia Mine from 1902 to spring of 1909 and there he had a boarding camp and a general store, and Maggie ran the general store did all the clerking and looked after the boarding camp so that the men lived very well had good feed, and of course whenever the cook went wrong Maggie would take charge. We had a fellow by name of A. J. Connelly was a young chap who went up there and kept time for John, had been withus in the St.Paul office for several years. Connelly was an adopted son of A. J. Connelly who was Supt. of Motive Power of the South Shore Railway. Connelly was an Asyrian and accused A. J. Connelly of having had something to do with his creation, was a skilled fellow and bright in many ways, proved to be a very crooked man, he would cheat the men on their pay checks they would stand for it in these days was a big strapping coward. Used to get tight and of course it was his job also to keep the records of the store, Maggie for several years made a $1,000 per year running that store and did not make very much money when Connelly was there,; it also was his job to check in the stuff for Maggie and put it on the shelves. After a few drinks Connelly would have a headache, complained he wanted something for a headache and an upset stomach and when he turned around the counter, Maggie said "My God Connelly you are pregnant you have all the symptoms". She was a great woman and a good woman.

John's wife had a niece who had a family, and this niece was married to a man by name of John Geisenhoff, and his wife's name was Marie Quinn, and John in his trusts set aside the earnings on half of his stock of Butler Brothers for the Geisenhoff family which amounted to well over a million dollars. They do not get the principal, protected the Geisenhoff family the same as he protected all his brothers and sisters, except in their case only get the income not the principal, the interestgoes to the children of the brothers and sisters, ~~Sinnhurf~~ Geisenhoff only get the income and when they are through it reverts to the Butler family which I think was a grand thing he was supposed to be a miser or tightwade and think it was nice of him, they were the only people she had expept a sister and he also provided for her what he thought was ample. She is now about 89 years old. First he gave her some U.S. Pfd. Stock and built her a home and his wife had an interest in the farm at Belle Plaine and she got the interest in the farm which gave her some money and at that time provided her with about $400 per month. John's wife died five months after he did, I was co-trustee with the First Trust Co., and I was rather careless did not find out that the income became less on account of the interest rates on the investments went from 6% to 2½%. This old lady is now blind and nearly deaf, did not wake up to the fact she was not getting enough to live on the way she was, so I am supplementimg it enough so she will be comfortable. This niece had a young son after the boy's parents died John took that boy to raise and called him Patrick Coyle Butler, never adopted him is married now and has a child, but the Geisenhoff family including him were pretty well provided for, and later lived with the old maid sister. I guess the boy is getting along all right

did not want to be called Patrick Coyle Butler, the old lady told me the other day he changed his mind about thatm getting his name changed to some Yankee name. John's house was a small six room house, three bedrooms upstairs and three rooms downstairs. He talked about building a house but never got around to it. Everything was in that house that gave him comfort, and the furniture that he furnished it with was second-hand furniture and purchased from a man by name of C. B. Warren who moved to Minneapolis from Hibbing. Had a home built for him by the Bennetts and could not use the furniture and John bought what furniture was needed to furnish comfortably his house at Buhl, Minn Buhl then was our headquarters, and the Inter-State Iron Co., a subsidiary to Jones & Laughlin and they owned the house. They built houses for their employees and then decided to start to strip the mine with a new arrangement and proved a failure after spending about $500,000. John's wife never kept a maid that lived there, had a daughter of an employee come in and help her; also continued her own cooking they had the store from 1902 to spring of 1909, was no necessity for camps or stores, boarding houses were provided in the villages. After John became wealthy, in the first years of his life or say the last five or six hears of his life, he wanted to live on the Range and did have plans started for a house in Hibbing. He was 66 years of age when he died. He was an economist and very moderate all his life except for automobiles he loved them.

I built a house in Hibbing costing $16,000 when I moved from Virginia, the peculiar thing about John was he never said anything to me about it, but it bothered him that I spent so much money on a house, but it came to me that he had done a good deal of talking about it, of course my situation was different I had a familybof children

and only lived in the house a coupleeof years when Hazen went to school and then Pat went to school and was busy at Nashwauk when World War #1 cam along and the burden of the operations fell on me and it was necessary for me to be on the ground night and day, so I could be called in imergencies and was called many times at night and Cooley came from New York and took charge of the mining operations down in Michigah part of the year after I had started it, and when he get through there John put Cooley in charge of the mining operations and me under him.

Mother and father lived with Walter on Summit Avenue and father died in 1900, and in 1901 when Walter remarried again that put Mother and Sister Kate out, there was prepared a house for mother and sister Kate on Hague and Dunlap and that house was owned and built by Butler Brothers. Sister Kate kept house for mother until she died and then sister Kate continued to live there and Butler Brothers furnished her with an automobile and a driver and lived there until she was 80 years of age, before she went to Duluth to live with her son. Sister Kate is now 94 years of age and well.

In 1904 Butler Brothers obtained a contract for the building of buildings for the electrification of the New York Central Railroad in New York. Cooley had been engaged that year in completing the capitol building at Bismark, No. Dak., and Bill and Walter were down in New York getting some contracts. Cooley completed the building at Bismarck along the end of the year, the buildimg was destrpyed by fire and cost about a quqrter of a million dollars. I recall very well when Cooley went to New York doing some building work and that was quite a feat to go to New York and do some building, and Cooley was taken down there and took charge of the construction of the Yonkers Powerhouse which was built in the river. In addition to that building was the main electric station for the New York District for the New

Yprk

York Central where they changed from steam to electric locomotives and there were seven other buildings under construction by Butler Brothers including the excavation for the Grand Central Railway Station alongside of the American Express Co., on Forty-Second Street. Bill was generally in charge looking after all the jobs and had a superintendent besides, Cooley's job was to carry on the Yonkers Power-house and when he completed that he was with Bill and Walter a good deal of the time. During that time they also were building an office building in Boston. In 1906 or 1907 they got a contract to put a tunnel under the Detroit River between Detroit and Windsor and associated with them was a man by the name of Hoff and formed a company called Hoff & Butler. The tunnel cost about $7,000,000. I believe the total amount of work done in New York City in the first few years was probably around $4,000,000 which included seven sub-stations and the main station and the excavation of the present Grand Central Station, the permanent station was being built in New York at the same time 1906-7 when we completed our contracts. A man by the name of Engstrom who came from Sweden and was an engineer, married a girl in Northfield, Minn., and Pierce in his senior year at Carlton College boarded with the Dickson family and the Dickson's had one daughter and one son, and Engstrom married the girl. Fred Dickson graduated the year before Pierce but they became well acquainted and studied law in Northfield, then moved here and married a made some money. Pierce and Fred Dickson continued to be good friends and through Fred, Pierce became acquainted with Engstrom. Dickson had a memorial set up for Pierce when he died. Walter became acquainted with Engstrom through a firm of architects Reed & Stamm, designed the St.Paul Hotel and the Auditorium. Reed went back to New York and Stamm came back here. Reed & Stamm knew

Butler Brothers as builders. Reed then went back to New York he had a good record of what we did on the capitol so that made them consider us. We get the plans for the work and estimate, and we were low bidder. This man Hoff who afterwards became associated with Butler Brothers as a partner at Detroit, was assistant to the engineer of the New York Central, and when this tunnel work came up Hoff helped make the estimate on the tunnel and prepared the scheme for driving the tunnel, however, his scheme failed of the operation and when this failed Hoff became ill with nervous prostration and Butler Brothers purchased his interest in the company I think for $40,000. Butler Brothers made tje excavation and part of it which is the entrance on the street, last time I was there I examined the foundation to the building that is now used both as a concourse for people on the street level to enter the station. You enter the station to go downstairs and enter through this building that we excavated and I recognized it myself it was built next to the American Express Co. building which is a six story building and was a difficult job of excavation. The rock in New York City is what is called Niece Rock and it is on an angle of about sixty degrees and it is in layers and we had to go down sixty feet below the foundation of the American Express Building was a very difficult job as well as a dangerous one. Bill conceived the idea of drilling a hole or a series of holes four inches in diameter from the outside of this shale rock but hard as well very hard rock layers from six to eight inches in thickness and drill them in about 30'. Had a fellow by name ofO'Rourk who had charge of the blasting. We had big rope mats and when they set off these blasts in the center of New York City like a floor mat to keep the loose stone from flying. Before each blast was set off would send a watchman to warn the people

who were looking in through cracks and Bill said to O'Rourk. My God O'Rourk you are going to kill a lot of people here, is there some way you can fix it"? O'Rourk said "It is cheaper to pay for the bastards". Before they started compensation laws in this country. O'Rourk said "Cheaper to pay for them it was their own fault".

We used to carry insurance with a maximum of $10,000 any one person and $30,000 any one accident. Insurance Company lawyers handled personal injury cases. Easy year I was at the Sliver Mine we had two peculiar accidents. We used to blast in the mine and the blasting was done at noon when the men were away except the powderman but there was a train of dirt on a dump about 1000 feet away, and the blasting method was to build a coyote hole put the powder in then a fuse and an electric charge to set off the blast. Sometimes the tamping was not right and blew a loose rock out and went 1000 feet, a man was on the dump with his foot on a rail just after dumping some cars and cut his foot off. Abbott-Davis were the insurance company atterneys. This man got Judge Montague in Virginia to bring suit against Butler Brothers. This man ran an Italian boarding house as well as foreman of the dump, and he had a boarder a little Italian who was messing around with his wife and he ordered him out of the house and the boarder came back and shot the fellow that had his leg cut off and killed him. Of course with this happening there was no lawsuit and Abbott was notified of the death of this plaintiff and sent me a box of cigars, so I called him on the telephone and wanted to know why he sent me the cigars, told him I didn't kill this Wop and sent the cigars back, didn't like the brand. So after this all

happened and Montague did not have a client and this woman wanted to go back to Italy and Montague brought her out to my shack on the Sliver Mine and said "Emmett this woman has no claim bow and wondered if you would contribute a little bit to send her back to Italy"? I said "Sure Judge, I'll chip in" reached into my pocket and pulled out a fifty cents piece and laid it on the top of the desk. He threw back the lapel of his coat and told me more about my ancestors than I had ever heard.

Then we had another accident, it happened the same day that the compensation law went into effect. Had a shovel runner Chub Stevens I liked very well. Moving a shovel back, got it off the main line track and the shovel runner had to wait until the locomotive could get by. so went back and sat in the doghouse, the locomotive came along to get water and attempted to stop on a grade but couldn't stop because the ~~xmi~~ rails were wet and in the middle of the night slid down and hit the end of the doghouse ~~xxxxxxxx~~ was standing in such shape had his foot injured and had a hell of a time to get him out next to the firebox. Was glad the insurance was in effect as he was a friend of mine as well as an employee.

Starting back in 1889 the construction of the Noyes Bros. & Cutler Building, we were the first to use the so-called brick hoist operated by reversable steam manufactured by the American Hoist & Derrick Co., prior to that time the scheme had been used but operated by horse power, that was also used on the Hackett, Gates Hurty Building.

The work that was done for the St.Paul City Railway Co., was a powerhouse on East Seventh Street, and a sub-powerhouse on Selby and St.Albans Streets, and the work that was done for the Street Railway Co., in Minneapolis totaled approximately about $300,000. In the construction of the smokestack on the powerhouse on East Seventh Street, the method of building this smokestack was unusual because no outside scaffolding was used. The brick masonary work was done from the inside of the smokestack and moved by staging set up on a pipe a 3" pipe and as the work reached scaffold height they arranged to life the scaffold along the pipe, the scaffold had no contact with the walls, simply fitted inside of the flue and was lifted in the center with block and tackle so the scaffold could be hoisted to keep comfortable height for the bricklayers to work., Materials such as brick and mortar were hoisted on that pipe, arm stuck out and buckets with handles on with a steam engine that hoisted the materials up as the stack progressed, and was the first time that method was used to anybodys knowledge around here. Stack was 150' high, and the ladder that the men use to go up there was iron rpunds built in the brick stack so you could climb up outside of the stack get up to the scaffold on top. Base of that stack was 24' and the inside flue 8' in diameter and tapered to the top, so the top of the flue was 6' in diameter. On a job of that

kind on a scaffold that high the wind condition is very serious and the efficiency of having men work on the inside and always there was a wall there for their protection. It was just a case of planning this so it worked and Brother Cooley got the idea about this method from a fellow named Billy Parsons who was the master bricklayer and Cooley was still on his apprenticeship and did most of the work above the base. After this stack was 40' in the air was only for two men and a laborer except for the fellows that sent up the materials and that method of building stacks was followed after we ~~xxxxxx~~ went to Superior.

About that same time between 1888 and1889 there were a number of small buildings built and among them German Lutheran Church at Seventh and Arcade Streets costing about $60,000, Bill was foreman, and Bill, Cooley and myself all laid brick, and in the same year 1889 we built four apartment houses on East Summit Avenue at a cost of around about $60,000, and in that period eight school buildings were built in St.Paul costing about $250,000. The contract for the Insane Hospital at Fergus Falls was procured in 1890 and was a job amounting to $90,000 where Cooley, Bill and myself worked until September. John was engaged in excavation work for small buildings and construction of them. In September the contract was gotten to build the Freeman Mill in Superior, Wis., costing $150,000, and following that a grain elevator costing $40,000 was built for them both in the same location. Following year in 1891 we got a contract to build Russel-Miller Milling Co., at Superior right next to Freeman which contract ran about $150,000, with an elevator contract which came later amounting to about $50,000.

After theFreeman Mill and the Russel-Miller Mills were enclosed with the exception of the setting of the machinery, Bill moved back to St.Paul and continued to build buildings around St.Paul. John, Cooley and myself stayed on in Superior until the fall of 1893 we we also came back to St.Paul. In the winter of 1893 we had a severe panic and very little work could be had. Some remodeling work and very little of that, and whenever a job of that kind was gotten, all of the brothers would work, some in one place and the others at other places except Walter, four other brothers did whatever work was necessary, either labering or laying brick. The going was very tough. In the spring of 1894 which was the first year we chahged from a partnership to a corporation, the contract to build the Board of Trade Building in Duluth was received and the contract price on that building was $125,000. Later on contract for the construction of the Provident Building and an addition to the St.Louis Hotel totalling $60,000 each. The winter of 1894 the contract was received to raise the Wisconsin Central Ore Docks in Ashland, Wis., and John took charge of that work. The first winter 1894 and 1895, the winter 1895 and 1896 was for the raising of thevdocks and adjustment of the operation that had been built the year before ran about $180,000. The summer of 1896 we did about $300,000 for the Wisconsin Central Railway building bridges along the line from Ironwood, Mich., to Northern Wisconsin down through New Richmond, Wis., in all eighteen bridges , requiring three piers for each bridge, and fifteen double tier bridges, that summer work on the Wisconsin Central after the pre decks totaled $300,000. In the fall of 1896 the contract was gotten to build the N.P. General Office in St.Paul, which was a steel concrete building and that

contract was about $250,000. The peculiar part of the construction of that building was that the floor and structure was steel beams with 10 gauge wire between the beams around which was deposited concrete made out of blast furnace slag for aggregate, reason for that blast furnace slag was the claim, the credit of having suggested it to the architect who was Cass Gilbert, that it would lighten the building, by that method of construction. Slag was shippedfrom Pittsburgh replacing the gravel and sand. With slag all this is necessary is to mix with cement and weighs less than half cubic foot using sand and gravel mix. N.P. Building was completed along in April. The cost was considerable higher shipping slag from Pittsburgh, perhaps with the reduced weight of the steel structure and the foundation, in the aggregate the building cost more than with the orthodox concrete slab. Another thing about the N.P.Building that was new was the partitions in the building all were built of 5/8" channels with metal lath on one side which was sewed on one side and was plastered with U.S. Gypsum and enough of plaster was pressed through in the first plastering. It had about three coats, one scratch coat and two other coats. The reason for so many coats it had to be built up on both sides, the side the metal lath was sewed on, so the weight of the plaster would not bend these channels which made the wall when it was finished about 1-3/4" thick of Gypsum, and that was the both walls between offices and construction of that building was not standard, it was new. Some of other experiences we had that many of the openings such as ventilator openings were not shown by the architect's plans and it resulted in a great deal of changes and I finished that after the other boys had gone to Cherokee. A man

by name of Winter was president of the N.P.Ry.Co., and all these changes I had to adjust with him. When Mr. Winter would come in in the morning I had to move out could not do any work while he was there on orders from Chief Engineer McHenry. If I started to make an opening in the morning and Winter came in would have to cover the opening with canvas to keep the dust and wind out and get out of his way and McHenry would say stay out of that son of a b----- way.

Cherokee, Iowa, Insane Hospital, there the four brothers went in the spring of 1897, and the contract price on that job ran about $300,000. That work ran through until 1898, and in the fall of 1898 contract for the capitol was getten, and some more ore dock work work for the N.W.Ry. Co., in Ashland, Wis., being around $280,000. John left immediately for Georgia to get the marble out and Bill took charge of the Capitol Building, and when I finished in Ashland in the spring of 1899 a contract was getten from the Milwaukee Railway to build a bridge in Summit Avenue which cost $90,000. After the completion of that contract for the interior work of the Federal Courts Building on Fifth Street which I took charge of costing about $150,000, and upon completion of that work contract for the building a capitol at Bismarck, N. D., was procured in 1899 which Cooley took charge of, together with a store building in the same town, and I think the first North Dakota Capitol cost $250,000 and the store about $40,000. I went to Brainerd, Minn., where a contract was acquired doe building car shops, locomotive shops, blacksmith shops and drag hills and brother Walter took charge of this building which ran about $300,000. Better part of fourteen acres of floor space in these buildings, and when the buildings were enclosed I worked all

winter putting in machinery foundations, heating plants, etc. On my return from there in 1900 and John returned from Georgia we got a contract from the Wisconsin Central Railway to improve Boom Island, I think it later was called Nicollet Island, put in the upper yard tracks and cost about $250,000, I was engaged at that time building the Essex Building in St.Paul costing about $100,000. In 1901 I had charge of building train sheds at the Union Station in St.Paul and that was quite a difficult job, for the reason the trusses spanned all of the approach tracks to the Union Station, and the widest span which was the West end was 115' one end attached to a steel column and the other end a column had to be erected and this had to be constructed lengthwise of the tracks in between the tracks and it required two derricks and they were built on a truss that also spanned the tracks and high enough to let a train pass underneath which required a 23' clearance in height. This truss had to be built in such a manner and set in place without interrupting traffic and there were trains through on one of these tracks every two minutes and you had to be clear all the time. Another difficulty we had the steel erectors were on strike so I had to do it with laborers and carpenters, that was a sub-contract taken from Morrison, Doherty and Sheppard, and Chas. Morrison was my inspector, and after the first week he never came back. When the job started he watched me the first week finally he said "Emmett, I am going to put a boy down here, you don't need an inspector". All the boy's job was to test that the rivets were driven tight he was up there in the air standing on a two inch plank with a hammer. Then the carpenters went on a strike and we imported a lot of southern carpenter strikebreakers, the strike lasted about three weeks. The Southerners of course

had heard of the strike and came up here and only worked part of the time on the roof and we got the train shed built without an accident. Steel trusses are not practical for this kind of construction as smoke and sulphur from the locomotives coming in under steam, the sulphur just ate out the trusses in a few years. This contract ran about $60,000. That brings us to 1902 and Bill was still around the Capitol, and in that same year we got our first contract on the Mesabi Range and that took care of John.

