

TEMPE ORAL HISTORY PROJECT
Tempe Historical Museum
809 E. Southern Avenue
Tempe, AZ 85282

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BEGIN TAPE ONE, SIDE ONE

BIELO: What prompted you to come to Tempe?

MOEUR: Well, I was born in Tempe.

BIELO: When was that?

MOEUR: In 1923. Not only that; I'm really kind of a rarity. My father was born in Tempe. He was born here in 1898, I think it was. Tempe wasn't much of a town. It wasn't much of a town when I grew up here. A little, bitty town.

BIELO: Do you remember your father telling you much about what it was like when he was growing up here?

MOEUR: Yeah, for one thing, it was an all-day trip to go to Phoenix because you had to go on the train. (I'm talking about my father.) There was no bridge across the Salt River which ran all the time at that time. It was full of water. I can remember my grandmother telling about taking my father and his siblings on the train. They'd make train reservations and spend the whole day. Even when I was in high school, which was in the '30s, if you went to Phoenix for the day you got your name in the paper- "Joe Smith spent the day in Phoenix today on business." Isn't that amazing? Our population in Tempe was probably less than 2,000 [in the '30s]. Phoenix had about 4,500.

The thing that really changed the whole demographics of

this area was the war. Every G.I. who trained here or came through here or whatever, moved back here. Half the British airmen who trained out a Falcon Field, moved in. Some of the German prisons of war moved here after the war was over.

BIELO: Were they set off at all from the rest of the population?

MOEUR: No. I was in the army, and coming home on furlough. I [remember] going to downtown Phoenix and seeing all these POWs wandering around, shopping at the stores like everybody else. American prisoners of war don't get that kind of treatment like that. There was a big German prisoner of war camp out in west of Scottsdale, kind of out by the Desert Botanical Gardens but a little farther out. Anyway, they had a hotshot German POW who was a sub-commander who had been captured, and he and his buddies at night dug a tremendously long escape tunnel. They were successful in doing it; I read about it later on. [It went] several hundred yards out into the desert, and their thought was that they were going to escape and then go down to the Gila River in a boat and get off in California and escape. And so they did. They came and they got in their tunnel and got out to the end and got down to the Gila River and there was no water, it was dry. [Laughter] What a ridiculous story, but a true story.

BIELO: So you think the war was a major factor in....

MOEUR: In bringing people here.

BIELO: Were there any other ways that the war did that besides the G.I.s coming back and the POWs?

MOEUR: No, that was the main thing. If I had been born in Minnesota or some place and came out and saw these wonderful winters, I'd move to Arizona too. I am not sure of my figures, but I think when I was in high school we were taught that Arizona has an area something like 115,000 or 130,000 square miles. At that time, there were 115,000 people in Arizona. One per square mile. When you think about today there are 3 million in Phoenix alone. There just wasn't anybody here.

BIELO: What things stick in your mind as you remember Tempe growing up?

MOEUR: I remember having a very carefree childhood. I grew up on 7th Street and Myrtle, where the parking garage is. The rivers actually ran all the time. We used to go down to, what is now, Sun Devil Stadium and go fishing or swimming. There was a big pool there where the river butted up against the butte. We wandered all over town. Our folks didn't worry about us because nothing could happen to you. It was just really a wonderful childhood. Today my grandkids, my God, they can't walk around the block.

BIELO: Was it pretty good fishing down there?

MOEUR: Oh, yes. In those days there were no roads across the

river. You couldn't even get to Scottsdale. Well, you could, but you had to go across the Tempe Bridge and then go around through Papago Park to get to Scottsdale.

BIELO: Did you guys go there much?

MOEUR: No, there was no reason to go there. Nobody lived there. There were probably 50 people there.

BIELO: You went to grade school and high school all around here. How big were your classes?

MOEUR: My 8th grade class-I graduated from Tempe Grammar School, which is now gone-it was swallowed up by the physical plant at ASU. There were 19 of us. In high school(I went to Tempe High), we had I would guess maybe 300 kids in the whole school.

