

Transcription of Interview with Phyllis Mattix , Springhill

[b. Westchester, Cumberland Co.--about 28 mi. from Springhill. Born 1907. Her father was a farmer at Westchester. 9 children in family. Rushton--maiden name. Common Springhill name. brothers of hers live here, and a sister. she came to Springhill to work at house, 1927.]

[worked at housework. as a servant. worked for Mr. and Mrs. Carl Cooper, on McFarlane street, and Mr. and Mrs. Hy Glendenning on Pioneer Street. At that time, you had to work. No buttons or conveniences. \$10 a month. Living right with the family. Always had to be in at a certain time. Families good to her. Also worked at her brother's. "If you worked for your own, it didn't bother you so much."]

[would be 1925 to 1927. left school at 16--started grade nine. Springhill looked quite different. Quite a few girls working as domestics in Springhill--she'd meet some of them, she'd be out places. A lot of girls working at housework. "Of course, if you got a girl from the country, you'd get her to work--sometimes the town girls wouldn't work as hard as the country girls." Girls working from the country--some weren't allowed to go unless they got more money.]

[never had much spare time--had to go out in evenings. used to love to go to dances. "And the dances at that time were dances--I don't call them dances today." Some dance-halls, but a lot of dances at that time were house dances. Just anybody would put on these dances. Tradition of dances--house dances--carried over from the country.

[remembers 1935 strike. there was an AMW strike. 'Whatever that was for--it was something about the workmen.']

"I remember one of my children was born that year. And what a time--no money, you didn't know how you was get anything."

[met her husband at a dance. belonged to the Buffalo Lodge, an English lodge near here on the Junction Road. B.O.A.B.]