In 1902 I built the Herzog Iron Works and Foundry. Cooley was sent to Duluth on the Breakwater for the Duluth Harbor and took him two years there, that was a difficult job and I think the contract price was about $300,000 under supervision of Army Engineers. For the entrace of the Duluth Harbor the North pier was 3000' long. The bear draft was 23' and you had to go below that depth with piling and then cut off at the bottom of draft for boats. I think that pier is 40' wide and these pilings had to be driven every 12' and about 12 legs to each pile and cut off 23' below the water and that required a good deal of skill. Cooley rigged up a circular saw on a shaft dropped down in the water and was so arranged in some way it hung from a support. He had to put up separate piling for equipment and had a derrick on that for his pile driving and had to arrane his saw so that the saw cut through the piling and move as fast as the saw, just like a lathe. Now Cooley used a great deal of skill in cutting off these piles, because the inspectors were very critical these piles had to be cut to a proper level and had to be capped with 12" timbers driven and bolted to top of piles and there he had to use divers with air hammers and was operated by us. This was difficult under 23' of water. Government Engineers expected this piling had to be cut off with divers but you could not get divers to cut them off impossible

true under water cut down in a straight edge, and hard to pay as divers were well paid men $1.50 per hour for work under water ordinary men were getting 17½¢ per hour so he had to save and we lost money on that job, but do not think it was Cooley's fault, it might have been because he did not get along better with the Government Engineers so as not to bring up the costs, but do not know whether it could have been done or not, they were fiends for accuracy.

I did some building around St.Paul during that period, and was up on the Range a few weeks in the fall with John. In 1893 John of course was placed on the Range. In the winter of 1893 started to figure on the New York work where Bill, Cooley and Walter went, and I got the contract for building the Booth Wold Storage building in St.Paul and that was about $150,000, and the interesting thing about that was itwas eleven stories below Third Street down on the track level of about 110' and was a sand rock foundation on the West side of that building there had been a building there before and was taken down and the foundation was to be put level with the tracks, all of sandrock, no difficulty about foundation sound base there, and was the first concrete all concrete building in St.Paul. I set up a concrete mixing plant on this foundation to start mixing concrete below the street level. The aggregate was backed in from the street level above and to measure the aggregate it was weighed on a scales each batch on a platform then dumped into the mixing plant below. The contract was gotten late in September and we had it under roof on New Years day, working twenty-four hours a day. Had a Swede carpenter boy, young fellow that planned for me the column beam forms and column forms and when we get ready to take them off slipped them off and was a very successful job of concrete and in those three months I made $12,000 profit, however, the Booth Co.

was sued because I was not the lowest bidder, a _____ claimed the contract was given to him by E. Long the architect but did not want him and preferred us because we were better contractors and they get me on the witness stand to find out what my costs were, I had to evasive and not lie, told them I did not know what the contract price was running. Had two of the leading lawyers on each side, Daniel W. Lawyer, who later became mayor of St.Paul and C. D. O'Brien of the O'Briens.

In 1894 the stonemill at the Capitol was moved out on Rice Street which I supervised and ran as a Cut Stone Plant, and a contract was gotten to build the Grand Forks Postoffice and a postoffice in Iowa City, Iowa. Grand Forks contract was for $250,000 and the Iowa contract about $50,000. In 1905 I built the National Candy Building on Eight Street in St.Paul, the building which Butler Brothers owned, and the addition to the Hackett, Hurty Gates Building on Fourth Street which Butler Brothers owned, carried on the books at $60,000. Hackett, Gates, Hurty had a lease on it for twenty years. In 1906 I started the erection of the Lindeke-Warner Building which cost $330,000, put in the foundation in the fall of 1906 and completed the building the next September. I also built the Pattersen Building which cost $60,000, and the See Freight Houses in Minneapolis at a cost of $150,000. Both the Patterson Building and the Lindeke Building are known as flat slab and the Lindeke Building was the first successful flat slab building in the Twin Cities. They did build a flat slab building in Minneapolis, the Armory, but had a hell of a time with it, the foundation of that building settled and cracked all the slabsthroughout the building, and of course that gave flat slab construction a black eye, not the case flat slab was not

alright, the foundation was not right and had a hell of a time with the building department. This contract was built by John Wunder of Minneapolis.

Bill built the Minnesota Club after he came back from Detroit after completing the Detroit River Tunnel in the fall of 1909 and built the Hill Reference Library which I think ran between $400,000 and $500,000 with the heating plant and mechanical equipment. After completing this contract brother Bill went down to the old homestead on the farm which was still in the family and started out to be a farmer, a gentleman farmer. My sister Belle and her husband were still living on the place and he told them to figure out how much their stock, machinery, etc., was worth and I think the price was about $30,000 which he promptly gave them and moved them up in the house I moved out and went to work as a gentleman farmer. He fixed up the old house in good shape for a manager farmer to live instocked it with blooded stock and built a lot of small houses at different places around the place which was the farm help homes but it was very hard to get a good farm manager and farm help, but Bill's knowledge of farming was limited, he left when he was sixteen years of age. I think this venture cost him about $50,000, all Butler Brothers money, but he got my sister Belle off the farm and no doubt had an idea he could learn to farm. Just wanted to build a fancy farm James Hill gave him a $4,000 bull because he finished a bu ilding for him, The Hill Reference Library. Another interesting about the Hill Reference Library was that old Mr. Hill got very fond of Bill and that started when the mechanical equipment was being installed, and was being installed by Max Toltz of Toltz-King & Day. Toltz had been with Mr. Hill for many many years designing fir his railroad

and was quite a man, very dignified German, wore glasses with a black cord, very erect and a very nice man and a good mechanical engineer but he got behind with his mechanical engineering with the library and one day when Mr. Hill was in his office and waiting to get the heating plant finished, etc., he and Teltz got into a heated argument and Hill told him to go to the cashier for his check he was fired. Mr. Hill had a secretary by name of Martin Brown and had him call up Bill. So Bill went down and Brown said "The old man is waiting for you Bill". Mr. Hill used to approve all bills over $500 for the railroadand was kept busy. Bill entered the door and after about ten minutes Mr. Hill raised his head and said to Bill "Sit down what the hell you standing there for". So Bill sat down and he said "Young man you take charge of the installation of the mechanical equipment" and Bill said "I don't know anything about mechanical equipment" Hill said "It's your job"get it done", so Bill said "I'll take charge of it". Hill kept Bill in the office for about two hours after he accepted and talked about everything in the world. So Bill went out and as Teltz had all the plans so he just went and hired Max Teltz to finish the contract and sent Hill a bill when he got the job completed gave him a $4,000 bull for the farm.

The Detroit River Tunnel cost about $7,500,000. The vehicular tunnel built by Porter Bros which is a similar tunnel cost $11,000,000 and the same plan for building used by Bill was used by them. The land approaches to that tunnel from the Detroit side was 3000' and the surface of the river was 960', the bore was 55' in diameter and the top of the tunnel was 52', below the water. Reason I say that is I can see no reason for that depth, perhaps it was 52' to the railway in the tunnel from the low water mark, 23' draft is all that is required.

The New York Buildings checking this over a little ran between $3,500,000 to $4,000,000 for the New York Central Railway. Figure building for the Endicott's in Boston cost around $1,250,000 Well from that time on 1908, Walter and Bill carried on some work outside the state that I am not familiar with, number of little contracts.

State Capitol contract was $3,500,000 ran in nine different contracts. Total cost of the Capitol Building and site was about $4,500,000 of which we did about $3,500,000.

Sub-contract from Winston Brothers N.W. Ry. Co., near Council Bluffs, Iowa, had 25 miles grading in 1902 and ran around about $150,000.

Nichols, Dean & Gregg Building in St.Paul five story building, brother John was in charge of this building ran about $125,000.

It was in August of 1902 and the Minnesota State Capitol was still under construction and Cooley was building the breakwater in Duluth, Capt. Joe Sellwood had a lease on a mine in the State of Minnesota, the Leetonia Mine, three miles directly west of Hibbing on the west end of the big pit, not quite into it and Porter Brothers were figuring on the contract for the removal of the overburden and ore at the Leetonia Mine and Cooley was able to get from a stenographer in Porter Bros. Office what they were bidding, and of course Butler Brothers got the contract. John was engaged in some other work at the time he got back from Florida. Walter and Cooley went up to look over the Range and got somewhat concerned about the wisdom of us getting into the business of dirt moving. John was doing some work in Council Bluffs, Iowa, for the N.W. Ry. Co., some contract of Winston Bros., and it was decided between Bill and Walter for Cooley to replace John on the railway work, and John took charge of the removal of the overburden of the Leetonia Mine and he moved in on August of 1902. Purchased at first a 65 ton steamshovel on railway wheels costing $7,500 and that purchase by us was the first on the Iron Range. It was a 2½ yard bucket, and for that kind of a steamshovel you used five feet railway sections and moved them forward and took four pitmen to pick up railway sections so steamshovel could be moved ahead. We then purchased five ten ton dinkeys 36" gauge, and about 50 4 yd. dump cars that ran on narrow gauge railway tracks and it took two buckets of dirt to fill a car. Capt. Sellwood was very anxious to get a cargo of ore down in the fall of 1902. John

get enough dirt off so that a load of 5500 tons of iron ore was mined and this is important because ~~xxxxxx~~ anything about mining business in these days, there was no inspection as to whether you wasted ore and it was always unusual to waste it, but Sellwood gave orders to take off 3-4-5' of ore and waste it so that the sample cargo would be of better grade and that was done, probably more ore wasted that year than was shipped and it was unusual. About 30' of overburden to ore bodies generally following the same contour terrain in body. The cleaning up of the ore body was done in those cases with a steamshovel not making a close comparison between mules with a scrapper because that kind of steamshovel could not follow the top of the ore and move in general drift, grade of about 3%.. The top soil of this particular mine was known as glacial drift. That ore was deposits off ice bergs and the natural concentrate ore being the heaviest of the material and the iron body settled on the bottom and that is why that whole territory is known as glacial drift. about an average of 1600 cu.yds. of dirt could be moved per day, two 10 hour shifts. John went up and built boarding camps and a store to serve the men with overalls, shoes, supplies and groceries, etc., I think he had about 120 men. Dump was located about three quarters of a mile from the mine where the overburden was hauled and dumped and in this case it was filling up Carson Lake. Started there in August and shipped 5500 tons of ore which was a large cargo in those days by the fifteenth of November. John probably moved about 100,000 cu.yds. of dirt without continuing on that winter; did not do much stripping in winter.

In order to start loading ore in the spring direct from mine into the ore cars, we then had to purchase a locomotive standard gauge and the locomotive was purchased here in St.Paul on John's request from a State Senator from Stillwater, Senator Sabin. It was a logging locomotive used in and around Stillwater and went broke getting into politics instead of attending to his timber business, and the price of the locomotive Sabin sold was $2,000. Walter sent me to get it, it was in Mike Ryan's boiler-shop in Duluth and Mike Ryan was repairing the locomotive to put it in working order so the locomotive did not get out of the shops very fast so Walter sent me to Duluth to find out why we could not get delivery on that locomotive. So I went up and went to the shop told Mr. Ryan we were anxious to get this locomotive out we purchased it, but he always had something more to do. Spent two or three days around there, so I said "you are finished now Mr. Ryan?" He said "yes". I had to go to Superior, Wis., to see Mr. Filbin, who was superintendent of the G.N.Ry.Co., to get a locomotive engineer, fireman and train conductor to take that locomotive to the Range. They got to Duluth to take the locomotive to the Range but Ryan would not let them take the locomotive, and would not let it out of his shop until his repair bill of $2,000 was paid. I told him that was Mr. Sabin's party, but he said Mr. Sabin ~~[illegible]~~ didn't have $2,000 and you will have to get it before the locomotive leaves., Well I was stumped for awhile got on the telephone and talked to Walter and he said "give him a check" I said "I can't sign any checks I haven't any money in the

bank" he said "just sign a check on the Merchants National Bank in St. Paul, I'll make your signature good, get thatvlecomotive up there". Well when we were ready to move the locomotive I told the crew I would like to ride up with them on the Range but the conductor would not let me do it without permission from Mr. Filbin. Went over to Superior to see Mr. Filbin and he said "what the hell you want to ride on that locomotive for, no way for a gentleman to ride" I said "I want to ride", he said "you go back to Duluth, but a ticket costing you $2.45 get a ticket on the parler car and you will be in shape to go to work when you get there". Which was very good advice. I get up there and in the meantime John wanted to hire twenty-five more men, so I went to an employment office, never done much of that wherever I worked, they charge the man a fee for the job. Well the employment office hired twenty-five men they recruited on the bowery west of Fifth Street from where the Holland Hotel stands where all the laborers hung around the saloons. The employment man told me now you take these bags down to the passenger station get them checked and you keep the checks and you claim them when you get to Hibbing. I rode on the passenger train with these fellows and when we arrived in Hibbing and unloaded that's the last I saw of them with the exception of three of them, I paid the railway fare and had their baggage, but all of the baggage was of cheap paper suitcases, and after I ~~kmy~~ lost my men in Hibbing, they headed for the saloons, only fifty-five saloons in town, and I was supposed to stay with these men and get them out to the Leetonia Mine to go to work, but

after I couldn't find them I rounded up ~~xix~~ three of them, and then looking in the suitcases found nothing in them but paper and brick bats, they just wanted to go some place and no doubt got hired by someone else in Hibbing, had no clothes nothing but what ~~xx~~ they had on. John said "we will charge that money to you" I said "all right, do not know how the hell you will get it". Expected me to examine the suitcases in the first place, to see if there was anything in them. Work got along and everything got in pretty good order. The locomotive arrived in about ten hours from Duluth to the Leetonia Mine, arrived about the first of November and hauled out 5500 tons of ore in two weeks. By the fifteenth of November completed out first mining operation of stripping and loading of ore, etc., G.N.Ry. Co., built track down to approach of the mine and our ore body and built enough yards and set out in the yards fifty ore cars and fifty on hand to be left holding 35 tons each, now the cars hold about 75 tons of ore. Immediately ~~when~~ when John got there timber was plentiful cut some trees made some 2 x 4's covered with boards and tar paper which was his cookhouse. Paid 12½¢ per hour for common labor, men that had some mechanical experience, locomotive engineers received $150.00 per month, worked every day in the month. The men that worked on the day shift started on the day shift and stayed on that job, always picked out the best men for the day shift and kept his machine in order, day shift man was responsible for the repairs of the shovel. In getting this shovel into the Leetonia Mine John had never moved a steamshovel that size, big shovel and had to go over a muskeg swamp to get in. The shovelrunner had very little experience in that kind of work.

decided it was safer to put a flatcar in front of the shovel and set the dipper on the flatcar and push the steamshovel down the track, however, one side of the track settled and the shovel tipped over, the ground was soft and did not hurt the shovel very much. Had to be careful to get it up and back on the track and John had to get some timbers and make a float and distribute the weight so it would not break through the top of the swamp which was decomposed vegetation, had to get long timbers to make a pontoon and get it done very fast delay of about twenty-four hours. Used a block and tackle and long line on the locomotive and raised it up. The track is laid by the shovel so there is room on the track for as many cars as a locomotive is able to usually pull depending on grade of track a string of four ore cars holding about 120 tons. Paid 27¢ per cu.yd. for removal of overburden and 10¢ per ton for removing ore. Ore cars held around about 20 yards and four yards in dump cars. That winter after John had used the dinkies for about two years, he purchased some second hand locomotives standard gauge from the N.W. Ry. Co., from their shops in Chicago three of them, and got some standard gauge 6 yd. dump cars, and they were the largest dump cars used on the Mesabi Range, first to use standard gauge in 1903. 100,000 cu. yds. at 27¢ - $27,000; 5500 tons at 10¢ - $550.00. Out of that he paid 120 men who moved the dirt and the ore was about 11¢ per cu.yd., and he got 27¢ for that operation. Now he had his preparatory work to charge against it which was usually the next spring or fall so I think he moved in that year in the neighborhood of 250,000 cu.yd., at 27¢ per cu.yd. John moved the dirt at a profit, it cost about 13¢ per cu.yd. to move and was everything including the equipment. Moved about 2,000,000 cu.yds, started in 1902 and loaded

the last ore in 1909. In 1904 J. Sellwood offered us a half interest in the Leetonia Mine for $50,000.00, and that $50,000 was to be paid us by giving us credit for the work we did, and I can remember very distinctly the time the proposition was offered it was decided that we were dirt movers and not miners so we did not go in with Sellwood when he wanted to make us partners did not knew enough about it and did not know anything about selling iron ore, and Sellwood was willing to lease to Pickands, Mather & Co., who were ore agents. In the fall of 1905 Jones & Laughlin bought Sellwood out and paid him $250,000 and mined $ 12,000,000 tons of ore out of that property. Another contract was procured from Sellwood to strip the Cyprus Mine next to the Leetonia Mine subdivision of the property, Sellwood continued in the mining business and we did his work on the Cyprus Mine as well as continue our work for Jones & Laughlin, and continued to move dirt and lead ore through 1909. We immediately had to have a blacksmith shop and some lathes machine shop that was run with an upright steam engine costing $120 belt with flywheel and 10 hp boiler was upright, and there is where we started to get a machine shop and mechanical organization at the Leetonia Mine. Butler Brothers owned all the shacks, etc.
In 1905 we had about $100,000 in equipment that was paying Butler Brothers an operating profit and paid part of the operating operations of the Leetonia Mine that was from 1902 to 1909 with a small organization during the season that is the ore loading season of $150,000 that was from 1902 to 1909 and $150,000 to $200,000 off the Cyprus Mine. In about six years in the neighborhood of $150,000 to $200,000 net profit with everything paid for and all equipment

free and sold the dinkies to railroad contractors for what we paid for them. In 1908 we disposed of our 6 yd. cars and went to 12 yd. dump cars with air pumps and air brakes and this equipment was purchased for less than a fifth of what they are today. During these seven years John was on the job day and night. I was there awhile in 1902 then came back to ~~Hibbing~~ St.Paul in the building business until the end of the 1907 season. In 1907 contract was procured for the Sliver Mine owned by M. A. Hanna Co. at Virginia, and I had been doing building work and John wanted me to come to the Range, so I went to the Sliver Mine and also got a contract that same year to strip the Grant Mine at Buhl, Minn. John took charge of the Grant Mine, A. J. Connolly man sent up as a timekeeper for us, took charge of loading ore at the Leetonia and Cyprus Mines. Our dump was on the shores of the lake and swamp, muskeg will hold up until you get just enough weight and then breaks through and your dump breaks back behind the tracks that your railway equipment is on and down go your locomotive and cars into the swamp. John thought about that for a couple of months and then he conceived the idea of putting a pump in the lake and a water line up on the dump, then he would dump some dirt and turn the hose on it under pressure and when you got it saturated enough it would slide the length of the train and wash it away for two weeks at a time without moving his tracks, this method was called hydrauliking and was the first done on the Range in 1904 by John. Following that John C. Greenway had been made superintendent of the Canna Steel Mine which the U.S.Steel Corpn., started operation in 1905, the Canna Steel Mine was owned by the

G. N. Railway Company but leased to the U.S.Steel Corpn., th e G.N.Ry. Co., had to give up ownership because they were not permitted to own the freight they hauled so the railway stockholders took over the Iron Ore Properties certificates, and he built a trestle out in the swamp and dumped the overburden in every direction and Greenway ~~xx~~ claimed he was the originator of the hydraulicing system and John always got a laugh out of Greenway.