BIELO: What did you all do in high school for entertainment, weekends, after school?

MOEUR: I guess about what kids do today, except it wasn't so sophisticated. Nobody had a car. The really wild kids were the ones who went out and smoked a cigarette behind the gym. Nobody knew anything about drugs. It was a good life.

BIELO: You graduated from high school when?

MOEUR: 1939.

BIELO: Did you stick around after that?

MOEUR: Then I went off to California to school [Stanford]. Then the war came along, and for the next six years I was busy doing that.

BIELO: So you got involved in the war right away? Where were you stationed?

MOEUR: Yes. I had a very unusual assignment. I was in the medics. To digress a little bit, my father and grandfather both were doctors. It was drilled into me all my life that I was going to be a doctor. I didn't have much to say about it. Everybody said, You're going to be a doctor. So when I got in the army I had started pre-med in college, and they put me in the medics. Of course, I trained with the 12th armored division at Camp Berkley, Texas. At the last minute they opened up a thing called the Army Whole Blood Procurement Service, and there were only about 50 people in the whole army that were assigned to this thing. I happened to be one of them. We were sent to New York City where we were actually stationed at the Red Cross building. People would come there and donate blood, and then we would test it. You know there are four types of blood? Type O is the so-called universal donor. You can give that to anybody, theoretically. All the blood that was donated we would type, and everything that was Type O we would put it in bottles and ship it overseas, and they used it in battlefield transfusions. Anything else-A, B, or AB-they made plasma out of it. So then it was wasted.

BIELO: Did you get chosen for this assignment or was it random?

MOEUR: Well, I had taken pre-med, and I was capable of doing it.

BIELO: And you stayed in the army for six years?

MOEUR: Actually, from '42 and I got out in '46.

BIELO: When you got out of the army, did you come back to Tempe?

MOEUR: No, I went back and finished my schooling. I graduated [from Stanford] there and then came back to Tempe. I have always been interested in plants and growing things, farming.

BIELO: You can tell out there.

MOEUR: Yes. [Laughter] So, I started a nursery business, and did that for 15 years or so. In fact, I am still growing citrus trees.

BIELO: Where did you live when you came back to Tempe?

MOEUR: We rented our first house on Lemon Street, the 600 block. And then we bought a house, also on Lemon Street, about 1800 [block], which we outgrew when all the kids arrived. Then we built a house down on Broadmor, and I decided I wanted to go back to the

country, so we moved down here.

BIELO: When you got back from the war, could you tell that a lot of change had occurred since you left?

MOEUR: It was beginning to change at that time. When I grew up we used to laugh and say the only time anyone ever built a new house in Tempe was if one burned down. Then all of a sudden you saw all these subdivisions springing up all over. It was obvious.

BIELO: So, you've been in Tempe ever since then?

MOEUR: Oh, yes. I wouldn't leave.

BIELO: Then you got involved with the Council?

MOEUR: I was appointed to the Zoning Board in the '50s. I got a little taste of public life, and I sort of enjoyed it. So one day I thought I'd run for the Council, and I did. Got elected, barely. That was in '62. Tempe was in the throes of rapid growth. One of the things I remember, that I do take credit for, they were putting in a freeway system at that time, and they had plans for an elevated freeway all through Tempe, the whole thing elevated. I can remember fighting those people about that and the terrible effect it would have on the city.

BIELO: What were you afraid would happen with the elevated freeway?

MOEUR: Well, I lobbied for what we have now, a depressed

freeway, which is not an eyesore. [I was afraid an elevated freeway would bring in] noise, unsightliness, car emissions (which we still have anyway), all the bad things that come with a freeway. And we were fighting the battle then of Sky Harbor.

BIELO: Were you trying to keep it out totally or in a different area?

MOEUR: Keep the planes from flying over Tempe, and trying to keep them from pushing us around which they are still trying to do forty years later. I can remember that one meeting; I was mayor at that time.

