



Multilingual Corpus of
Annotated Spoken Texts

English

— *kent02* transcription and translation —

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The *kent02* transcription and ‘translation’

◆ part A (*kent02a*)

utterance

- [001] [INT] *Okay. We're on.*
- [002] *Heh?*
- [003] [INT] *We're on now.*
- [004] *I say, there was a lot of gypsies about the place.*
- [005] *And eh, they used to come around to the back doors, to every cottage and sell these old pegs, made out of hazel twig.*
- [006] *They used to make'em and sell'em sh- about tuppence a dozen, and what the women used to peg their clothes with, you see; you've seen them, ain't you?*
- [007] [INT] *Hhm.*
- [008] *Well, they, I had eczema when I was eight, in mi eye, that eye; that's what made that, pulled it one side.*
- [009] *And eh, the doctor couldn't seem to, give us a lot of ointments and one thing and other, and he couldn't see, seem to do it any good.*
- [010] *And a old gypsy come to - woman with - door with the pegs.*
- [011] *What's the matter with the boy?, she says.*
- [012] *Oh, he had eczema in his eye, she said.*
- [013] *Oh, she says, That's not.*
- [014] *She says, Go to the chemist and get some white copperas, and bathe it, she says, twice a day.*
- [015] *And we done that and it was gone in a fortnight.*
- [016] *How do you think about that?*
- [017] [INT] *Incredible.*
- [018] *That was when I was eight.*
- [019] [INT] *Hhm.*
- [020] *And I had it all right down the face.*
- [021] *Hhm.*
- [022] [INT] *Did people like the gypsies in those days?*
- [023] *Oh, we didn't mind'em.*

translation

- [001] [INT] *Okay. We're on.*
- [002] *Heh?*
- [003] [INT] *We're on now.*
- [004] *I say, there were a lot of gypsies about the place.*
- [005] *And they used to come around to the back doors, to every cottage, and sell these old pegs made out of hazel twig.*
- [006] *They used to make'em and sell'em about tuppence a dozen, and they were what the women used to peg their clothes with, you see; you've seen them, haven't you?*
- [007] [INT] *Hhm.*
- [008] *Well, I had eczema when I was eight, in my eye, that eye; that's what made that, pulled it one side.*
- [009] *And the doctor couldn't seem to give us a lot of ointments or other things, and he couldn't seem to do it any good.*
- [010] *And an old gypsy came to our door with the pegs.*
- [011] *What's the matter with the boy?, she says.*
- [012] *Oh, he had eczema in his eye, she said.*
- [013] *Oh, she says, That's not.*
- [014] *She says, Go to the chemist and get some white copperas, and bathe it, she says, twice a day.*
- [015] *And we did that and it was gone in a fortnight.*
- [016] *What do you think about that?*
- [017] [INT] *Incredible.*
- [018] *That was when I was eight.*
- [019] [INT] *Hhm.*
- [020] *And I had it all right down the face.*
- [021] *Hhm.*
- [022] [INT] *Did people like the gypsies in those days?*
- [023] *Oh, we didn't mind'em.*

[024] Well, there were some bad gypsies and some good ones there, we had one lot, Charles - name of Charles, used to come and see my dad, and if they'd got a decent pony, they used to bring it and sell it to him.

[025] I remember they sold him an old grey horse one day, starved of life; he could reall-, he could hardly walk.

[026] And father says, I don't want that.

[027] He says, Give us a fiver for it, Edward, and you can have it.

[028] And so father gave him a fiver for this horse.

[029] And eh, we nursed him up, and got him to be in good condition.

[030] We sold him to the Earl Sourstone to this farm just at - next door to me.

[031] And eh, about three years afterwards, I didn't live here, mind then, mind you; I lived at Molash.

[032] Three years afterwards - what?

[033] [INT] *What, how old were you then, about?*

[034] I was eleven, about eleven or twelve.

[035] [INT] *Hhm.*

[036] Father had a letter, from a Ba- man named Barnes, Street End Farm - they still got it, ain't they?

[037] Do you know of'em?

[038] [INT] *Hhm.*

[039] She was going to Germany.

[040] And eh, she wanted Lord Sourstone, the Earl of Sourstone really, except that we always called him Lord, he but he's Earl, really.

[041] If he'd have this horse back, 'cause she didn't want to sell him, she wanted eh him to have a good home all his life.

[042] And eh, he said, No, I don't want him.

[043] Says, You send him to Edward Crown.

[044] He saved his life, he said, He'd like to have him.

[045] So eh, sh- sh- she wrote to my father; we went over there, to see her -

[024] Well, there were some bad gypsies and some good ones there, we had one lot by the name of Charles, they used to come and see my dad, and if they'd got a decent pony, they used to bring it and sell it to him.

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[029] And we nursed him up, and got him to be in good condition.

[030] We sold him to the Earl Sourstone, to this farm just next door to me.

[031] And about three years afterwards- I didn't live here then mind you; I lived at Molash.

[032] Three years afterwards- what?

[033] [INT] *How old were you then, about?*

[034] I was eleven, about eleven or twelve.

[035] [INT] *Hhm.*

[036] Father had a letter, from a man named Barnes, at Street End Farm - they still got it, don't they?

[037] Do you know of'em?

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[042] And he said, No, I don't want him.

[043] He said, You send him to Edward Crown.

[044] He saved his life, he said, He'd like to have him.

[045] So she wrote to my father; we went over there, to see her, with a ponycart,

ponycart, and eh, she said, Now, she says, I'm going to give you that horse on conditions you never sell him; you keep him till he dies, or have him put down.

[046] She says, And you can have his this cart and the harness and everything with him.

[047] So eh, she told her groom, Put the horse in the cart, and put all the tackle in it, his nosebags and his flynet - you don't know what that is, I suppose.

[048] A net they used to throw over'em to keep the flies off, and everything was put in his cart, and I brought it home.

[049] And we kept that horse eleven year; he was a beautiful horse.

[050] That's the old horse we used to drive the wedding, people to the weddings with, when I got older, you know.

[051] Yeah, we kept him eleven years.

[052] And we turned him out, n- when he got too weak to work - too, he was, I- got rid lame, and winter was coming, so Dad said, Don't like doing it, he said, But we've, we have to put old Buller down.

[053] You called him Buller.

[054] After the old man what eh in the Boer War, wadn't it?

[055] General Buller, wadn't it?

[056] [INT] Hhm.

[057] Hhm.

[058] Well, they'd given him the name when we bought him - when we fetched him.

[059] And, I couldn't go see him killed.

[060] I, I never went.

[061] Father went up and took him up the road, in the little paddock we got, and they shot him in there.

[062] They hadn't got humane killers then; they had to shoot them, you know.

[063] [INT] Hhm.

[064] They used to shoot them right in the forehead.

[065] [INT] What used to happen to the carcass?

[066] Oh, that went away for dog meat.

and she said, Now, I'm going to give you that horse on conditions you never sell him; you keep him until he dies, or have him put down.

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[055] General Buller, wasn't it?

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[064] They used to shoot them right in the forehead.

[065] [INT] What used to happen to the carcass?

[066] Oh, that went away for dog meat.

- [067] [INT] *Hhm.*
[068] Or else human consumption, who knows?
[069] Yeah, there was a lot of, lot of meat - horse meat eaten in the 'Fourteen War.
[070] Any amount of it.
[071] So there was in the last war, wadn't there?
[072] [INT] *Hhm.*
[073] Whale meat.
[074] Didn't you know that?
[075] Oh, yeah.
[076] A friend of mine - a rich man - said to me and Ned Coleman - that's in the last war, now, I'm going on to - he said, I'm gonna take you boys out and give you a good lunch.
[077] At a sale, we met him; he used to have some sheep there.
[078] And eh, we went to The Bull Hotel at Sittingbourne, to have a good lunch.
[079] All they got was whale meat.
[080] Old Coleman said, No, I'm not eating that - he's a Scotch chap - he said, No, I'm not eating whale meat.
[081] He says, Have you got nothing out of a tin?
[082] Well I think we had bully beef at the finish.
[083] *Hhm.*
[084] [INT] *Did you, w- dealing with horses,*
[085] *Heh?*
[086] [INT] *Dealing with horses all your life, have you got any special remedies or horse medicines that you used on them?*
[087] No, no.
[088] Only kindness.
[089] [INT] *Hhm.*
[090] That's the main thing with horses.
[091] They wa - pony'd talk to you if you got - if you had'em long, but we never used to keep'em, long, see, perhaps we only had a horse a week.
[092] My father used, I used to be out on the farm to work, with a pair of horses, and he used to come along with a man, and see this horse work, and he used to sell it to him, and we used to take it out, and go home, and he used to take it, pay
- [067] [INT] *Hhm.*
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[087] No, no.
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[089] [INT] *Hhm.*
[090] That's the main thing with horses.
[091] Ponies talk to you if you had'em long, but we never used to keep'em long, see, perhaps we only had a horse a week.
[092] I used to be out on the farm to work with a pair of horses, and he used to come along with a man to see this horse work, and he used to sell it to him, and we used to take it out, and go home, and he used to pay for it and take it away.

for it and take it away.

[093] It was always paid for golden sovereigns, you know - always paid with golden sovereigns.

[094] Hhm.

[095] When I used to go round with chicken, buying poultry, I had - father used to give me about seven or eight sovereigns to go off with, see.

[096] And I paid a woman at Challock, right opposite The Halfway House, for some chicken, and I'd got three sovereigns left when I paid her.

[097] And, when I got home, I'd only got two.

[098] Was only a mile.

[099] And I said, I must've dropped that, when I paid her, see, when I put it back in mi pocket, these three.

[100] So I, my old neighbour got a pony, colt he was, and he, he asked me - the blacksmith, if I would give him a run, to, you know, take him out, and so I used to drive him out when I wanted.

[101] So, I slipped round to see the old bloke, and I says, Lend us the old cob, for half hour, I want to run to Challock.

[102] Oh, he was pleased; he put him in the harness and cart and off I went.