John used to go to Chicago to get skilled steamshovel runners from the union organization, we never had a union, but John got friendly with him and whenever John asked for a shovel runner he would send the best he had which was often a drunk, not saying being a drunk makes a good operator, but a man can always get a job because of his skill and the locomotive engineers were mostly men that had worked on logging railroads, not mainline work, all short haul locomotives in those days. The first four locomotives we had were, one forty ton and three thirty-five . In 1908 we purchased nine 52 ton locomotives year I went on the Range and they were big locomotives. After three years of experience at the Leetonia and Cyprus Mines we got good contracts fast enough and began moving dirt for Jones & Laughlin, M. A. Hanna & Co., and Pickands, Mather & Co. Was plenty in the drilling in these days that when you hit taconite which is rock or granite called taconite, very hard, and the ore bodies often overran the taconite and in the drillings got to the taconite and that was the bottom, and it was on the Leetonia Mine that somebody drilled through the taconite and found some more and better ore below the taconite. Paint Rock often

comes along the surface on top of the iron horizon and that has to be taken off over 35 to 40% iron high in aluminum was not a useable ore, moisture would run 25% and cannot afford to pay freight to Pittsburgh on 25% water and naturalmiron down to 25%. Paint Rock was piled up and for a long time ~~xxxxxxxxx~~ paint rock was dumped as dirt, later on the fee owners got the idea paint rock had some value insisted you piled it separate depending on the iron content 40% in ~~xxxxx~~ wet state was the dividing line between paint rock that was waste and paint rock you had to save for men like the Bennetts, Douglas, Pillsbury, etc.

Very little talk done, John would come down every Christmas, he was home here in St.Paul and had dinner with mother, sisters, brothers and wives, etc., all in one house that is when Butler Bros. had their business meetings on Christmas day. If Bill was off some place he would come home and whatever work was carried on everybody's record was examined, how much he would make on this job and that job and in some cases you didn't make money why didn't you make money, all in a friendly manner, never a kick. Walter was the interrogater because he was handling the money and had ideas about operation, not all of them good ideas, and was not as good as John or Bill, but was a better operator than Cooley, I was not an operator was doing what I was told except when I was building a building I was on my own; on the Mesabi Range I took orders from John, sometimes he was wrong but John was a good man to work for he was my boss up on the Range, had found out enough of the hazards of the work. In 1908 was starting the Grant Mine and I was put on the Sliver. I had never been around steamshovel operations, sent me a steamshovel and two locomotives, shovel 551 Bucyrus a 65 ton shovel.

I started there in February and did not see John again until the Fourth of July, even though I was only twelve miles from him. John told me all there is to stripping it is simple, take the dirt from here and put it over there, anybody ought to be able to do that, that kind of a job you were on your own. Would call you up and want to know how many cars you could move and report each day on the yards moved, he was an exacting man until 1913 then his health got bad and from that time on I was in charge until 1915. Done all the running, in 1912 we had nine stripping contracts going from Virginia to Nashwauk which is forty miles and I visited eight of them every day starting in at the Sliver Mine in the morning. Cooley came up from New York, doing some work for the State of New York, came up and went to Michigan, I stayed on the Range, John thought I was working too hard and thought he would get Cooley to help but that did not work out because Cooley could not get along with the fee owners or the men he was working for moving overburden at the time, just had to ask him to leave and I took complete charge from 1920. We got the contract to strip the Grant Mine at Buhl moved 4,500,000 yards; took it in 1907 and started in 1908 stripped it all took all of the overburden and loaded about 3,000,000 tons of ore for the Inter-State Iron Co., started to load in the spring of 1909 and we loaded to 1915 3,500,000 tons that completed it, last ore loaded in 1915 for 15¢ per ton prices started up a little then.

In 1912 we got two contracts from the Great Northern Iron Ore Properties. In 1905 the Mesabi Range picture of the Great Northern Iron Ore Properties. The railway that is the Great Northern at that time had leased to the U.S. Steel Corpn., practically all their holdings and in the leases was a general provision that you could cancel on certain time notice but Hill had written in the leases they could not be cancelled and as the U.S.Steel Corpn., at that time was headed by J. Pierpont Morgan, Judge Gary in going over this lease of Hill's stated nobody could understand it. The Steel Corporation took leases on iron ore mines which belonged to the G.N.Ry.Co., which railroad acquired them largely on the advice of Donald Filtan, an old employee and ~~superintendent~~ superintendent Lake Superior Division of the G.N. Ry. Co., who had vision enough to see the enormous amount of freight. According to law they found out they could not own the ore and haul the ore under the Ford-McCumber Act; Hill also had some steamboats and he had to get rid of them and turned them into passenger boats. His lease provided that the freight would increase from 55¢ per ton as the years went on 10¢ per ton per year until it got to $1.10 per ton. Of course the Steel Corporation had their own railroads and they went to work to break that contract for the freight and because of the leases the royalties were high and they also increased as the years went on to the Great Northern. I was well acquainted with Hill's secretary Martin Brown. This lease was so severe that Gary would not sign it even though Morgan had agreed to sign it, Hill and Brown went to New York to the Morgan Offices and Hill said to Morgan " I purposely came down to get this lease

signed" Pierpont said "all right Jim, you have it signed and have your secretary take it over to Gary and tell him I said to sign it". So Brown took the lease over to Gary and Gary said "I won't sign it". Brown took the lease back to Morgan and told him what Gary said. Morgan said "Oh! yes, he will sign it". Morgan got Gary on the telephone. "Garry, Mr. Hill is in my office wants to get a train home and wants that lease signed and I want you to sign the lease". So Martin Brown took the lease back and Gary signed it. So Martin Brown got a compartment on the train for home and when they got into the compartment Mr. Hill said to Martin Brown "Martin have you any whisky"? He said "yes and Hill said "where is it"? He drank the quart of whisky between there and Chicago all by himself and was feeling pretty well was going to haul millions of tons of ore and get millions of dollars in royalty. Morgan doesn't make his money out of operations, he makes it out of financing and refinancing. The N.P. Ry. Co., financed and refinanced through the House of Morgan, and each time they refinanced, that is issuing new bonds for old bonds, they pay 7% for the refinancing plus interest probably of 6% so after a term of years the financing and refinancing the N.P.'s net is 36¢ left out of each dollar they operate, the other 64¢ goes into the coffers of J. Pierpont Morgan. Pierce was coming out of the Minnesota Club one day in 1913 walking along with Mr. Hill and he said to Pierce "why don't your brothers take some of our minig properties"? Pierce said "I'll talk to Walter about it". Hill had financed N. M. Bennett for a half interest in a lot of his properties, Bennett had come by his property through a timber cruiser J. M. Longyear. Bennett did not have money to carry the properties, so Bennett had a share interest in a lot of lands of the G.N. Iron Ore Properties and Bennett through

his representative O. B. Warren on the Mesabi Range, a good friend of John's recommended that the leases be let to Butler Brothers enjoining with Hill. The first ore was mined and shipped in 1914 and I loaded the first ore,. We made a contract with Jones & Laughlin to take the entire reserve of the Harrison, North Harrison and Quinn Mines to exhaustion, nobody knew much about the ore business and the maximum mine price was $1.75 per ton for bessemer grade and 15¢ less per ton for non-bessemer grade. The dividing line between bessemer and non-bessemer is a phosphorus content, bessemer is a low content and non-bessemer is high content.

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Feb. 1908 had a mine called Sliver. The Sliver Mine was the mistake in the survey of the government engineers, one crew came from the North and one from the South and did not meet, the point in question a mistake of about 600 feet and because of that mistake, it can be recorded that the Sliver Mine was and is now the fartherest iron ore deposit north in Minnesota, about 2½ miles just north of Virginia, Minn. Bedause of the mistake made in the survey the title to that property was leased by the M. A. Hanna Co., and was the fartherest north of the so-called promotion in the State of Minnesota. This narrow strip was called the Sliver about 600 feet and was the center of some dispute and contained some iron ore deposits and some litigation carried on to decide wether it was government or state land, finally decided part was state and part government. Part was in the swamp was state land. A broker in Duluth by name of Baker financed same when iron ore was discovered, a lawyer by name of Wilson in Duluth was to clear the title on that land and of course to clear the title it had to be decided what part was government land and which state land and through this litigation a fellow by name of Grace a lawyer in Superior and two gamblers in Superior by name of Bradford and Smith instructed Grace to try and get the title clear. While this litigation went on for several years Wilson took the stand that it was government land and to cushion his claim that it was government land he built a little house on it and set his father up there to homestead and lived there for seven years; finally the litigating parties Grace and Wilson got together and decided to settle the matter and in that settlement U.S.Senator Foracker became interested

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bwcause the whole thinh got before the United States Senate. In the financial settlement, Foracker h d died and his two sons had a percentage of the fee in the Sliver Mine, howevee, Wilwon and Baker divided their interest equal each getting 25% of the Sliver, the balance was divided into sixteenths to each of the other inberested parties. In the total of the state lands a girl ~~x~~ ~~Auditor Mabel Evans duty it was Bob Dunn secretary~~ by name of Mabel Evans secretary to Bob Dunn then State Auditor and whose duty it was to lease state mineral lands, Mabel Evans ~~xxxx~~ became interested to the extent of 25¢ per ton on 250,000 tons and get the money, now how who became interested I do not know. Bob Dunn was an honest man and was State Auditor and she was his secretary, he also had a deputy state auditor fellow by name of Geo. Flint, and George also got in on a cut.

John was on the range and through John I was brought and started to work on the Sliver Mine, around in February 1908 brought my family up and moved into the Corlith Wilson house who originally came from Faribault, Minn. When the title was clear he moved out and the M. A. Hanna Co., took a lease on the Sliver Mine and part of the royalty was 75¢ per ton; the state royalty in these days was 25¢ per ton. The family came up the first of May lived in that shack which was located about 350 feet above the swamp, and the terraine was practically an old dump put there by mining operations just south of there not knowing that there was a deposit of iron ore in the swamp, was a six room house and built an addition on putting in bath tub and after being there about a year or so was right at the operations about 500 feet from the pit.

Took our first lease in 1913. I went there in 1908, the Sliver Mine operation was my first experience in charge of moving dirt with locomotive and cars and steam shovel. I started with a 70 ton steam shovel that had been used by Cooley on the excavation of a portion of the New York State canal. At the Sliver Mine our two new locomotives were delivered Nos. 12 and 13 both were 52 ton locomotives and with them we had 24 - seven yard four wheel dumpcars and about three miles of 56# railway rails. This property was only 50 feet in width that did not have water on it and had no experience with that sort of equipment, John by that time had had six years experience, but never came near me, he was busy while I had a difficult time, but that first year I made about $80,000. Had a crew of about 90 men, two locomotives and one steam shovel, a lot of men John always said, you had too many men no matter how many men you had on the job according to John.

It was considered by all of the experienced mining men, that is outsiders, that it was an impossible open pit operation, and could not be possibly be done, especially by a farm boy, but I loaded some ore for them the first year. Had to load the ore on a steep grade which was suicide, but I had a couple of good boys running shovel for me that had some experience with this type of work and told me it was suicide to load cars on that grade unless we put a clamp on the back to hold them there; set your hand brake as tight as you could but hand brakes will not hold a string of cars on a 5% grade, it takes air to hold them, buy we got along without an accident, loaded 8000 tons that year, and the next year we put tracks in the swamp. First year removed overburden, and moved about 250,000 yards to uncover some ore and loaded 8000 tons

and made a profit of $80,000. Removed the overburden and loaded ore in the cars, and was all contract work at a good price. I continued to operate the Sliver Mine through to 1915 and loaded out about 3,500,000 tons of ore and removed about three-fourths of a yard to the ton of ore, and the operation was set up on a basis of what you could do. In those days the development, removal of overburden preparatory to shipping iron ore was meager, did not deliver ore tonnages or ship great tonnages. U. S. Steel Corperation did not start their development until about 1905 to move dirt and lots of tonnage, the development did not start until the corperation was formed which was in 1900 to 1902, an outgrowth of the Old Minnesota Iron Co.

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The Vermillion Range in Minnesota was discovered in 1856 the first mine being the Vermillion Mine located near Lake Vermillion, and these operations I think started some time in about the seventy's and operated as undergroung mine. The first mine on the Mesabi Range to start shipping was the Biwabik Mine which is at Biwabik, Minn., one-half mile from the Mary Ellen Mine and that mine was opened in 1891 or 1892by the Iron Range Ry. Co., and now known as the D. M. & N.Ry.

First steel buildings built here in this country were in the East; first steel buildings in the Twin Cities was the West Hotel in Minneapolis, Ryan Hotel, St.Paul, and the New York Life Bldg., in St.Paul and Minneapolis, but steel did not get into general use for building until about 1900 when the development of iron ore started. The development of the Mesabi Range started in around 1905 and waw enormous for about five years. Judge Gary imported about 36,000 men from the Balkan States directly to the

to the Mesabi Range between 1905 and 1907. Italians of all sorts from northern and southern Italy, Sicilians from Sicily, men from all of these countries, had an agent go over there and hire them and pay their transportation, men xxxx were paupers in the old country and all young men very few were over thirty years of age. When one of their number would get married and bring his wife along they would build a shack for them 16x44 to do the cooking. The Italians came alone had no women as a rule, would get them later, and live in boxcars or any sort of a shack, and of course the Finnish people came in here on their own with the Scandinavians and Norweigans and generally went to Northern Minnesota, they were timbermen but some became miners. There were thirty-two different nationalities and many still remain on the Mesabi Range.

My experience on the Mesabi Range was the so-called bankers panic in 1907, an American Italian came up on the range and organized the men into unions and there was a strike for xxxxxxx everybody on the range except Butler Brothers, John did not have a strike as he was with his men all the time and was able to meet xxxx their demands. When I landed in Virginia, I was notified by the elder citizens not to hire any Finnish men on the job, but I had been used to work with the Fins and Scandinavians and liked them for their working ability, I paid no attention to them, the Finns xx were the best looking men of the bunch and used to take a bath. About their work I had to learn somethings, as the Finns are people you cannot order around and say you do it this way or that way and will not work that way, used to say why not try it this way, the Finns do not take orders. The Finns wrre inclined to be Socialistes or Communistic until Finland got it's freedom from Russia

and as soon as that happened they became good citizens, of course they wree not all communists and if you knew how to handle them they wrre good working men. There were some communists among the Finns in 1908, probably they were annarchists instead of communists. But my experience with them was good, some of them are still working for Butler Brothers and their decendants, and formed about 1% of the crew of Butler Brothers that originated at the Sliver Mine and out of 600 we had about 150 Finns.

In the bankers panic the U.S.Steel Corporation laid them all off and paid them off which was in the fall of 1907, and when I went on the range in 1908 these men were all looking for work everything very tight, then these padrones would come around and ask you if you could use a crew of forty or fifty men and in that way these men had to pay the padrone a fee for getting a job. The Austrians and Serbians the man in charge of their boarding house served beer to their men, this beer was bought by the barrel and the padrone there drew it off with a hose into quart bottles which w was sold for 10¢ and was charged the men in addition to their board, and of course the Serbians would drink two quarts of beer for breakfast. John recommended to me all Italians should be used as he had always worked with them, but I never liked them very much, so I broke all the rules on the Mesabi Range and put every sort of fellow to work for us and it worked. Some Italians and Serbians they were bad and still are bad. I had one experience with one of these padrone fellows, he dropped $50.00 into my coat pocket to get his crew a job but I never bothered with these fellows and gave him his money back, picked the kind of fellows I wanted and never had any of these padrones take charge of any work for me. These padrones were foreigners who had been in America America and were the kind that

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ran saloons and dives and you did not want that kind of a man to take charge of your work, all the padrone was interested was himself and he did not want the men to talk English because then he did not have a place to go to work where he could be directed in English, only in his own nationality whatever that was. The padrone system did not last over two or three years, we never used this system. Wages were 13½¢ per hour in 1908 and from 10½ to 15 hours work a day. Charged $3.00 per week for board and bunk. The Italians were the only ones who did not eat well had their own boarding house and divided the expenses, and spaghetti was their main food and would live on $8.00 per month. They all wanted to go back to Italy when they made their stake wanted to go back and buy a little land and raise fruit, we had them leave when they made their stake which was $2,000 and took about three years to get, some would stay but naturally all of them had a yen to go back to Italy and many went back in droves. The Austrians were younger men than the Italians. But the poor devils went back to fight in World War #1 and never came back. The Austrians went back to help the Germans fight. Did not have many Germans, mostly Austrians. The Germans were mostly catholic and generally mixed with the men from Northern Italy who were very good men. Had some Lithuanians, some Poles, some Montenegrians, very few French, very few Russians, they were no good, the same for Greeks, would scratch them off if we found them out. Greeks and Russians never amounted to much, the Greeks would only work a short time and leave always wanted to get into the restaurant business, Butler Brothers hired a lot of Italians whenever possible. The working men from the

Twin Cities never stayed on the range, they were used to working around buildings and were building laborers and mechanics and did not care for that type of work. Took thwm up there and not their families and these men were older and was the type of man we needed but you could not get them to stay, would hurry up complete the work and get out of that country. During the so-called bankers panic in 1907 the Steel Corporation put these men out of the shacks, the men paid $1.00 per month per man rent for 16x44 tarpaper shack. The cost of the shack equipped with a stove and furniture was $600 to take care of 40 men and one lady, and for the king, he sat in the end of the shack, had a stool and table. During the panic if they did not pay the rent they w re told to move, some moved and many stayed without paying rent, however, the panic was over in 1908. Many not finding work on the Mesabi Range went into the woods, but the timber people hired most of the Finns because they were timber men, it was rough in the woods for the Austrians and Serbians they did not know anything about the work and did not know which was to run when a tree fell, very illerate, but do not mean they were dumb, they had lots of brains.

The Sliver Mine because of the swampy condition of it was a very difficult operation, because of the water 2 In 1909 I built a dyke to keep the swamp water from running into the pits and used a pump and on the 9th of August 1909 that dyke broke, it happened about seven in the evening and within a quarter of an hour the pit where the shovel was the water was about sixty feet deep and the shovel runner had to swim off the shovel. Did not having any pumping equipment to take care of a situation like this, and the locomotive men we had never had any experience with kind of work.

Most of the locomotive men claimed to have worked for the B & O Ry. Co., when you would ask them for their clearance and they always had clearance papers from the railway company no matter what the reason was for leaving. If you didn't know anything about railroad work you didn't know that when you held the clearance papers to the light you will see the picture of a swan with it's head cut off that railway men all knew which I didn't know, an empolyee had his head cut off for some misdemeanor and I did not know this for a year or two.

In this flood situation had to hurry up and get the water out of the mine it so happened that the Mountain Iron Co., had a lot of pumps and I told them of my troubles which they already knew about, said O.K. Emmett we have a lot of pumps in the shops of the D. M. & N. Ry. and will load them on flat cars and get them to you in ten hours. Had no boilers so I called up Duluth and located some portable boilers and asked them to ship them up about four of them 150-200 hp., superintendent said have the D.M. & N. Ry., send a locomotive a flat cars and they would get the boilers up promptly. Got the boilers set up and started to pump out the water wgich took about a wekk to ten days and then started operation again. It was hard to pick up good locomotive men and steam shovel men, but John became well acquainted with an employment man in Chicago and whenever we need that type of man he would send us good relia ble men.

