William Hedlund

SR 1113, Oral History, by Richard McConnell

1988 June 19

HEDLUND: William Hedlund
JMH: Judith Margaret Smith Hedlund
RM: Richard McConnell
Transcribed by: Unknown
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Tape 1, Side 1

1988 June 19

RM: This is an interview that I'm doing with Mr. Bill Hedlund on Sunday, June 19, 1988, and it's about 1:03 in the afternoon, and we're in the kitchen, and we'll go from there. We're looking at some pictures here today, I see.

HEDLUND: We've got some that I think you'll be interested in. There's old floats of in the early our automobile that were entered in various rose parades back 'teens.

RM: The rose parade - the rose festival - was started what year? Do you Rose Festival have any idea when that started? When they had their first in Portland?

HEDLUND: I think that goes back to the 1800s.

RM: That early?

JMH: I don't know about the parade, but the rose show...

HEDLUND: The rose show goes way back.

JMH: Goes way back.

RM: I had no idea that...

HEDLUND: My wife's family, the Stanley Smiths, used to enter their automobile with floral decorations similar to the one I'm showing you here.

JMH: I don't want to correct you - much!

HEDLUND: It wasn't your family? Go ahead!

JMH: [Inaudible]

HEDLUND: It's an old Michigan automobile.

RM: That is really something.

HEDLUND: 1916 - 1914.

RM: I had no idea that the festival went back that far.

JMH: It was very amateurish in those days.

RM: At least they were trying.

JMH: Yeah.

HEDLUND: Everybody in Portland got involved in it. Did you ever see this picture of the old Scripps-Booth white roadster?

JMH: Oh yeah.

HEDLUND: That was a fancy car in those days.

RM: It was. It looks even fancy now.

HEDLUND: That's the first car I ever drove. I was seven years old.

RM: It's a long car. It looks like it's fairly long.

HEDLUND: It wasn't very big.

RM: You said you were born in Portland, and you showed me a picture here of a bungalow, and you said that was in the Rose City area, did you say?

HEDLUND: That's right, it was on - north of the Sullivan's Gulch, just about opposite where Providence Hospital is now.

RM: What year were you born?

HEDLUND: 1910. And that was where I was born. My mother and dad came to Portland the same year I was born. He was a dentist, been graduated from New Orleans Dental College in 1906, - that's right. At the ripe old age of 21 years. He'd worked for a doctor during the course of his going to school. He had a pretty good background in medicine.

RM: Did your mother work?

HEDLUND: No. Women that worked in those days were considered poor white trash.

RM: Oh! It was a different time.

HEDLUND: Yeah it was a different time.

RM: You went to school in Portland? Which school did you start out at?

HEDLUND: At Katy's School out there on 20th and Couch.

JMH: It was a kindergarten, more or less.

HEDLUND: No, it was a school. I went to first grade there, part of the time, I went to Fernwood School. From there I went to second grade in Corvallis and somewhere along the line I skipped some grades.

RM: Your family moved to Corvallis?

HEDLUND: Yeah, in 1916 or 1917.

RM: How long were you down there?

HEDLUND: Just a year. Then we were in Knoxville for a year.

RM: Knoxville, Tennessee?

HEDLUND: Knoxville, Tennessee. And then we came back to Portland, and I entered Ladd School which is where the Art Museum is. And I was there part of the year and then I went to Couch School. We started living up on Trinity Place, in the Bell court Apartments, which is still standing there - still being used as an apartment.

Then we moved out to Riverdale, which is west side of the Willamette River, but opposite Waverly Country Club in 1921. I went to Riverdale School and graduated from their junior high school in 1924. Then I went to Lincoln High School and graduated in 1927.

RM: Is Lincoln at the same place where it is now? Downtown?

HEDLUND: No. It was the first building that was in the complex call Portland State University. It's the big building that fronts on Clay, I think - it doesn't front on Clay it fronts on Park. Park Avenue.

RM: I know the one you mean. Yeah - it's the one at the...

HEDLUND: It's the northernmost building on the Portland State campus.

RM: I know the building that you mean. So that was the early Lincoln High School. And, you graduated from there?

HEDLUND: 1927. Went to the University of Oregon and graduated there in 1931.

RM: What did you major in at the University of Oregon?

HEDLUND: Well, I got a Bachelor of Science degree, I majored in Business Administration. I guess [Laughs] actually I took a little of everything, humanities, and the whole works. I guess you'd say that I majored more or less in Business Administration.

Then in 1931 I started law school here in Portland and graduated in 1935, and was admitted to the Bar at that time.

RM: So, you were planning when you were at the University of Oregon, were you planning to go on being a lawyer? Was that your thought at the time?

HEDLUND: No. No, in 1931 I tried to find jobs and all I could find was digging ditches in eastern Oregon and I went over and tried it and I didn't like it. So, I decided that I'd go to law school. About that time, I got pretty interested in politics. My dad was chairman of the Democratic party here in Multnomah County. He'd always been interested in politics. In fact, I was raised on it. We were close friends with the Gaten's family, among others. Benny Irvine, the chief editor of the Oregon Journal, were family friends. Claude McCulloch, who became a Federal judge years later - 1937 - was one of the people I first remember. He was later a chairman of the Democrats in Oregon. Arthur Fish of one of the newspapers was another interested in politics. I keep thinking about -.

In those days a Democrat was a rarity. And Mother was born in Dallas, Texas and Dad was born in New Orleans. In that country a Republican was a rarity.

RM: So, it was just the reverse out here?

HEDLUND: Exactly.

RM: What kinds of things were you doing in school? Were you joining political clubs or?

HEDLUND: No - I was riding horses and studying and - socializing.

RM: Not doing too much in a political sense?

HEDLUND: No. In a political sense, I was not busy at all with that. I was more interested in the fun part. I worked - started working for the Liquor Commission - no, wait a minute, before that I went to work as - Well, let's don't go that far yet.

RM: Yeah.

HEDLUND: I was thinking again, going back, there were old families here in Portland that came from the South that were Democrats and the gang of them gravitated together. I'm trying to remember some of the people. - I've told you about some of them, Judy?

JMH: The Lusk's were the only Democrats that I knew.

HEDLUND: Hall Lusk was

RM: So you might say there was a period where, where the roots of the Democratic party in Oregon were beginning to be formed? Would you say that was?

HEDLUND: Well, that's right, and then of course the thing that came along was the Depression, and people were very discontented with everything that went on at that point, because there was no jobs to be had. And the Democrats took full advantage of it in connection with the presidential election that took place in 1932.