[103] Oh, this pony could go too.

[104] Up Challock we went, and before I got out the cart I see this sovereign laying on the grass.

[105] That was something, that was a week's wages, you know.

[106] I got married on sixteen bob a week.

[107] [INT] *When was that?*

[108] Nineteen twelve.

[109] [INT] *Were you worked - you were still working for your father then, were you?*

[110] Yeah.

[111] [INT] *Hhm.*

[112] I worked for him all my life, till I took mi own farm.

[113] [INT] *Hhm. Why, what, what did ehm, you know you said, you said last time that you've managed a farm when you were sixteen.*

[093] It was always paid for with golden sovereigns, you know - always paid with golden sovereigns.

[094] Hhm.

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[098] It was only a mile.

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[107] [INT] *When was that?*

[108] Nineteen twelve.

[109] [INT] *You were still working for your father then, were you?*

[110] Yeah.

[111] [INT] *Hhm.*

[112] I worked for him all my life, until I took my own farm.

[113] [INT] *Hhm. You said last time that you've managed a farm when you were sixteen.*

[114] We - I was managing mi father's farm then.

[115] 'Cause he, he was never at home; he was always away.

[116] [INT] *How bi-, how, it was thirty acres, was it?*

[117] Thirty-one acres.

[118] [INT] *Hhm.*

[119] Hhm.

[120] [INT] *How many men did he have on it?*

[121] How many what?

[122] [INT] *How many men? Just yourself?*

[123] Just miself.

[124] I used to, we used to hire for the binder to come and cut the corn; we only had seven acres of arable.

[125] And eh, our neighbour, he used to come in and cut the corn.

[126] See?

[127] And then I used to have to stand it up.

[128] I used to have to go mow around it in the morning, so the horses didn't trample it down, and the binder went round and cut it, then I had to shock it - we called it shocking it, standing it like that, see - tending a shock.

[129] And then when it got dry, I used to carry it, and I used to go up there with a horse and van miself, and load it, and take it home, pitch it on a stack and stack it, and I used to do it all.

[130] My brother come home.

[131] He was in the army, he come home for a weekend.

[132] He says, I'll help you carry those oats.

[133] So, he come and helped me, and we was getting on fine.

[134] And my father and him couldn't get on at all; they was always flying at one another.

[135] So, my father come along, and he says, You wanna lay them sheaves a bit further out, up this end.

[136] Cause it was, you either you had to lay them true, you see, to stand.

[137] My brother looked over the corner,

[114] I was managing my father's farm then.

[115] Because he was never at home; he was always away.

[116] [INT] *It was thirty acres, was it?*

[117] Thirty-one acres.

[118] [INT] *Hhm.*

[119] Hhm.

[120] [INT] *How many men did he have on it?*

[121] How many what?

[122] [INT] *How many men? Just yourself?*

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[137] My brother looked over the corner

says, You hook off, we don't, we got on very well without you.

[138] My father turned round and walked away.

[139] I'll never forget it.

[140] Hhm.

[141] But these old gypsies, they used to come, f- when we moved to Molash.

[142] And we had a little, little piece of ground we, with a cottage in it, we hired from Chilham Castle.

[143] That's Sir Ernest Davies's father, I think he was a, he was an old army man, General or something, General, Capt-Captain Davies that's what it was, and eh, that come natural then, and eh, we gave him a half crown a year for this little piece of land.

[144] With a cottage on it, but, you know, uninhabited, it was dropping down.

[145] How he come to th- have that piece of li- little square of land, in, right in the middle of Lord Grand's, I don't know.

[146] Well with this cottage, I suppose somebody owed him some money, he took it, off'em.

[147] Anyway, we had it for a half crown a year, and we pull-, I pulled the old cottage down miself, and grubbed the foundations out and put it down with grass.

[148] And that was just handy for us 'cause when was summertime when you we - I was working up there with mi horses, I got, well half of a quarter of a mile to walk home, with the horses and back again, and so I used to keep mi old bike out there and put the horses in there to have their dinner on the grass, and bike home, see.

[149] And then bike back and put mi horses, and catch mi horses up and go to work again.

[150] [INT] Hhm. Did the gypsies used to use that?

[151] And the gypsies used to come in there, and I used to a- they used to d- ask down so ask if they could come there and stop for a day or two, see.

and said, You hook off, we got on very well without you.

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[147] Anyway, we had it for a half crown a year, and I pulled the old cottage down myself, and grubbed the foundations out and put it down with grass.

[148] And that was just handy for us, because when it was summertime, when I was working up there with my horses, I got half of a quarter of a mile to walk home, with the horses and back again, and so I used to keep my old bike out there and put the horses in there to have their dinner on the grass, and bike home, see.

[149] And then bike back and catch my horses up and go to work again.

[150] [INT] Hhm. Did the gypsies used to use that?

[151] And the gypsies used to come in there, and they used to ask if they could come there and stop for a day or two, see.

[152] Especially when the fairs were on.

[153] There was Badlesmere Fair - that's in May always - Throwley Fair - that's just up the road - Molash Fair, Challock Fair, all within a month, month or five weeks, them four fairs were.

[154] And my father used to go to Whitstable and get a bushel of whelks.

[155] You know what whelks are?

[156] And then he used to bring'em home, put'em in the copper and boil'em.

[157] And us kids had to get the whelks out their shells of a night, that night, to take to the fairs, and he used to have a whelk stall, and you'd sell them a penny a plate, about six whelks on a plate.

[158] Little tiny plates they was, about four inches across'em, three inches, and he used to sell these whelks, and me and my brother used to go to the fair; that was just our jobs going there.

[159] And mother, she used to stand there and sell the whelks, while father, he was always round them dealer boys, having some beer.

[160] And then he used to drive home, about, used to get home about eleven, of a night, and what whelks was left, we kids used to eat.

[161] If there was any, but very seldom was any left, you know.

[162] Always done that, ev - for years, he did.

[163] *[INT] What other things were at the fair?*

[164] Hhm?

[165] *[INT] What other things were there at the fair?*

[166] Oh, roundabouts and all manner of shies, coconut shies.

[167] Just the same as the ordinary fairs now.

[168] 'Course, nothing that's so elaborate; nothing like, but coconut shies.

[169] My brother, he was a dab hand, he, he'd knock coconuts off.

[170] Hhm.

[152] Especially when the fairs were on.

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[159] And mother, she used to stand there and sell the whelks, while father, he was always round them dealer boys, having some beer.

[160] And then he used to drive home about eleven for the night, and what whelks were left, we kids used to eat.

[161] If there were any, but very seldom were there any left, you know.

[162] We always did that for years, he did.

[163] *[INT] What other things were at the fair?*

[164] Hhm?

[165] *[INT] What other things were there at the fair?*

[166] Oh, roundabouts and all manner of shies, coconut shies.

[167] Just the same as the ordinary fairs now.

[168] Of course, there was nothing that so elaborate; nothing like, but there were coconut shies.

[169] My brother, he was a dab hand, he'd knock the coconuts off.

[170] Hhm.

- [171] [INT] *Were these gypsies' stands or...?*
[172] These gypsies's all there with these turns outs, you see.
[173] Old Charles, I don't know what happened to them.
[174] They come and see us every year.
[175] I went up there one night - evening, with'em, and I used to go there and they used to tell me all manners of yarns, you know.
[176] Hhm, nice people they were.
[177] And: Come and have some tea.
- [178] I went in and had some meal with them - what do you think it was?
[179] Hedgehog!
[180] They didn't tell me before ever I'd eat it!
[181] I said, Oh, I says, Do- I thought it was rabbit.
[182] No, That's hedgehogs, he says, Better than rabbit.
[183] I says, How do you get the spikes off him?
[184] Oh, We roll him in some clay and bake him, he said, And then take it, it all drops off.
[185] Bake him in the clay.
[186] [INT] *Is it good?*
[187] Yeah, it was.
[188] I liked it.
[189] It was the only bloody time ever I did taste it, I liked it then.
[190] Of course, when we were young, we would eat anything, wouldn't you?
[191] Them days.
[192] But you didn't get a lot of meat, you know.
[193] No, we had, used to always have a, a joint of meat Saturdays.
[194] Father used to go to Canterbury, and bring home, he used to stop to the old butcher's as - pretty near sold out, perhaps and then, when they couldn't sell out, he used to buy a big joint, see, about seven or eight pounds, all in, in one piece - all bones and all, you know.
[195] And he used to come home and we used to have a proper fry-up Saturday
- [171] [INT] *Were these gypsies' stands?*
[172] These gypsies's were all there with these stalls, you see.
[173] Old Charles, I don't know what happened to them.
[174] They came and saw us every year.
[175] I went up there one evening with'em, and I used to go there and they used to tell me all manners of yarns, you know.
[176] Hhm, nice people they were.
[177] And they'd say, Come and have some tea.
[178] I went in and had some meal with them - what do you think it was?
[179] Hedgehog!
[180] They didn't tell me before I'd eaten it!
[181] I said, Oh, I thought it was rabbit.
[182] No, That's hedgehogs, he said, Better than rabbit.
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[184] Oh, We roll him in some clay and bake him, he said, And then take it off, and it all drops off.
[185] You bake him in the clay.
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[190] Of course, when we were young, we would eat anything, wouldn't we?
[191] Those days.
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[193] No, we used to always have a joint of meat Saturdays.
[194] Father used to go to Canterbury, and he used to stop at the old butcher's when it was pretty near sold out, perhaps, and then, when they couldn't sell out, he used to buy a big joint, see, about seven or eight pounds, all in one piece - all bones and all, you know.
[195] And he used to come home and we used to have a proper fry-up Saturday

night.

[196] And that used to have to last us all the week, with the rabbits - course, there was always get a rabbit when you liked.

[197] Thousands of rabbits was, on our place.

[198] *[INT] Hmm.*

[199] And pheasants.

[200] We never touched the pheasants.

[201] My father was so; that was the agreement.

