

An Interview with

Laura Wells

at The State Historical Society of Missouri in
Columbia, Missouri

4 December 2015

interviewed by Jeff D. Corrigan & Rebekah Yousaf



Oral History Program

The State Historical Society of Missouri

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One-room Schoolhouse

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PREFACE

Laura Wells was born in Poplar Bluff, Missouri on August 6, 1940. Growing up on a farm in Stoddard County, Wells attended a two-room schoolhouse called Aid School. Both of her parents, Clayton and Marguerite Rhodes, were teachers in one-room schoolhouses in southeast Missouri. While she attended Aid School, her father taught there. After completing third grade, Wells transferred to a consolidated school at Bloomfield. She graduated from Bloomfield High School in 1958. She later accepted a job as a librarian at Stephens College and moved to Columbia, Missouri. She retired from Stephens College in 2005. In this interview, Wells highlights her educational experiences, including notable teachers, family life, transportation to school, holiday programs, and interactions with classmates.

The interview was taped on a CompactFlash card, using a Marantz PMD-660 digital recorder and an audio-technica AT825 microphone placed on a tripod. There are periodic background sounds but the recording is of generally high quality.

The following transcript represents a rendering of the oral history interview. Stylistic alterations have been made as part of a general transcription policy. The interviewee offered clarifications and suggestions, which the following transcript reflects. Any use of brackets [] indicates editorial insertions not found on the original audio recordings. Physical gestures, certain vocal inflections such as imitation, and/or pauses are designated by a combination of italics and brackets []. Any use of parentheses () indicates a spoken aside evident from the speaker's intonation, or laughter. Quotation marks [“”] identify speech depicting dialogue, speech patterns, or the initial use of nicknames. Em dashes [—] are used as a stylistic method to show a meaningful pause or an attempt to capture nuances of dialogue or speech patterns. Words are *italicized* when emphasized in speech or when indicating a court case title. Particularly animated speech is identified with **bold** lettering. Underlining [] indicates a proper title of a publication. The use of underlining and double question marks in parentheses [(??)] denotes unintelligible phrases. Although substantial care has been taken to render this transcript as accurately as possible, any remaining errors are the responsibility of the editor, Sean Rost.

Narrator: Laura Wells
Interviewer: Jeff Corrigan & Rebekah Yousaf
Date: December 4, 2015
Transcribed by: Sean Rost

5

[Begin Interview.]

[Begin Track 1.]

10

Yousaf: Are we ready?

Corrigan: Yeah.

15

Yousaf: Okay. Alright. This is Becky Yousaf, an intern at the State Historical Society of Missouri. And I'm here today, December 4, 2015, in Columbia, Missouri, at the State Historical Society, to interview Laura Wells about her experience attending a one-room schoolhouse. So let's start at the very beginning, and could you tell me when and where you were born.

20

Wells: I was born in Poplar Bluff, Missouri. August 6, 1940.

Yousaf: Okay. And what about your parents? What did they do?

25

Wells: They were both school teachers.

Yousaf: Okay.

30

Wells: But my dad also farmed in the summer.

Yousaf: Okay. Do you have any siblings?

Wells: One sister. Younger sister.

35

Yousaf: Okay. And did she attend the school with you?

Wells: No. She did not. It had consolidated by the time she was ready.

40

Yousaf: When and where did you start school?

Wells: It was a small little town called Aid. A-I-D. Missouri. And I started in the first grade and went through the third grade.

45

Yousaf: Okay. Could you talk about the physical appearance of the school? Both inside and out. What color the outside was. Or anything like that.

Wells: It was actually a two-room school and it was just a white—it was white. It was painted white. I'm not sure—everything was made out of wood in those days. In the front of the school, there was a long hall that went from one side of the building to the other. Where students played in the winter when it was real cold, and they would have games and play in that area. Otherwise, it had two back doors. Each room had a back door to go out. I've tried to think about the heating, but it must have been a wood stove. I'm sure it was, but I can't remember just where it sat.

10 Yousaf: Did you have blackboards?

Wells: We had blackboards. Yes.

15 Yousaf: What about the desks? Were they sort of individual? Or were they all sort of in a line and attached to one another?

Wells: They were in a line and attached, I believe. Because I have a couple of those myself. The kind with the slanted top, and you had a hole for an inkwell. We didn't use them, but that's what they were for. And then you had a place under here to put all your belongings, underneath the top. Which being slanted it's not very good to use in your house now because you can't set a lamp on it. (laughter)

20 Yousaf: Right. Yeah. Was there any playground equipment?

25 Wells: There was no playground equipment.

Yousaf: Okay. So when you guys played games were there any balls or anything like that?