RM: Was there anybody here in Oregon that was trying to beat the bandwagon for the Democratic Party? Were some people getting out there and trying to recruit Democrats?

HEDLUND: Yes indeed. My dad was a ringleader. And his war cry was 'register Democratic' and 'change your registration to Democrat.' Particularly that went forward very rapidly after the election of Franklin Roosevelt.

RM: Your dad had had a long, long interest in politics, then, I take it, right?

HEDLUND: Clear back to the time he arrived here in Portland. He picked up an awful lot of people among his clients, among his patients, I guess that's what they called dentists.

RM: Was he active to the point where he was holding meets and campaigning?

HEDLUND: He was one of the originators of the Willamette Society, and he was chairman of the Democratic Party in Multnomah County.

RM: What was his first name?

HEDLUND: Elof. Here's an old picture.Later he became Post Master, here's a picture of the whole gang of Post Masters of Portland in our yard in our yard at Riverdale.

RM: We're looking into the very wide picture. It was - I've seen pictures like this before that are so long and have so many people in them. Interesting…

HEDLUND: Let me get you one of the young Democrats.

RM: [Examining photo] These are Democrats, right?

HEDLUND: Most definitely. Taken at the Multnomah Hotel, entrance on Pine Street in about 1932 or 1933, something like that.

RM: It has the B. L. Aldridge Jr, Photographers on the right-hand edge here I see.

HEDLUND: That's I – And…

RM: Is your father in there?

HEDLUND: Oh, I'm sure he was. I haven't spotted him. I suppose that I could put some numbers down of some kind and remember a few of these names.

RM: Well, they'll come to you later on, probably. There are a lot of people here.

HEDLUND: Yes, this was the beginnings of that - this was our convention. A statewide convention. For example, here's Strayer, Manley Strayer, who died just a few years ago. He was an Assistant United States Attorney later and a member of the Hart-Spencer-McCulloch firm. Lawyer. [Wayne L. Joslin?]. Let me get my glasses on. He was one of the chairmen of the group. I was secretary. This is a picture of Joslin. Here's Joe Carson's wife. Joe was one of our Democrats and a mayor of Portland. There's a picture here of old Walter Gleason, who was a long-time Democrat. Ben Musa, who became president of the Senate. Just picking a few of them out at random...

RM: What year did you say this was taken, again?

HEDLUND: 1933, I think.

RM: So, this was the...

HEDLUND: Wayne Stevens of the Stevens-Ness law publishing company.

RM: Oh, yeah. I know Stevens-Ness. This was the first statewide Democratic convention, in other words, right?

HEDLUND: Of the Young Democrats.

RM: The Young Democrats?

HEDLUND: Yeah, the Young Democrats. That was a group that was enlisting newcomers into politics as Democrats.

RM: There's quite a number of people here.

HEDLUND: Oh, there should be a hundred there, shouldn't there?

RM: It's at least.

HEDLUND: Here's a picture of the March of Dimes ball that was held in 1934-35, There's Nan Wood Honeyman. There's my dad. My mother. Myself. Joe Carson, Mrs. Carson, Governor Charles Martin, Mrs. Martin - in the front row. - That's all I can identify right at the moment. This is the infantile paralysis group, the March of Dimes. My dad was head of that for all of the days of his life in Oregon. 'Til he died in 1953. Very active in it. It was one of Franklin D. Roosevelt's prime efforts in life was to find an answer to the polio problem, there were just commencing to find it about the time he died. - I went to work in the United States Marshal's Office in 1933.

RM: That was after you'd graduated from law school?

HEDLUND: Yes - No - I had not graduated from law school.

RM: So you were still going to law school and you were working there too at the same time?

HEDLUND: That's right.

RM: What were you doing for them?

HEDLUND: I was a Deputy United States Marshall. I would attend court, prisoners, and serve process, arrests, and so forth. It was the enforcement arm of the Federal government for the Federal Courts.

RM: They still exist, I know.

HEDLUND: My boss at the time was a Republican, and he was succeeded by Mr. Summerville, who became Marshall. Meanwhile my dad was appointed as postmaster in Portland in 1914. Or 1934.

RM: Well it sounds like your dad had made quite a jump there - from a dentist to being a postmaster.

HEDLUND: That's right. He had practiced dentistry from 1906 to 1934, and about that time he was interested in the affairs of government and was very happy to serve as postmaster, and he served until he died in 1953. - Jim Farley and Roosevelt signed his commission.

RM: And Jim Farley was the Postmaster-General?

HEDLUND: That's right. And he was very interested in running for president, and quite disappointed that Franklin Roosevelt decided to run for a third term.

RM: Right, I recall something about that.

HEDLUND: You can have that.

RM: Thank you. I'll just pass these on to the Historical Society.

HEDLUND: That's what I understand. If you don't want this material just return it.

RM: I was telling your wife I think that there was somewhat of a misunderstanding. There's two things they're doing here - two projects. One is the collection of this kind of material. The other is oral history, and I wanted to do with you, I'm doing the oral history.

HEDLUND: Alright. Would you rather I turned these in?

RM: It might be really better that - I could just tell them that you have this material, or if you want...

HEDLUND: We didn't take these in, because I'm referring to it.

RM: That'll be fine too. Let's do it that way.

HEDLUND: Yeah, and that...

RM: I originally got involved in this, but then I realized that I couldn't do the oral history and this too, so I decided to do the oral history.

HEDLUND: I understand. But I'm referring to these things as I'm going along, so you might as well take them along, and they can do as they please with them.

RM: Right. I'll pass them on.

HEDLUND: If they want further information about it, I'll be glad to do the best I can with it.

RM: Okay. Well, let's see - we were talking about…

HEDLUND: Summerville, including Marshal. He figured that the Hedlund family had enough jobs with the Federal government and he indicated that he wanted me to go. So, I got out of there and went to work with the Oregon Liquor Control Commission, the first year of their existence, 1934. As a mailing clerk.

RM: Stop there just a minute. Do you recall anything significant about why the Liquor Control Commission was created, or how it was created, or who was behind creating it?