[202] We could have what rabbits we liked; and they were our perks.

[203] But never touched the birds.

[204] And they used to come out on our field in dozens, when you put your corn in.

[205] It's just the same here, when I come here.

[206] Today it's the same conditions.

[207] I had eighteen in my garden last summer - pheasants, properly ruined my spring greens.

[208] I sent for the syndicate and told'em, Pretty soon do something about it.

[209] *[INT] Was there any poaching?*

[210] Poaching, in them days, not now.

[211] *[INT] Hmm.*

[212] Oh, everybody would poach or I went poaching when the War was on, 'Fourteen War was on.

[213] But they couldn't do nothing with me.

[214] 'Cause I knowed too much about'em.

[215] He - d- e- the keeper what looked after our place, I happened to see a motorbike and sidecar - the chap lived just up the road here - come up our lane to the field, about eight o'clock.

[216] I thought, what the devil's he going up?

[217] So, I slipped over the hedge and slipped up to see where he was going, see.

[218] See the keeper, with a bag, with a dozen pheasants in it.

night.

[196] And that used to have to last us all the week, with the rabbits - of course, you could always get a rabbit when you liked.

[197] Thousands of rabbits there were, on our place.

[198] *[INT] Hmm.*

[199] And pheasants.

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[207] I had eighteen in my garden last summer - pheasants, they properly ruined my spring greens.

[208] I sent for the syndicate and told'em, Pretty soon do something about it.

[209] *[INT] Was there any poaching?*

[210] Poaching, in them days, yes; but not now.

[211] *[INT] Hmm.*

[212] Oh, everybody would poach; I went poaching when the War was on, the 'Fourteen War was on.

[213] But they couldn't do nothing with me.

[214] Because I knew too much about'em.

[215] The keeper who looked after our place- I happened to see a motorbike and sidecar - the chap lived just up the road here - he come up our lane to the field, about eight o'clock.

[216] I thought, what the devil's he going up here for?

[217] So, I slipped over the hedge and slipped up to see where he was going, see.

[218] I see the keeper with a bag, with a dozen pheasants in it.

[219] And he was holding them there and sold'em to him, and, this chap went off, he lived just up the road here, had a pub, his father did.

[220] [INT] *Hhm.*

[221] I never said nothing till I got alongside the old keeper one day and he says - I was in the, just in the wood getting a rabbit, you see, yes, and he say, You're trespassing.

[222] I says, Oh, I says, I know I'm trespassing, I say, But they, they're getting a bit short.

[223] Because everybody was having rabbits then, 'cause the grub was so short.

[224] *Hhm.*

[225] Oh, yeah, I says, Didn't trespass quite so much as you did when you was unloading them twelve pheasants last Thursday, did I?

[226] He said, You didn't see me, did you?

[227] I says, Yes, I did.

[228] Never s- found more fault, I could go where I liked in that wood then.

[229] We used to shoot deer down there.

[230] Yeah.

[231] You set snares up with wire, where they used to jump in the field, you see.

[232] And eh, I had a good old retriever dog.

[233] And this was all, I'd be - what would I be then?

[234] About seventeen, I suppose, seventeen or eighteen years old.

[235] I used to break these gun dogs.

[236] I was one of the crack shots; I wiped the board at Whitstable.

[237] Won a silver watch and chain, before I was seventeen, but then I lost the silver watch when I went in the army - th - somebody pinched it.

[238] So, I was about sixteen, when I won that silver watch and chain.

[239] And eh - my father used to take a load of chicken, to Boughton, The King's Head, Boughton.

[240] You know where that is?

[219] And he was holding them there and sold'em to him, and this chap went off, he lived just up the road here, his father had a pub.

[220] [INT] *Hhm.*

[221] I never said anything, until I got alongside the old keeper one day, I was just in the wood getting a rabbit, you see, and he said, You're trespassing.

[222] I said, Oh, I know I'm trespassing, I said, But they're getting a bit short.

[223] Because everybody was having rabbits then, because the grub was so short.

[224] *Hhm.*

[225] Oh, yeah, I said, But I didn't trespass quite so much as you did when you were unloading those twelve pheasants last Thursday, did I?

[226] He said, You didn't see me, did you?

[227] I says, Yes, I did.

[228] He never found any more fault, I could go where I liked in that wood then.

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[240] You know where that is?

- [241] Do you?
[242] And we used to shoot'em off.
[243] He used to s- sell - say, a chicken was worth three bob.
[244] My father'd have twelve tickets threepence each.
[245] That was four bo- eh four pence each; that was four bob, wadn't it?
[246] [INT] *Hhm.*
[247] See?
[248] And then they used to shoot for it.
[249] Had a dozen of'em, f- or fourteen of'em, as many as he could get.
[250] Oh, he, he wouldn't let it go before he got enough money to cover the cost of the chicken, then what he got out of that was profit.
[251] And I bou-, he come home one day, with a load of rabbits - were all the tame rabbits.
[252] I remember I was - oh, it was when I was about sixteen.
[253] And he said, Here you are, he says, Here's a job for you, you can have them.
[254] And he give'em to me, see.
[255] Mhm, but I didn't want'em.
[256] I sold'em all, bar one.
[257] And I couldn't sell this one, it was a big old black doe.
[258] So Dad said, Take that old rabbit down Boughton tomorrow, he said, We will, eh knock that off.
[259] I won it back three times.
[260] Then I sold it to mi uncle, for half a crown.
[261] And eh, one of the toffs down there, he says, You're a pretty good shot, boy.
[262] I, Yeah.
[263] He says, Come in there - they used to have these swinging targets - he says, Come on, he says, I'll pay for you, Come on along with us, he says.
[264] And I beat'em!
[265] I had a silver watch and chain.
[266] I beat the whole lot, there were twelve, fourteen of'em.
[267] There were just as many shots, that you could get in a card when it had swung six times.
- [241] Do you?
[242] And we used to shoot'em off.
[243] He used to s- sell - say, a chicken was worth three bob.
[244] My father'd have twelve tickets, threepence each.
[245] That was four four pence each; that was four bob, wasn't it?
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[267] There were just as many shots, that you could get in a card when it had swung six times.

[268] And it shook quick, you know, it - this chap was swinging it and you had to shoot, and I hit it every time.

[269] [INT] *Where had you learnt to fire a gun?*

[270] Hhm?

[271] [INT] *Where, where had you learnt to, to handle a gun?*

[272] Oh, I handled a gun since I was twelve.

[273] Father ehr, shooting these rabbits, on the farm, see.

[274] With mi old muzzle-loading gun, you know.

[275] You shoot the old powder in, put a bit of paper in, ram it down, then shoot some shots in and ram your shot hard, and then put your cap on, never put your cap on before you'd that you had pull the trigger back, put the cap on, and you was loaded.

[276] Then s-, then you shot, and then you got all that go-through again - it wadn't like it is today.

[277] Hhm.

[278] [INT] *When, when were these ehm shoots held?*

[279] Hhm?

[280] [INT] *Were they held - when were these shoots held? Were they a Saturday or week night or something?*

[281] What eh - Boughton?

[282] [INT] *Hhm.*

[283] [INT] *Yes.*

[284] Oh, always on the Saturday.

[285] You know, Saturday afternoons.

[286] Hhm.

[287] I went down there several times with Father.

[288] That was about the last time, I suppose, I yes, because father, he was ill after that.

[289] 's when I come back from the army, he had a cancer in his stomach.

[290] That's what killed him.

[291] He eh, he used to live here, my father did, in this house.

[292] He was ehr working on the farm, and he used to sleep in the bedroom but

[268] And it shook quick, you know, this chap was swinging it and you had to shoot, and I hit it every time.

[269] [INT] *Where had you learnt to fire a gun?*

[270] Hhm?

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[276] Then you shot, and then you got all that to go through again - it wasn't like it is today.

[277] Hhm.

[278] [INT] *When were these shoots held?*

[279] Hhm?

[280] [INT] *When were these shoots held? Were they a Saturday or week night or something?*

[281] What, Boughton?

[282] [INT] *Hhm.*

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[291] He used to live here, my father did, in this house.

[292] He was working on the farm, and he used to sleep in the bedroom, but he

he wouldn't ever go in there - not when he was here.

[293] He said, I've see enough of that when I was here.

[294] I'll show it to you before you go away.

[295] It's got this old king beam up there.

[296] You ever seen one?

[297] [INT] *Hhm.*

[298] Oh, you don't want to look at that then.

[299] [INT] *I'll have a look.*

[300] *Hhm?*

[301] [INT] *I've only seen the one.*

[302] *Yah.*

[303] [INT] *This one's different.*

[304] I'll take you up there.

[305] [INT] *What were these fairs, that, eh-*

[306] *Hhm?*

[307] [INT] *What days were these fairs held on at Badlesmere and?*

[308] Always in May.

[309] [INT] *Always on a Saturday, were they or?*

[310] Oh, always Saturday, oh, yes - Saturday afternoons.

[311] Had to work seven days a week.

[312] The fair was, the kids used to run in the afternoons, and the eh adults never got to a fair much before four o'clock.

[313] See, they had their stock to look after on the farms and all that, but plenty of children there.

[314] But eh, hm!

[315] Used to enjoy ourselves at the fair.

[316] [INT] *Did you ever go to Canterbury Fair or Faversham Carnivals or anything?*

[317] No.

[318] No, I never went.

[319] Couldn't afford it.

[320] We had saved our money - not waste it!

[321] 'f not we should never had money enough to buy out the farm, should we?

[322] Did I ever tell you what it cost?

[323] I told you nearly five-hundred, didn't I?

[324] [INT] *Hhm.*

wouldn't ever go in there - not when he was here.

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[297] [INT] *Hhm.*

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[312] The kids used to run to the fair in the afternoons, and the adults never got to a fair much before four o'clock.

[313] See, they had their stock to look after on the farms and all that, but plenty of children would be there.

[314] But eh, hm!