BIELO: When was that? 1964?

MOEUR: Meeting with the mayor of Phoenix about Sky Harbor. And we got into a kind of nasty discussion, I guess you might call it, about the airport. He said, It's such a wonderful thing. Think of all the revenue it brings in. I said, Well, if that's true, why don't you share some of it with Tempe? And he couldn't do that, of course. So this is not new, the thing they are going through right now. It's been forty years or more probably.

BIELO: So, did you just serve that one term on the Council?

MOEUR: Yes, I didn't run again.

BIELO: How long were you mayor?

MOEUR: Two years. Two years on the Council and two years as mayor. Then I decided public life was not for me after all.

BIELO: What were some of the other major issues that were going on?

MOEUR: We had one big fight, as I can remember, about the library board, which was at that time not directly under the city's control. It was run by some people who sort of did what they wanted to do, which included burning some books, like *Huckleberry Finn*, by Mark Twain. That was one of the fights we had. We got that resolved and got the board to answer to the city as it should. Actually there weren't a whole lot of [problems]. It seems like in those days things went along pretty smoothly. There was no crisis that arose that I am aware of. I can remember on a couple occasions connected with growth, we had a couple of intersections, one in fact was Southern and Mill where we had had a couple of accidents. At that time, it was still out in the county, and we desperately needed, I thought, a traffic light there. The county was dragging its feet. There were a couple of bad accidents, so I remember telling our director of public works to go down and put a traffic light on that intersection. He said, I can't do it. It's out in the county. I said, Yes, you can do it. You get down there and do it, and if there is any problem, I'll take care of it. And there was no problem. We got it done. So sometimes you had to do things like that. As far as major issues, I really can't think of anything.

Things went along pretty smoothly.

BIELO: Were you one of the people involved in getting the city charter started up?

MOEUR: Yes. I remember only that it was something that needed to be done, I thought. [Unintelligible] I supported it. Unfortunately, we were going from a little one-horse town, which I liked, to a metropolitan area. And you have to make that transition properly. And the charter was the way to do it.

BIELO: Do you think you and your family adjusted well to the changes going on? It didn't drive you out of town?

MOEUR: No, but it was like anything else. It was a change. You always get opponents who think it is a terrible idea.

BIELO: After your time with the Council and as mayor, did you continue working with the...?

MOEUR: I got out of politics and continued with what I like to do—farming and working in the yard.

BIELO: When did you retire?

MOEUR: Well, I'm still farming. It's semi-retirement.

BIELO: Back to your childhood a little bit. When you were growing up, how do you remember the religious landscape around Tempe?

MOEUR: I'm not a particularly religious person. I don't pay much attention to that.

BIELO: Were there a lot of churches around Tempe?

MOEUR: Oh yes. In fact, I went to the Congregational Church Sunday School. I didn't enjoy it, but I went. [Laughter] I shouldn't tell you this story about the Congregational Church, but I will. My uncle also went to Sunday School at the same Congregational Church, the one that's still down on 6th Street and Myrtle, and he didn't particularly care for it. One day Grandma Moeur gave him a dime to put in the collection box in Sunday School, but he decided he was going to buy some candy. He made the mistake of flashing this dime around. The Sunday School teacher saw it and he said, Benny, put that dime in the collection box. [My uncle] said, I'm not going to do it. I'm going to buy candy with it. And the Sunday School teacher said, You are not. You're going to put it in the collection box and then tried to take it away from it. And he put it in his mouth. The Sunday School teacher got the preacher and the two of them came over and pried his mouth open and took his dime away and put it in the collection box. And he never went back. He never even went near the place.

BIELO: Were there a lot of different types of congregations?

MOEUR: Yeah, the Catholic Church, of course was always big here, especially with the Mexican people. And the

Mormon Church, and the Baptist. They were all here.

