

Oct. 23, 1933:

Construction commenced with brush clearing at the dam site.

1 March '94

--begin revision of Ft. Peck employment, Day One, w/ reviewing Mont. Mag. of His. article

11 March '94 work?

Something like an earthquake of expectations had long been at work here (Ft. Peck), induced by (hooves of Sitting Bull's warriors on the way to Little Big Horn)...

--Granville Stuart's brother died at Ft. Peck

--steamboats?

--engineers/surveyors in 20's?

1 March 94 work

worker detail

(copied because I glued the wrong side of this entry)

JOHNSON, HARVEY L., Box 3347, Butte MT 59702. "I went to work Nov. 3, 1933. I had holes in the oxfords I wore and there was snow on the ground. Everyone was poor. I was 17 years old and had to cheat on my age to go to work..." "Landed in an airplane where the Fort Peck town is now, before the town was built."

James Montfort--2nd folder MHS oral history summaries

1st work at dam was cutting down "diamond willow" w/axe; then pulling cottonwood stumps. Then worked on building of highway between Glasgow and Fort Peck. Then worked at "stripping base of dam" as truck driver; "little dump trucks without cabs or floor boards or windshields." Then worked in rock and gravel section, laying quarry stones.

--seems good on details, might be worth listening to.

Walter Luse--2nd folder MHS oral history summaries

1st job on dam, shoveled snow and cut brush "so thick a rabbit couldn't get through it."  
Used all the axes in town. Piled and burned brush.

Then worked on building of rr track, winter of '33-4(?). Then as powder monkey on stump-blasting crew. Story of scaring a doctor who was looking over their handling of dynamite. Job of burning "poisonous" paper in contact w/ dynamite.

Likely worth listening to for work details and his story of running from the slide.

Story of flushing a worker out of dredge pipe, curing him of sleeping in there.

1 March '94 work

Lloyd Carlson--1st folder MHS oral history summaries

p. 2--work details: injury, "They'd just paint you in merthiolate and go back to work."

p. 3--found a man trying to hang himself

p. 3--"Everybody was shooting for a buck twenty." (\$1.20/hr, highest pay)

p. 4--caught in storm and had to spend night in truck

p. 4--gravediggers moving all graves in dam area

p. 4--"little ceremony" before throwing 1st match to burn dn abandoned houses.

1 March 94 work

Orville Sheffelbine--2nd folder MHS oral history summaries

p. 1--work details: bucket boy for brush-clearing crew

p. 2--"20-holer" latrine

p. 2--worked at "tying steel"

Erick Olson, 1st folder MHS oral history summaries

1930's: "Oh, God, it was terrible dry."

But "I never went in want."

work force: "first thing (the hiring office) did was clean the streets of Glasgow"

Bruce and Neil see movies at the Fort Peck theater (check Ft. Peck or Glasgow papers for what was playing?) and use taglines for days afterward.

For days after seeing George Arliss and Reid Beddow in Squadron in the Clouds, they chirped "Pilots, to your machines!" whenever they grabbed their wheelbarrows.

They speculated about (Jean Harlow?)...

his from his  
My eyebrows flew up to the top of my head.  
Hange  
- Root tried to keep...

Duff's wind

good rainfall in Montana, 1914-18: if that had proved to be normal, Montana wd be Iowa.

Hugh, to Bruce ?

I don't want to hear any bow-wow out of you, .. <sup>either.</sup>

listening to any more of R's bow-wow

about dam:

↳ As like it's gonna be

hell for strong. (i.e., strongly built)

↳ + better be or, whole bunch of us will find ourselves swimming  
to St. Louis.

Leila & John Maxness--2nd folder MHS oral history summaries

L and her 1st husband had ranch at what became McCone City; remembers surveyors coming.

Her husband and John both worked at clearing dam site, trees sawed up to stove length

Bill Whisenhand--1st folder MHS oral history summaries

His parents homesteaded next to site of original Fort Peck; details of raising beans, cutting cottonwood for dam site. May be worth hearing the tape, and following up with Wh. if he's still alive and in Nashua.

p. 5--taxi dancing and prostitution

p. 5--""we'd all been hungry before, we'd all been short of clothes..."

p. 1--prunes from Red Cross (in Depression relief?)