30 Wells: They played softball. We played games like "Red Rover, Red Rover." And "Crack the Whip." Do you know what that is?

Yousaf: I don't know what that is.

35 Wells: Where people got a hold of each other's hands and made a long string of people. And then you tried—it went around and around and it tried to make the person on the end fall off.

Yousaf: Oh.

40 Wells: Because of this—

Yousaf: Wow.

Wells: It was kind of neat.

45 Yousaf: Okay. I've never heard of that before. That sounds fun. What about for water? Was there like—

Wells: There was a cistern.

Yousaf: A cistern. Okay.

5

Wells: A cistern.

Yousaf: Okay. Is the building still around today? Do you know?

10

Wells: I don't think it is. I think it's gone now.

Yousaf: Okay.

Wells: I actually have a picture of it I can show you later.

15

Yousaf: Oh. Awesome. Okay. And that was in Aid, Missouri?

Wells: Aid, Missouri.

20

Yousaf: How many students were in your class?

Wells: I'm going to guess—I was in—the first four grades were in my room. I'm going to say twenty, twenty-five, maybe.

25

Yousaf: Okay.

Wells: I think there were four rows of students. First grade sat in row. Second grade. So forth.

30

Yousaf: Okay. So it was first grade in the first row, and then it kind of—

Wells: Yes.

35

Yousaf: —moved backwards. Okay. So you said there was a second room so that was grades—

Wells: That was grades five through eight.

40

Yousaf: Okay. And how many students do you were in there?

[End Track 1. Begin Track 2.]

Wells: Probably a similar amount. I was six. I don't remember too well.

45

Yousaf: Right. Okay. What about your teachers?

Wells: I had a female teacher. Do you want her name?

Yousaf: Yeah.

5 Wells: Thelma Knowles. And I think it's K-N-O-W-L-E-S.

Yousaf: Okay.

10 Wells: And I had her for all three years. And my dad taught the upper grades, the upper four grades.

Yousaf: Oh. Okay. So would he take you to school, then?

15 Wells: Yes. I rode to school with my dad.

Yousaf: Okay. And was that in a car, then?

Wells: Yes.

20 Yousaf: Okay. Were there any programs at your school, like for Christmas or pie suppers or anything like that?

25 Wells: I don't remember any pie suppers. We had celebrations. Decorations at Christmas. And did some fun things. I don't remember if we exchanged gifts. That I don't remember.

Yousaf: Okay.

30 Wells: Because when you're that little you don't think too much about it. You're still hoping to believe in Santa. (laughter)

Yousaf: Yeah. Was the building used by the community for anything else other than it being a school?

35 Wells: No. I don't believe so. There was a big church across the street from it.

Yousaf: Okay. What about recess? How long was it? What did you tend to do?

40 Wells: I think it was about thirty minutes twice a day. I didn't play ball because I could never catch or hit the ball. I don't remember. We must have had little kid games. Little small kid games we played. Like "Ring-Around the Rosy."

Yousaf: Yeah. So did you mostly have recess outside?

45 Wells: We had recess outside unless it was very, very cold or rainy. Then they had games that they played in that front part of the building which was pretty large, as I remember.

Because they had running games where they would run from one end of the building to the other.

Yousaf: Oh, wow.

5

Wells: At least the big boys would.

Yousaf: Okay. Did you have chores at the school?

10

Wells: No. No. No. No chores. Probably the teachers did all the cleaning. I don't remember any janitor, or anything like that. I'm sure the teachers just did whatever had to be done.

Yousaf: Okay.

15

Wells: We always had to take our lunch, of course. There was no food there.

Yousaf: Right.

20

Wells: And some children were so poor. I think this is kind of interesting. I remember that they would bring a biscuit, a homemade biscuit, with lard on it. And that would be their meal.

Yousaf: Wow. Okay.

25

Wells: And I had peanut butter and jelly. (laughter)

Yousaf: Would you store your lunches in your desks? Or somewhere else?

Wells: Just there.

30

Yousaf: Okay. Let's go back and talk about the teacher. Do you remember their teaching style? Or anything particular about the way they taught?