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[316] [INT] *Did you ever go to Canterbury Fair or Faversham Carnivals or anything?*

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[321] If not we should never had money enough to buy out the farm, should we?

[322] Did I ever tell you what it cost?

[323] I told you nearly five-hundred, didn't I?

[324] [INT] *Hhm.*

- [325] Well, it cost three-fifty.
- [326] I remembered when I got into bed; I thought, I believe I told him that cost five-hundred.
- [327] But it was three-fifty.
- [328] And eh, we hadn't been there above six months, and I was in the field at work, with pair of horses; my father come up, nine o'clock, after post.
- [329] He says, You got another job now.
- [330] I said, What's that?
- [331] He says, You gotta go to Wye, to pay the quit rent.
- [332] You know what a quit rent is?
- [333] Well, you go to pay the Lord of the Manor so much, that was - we'd hired the farm then, 'fore we bought it.
- [334] And he says, You better take that fresh mare, he says, And you can give her a good trial, he said.
- [335] So, I was off; I's about fifteen, sixteen - sixteen, I reckon I was.
- [336] And I goes down there and this quit rent was three and six pence.
- [337] Hhm.
- [338] 'Course, father didn't know nothing about it, 'cause he'd only just bought it, and he couldn't read or write, he didn't know what a quit rent was, and, neither did I.
- [339] But anyway, I went down there, to the I don't know the pub's name was, it was in Charing anyway, we had to go there - in Wye.
- [340] And I got there and I see a man there I knew.
- [341] I said, Where do I have to go pay this quit rent?
- [342] Oh, he says, In here.
- [343] And he took me in there, and it was our, a chap used to come round, for a f-feed firm, you know, a traveller chap.
- [344] He took me in there, and I paid this three and six pence.
- [345] I said, Do I have a receipt?
- [346] Ahh, you don't wanna a receipt, he says.
- [347] He says, You ain't going home.
- [348] I said, I'm going home, I said.
- [325] Well, it cost three-fifty.
- [326] I remembered when I got into bed; I thought, I believe I told him that it cost five-hundred.
- [327] But it was three-fifty.
- [328] And we hadn't been there more than six months, and I was in the field at work with pair of horses; my father came up, nine o'clock, after post.
- [329] He said, You got another job now.
- [330] I said, What's that?
- [331] He said, You gotta go to Wye, to pay the quit rent.
- [332] You know what a quit rent is?
- [333] Well, you go to pay the Lord of the Manor so much; we'd hired the farm then, before we bought it.
- [334] And he said, You better take that fresh mare, he says, And you can give her a good trial, he said.
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- [345] I said, Can I have a receipt?
- [346] Ahh, you don't want to a receipt, he says.
- [347] He says, You ain't going home.
- [348] I said, I'm going home, I said.

[349] No, he said, You've got to stop to lunch.

[350] Oh, stop to lunch, he says.

[351] See, we was a tenant, of Lord Grand and he put a lunch on for all his tenants, see.

[352] And they had t' pay this three and six quit rent.

[353] So, I stopped to lunch, put the horse away, and, wadn't many people there, I was early.

[354] And this mare, you had to st- take her out the cart, you had to stand her right up against a wall.

[355] Because s- in her young days, somebody had took her out and got her harness hooked up on the cart, and frightened her, see.

[356] So, when you took her out, in the open, she dashed out, perhaps 'fore you got all the harness undone.

[357] So, we always used stand her right up against the wall, so she couldn't dash out - dash forward, see, till we got her out, and then push the cart back off her.

[358] Hhm, anyway, old Slippery took her; we couldn't send her to a cousin.

[359] He, she went to Folkestone.

[360] He put her in a four-in-hand, down at Folkestone, run her from Folkestone to Dover.

[361] He said he'd never had a better horse in his life.

[362] Hhm.

[363] But she was a devil to take out of harness.

[364] And eh, as I say about this quit rent, we went in there, there was about twenty of us, I should think, sit down to a table in this pub, and ohh, dinner was laid out, all cold meat, and salad, bread rolls, and beside each plates was a little green glass, and a bottle of ale, in front of you - pint bottle, mind you, not a half pint: pint - and a glass, this little green glass, like ah!

[365] I looked at this green glass, I'd never seen a little teeny green glass 'fore, and the old bloke come round and shot some wine in it - in this green glass.

[349] No, he said, You've got to stop for lunch.

[350] Oh, stop for lunch, he says.

[351] See, we were a tenant of Lord Grand, and he put a lunch on for all his tenants, see.

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[364] And as I'm saying about this quit rent, we went in there, there were about twenty of us, I should think, I sat down at a table in this pub, and dinner was laid out, all cold meat, salad, bread rolls, and beside each plate was a little green glass, and a bottle of ale, in front of you - a pint bottle, mind you, not a half pint - and a glass, this little green glass, like ah!

[365] I looked at this green glass, I'd never seen a little teeny green glass before, and the old bloke came around and shot some wine in it - in this green glass.

[366] Now, we drink the health of the King - Queen.
[367] Q- Queen Elizabeth, wadn't it - Queen - Victoria, wadn't it?
[368] [INT] *How, well, how old were you?*
[369] I - sixteen, near there.
[370] Or rather st- King Edward, I don't know.
[371] [INT] *Edward, just about. Edward, I think, yeah.*
[372] Hah?
[373] [INT] *Edward, it would be.*
[374] King King Edward, wouldn't it?
[375] [INT] *Hhm.*
[376] That's it.
[377] We had to drink the health of the King, that's it.
[378] So, we tossed this here, little lot.
[379] And he filled them all up again.
[380] Now we'll drink the health of the Lord of the Manor.
[381] That was Sir what's his name.
[382] And: Then we had to drink the health of somebody else.
[383] So we had, say - I know we had three or four we had drink the health of.

[384] And then we had some beer.
[385] Well, I'd no- never go- been used to spirits of any sort - I whether, what it was, I'd never did know.
[386] But this old room was going round and round.
[387] And I sit there, and I'd had mi meal, and all of a sudden, the room started going round, you know.
[388] And I said to a chap, now I said, I'm pretty near boozed.
[389] He says, You look as if you were quite.
[390] So, Oh, I said, Well, I'm off.
[391] No, Don't go yet, they said.
[392] I said, No, I'm off.
[393] And I got out and when I, when I got out, got out in the air, I properly had it.
[394] I staggered about all over the place.
[395] [INT] *Hhm.*
[396] This josseler chap at this pub put mi

[366] Now, we drink to the health of the Queen.
[367] Queen Elizabeth, wasn't it- Queen Victoria, wasn't it?
[368] [INT] *Well, how old were you?*
[369] I was sixteen, nearly there.
[370] Or rather King Edward, I don't know.
[371] [INT] *Edward, just about. Edward, I think, yeah.*
[372] Hah?
[373] [INT] *Edward, it would be.*
[374] King King Edward, wouldn't it?
[375] [INT] *Hhm.*
[376] That's it.
[377] We had to drink to the health of the King, that's it.
[378] So, we tossed this here, this little lot.
[379] And he filled them all up again.
[380] Now we'll drink to the health of the Lord of the Manor.
[381] That was Sir- what's his name.
[382] And then we had to drink to the health of somebody else.
[383] So we had, say - I know we had three or four we had to drink to the health of.
[384] And then we had some beer.
[385] Well, I'd never been used to spirits of any sort - what it was, I'd never did know.
[386] But this old room was going around and around.
[387] And I sat there, and I'd had my meal, and all of a sudden, the room started going around, you know.
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[395] [INT] *Hhm.*
[396] This josseler chap at this pub put

mare in - she was easy to put in - and I got up and they said I went through Wye as if I 'as mad - full gallop.

[397] And when I got home, the mare was l- white with lather, from head to foot.

[398] My father come out and he started swearing, What the hell you been up to with her?

[399] I got up in the cart and pitched right out in the, in the yard.

[400] Had to carry me indoors.

[401] I's drunk as hell.

[402] Yeah.

[403] I never forget.

[404] I thought about that when I was up in bed; I thought to myself, I never told him that.

[405] Hhm.

[406] [INT] *Did you go every year after that?*

[407] Hey?

[408] [INT] *Did you go every year afterwards?*

[409] No, I wouldn't go no more.

[410] Father said, No, They can come fetch their quit rent, they want it; says, You ain't going down there no more.

[411] Well, never heard no more about it.

[412] It were just a day's out, that's what it is.

[413] Lord Grand was giving his tenants a day out, you see.

[414] [INT] *Was it a good dinner, or can't you remember?*

[415] Oh, I don't know, it was cold meat, jolly sure it was.

[416] Cold beef, I expect.

[417] Hhm.

[418] Yeah. Hm!

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[418] Yeah. Hm!

◆ part B (*kent02b*)**utterance**

[001] [INT] *How old were, were you when you moved to the farm at Molash?*

[002] When what?

[003] [INT] *How old, how old were you when you moved to Molash?*

[004] Mo- turn it up-

[005] I was four when I come, we come to one cottage, the first move from Sittingbourne.

[006] [INT] *Hhm.*

[007] Then we was there six years, as I was ten, when I went to the other house, in Molash.

[008] There was only a acre of ground of that, and father were, hadn't got room to move, you know; he was buying a lot of cobs, and you couldn't turn four or five in one meadow.

[009] And then Butcher's farm on the opposite side of the road, that's all, come for let.

[010] And father went down to see the agent - Miller his name was, Bobby Miller - and eh, he'd let it to him.

[011] And then we took three acres off Lord - off Sir Wayne Bolton and eh, we was alright, see.

[012] And that's what we finished up with.

[013] And we bought three cottages, and the other land, and they put eleven acres on it; there were twenty-s-, no, nine acres; there was twenty-six, they fixed us up the thirty-one; now there, there was three acres, nothing to do with it - twenty-six and nine, what's that?

[014] [INT] *Thirty-five.*

[015] Oh, then there was sh- sh-

[016] It was thirt- thirty-one altogether; that was including the house.