Perhaps complicate Hugh and Meg's initial try at Scotch Heaven:

--Meg hates it, the forest fire smoke, the gray wall of mountains, and most of all, patriarchal Ninian. (remindful of her own growing up as a preacher's kid?)

--Ninian tells Hugh to straighten up his marriage, i.e. bring Meg into line.

--When Hugh can't or won't do this, Darius is both scornful and helpful: he lends money for the Roy homestead, but along with it sends the telegram Matthew: 36--"A man's foes shall be they of his own household." (check this)

Hugh est evg. parm?

It was no worse than... <sup>a beating.</sup>

But it wasn't a goddamn bit better, either.

Hugh still thought o Siderius ...

"the judicious use of a 30-30"

--Eric Ford, 2/12/79 p. 16

"You're getting resourceful now."

--One character says to another, approving of some offbeat idea, perhaps pertaining to a woman; possibly they've been drinking. Possible to use in scene of laying the floor in the Ft. Peck saloon?

- crushwork?
- finding a place to live @ Ft. P?

bleed (as a noun, the long bleed of their endurance...)

bled away (the homesteaders bled away)

<sup>^</sup>  
simply

- use in Hugh & Dana's legend?
- or in descrip<sup>n</sup> of . 30's drought?

Hugh says of the Missouri bottomland: cd raise whatever they had nerve enough  
to plant.

saddle-warped cowboy: see The Big North photocopies in Shoestring livestock file

- someone on dam crew.?

Hughes Dora, told by Winian about N. Fork

--A country that touches up to heaven and across to sunrise, they told me...

(use a dawn scene)

- "wherever I read mo in schol, it come back to mind now"

used?

a family holds (together).  
a marriage lasts.

In cold light it may not seem so great an issue, whether Alec was going to choose college or a wedding band. But I suppose we all believed we had a lot riding on him, especially given all that we and the Two country and even the nation had been through in the years just past.

FHS

Phrasing--loggers' lingo sheet in 'loggers' file

alibi day--payday

cougar milk--moonshine

grouse ladder--limby tree

monthly insult--paycheck

school marm--forked tree

→ slush--coffee (in engineers' office at Ft. Peck)

→ scenery inspector--engineer (said of Owen)

He was pretty mad, but that's all the good it did him.

- Owen abt Hugh?

"I guess I can give it a year of my time."

Hugh, det F.P.?

Bruce?

Ruby Martin--2nd folder MHS oral history summaries

"We ~~ex~~ all came from no job to a job."

"I'm up to my crupper in idiots around here."

*Hugh?*

- me w/ Siderius? d Bruce, tied of perm?

Lloyd Larson, 1st folder MHS oral history summaries

--once lived near Noxon: "It was beautiful country if you liked the mountains,  
but all we could see was straight up." <sup>bottomland</sup>

--cd be used for Duffs on homestead n. of Lewistown; or their reaction to Scotch Heaven when staying w/ Ninian?

get a few dollars together

as soon as we can get...

Bruce mockingly to Owen: "At least it's cheaper to be poor."

It's getting so you can't...

Beth's look

Meg's  
Dora's game ?  
could peel a man

used in Eng Crs?

The person who invented sleep really had an idea.

used in R Fair?

Angus and Anna about to leave schoolhouse after dance:

The morning would guide us home.  
Daybreak

So time was Hugh's Date had come to...  
America... where all. land left in. world waited.

use a Mac at campfire?

<sup>Dora</sup>  
I thought <sup>Owen</sup> Alec should be on his mind, and now put the topic there...

He hit the flat of his hand on (off)...

This was one of those days when <sup>Hugh</sup> I felt dilapidated.

Dora?

We none of us...

see c 1919 drought.

Dora --We need rain.

Muga --Serious.