HEDLUND: Yes, indeed. In 1933, while Julius Meier was Governor, the repeal of prohibition came about. It was preceded by a law which legalized the sale of 3.2 beer. And then the Federal constitution was changed to repeal prohibition and put in the 21st amendment to the Constitution, which gave the states the right to regulate the commerce in alcoholic beverages. The State of Oregon had some evil histories about the use of alcohol prior to prohibition. It had been an early adopter of the prohibition proposition back in the 'teens. I can remember one with Benny Irvine and my dad in a beer place off the east side — off the Steel Bridge, when I was a youngster, and this would be the last time they could get a legal glass of beer. Burnside was Burnside — it's still Burnside. Where so-called bums hung out, and houses of prostitution lined the streets along north side of Burnside. Nothing new about the Burnside district. It was the working man's hangout when he was unemployed.

They'd have a lot of trouble with people being shanghaied out of Portland when they were drunk. There were places that were operated by saloons, that were operated by breweries, owned and operated. There was a strong feeling that the system that was being used as control in Canada might be something we could emulate. Most of the people around here had been up to British Columbia or somewhere where they had government stores where they sold alcoholic beverage.

RM: That seemed to be working out pretty well, then?

HEDLUND: Seemed to be working well in that country. In New York, Governor Rockefeller, had had the commission working on the proposition on some sort of – of commission that investigated the proposition of state-operated stores and so forth. Again, we had the same thing. The so-called Knox Commission was appointed and made a report to the Governor, Julius Meier, in 1933 in which they recommended that spirits be selectively sold through state stores and agencies. And that beer and wine be licensed for sale by the drink, and by the package. That was - adopted by a legislative act in the latter part of 1933. Among others were, as I mentioned, Nan Wood Honeyman, who later became a congresswoman from Multnomah County. She was on the Commission, along with a number of legislators. I knew practically every one of the persons who served on that commission.

RM: Was that idea pretty well generally received by the citizens? Was there any...

HEDLUND: Very easily. They adopted it with a great deal of success, without any problems. The only real hang-up was whether the alcoholic beverage might be sold by the drink and spiritous liquor might be sold by the drink in hotels, or first-class restaurants and so forth, but the Commission decided that they did not want to do that, and that came about much later. Back in about 1952 or 54. And the people of the state adopted a licensing procedure for sale of spiritous liquor in restaurants. And that stayed that way until that time.

RM: Well, what was the early procedure – did...

HEDLUND: In 1934 the governor appointed three commissioners. - Alex Barry, Jim Burns of Condon. Alex Barry was a Portland lawyer. Seemed to me it was a fellow named Chambers from Eugene, who ran the J. C. Penney store down there, [Inaudible]. In fact, I

went to work for them, [George Samuels?], who was the administrator. I worked over there for five years while I finished law school and took the bar exam and so forth, and left there in 1939 to practice law. But I had a lot to do with the regulations that were adopted and when it was the early set up I ran the license division, was supervisor of the license division, and assistant to the Administrator before I was done.

So that was my early jobs that I went into. And I continued in politics all this time. As a matter of fact, Claude McCulloch wanted me to quit the commission and go to work for him over in the United States District Court as his clerk, and I decided not to do that. He had previously wanted to get a leave of absence so I could work with him as — oh, he was chairman of the state — Democratic State Central Committee during that campaign of 1936. When Roosevelt was first reelected.

By the way, I met Mr. Roosevelt personally in 1932 when he came to Portland in his campaign in which he advocated the building of Bonneville Dam, and I had a lot to do with that because we had to arrange the auditorium and a way to get him to the platform. He was quite crippled, you know. He came in on the train, he had a private train with private cars and after the speech at the auditorium was over, he went back to his train and I went back down there to talk to his staff about arrangements that had been made. For example, his son had accompanied him and I made arrangements for him to play tennis at the Multnomah Club, and there were a number of things that needed care and attention. As I was going through the train to find some of his staff, I came into his private quarters where he was awaiting his scrambled eggs for dinner. He motioned for me to come over, and started talking to me and asking me what I thought about the speech, and what I thought about the Bonneville Dam, and so forth, as if I had anything to do with it. But he was interested in what the public reception might be. He was a very charming person. So that was my first time that I met him and got a notion of what he was like. He was quite an interesting person.

RM: He was certainly a very popular president at the time, too, wasn't he?

HEDLUND: No question. He was a great communicator also.

RM: As we look back in history I think he's even assumed greater proportions than...

HEDLUND: He's had a very profound effect on our entire political system. Things like Social Security, prohibition, repeal, he was a forerunner of that. A great advocate of getting rid of prohibition. The right wine and beer - that was the big slogan. - Many things have occurred for example, the building of the dams. The T.V.A., Tennessee Valley Authority, and all those things that are things that have been copied from time to time. Things that have plunged the federal government into the personal lives of every citizen in this country. He's had a profound effect on our system, no question about it.

RM: At the time of his visit here you say he was trying to get support for the building of Bonneville Dam, then?

HEDLUND: No, no, he was running for president. That was in September of 1932. He was making a campaign speech, and one of the things he was advocating was the building of a dam on the Columbia River, which of course is the first of - I don't know how many? - twenty-odd?

RM: Quite a few, quite a few.

HEDLUND: You know.

RM: I can't...

HEDLUND: Twenty-nine, is it?

RM: A large number.

HEDLUND: Right. It's had a profound effect on your life.

RM: It certainly has, because I work for them.

HEDLUND: That's right, and there's many things that have occurred during his [Inaudible] The World War II was mostly engaged in during the time he was president. Incidentally there's some place along the line I've got a picture of Truman with my dad.

JMH: I saw that a while ago. What'd I...

HEDLUND: Anyhow, I...

JMH: In this book.

HEDLUND: I went into private practice as a - in the law office of the - of Austin Flegel, who's a prominent Democrat. He and his family were prominent Democrats.

RM: About what time was this?

HEDLUND: 1939. And Austin had been the attorney for the Liquor Commission, and I'd worked with him right along during the time that I was there. Governor Martin became the governor in 1935, and in those days it was considered proper to appoint Democrats to take state offices, and that seems to be less important nowadays, but it was important patronage - was quite in fashion.

RM: The Democrats were beginning to get a little foothold into the state government, then?

HEDLUND: Very definitely. Governor Martin, who had been a general in the United States Army, ran, first of all, for Congress. He served a term or two as a congressman, then ran for governor.

RM: Do you feel that the Depression...

HEDLUND: Governor Martin was another of the Democrats that were active in the party. The Depression - what?

RM: Did you feel that the Depression was a stimulus for the advancement of the Democratic Party in Oregon?

HEDLUND: No question.

RM: People were just very unhappy with the economic situation?

HEDLUND: Very unhappy. As a matter of fact - they were practically ready for a revolution.

RM: And they began to look - didn't they begin to look at the Democrats as the party of the people, so to speak?