35

Wells: No, not really because that was my first experience with a teacher and didn't have anything to compare it to. But I liked my teacher very much. I guess she was real good with the children because no one seemed to say anything bad about her. Then, when I got into the consolidated school, it was a different story.

Yousaf: Oh. Right. Yeah. Was there any sort of discipline or anything like that?

40

Wells: All the teachers always had a big paddle.

Yousaf: Oh. Okay.

45

Wells: I can't remember anyone ever being whacked with it. But it was there and you knew it.

Yousaf: It was kind of inspired fear then. Okay.

5 Wells: And I do know that if people would be particularly talking or whispering in the back, the teacher might slam it on the desk. And then you could hear a pin drop.

Yousaf: Okay.

[End Track 2. Begin Track 3.]

10

Yousaf: Do you still keep in contact with any of the other students there, at all?

Wells: No.

15

Yousaf: No. Okay. Were there any restrooms? Or were there outhouses?

Wells: There were outhouses. Yes. We had to go out—there were two of them, one for the boys and one for the girls. And we had to go clear across the whole backyard of the school, to the fence, and that's where they were located.

20

Yousaf: Okay. And were they made out of wood?

Wells: They were wood. Uh-huh.

25

Yousaf: So then in terms of the classroom environment, did you learn a lot from listening to the slightly older kids?

Wells: I think so. I think naturally you are going to listen, even though you might have assignments, you still can't help it and listen to what the others—I think you learn some amount from the others.

30

Yousaf: Did you guys play sort of educational games in the classroom?

Wells: I don't think so. I don't remember that. I mean, the teacher probably had her hands full trying to teach four different age groups.

35

Yousaf: Right. Yeah.

Wells: I find it difficult to imagine how anyone could do that.

40

Yousaf: Right. Right. Yeah. Would she have certain times of the day for teaching each grade, each different group? Or was it sort of—how did she do—

Wells: I'm sure she did because you have to be organized enough to do that.

45

Yousaf: Right.

Wells: Otherwise, it would be mayhem.

Yousaf: Yeah.

5

Wells: I'm sure she started with first grade, too. Because first graders are probably the most restless.

Yousaf: Right. So she probably got you started and then would see how things went.

10

Wells: Yeah.

Yousaf: Was there anything hanging in the room?

15

Wells: Do you mean like—

Yousaf: Maps, pictures, photographs.

20

Wells: There was a map, a pull-down map. That's all I remember. One of those—I don't remember if it was the U.S. or the World.

Yousaf: Okay. What about—I know a lot of the schools had pictures of presidents. Like Washington or Lincoln.

25

Wells: I don't remember that.

Yousaf: Don't remember. Okay. What about a library? Did you have a traveling library? Or a place where you kept books or anything like that?

30

Wells: That I don't remember, either. We each had our own book for whatever our class was. Of course, you didn't have to buy them or anything. They were just re-used every year.

Yousaf: Okay. What about music? Did you sing at all?

35

Wells: I don't remember any singing.

Yousaf: Okay. Did you say the Pledge of Allegiance?

40

Wells: I believe we did. We were learning it.

Yousaf: Okay.

Wells: I think there was a flag. There was a flag at the front of the school.

45

Yousaf: Okay. Yeah. Did the school have a lot of windows? Some of the other schools, I think—

Wells: On the back side it had windows. But the front side would be the part that was attached to that area where we played. So I don't think there were any windows there.

5 Yousaf: Okay.

Wells: Oh, that makes me think of—I've thought of something I will tell you later.

10 Yousaf: Okay. So then, if there weren't very many windows, how was it lit? Was there electricity?

Wells: There was electricity.

15 Yousaf: Okay. Do you feel that you got a quality education at the school? I know it might be hard to remember exactly what you were learning

20 Wells: I'm not sure that I did—I didn't do very well in math. And when I went into the consolidated schools I had to stay in at recess and re-do my long division problems while the other kids went out to play. I remember that.

Yousaf: Yeah.

Wells: I think I got a good reading education. Learning to read. But not math.

25 Yousaf: What influence, if any, did attending the one-room schoolhouse have on your life, do you think? Or two-room schoolhouse.

30 Wells: I'm not sure if it had any long lasting—because I was so young at the time. I went in—

[End Track 3. Begin Track 4.]

35 Wells: —fourth grade I went in to a bigger school. It was a shock. It was real hard for me, at first. Of course, I didn't know anybody. And I felt like everybody was ahead of me, but I don't guess they were. Except in math. (laughter)

Yousaf: Yeah. How many students do you think were at the school you went to after the—

40 Wells: Oh. The classrooms then by fourth grade, they were probably about twenty-five students per class.

Yousaf: Okay.