(dialogue overheard at sheepdog trials, Scotland '84)

Hugh?

vee of thumb and hand, to have grass pass through as Jick walks

Hugh:

~~I~~ knew I was getting long in the tooth; but then it is a way to grow tusks,  
isn't it.

phrasing - transition

<sup>Hugh</sup>  
I paused to gauge how far <sup>he</sup> I had convinced <sup>himself</sup> myself of this. Not that far.

used?

One of those mornings when the world is all possibilities.

"You can expect all you want. What you'll get is something else again."

"What lass did you hear that from?"

"Lady Life, I think her name was."

Nor did they.

Angus to Rob?  
when Judith moves  
to town?

Don't forget, I knew you when. And ever since, too.

rollick along

The homestead boom rollicked along.

Before the rooster could screech the day, <sup>Day/s</sup> ~~we~~ were up and at.

possible Lucas line: Before the rooster can screech the day, you're up and at.

I like that in a lad.

*use verse form of this?*

Beginnings of a Mortal--Max Miller

115--1910 smoke description: sun seemed green, everything else yellow;  
antelope came up to boy.

17 Aug '82--Returning from Vancouver trip, we passed a slash fire, or possibly one that had got out of control, at L. Samish; pall of smoke between us and sun turned the light to an amber~~x~~ tone.

- July 21, 1910: a number of fires on L & C; smoke rising in vicinity of Ear Mtn & Sun R. canyon
- "For sev'l days past. air has been hazy & also redolent c. smoke of . fires which are wiping out . woods. . weather seems alt cloudy, but it is smoke, not clouds, which dims . sun." quote in ch. 47
- July 28, 1910: 100 men on fire <sup>n. of</sup> Badger Creek; Ter'ly & Ranger E. A. Woods, "who is leading . fight in . northern part of . forest, well up to . border of . Blackfoot forest reserve."
  - report fire broke out on n. fork Sun R.
- Aug. 4, 1910: no improvmt in fire conditions
- Aug 11, 1910: some rains, fires subsiding: Deep Creek fire out, no reports of fires on Badger Cr & north; big fire on w. fork of Teton . only serious L & C fire.

1910 fires/2

- Aug 18, 1910: m. Jack Taton fire still burning; unverified report of 14-mi. wide fire on Birch Creek
  - fires from Glacier Pt 2 to Wash'm; troops called from summer camp at Am'm Lake
- Aug 25, 1910: fires still raging; new fire in Sun R country, near hot springs; Taton, Badger still out of control. Tall of yellowish smoke; Sat-Mon., lamps lit at 4 pm in Choteau; sun "dim red disk"; 1/2 mi. visibility. Snow & rain Tues night helped check fires.
  - Snow was very wet, "almost rain." Not heavy enough to break the grain
- Sept. 1, 1910: less smoke; snow & rain checked fires
- Sept. 8, 1910; more rain. post work

the wind bickering against the back of the house

trying to plaid ourselves into this land.

unused(?) from Sky:

I try to think myself back into that other boyhood, to feel from the skin inward what it would have been like to grow up within the far mountain basin, in a large fatherless family, with...

*What had they been thinking of?*

...with winter holding the country five months of a year and bankers in wait for it ~~most of~~ the rest of the time. ] My growing up had its own odd skews, but my father's boyhood crooked off along angles almost beyond my imagining.

used in trilogy? (1st scan, cdn't find it in Eng Crk)

"A country big as this, you'd think everybody could get a living out of it somehow."

"We've done it before." (Dora, abt moving)

"Doing a thing once doesn't mean we have a habit of it." (Hugh)

"It's a start on it."

check whether used in R Fair:

Scot and Belgian, Norwegian and German, Slovák(?) and Dane, they were trying to plaid themselves into this American land.

(use w/ descptn of early 20th c. homesteading boom?)

ND eel payment for strip farming "just like finding money"  
(Sheble, B 631)

Nov. 13, 1933:

Army Corps of Engineers established Fort Peck district office to supervise onsite construction. Major Thomas E. Larkin assigned as District Engineer.