[017] Oh, no, then we bought two acres of orchard, off Adam, what, back here, lives back here, so as we could get from one field our house to another field without going up the main road.

translation

[001] [INT] *How old were you when you moved to the farm at Molash?*

[002] When what?

[003] [INT] *How old were you when you moved to Molash?*

[004] (unintelligible)

[005] I was four when we came to one cottage, the first move from Sittingbourne.

[006] [INT] *Hhm.*

[007] Then we were there for six years, as I was ten, when I went to the other house, in Molash.

[008] There was only a acre of ground of that, and father hadn't got room to move, you know; he was buying a lot of cobs, and you couldn't turn four or five in one meadow.

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[014] [INT] *Thirty-five.*

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[016] It was thirty-one altogether; that was including the house.

[017] Oh, no, then we bought two acres of orchard, off Adam, what lives back here, so as we could get from one field our house to another field without going up the main road.

[018] That's why we bought that.
[019] [INT] Hhm. *What sort of things did you ehr do on the farm, you know, apart from horse dealing and some arable? Anything?*
[020] Well, we used, we used to use our own corn, we used to grow oats, and father used to keep'em for his horses.
[021] And hay and that, that's all.
[022] He wouldn't sell anything.
[023] He told me, advised me, when I took a farm, Whatever you do, let all your corn walk away!
[024] You understand that?
[025] Feed it on the farm.
[026] Don't sell it.
[027] Feed it on the farm - Well, you can't do it on a two-hundred acre farm, can you?
[028] But, of course, he'd never dreamt of having a two-hundred acre farm.
[029] He told me I was mad when I took sixty.
[030] He come and looked at it - and I had it three year rent-free.
[031] That was in nineteen twenty-six.
[032] He was just very ill, he was.
[033] He used to drive an old pony up till he died, pretty near.
[034] [INT] Hhm.
[035] And he give me the pony and told me to have him killed when I done wi' him.
[036] I had him killed the next week.
[037] He was too old 't do anything with.
[038] [INT] *So you had some corn. Was the rest just pasture for the-*
[039] Hhm?
[040] Hhm?
[041] [INT] *Was the rest just pasture for the horses on the farm?*
[042] Yes.
[043] Oh, yes, we used to turn them out.
[044] Yeah.
[045] Make hay, and then used to keep a couple of good horses and no bearing as what they were.
[046] Never had two s-, the same horses together long, because they was always selling one of'em, see, and then buying

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another one.

[047] Sometimes he hadn't only got one; sometimes he'd got four.

[048] Yeah.

[049] I've been bit all over, with the horses.

[050] I had, I carried the marks on my shoulder for six weeks where a horse fixed me right across the shoulder.

[051] I've had marks there where a horse bit me there - no, that eye, it was.

[052] Hhm.

[053] Oh, I've been bitten all over.

[054] Never was kicked.

[055] I always looked out and give'em plenty of room for the for the legs.

[056] [INT] *Do you think it was good advice your father had for-*

[057] Hhm?

[058] [INT] *Do you think it was a good way of running a small farm, like he did? Do you think he could've do-*

[059] Well, he got a living.

[060] That's all mattered, wasn't it?

[061] And see, Mother got a good job in the post office, she was, got a good job.

[062] She was a bit religious, my mother was.

[063] She used to take the children to Sunday School, and arrange outings for the parson; she was very fond of the parson.

[064] I was in the choir, I told you.

[065] Hhm.

[066] My father wadn't religious at all; but he was straight.

[067] That's all the religion he was.

[068] Too straight to be horse dealer, to get a good living like.

[069] [INT] *What, you had to be a bit underhand, did you, to make a-?*

[070] You want to be a little twisty, you know.

[071] Never tell them the truth, horse dealers didn't, but my father used to tell them the truth; he wouldn't send a horse to a man if it wadn't genuine.

[072] He wouldn't send a horse to a man if he knew it didn't suit him.

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[072] He wouldn't send a horse to a man if he knew it didn't suit him.

- [073] He used to send them down to Old Slippery.
[074] *[INT] Hhm.*
[075] Let him do that job.
[076] But they got on; we got on well with horses.
[077] Hhm.
[078] Used to always keep a lot of pigs.
[079] You always used to keep quite a lot of pigs.
[080] A few sheep.
[081] My neighbour, he used to come and help me when I doing the lambing.
[082] If I had any trouble, I only had to go down Adam's; it was just about - ooh, five minutes' walk.
[083] He used to come up here, and he'd come over and help me, 'cause I didn't know nothing about taking a lamb out of a ewe, did I?
[084] Not at my age.
[085] *[INT] What did you do with the lambs and-?*
[086] Hhm?
[087] *[INT] What did you do with, with the lambs?*
[088] Lambs? My father used to bring them up, and take'em to market.
[089] In the olden days, going back now to when we first came to Molash, when I was, from four to ten, our neighbour used to go to Ashford with two sheep, in the back of his cart, every Tuesday, to pay, to get money to pay his men, and live on - two sheep.
[090] About a fiver, the two used to come to.
[091] He w's lucky if he got six.
[092] So, that shows what you paid your men.
[093] I had sixteen shillings a week, when I got married in nineteen twelve.
[094] And mi father's cottage, and that was two bob a week - we'd let the cottage two bob a week, and we had to give the man a week's notice, to get out, so that I could go in when we got married - well, we give him a month's notice, 'cause I knew when I was going to get married.
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[095] Veer his name was, old Gregory Veer, he used to work for us.

[096] Hhm.

[097] [INT] Y- You did have men on the farm?

[098] He used to work odd, you know, when we was harvesting or anything, when we wanted a little help, setting wurzel out.

[099] Well, I couldn't do that.

[100] Setting wurzel out.

[101] You used to drill your wurzel, and they used to come up, perhaps as thick as that.

[102] See?

[103] You'd get ten in a foot.

[104] Well, you only wanted one in a foot.

[105] So the other nine had to be chopped out, didn't they?

[106] I used to give a man six bob an acre, to go and set your wurzel out.

[107] We used to call it setting the wurzel out.

[108] I got my old hoe out there yesterday.

[109] I told my son, if he - my grandson, I said, If they want you to settin' the wurzel out - 'course, I never thought - I said, Don't forget I got a hoe pur- made purpose with corners, sharp corners for, hook'em out.

[110] See?

[111] And eh, he says, Well, we don't set none out.

[112] 'Course they got automatic drills now that put one in where it's wanted, every foot, see.

[113] My son's got electric drill.

[114] That's what he puts his swedes in with - this drill.

[115] [INT] What did you do with the nine you dug out?

[116] Them dropped dead.

[117] They would only be about that high.

[118] They'd wither up in a day.

[119] [INT] Why did you plant so many? Was it-

[120] Well, you can - with the drill I made; it's sold now.

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[120] Well, you can - with the drill I made; it's sold now.

[121] I had it made, cost thirteen pound, in nineteen twenty-six.
[122] I sold it three years ago for five shillings.
[123] And we've kept it all that time.
[124] Used it right up till we thought, till I give up, and this - James bought this automatic drill.
[125] [INT] *Hhm.*
[126] That cost thirteen quid - Tetts-made, it was made to order. I was the first one to have a three, three-row Kent drill.
[127] That put in three rows; the old ones always put in two - Tetts-made.
[128] Tetts' been in Faversham ever since I can remember.
[129] And I went down there, and I said to this chap, the manager, I says, This blooming thing, I says, I got a three, I got a shim, what we used to clean'em up between the rows - does three rows.
[130] I said, With that two row thing, I says, It's harder this; sometimes you get one close, then your sh- plate takes the row out, you see.
[131] I said, You, can't you build me one, I said, With three rows?
[132] Yeah, Can if you like.
[133] And they cost me thirteen quid.
[134] And they built it.
[135] [INT] *Nineteen twenty-six?*
[136] In nineteen twenty-six.
[137] [INT] *Hhm.*
[138] Yeah.
[139] And I s-, we used it up to - oh, well we used it all the time we was there - eight years - that were the first year I was over there, I said, I'll never borrow no more tools.
[140] I bought a new corn drill, and eh, my old man what was bankrupt, he was going out the farm, he says, First man who'll want to borrow that, he says, Is Paulson.
[141] That's next door.
[142] Enh.
[143] Well, I says, He won't borrow it, 'cause I shan't lend it to him.
[144] And since ever we started putting

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[143] Well, I says, He won't borrow it, because I shan't lend it to him.
[144] And since ever we started putting

grey peas in - that's the first thing you put in on a farm - grey peas, in the old days.

[145] Don't grow 'em now.

[146] Up come Paulson: Lend us your drill, I want to put my grey peas in. And I was, No, I shan't lend it to you.

[147] He says, You're a tidy neighbour!

[148] That was the first year, see.

[149] I said, Well, I that'll want doing repairing, I says, In about three years' time, who's going to do it, you?

[150] Oh, I don't know.

[151] Well, I said, You can have it.

[152] I said, But it'll cost you shilling an acre.

[153] See?

[154] And then that'll outdo the repairs, won't it?

[155] Hhm, You know, I don't want it, he says.

[156] So he never come borrowed anything else off me.

[157] That's how laddie I've been.

[158] [INT] *Why did you plant grey peas or what were they?*

[159] Eh, just ordinary peas like the peas today, only they were grey peas that we used to feed the sheep with, pigs.

[160] Finest thing in the world for little pigs.

[161] Wean - eh, you know, up to six weeks old.

[162] [INT] *Hhm.*

[163] Always used to grow a bit of grey peas.

[164] [INT] *Did your father grow them then, on his farm?*

[165] Hhm?

[166] [INT] *Did your father grow them on his farm at Molash?*

[167] No, he didn't.

[168] Only had a bit of oats.

[169] No, he just growed oats for his horses, see.

[170] [INT] *What did he feed his pigs on then?*

[171] Old miller used to come round with old horse and cart, and a bag of sharps,

grey peas in - that's the first thing you put in on a farm - grey peas, in the old days.

[145] You don't grow 'em now.

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[148] That was the first year, see.