45 Wells: My third year—the school year was only eight months long. So the kids could help on the farm. But my third year they sent me to go into the consolidated at Bloomfield, Missouri. B-L-O-O-M-F-I-E-L-D. For the last month of the year. I guess they wanted me to

kind of get adjusted to see what it was going to be like. And I was very unhappy. I did not like the teacher. That was my first experience of not liking the teacher.

5 Yousaf: Alright. Are there any other stories that you would like to share with us?

Wells: I was going to tell you, one of the games that we played—and this would just be outlawed today. Daddy would get some kind of dried peanut butter and put it on saltines. And then there would be a contest to see who could—without any water—who could swallow the most crackers in a limited amount of time.

10 Yousaf: Wow.

Wells: It's a wonder someone didn't choke. That's what they would do in the winter at recess. One of the great terrors was the mean little boys would try to put a grasshopper down your back while you were on the playground. I just lived in horror of that. Once—go ahead—once someone wrote the "F-word" on the side of the school building. Of course, I didn't have any idea what it meant. And my dad was so mad, and I couldn't figure out why he was so mad. And some students were required to clean it off.

20 Yousaf: Wow. Did they think it was a student who did that?

Wells: Yeah. It was some of the boys. Some of the older boys did it.

25 Yousaf: Okay. So did your dad talk about teaching often? Oh, and what are your parents' names?

Wells: Alright. Clayton Rhodes and Marguerite. We spell it M-A-R-G-U-E-R-I-T-E. Rhodes. R-H-O-D-E-S. Mother did not teach when I was young. She taught before I was born. She taught in a one-room schoolhouse at the age of eighteen. And taught thirty students and made them all mind, if you can imagine.

Yousaf: Wow.

35 Corrigan: Where was that school at that she taught at?

Wells: It was there—it was in the Pleasant Valley, which is just like a country community. Pleasant Valley School. I don't know if that's in the book or not.

40 Yousaf: Okay. And where was your farm, specifically? Do you remember?

Wells: It's outside of Bloomfield, Missouri.

45 Yousaf: Okay. Where was the school? I know you said it was in Aid, but sort of where in relation to Aid is it?

Wells: Well Aid is just like a spot on the road with a grocery store. Maybe a couple other businesses. So it was just in the crisscross of the stores.

[End Track 4. Begin Track 5.]

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Yousaf: And I know you said that there was a church opposite—

Wells: There was a Baptist Church across the road, the gravel road.

10

Yousaf: Was there anything else when you were attending the school?

Wells: No. Nothing close. I had an aunt that lived what we would now say was a block. She lived about a block from there.

15

Yousaf: Okay.

Corrigan: How far was it from your farm to the house—to the school?

20

Wells: To the school. I don't know. Four or five miles. I guess.

Corrigan: You got a ride, but how did the other kids get to school?

Wells: I think most of them walked because they probably lived in Aid. I happened to go to school there because my dad was teaching there.

25

Yousaf: Right. Right. Did you ever give rides to other students?

Wells: No. No. And after I went into the consolidated schools, my dad continued to teach at one-room schoolhouses until around '56.

30

Yousaf: Okay.

Wells: This was in—the time that I started would have been in 1946. I would have been in first grade in '46. And in '49 is when they consolidated that school into the others. That one, but not all the schools. There were still plenty others.

35

Yousaf: Okay.

Corrigan: So what was the consolidated school you went to?

40

Wells: Bloomfield.

Corrigan: Bloomfield. Okay.

45

Wells: Bloomfield.

Corrigan: But did all of the kids get consolidated there? Or did they get—

Wells: I would guess that they did because it must have been an area that was consolidated. I'm not sure about that because I lived in a different spot so I would have gone to that one. So
5 they might have gone to a different school just because of where they lived. If they lived close to Aid, they might have gone to a different school.

Corrigan: You said your dad taught at several schools. Do you remember of their names? And did your school actually have a name to it?

10

Wells: I think it was just Aid School. My dad taught at a school they called Punchout. It's in the book. It has another name, too, but that's what everyone called it. Punchout.

Corrigan: Do you know why?

15

Wells: No, I don't know why. I remember his last years of teaching there, there was a tornado that came through and somebody drove up to the school and was screaming to get out of the building. And he got out of the kids down and made them lay down in a ditch. And the tornado hit the school and twisted the roof.