HEDLUND: Well, more or less, I would say that was true. Certainly, they looked at the Republican Party as the advocates for big business and so forth and that's always been the cry. Strangely enough, I went to work for big business before I was done. I'll tell you about that later. But we were in the meantime building up organizations like the Young Democrats of Oregon, the Young Democratic Society of Oregon, the Willamette Society, which you've heard of. That was a group of Democrats who had the first keg of beer that was broken in Keller's restaurant, down at Broadway and Morrison. There was a trend

going on to get more people registered as Democrats, and I think that it was along about the mid-1950s or the latter part of the 1950s the Democratic Party became the majority party of the state. And it's remained that way ever since. In fact, they've been more or less in control of the Legislature ever since.

RM: Do you feel that that was because of their superiority in recruiting new members or?

HEDLUND: I think it had a lot to do with it. I think the hammering home of 'vote Democratic' or 'register Democrat' really came about. It was a cry that was taken up and carried forth. So - and of course by that time we'd had a pretty new situation in the United States Government. If you read in the 1932 platform, it would be to the right of everything that's ever been advocated in recent years by the conservative Republicans. But they were soon abandoned when 1933 came along. The first thing they did was get in the NRA, the National Recovery Act, which was declared unconstitutional before they were done, but it was a step towards socialistic tendencies that the party turned to at that time.

RM: How did the Republicans view Mr. Roosevelt's recovery?

HEDLUND: Well, they hated him. They just hated him. The hatred was so – [my wife's] dad, for example, used to cuss hell out of him just constantly. He was an enemy of the people, as far as a lot of the Republicans were concerned.

RM: Why did they feel that way, though?

HEDLUND: Well, they felt that he was meddling into business affairs too much, and that they were trying to regulate everything. The S.E.C., for example. Securities and Exchange Commission, and banking, banking policies, foreign affairs. In every branch. There was always something new that formed what the federal government was sticking its nose into.

The Republicans figured that government at that time should be strictly there for the purpose of waging war and protection of the people, and so forth. They finally bought things like Social Security, but it was a long time before they would touch it.

RM: Did the Republicans feel that Mr. Roosevelt was spending too much money on these measures? Was that part of the feeling? I mean a lot of these social programs were costing…

HEDLUND: Yes, I remember for example the Liquor Commission, because I was a state employee, they did not have Social Security. I don't remember why. Lawyers didn't have it. I don't think doctors had it. But I remember getting a paycheck, and that one percent was the first amount that was paid, that was withheld, from the paycheck. In my instance my paycheck was a hundred dollars, and I got ninety-nine dollars net. And the other dollar went to the Social Security fund matched by my employer, for a dollar. And there was no withholding in those days. That didn't come about until much later. After the 1940s - I guess it was during the war. But believe me the Depression made a deep impression on the people of this country. Anybody that went through the Depression knew what a nickel was worth. I happened to bump into some figures when I was accounting to my dad for some of my expenditures in college a little while ago. My room was $40 a month, - or was it 20? Anyhow, my board and room, both all my meals and room were $80. I think that tuition was$35 a quarter - something like that. Now you're reading about $500 a quarter? A dollar was worth quite a bit in those days. You scrounged around under the couch to see if anybody left some spare change around so you could go buy some gasoline to get somewhere. Meanwhile I was going to law school until 1935, so I was busy.

RM: And you said you were working at the marshal's office too, while you…

HEDLUND: I worked at the Marshal's office first and then I went to work for the Liquor Commission. In October of 1934, and then graduated and went to take my bar in the

following July. I was admitted to the Bar in September of 1935. I continued working at the position for another three years, and then went to private practice.

RM: What kind of work did you do in private practice. What did you specialize in? Any particular area?

HEDLUND: Well, first of all I got elected to the legislature in 1940. And served a term in that.

RM: Let's stop on that, right there.

HEDLUND: Then I got busy with state politics, but go ahead.

RM: That first year in the legislature. What kind of year was that for you? Did you really enjoy your plunge into the legislative arena, so to speak?

HEDLUND: Oh yes, I enjoyed it thoroughly. One of my associates in my law office was a Speaker of the House. He appointed me to five very important committees, so I got a real education fast in what was going on at the legislature. I had been interested in that before, because some of my compatriots whose pictures you have in here too [referring to photographs on table] had been elected to the legislature. During early 1932 for example, I went out and got people like Estes Snedecor, and [Don Long?], and Nan Wood Honeyman, and a whole bunch of people like that to run for the legislature, or run for office. For example, got Joe Carson to run for mayor. I'd worked at that. And I got eminently connected with all these people. I mean, they were my friends. And then when I went to the legislature it was like taking a post-graduate course in law. Because I had all those lobbyists who were trying to give me information, trying to tell me how to vote, and I had a lot of people who were telling me what they thought about this, that, and the other thing and it was a fairly enjoyable time for me. It was very interesting.

RM: What was the situation with regard to lobbyists? Were there a lot of lobbyists around you?

HEDLUND: Oh yes.

RM: Were there a lot of people trying to get to you and make their point?

HEDLUND: It isn't a question of getting to you; they're perfectly welcome. I mean you knew what they were interested in. There were people who were friends of yours outside of the legislature who had nothing to do with that. Well-educated people who taught you a lot as you went along.

RM: Were there any rules or regulations about lobbying as opposed to - there are more now, I understand.

HEDLUND: Oh no. In those days there were practically no regulations. There wasn't even a Capitol Club. There were no regulations as such. It was a proposition - many of them were attorneys and they had ethics propositions at the State Bar. People like Oz West was a lobbyist. He was ex-governor. Jay [Inaudible]] was an ex-governor, was a lobbyist. Oh, they were all fine people. Good, decent people. They were advocates, and they told you what they were interested in and they told you what the background was, and I had a good opinion of them.

RM: I guess what I was getting at...at the time did they have to register as lobbyists as such?

[End of Tape 1, Side 1]

Tape 1, Side 2

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HEDLUND: No, you had no registration. For example later they formed what they called the Capitol Club, which I became president of for seven years.

RM: What year was that formed?

HEDLUND: 1961.

RM: The Capitol Club was formed about 1961?

HEDLUND: Either 1959 or 1961.

RM: Okay So, at first there it was just a very informal type of arrangement where —

HEDLUND: Well it wasn't any arrangement. The people advocated things, and lobbies have been going on ever since there was a Congress of the United States. What'd I do with my glass? Here it is. Lobbying is the right of the people to petition for grievances, and so forth - that's part of the Constitution, part of the way things are done in this world. Not for example in Russia, but in the United States.