BIELO: Were there any social lines drawn because of

MOEUR: If there were, I wasn't aware of any. We lived in almost the same block as the son of the Baptist preacher, name was [unintelligible], and the kid, James I think, snuck into the bar and was smoking [grape sticks?] And his dad clenched him. If you're a good Baptist, that doesn't go over well at all. He got more than a stern talking to. I remember that periodically they would have a revival meeting of the Holy Roller group. It was held in a tent on East 8th Street. I can remember as a kid sneaking into that tent to watch what was going on. They actually did roll around. I thought it was very impressive. The worshipers actually would prostrate themselves and fall down. To a young kid that was exciting.

BIELO: Was there a large contingent in the city?

MOEUR: No, and they weren't here all the time. They seemed to come and go.

BIELO: Do you remember any particular group-the Catholics, the Baptists, the Congregationalists, the Mormons-separating themselves out by choice socially or any other way, kind of setting themselves away from the rest of the community?

MOEUR: I think the Mormons were rather clannish. I don't know if they actually go about doing it, but they did stick

together, which is fine. I have no argument with that.
I think they still do that to a certain extent.

BIELO: When you guys were in high school, did you go to the movies at all or things like that?

MOEUR: One of the things we did a lot was to go up to the Mezona up in Mesa, kind of a dance hall there, on roller skating parties. That was really a big deal. We would skate for several hours. We used to really love that.

BIELO: Was that mostly for high school students, or did they have younger kids doing that as well?

MOEUR: Well, I was a high school student. It was the equivalent of where kid's hang out today, wherever it is.

BIELO: Did you do something after school before you went home, stop by and get a bite to eat somewhere?

MOEUR: I told you earlier that our folks didn't worry about us. The boundaries of Tempe at that time were 10th Street on the south and probably Farmer Ave. on the west, and the river. There was no place to go. It didn't take long to see all of Tempe in those days. We'd just play.

END OF TAPE ONE, SIDE ONE

BEGINNING OF SIDE TWO

MOEUR: Not from my younger days, but I can remember as a young man how things have changed. Our first house that we bought (the one on East Lemon) had three bedrooms, a bath and a-half, a nice little combination living room and den area, kitchen, breakfast nook. Really a nice home. It cost \$8500.

BIELO: And that was when?

MOEUR: Oh, that was about 1950. I sold that house for \$12,500. I said, Boy, I've made a killing on this. [Laughter] A year or so later I picked up the paper one day, and there was an article in the paper that there had been a fire, and it turned out it was my old house. Part of the breakfast room area and maybe the kitchen, I can't remember, was damaged. They estimated the damage at \$3500. I thought, Are we talking about the same house? That's how prices escalated.

I remember my grandparents, these are my mother's folks, talking about how my grandfather had run a general store back in a little town in southern Illinois and had sold it at a pretty good profit and had some money, and he decided he wanted to come out west. And they built a house, which is now part of ASU on Rural Rd. I remember them talking how they ordered the bricks for this house from a special brickyard in El Paso that were shipped in here. He wanted to really have a fancy house. And that house, I think, he said cost \$3000, including the bricks that were shipped in.

I remember the first new car that we ever bought was a

Mercury, and it cost \$1800 for a brand new Mercury. This was after we were married. In fact, the first child was born. They delivered this new car. We were in California at the time, so we decided to go for a drive up in the hills and we did. And Johnny was a little guy, about one year old. He got carsick and vomited all over the car and ruined the new car smell.

BIELO: When did you get your first car?

MOEUR: It was a '48.

BIELO: Did a lot of people have cars back then?

MOEUR: They were beginning to get them. By that time we were married and had a family started and had to have a car. We saved for literally months in order to buy that car.

BIELO: What did your parents do?

MOEUR: My father was a doctor, but he died when I was very young, and my mother was just a housewife.

BIELO: And you say your grandfather was a doctor too?