20

Yousaf: Wow.

Wells: And, of course, he talked about that for years.

25

Corrigan: And was that at that school? Punchout?

Wells: Yes. That was at Punchout.

Yousaf: Do you remember anything like that ever happening at your school?

30

Wells: No. No.

Corrigan: When did your mom start teaching? Well, you said she taught at the one-room schoolhouse and then—

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Wells: She taught, yes, when she was eighteen. Then I presume she taught until about the time I was born which would have been when she was thirty-two.

Yousaf: Okay.

40

Wells: So she taught quite a while. But after that, she didn't actually teach again until I left home. She had to keep an eye on me.

Corrigan: And then were did she—

45

Wells: She taught at a consolidated school called Gray Ridge. They both did. They continued teaching until they retired.

Yousaf: Okay.

5

Corrigan: And where was that at?

Wells: Just at Bloomfield. On their farm.

10

Corrigan: Okay. So they never left that area.

Wells: They never left. No. No. The farm is still there. My sister and I still own it. And the house is still there, too.

15

Yousaf: What kind of farm was it?

Wells: A hilly farm. (laughter) Not real good for crops.

Corrigan: But is it forest, pasture—

20

Wells: It has a forest on it. My nephew just plants seeds for some government program. We don't actually farm it.

Corrigan: Is it CRP?

25

Wells: Uh-huh. Yes.

Corrigan: Okay. How big is the farm?

30

Wells: About—

[End Track 5. Begin Track 6.]

Wells: —let's see, 115 acres.

35

Corrigan: Okay.

Yousaf: Did you have chores on it when you were younger?

40

Wells: Oh, sure. We had to do all kinds of nasty things like gather the eggs. And help with the garden stuff. And hang up the clothes on the line. Of course, no one had a dryer. Even in the winter, you hung them outside.

Yousaf: Yeah. Wow.

45

Wells: And when I was a child we had an outdoor toilet until, going to say, I was about twelve. At which time, we rebuilt the house on the same property. But rebuilt the house.

Corrigan: When was that?

5

Wells: Let's see. It must have been about '52. 1952. When we rebuilt the house. Tore the old house down and built a different one.

Corrigan: Was there power at the time? Or when did the—

10

Wells: Yes. Yes. We had electricity and when we tore the house down we lived in the chicken house. They cleaned it up and we lived in the chicken house all summer. (laughter)

Corrigan: And then that house that they built is still there, today?

15

Wells: It is still there. Uh-huh.

Corrigan: Okay.

20

Wells: We have a tenant living in it.

Yousaf: Okay.

25

Corrigan: Now, one thing you didn't talk about was are your parents Missourians? Were they from the area?

Wells: Yes. Yes. My dad was from a town, and that's also in the book, Acorn Ridge. Acorn Ridge.

30

Yousaf: Okay.

Wells: Which is three miles away. And mother was from Pleasant Valley. The little community of Pleasant Valley.

35

Corrigan: And where did they go to school to become teachers?

Wells: Cape Girardeau.

Yousaf: Oh, okay.

40

Corrigan: So SEMO. Or Southeast Missouri.

Wells: SEMO. Yes.

45

Corrigan: Southeast Missouri [State] University.

5 Wells: It wasn't a university. It was a normal school, I think then. It was called normal school. They didn't actually finish their degrees there. Daddy didn't finish at all, but he had so many credits. But none of them fit together to make a degree because he was always taking woodworking and classes that he liked to take. And mother got her degree when she must have been about fifty-five and she went to someplace in Arkansas. I'm trying to think of a town. It's not too far over the border between Missouri. She actually got her degree there, but they were teaching all those years anyway.

10 Yousaf: So she started at eighteen. She must have gone almost straight out of—

Wells: Out of high school, I guess. It seems impossible, but—

Corrigan: Did they both attend one-room schoolhouses?

15 Wells: Oh, yes. The schools that are in here. There is a school in here that daddy taught in, but I don't know if that's where he went. I think he just went to school at Acorn Ridge.

Yousaf: Okay.

20 Corrigan: Did your mom actually teach at the school she went to? Because that was common.

25 Wells: I'm sure that's what it was because I don't remember hearing of any other schools except that one.

Corrigan: Yeah. Taught at the one-room schoolhouse. It was common if they couldn't get teachers. Or, a newly graduated single female often became the teacher.