Well, anyhow, having been paid $3 a day for 60 days - was it 40 days?

JMH: You got $6.

HEDLUND: It was $3 a day. I ran across something.

JMH: You got $6 for living.

HEDLUND: No, you got $3 a day for 40 days - $120 was what you were paid for the session. Supposedly you're going home to till the soil, when you got through with the legislature. You were paid one round trip to the legislature, expense.

RM: What kind of people did you have in the legislature? Did you have a broad representation of all different types of people, from different occupational areas? Lawyers, doctors, farmers, - whatever?

HEDLUND: You have named three of them right quick. Let's see, [referring to pictures] he was a lawyer, Leo Smith was a lawyer, represented the Catholic Church. Harvey Wells was an insurance man. I was a lawyer. Frank Dyke was a lawyer. Frank Lonergan was a lawyer. John Hall became governor later. He became circuit judge. John Hall became the governor. He was a lawyer. Mr. Bradley had a haberdashery, and hats was his business. Phil Brady represented the unions. I think he was C.I.O. at that time. Warren Erwin sold pianos. Stan [Inaudible], what in the hell did he do? I've forgotten. This is Leslie Scott, he was son of the, one of the big owners of the *Oregonian*, and became state treasurer. Van Winkle was the attorney general, a lawyer. That gives you an idea.

RM: [Looks through photos] This is the year I was born - 1940.

HEDLUND: I was just trying to find the - Bob Farrel was a lawyer, he was in my law office. He was my - I represented two counties. Clackamas and Multnomah, and my vote was 31,800, and his was 28,200.

RM: That's what Mr. Groener talked to me about yesterday. He said that you represented two counties at the time.

HEDLUND: That's right. I'm glad to hear that. He's an interesting guy. He knows a lot about these things.

RM: I'm going to do an oral history with him, next, I think.

HEDLUND: Oh, you're going to talk to Groener?

HEDLUND: Good. Walter Pearson was an insurance man. That was the father of the Walter J. that later ran for governor. Tom Mahoney was a lawyer. [Lou Walls?] was an insurance man. Coe McKenna was in the real estate business. Dorothy McCullough Lee was a lawyer.

RM: She turned out to be mayor of Portland?

HEDLUND: Mayor of Portland. That's right. Chester McCarty was a lawyer. Walter Pierce was a big cattleman, down in Baker country. Jim Mott was a lawyer. There were a lot of lawyers in those days. You won't find a half a dozen in either house nowadays.

RM: Can I keep this? Do you mind if I carry it on to them, or do you want to keep it?

HEDLUND: Let me see if I want to keep it. I don't know of any reason why I shouldn't just let you carry it — take it.

RM: I'll pass it on to them, but I want to make a copy of it too. I think it's something I would want to keep.

HEDLUND: Sure.

RM: Thank you.

HEDLUND: As a matter of fact, these things, I don't know any reason why we need them anymore. I'm never going to bother with looking at them much more, and I don't think Judy will. So, the more of them that get to the Historical Society the better. We can always find it in their archives.

RM: Right, right. - they've got a lot of people committed to giving them their papers, but...

HEDLUND: I am.

RM: Yes, but...

HEDLUND: I'm going to give them everything I can give them.

RM: Well, they're having to work their way through, you know.

JMH: Are they getting much stuff?

RM: Well, they're getting a lot of stuff, but they're limited by the amount of people that they have to go through it and sort it out and everything. Originally, I was going to become involved in that, but then I got off into the oral history thing, and I can't do both at once.

HEDLUND: You cannot, and furthermore, if you get involved in these things by the hour, you're going to go quietly crazy.

RM: Yeah, well when I first started out, I was sorting boxes of them, and it's a very time-consuming chore. You know, they don't have enough volunteers right at the present time to do the whole job, so they're just fighting a sort of a rough battle that way.

HEDLUND: Oh, for example, it's hard for us to even review some of the crap that we've got around here, even though it's quite interesting to us - you get involved in it, and say oh to hell with it, and put it back in the closet. It interferes with your golf, and your social life, and everything else.

RM: I know. You can only do so much at one time. [Laughs]

HEDLUND: That's right.

RM: That first year you were in the legislature, do you recall?

HEDLUND: The only year I was in the legislature.

RM: The only year. Well, do you recall what some of the leading issues were that were being talked about that year?

HEDLUND: Yes, in fact I served on the committees that took care of all the things. Workmen's' compensation and unemployment compensation were big featured issues. Uh, we had - the question was whether the workmen's' compensation was adequate, whether they should be awarded more money when they're injured, and so on and so forth. Those are big issues because the compensation proposition would require the payment of a hell of a lot of tax on the part of the employers. Of course, labor unions were fighting for every nickel they could get. The same thing was true of unemployment compensation. The taxes on unemployment compensation are quite substantial. In those days unemployment was rampant. It was the way to go. And a lot of people were having to live on. All those things, those issues were sent to the Judiciary Committee of which Frank Lonergan was the chairman, and I was a member, and Orval Thompson, a lawyer from Albany - a well-respected lawyer — and John McCort who became a circuit judge. Frank Lonergan became a circuit judge, so did McCort. Don Heisler from The Dalles, a

lawyer. There was only about half a dozen of us, and we had very limited quarters to hear all these people. Sometimes we'd go down to the chamber and have them turn on the speaker - the loudspeaker - and have people talk to us. Advocates for either side. But it was all very touch-and-go and tough. There were amendments to the liquor laws that had to be done.

RM: On the workers' compensation, were the Democrats taking the lead for advancing that cause and the Republicans against it, or how were the party lines being drawn on that one?

HEDLUND: It was very simple. In those days if you were a Democrat, you were in a very extreme minority. It was unusual for a Democrat to be elected to the Legislature. It was dominated by the Republicans and was clear back until about 1957 or 1959, before the Democrats became powerful enough to take over.

RM: Roughly at that time...

HEDLUND: There were no partisan issues in those days. I mean you just left those out.

RM: Roughly, how many Democrats were there compared the Republicans...

HEDLUND: Probably ten percent.

RM: That small?

HEDLUND: Yeah.

RM: So, the Democrats were really a minority?

HEDLUND: Oh, they were a minority, I mean, believe me they were a minority!

JMH: Bob Farrel, he was a Republican.