[149] I said, Well, I that'll want doing repairing, I says, In about three years' time, who's going to do it, you?

[150] Oh, I don't know.

[151] Well, I said, You can have it.

[152] I said, But it'll cost you shilling an acre.

[153] See?

[154] And then that'll outdo the repairs, won't it?

[155] Hhm, You know, I don't want it, he says.

[156] So he never come borrowed anything else off me.

[157] That's how laddie I've been.

[158] [INT] *Why did you plant grey peas or what were they?*

[159] Eh, just ordinary peas like the peas today, only they were grey peas that we used to feed the sheep with, pigs.

[160] Finest thing in the world for little pigs.

[161] Wean - eh, you know, up to six weeks old.

[162] [INT] *Hhm.*

[163] You always used to grow a bit of grey peas.

[164] [INT] *Did your father grow them then, on his farm?*

[165] Hhm?

[166] [INT] *Did your father grow them on his farm at Molash?*

[167] No, he didn't.

[168] Only had a bit of oats.

[169] No, he just grew oats for his horses, see.

[170] [INT] *What did he feed his pigs on then?*

[171] The old miller used to come around with his old horse and cart, and a bag of

seven bob.

[172] Or middlings, they call'em now, don't they; we used to call'em sharps.

[173] Barley meal, that was about eight bob, hundredweight, already ground delivered.

[174] Hhm.

[175] Always used to grow mangel for the old sows; these wurzel, you know what a mangel-wurzel is, he used to give them to the old sows.

[176] The sheep.

[177] Horses, ooh, they love them, horses do.

[178] Oh, they do love them.

[179] If you, we've had, I've gone in and the old horses got used to having one; we give them one a day, see - just for a relish.

[180] And if they hear you chuck one up in the manger, the others holler like hell.

[181] You know, they want theirs.

[182] Hhm.

[183] Go-

[184] [INT] Hhm. *Wasn't keeping pigs a risky business?*

[185] Hhm?

[186] [INT] *Was keeping pigs a risky business?*

[187] Ooh, we never had swine fever.

[188] I don't think there was, I don't think I can ever remember swine fever.

[189] We never had it.

[190] Let me think there.

[191] There was a case in Boughton

[192] I don't know whether that was swine fever or whether it wadn't.

[193] It was closed, we went along there one day and the police told us we got to go some other way, 'cause there was something, I think, I don't know, or it may have been swine fever.

[194] I don't know.

[195] They, they eh, if you had anything the matter with the pig, eh, you had to notify the ministry, you know.

[196] And eh, we'd got an old sow.

[197] [INT] *When is this? Is it-*

[198] Oh, this is going back now, when I, when I, I was at home from that war -

sharps, for seven bob.

[172] Or middlings, they call'em now, don't they; we used to call'em sharps.

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[184] [INT] Hhm. *Wasn't keeping pigs a risky business?*

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[186] [INT] *Was keeping pigs a risky business?*

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[196] And we'd got an old sow.

[197] [INT] *When is this? Is it-*

[198] Oh, this is going back now, when I was at home from that war - home from

home from the army.

[199] I was seventeen then.

[200] And this sow was queer, and she got purple spots on her, come out on her skin.

[201] So, we got hold of the police, and they notified the ministry.

[202] Mhm, a bloke come up, said, Well, he said, We shall have to shoot her.

[203] He says, Then I can open her and find out what's the matter with her, see.

[204] So he says, You gonna shoot her?

[205] I'd, You gonna shoot her? He says, No, he says, You shoot her.

[206] So I went in and got mi gun.

[207] Still got the same gun; that's going back some, innit?

[208] And eh, no, this ain't; that's wrong. That was the second year's war; this side but that gun is from first year's war is what I'm talking about - early on.

[209] You know, he went in the chicken house whilst I shot it.

[210] He was frightened.

[211] I looked around, thought where's he gone to, and he come crawling out of the chicken house

[212] I shot her right in the forehead.

[213] [INT] Hhm.

[214] And eh, oh, he took her organs out of her, you know, and he says, You can do what you like with the rest, he says, I should advise you to bury it.

[215] He says, I'll give you an order to buy a - a bushel of lime.

[216] You bury her six foot deep, and cover her with a bushel of lime, he says.

[217] I think he give us four and six, to do that, and buy the lime.

[218] That was four pence, I think, that lime; that wadn't very dear.

[219] And there was a chap next door to us, he was a runagate chap.

[220] He- he, well, a runagate chap was a chap 'as got a living anyhow, as long as he got a bob or two, he was landed, see.

[221] So, Father fetched Brian Connor up, and says, Bury that old sow for us, Brian?

[222] He says, How much you gonna give

the army.

[199] I was seventeen then.

[200] And this sow was queer, and she got purple spots on her, coming out on her skin.

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[221] So, Father fetched Brian Connor up, and said, Bury that old sow for us, Brian?

[222] He said, How much you gonna give

me?

[223] Father says, Five bob.

[224] He says, Alright, I'll do it.

[225] He says, You got to go down six foot, and then chuck that bushel of lime on her. He says, Alright.

[226] So, he was out in there, digging this hole, to put this old sow in, you know.

[227] And he was a chap, stood about six foot, you know.

[228] Ha!

[229] He was down in the hole, we could just see the top of his head, when we went round the corner, and he peeped over the top, says, Ain't this deep enough, Edward? Yes, Father says, Put her in there.

[230] Then he stood up; and it come up about here; he was squatted down in the hole.

[231] Oh, I laughed for to've died.

[232] And Father said, No, he says, You got to go deeper than that. No, he said, You said, Put her in there, he said, In she goes.

[233] She never was put down more than three foot.

[234] Yeah.

[235] [INT] *He was a bit of an old devil, was he this-?*

[236] Hey?

[237] [INT] *He was a bit of an old devil, was he, this chap?*

[238] Oh, he was, a real'un.

[239] Yeah.

[240] I used to have to go mole-catching on our farm; we used to have a lot of moles on our farm.

[241] And I set these traps up, and they used to give us, s- skin a mole, and they used to give us threepence a skin, you know.

[242] You, when you got a dozen, and dried them, send'em up to London to a firm, and they gave us threepence a s-, three bob a dozen, for these moleskins.

[243] Used to cost tuppence for carriage - postage.

me?

[223] Father said, Five bob.

[224] He said, Alright, I'll do it.

[225] Father said, You got to go down six foot, and then chuck that bushel of lime on her. And he said, Alright.

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[228] Ha!

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[231] Oh, I laughed for until I almost died.

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[235] [INT] *He was a bit of an old devil, was he this-?*

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[241] And I set these traps up, and they used to give us threepence a moleskin, you know.

[242] When you got a dozen, and you dried them, you'd send'em up to London to a firm, and they gave us three bob a dozen, for these moleskins.

[243] It used to cost tuppence for carriage - postage.

- [244] And I couldn't find one of these mole traps.
- [245] I knowed I'd put it there overnight.
- [246] Old Brian come along there, he says, Hello, Alistair - Hello, Brian.
- [247] I says in-, he said, What're you looking about for? Well I put a mole trap up here, I says, And I can't find it.
- [248] And he says, where did you put it? I said, Just here somewheres, I says, In a run - There were runs all over the place.
- [249] And him and me looked all around, for this mole trap, and we couldn't find it, you know.
- [250] And I went down the - Father went down The George that night, and he says eh, Did you lose a mole trap this morning? I says, Yeah.
- [251] He says, Well, Brian Connor's just sold it to a chap down the pub for a pint.
- [252] He, he found it. He said he picked it up and put it in his pocket.
- [253] That's the sort of chap he was.
- [254] But I liked him, he was oh, a very likeable man.
- [255] He was about four year older than I was, I expect.
- [256] Too sly for me, wadn't he?
- [257] [INT] Too?
- [258] Too sly for me, wadn't he?
- [259] [INT] What does that mean?
- [260] He found the mole trap and he pipped it up and popped it in his pocket.
- [261] [INT] Hhm. He wasn't much older than you?
- [262] About four years.
- [263] [INT] Hhm.
- [264] Hhm.
- [265] [INT] How, how old was he, when he was doing all this?
- [266] Bu- hey?
- [267] [INT] Ah, when are we talking about with the ehm mole trap. Hhm, when would that be?
- [268] Ooh, that would be when I was about eighteen - seventeen, eighteen.
- [269] [INT] Hhm. Who was the firm? Did you, how did you find out about it?
- [270] Hey?
- [244] And I couldn't find one of these mole traps.
- [245] I knew I'd put it there overnight.
- [246] Old Brian come along there, he says, Hello, Alistair - Hello, Brian.
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- [268] Ooh, that would be when I was about eighteen - seventeen, eighteen.
- [269] [INT] Hhm. Who was the firm? How did you find out about it?
- [270] Hey?

[271] [INT] *How did you find out about this firm that bought moleskins?*

[272] Advertise, they used to advertise for'em.

[273] They used to make moleskin dresses, didn't they?

[274] [INT] *Hhm.*

[275] Were coats for women.

[276] [INT] *Could you get rid of rabbits' pelts like that?*

[277] No, no. You could get a penny for a rabbit skin, and then the old gypsies used to come round and collect them; I don't know what they done with them.

[278] If it wadn't shot, if it was a shot, you only got ha'penny, if it was snared, you get a penny.

[279] You tell by the skin, you look inside, see the shot marks in it, you see.

[280] And you, you were, used to get fifteen shillings for a fox skin.

[281] I st-, I'd catch a fox in a hare wire; we used to set some snares up for hares, you know - proper make them, I used to make them.

[282] And I went down there one morning, was a fox in this net - this wire.

[283] And I eh I went to him; I thought I'll to myself, Tap him on the head, and take him home and skin him, see.

[284] *Hhm.*

[285] Ooh, when I went up to him, he flew at me.

[286] Oh, I said, If that's how you feel, I said, We'll both argue about that, so I stepped back a bit and shot him.

[287] I'd got mi gun; always carried a gun.