Had an experience with a locomotive man by name of Percy Mitchell, made about three of four trips, and on the last trip was taking down three ore cars into the pit. In the pit were

were a string of empty ore cars of one of the tracks and Percy was no locomotive engineer so he took a run at that string of cars with the locomotive and had quite a smashup with locomotive #13. I went to see what had happened and when I walked up to Mitchell who was a big fellow, he said he wanted his time. I said "Do you think you got any time coming" he said "Oh! yes" and all the time I was looking for something to hit him over the head with, so I remembered I had a hammer in the office and I said to Mitchell "O.K. Mitchell let's go to the office". When we got to the office told the timekeeper to make out his time and went into the backroom of the office looking for the hammer, so while the timekeeper was making out his time I came out with the hammer and hit him with it and Mitchell fell about three feet off the steps and landed in the road. Just as I was coming outside two traveling men came up to the office with a livery rig and just had stepped out of the buggy when Mitchell got up and lit out with the horse and buggy. Up in front of the boardinghouse stood a grocery wagon and horse so I picked up a handaxe jumped into the grocery wagon and went after Mitchell down the road a ways I threw the handaxe at Mitchell and the axe struck in the seat right at Mitchell's back, had I hit him I no doubt would have killed him. Called the Chief of Police and told him to arrest Mitchell as he stole a horse and buggy, which he did but he told me he could only hold him for 48 hours, so I never pressed charges and he was let out.

J. C. Greenway of roughrider fame was at that time superintendent of the Canasteel Mine for the U.S. Steel Corporation and was a great horseback rider, and one time he rode for two days and averaged about forty miles a day to see the operations at the Sliver Mine, he having met Brother John who explained to Greenway what we werex doing, and Greenway being interested rode over on horseback to the Sliver Mine, and rode his horse down into the pit. In the pit we had a ladder about 30' in length reached from the bottom of the mine to the crest, Greenway tied his horse to the ladder and moved aroubd the pit with me, and when he got ready to go he thought he would go up on top and climbed on the ladder to take a look around, when he got near the top the horse being tied to the ladder gave it a jerk and set Greenway on his ass in the mud. I had to appear very sorry but I sure wanted to laugh. Many times after that Brother John and I would sit up all night and drink whiskey with Greenway in his bacheler quarters at Coleraine, and of course we settled all mining questions and won the Spanish-American War. An old man that was Assistant Master Mechanic by name of Tarr, and when John Greenway introduced him to me I said to him "Was that always your name Mr. Tarr?" Tarr was a dignified old gentleman and it would take about seven drinks to get him loosened up.

To illustrate the neighborly friendship of the people on the rangx at that time, about three miles from the Sliver Mine was an operation called the Wacouta Mine, and had the same type of steam xxxxxx shovels in those days that I was using. I broke a drum shaft in one of our shovels and this would tie us up, so I knew Clarence Moore, Superintendent, had a steam shovel like ours

and I called him up at midnight and asked him if he had time to take a drum shaft out of one of his shovels. He got up out of bed and drove out to the Sliver Mine with a horse and buggy, he lived in Virginia, to pick me up. Then drove back with three men and stayed there and helped to take the drum shaft of the shovel which is quite a job, and had to be drawn by other horses and this took until daylight. This is to illustrate the kind of people that were on the range. He was superintendent of a mining company and we were at that time just stripping and had nothing to offer Clarence Moore, but we might sometime have a drum shaft that he needed and that has continued ever the years, and is the quality of the people that are on the range.

About the third year I was there loading ore on the D. M. & N. Ry. I brake an ~~axle~~ axle shaft in the steam shovel, there was an ore car loaded with coal standing on the tracks and without saying anything got two jack screws and took the trucks out of the ore car and put them in the steam shovel. The next day the track crew for the D. M. & N. Ry. Co., came in to fix up the yard tracks and reported to Mr. Kriter who was superintendent that I had taken the trucks from the ore car. Mr. Kriter was a precise man, got me on the telephone and said that I should not do that, but I said that I had done it, he then said "emmett, it is O.K., but call me before you do it". I told him to send down another set of trucks and I would put them on the ore car. He sent down a new set of truck and had them put under the shovel, told him to send me a bill, but he said I didn't owe him a cent.

The President of the D. M. & N. Ry. Co., Mr. McMonogal came up or an inspection trip one day, the crew was placing balast under the tracks which were in the yard and down in the mud, and Mr. McMonogal looking down the approach to the mine noticed we were getting ore out on rails covered with mud, so he said to the extra crew men that were gravelling the tracks "You get two or three extra trains of gravel and put in under the tracks of Butler Brothers". I said "Mr. McMonogal I'm greatly obliged to you, but send me a bill for the work". He replied "Oh! yes I'll send you a bill". But we never got a bill from him and the work probably cost about $500.00. That is the feeling that prevailed on the range, if you are short of anything for a job and they had it, you could get it.

My son Patrick started at St.Thomas when he was eight years old, and about the second year he was down there, a fellow that liked music wanted to make a violin player out of Pat. I came home one night and Pat was sawing away on the violin, I said "Son, if you want to saw on that damn thing, get out to the water tower and work on it there and not in the house". Pat never learned to play the violin.

The U. S. Steel Corporation was the main mining company there with operations at Hibbing. They took over the original mine at Mountain Iron four miles out of Virginia that belonged to the Merritt Brothers. John D. Rockerfeller paid $80,000 for the Merritt holdings and a total of 150,000,000 tons of iron ore, and everybody thought that when the U.S.Steel Corporation

bought the holdings from Rockerfeller, that Rockerfeller had made a wonderful deal in selling out to them while the Steel Corporation made over $150,000,000 on 66,000,000 tonw of iron ore. Rockerfeller foreclosed on the Merritt Brothers for $400,000.00. In 1892 just after the Merritt's made their discovery and started to build the railroad tracks, they did not have money enough and Leonodus Merritt made a speech in Superior, Wis., in which he said he had had a two hour conversation with John D. Rockerfeller, who turned him over to his secretary who was a baptist minister by name of John W. Gates formerly from Minneapolis. About a year later when the mortgage was due Rockerfeller foreclosed on the mortgage and took all the property from the Merritt's, and I heard this same Leonodus Merritt make another speech in Superior which was not very complimentary to either Rockerfeller or Gates. John D. Rockerfeller granted the interview personnaly and after talking for two hours then turned Merritt over to John W. Gates who closed the deal and drew up the papers, Gates was his right hand man. The trouble was the Merritts were not businessmen, did not know how to take care of themselves. They were lumbermen from Maine and were looking for timber when they first discovered iron ore, there were seven of them carrying packs on their shoulders looking for timber, and of course it took a long time for them to make people believe it was iron, and when the people in Michigan heard of it, they said the ore was no good, and that had a lot to do with the price received for ore competing with Michigan ores.

After operating at the Sliver Mine for a while part of the ore there was very chunky, big and hard and very high grade ore. There were no rules as to the size of the chunks you loaded on cars, anything that got through a three yard dipper was permissible. You loaded it in cars and when it got down to the docks the railway company had trouble getting it out of the cars and when it got down to the furnace, the furnace people had trouble breaking it up and feeding it into the furnaces and believe it was in 1910 they made rules about the size of the ore that could be shipped. About that time we ran into a bunch of chunks which would cut our production as we had no equipment to crush these chunks, broke them up with drills and hammers, and some times if the structure was notright you would drop them in the cars, so I conceived the idea of having the shovel runner set the cars aside and then put these chunks on the top and put the cars in the yard then set a fusem off with dynamite and break the chunks, but the railroad people complained that the dynamite could not tell the difference between ore cars and chunks of ore, but I got along pretty well with the railway company by telling themof my troubles. A chemist by name of Red Lerch was to sample the ore and analyze it and then advise the Hanna Co., the ore was also sampled and analyzed in the boat when it was being unloaded at lower lake ports. Result of the sampling with the chunks I shipped was it was all high grade ore and was the only sample Lerch took and when the ore was sampled and analyzed at lower lake ports it was much lower than at the mine. Much letter writing and sending of telegrams about the analyses of theore. Mr. Henry the superin-

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tendent scolded Lerch about it and Lerch was a nervous little fellow and he came out to the mine and said "Emmett, you cannot load the ore that way", I said "I can" and he said "I can't get a fair sample". I said "Fred, you're a chemist, and supposed to tell anybody that brings anything to you for analysis what is in it, even if it is shit". Well he did not like that and complained to Mr. Henry who never used bad words in his life, and Mr. Henry came out to see me, he also liked me and said "Emmett, do not use that kind of language to Lerch". I said "Charlie tell me what you want done, I can sample every bucket of this ore shipped". He said "Will you do that for Lerch"? And every bucket that went in to the cars took a little sample and everything went all right. Following year put in screens and crushers and broke it up that way.

Fellow by name of Billy Olsen John sent over from Hibbing used to drive team of horses, and Billy was a young Swede boy, and drove team for me for awhile, we had two pairs and a single horse with which er did all the chores. After a while I took Olsen off as a teamster and put him on as a foreman and Olsen turned over the horse called Dick to an Italian. The Italian was going to give the horse a drink and backed him into the well and could not get the horse to stand up or get him out. Well Olson came to me and told me what happened and it was a question of getting the horse out of the well, and did not think we could do it, so we got a pair of poles and ropes and hoisted the horse out of the well and the horse got up and shook himself and was ready to go back to work. Well Olson was mad and discharged the Italian and was the first man he discharged. Olson did not speak good Eng-

lish and the Italian could not speak English and here was the Swede boy discharging him. I had to go over and sit down on a stump and laugh.

Pat and Hazen were young kids, Pat about 9 and Hazen 12 and John called me up and wanted a team of horses sent over to Buhl about twelve miles, so I was going to send a man to drive the team of horses, but the kids were around and heard me talking to John about the horses and they wanted to drive the horses. So I finally consented and told them to take the team, of course driving twelve miles with a team of draught horses was quite a job for a couple of kids but they delivered the horses. They had to wait for the night train that came through Buhl, they got there about noon with the horses, had quite a time around the camp at Buhl, John did not have time to bother with kids, but he took them and fed them, they had quite an experience for a couple of kids. My daughter and the three boys, Pat, Hazen and Larry came home for vacation, daughter was the oldest, got on the G.N. train in St.Paul and then changed to the D. M. & N. Ry. at four o'clock at Duluth and get off at Wolf Junction and telf them to ride in parlor car and have the porter leave them off, but the porter forgot to put the children off at Wolf Junction but took them to Hibbing. Wife and I were at the station to meet them but nobody gets off so did not know what could have happened to them. Finally I went to the telephone and called the hotel in Hibbing and the kids were there having a fine time drinking pop and arranged for rooms for them to stay all night, but when I got back home I called the Superintendent of the D. M. & N. Ry. and

told him about the incident and he stated he was very sorry. I said"what about the nervous prostration of Mrs. Butler"? I got some letters about the train service, and finally old man McGonogal, President of the D. M. & N. Ry. heard about it, andthe next time he saw me he said, "Emmett, what the hell are you trying to do give my trainmen nervous prostration"?

One experience I had downtown a little fellow by name of Capt. Sam Hear, sam was talking to Bill Eddy and Ted Finch the saloonkeeper owned seven saloons, and this one was a ritzy place, the gentlemen used to sit around the cigar counter and drink their booze out there and I came in and never bought a drink in his place did not like the whiskey he sold, used to come in and buy a cigar and stand around. Well Sam Hear was a bragger and was bragging to Bill Eddy, Bill could not hear very well and Sam was hollering to him, I stuck my head over the swinging door and said "Hear, you're a liar". Hear had a stein of beer in his hand and threw it at me and sent it through the plate glass window and Ted got a club from behind the cigar counter and said "I'll kill you if you ever come in here, you never buy anything but cigars". I ran like hell anddid not go into his place for about a month.

A Frenchman who was a pimp kicked a prostitute to death in Virginia, he was tried by a jury and was acquitted. When I met the jury foreman I said "Why did you leave that fellow go"? Well he said "we counted all the pimps and the prostitutes and found them all even, so did not want to send that fellow to jail". No respect for law and order in these days.

Another saloonkeeper killed a white man who was a gambler and brought him to trial and acquitted in self-defense in Virginia, no more self-defence he just shot the fellow. About 8,000 population and 4,000 more men working in the woods about 50 miles from Virginia. Largest white pine sawmill in the world at Virginia. I suppose they had about 100 prostitutes ijn Virginia. One house that was a ways from Virginia called the Stockade between Gilbert and Virginia, had about forty women prostitutes, never stayed in one place, always used to come around on paydays. The saloons never closed in Virgihia no keys for the doors ran twenty-four hours and open every day in the week and never threw a man out of a saloon. Most of the saloons had several rooms called "snake rooms". Some times when the men came in to the saloons they would get knonked out with drops after having one or two drinks, they would be taken into the back and put in a snake room by the swamper and the swamper would take whatever money he had left, that was a regular practice in a number of the saloons. When they came to most of the saloonkeepers would give him a shot of booze or two and tell them to get back into the woods. Two or three of the saloons that the Jacks found out about would turn their money over and have it put into the safe and get a receipt, many never came back to claim their money, they died, and many forgot where they left it.

Fellow worked for me get drunk every payday, earned $120.00 for a month's work was a steamshovel runner went down to _____saloon took $20.00 and gave _____ the balance of his pay $100, he was a decent saloomkeeper put the

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money in the safe andgavehim a receipt andhe never came back for over a year and when _____saw him on the street he called to him and gave him his money. Manyof the saloonkeepers were dishonest and it was fair prey on the foreign element they would have a drink of whiskey in the saloon slip them a knockout and take their money away, particularly the Finlanders and manyof the Finlanders were dangerous they used knives and slashed you up, did not want to kill you but give you a good going over with a knife. Some of the saloonkeepers kept girls, but most of the prostitutes would come there on paydays. Used to come in on little busses. These girls used to follow the railroad workers when building tracks. In the summertime you would see these girls take the boys on on the grass and on the hillsides and was the practice around Bovey. This was a regular frontier town, had some $2,00 girls some $1.00 girls, girls would take all the money away from the men. If they didn't have much money they didn't get much and if they had a lotofmoney they would take it all, very little attempt made at law and order, if yourmoney was taken it was your fault, nobody complained. A big Irish cop in Virginia shot a fellow through the head for no more reason than you would shoot a dog, said he told the fellow to stop and when he didn't he shot him, no doubt the poor fellow did not understand English. A lot of the stories of the West were written on the streets but no gunplay. One time a fellow drew a gun in a saloon he was told you did not do that and was ran out of town. Inabout 19111 and 1912 they started to clean up the town andhave law and order.

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The Italians and Serbians used to bunk and cook in box cars and divide the expense. In 1913 and 1914 we had another mine besides the Sliver, the Dean Mine lomated about 12 miles from Virginia, had a boxcar full of Italians that rented a car from the G.N.Ry.Co., for an Italian camp and there were twelvemen that cooked and slept in that car. We knew there was trouble but did not care very much about it. One of the men got on a street car in Hibbing which went through Buhl and on to Virginia was one of the Italians living in this boxcar stood on the steps ofthe street car to ride a couple of miles to the Dean Mine another fellow hadbeen following him and when he stepped off the car this fellow shot him three times in the back andkilled him.

Another incident at the Dean Mine was a chippy shack in the woods at the station where the street car stopped. I hadbeen down to the Dean Mine that night about nine o'clock as we had some trouble there and went from the Dean Mine to get on the street car about a quarter of a mile throughthe brush, the street car company had put up a shelter and was standing in there and three men came out of the house of ill fame two of them chasing the other fellow, all of them Serbians. This fellow was running away from them and when he get up to this street car stop station he evidently thought he was safe, but the other two fellows came after with knives and he started to save himself by running around a stump and I was standing in the shelter house and watched this, finally the two fellows got him he was so exhausted he just laid down and died, he bled to death. There was nothing I could do, was not going to expose myself to

three men with knives, if I could have laid my hands on a club or a rock I would taken a hand. The two fellows got ten years each. I never said that I had seen the fight, they claimed it was self-defence and all three were working for me and all three good men.

In 1908 John getworked over by a big steamshovel runner, John lived in Buhl and had an auto and could get around. They had a shovel off the track at the LaRue Mine. A big fellow by name of Larson the shovel was off the track and took quite a while to get it on and John was anxious to get it on and back working, and for some reason he lost his temper and called the shovel runner a bad name. The shovel runner got down and mauled John around in the mud. The next day John had all clean clothes on, so I asked him what he was dressed up for, all he said was he got his clothes muddy. Did not tell me about it but it came out and I heard all about it. He did not discharge the fellow, always said he was a very goodman, better man than he was. John had few experiences, had one fellow that he discharged and paid and the fellow complained about being discharged and pulled a gun on John, John kept talking to him and when he got a chance he grabbed his arm with the gun and threw him down in a puddle of water and held his head under water until he was just about drowned he let him up.

One fourth of July morning I had hired an automobile to take my family out to the lake, and went down early to the mine to see how things were going along, and one of the locomotives was smashed up some, so I scolded him about it and he did not

like my scolding and when I finished he tried to hit me,; he waw no my size so I tipped him over in a puddle of water and put a pitcher over his head and almost drowned him.

I always had sense enough not to pick on a man that was much larger than I was or somebody I couldn't handle but a little fellow gave me a goodgoing over in Dyluth at the Board of Trade Building, bricklayer that Brother Bill had discharged a little Irishman and he was smaller than I was and while making out his time I was a little snooty to him and made some remark about clipping him on the chin, he said nobody is going to clip him gave me a going over and had no chance with him. Met him going into the Palm Beach Hotel about six years ago with his wife and he knew me, was a redhead but now his hair was white. He was a prosperous business man, he got into the oil business in a modest way and made a fortune. Had a room rented at the Beach Hotel and was on the plane with me all the way from Chicago and while we were trying to get the hotel clerk to show us to our room he came up to me and said "Your name Emmett Butler"? I said "always been my name". He said "My name's McGovern, used to be a bricklayer". Nice gentleman and we both had quite a laugh about thehappenings that happened abour 40 or 50 years ago. He and his wife were on their fiftieth wedding anniversary Met them at the hotel a number of times, very nice people. As soon as he told me his name was McGovern and a bricklayer, I couldn't forget him he gave me a blackeye and a bloody nose and kicked me in ~~the~~ the ribs, but there were no hard feelings.

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Cooley never get along with men and I seen learned you should not fight with your help, and if you started fighting with your men, some fellows would want to lick you and would get a job with you just to lick you. Cooley would walk up to an inoffensive fellow that did not know how to handle his hands and hit him. Serbians usually were big strongmen and Cooley was a big strong man and had quite a wallop and ittook a good man to take it. In Nashwauk he hit a couple of fellows asking for their time and if he didn't like a fellow he would just hit him. Cooley had an untontrolable temper and when working hard he was ugly. When Cooley had nothing to do, he was quite an entertaining fellow.

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In 1910-11 and 12 the Sliver Mine was divided into two parts, open pit on top of the hill and open pit in the swamp, and the swamp ore ran along the western dump that had been placed there by the Oliver Mining Co., that made the overburden too deep for open pit mining, so that started the practice and that ore was taken out underground. The State end of the Sliver Mine was not being done by me but by the M. A. Hanna Co., and the mine captain was Capt. Sam Hore. In 1910 the Dean Mine was opened and the Sliver Mine took on a more orderly layout because we got out of the mud. The stripping on the open part of it was about 114 feet deep which in those days was considered about the mx limit of stripping depth, and I got pretty well organized on that stripping job, done very good work in view of the Oliver Mining Co., had the open property. I done more with two steam shovels and four locomotives for the greater part of each month for three months than they did with three ~~xxxxxxxxx~~ steam shovels and eight locomotives.
Used to have a lot of friendly banter with the Superintendt of the Oliver Mining Co., I would tell him how many yards I had the day before based by car count, however, their hauling was longer. ~~xxxxxxxxx~~ For stripping we received 32½¢ per yard so things were going pretty good from a money standpoint. From 1910 we owned our own cars, locomotives and tracks. The Oliver Mining Co., had larger locomotives about 75 ton, ours were 50 to 52 tons and our car equipment was a lot better and improved over the Oliver's.