HEDLUND: He was a Republican. There I am. Frank Dyke was a Republican. Republican. Republican. Here was Democrat. (Referring to pictures on table). Warren Erwin, Phil Brady. Dale Smith was a Democrat. - Charlie North, I got him to run for constable, which is really kind of a marshal for the District Court. He knew nothing. They ran, and the Democrats went into office that year. He was elected. Francis Lambert, well known in the Historical Society, a very active member. He was a Democrat. That was it.

RM: Did the Democrats mix with the Republicans in a social sense? I mean, were you accepted in a social...

HEDLUND: Oh, yeah.

RM: There wasn't any rancor, or anything?

HEDLUND: Not the slightest. Farrel was a leader. Earl Snell was the Secretary of State. Sprague was the...

JMH: What year were they all killed?

HEDLUND: 1947.

RM: They were killed?

JMH: Three of them — killed in an airplane accident.

HEDLUND: Farrel, Earl Snell, Governor, Secretary of State, and the president of the Senate were on a goose-hunting trip out to Lakeview country. Their plane went down, and all of them were killed.

JMH: It was horrible.

RM: I was only seven at the time. Seems to me I recall something vaguely about that.

HEDLUND: It was a tragedy. They were well thought of, all of them. No, as far as any social connotation of Democrats and Republicans...

RM: So you all got along pretty well, but the Democrats just didn't have much clout at the time?

HEDLUND: No, and as far as that's concerned, socially I think that party members respect each other, regardless of whether they're Republican or Democrat. I've never had anybody refuse to socialize with me because I'm a Democrat! [Laughs] That I remember, or was aware of! Let's put it that way! A good example here. This gives you an idea of what it was. It was Paul Patterson who was governor. The Chinese man that had the restaurant there invited this gang together in his honor - the governor's honor.

RM: I remember Governor Patterson.

HEDLUND: There were two Patterson's that were Governor, but this would be the one you would know.

RM: Right.

HEDLUND: He died in 1956. Yes - 1956. January. He was going to run for United States Senate. He was one of the nicest men I ever knew.

RM: Governer Patterson?

HEDLUND: He really just was a marvelous person.

RM: Was he a Democrat or Republican?

HEDLUND: He was Republican.

RM: [Looks at photographs] Well it looks like there are having a good time?

KEDLUND: Here's one of Debbs Potts, he was a member of the legislature, I was a lobbyist. Debbs Pott's was a head of the gambling commission, the lottery commission.

RM: That's a good one.

HEDLUND: That's - you never heard of that I don't suppose. What in the hell was her name? Christine!

JMH: Christine. [Laughs]

RM: He's giving her a big hug. [Laughs]

HEDLUND: Christine was a sex-change artist. She would start out as a man, and they would change her to a woman, or vice-versa.

RM: Maybe you'd better keep that one.

HEDLUND: I think I'd better keep this one. I'm trying to remember who this is back there in the background.

RM: Someone that's enjoying it, I can see that.

HEDLUND: Well, it was a riot. We had these lobbyists would put on show making fun, poking fun at all of these people. We do every year. I they do it any more or not. I guess not. I haven't read

JMH: I haven't heard about it.

RM: You only stayed in the legislature then a year?

HEDLUND: That's right.

RM: And then you went on to -

HEDLUND: Well, I became Assistant United States Attorney for a couple of years.

RM: Right after that?

HEDLUND: I was in the Coast Guard auxiliary, I had a deaf ear and they wouldn't take me in the regular service. I went back into private practice and I was hired by the oil companies as their lobbyist in 1945, and I represented them at the Oregon Legislature for 33 years. And practiced law privately as well, at the American Bank Building. I got thoroughly involved in politics because when you're monkeying with the legislature, you're involved with politics - period. So, it was always second nature to me.

RM: During those years were there any additional restrictions put on lobbying activities?

HEDLUND: Well, we put on some of our own. We had some situations that were embarrassing. It's sad that those were simply - I don't know what the hell we did - I guess we just kind of embarrassed people out of the job. I can remember – The Capitol Club was formulated, we policed ourselves.

RM: Tell me a little bit about that Capitol Club…

HEDLUND: We policed ourselves and even passed, later passed regulations as to what was proper conduct and what wasn't.

RM: Was it a sort of a group to monitor ethics of…

HEDLUND: It was that. We had a group of, kind of a board deal that was a very democratic sort of an affair. We had frequent meetings and we talked about what was proper and what wasn't proper.

There were some rules that were passed in the House and Senate about not being able to go into the aisles alongside where the Senate was meeting and the House was meeting. Legislators, some of them, had been annoyed by the tactics of some lobbyists who weren't so very smart about bothering people, and - the legislature picked that up later and passed a law about having an ethics commission, which was an awful dammed nuisance, but there it is.

RM: What year was that, that that came into being?

HEDLUND: Oh, around 1971. I'm not sure. I could look it up. It was much later.

RM: So, was the problem with the lobbyists just getting worse and worse, that they had to...

HEDLUND: No. They just decided that like most legislators they ought to pass a law. They saw what we were doing as far as regulating ourselves were concerned, and they figured they ought some machinery to chastise their own members on their conduct as well as chastise any misconduct on the part of lobbyists or other citizens who were involved in the process of government, and they founded this ethics commission, and that's what they do.

RM: Were the lobbyists then required to register?

HEDLUND: Oh yes. From there on. And report all their expenditures and activities and so forth.

RM: Did that curtail a lot of things you could do, like taking a legislator out to dinner, or something like that?

HEDLUND: It put some limits on it. But in general, it did not limit it to the point where it was forbidden. You had to report what you were doing, which made it a public record. And of course, that would have some significance in the amount of money that might be expended on various activities. [Inaudible]. Let me say this. In all my years down there I saw very, very little that you could really criticize as far as what you would say bribery is concerned. I would say it was as clean as any place I've ever seen. They just simply didn't stand for that sort of monkeyshine.

RM: So things were by and large out in the open, and there wasn't anything going on behind the scenes?

HEDLUND: That's right. Of course when you say not anything going on behind the scenes, there's a lot of things you'd never see, but in those days, for example, a contribution to a campaign - a hundred dollars, or fifty dollars would be considered an adequate amount for persons - a person - running for office. For example, I spent a hundred dollars on my campaign. Now they're spending five figures, and on up. It's reached six figures at this point in some of the legislator campaigns. And certainly, this was true: that those campaign contributions can't be ignored when it comes to a legislator listening to somebody's plea on behalf of their client. That doesn't mean that they're going to vote for him willy-nilly because there was a contribution made, but it is certainly at least going to make them listen to the plea that is made on behalf of the people. You can't just kick them in the teeth. I don't think there's anything wrong with that, frankly.