[288] *Hhm.*

[289] So, I messed the skin up.

[290] It wadn't no good then, 'cause I was close to him, you see, blowed the - a great hole in him.

[291] Caught a deer in a snare one day. I went down there, as I told you, about how I always trained gun dogs.

[292] And I got a beautiful Labrador dog with me.

[271] [INT] *How did you find out about this firm that bought moleskins?*

[272] Advertise, they used to advertise for'em.

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[278] If it wasn't shot; if it was shot, you only got half a penny, if it was snared, you got a penny.

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[289] So, I messed the skin up.

[290] It wasn't no good then, because I was close to him, you see, I blew a great hole in him.

[291] I caught a deer in a snare one day. I went down there; I told you about how I always trained gun dogs.

[292] And I got a beautiful Labrador dog with me.

[293] All of a sudden he stopped short and his bristles went up and he growled, and I heard some crashing, I went in there, I'd got an old deer, in a hare snare, and his horns were caught in the snare, and his head was as- fixed right back to his neck, you see.

[294] Hhm.

[295] Thought to myself, well,

[296] Didn't want to shoot him.

[297] He was in a right old state. I, I got mi knife out, and he stood and looked at the old dog, and I rushed in at him, and caught hold of one front leg and one back leg and snatched him up on his back and down on him, and cut mi knife, I had mi knife, I cut his head half off.

[298] And my father, oh, he did give me a dressing down.

[299] Well, I said, I didn't want to waste a cartridge on him, I said, He was tied up.

[300] He said, If he'd've cut you with his claw, he said, He'd have ripped your guts out.

[301] He'd had your inside out, he said.

[302] I didn't know that.

[303] 'Course, they d-, they strike and they're so sharp, their claws are, he says, It would have ripped your inside out.

[304] Ah, I had got away with that, didn't I?

[305] [INT] *What did you do with it?*

[306] Oh, sold that to butcher.

[307] That wadn't no trouble.

[308] Father come and fetched him in the cart and we took him down to butcher, and he dressed him and, oh I think he give me about fifteen bob or a pound for it.

[309] [INT] *Wasn't that poaching then?*

[310] Huh?

[311] [INT] *Was that poaching?*

[312] No, that wadn't poaching.

[313] 'Cause they was, we was allowed to get'em on your own land, you see.

[314] No, but not allowed to go in the wood to shoot'em.

[315] Still, it wouldn't have mattered as

[293] All of a sudden he stopped short and his bristles went up and he growled, and I heard some crashing, I went in there, and I'd got an old deer in a hare snare, and his horns were caught in the snare, and his head was fixed right back to his neck, you see.

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[311] [INT] *Was that poaching?*

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[313] Because we were allowed to get'em on your own land, you see.

[314] No, but you were not allowed to go in the wood to shoot'em.

[315] Still, it wouldn't have mattered as

well, the old keeper wouldn't a' said naught if I had.

[316] Hhm.

[317] [INT] Hhm. *Can you tell me anything about your mother's shop and post office?*

[318] Well, we was ehh, we took the, this shop off a man named Paul Pinter when he went bankrupt.

[319] That was down in the corner, down the corner of the village.

[320] It's a nice house now, they've made of it.

[321] And he went bankrupt, and Mother, she started the shop up herself, and applied for the post office and got it.

[322] Now, that was, that was the heart of the job, at the post, 'cause I think they paid her a pound a week.

[323] See?

[324] That was a lot of money them days.

[325] But, of course, there was a lot of writing that was all had to be, and you had to be there when the postman called, nine o'clock in the morning, five o'clock at night, and then we had to distribute the - Mother had to go round the, eh - take the letters out, mind you, round the village.

[326] [INT] *She did that?*

[327] No, the gi-, my sister done it.

[328] Hhm.

[329] I think she was allowed five shillings a week for do that, my sister.

[330] Hhm.

[331] [INT] *Did you ever have to help in the shop?*

[332] Hhm?

[333] [INT] *Did you ever help in the shop?*

[334] No, oh no' me.

[335] She said I wadn't much help.

[336] She said, I- You eat more sweets than I do profit.

[337] And Father, he used to go in and get his f- 'baccor out of the shop then; he wouldn't, he didn't pay for it.

[338] But I always paid for mi cigarettes; I used to smoke.

[339] Funny thing, I, I had a chap, I'd gotten a cigarette case what was given to

well, the old keeper wouldn't have said anything if I had.

[316] Hhm.

[317] [INT] Hhm. *Can you tell me anything about your mother's shop and post office?*

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[326] [INT] *She did that?*

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[331] [INT] *Did you ever have to help in the shop?*

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[333] [INT] *Did you ever help in the shop?*

[334] No, oh not me.

[335] She said I wasn't much help.

[336] She said, You eat more sweets than I do profit.

[337] And Father, he used to go in and get his tobacco out of the shop then; he didn't pay for it.

[338] But I always paid for my cigarettes; I used to smoke.

[339] Funny thing, I, had a chap, I'd gotten a cigarette case what was given to

me when I was - first started smoking cigarettes - when I was sixteen.
 [340] Silver cigarette case, my sister give; my sisters clubbed together and bought it for me.
 [341] It got mi name and address printed inside, and it went away last week.
 [342] A friend of mine, see a - antique bloke, see it, and he says, I'd like my dad to see that, he says, and he took it away with him.
 [343] I'd have showed it to you.
 [344] [INT] *Hhm.*
 [345] *Hhm.*
 [346] Got my name and address, Post Office and all, inside.
 [347] I don't know what it's worth.
 [348] Solid silver, it weighed four ounces.
 [349] What's it worth?
 [350] [INT] *A fair bit.*
 [351] About eight quid?
 [352] [INT] *Hhm.*
 [353] Two pound a ounce, innit?
 [354] And what it's worth with being antique, God only knows.
 [355] [INT] *How did you get hold of it again?*
 [356] My sisters gave it to me when I was sixteen. I started smoking ci- cigarettes: Players were a penny a packet for five; Woodbines were a penny a packet for five.
 [357] Players got every - five cigarettes, and five holders, stuck in one another like funnels.
 [358] So, you stick your cigarette in the f-cigarette, in the funnel and smoke it, you see.
 [359] And they was a penny.
 [360] [INT] *Hhm.*
 [361] Now what are they today?
 [362] I don't ever smoke'em, do you? I don't like bought, I always made my cigarettes.
 [363] Always made mi own fags.
 [364] [INT] *Hhm.*
 [365] I smoked a pipe for a long time; I still smoke a pipe now - about once in, once a month.
 [366] Somebody comes along with a load

me when I was - first started smoking cigarettes - when I was sixteen.
 [340] A silver cigarette case, my sister gave me; my sisters clubbed together and bought it for me.
 [341] It got my name and address printed inside, and it went away last week.
 [342] A friend of mine, went to see an antique bloke; he saw it, and he said, I'd like my dad to see that, he said, and he took it away with him.
 [343] I'd have showed it to you.
 [344] [INT] *Hhm.*
 [345] *Hhm.*
 [346] It got my name and address, Post Office and all, inside.
 [347] I don't know what it's worth.
 [348] Solid silver, it weighed four ounces.
 [349] What's it worth?
 [350] [INT] *A fair bit.*
 [351] About eight quid?
 [352] [INT] *Hhm.*
 [353] Two pound a ounce, innit?
 [354] And what it's worth with being antique, God only knows.
 [355] [INT] *How did you get hold of it again?*
 [356] My sisters gave it to me when I was sixteen. I started smoking cigarettes: Players were a penny a packet for five; Woodbines were a penny a packet for five.
 [357] Players got five cigarettes, and five holders, stuck in one another like funnels.
 [358] So, you stick your cigarette in the funnel and smoke it, you see.
 [359] And they were a penny.
 [360] [INT] *Hhm.*
 [361] Now what are they today?
 [362] I don't ever smoke'em, do you? I don't like bought ones, I always made my cigarettes.
 [363] Always made my own fags.
 [364] [INT] *Hhm.*
 [365] I smoked a pipe for a long time; I still smoke a pipe now - about once a month.
 [366] Somebody comes along with a load

of 'baccer, I pipe anything in front now went in this, indoors, in the holder and anybody comes along got a bit of 'baccer, I say, I'll have a pipe o' 'baccer.

[367] Sometimes I put a cigar end in; I always smoked cigars, you see, latter part o' time, the last five years.

[368] Them small cigars.

[369] And if I get a big'un, I'd put the end in the pipe.

[370] I like a cigar.

[371] [INT] *Hhm.*

[372] I had a standing order up the shop here for them.

[373] Used to have four packets a week.

[374] But I don't now; I can't - cost too much.

[375] [INT] *Hhm.*

[376] Well, the doctor told me, Pack it up.

[377] They ain't no good to you.

[378] I left off just like that, you know.

[379] [INT] *Hhm.*

[380] Didn't make no fuss.

[381] Some of'em made a hell of a fuss leaving off.

[382] [INT] *Hhm.*

[383] Can't leave off, they say. But you can, you know, if your mind, make your mind up, can't you?

[384] [INT] *Hhm. I don't know; I've never smoked, so-*

[385] You've never smoked?

[386] Oh, I think it's a mug's game.

[387] [INT] *Hhm.*

[388] Although I always smoked.

[389] I started smoking when I was at school.

[390] Buy a packet of Woodbines, two of us; put a penny together, ha'penny each.

[391] Then when - got out of sight and had a smoke.

[392] Di- didn't dare let governor see us.

[393] [INT] *Did you ever get in trouble for smoking?*

[394] No. No.

[395] No, my father was a heavy smoker.

[396] He always smoked a pipe.

[397] No, he never made no fuss at all;

of tobacco, I pipe anything in the holder and if anybody comes along got a bit of tobacco, I say, I'll have a pipe of tobacco.

[367] Sometimes I put a cigar end in; I always smoked cigars, you see, in latter part of time, the last five years.

[368] Those small cigars.

[369] And if I get a big one, I'd put the end in the pipe.