In 1912 we get the first 12 yd. air dump double truck cars, before that Oliver had 4 yd. and we had 7 yd. so that was when we started to get more modern equipment than the rest of the mining companies simply because we did not have to go to the Board of Directors, if John wanted cars he would buy them and that was how Butler Brothers were successful in moving dirt cheaper than any of the mining companies or contractors because of Brother John's diligence in getting the most modern and best equipment and keeping it in order. If you did not keep your equipment up and if John was around he would ask you why in the hell you think he bought it for, did not buy it to be broken down, keep it up and in workingorder.

We had a powderhouse, in those days we used black powder powder, which is out now. Black powder was more effective for blasting than dynamite, now they have better dynamite, the gases in the black powder and with dynamite, dynamite caps electric wire and battery and set if off. We had this powder-house on top of the bank right near my house, where we used to store the black powder cans to be returned to the Dupont Co., when empty, and this place caught on fire reasons unknown and was the most spectacular Fourth of July celebration. A little black powder left in each can and when the storehouse burned every powder can exploded and was the damndest Fourth of July performance, scared everybody. This happened in the middle of the night, had no water protection and just let it burn, I watch it from my window just a very short distance from my house.

People came from all over and no work done until the fire burned out. We had about 3,000 empty cans for which we used to get 10¢ per can so $300.00 went up in smoke, because all the cans were ruined.

The Virginia & Rainy Lake Ry., tracks had been removed and there were about four thousand men working in the woods for the Virginia & Rainy Lake Lumber Co., logging between International Falls, Cook and that district, and as these men got paid had been in the habit of walking down the Virginia & Rainy Lake Ry. tracks to go to town, and after the tracks were up they would walk down into the pit and after climbing out would hit the path running up to our house and many men came to our door to get their bearings and ask directions to Virginia. One night it was raining like hell and just had finished my dinner a Finnlander chap came to the door, I had a big Swede girl by name of Mary Oklahoma who stood 6'4", brought her up from St. Paul raised at Rush City, and have been taking care of her for the past twenty years, this Finnlander came to the door and asked Mary how to get to Virginia and he misunderstood her and took a path down into another pit, he did not find the road came back up, by that time I had gone to bed and he had gotten in a Finnlander shack and got a few drinks and wanted to go to town and kept bothering her until I got up and grabbed a lantern and said "Come on I'll show you the way to town" so I showed him which way to go and I said "That will cost you $2.00, not going to get up during the night for nothing". He said he didn't have $2.00, so I said "Give me what you have" So he gave me a dollar and a twenty dollar gold gold piece and I thought

he gave me $2.00. Put it in my pocket after he walked down the road to the Finnish boarding house. After I get home put my hand into my pocketand noticed the twenty dollar gold piece, so the next morning I went down to the Finnish boarding house and asked for this fellow, found him and gave him back his twenty dollar gold piece. The fellow never forget me, came back years later and wanted to work for me, thought I was very honest, and did go to work for me. We had a lot of fun about it telling the storekeepers around town, and they said I did not give the twenty dollar gold piece back, so there was a lot of fun about it. Things went alongpretty well and moved more dirt than John was moving with the same amount of equipment, who was workin ing around Buhl. Things went along pretty well but we ~~have~~ had several accidents there, in the winter time a craner got killed against a boom. Craner was up about 20 feet on a platform handling the bucket, a chunk of frost came down off the bank fell and plastered him against the boom, and was my first accident at the Sliver Mine. Things were going along in good shape hadtwo operations going using three steam shovels and five locomotives. One locomotive would handle the ore as fast as they wanted it, had a balanced operation and got some men I could trust, weeded out the bad ones to get an organization going and that continued and got to be a pleasant job for me. In the fall of 1912 John had taken on the Morrow Mine near Eveleth about five miles and the Dean Mine at Buhl about 12 miles from Virginia, the Smith Mine just south of Hibbing, and the Bennett Mine at Keewatin about 12 miles from our headquarters and main shops which were at the Grant Mine, so

John called me to take charge af the Grant, Morrow, Sliver, Dean and Smith Mines, and I made a trip every morning every day to all of these mines, Dean Mine 11 miles from Virginia, Morrow about 6 miles, Sliver Mine about three miles. At the Sliver Mine first about 7 A.M., stay about an hour then the next step Morrow Mine at Eveleth about 5 miles away and from there go to the DeanMine at Buhl, the Dean operation was a large one and John needed help. I made the trip by auto. I purchased the first Cadillac Readster with self-starter and had a man to drive me. Bought a big Pope-Hart auto in 1911.

To go back a little. The G.N.Ry.Co., owned these properties originally. Law passed forbidding the railway ~~xxxxxx~~ company from owning mines, so the organization known as the G.N.Iron Ore Properties came into existence, and in 1905 the U.S.Steel Corporation leased practically all of the G.N. holdings. First cancellation by the Steel Corporation was in 1912 first date they had a right to cancel, could not cancel any leases for six years, and when the Steel Corporation cancelled all the leases then the G.N.Iron Ore Properties in the fall of 1912 got into operationthemselves, so they let a contract to us to strip the Dean Mine and the ~~Morrow~~ Smith Mine. The Morrow Mine was owned by a fellow named Joe Sellwood and we got that contract to strip and lead the ore out in 1913 so that was my job to look afterthe Sliver, Morrow, Dean and Smith Mines, John looked after the Longyear Mine which was on the other side of

Hibbing and the Bennett Mine, get away from the office at the Grant Mine about four in the afternoon and I getvto the Smith Mine and get back to Hibbingalong about nine at night and often times John and I met at the Oliver Hotel and had dinner together and then go on to Virginia, and did the same the next day. John made the price on stripping contracts; he would make the price and the bids made out in the St.Paul Office and after about 1912 any work that we figured on we generally received because we had the reputation of doing as we agreed. If a bid was a little high the people negotiating the contract would tell John and he generally worked this out and the final papers drawn in St.Paul by Walter, but John had full charge of the property up there and was recognized there as the head of Butler Brothers, few people knew Walter.

We went along through the fall of 1912 and into 1913, when John's health get bad in 1913 and did ~~not get out~~ not get out very much, get to the mainoffice in Buhl and looked after the Shop, and I made all the mines then, so I was driving to the LaRue Mine at Nashwauk driving 40 miles each way each day; that went along and we had a very successful year in 1913 and we both worked like hell and was the year John broke his health. He was a large man standing on his feet all day never sat down, if anything happened at the mine stayed out until midnight until it was working, both John and I did the same, but I was nine years younger. John never got back his health after 1913, went to

California about Christmas time and when he came back I could see he had slowed up quite a bit. John was subjected to colds and tried to diagnose his condition and used epsom salts and I always contended thatthat that brought on his pernicious anemia. He took epsom salts aboutthree times a week, he had a theory about it, would not go to a doctor, that if you kept your bowels open you would be O.K. clean you out, and I believe through this nothing of value got into his blood stream. It was in 1913 that John slowed up quite a bit.

[redacted], the G.N. Iron Ore Properties and the Bennett interests and Clem Quinn brought us the Quinn Mine, got the lease from the Missippi Land Co., owned by the Weyerhausers, was a state property paid the overriding royalty and got the lease(Quinn) and became a partner of Butler Brothers and that deal was negotiated in about July of 1917 between John, Walter and Quinn, and of course was just a little property sat in the middle between the Harrison and No. Harrison Group, was owned by the Bennett-Longyear interests and the G.N.Iron Ore Properties. Hill acquired his interest in the North Harrison Mine by advancing money to Bennett and took a half interest in this as well as other properties there. After we got the Quinn Mine we had to get other properties and Mr. Hill was not an ore prospector and that bothered him he was a railroad man and wanted to haul the iron ore and not mine it; hehad some men that wanted to get into themerchantable iron ore business, so Pierce wawz was a good friend of Mr. Hill's had done some special work for Hill, in fact Hill wanted Pierce

to go to work for him but Pierce would not do it as he had a very good law practice, would take any special cases Hill wanted him to, but as far as a railway attorney did not want to bethat kind of anattorney most he ever would get would be $25,000 a year and Hill said "That's all you'd get Pierce". When these properties were up for lease Mr. Hill met Pierce at the Minnesota Club and said "Pierce why don't you get your brothers to take a lease on some of our mining properties". Pierce said "I'll speak to Walter about it" the result was we got a lot of leases.

In the fall of 1913 we get a contract to strip a mine at Bessemer, Mich., near Wakefield, andthat work started in the fall so John told me to take charge of the Wakefield work. One Brought of our older men Chas. Johnson, made a trip down every week which I did into 1914 until February. Go down every week on Monday night and return Friday night and go over the other properties Saturday and Sunday and kept that up five or six months. Took the train to Ironwood, Mich., only good place to stay get there about 1:00 A.M., get the early train about 6:30 A.M., to Wakefield ride the old rattlers, which was quite a difficult job. Cooley finished in New York in Feb. 1914, and John asked him to come and take charge of the Wakefield job and finished that contract of stripping in 1914. Then John asked him to come up to the Mesabi Range John's idea I am sure was that I was working too hard, so Cooley moved onto the Mesabi Range in 1915.

We had another chap by name of A. J. Connelly, been working for several years south of Hibbing on the Longyear we get another contract down at the Plymouth Mine from Coates & Tweed and A. J. Connelly sent there to take charge Cooley was at the headquarters in 1915. I started in the fall of 1914 to build the first concentrator plant at the Harrison Mine, got the foundations in in 1915. Cooley took charge and moved the headquarters from Buhl to the Harrison Mine, and I looked after all the outlying mines including the Dean, Morrow and Sliver. Finished and nothing left but to lead ore, overburden all off became simple to lead ore for the mining companies did not require much time but Cooley was a hard fellow to work for. Then took on the Mace #2 in 1915 and that was an outstanding mine only for the reason we put in a full revolving steam shovel had 85' boom and 60' dipper handle and a 7 yd. bucket and was the largest machine.

In 1914 we had a contract to ship ore from the Harrison Mine and the Quinn Mine and shipped 200,000 tons out of the Quinn Mine to Jones & Laughlin. In 1915 we got a contract to strip the Mace #2 Mine was a small property and the stripping was reasonably shallow. This big steam shovel with long boom would dig to the ore in one cut and load the ore on top of the bank so we never had to put our locomotives in the pit. That big machine was the second machine of that kind to be built. The first place that type of machine was used was a coal stripping

operation in Kansas. John and I went down and looked at the coal stripping operation at Pittsburgh, Kansas, watched it work and ordered three, got one delivered in 1915 to the Mace #2 and helped erect it and stripped all of the Mace #2 Mine about 450,000 yds., between November and April with two locomotives and this big machine in the winter time. Had plenty of trouble with this machine, and we had the whole range every superintendent watching this big machine. John was very proud of that machine, would stand on the bank, stick out his chest and very cocky about this machine, and whenthe other two were delivered. They became outmoded in aboutsix years, had big boiler 35' from the ground to the peak of themachine, and machines turned a full circle 36' wide two setw of rails on each side quite a machine in these days and John of course was very proud, you could life the dirt about 55' was the maximum, but 45' was better and you built the railway on top of the bank and used the machine loaded the dirt with a 7 yd bucket then to a 8 yd bucket. We got a letof publicity about that machine and in 1916 sent it to Michigan.

Butler Brothers were the first with big 20 yd. ore dump cars. Were the first to use standard gauge locomotives for hauling dirt, everybody was using dinky locomotives and continued to use them. As soon as we had to load ore at the Latonia Mine in 1909 changed from 4 yd. cars to 7 yd. cars and were the largest dirt cars we broughtto the range, first 20 cars we bought worked for about four months and after that ~~hhm~~ they were a failure.

Cooley took charge of the operations and headquarters until 1918 and then it was decided that he should be removed and gave me full charge of looking after the work. Built another washing plant in 1917 Patrick Plant, just west of the first washing plant. Carried on with the operations until New Years of 1921, then it was decided we run the operations with a superintendent A. J. Connelly. First sale of iron ore made to Jones & Laughlin for the total reserve in the Harrison, North Harrison and Quinn Mines of merchantable iron ore advance sale made late ~~x~~ in 1913 and early 1914, and that was a contract with no protection on price, increase in labor and supplies had no bearing on the marketpriceof iron ore for the life of these properties nobody had any conception what the life of the properties are and was the lowest price that any ore had been sold for several years for Bessemer ore 52% iron at $1.75 per ton on board cars at the mine. Labor and everything went up prices went up we were getting into a depression in 1914 until Germany declared war then the demand for iron ore started immediately and we ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ started out in 1915 to ship 200,000 tons and wound up shipping 600,000 tons in 1915 and continued until the war ended. First shipments were from the Harrison and Quinn Mines, in 1915 we started withthe No. Harrison. We also took a lease known as the Kevin Mine as a state lease owned by the G.N.Iron Ore Properties, the Ann Mine all in a littl~~e~~ group three miles west of the Harrison. We paid the fee owners

30% mine value of the ore, they could take 30% of the ore each year, but only took ore one year. On the Quinn Mine had to pay the State of Minnesota an overriding royalty on the Quinn. We paid royalties of 70¢ on the Quinn which left us $1.05 to produce mine and ship the ore. Built washing plant at the Harrison Mine paid all the expenses, stripping to get the ore first year operation and had some money left, labor $1.65 per day for 10 hours and labor did not advance until 1916 got $2.65 for 10 hours work. Early days everything was cheaper for living and clothes, but labor did not get paid very well.

I left the range in 1920 to build some roads at Northfield, Minn. In 1921 I was sick and went south for my health. In 1922 got a contract to build road from St.Paul to Northfield about 25 miles took it from Prescott, Wis, then the next year 1923 had 75 miles of road to build in St.Louis County which I took charge of the winter of 1923 and 1924. John took sink had not been active in 1923 and was a big ore shipping season and John and Connelly had been quarreling. I was building road close by there and had a little gathering of our own and having a board meeting and I was looking for a master mechanic and waited around the shops, Connelly and I were not very good friends, and I went after waiting for Gus Weggum, who was President of the Village of Cooley, Butler Brothers were the only taxpayers in the village and Connelly was in the meeting to let a contract for some fire protection

equipment, pumps, etc., for around the place and was letting the contract through a garage man in Hibbing who was at the meeting and when I came in Connelly got up and left the meeting. The fellow that was there to get the contract handed the bid to me to look at which I did. I said "That's fine, where are the other bids"? He said "That's all there is". I suggested to the town board that they better get some other bids not from a garage man but from people that sold that kind of equipment, somadjourned the meeting with the understanding they get some other bids. After I went away Connelly called them together and let the contract to the garage man a fellow by name of Chris Austack, and of course Austack was getting 15% commission of which Connelly was getting 5% and Butler Brothers was the taxpayer. John was sick and staying at the hotel so I came down from Duluth and went to see him and I said to John "If Connelly is going to wreck Butler Brothers I would like to sell my stock". John asked "What's the matter"? So I told him of the deal, however, Connelly had let the contract and I said to the President of the Board who was our master mechanic "You cannot do that to this board" and Connelly got wind of it and resigned, so after Connelly resigned I was called in by John and Walter and asked me tm if I would come back and take charge, but I said "I want full charge of running it" John was sick and Walter did not have much experience and was getting a little ugly, so they agreed and I went ahead and mined iron ore.

John used to get around in the summer time. I had a little Italian fellow named Joe Ruspino who worked as timekeeper and was a fine fellow, in fact he worked himself to death. He worked on the road job and when I went back to the mines took Joe with me and put Joe in as Superintendent. John would not have any men around with a title. One day somebody called and talked to Dick Hocking and mentioned that Ruspino was superintendent. Hocking got mad and called John on the telephone and asked John who was superintendent. John said Mr. Ruspino so Hocking got sore and quit.

In 1923 I had the lease of the Mary Ellen Mine and offered it to Butler Brothers but they did not want it, somI also took on several other mines on the Cuyuna Range Louise and Merritt Mines. While working the Mary Ellen lost some money there, but iron ore reserves and Butler Brothers contracts were getting leaner and leaner all the time, so I put in a process called Jigg Process at the Mary Ellen Mine my personal idea, so never having too much of medium grade ore and no chance to try my theory out in jigg, so we shipped a lot of ore from Butler Brothers properties and put it through the jiggs. As we had no crushers for our winter properties so I put in crushers sand could be washed out and made merchantable and with the jigg at the Mary Ellen was the first process of iron ore, in fact the only one to jigg until a very few yrs years ago in Minnesota. There were some jiggs down in Missouri and there is where I got the idea about it, shipped to Williams, Mo., 10 gondola cars before I set up the plant

and nobody had crushers or crushing plant and finally in 1924 got started as soon as we got them. Done road jobs for Butler Brothers and decided did not want any more road jobs and paid me a salary but did not leave me where I could do the most good. So we went along never had a superintendent until John got helpless. The Master Mechanic was given the right to hire and discharge his mechanical force. I had a little different theory that John had that men looking after the machines had the right to hire or discharge the men running them. John did not want the men to feel they were important. He would have foremen and called them foremen but not superintendent. Foreman was the highest title he had, he was supwrintendent and I was his assistant as far as the operations were concerned we were the owners, and nobody had the title of superintendent. He carried that idea a little too far, but a good deal of merit in it. You made a man superintendent he immediately starts to take all the credit for everything that is done on the property that he is superintendent of and nobody else gets credit that is wrong, because if a foreman or a laborer of any kind brings in a good idea to the superintendent, the superintendent should give that man the credit and if you do not do that the superintende is unfair to the help. Had quite a time with superintendents before. After John died I made Dick Hocking Superintendent of Mines and we brought a fellow Grover Holt into the office to check on the St.Paul Office and keep me in touch with the operations and I called him Vice-President in Charge of Engineering. Well when Dick Hocking heard about

that he got into his auto came to see me and wanted to know what it was all about. I said "Just a minute Dick, he is not interfering with the mines, except following my instructions". Hocking said "If you are going to hire more fellows, think we should have a few more titles around". I said "Well lets start out, what title do you want"? "Lets call you Manager of Mines, and who comes next, Superintendent? You can have a superintendent at the Patrick and another one at the Harrison, well let's have lots of superintendents, let's get all the boys called foremen make them Asst. Superintendents and have an assistant for the assistant. Just who in the hell is going to do any work around here"? I made it so ridiculous that he backed away. Hocking had quit before but when John died I got him back, was a good man but drink got the best of him.

In 1924 I put in an order not to discharge anybody if they had been doing their job, find a job the man could do, they had given many years of their lives and unless they did something wrong and against the rules, they were entitled to be taken care of by this organization. That made more loyalty, nobody felt he was going to be canned because he was getting old, surprising thing was that everybody did more work than they did before, felt they were being treated right. Walter was opposed to it.

Introduced jigg process at the Mary Ellen Mine in 1924 when I had taken charge of the Butler Brothers Mines. The grade of the ore in the mines on which Butler Brothers had a lease was substantially getting lower in iron content and had between the years of 1920 to 1924. The wash ore tonnage that had been considered first grade wash ore was rapidly being depleted. This was particularly true of all Butler Brothers properties.

The Butler Brothers properties had been originally drilled by the Steel Corporation during the period that they had leases from the G.N.Iron Ore Properties on those mines, and after drilling these mines they were marked as "Not economical to mine".