RM: That's how the system works?

HEDLUND: It works alright, and I've seen the legislature in action for many years now, and I'm content as a citizen. Labor unions spent a lot of money on electing people. Nowadays the biggest contributions comes out of the educators - the school lobby.

RM: And they're a very strong lobby now, too?

HEDLUND: Yeah, they spend an awful lot of money. It's in six figures, and then some.

RM: They seem to have a great deal of influence with the...

HEDLUND: They have a great deal of influence, and they should have, because education is a big industry, and it's one that is important to us.

RM: During the years that you were a lobbyist, were there some other strong lobbying groups at work, too? That had significant influence?

HEDLUND: Well, let me put it this way. Anybody that has the common sense who knows how to walk up to a legislator and get his trust and get listened to, has got influence. They're going to be listened to. Legislators are like other human beings - they listen. They don't ignore what they're told. If they don't trust somebody that person won't last long in the lobbying game.

RM: Credibility is very important?

HEDLUND: It's the most important thing a person can get down there, is that trust that's necessary.

RM: And I imagine that once you lose that you're...

HEDLUND: You're screwed. That's common gossip about somebody not being straight with the legislators. It isn't long before they're through. I 've seen it happen.

RM: When did you terminate your lobbying relationship with...

HEDLUND: 1977. The end of that year. I decided I'd done it long enough and I was tired.

RM: You still continue to practice law?

HEDLUND: No, not in any active status, that is of the end of this last year. Which is 1987. I've in inactive status in Oregon State Bar now.

RM: Did you have any other significant activities after you stopped your lobbying?

HEDLUND: Well actually when I got through with lobbying, they appointed me as chairman of the Liquor Commission, and I spent - I just finished - eight years of doing that.

RM: Was that a full-time job?

HEDLUND: No. I gave quite a time, though. No, it's not a full-time job, it's a citizen's board, like all the rest of these boards that are – whatever - set up under the state system. They pay your expenses that you incur while you're operating as a member of the board, and they pay you $30 a day for the days that you serve, that you actually show up for meetings and so forth.

RM: Do you formulate basic policy for the Commission, or do you...

HEDLUND: The basic policy is formed by the Commission. The legislature is the one that forms the basic proposition, but to carry out the objectives of the legislature the Commission has to adopt regulations.

RM: Are individual operators, when they have their permits denied, does it sometimes...

HEDLUND: The Commission is the one that denies them or delegates the authority to deny them. Or, in the case of any sanctions or penalties, passes on those sanctions and penalties, and if there's an appeal from what has happened at the staff level the Commission hears that. They have a hearing staff, and they make a recommendation, but the Commission hears finally any plea.

RM: I also...

HEDLUND: I don't mean finally, because it can go on up to the court of appeals.

RM: The other day I heard on the news something about an administrative law judge being involved in the appeal of a liquor permit, so that comes into being sometimes?

HEDLUND: It's a hearings staff that's set up with lawyers and a lawyer in charge, and about three or four hearings officers. And appeals on license refusal, or granting, or the penalties that might be suffered because of violations of the regulations of the law are heard and recommendations and findings of fact, conclusions of law, recommendations through the Commission are made by that staff. It's kind of what a judge that holds a trial, and makes a report to the Commission. The Commission makes a final judgement. The Commission makes a final judgement and action. I suppose that what you heard the other day had to do with probably that place out at...

RM: Sandy.

HEDLUND: The Sandy Jug.

RM: The Sandy Jug, yeah.

HEDLUND: I suspect that most of the neighbors don't like the nudity.

RM: That may be part of the problem. I didn't know much about what was going on. Apparently, the police didn't have that much of a complaint about them.

HEDLUND: No, the city council refused to recommend the granting of the license. The matter came before me while I was still on the Commission. I sent it to hearing.

RM: Ah, let's go back. During the years that you were a lobbyist, were you still remaining active in the Democratic party system? Were you doing things...

HEDLUND: No, I was more active in the central committee. No. As a matter of fact, you couldn't afford to do that, because you had to work with both Republicans and Democrats, and you don't want to get yourself too involved with partisan politics.

RM: You didn't really want to have...

HEDLUND: You've got these - all these Republicans that are there that are your friends. My neighbor Roger Martin, for example, represented us from this district, and he was a personal friend. He was a Republican, very active, was, but now he's a lobbyist, and he's not so active in that. He has to take care of the Democrats too.

RM: He's one of the people that gave papers to the Society, in fact it was his papers that I was going through. But, anyway, all these years the Democratic Party was gaining in strength, slowly, slowly, but they were gaining?

HEDLUND: I think it's kind of levelling out right now. It doesn't seem to be quite as strong a trend either way, as far as I can see. The parties aren't as potent in Oregon as they may be in other states. They might help somewhat in the election of various people to office, but generally the person's putting on his own campaign, regardless of what the party does.

RM: So, you think in Oregon that people vote more for the man or the woman than they do for the party?

HEDLUND: I don't think there's any question about it. We've had Republican governors. Democratic governors, secretaries of state of various parties. It doesn't seem to make that much difference?

RM: But did it in the earlier days?

HEDLUND: Oh, very much.

RM: So there's been a significant change then in that regard?

HEDLUND: Well, I don't know. I'm not sure that people didn't - respect the parties as much as perhaps some of the people in the party thought that they should be considered. Certainly, activities of the party can help or hurt in campaigns, or inactivity, but I don't they have any predominance as far as the ordinary voter in the state of Oregon. I don't think they pay an awful lot of attention whether they're - except, perhaps, the unions. They seem to dominate the Democratic party now.

RM: There's always been a fairly strong association between the labor unions and the Democratic Party?

HEDLUND: That's right. That's right. I think the labor unions pointedly went that route.

RM: Would you say that's the primary driving force behind the growth in the Democratic party over the years, is labor's support of it?

HEDLUND: That's blue-collar support. I that that has a lot to do with it, yeah. Nationally, you're thinking of.

RM: Well, locally too, statewide.

HEDLUND: It has something to do with it.

RM: Because, from what you're telling me, you know, in the early years the Democrats...

HEDLUND: The labor unions really came into power right in the middle 1930s, with their lobbying of the Congress and the passing of the National Labor Relations Act. The passage of unemployment compensation laws that were federal. The same thing with our labor department here in the state of Oregon. There isn't any question but what the labor unions had a powerful force in the connection of legislation.