[370] I like a cigar.

[371] [INT] *Hhm.*

[372] I had a standing order up the shop here for them.

[373] Used to have four packets a week.

[374] But I don't have now; I can't - they cost too much.

[375] [INT] *Hhm.*

[376] Well, the doctor told me, Pack it up.

[377] They ain't no good to you.

[378] I left off just like that, you know.

[379] [INT] *Hhm.*

[380] I didn't make no fuss.

[381] Some of'em made a hell of a fuss leaving off.

[382] [INT] *Hhm.*

[383] I can't leave off, they say. But you can, you know, if make your mind up, can't you?

[384] [INT] *Hhm. I don't know; I've never smoked, so-*

[385] You've never smoked?

[386] Oh, I think it's a mug's game.

[387] [INT] *Hhm.*

[388] Although I always smoked.

[389] I started smoking when I was at school.

[390] We'd buy a packet of Woodbines, two of us; we'd put a penny together, half a penny each.

[391] Then we got out of sight and had a smoke.

[392] We didn't dare let governor see us.

[393] [INT] *Did you ever get in trouble for smoking?*

[394] No. No.

[395] No, my father was a heavy smoker.

[396] He always smoked a pipe.

[397] No, he never made no fuss at all;

not when I'd started, when I was younger, about fourteen or fifteen I was smoking cigarettes.

[398] [INT] *Did many women smoke in those days?*

[399] No.

[400] Never seen a woman smoke, only in the hop garden.

[401] [INT] *What sort of women-*

[402] See, those - London women come down for the hop gardens.

[403] Here's the thing.

[404] Every farm in - this - East Kent, of about a hundred acres, had got a bit of hops.

[405] You know, and they used to - the old women used to come down from London, and live in hopper huts, as we used to call them, pick these hops.

[406] And when we were boys, and when we were only very small, we had to go out with Mother hop picking, and we had a basket, and we fi- picked that basket, and then we could go play.

[407] We had to pick a basket each, about, about a bushel.

[408] Well, a bushel - we had - three of us, we was and we used to have to fill this bushel basket.

[409] I think you used to have seven pence a bushel for picking hops.

[410] That was, ohh, this field in front here was all hops; I can remember that.

[411] [INT] *Hhm. Used to go as a family, did you, when you were-*

[412] Hhm?

[413] [INT] *You all used to go as a family, when you were young?*

[414] Yes, there was me and - Mother used to take a bin - what they called a bin.

[415] And eh, then you, they'd allot you so big a p- quantity as the children you'd got, they'd let you s- see, and if you're a bigger family, they had a bigger piece, and soon as you got your old basket full, that old five bushel, they come round and chucked this five bushel in a bag, took it away, and they'd give you a chit,

not when I'd started, when I was younger, at about fourteen or fifteen I was smoking cigarettes.

[398] [INT] *Did many women smoke in those days?*

[399] No.

[400] 'woman' -ɜ̃ j:ncsɜ̃?

[401] [INT] *What sort of women-*

[402] See, those London women come down for the hop gardens.

[403] Here's the thing.

[404] Every farm of about a hundred acres in this East Kent, had got a bit of hops.

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[406] And when we were boys, and when we were only very small, we had to go out with Mother hop picking, and we had a basket, and we picked that basket, and then we could go play.

[407] We had to pick a basket each, about a bushel.

[408] Well, there were three of us and we used to have to fill this bushel basket.

[409] I think you used to have seven pence a bushel for picking hops.

[410] That was, this field in front here was all hops; I can remember that.

[411] [INT] *Hhm. You used to go as a family, did you, when you were-*

[412] Hhm?

[413] [INT] *You all used to go as a family, when you were young?*

[414] Yes, Mother used to take a bin - what they called a bin.

[415] And they'd allot you so big a quantity as the children you'd got, and if you're a bigger family, you had a bigger piece, and as soon as you got your old basket full, that old five bushel, they come round and chucked this five bushel in a bag, took it away, and they'd give you a chit, piece of paper, to say we've

piece of paper, say we've took one away, see, or two.

[416] Hhm.

[417] My mother used to, we used to fill about three a day.

[418] Oh, it was fifteen bob a week, you know.

[419] Five days a week.

[420] Saturdays we didn't go.

[421] Then they used to fetch'em and take'em down to the brewery.

[422] We have sold, Father did sell the breweries barley once; he'd grow a bit of barley.

[423] My father could mow, you know.

[424] Six shillings an acre, he had, for mowing; he took six acres of barley to mow and he took six shillings an acre.

[425] That was 'fore he went to Molash, when we's down 'n the other place.

[426] When we's down at the old first cottage.

[427] [INT] Hhm.

[428] That was the price, mowing barley, six shillings an acre.

[429] And he could ow-, he could mow a acre a day.

[430] Then we had to take it out; he used to mow it into the corn, see; that used to stand up against the corn, then you used to go along with your foot like that and take armful, lay it in a bond; he used to twist'em, with a straw, as he went back with his scythe, lay'em down, Mother used to nhn take'em out and, and eh, lay'em in the bond, and bind'em, and then we boys used to stand'em up.

[431] [INT] Lay them in the b- in the barn, was it?

[432] In the bond.

[433] [INT] Bond.

[434] And 'course we were doing it for a neighbour; he done it for a neighbour.

[435] He did grow a little bit of barley out there and then he didn't reckon much of it.

[436] Brewery, we always had a barrel of beer in the house.

[437] [INT] Alw-

took one away, see, or two.

[416] Hhm.

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[425] That was before he went to Molash, when we were down in the other place.

[426] When we were down at the old first cottage.

[427] [INT] Hhm.

[428] That was the price for mowing barley, six shillings an acre.

[429] And he could mow an acre a day.

[430] Then we had to take it out; he used to mow it into the corn, see; that used to stand up against the corn, then you used to go along with your foot like that and take an armful, lay it in a bond; he used to twist'em, with a straw, as he went back with his scythe, lay'em down, Mother used to take'em out and, and lay'em in the bond, and bind'em, and then we boys used to stand'em up.

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[435] He did grow a little bit of barley out there and then he didn't reckon much of it.

[436] Brewery, we always had a barrel of beer in the house.

[437] [INT] Alw-

- [438] We had a nine gallon barrel of beer in the house - always, my father did.
- [439] And the, the old dealer boys come along; he give'em a drop of beer.
- [440] Hhm.
- [441] Us old boys would be drinking beer, too.
- [442] I got boozed one day, when I was, me and my brother.
- [443] We got as drunk as pigs.
- [444] We got in the kitchen window, when Father and Mother was out, and we tried some wine.
- [445] And we emptied the bottle.
- [446] When they come home, we were both drunk.
- [447] A damn good hiding we got, too.
- [448] So that didn't do much good, did it?
- [449] That ain't taking it all down, is it?
- [450] [INT] Yes, it's all on.
- [451] Good God!
- [452] [INT] *Did women often have to work on the land? Did lots of women work on the field?*
- [453] Oh eh, no. No, the, women didn't, only in seasonal work like, hop picking, cherry picking, apple picking and they used to go - don't think the women used to go on the land much.
- [454] Stone picking they used to go; picking stones up for making the roads; they used to pay shilling a yard. My father paid shilling a yard, and my wife picked the stones.
- [455] How's that?
- [456] She knowed what 't is to work.
- [457] She went pulling sugar beet in the war. That's what gave her hands - arthritis in her hands, in the last war.
- [458] [INT] *Hhm. When, did your mother used to work on the land even when she'd got the post office? You know, when you said she-*
- [459] No, she just, she helped Mum.
- [460] She helped my, my mother, see.
- [461] She used to go in, indoors and help my mother, 'cause we lived next door, see.
- [462] They lived in the, two cottage were made into the farmhouse.
- [438] We had a nine gallon barrel of beer in the house - always, my father did.
- [439] And when the old dealer boys came along, he gave'em a drop of beer.
- [440] Hhm.
- [441] Us old boys would be drinking beer, too.
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- [459] No, my wife, she just helped Mum.
- [460] She helped my mother, see.
- [461] She used to go indoors and help my mother, because we lived next door, see.
- [462] They lived in the two cottage that were made into the farmhouse.

- [463] [INT] *Hhm.*
- [464] 'fore we went there.
- [465] And eh, then the cottage we let to old Veer's I told you, two shillings a week.
- [466] And when I got married, he moved, and I went in the cottage, and I lived in there until I went to Throwley.
- [467] [INT] *When was it you went to Throwley?*
- [468] In nineteen twenty-six, when the General Strike was on.
- [469] [INT] *Hhm.*
- [470] And that was a roughhouse.
- [471] Coo!
- [472] I'd got about a hundred pound in the bank, when I went there.
- [473] And I'd got about thr- thr- two hundred pounds' worth of stock, you know, horses and that.
- [474] And the first year I lost the hundred pound; I hadn't got nothing.
- [475] And next year I just hadn't got nothing.
- [476] And the next year, I was nearly broke.
- [477] That was first three years.
- [478] And I went to the bank, and eh told him that I was afraid to write a cheque, and he said, You carry on, he said, Write your cheques, he says, As you always have done.
- [479] That was in nineteen twenty-six, mind you.
- [480] He says, You don't worry about anything else, says, You're doing alright.
- [481] 'T was a good manager; he knew me; he'd been up to see me; he seen the farm.
- [482] He knew all the - Well, they kne- the farms - the bank managers them days, in the agricultural, knew as much about a farm as the farmer did, pretty well.
- [483] He'd been up and seen how was I doing mi job, see.
- [484] And eh.
- [463] [INT] *Hhm.*
- [464] Before we went there.
- [465] And then the cottage we let to old Veer's, I told you, for two shillings a week.
- [466] And when I got married, he moved, and I went in the cottage, and I lived in there until I went to Throwley.
- [467] [INT] *When was it you went to Throwley?*
- [468] In nineteen twenty-six, when the General Strike was on.
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- [481] It was a good manager; he knew me; he'd been up to see me; he had seen the farm.
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