The drilling as done in those days was not reliable, that is, it showed a better grade of ore than was there,and the reason for that was that in the drilling everybody was looking for direct shipping ore, and the tops of these mines were all direct shipping ore only and the balance concentrates, and in the sampling from the drilling that type of ore not been given too much attention, because of the plentifulness of the high grade shipping ore. Sand and iron ore particles are separated by water and had to be separated in all of these properties. During the years 1914 through 1920 we ~~it~~ did not have very much trouble in our simple washing process making a merchantable product with 60 to 65% recovery of merchantable ore. That was usually taken first and the lower grades were passed over, the idea being they would never be used not economical to use them. Well I started in 1918 after my brother Cooley left there, to visualize running out of iron ore that could be treated with the methods we had for treating it.

In fact I got a fellow by name of Emil Mattson, very fine fellow and is still employed on these properties as research man. He had worked for the Calumet & Hinckley Copper Co., and had to do with jiggs tables. Our running of rejects was running very high in iron and in order to extract iron from these rejects, Mattson being a nice young Finlander with ambition, talked to me about jigging that ore. The fall of 1918 he fixed up a jig he had made at the shop and we got pretty fair results with that hand jig, ~~which~~ stuck in my mind knowing we had a lot of that material in the properties and nothing but that kind of material and with that in mind and when I was relieved in 1920 and 1921 I built roads for a couple of years, always had in mind getting a property to try out that jigging on, well the Mary Ellen Mine was brought to me and took an option for lease, shipped some ore to Missouri ten gondola cars of it. That ore was taken out of test pits at the Marry Ellen Mine, the results from the jigging done at Williams, Mo., showed a good grade of ore, high iron and passable silica, so I took the lease in 1923 and offered it to Butler Brothers and they turned it down. Hired a man by name of Knickerbocker who had been superintendent of roads I was building, he was a mining engineer, and he and I met on the range, had been my inspector. Of course we always had conversation about iron mining and 1922 was a panic year in the ore business; 1921 and 1922 bad years and decided to build a plant and did build one and put Knickerbocker and my son Hazen in charge in 1923. Took off some dirt in 1924 and built a plant in 1924. Then Mr. Connohlywho had taken my place to be

superintendent, then I was sent back to take charge of all Butler Brothers property. In 1925 I shipped over to the Mary Ellen Mine from the Butler Brothers holdings about 40 cars of wash ore at different times and put them through the Mary Ellen Jigging Plant and got excellent results. Well we continued to operate Butler Brothers under the old method of washing. Then advanced and I bought a Deerr-Rake Classifier, and I bought that before I left the Range, and took the place of tables which were impractical, tables had been discontinued and we discontinued them in the year 2919 and depended on the Deerr Classifier, was a tool to treat fine ore with fine sand and iron mixed together, the inside of the bowl about 20 feet in diameter that helped out on the recovering of fine crude ore, and I operated the Mary Ellen Mine through 1928 and produced about 500,000 tons what we considered very high grade ore, however, the cost of production and royalty and the low price of ore made it very unprofitable and lost about $200,000.

In 1929 operated Butler Brothers properties, our ore sales tonnage in 1928 which called for us to produce 2,500,000 tons of ore, so in the winter of 1928 and 1929, I took the jiggs from the Mary Ellen Mine and bought 120 more cells, had 21 cells of the same kind of tool, so promptly installed them and when we examined them we knew we were getting close on the tonnage but hurried up and got the jiggs in operation in 1929 it get quite late, getting behind in shipments, only time in our life, but made changes in the installation; always when you make changes you run into trouble, sprockets break, but we kept the jiggs in operation and jigged about 50% in the year of 1929. It's a good thing we had these jiggs because without them Butler

Brothers would not have been able to fill their contracts and that would have been bad, because there was a demand for iron ore, and when you disappoint a customer you lose him, and when you have four or five you probably lose them all, but we made the grade because of my experience at the Mary Ellen Mine.

In 1925 I was the first one to put in crushers that was to crush down abandoned material to crush the lean ore from the sand, and was a big step forward in the treatments of ore. Then we had some fine tailings in the tailing basin, natural concentrates, that xx stuff flowed away and kept accumulating. I kept my recovery up by x crushing this rock, taconite, and then put in some classifiers. There was a Belgian fellow came along that had what you called a Rhealaveur, and what the rhealaveur is, is a series of troughs on a spiral incline dispelling the fine ore in the tops of them and the pit around this spiral was adjustable and you would insert with it water, it would take an enormous amount of waterand would turn around this spiral several hundred feet long, diameter degree of circle Well in running this material down this incline with openings in the bottom of the troughs or screens the heavy particles settled at the bottom, and have a spiget there to draw that off and recovered some more fine ore that came out in the tailings and operated them until 1936. Trough was about ten inches from the top to bottom and on the sides was like a deformed shoulder. Had a man that knew the operation a Belgian named Mike Wallin, and who is still up on the ERange. It recovered a lot of ore and itwas the best thing we had

for fine ore. Ore is considered fine, too fine when 6% passes a 100 mesh screen, then it is fine ore and the furnaces do not like it. The Rhealavear went on until 1937 and pulled it out that year. There was another attempt of improvement made and I think it was in 1923, and that is what is called magnetic process developed at the University of Minnesota by Ed Davis, and he came to me with it and his figures and wanted to know if we would buy the machines, if we set them up and ran them and if they worked, I would pay the State of Minnesota their costs for supplying it, and the man that came up from the experimental station named John Craig, who operated it for two years. I paid the State of Minnesota and took John Craig and put him on our payroll. While that was going on the fourth year, in 1938 a man by name of Victor Rakowsky came up from Missouri with a heavy media. That process supplanted the magnetic process and was cheaper to operate. After the heavy media process went over, we found while the magnetic process took the old tailings of waste from the basins and recovered the iron from it and got 50 to 60% tonnage recovery about 65% natural iron it was an expensive plant to operate, could not get full efficiency out of your labor and dismantled the plant. In that period after we got the heavy media, we discarded some of the equipment we had in the plant , had log washers. A chap in Denver by the name of Dickson had designed a one screw classifier and took the place of the logs and was a better tool for recovering fine ore. Well that done a better job than was done on fine ore. The coarser particles were then being separated by the heavy media, this means that you treated the water so that the heavy particles will sink.

difference in specific gravity 3 to 150 and the iron above three the density falling from 280 to 310 depending the relative weights of the iron, your crushing depending on how fine density the gangue in the iron is, crushed fines of iron in amongst the sand you have to crush. Our crushers get to be standard of about 1" in size down to ¼" went into the heavy media and was settled by specific gravity from that on down to 100 or whatever amounts you had want into the Higgins Classifiers and that fine stuff, fine sand and iron against streams of water you washed away enough sand to make the concentrates a merchantable product of ore passable in silica so that it could be absorbed in the coarser material. Then we found that was as far as we could go with that same kind of machine, so we put in a double classifying jig and in the secondary classifier we took the overflow from #1 classifier and put that in the second classifier, which had been built on the end of it a steel tank into which the tonnage was deposited and the spiral moved around in this steel tank and in that way lifted the lighter stuff to the top and again recovered some fine ore. Media is crushed out of old radiators, that is ferrosilicon, you grind it down to 60 mesh and weighs 400# to the cubic foot and add it to the water to make your water as heavy as you want it about 310 specific gravity, instead of water which is about 60 specific gravity. The adjustment is very tricky, you have to watch that your specific gravity all the time so you know it is right ppt can tell, however, an experienced man can tell by looking at his tailings the stuff that is washed off he can tell how much iron, if too much he goes and changes his gravity immediately. There is another method of flotation - froth flotation. The copper mines recover their fine stuff by froth flotation, and right now the engineers on the Mesabi

Range are all considering flotation very closely, and when Davis delves into it, I have known him for forty years, he generally comes up with something, and has done a good job in the past. The man under him at the University Henry Wade, his first attempt at heavy media was Galena, is a fine lead ore product of the lead mills, and in 1937 I put in a plant using lead media on the Cuyuna Range. That plant was a failure because I could not recover the lead and mixed with the iron, did not work and I lost a lot of money trying it out on the Cuyuna Range at the Merfitt Mine. In 1937 when we could not use lead for media Grover Holt started to work on it and when he got on a job that was tough he liked it. In 1938 we had a Roosevelt depression I went over to the University sitting aroung talking to Grover Holt and anybody who would talk to me, about some way we could recover media, so Holt and I finally went over to see Davis, Ed Davis was not there, but Henry Wade, his assistant was, so Grover and I spoke to Wade, where could we get some very fine Media that will be recoverable. Wade looked at us a few minutes and said "I do not know of anything, but Ferrosilicon is being used". So I said "O.K. we'll get some ferrosilicon". We got some ferrosilicon ground up and set up a little plant, two ton an hour plant over at the University which we did with the galena media but never could measure the loss of the media, and I lost about $20,000 worth of galena at the tailings basin on the Cuyuna Range and never knew we were losing it. Where you lost it was the question was fine lamp black and all of your overflow had a kind of green scum on the water and this is where my lead was going. This was not my patent,

but Wade took out a patent on the ferrosilicon for media and turned it over to me, that gave us an inn with the patentees, you cannot use his stuff and they cannot use yours, so we split the royalty with the patentees.

In 1938 I set up a pilot plant that was able to take 25# of feed an hour and my orders were to run this plant 24 hours a ~~da~~ day the full season of 1938. Well every time I was away they would s shut the plant down, so finally about the middle of June I went up there and got my superintendent and everybody in charge, and stated I am sending Grover Holt up there to run this pilot plant, and wanted them to give him all the mechanical help and all the employees needed for him to run it and did not want it shut down until the season was over and the results were successful. Well then in 1939 I hired a draftsman from the Link-Belt Co., of Chicago to come into the office at St.Paul to detail a plant with a capacity of 300 tons an hour and put it in at the Harrison Mine Plant. Was a cone plant and is still being operated. First cone plant I built was 14' in diameter at the top and tapered down to about 8' at the bottom, and had an adapter to keep this ferrosilicon right, and the heavy concentrates settled at the bottom on the cone and the larger particles flowed over the top to the tailings basin. After it went over a screen we washed the ferrosilicon off of iron particles and to clean that up went over a magnetic separator and cost about $125.00 per ton and was quite a process. Well we had a good deal of trouble with our plant that we put in in 1939, because we tried to improve on it.

At the pilot plant we kept the concentrater up and someone mentioned something about an air lift, so Grover Holt and I conceived the idea of hoisting the stuff up in buckets on a belt, but that you cannot do as it acts as a lubricant the stuff gets between belt and pulley, and the pulley geeks going round and round but not the belt, ferro silicon sticks, then I had to put in an air lift to work our other equipment, then we found another way of disposing into this classifier but found it would not work, so washed it and put it on a belt conveyer. The difference in an operation when you are not there all the time yourself, your company gets bigger it is still harder, jealousy between men and the superintendent doesn't think it is good when the bossman is around that is making the money so they try to keep it out of sight of the business because they would not get credit, and if there is ~~anything~~ anything I'll can a man for is for refusing to accept ideas of men under him and that is a just cause to can anybody that will not accept an ~~idea~~ idea and give the man that presents credit for it. We follow this to the present time. We did away with the cones completely and used a classifier with a tank on the bottom same as I explained about fine ore. A fellow by name of Bergstrom and I designed a plant put a belt in the tailings basin and had results, fed the crude ore from cars on top in the center of the mill concentrates came out one end into the car, after screening and washing off particles and after getting water out put it on a belt got it in stockpile or in cars for ballast for the railway company and that plant is the last word. It may not be the

last word next year but has been the last few years in heavy media operation. Went up on the range every week spend a day or two if necessary and when we got through with it very few changes from our design; some of Butler Brothers men were there going over it offering certain information, but we listened to their recommendations, but the general idea of the plant remained as we designed it. Has produced 487,000 tons of ore in two years; 300,000 tons first year and 187,000 tons second year, and this year about 400,000 tons. Our next problem was the concentrates in the tailing basin, and we shipped something like 1,000,000 tons of iron ore that was recovered from these fine tailings and that ore of course had no dirt in it and there are many millions of tons still available.. We were the only people to get this commercial recovery, besides Cleveland-Cliffs got some tonnage. Grover Holt left me and went to work for them, and at that time he had been with me for fourteen years, so he came to me and we talked it over and I told him he better take the job, did not get along with some of the Butler men who were trying to step him, he was a fine fellow. He took the job and Cleveland-Cliffs wants his new classifier in their concentrator, and also took one of our research men had been on research all the time about 20 years, a good man and has been made chief of Cleveland-Cliffs Research Dept., both Michigan and Mesabi Ranges. Grover Holt started in just as an engineer, now he is Chief Engineer for both ranges and has revolutionized mining in Michigan. One of those kind of fellows.

In 1924 we did not have very much of a shop but with all repairs necessary for cranes, etc., in 1929 we built the best shop on the Mesabi Range at Cooley.

The period after Brother John's death which was Sept. 23, 1926, was a trying period in operations. Walter wanted to liquidate the company because of John's will, Pierce was sole benefactor under that will of Butler Brothers Stock. The stock of Butler Brothers in John's estate was divided equally between the brothers and sisters and that amounted to around $1,000,000, that is one-half of Butler Brothers stock, and $540,000.00 distributed under the John Butler Testimentary Trust, about half of Butler Brothers stock owned by him. That trust was made in July 1920, made his will in 1923, and under the will Pierce got the remaining half of the stock, plus the stock that was left him from Brother Bill's trust of Butler Brothers and Farm Mortgage Bond Co stock to Pierce.

When I was building the new shop, everybody in the mining industry said "Emmett is going to go broke, spending too much money on this shop, spending too much money on research, trying to recover fine ores, no good".

Big improvement made in 1928 when we bought out Walter, he objected to everything, Walter was President, I was Vice-President. For two or three years I had a desk in the office with nothing to do and kept on the payroll and spent some time in the South. Starting in 1924 I made a big improvement and from the sloppiest operation on the Mesabi Range we developed into the most efficient, both in the way we handled our men and improvements in the homes they

lived in; put in baths, furnaces, foundations and tidied up the property in every direction, railway ties strewn all over the place, never picked them up in over three years, getting this stuff together and making it an orderly operation it was quite remarkable. We still have the best shop on the Mesabi Range.

Walter wanted all the wealth he could get and continued that way, my idea was different than that, John had a right to do with his money as he saw fit, and Walter kept insisting and because of that insistance these two young lawyers were loyal to the company, there was a $1,800,000 tax claim against Butler Brothers, profits tax and refused to pay these taxes and had accumulated for several years and continued on and the object of the government was to make it stick . We did a lot of advance developement work, developed more ore each year by removing overburden than was mined and charged the developement costs against each year's mining when it was capital. Walter never paid taxes until he had to and Walter and I had a run in about it, and it was getting bad, the government was going to do something about it and became very anneying in 1928 after John's death, he still refused to pay the taxes which were about five years delinquent, wanted to declare a cash dividend to the stockholders and let the government take the company. Of course you could not get away with that, they would follow the money into the stockholders hands and Walter did not feel there was money enough to pay the taxes on the property did not think we had the values as I did, had all the money he needed and I was twelve years younger and made a difference I think, two different men fully opposite to one another, Walter

very resentful in the later years after doing as he pleased for a great many years feeling that he was not appreciated and he also felt that he was responsible for all of the money that was made and he wanted his family to have it, for his sons Bob and Walter P. and Bob probably spurred him on. Walter was a diabetic the last five years of his life, which I am told affects a man's mental apparatus, but I have laid the foundation for all of the story that Butler Brothers had one pot of money, the money that was in the family was from profits for many years and when the division came, then some of them got selfish while I continued to be a lesser interest in the company, but it was the only thing I knew, the only business I knew and that I was to make money at and did not think I had what money my ambitions demand that I should have and did not have any idea to take it away from anybody else and I thought there would be enough for all of us, and when Walter offered to sell did not know whether I could get $1,500,000 and then he raised it to $1,800,000 plus commission for the fellow that was the go-between of $100,000, I said yes. I was the only one that thought that the company would be able to pay more it was tight squeeze. Had a company of my own the Manganiferous Iron Company had bonds issued on it for $750,000 on a 6% basis, meant a good deal of money to pay them in ten years so got the bonds extended but paid for them in the original period. Then I acquired through the consolidation after Walter was bought out, Manganiferous Iron Co. for Butler Brothers stock which brought me over 13% interest as stockholder and brought me to 15%. Walters stock went into Butler Brothers but which cost me $1,000,000 and I turned it in for the

consolidation for the same amount and took stock of Butler Brothers to pay me and then Cooley and I had the same 35% each and the rest put in the treasury, and when this company was sold Butler Brothers stock was worth $22,000 per share.

In 1902 each of the four brothers gave me 2½% of their stock, Walter, John, Cooley and Bill. Bill died in 1916 and divided hks stock equally among the five brothers, that gave me 37 shares more or a total of 13%, and then I paid $1,000,000 for 22%, then I in turn gave all of my stock divided equally to my five children except my wife, who got about one-half what the children got.

COPY

The University of Minnesota had built a plant for the conversion of hematite to magnetite and operated it some years at the Mines Experimental Station, fellow by name of John Craig in direct charge. The equipment consisting of a stack about 60'· in height resembling somewhat a blast furnace stack, and in the stack there were a number of baffles, operated the ore into a tube and across this tube or flue was an obstruction to sort the ore that fell down on the baffle or the obstruction that you put across to get the material to a vertical baffle in the center and went off to the side to head or center and that meant that this baffle in the liningvef the tube was different from a blast furnace which is lined with brick, but the metal had to be an alloy sulphur resistant because in all of your flues ordinary steel does not stand up with anything with sulphur in it, and was one of the first things we had to learn because at the University they used gas for fuel which is sulphur free, and the first year of operation and part of next year all of this baffle and lining of the furnace were destroyed and it was necessary of keeping advised on the kind of metal to mix with steel puddle. First year we started with oil, and the oil was supposed to be free of sulphur but was not, but we did get some production every year. The second year we were more successful with our plants standing up, we did get some alloys at Cooley, Minnesota, and then we found there was lots of moisture in the ore and had a plant to pre-heat or dry against the stack itself with the moisture attached to the ore did not heat the particles of hematite sufficiently to convert to magnetite. The heat required was about between 1100 and 1200 degrees Fah. So the second year a drying furnace was installed and in that we used what is known as water gas

which is a manufactured gas for drying only; when not drying the ore k but allow heat to about 100 degrees was necessary heating stack and for that reason we get a better magnetyizing effect when the ore is raised to that heat for conversion of hematite to magnetite and when it reaches that standard of heat it is distributed in a tank of water to quench the heat quickly, the magnetic factor is preserved, and you take it from that bath of water to put it over a magnetic machine that picks out all the iron or most of it perfectly magnetized, takes it all out of gangue or waste material not being iron put it over a magnetic wheel and the material sticks to the wheel until reverse current is applied and the gangue just drops off. That is the theory conversion of hematite to magnetite and the reason for that is it bears out some factor whatever is left is magnetite. The University of Minnesota conceived the idea for this process and tried to get some of the steel companies to try it, Mr. Davis wanted to put it in practice right at the mines to check his laboratory getting the various grades of ore as they were encountered and our property was particularly adapted for that because the material that we were treating was jig tailings that represents about 35% of iron in the tailings rejects we could not separate with mechanical jig, so we had thatstart, in the first place the fines were pretty well taken out and with that process we recovered from jig tailings then epnsidered waste in the three years about 60,000 tons of concentrates. When the heavy media process came in it made such lean tailings and the price of ore was so low, it was not economical to go any further on the jig tailings. However, now the heavy media tailings we have, must be ground down we can re-

cover a large tonnage about 40% from these tailings, a great stock of them there 1,500,000 tons at the plant which will be treated by fine grinding as it stands with a flotation process.