RM: Do you see any other driving forces behind the growth of the Democratic party, in the state? Anything you can identify?

HEDLUND: Give me a for-instance.

RM: Well, any particular person, for example, any particular Democrat who really drove the development of the party, who really advanced the party in Oregon?

HEDLUND: I think that all of the Democratic governors have put in a good word for their people, and said please support the Democrats for the legislature, I need their help, like Goldschmidt's done, for example. He's doing that. He's said that he wants a Democratic legislature. The Republicans are trying like hell to get predominance in the House of Representatives at this point. I don't know how they're going to fare. No question about it: the speaker and the president of the Senate are most powerful men when it comes to legislation, because they appoint the committees, and they stack them, and they send each of the bills - they're referred to a committee that the speaker or the president of the Senate decides to work on a bill of any kind, is actually carried on in the committee, and the recommendations of that committee has an enormous amount of weight with the members on the floor. And legislation just doesn't go anywhere if the committees don't support it. So, getting the Speaker of the House a Democrat means that the Democrats have the predominance in what that legislation comes through or doesn't come through.

RM: So, in other words, pro-labor legislation is going to be very much aided if we have a Democratic majority?

HEDLUND: Well, it's been that way now for twenty years - thirty years. There's been a - they've had a very strong say in what kind of legislation's gone through in this state.

RM: I guess what I really wanted to ask you - looking back, were there any Democrats who - we've covered this a little bit - but any other people - are there any other Democrats you can think of who really impressed you as leaders, and people who pressed the advancement of the Democratic party in Oregon? Anyone you would were particularly impressed with, as far as their leadership abilities? - The kind of people that people rallied behind. That sort of thing.

HEDLUND: I think most of the - most of it's a proposition of those persons who were elected to office have had more to do with whether they have given spirit to the party. Republican or Democrat. The governors, the legislators and so forth.

RM: Well, let me ask you. The great Democratic governors that we've had. Any one stand out in your mind particularly? That you were impressed with their leadership qualities?

HEDLUND: We've had darn good governors. They've been terrific guys, both Republican and Democrat. It's hard to differentiate between how much.

RM: I'm not trying to put you on the spot, here.

HEDLUND: Well, I'm really trying to be honest with you. Going back and looking at these people, I've known them all. Clear back to the 1910s. I knew Walter Pearce, who was a congressman and a governor of our state from 1921 to -3 or something like that. I've known Patterson. The first - Ike Patterson. Norblad. Julius Meier. His son was my roommate in

college. I've known them all! The people that I'm talking about. Walter Pearson was a great advocate of the Democratic party, but he was one of the few to make a lot of noise about it.

RM: Someone who strikes me - Wayne Morse. Now he was a federal.

HEDLUND: And he was a Republican, and then he changed to Democrat. I don't think that - I don't think he converted anybody any old way. You never knew what the hell he was going to do. He was his own man.

RM: He was sort of unpredictable, wasn't he?

HEDLUND: He was very unpredictable. And he had friends among the Democrats and he had friends among the Republicans.

RM: In a certain sense, though, Wayne Morse did put Oregon on the political map, didn't he? Don't you think?

HEDLUND: Well, hell, we had Charlie McNary who had more power back there in the United States Senate than most men would ever think in terms of!

RM: Was he a Democrat?

HEDLUND: He was Republican. In fact, he was even nominated by the Republicans as a running mate for Wendall Wilkie. And Wilkie and McNary ran together, as Republicans. He was a very powerful man. We've had some powerful senators back there!

RM: He was the one that McNary Dam was named after?

HEDLUND: Oh yeah. His family - the McNary's - I've known all the McNary's. One of them was my chum. I ran across an invitation here of an announcement about his marriage somewhere. I don't know. You take guys like Paul Patterson. Vic Atiyeh has not been recognized for the excellent job he did through these lean years of no money, and running a very tight ship, which is what people wanted, but they didn't know it and it certainly doesn't stand out as a great proposition of how the economy expanded, but Neil Goldschmidt is now reaping some reward from the very stewardship that Vic Atiyeh gave it. And before Vic was a hell of a guy. I was always suspicious of him as being a kind of radical Democrat, and he was anything but. I can't think of his name. I can't remember your name, for God's sake!

RM: I can't remember who you're thinking of, too!

HEDLUND: An older guy...

RM: Straub!

HEDLUND: Straub. And he did things for the Democratic party, so he was a help to them.

RM: How did you feel about Governor McCall?

HEDLUND: Oh, he was a hell of a guy. I just - he really had everybody jumping up and down. He did some things that I wasn't very happy with, but he also did some things that were very beneficial to this state. And our heritage from years. This administration will be something that will be felt for...

RM: So what I hear you saying then is that we've had a lot great politicians both Republican and Democrat?

HEDLUND: No question about it. I have been extremely fortunate. Earl Snell, Charlie Sprague, who was the editor of the Salem newspaper - Statesman. Fine man. Not particularly partisan. My friend from the coast down here, who served for a while. Elmo Smith, out in Eastern Oregon...

RM: I remember him.

HEDLUND: Elmo was a good guy, but he wasn't a politician who talked with people at all. Didn't have an awful lot to say, and he wasn't there very long. He took the place of Earl Snell when Snell was killed.

RM: I remember, though, I remember him. How about Governor Holmes?

HEDLUND: That's the one I was - the one from the coast was Holmes. Bob Holmes. He had - he was helpful to the party. He represented the party and did what he could for them.

RM: Then there was a Douglas McKay.

HEDLUND: Doug McKay was extremely -

RM: Was he a Democrat?

HEDLUND: He was a Republican. He went around in 1948, running for governor. All around the state, and he got acquainted with a lot of people and he was a member of the Senate.

RM: He had a car dealership in Salem, I remember.

HEDLUND: Cadillac-Chevrolet dealership. Very likable person. Not the greatest brain in the world but he was a very good politician. He went back to the cabinet and didn't just undistinguished himself as Secretary of Interior. Then he tried to run for United States Senate. He got beat. We've had a fine...take guys like Oswald West, who was a Democrat, back in 1910. He was governor. He was the one who got the workmen's' compensation law started. So, there was insurance for people who were injured on the job. That was big deal in those days. That was something completely new.

RM: I'm sure it was.

HEDLUND: Everybody takes these things for granted, but it took some doing. He was also instrumental in saving our beachline. I went out and fought against the penny gas tax that they were going to spend on nothing. They already had the beachline, you know, but they were going to tax somebody.

[End of Tape 1, Side 2]
[End of Interview]