MOEUR: Yes, he was born in Tennessee but he moved to Texas when he was very young. My grandmother was born in Texas. He never went to high school. But in those days you could take tests, and if you were qualified, you could gain admittance to medical school, which he did. Anyway, he graduated and became a doctor, and

then he got a job in Bisbee as a company doctor for the mines. So, that is how they got to Arizona. Then he decided he was going to go into private practice, and somebody said he had better go to Phoenix because it's going to be the heart of Arizona. At that time the train went from Bisbee past Tucson and then up through Maricopa, and I guess it was in the middle of the summer and about 140 degrees out there and no air conditioning. They got to Tempe and the train stopped.

Grandma looked out, and even then around the depot they had a lot of big trees and green grass and [it was] cool. She said, This is as far as I'm going to go. And she got off the train and wouldn't go to Phoenix. So they never got there. So they settled in Tempe. She wasn't going one more mile in that miserable train.

BIELO: And your father was born here?

MOEUR: He was born here.

BIELO: You mentioned ASU a few minutes ago. Do you think ASU has played an important role in the growth of Tempe?

MOEUR: Oh, absolutely. I am not sure of these figures, but it seems like when I was growing up at that time it was Arizona State Teachers' College. These are probably wrong figures, but it seems like they had a faculty of something like sixty people in the whole school and maybe 500 students.

BIELO: What types of changes do you remember ASU bringing in?

MOEUR: Oh, I guess the growth more than anything else. It really spread out that part of Tempe down there. Again, when I was a child, there were Mexican barrios scattered all around. By Sun Devil Stadium, that was a great big Mexican area on Rural, and those have all been taken over, of course.

BIELO: What do you remember about the barrios?

MOEUR: They were just kind of little Mexican hamlets where most of the Mexican people lived. It didn't occur to us to think about bigotry and that kind of thing in those days. When I went to grammar school they had a Mexican school. But a whole bunch of Mexicans didn't go there; they went to the school I went to, which was fine with me. In fact, I remember going off to the school in California and taking tests about racial intolerance and bigotry. I remember the person giving the test said, You don't seem to show much bigotry. I said, It never seemed to occur to me. We grew up with Mexican kids, and some of my best friends were Mexican kids.

BIELO: So there was plenty of interaction between the Anglo community and the Mexican kids?

MOEUR: Well, I thought so, although looking back at it now, I can remember they wouldn't let Mexican kids go to Tempe Beach and swim, which was in my estimation a terrible thing.

BIELO: Did they have signs up?

MOEUR: Kind of an unwritten law. And by the same token, there were no Blacks in Tempe. Not one. I never thought much about it. They just didn't live here.

BIELO: When do you remember some Afro-Americans coming here?

MOEUR: After the war.

BIELO: Was that hard for people to adapt to or get used to at all?

MOEUR: If you had strong feelings, I guess, maybe it would bother you.

BIELO: I was kind of curious about the barrios. Do you remember them being different or similar to the white community at all in the sense of the general atmosphere....?

MOEUR: Not that Tempe was a model community at all (they have a lot of [unintelligible] places), but the Anglos probably lived in better housing than the barrio people did. I am sure of that. I went to school with the kids and played with them. Didn't socialize out of school.

BIELO: You wouldn't go to their house?

MOEUR: I had no problem thinking about doing that, but it just didn't occur to me. We played with the local kids.

BIELO: Were there any other unwritten laws that you remember taking place?

MOEUR: Probably not, and I wasn't even aware of them until I grew up and started to think, Hey, how come we didn't have any Blacks in Tempe? Really, I was completely unaware of it.

BIELO: Were there a lot of barrio communities or just a couple here and there?

MOEUR: No. First of all, we had no air conditioning. In the summer it was miserable. I can remember my father and mother (this is when I was very young) to do something to get out of the heat we would drive in the evenings in the summertime and maybe drive up to Mesa and drive around. Five miles of the six or so was nothing but farmland out there. It was way out in the country and it was cool.

BIELO: There was a lot of farmland surrounding Tempe at that time? What types of things would they farm?