In the mining operation or the removal of the overburden in 1943 which was an inovation we were using 15-ton trucks on these properties, and instead of maintaining maximum grade about 8% for the trucks, we built a double roadway for the trucks on a 20% and had a dolly on wheels, two of them, balanced load take two skips, one coming out and one going down, dolly ran under truck and engaged back axle of the truck 700 hp hoist on top so we hoisted the dirt up and with this hoist out down our truck costs about 40% which was my idea and I got the idea just by observation. We were the first one to put in bulldozers to level off before we get trucks and to get proper grades for railway tracks when we were using that equipment.

We were the original conveyer belt people, first people to put them underground. Had them placed in our washing plants from the time they were installed but never had belts underground to haul the ore up instead of hauling in cars from work place out to stockpile ore or to load in cars and that was done in 1930 at the LaRue Mine and that created a great deal of attention and it is now quite general practice now on the Mesabi Range.. About four years and all winter with belt enclosed outside and heated to stockpile ore with a steamshovel, and also on another belt took it up 360 ft. incline of about 27% grade into the washing plant, so we were the first to install belts and following that we put belts in all of the open pit mines

First installation was at the Kevin Mine first of it's kind, belts we used there were 30" wide and handled between 900 and 1000 tons of ore an hour and the top covered 3/16" mechanical rubber, bottom 3/32" was standard specification for that size belt, we were the original belt people ~~xxx~~ on the Mesabi Range. We had no direct shipping ore, high iron, low silica, had nothing but ore that had to ~~x~~ be treated so our operation had to be more efficient to make a merchantable product out of the material we had, only needed screens and ~~xx~~ water to wash out the sand. As you got into leaner material had to be crushed and broken down and we were the first to put in crushers, so we were five to ten years ahead in our concentrates because of the ~~xxxxxx~~ nature of the ore we had, and I'll take the credit for being the only one in our concern that could see the possibilities from an economical standpoint of treating these low grades of ore, costing a lot of money, but also made a lot of money. Handled more material recovery~~down~~ lower, standard 60 to 65% recovery and had ours down to only 30% recovery, but had to handlxe three tons of crude ore to get one ton of shipable material. It meant naturally that I had to handle the bulk material just that much cheaper than the other fellow did; he was getting a ton of concentrates out of 1.4 tons, I was moving 2½ tons of material to get a ~~x~~ a ton of concentrates the other fellow was moving 1.4 tons, so I had to have my operation handle this bulk tonnage and still make a profit and sell at a price below the market price. I was an ore merchant had no interest in steel mills. We shipped 52,000,000 total tons of ore from Butler Brothers properties up to the time we sold out. We did not have much direct shipping ore low in silica and high in

iron, had to put in plants so we could lower silica in the material and in the total of 52,000,000 tons we had about 6,000,000 tons of direct shipping and high grade ore which was a very small percentage.

Well Pickands, Mather & Co., represented a group of steel companies which included Bethlehem, Youngstown, Steel Co. of Canada and Republic, and they are the second largest group shippers of iron ore. Pickands, Mather & Co., are steel company agents and have an interest in most of the properties they operate had about 19% interest, except in the Mahoning Mine, and also sold ore to customers outside, but they were our main customer starting in 1928 and also our agent and looked after sales for this group of steel companies they were agents for and also represented all of the others they were interested in, except the Mahoning. Bethlehem owned 51% of the Mahoning and Pickands,Mather & Co., operated it for them. Mahoning was ~~from~~ the largest mine for many years, was the second mine opened on the Mesabi Range and opened by the Mahoning Iron and Steel Co. Was strictly an independant company except for small interest held by Cambria Steel Co in the Mahoning Mine, then all the steel companies bought into the Mahoning. Bethlehem purchased 51%, M.A. Hanna Co. 20%, Republic 9%, Youngstown had a small interest . Bethlehem Steel was the largest interest of all the other steel companies and if they wanted a large tonnage out of the Mahoning Mine they took it and the other ownership had to take their pro-rata share, Bethlehem was holding it in reserve. Some times

shipped 6,000,000 tons out of that mine which was very big shipment, but the Hull-Rust Mine shipped 18,000,000 tons.

Our competition was Cleveland-Cliffs Co. M. A. Hahna Co., sold ore, in fact they were our agents from the time they started hauling, the agent sells your ore where he can place it having connections with the furnaces. In the case of Butler Brothers we first got one sales contract ourselves and that was to Jones & Luaghlin for whom we had done some stripping for several years as well as mining some iron ore, we sold them the entire tonnage reserve in the Harrison, No. Harrison and Patrick Mines, that time estimates to be about six million tons of concentrates, and they were supposed to take 18% from us of the total shipments when the total shipments were in excess of 250,000 tons. That was a very strict contract and very low price. World War #1 came on, people that M. A Hanna represented through some interest in the steel company, Wierton Steel, and naturally they looked to Hanna for their ore supply, Hanna operated mines and being interested in Wierton and other small steel manufacturing companies not interested in all of them, but it so happened they could sell them ore, and had the reputation of being expert miners with the kind of iron ore they could sell to blast furnaces, and brother Walter employed them not only to sell our ore but to furnish transportation the same time. If you did not have boats you were out of luck, because most of them had boats and shipped their own ore first. At that time the Hill interestsrailway owned three boats 10,000 ton boats, and to get transportation for our ore we employed M. A. Hanna and bought a 4/6 interest in these three

Hill boats, which meant a boat and a fraction and we put that boat into the Hanna fleet and they managed that for us on a fee. that contract was from 1917, 1918 to 1928 and when I took charge of Butler Brothers, Walter became inactive and that contract of Hanna expired, I had the right to cancel and did cancel it for the reason they were giving us the run around and a little mismanagement with the boats, charged us 10¢ per ton for selling ore but they would only sell our ore when they could not supply it themselves from their own mines or from mines they had an interest in, sometimes interest in Cleveland-Cliffs in some particular property but they were out to supply themselves with all the ore they could sell and were just stringing us along as long as they were employed as agents. If Pickands,Mather & Co. sold it we would have to pay them 10¢ per ton, so cancelled that sales contract as soon as possible. In the beginning of 1928 we had shipped ore to Pickands-Mather group of steel companies during world war #1 and after that was over it was simple everybody was shipping ore that could ship, and when it became necessary to buy Walter out what down to Cleveland, had to have an ore contract to provide enough ore sales to pay for the stock, made a contract with Pickands-Mather Co., who were agents for Bethlehem Steel and other companies to ship ore to, however, Bethlehem took 50% of the 4,500,000 tons in all shipped. Made a contract with Wilson Hoyt who was a senior partner in Pickands-Mather to ship him 4,500,000 tons of a certain grade of ore over the years, maximum of 400,000 minimum of 200,000 and that took our reserves, and our engineers reported that we did not have enough ore to fill the contract,

but we started immediately after contract was made in August 1928 we made bargain to buy Walter's stock we shipped them part of the contract in 1928 100,000 tons of ore and I think in 1928 we shipped 400,000 tons. 1929 was biggest year, sold all the ore we produced 2,365,000 and was the biggest year up to that time, however, we shipped during world war #1 3,700,000 tons. The depression of 1932 came along and we were then shipping ore to Pickands-Mather group some to M.A.Hanna, was a long term contract with Wierton on which some tonnage was due; some tonnage to Republic made with the Donner Steel that Republic took from the Patrick Mine, made sale to American Rolling Mills 20 year contract for 150,000 to 300,000 tons every year so we were in very good shape for ore tonnage, but the depression came on and did not want any ore including Jones & Laughlin. In the case of Jones & Laughlin their price was very low below cost of production but they never increased the price, gave us an adjustment of price $1.75 per ton which was what they could insist on to a charge of about $2.40. In the meantime I had taken on the Manganiferous Co., of my own and made a contract with them separately from the old Butler Brothers contract, and in that contract I put a provision that they were to take 300,000 tons of ore the first year with a minimum never less than 150,000 tons. That contract was made in 1925 and I put a protection clause in that contract that if there was a labor increase rate per hour, they were to stand that labor increase that resulted in never taking over minimums, only one year and that year took the maximum in 1929; took some tonnage in 1930 and stopped in 1931 and in 1932 every customer of ours

notified me in 1932 they would take no ore on their contracts, every one, Republic Steel, M. A. Hanna, Pickands-Mather, including Bethlehem, American Rolling Mills, Inland Steel sold them some tonnage, I was broke, was the year Mr. Roosevelt was elected took office in 1933. Jones & Laughlin stated they did not need ore from us, did not have to take any and if they did it would be $1.75 per ton. 1933 came along but made them pay $750,000, piled it on the ground, gave them a lease to take all the stockpile if we went broke. I got very little consideration, was outstanding $2,600,000 Manganiferous and Butler Brothers bonds, and had contracts to deliver a minimum of 1,700,000 tons ran anywhere from $1.75 with Jones & Laughlin and from $2.00 to $2.40 per ton. We kept on just to keep going that year and had about 100 men doing odd jobs and saw to it that they had something to eat in 1932. Called me down to Cleveland in June of 1932, all my customers wersgathered in one room, all told me they would not take any ore about seven of them as I remember it and each one told me they were not going to take any ore except American Rolling Mills, and a fellow by name of Miller who represented them spoke to me privately said not to worry about them, but on the face he had to go along with these fellows all refusing to take any ore, one of them handed me a scratch pad and asked for a financial statement, told them I had none, but did have contracts with them to sell them ore. All I need according to your contract for you to take your minimum I can get along, we will put it any place you want it and pay for it we will be OK financially. That day my nephew

Pierce came into Cleveland was on a political jaunt withb Ray Noonan who eventually moved to Minneapolis and had been on a seven day drunk, got into Cleveland and Pierce had quite a hangover, he got word I was there with all these customers and their lawyers. Pierce came out just enough hangover to be belligerent as hell, went around to each of the fellows and asked who represented them and they all told him, about twenty of them there, two or three from every company and when they all got through who their representative was, he said this looks very much like collusion to me, their faces got red as the rising sun. I told Elton Hoyt to come down to my office before the meeting, when he came to see me I said "You know Elton I never sued anybody in my life, but if you do not come through with enough ore, I'm going to sue you for everything in the book from pregnancy to nervous prostration"and finished telling him all that when Pierce came in getting the drift of it, took off his coat, sleeve torn out of his shirt, pretty rough looking and he certainly laid it on the line, and before we left the room each of them had agreed to take a percentage of the ore so as to give me enough money to meet my bills. An old gentleman named Belding represented Republic Steel had some tonnage, and after we had argued for several hours getting near lunch time. At lunch Elton Hoyt tried to get me drunk but I was not drinking that day somebody in the Butler family had to keep sober that day. He asked to sit beside me at lunch ordered two or three pails of dry martini, but before we left there they all agreed to make a contract cutting the price of ore 50¢ per

ton but giving me enough money. Then came the question where we were going to pile it. Agreed to that cutting on ore, ore was all uncovered and could start my plants, just the expense of mining, did not have to ship or pay attention to grade because it was all tonnage for each company in separate pile and would be up to grade.

Then I had my bond underwriters on my neck they were of the opinion not able to meet my bonds. I finally told them "if you fellows feel you are better miners than I am you operate the mines you are in the mining business, but if you feel I am a better miner than you are, you better let me do it." First Minneapolis Trust Co., were the underwriters, they were anxious having sold the bonds to their customers

Mr. Belding came to this meeting in Cleveland, was an old lawyer and represented the Republic Steel Co., he sat around and listened all day to this and finally after several hours of it, he got up out of his chair and said "Gentlemen, we owe Butler Brothers enough under these contracts to keep them solvent, and I advise you to arrange so they can live". Well that broke up the party, but he was a grand old guy.

J. Metcalf and Bill Rholes a lawyer from Cleveland were at a meeting at the First Minneapolis Trust Co., Bob Webb, R. M. Bennettt, John Vanderlip atterney for Bennett all in on this deal with Max Washburn atterney for the Trust Co., and after he listened to the lawyer from Cleveland and the other fellows finally said "Well gentlemen what are you trying to do make terms, think you have no right to make terms with Butler Brothers, he is

willing to live up to the contract and you are not, I am going to advise the bondholders if Butler Brothers go bankrupt to sue you dallows". Finally met all their requirements. Had their engineering department say I could not get ore out of certain properties, finally I lost my temper and said "Metcalf you are a damn liar or a damn fool, I think you are both". "You know better than that or else you are a fool". Old John Vanderlip was a grand old man a great lawyer representing Bennett and the Trust Co. Bennett was the fee owner then, finally got squared away description of the land where to pile it and they took it and paid for it and got 10¢ per ton for loading the second handling took part in 1933 and balance in 1934 with a small additional tonnage.

I arranged with the bondholders to extend the due date of the bonds and that cost me $90,000 had to gether these bonds in which the Trust Co., did and charged $90,000 to re-issue the bonds, but in 1934 and 1935 paid the bonds off at the original time, but had them extended ten years with 6% interest and we got out of that mess and get going again and was the roughest period we ever had. Nobody knew as much about it as I did. If it were not for the banking fraternity particularly in Minneapolis; First National in St.Paul had been taken over by the Merchants at that time, and they would not have anything to do with the bond issue, so went to Minneapolis stood a better show in Minneapolis, Mr. Bennett was a director of the First Trust Co., and knew what kind of an operator I was and wanted me to continue 100% had confidence in me.

The main member of the bondholders was Mr. Bennett and Bob Webb, President, of the First National Bank and First Trust Co., in Minneapolis had confidence in me and were able to influence the bond holders to let me alone when I was buying Walter out. I met with the full board First National Bank in Minneapolis with a fellow by name of Knickerbocker and in those days they had 50 directors, Bennett knew me and knew I could mine the ore.

Pickands-Mather was a badly broke as I was, Bethlehem was not too badly off, Republic was broke, M.A.Hanna was not broke but they were just as bloodless as a loan shark, if there was a way to get control of the Butler Brothers property to take them over they would have done so, they are all that way, steel companies they are awful they are ruthless. If I live to be a hundred I'll never forget Pickands-Mather were friendly; also First Minneapolis Trust they were great.When I went over to get money saw Bob Webb and Bennett about my operation, Bennett was on the board of directors, if you can put bonds on the property do so Bennett said, anything Emmett Butler says he will do, he'll do if he has the tonnage. Had special estimate 32,000,000 tons, only paid tax on 10,000,000 tons, I knew it was there, that was a hot one no question. All the time Walter was suing me to make us default. As soon as he got his money he brought more suits and kept it up for about seven years.

Also had trouble with the steel companies wanted a supply of ore but also wanted to chisel on the price of the ore,

you cannot afford to do that, you will lose your customers you have not many. Manganiferous Iron Co., happened to be very helpful and was the company I owned, did not have any money but we had a grade of ore which was a lighter ore, a manganiferous ore and could sell this ore and could also ~~xxxxxxxx~~ blend Butler Brothers ore with it. Jones & Laughlin did not take any ore in 1933, after we get over the hump would not ship them any more ore in 1934 wanted it for $1.75, lived up to the old contract did not take any in 1932 and 1933, I think they wanted to keep the contract alive, but wanted to take 50,000 tons or 16% of their total shipments in those years but wanted it at $1.75 per ton. I said "No, I won't ship at the contract, I'll lose money". Had contract with Manganiferous Iron Co., on which they defaulted in 1933, Francis Butler, Patrick and I went down to see them and stated "We want you to pay for all the ore you did not take called for in your contract, or adjust the Butler Brothers contract to a price we can live under and make some money". Was finally adjusted and all took the full reserves original contract called for. They took about 3,000,000 tons from us at a price that was 85% of the mine market price; we always sold about 10 to 15% under the market price long term contracts. Had about 350,000 tons in stockpile in 1933, took only about one-fourth out of stockpile and same amount out of the mines to sell at the lower price. 1934 was a reasonable good year; 1936 not too bad took out 900,000 tons so it was a very economical operation.

When I took charge in 1924 started to get our mines pretty well developwd did not have much dirt to remove, had the ore all uncovered; in the depression did not have to spend much money in developement, had all the time kept improving our washing plant equipment to meet low grade of ore condition, and 1937 pretty well took us out of trouble, and then this bank in 1938 First National of Minneapolis, loaned me $1,000,000 on my note. 1939 came along and from that time on we commenced to feel the effects of the war.

I think if Hoover was re-elected everybody in the country would have been broke, I was a great admirer of Roosevelt. Hoover was no more fit to be President of the United States than I was, he could not get along with Congress and did not know how to get along with people, he thought he could be President of the United States without being a politician., You have to be able to handle your Congress, Garner laughed his head off did not get anything through Congress, he was a promotor, an engineer, and an engineer is a man that is always right, that's his trade. Big business had the least confidence in Hoover. The old Republican Organization was all monied men and their sons, and they thought nobody any good but republicans thought their lives depended on it. All the Butlers were Democrats all through the years, with the exception of Brother Cooley. Palmer was a Democrat, Pierce was a Democrat appointed by Harding, rule was had to be one Catholic and one Democrat on the Supreme Bench, guess Taft recommended Pierce who was a very strong Democrat. Of course he got to represent big ~~business~~ corporations. He

never could stand Roosevelt, especially when Roosevelt made a speech and doublecrossed Al Smith in 1931. Al Smith made him governor of New York, but Roosevelt was a doublecrosser, all the Roosevelt's were including Teddy.

Biggest difficulty in carrying on the business of Butler Brothers was with my lawyers Francis and Pierce Butler. When Francis went into the service he had stuff tucked away in his desk that should have been taken care of a long time ago, some of it was six years old. Lawyers were stockholders and I could never tell what side they were on and did not belong in the iron ore business, both were that way and that was my greatest difficulty. They could not get along with me, with the fee owners and with my customers; would not have contracts drawn, and in two instances agreed on a terms of five mining properties in the deposition which is the right time to take lease in mining properties for 40¢ per ton, with U.S. Iron Ore Properties. Mr. Shallenberger said that agreement is out now because it is five years old never was signed up, this same proposition we had to take later the iron value rate of 40¢ per ton in excess. None of the local work was ever done with any kind of dispatch, none at all, and when he drew a contract he always took the other fellow's side, and stuck something in the contract not as a protection to Butler Brothers or me but protection of the other fellow. Francis is a brilliant man but his trouble is he is susceptible to flattery everybody knows it, I cannot flatter him, he did not think much of my ability, was not trained for a businessman, but I could mine iron ore and could get somebody to take care of the money in the office and keep good records, but Francis Butler was about as

difficult a man to have for your lawyer as it is possible to imagine. Could not get rid of him represented 22% of the stock his family had, and Pierce of course for many years was an alcoholic. Francis and Pierce never arhued, anything Francis says goes, and Francis is a good lawyer, better office lawyer and has the reputation around town of being a great business man's lawyer but he never could do any business for me and during the time he did Butler's work he also was lawyer for the ~~U.N.Iron~~ Ore Properties people we were having contracts with all the time and it got so you never could tell who he was representing, you cannot serve two masters. My greatest difficulty was to get along with the Pierce Butler family, and Francis Butler was a jealous man. After our bonds were issued a fellow named Henry Verdlund had helped a lot, Henry and I got to be very close friends and he had a feeling of trust about me, he was always boosting me, after we got along great our bond trouble over I wanted to loan some money from them, did not know whether I could get it or not and I helped Henry out on some leases he was making, tried to advance himself with the bank wanted best judgment on some mining leases he was making, well when I got a deal had Henry write a letter setting the whole deal out and all through his rough draft of a contract kept referring to Emmett Butler and after everybody had agreed to it the way I wanted it, handed it to Francis for his approval, he grabbed a pencil and every place my name was he crossed it out and put in the word management. Francis is a very jealous person and jealous people and terribly unhappy people.