30 Wells: The teacher. That's probably what happened.

Corrigan: Okay.

35 Yousaf: But it sounds like she taught even after she got married. Do you remember what year they got married? Your parents.

Wells: Okay. Let me think. I'm going to say '35, maybe. 1935. I might be wrong on that.

40 Corrigan: Now Becky had asked you about if you had kept in contact with students and you said no. But I'm curious, what did students do after they graduated? Where did they go? Did they stay in the area? Did they leave the area? Was it common to go to college? Not common? Can you kind of talk about the area?

45 Wells: I seriously can't actually say that I know, but I don't think that probably very many went to college. They went to high school, I'm sure, somewhere. And the generation previous to mine, like my aunt, she only went through eighth grade.

[End Track 6. Begin Track 7.]

Wells: Being that I was so young, I actually don't know what happened to anybody that lived there. And I don't really remember their names or anything.

5

Corrigan: Where did you go to high school then after the—

Wells: Bloomfield. I went to the same place. Yes. It was the high school.

10 Corrigan: And when did you graduate?

Wells: Fifty-eight.

Corrigan: Okay.

15

Wells: My mother, she lived way out in the country, and she wanted to go to high school, which wasn't as common, so she lived with a family and did the housework for them. So then she could go to high school which I find amazing. (laughter)

20 Corrigan: Do you remember that you had, you said—I forget her name.

Wells: Thelma Knowles.

Yousaf: Thelma Knowles.

25

Corrigan: Was she local? Did she live on her own? Did she live with a family?

Wells: I don't know who she lived with. I can't remember if she was married or not. But she was pretty young. I mean, later, I'm sure she was married. But at that time, I just don't know. Of course, it wouldn't have registered in the second grade whether someone was married or not. There weren't any children or anything like that.

30

Corrigan: And you had mentioned that you like her, but when you went to the consolidated school, you didn't like your teacher. But you didn't say necessarily why. What was it about, either the teacher, the transition, the school, what is it that you liked in one and didn't like in the other?

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Wells: I felt that the teacher—whom I will not name—

40 Corrigan: That's fine.

Wells: This is just like a third grader's view point, but I thought she was mean to the kids. I don't remember if she actually was, but to my eyes, she was. Of course, that was the major change for me to go just for one month there. That was third grade. One month. My teacher in the fourth grade I liked better, except when I had to stay in and do long division. Trying to

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see if I have anything else here. I think I've told you everything. I think that's all that I had written down anyway.

5 Corrigan: Can you tell us a little bit about how you—you said your parents were from that area and stayed in that area—how did you, or when did you, eventually come to Columbia? Or how long have you been in Columbia?

10 Wells: I moved to Columbia in 1977. So I've been here quite a long while. Its home. What was the other question?

15 Wells: I was in the process of getting a divorce and I was looking for a job. And so a friend of mine was working for an employment agency and she got me a job at Stephens College. So I was a librarian at Stephens College for twenty-seven years. I moved here with my two kids.

20 Corrigan: That makes me think of another question. You said you worked in the library. And Becky had asked you if you remember books, besides your actual books and that for your classes, and you said you didn't remember. What about at home? Did you like reading?

25 Wells: Oh, I read all the time. I think it affected my eyes because by fifth grade I couldn't see the blackboard. I was always like this up close, reading.

Corrigan: What kind of things did you like to read?

30 Wells: Fairytales. Baba Yaga. Have you ever heard of that? It's a Russian heroine who rode around in a mortar and pestle.

Corrigan: Can you say the name again?

35 Wells: Baba Yaga. B-A-B-A-Y-A-G-A.

Corrigan: Okay.

40 Wells: I think.

45 Yousaf: I think that's right.

Wells: Have you heard of it?

50 Yousaf: Yeah. I've heard of it.

Wells: Have you heard of it.

55 Yousaf: Yeah.

60 Wells: I always liked fairytales. And then when I got older, of course, I liked Nancy Drew.

Yousaf: Yeah.

Corrigan: And then, did you retire from Stephens then?

5

Wells: I did. I retired from Stephens ten years ago.

Corrigan: Okay.

10 Yousaf: Okay.

Wells: I am seventy-five. I retired at sixty-five.

Yousaf: Alright. Well, if there is not anything else, thank you very much.

15

Wells: Oh, yes. Thank you. It was fun.

Yousaf: I will just pause it.

20 **[End Interview.]**