MOEUR: Same things they do today, dairies, barley, cotton, all kinds of things. We had a dairy when I was young. It was out where Shalimar is now, just north of there. That's where our dairy was. I was pretty little, but I used to go out there.

BIELO: Did you ever have a job in high school?

MOEUR: No regular things that I did. As I said, we had no air conditioning. We used to sleep a lot of time outside to try to be cool. It seems we had a lot more monsoons than we do now because I can remember many nights sleeping out there and a monsoon would come along. It would start to rain and we would have to run inside. I remember our first evaporative cooler that I ever saw even. An old farmer here in Tempe, by the name of Ray Saylor, devised this thing. He just built a little framework thing over his window and put excelsior in it and an electric fan behind it and turned the water on and blew through it. That was really the very beginnings of the air conditioning.

BIELO: Is that something he rigged up himself?

MOEUR: Yes, he just did.

BIELO: Did it work fairly well?

MOEUR: No. [Laughter] But it was better than nothing. We didn't have air conditioning in our house on Lemon Street. I think we did in the one on Broadmor Drive. That was the first house I ever lived in with air conditioning. That was 1960.

BIELO: Do you remember the Laird & Dines Drug Store?

MOEUR: Oh, absolutely. That was the focal point of Tempe. Everybody met at Laird & Dines. It was really the gathering point. They would come and have a Coke or ice cream and would shoot the breeze or gossip or

whatever. It was run by the Laird brothers. There were three of them. I was a little closer to that my father and grandfather being doctors, you know. That's where the pharmacy was. I used to go down there with them. It was always busy. During the course of the day, half of the town was in there I think. (Probably not that many). It was really the social center of Tempe.

And the other one that was almost as important was Tempe Hardware, which was across the street in the middle of the block between 5th and 6th Streets run by the Curry brothers, Johnny and Eddie. They were identical twins. Red-headed Irishmen.

BIELO: Did it have the same atmosphere?

MOEUR: Yes, except that [Laird's] was really **the** place. Tempe Hardware was second place. They had all the stock in compartments real high and one of those push ladders that slides back and forth and you have to climb up. As a child I watched them climb up to get stuff. Next door to them was a place called Miller's Indian Store, and they had Indian artifacts. There weren't many stores in Tempe. There weren't many people. Casa Loma Hotel was there (on 4th and Mill). The Boston Store was run by one of the few Jewish people in Tempe, a man named Charlie Getz. And again, you talk about bigotry. I don't think anybody ever thought about him being Jewish. He was just one of the people in Tempe.

BIELO: What kind of store was it?

MOEUR: A general store. Clothing. I used to buy all my stuff there. I used to buy Levis-this is after I came back from the war-for \$2.50, I think.

BIELO: Were there any restaurants in Tempe?

MOEUR: Hardly any. Monti's was there, La Casa. [Monti's] was taken over by one of the people you might interview, Hayden Hayden. His aunt and mother ran a Mexican food restaurant in Monti's. [Unintelligible]

BIELO: Was that a popular place to go out and eat, or did people eat at home more?

MOEUR: Yes, it was popular. Of course, the train ran through Tempe all the time, and the station down there was always open. If you wanted excitement, you would go down and meet the train when it stopped.

BIELO: So the train would run through once or twice a day?

MOEUR: Yes.

BIELO: And what was down at the station? Was it just a ticketing office or was there more stuff down there?

MOEUR: No, just a ticket office. People waiting around. I remember that when I was in the army. I was in California when I got called to active duty and was then sent to Texas. And the train came up to Tempe from there, but it wouldn't stop. I almost [jumped

off]. I said, Hey, stop the train. This is where I live, but they didn't do it.

BIELO: When did the train stop running through?

MOEUR: I really don't remember, but it wasn't too long after that.

BIELO: Do you remember why it stopped coming through here?

MOEUR: No, I don't know the reason. I guess they thought Amtrak was going to take care of [unintelligible]....

BIELO: What train line was it?