One time Francis Butler made a contract with Clarence Randall of the Inland Steel Co., making the contract were both Harvard men, and had that contract all set up the way I wanted it, but Francis Butler fooled around with it trying to be a good fellow with the contract and after he wrote it, it was no contract at all, Francis Butler was working for the Inland Steel Co., instead of Butler Brothers trying to save the Inland Steel Co., some taxes. That contract was made in 1930 for sale of ore in two mines and I was afraid of a depression, in September and wanted to get it completed and signed, but I never could get Francis Butler to finish it, so finally told Francis I wanted to get away, when you get it finished, have it ready about the first of the year, I want to get away for a month or so and will come through New Orleans mail it to me there. Francis said "It will be there before you get there", Well after I got there I waited a week for it then I waited another week then I left and never got it signed at that time. The depression was here and all such important things as that. With the fee owners things came up, trespassing wanted to dump dirt on their property alongside or dump ore material, he would not get it ready so I could work, we would dump it anyway for it was on his property and he could claim it. Agreement on tailings basin description way to get more out ten year agreement with Newman in 1928 on tailings basin. That contract was no finished for ten years, ~~[illegible]~~ in the meantime the management of the Q.N. Iron Ore Properties changed hands and was a dangerous one, because these tailings we piled on land that belonged to the fee owners.

About 1937 I conceived the idea of bringing natural gas to the Mesabi Range and got some support, in fact the Kansas Nebraska Natural Gas Pipeline Co., had started in 1936 in which I became a stockholder and was also elected director, and L.E. Fisher who was head of the company and started it, even before that time brought the Northern Natural Gas into Minnesota, So.St.Paul, who is an old utility man about 75vyears of age, who had been President of the Northern Natural and had lost his position as President, so he went out on his own and started this little gas line in Kansas without any money to speak of, got credit for pipe from the steel companies. All of the big gas companies predicted a failure but he was a stubborn kind of gentlemen, and none of the bankers would loan him money. Harold Wood, a lifelong friend of mine was in the investment banking business here, started selling bonds when he graduated from the University before World War #1 and came back and had substantial success selling bonds, in fact got to be quite a prominent investment banker, not on his own, but with C. Kalman Co. Harold Wood went to Chicago later in charge of the bond department of the Forman Bank at $40,000 per year with commissions, and took out part of his salary in stock of the company. In October 1929 Forman Bank failed and broke him. He then went to work in Chicago for Pearce. Fisher's wife is a cousin of Harold Wood's wife and Fisher was acquainted with Pearce & Co., were in the bond business and made Harold an offer after the Forman Bank failed, and Pearce was a crook, a financial crook, and Fisher

knew him and told Harold not to go to work for Pearce unless he get a contract from him for $50,000 per year and get one year's salary in advance because he is going broke, had a two year contract with Pearce, and things were getting pretty bad and Pearce had a son selling industrial bonds and gave Harold orders to sell these bonds for $60.00 for a $100 bond, then selling on the New York Stock Exchange for $20.00, Harold said "you cannot do that sell it on an intrinsic value basis if it has no intrinsic value". Wouldn't do so, so they parted company, he was no chap to offer you to get rich quick, so he quit and came back here and four other men and myself started him in business here and when Fisher started this gas line he got Harold to help him finance it, Harold came to me and I went down and went over the proposed gas line that had about 200 miles of 4" pipe and a small compresser station from the Houghton Field in Texas. Well Fisher took me over the line and said "Hellm no people to use gas" and he sold me some stock in the company, talked me into it and that gave me mx a taste of the natural gas business, and I was at that time working on this new process of converting hematite to magnatite, and our trouble was the high cost of fuel, and gas if you could get delivery at all could be delivered for 15¢ mcf., 1000 cubic feet had 1000 btu's of batural gas was equal to $3.50 per ton of coal in heat value and because well it was the high priced of fuel and the inconvenience of the coal that helped make the conversion of hematite to magnatite, and in all of thks Ed. Davis at the University, he sold me the idea; Ed and I get along all right and he wanted to stimulate conditions wanted me to get natural gas put us in a position to have ordered

in the depression years about 125,000 tons of gas pipe from the steel companies we were trying to sell ore to, that was another stimulater, wanted to get the gas line. Well everybody, the railroads, coal people, as the Federal Power Commission had no jurisdiction over the natural gas utilities and nobody expected that they would as of 1937, but as soon as we started to get natural gas, we had everything set in Washington including a promise of a loan from the RFC of about half of the cost of the line complete line when we started constituted an investment of $22,000,000 for 850 miles of pipe from town of Goodwell. Started at Goodwell on the Texas-Oklahoma state line, then north to Scotts City, Kansas to Atwood, Kansas, then NE to Burlington, Kansas and serving the following counties in Kansas: Ness, Rush, Barton, Ellis, Rooks, Phillips, Harlan, Franch, Webster, Nuckells, Clay, Adams, Kearney, Hamilton, Thayer, Furnas, Phelps. Dawson, Lincoln, Keith, Rawlings, Thornas, Logan, Scott. The western extremity of the line was Ogallala, Nebr., and the eastern extremity was at Hebron, Nebr., and southern extremity was Ellinwood.

Conversion almost a necessity as I thought at the time for it is largely in the concentration of low grade ore which was the primary purpose, however, after I got knowing something about the gas business, I was easy to seduce into the gas business because it is a fine business and in it's infancy, nobody realized all the people in the natural gas business before, were in it for the purpose of serving large communities as the Nebraska will on their lines through Iowa, Mason City, and Southern Minnesota to So.St.Paul

and finally into Minneapolis, then everybody said you had to have towns of substantial population say 100,000; no towns in that territory that size. But Fisher visioned at the start what would happen for he built some alfalfa dehydrating plants as soon as he started in the gas business, built one and sold it not the gas company but Fisher personally so as to demonstrate the economy of using gas for dehydrating alfalfa and the reason that was done primarily was that you cannot get a carload in weight of alfalfa hay into any cars so the freight rates when you are shipping it will be just and this way alfalfa retains the bulk about 75% and also retains all the vitamins, what you do is take the water off concentrated sacked and ground like bran and feed to the cattle very rich. Well after Fisher got it started people went into the business of building dehydrating plants along his line and now have 285. In addition to that the water in that country is about 18' below the surface and he visioned using gas to pump water from wells and irrigate the Dust Bowl, and many farmers blame that on irrigation. Fisher bought land and irrigated it himself showing the farmers what could be done using gas for power, will pump to twen wells, farmers will own gas pipes from his line and many of the farmers were for it, some said it was going against nature, of course he put water on the land in that destroyed country. Where they used to get 25 bushels to the average they now are getting 75. Fisher was a friendly man and when we get in the Federal Power Commission and some politicians in Washington told us coal people had a corps of lawyers fighting natural gas and the labor unions fought it.. I had a man in Washington Judge Devaney and a fellow by name of Allen Junkin, my drinking

partner in the old days, conceived the idea in the Ryan Hotel while we were getting tight, when the Federal Powre Commission took over. Was the largest stockholder in the Kansas Pipeline Co/, about $119,000.00 into it and bought with that $119,000.00 18,750 shares of common stock. Now selling for $17 or $18 per share, I bought it at $4 or $5, stock dividends for 6% of the present selling price of the stock. There are 30,000 shares of Kansas in my family at average cost of $6.38, not including the free stock I get, so it was a good investment commission, and got the taste for it and it sure is a better business than the iron ore business, got a certificate of convenience and necessity and the RFC were gping to loan about one-half of the original cost which was about $22,000,000 and then made a condition that we match their loan with private money, I couldn't do so, so we cut out serving a lot of towns and figured up we could get on a straight line and cut the costs to $14,000,000, and everything was set had the promise of private money, Chas. Blandin had check all made out for me, Russell Bennett also subscribed enough to make it a financial success. Well the Power Commission kept me up in the air, coal companies, railroad companies and labor unions until the war came on kept fighting us, and when Holland fell that put an end to the private money, all said "No". Tried to make arrangements for gas from an outfit but they never had a large enough supply to supply us with gas for our pipeline, the old Kansas pipeline to be extended from the northern point on up to the Range, and all of this took about three years, had about sixty witnesses and I paid all the witnesses money and paid traveling expenses and paid Judge

Devaney $15,000.00 and kept Junkin in Washington for three years at $10,000.00 per year out of my pocket, Butler Brothers absorbed it later on. Francis Butler did not think Butler Brothers should put in any money and of course when Butler Brothers would not put in any money, all the other fellows got gun shy and just pulled out probably because of Francis Butler. A small company by the name of Hazy, Baugh & Nun then offered to help me and were willing to spend their own money, it was an outlet for their gas and we had this certicate, which was a condition certificate from RFC and from Federal Power Commission, well the other felloww decided did not want to spend their money because of the condition of the country and war coming on, I decided then I had to pull out, intention was to consolidate both companies but never got to it. The company that Fisher had was then worth $2,000,000, now it is a $22,000,000 company, he has extended it and now has 2,600 miles of pipe, and I continued to acquire more stock until my family now has 30,000 shares, I have about 400 shares now. It was quite a disappointment, that happened in 1940. First fellow I went to to get money was R. M. Bennett, he said "I cannot do that, nobody would, did not know where the country was going, we were having trouble with everything". It took only five months to lay 850 miles of pipe it goes fast, the people wanted gas, you are running across farm places, once in a while one gets ugly, well the bankers and merchants get after him to come along, costs about 25¢ per acre for 40 acre tracts and sometimes you strike in that country long stretch of wild land, no restrictions at that time, cost about 40¢ to lay pipe then, now about $2.50 per foot,

costs about $13,000 per mile average size about 8" and now 16", good way to figure now is about $1,200 an inch mile in diameter, present cost abeur four or five times what it was. Pipe is sheet of steel rolled in pipe form and welded and the ends are sometimes put together, come in 40' lengths, pipe now would average about 18" below, on the range 8" start off with big lead and tapering that with smaller pipe along the line. Start off with compresser stations and as the load piled up put in one or more compresser stations or larger compresser, when they are tight of money compresser stations are built every twenty-five miles, and later when they get more help put in another compresser station until they have them in distances of ten miles, however, they are now cutting out the compresser stations, you have to have two men and their families, have to build houses for them, as well as watch t the compressers so nothing happens on the pipeline, leaks start they have a welding machine rigged up and fire equipment to repair any blowout or leaking. The pipes now equal 800# per square inch some of the gas got out of the well at 1000#. Was quite a disappointment, that venture cost about $78,000, we were able to take tax reduction on it. In the promotion I probably put in $25,000 to $30,000 personally. Would have been a great thing, as the demand now is about three and a half times what it was at that time. At that time we did not assume to get into Duluth and Superior because the opposition was so great there, planned to go to Cloquet then the people in Duluth would ask for it, everybody wants natural gas now. Power company for me, Minnesota Power & Light Co. I was just ten years ahead of the times, people are ready for it now.

The installation would have bypassed the Twin Cities; when you ask for your certificate of convenience and necessity only allow one line nobody else, probably unless the company is not supplying. Would strike a lot of towns in South Dakota, Brookings, Pierre, Sioux Falls, Mitchell, start on the Nebraska-South Dakota line to Yankton and on to Bemidji Duluth and Superior also Appleton, Minn.

Butler properties sold on assumed reserves of 48,000,000 tons and in the sale we were supposed to get 10¢ per ton overriding royalty which was present worth back for 20 years which means overriding of about 6@ for that tonnage only. Since then after shipping 5,000,000 tons of ore the reserve now is estimated by the operator at 60,000,000 tons or an idcrease of only 50% - 40% plus 5,000,000 tons. My estimate at the time the property was sold was a minimum of 80,000,000 tons but it now has been estimated the reserves there now are 100 to 120,000,000 tons, so Butler Brothers for the debelopement and all it's research got nothing and that information I tried to pound into the heads of these two lawyers Francis and Pearse Butler and my brother but it had no effect at all and that is why the sale has been very distasteful to me, I knew the value of the property. You cannot get an engineer to make a prospective estimate, because if the estimate does not pan out according to his figures he is incapable and is apt to be discharged and hurts his reputation, however, they are wrong to this extent, they can say in their report that there is a possibility of an additional tonnage, and in this case the men that made the estimate had been working for me from 1915 and 1918, some of them of course did not know what the estimate was

asked for and it always has been the practice to keep iron ore estimates as low as possible because you are taxed on the reserve

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Emmett Butler autobiography

Pages 230 – 246 appear to be missing, but content on p. 229 may actually be continued without break on p. 247.

Page 247 – Re-typed because carbon copy was too faint for scanning.

Twiss Butler 4/18/12

When the ore sales contract with Pickands Mather and Co. was worked out, Francis D. Butler was present as attorney for Butler Brothers, but interested himself in the details of the bargain and because of his great show of wisdom and knowledge excluded both Pat and myself from any participation in the discussion, with the result a contract was drawn that was at least hard for a layman to understand; John Putman the lawyer for Pickands, Mather & Co., being an artist in obscuring the real intention of the bargaining parties, nor did he (Frances D. Butler) ever call an auditor who must interpret the contract in order to set up an accounting plan, that auditor must be agreed upon to peacefully carry on business affairs and without calling on a lawyer to constantly interpret and this lawyer is seldom available when needed and if they are available they have no idea what opposing counsel will interpret the language, with the result that adjustments are constantly in process and the seller is at a disadvantage because he does not want to be at variance with his customers.

Clarence Randall of the Inland Steel Co., in 1930 called me on the telephone and told me that he wanted to buy a mining property if we had one for sale, or buy the ores delivered in cars totaling about 6,000,000 tons. We had two such mines that totaled about 6,000,000 tons, so I called Pogt in Cleveland and asked him to meet me in the Inland Steel Co., office and we sat down and went over the matter and arrived at a price for which we would sell the ore in the ground, and a price for the ore loaded in cars and was to pay for the mining on the basis of tonnage delivered each year plus contract price for mining. Well that contract was approved and was made by the Inland Steel Co., lawyers in Duluth, Minn., Abbott, McFarn & Danzer. Then Randall and McFarn and Bill Warner who was their Minnesota Superintendent came to our office in September of 1930 in St. Paul and Francis Butler came in so after Randall talked to Francis Butler for a while complimenting him on his ability and accomplishments as a lawyer, Francis Butler then said "Well now we can change that contract for you Mr. Randall so you would not have to pay the occupation taxes by our taking a contract to mine the ore in these two mines at $1.67 per ton which was the combined estimated price of the mine, and in the contract I wanted it carefully set out that I had the right to blend ore from other properties with the ore from these two mines so as to make it easier to make the grade of ore we represented was in these properties and make it convenient and economical, and I had been very careful to put this in the original contract that I could use ore from other properties to make up

the tonnage sold, but in Francis Butler's zeal to please Randall he changed the contract and made it a different contract for delivery of that ore and everything else including putting the ore in cars. I was particularly anxious that the contract provided that this blending was important but in changing the contract around he fixed it so that the blending was not made a part of the contract, he also saved the Inland Steel Co., of paying the occupation taxes which were about 6% at that time. At that time the State of Minnesota had no income tax but there was income tax for business which amounted to about 2% and 10 to 15 per ton occupation taxes, so you can seehe saved the Inland Steel Co., a substantial amount of money in taxes. Well, of course, Randall was a Harvard Law School mah and means he's a son of a b----, I called him that and he takes it. This contract was all complete in Sept. of 1930, so I said to Francis "Now Francis, I want this contract signed up promptly as I have a feeling there is going to be a slump in the iron ore business and I want everything signed and in the contract are certain minimums they have to take". But the contract was not completed, so along Christmas time I said "Francis, I want to take Aunt Lou for a trip, get this contract fixed up before I leave". That was in January and he had from September to get his overalls on and get to work. So he said "Emmett, I'm hard pressed for time to get to it, but I'll get to it". I said "Frank I want to leave here tomorrow, if you would put that contract in the mail this January 1931 and mail it to me at the St.Charles Hotel or the

Roosevelt Hotel at New Orleans I'll pick it up there and take it to a notary public and sign it". I assumed there would be no changes in it and he said it would be all right to sign. Got to New Orleans and waited one week for the contract for the same, did not want to be in New Orleans as I started for Florida. Of course I hardly expected to get the next Sunday morning. Well that was fast for him, so I took it to a notary public, had to get him out on Sunday morning get his acknowledgment and to witness my signature and sent it back. Then we shipped some ore in 1931 not large tonnage; 1932 came along and Mr. Randall took advantage of the contract not to take his minimums, and in addition to that Randall and the Inland Steel Co., had the Sullivan-Hale property, they had a lease on it, and I wrote Randall a letter asking him when he would get around to draw the contract on the Sullivan-Hale to set out if they wanted the mined ore in cars, and in that letter I put in a protective clause regarding labor so if labor prices went up for every cent labor went up the work was to cost half cent per ton more or half cent per yard, labor to be figured to be about half of the cost. Well I wrote Francis Butler when I got back from my trip stating in this letter contract would be drawn covering generally outline of the letter, but that contract was never drawn, We had no limit of time and expected a contract to be drawn but never was drawn, I asked him a dozen times, well finally it got down to the point I wanted to introduce that letter and calling that letter a contract, Francis Butler was out of town I went to see Mr. Bunn and asked him if he thought that letter was binding as a contract, well

he said "Yes, I think I can substantiate that letter in court but there is no limit of time mentioned in which the work should be done or at what speed". Well the Inland Steel Co., never got the contract signed or the work, the Inland Steel Co., sold their lease of the Sullivan-Hale mine to Jones & Laughlin Steel Co., and their attorney would not recommend that letter, that was that, however, Randall had called their attention to the letter. Well we had business ~~negotiations~~ dealings and negotiations with Jones & Laughlin in which we adjusted an old contract and got a favorable adjustment, and I had a letter from Jones & Laughlin asking if we were going to attempt to influence the contract for the Sullivan-Hale property. Pat called me on the telephone and since we had a favorable settlement with Jones & Laughlin made Butler Brothers about $3,000,000 I said " No Pat, we will not rub it in". The depression came along and the tonnage of the Langdon and Snyder mines which was covered under the contract and for economical reasons I attempted to supply the ore out of other of our mines which I assumed I had a right to do, but the Inland Steel Co., did not want the ore from other mines, so took advantage of the slip in the contract not to take ore from the other mines. Well that resulted in their cancelling their contract. I had the right to cancel the leases and they had the right, so in 1933 they cancelled the leases of the Langdon and Snyder Mines, and the royalty rate we were paying on these mines were 65¢ per ton on the Snyder and 60¢ per ton in the case of the Langdon, so the leases were cancelled and that gave me the right to go back to the Fee Owners and as soon as they

cancelled we cancelled out, so during the depression the mines laid idle quite a while . Picked them up in 1927, Pat and I got the leases back from the Snyder for 12¢ per ton and from the Langdon for 10¢ per ton and we still have them. Reserves of around 140,000,000 in the property and think there is 500,000,000 tons left, one-fifth will earn more money over the years than we sold the four-fifths for.

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