MOEUR: Southern Pacific.

BIELO: Jumping ahead a little bit, do you remember when they were putting the Town Lake in, the Rio Salado?

MOEUR: Oh, yes. That was just a couple years ago. I remember when it was first proposed by the professor at ASU (I can't think of his name). This was about ten, maybe even 20, years ago. His class as a project had visualized a lake in that area. It was not an original idea, but I always thought it was a wonderful idea. I'm all for it.

BIELO: Did it get a lot of opposition when he first proposed it?

MOEUR: Well, you get opposition to anything. Some things are

so obviously good, and yet some idiot's going to stand up....

BIELO: Do you think the Town Lake has had a good effect on Tempe?

MOEUR: Absolutely. I think the mayor (Guiliano) and some of his predecessors (maybe not me) have done a great job. Tempe is a wonderful town. I drive down and I think what a pretty place this is. I wouldn't live anywhere else in all the world. I like everything I see.

BIELO: I have one more question about the Council. When you were serving as mayor, was there a lot of interaction between the Tempe council and, say, the Mesa council or the Scottsdale council?

MOEUR: No. As I said, we really lived in what I thought was a pretty carefree time. There weren't a lot of big pressing issues. We didn't have things like the stadium to worry about and that kind of thing. Except our ongoing fights with Sky Harbor.

BIELO: Is there anything else about Tempe...?

MOEUR: Well, it's just a wonderful town, and I consider myself extremely lucky to have been able to live here all my life. I wish it could be like [the old days]. There are too many people around. We didn't have [drugs] and all that sort of thing. If we did, I wasn't aware of them.

END OF TAPE ONE, SIDE TWO

BEGIN TAPE TWO, SIDE ONE

Parents felt free to let their kids roam around, and the kids had a pretty good time. I remember what seemed to me like hours playing marbles. A marble season would come along, and all the kids would play marbles, night and day. And now, they don't even play marbles. We had a kite season. There were two paved streets in Tempe, Mill Avenue and 8th Street, which is University. Those were the only two. The others were dirt. The reason I remember that is because we used to play marbles out there by my house. One day I came out and they were paving it.

BIELO: What effect was the casualty of the parents letting their kids run free?

MOEUR: The wild kids were the ones who smoked a cigarette now and then. You look at what today's generation does. Whether that had anything to do with it, I don't know. My grandkids drive to high school. When I was in high school, there were probably two kids that had a car, maybe one. In grammar school, a lot of kids [from the farms] used to ride a horse to school and picket it out in front of the school grounds. We didn't have school buses. Nobody had ever heard of a school bus. The railroad track used to go along Sun Devil stadium. I remember when the city fathers determined to get the ghetto moved, which they did to where it is now. That was way out in the country. Talking about 15th Street.

As I told you, 10th Street was the southern edge of Tempe. From there on out, nothing but farms.

BIELO: What all was along 8th? I know that Laird and Dines was on Mill and Tempe Hardware.

MOEUR: The mill, of course, was always there, and Monti's was across the street. And the mill had a feed store where the railroad tracks are, and it came on up to the Casa Loma Hotel. The next block was the Boston Store, Charlie Getz's place, and the barber shop. Then the Tempe Hardware was up next. [Unintelligible] store on the corner of 8th and

BIELO: Do you think the kids grew up faster back then? Were they more responsible and mature at a younger age compared to now?

MOEUR: I think they had more values than today's kids have. We weren't subjected to these terrible temptations, with drugs and all the rest. If you put temptation in anybody's path long enough, you can succumb sometimes. I just can't remember any incidents of any serious things that were happening in school. There may have been some, but I've not aware of any. I'm a firm believer if somebody does something wrong that he gets punished for it in some just manner-is made to see the light. That doesn't happen a lot in today's society, it seems to me. If I were running this country, we wouldn't have the [drug] problem. There wouldn't be any dealers around.

I hope I have given you some good ideas.

END OF INTERVIEW