Citation for this collection:

MSS 179  Robert H. Richards, Jr., Delaware oral history collection, Special Collections, University of Delaware Library, Newark, Delaware

Contact:

Special Collections, University of Delaware Library
181 South College Avenue
Newark, DE 19717-5267
302.831.2229 / 302.831.1046 (fax)
http://www.lib.udel.edu/ud/spec
askspecref@winsor.lib.udel.edu

Terms governing use and reproduction:

Use of materials from this collection beyond the exceptions provided for in the Fair Use and Educational Use clauses of the U.S. Copyright Law may violate federal law.

Permission to publish or reproduce is required from the copyright holder. Please contact Special Collections, University of Delaware Library, for questions.  askspecref@winsor.lib.udel.edu

A note about transcriptions:

Of the original 252 audio-recordings in this collection, 212 of these tapes were transcribed around the time of the original recordings (between 1966 and 1978). In 2012, Cabbage Tree Solutions was contracted to create transcriptions for the remaining tapes. Corrections to and clarifications for all transcriptions are welcome, especially for names and places. Please contact Special Collections, University of Delaware Library, for questions.  askspecref@winsor.lib.udel.edu
Mr. A. Wayne Burton

Interviewer: This is an interview with Mr. A. Wayne Burton at his home in Millsboro on August 12, 1976. Mr. Burton, what do you call your house?

Mr. Burton: We have just about an acre of ground here, so we've named our house and our lot here, Nature's Acre.

Interviewer: And it's full of birds and you've lived here since 1940, but your house are joined where you parents lived and you've been a native of Millsboro. Could you talk a little bit about the old Millsboro and the Sussex that you might have known growing up?

Mr. Burton: Well this happens to be today, Big Thursday and let's start from there. Years ago when I was a child every Big Thursday, big cars lined up, old time cars on the way to Oak Orchard and other beach resorts not too far from here. They start out in the morning and then come back late that afternoon. Now, of course before that time, they would use our means of transportation would be horses, and carriages and wagons. They spent a day there swimming, picnicking and everybody had a big time.

Now, the only thing that we have left as far as Big Thursday is the merchants in town put their wires on the sidewalk and they do have special sales. And if you go up town that day, you see on the street some of the stores are selling their products at a reduced price.

Outside of that, you wouldn't even know it was Big Thursday. And that was just revived maybe five or six years ago and mostly from the commercial standpoint. So that's one thing from the old.

But I remember as a child, the streets in Millsboro were mostly sand, maybe main street had road bed of oyster shells and no street lamps, no electricity and no running water, nothing along that line at all. Streets were lined with trees quite beautiful. And then we would have much more socializing I feel that families would get together and they'd have maybe clothing and other means of family, maybe thrashing wheat and things like that. But today, it had done quite differently.

Speaking about Big Thursday, it might be interesting to know the origin of the day. I believe it came from the fact that about this time of the year,
the farmers had laid the crops aside and they've had a very busy year. They've worked hard in early morning, late at night and they and their families. So they did this more or less in a way of change from what they had been doing, just an outing for them. Something that everybody would enjoy, they get to see their friends and they get to talk over the year behind them and express their plans for the future.

It was really one of the highlights of the year. And everyone would take advantage of it. It was just amazing how crowded the resorts were in this area. Now getting a little bit more to the local Millsboro old time set up around that – around the early years of my childhood, speaking about the streets awhile ago. And the lights, I remember very well, we had a – we had kerosene lamps on almost every street corner and how the lamp lighter would come around as darkness fell on the town and light the lamps. And then he'd come around the next morning right early and extinguish them. They were kerosene. And then on Saturday, he'd come around and with his can of kerosene and fill the lamps or maybe during the week at times he'd have to do that too. And then he'd clean the globe and be ready for another week.

You can just imagine how glad we all were when they did have electricity and the streets had much better lighting and several of the homes had electric lights. But up until electricity why it was quite different from what is today, in our homes we had kerosene lamps I remember. And it was one of those things that we grew up. No running water. Most every home had pumps. A few of them had even open wells I remember.

[0:04:56]

Now, school, the school I went to was of courses heated by huge wood stove. Later on it did change to coal. The sits were usually tight but two could sit in at a desk, two could sit in at a desk. And then they – when we had our classes, we'd to in the front and it would be a long bench that we'd all sit on. Of course we'd also have maybe another class in a room and they'd be studying while we were having our recitation.

The class was well disciplined. The teacher had good control probably that was because she didn't hesitate to use a switch. And I do know that many times she wouldn't. If something would happen and she'd send maybe the boy out, break a switch off a tree and a yard and she's use it.

And I do feel that education in those days had advantages, but yet I cannot overlook the fact that there were a lot of disadvantages. And I feel like we've come a long ways. I know how the schools in those days,
we were handicapped to a great extent from lack of books that we should have had, the lack of equipment and of course the facilities were not near as nice as they are today.

Speaking about the school that I attended, I remember it was a – of course a wooden structure, large windows, really cold in the winter, but – and the custodian, all he do he’d come and maybe start a fire and that’d be it. The cleaning was left up mostly to the – well, to the teacher and the students in the room.

I had one teacher that I really remember. Her name was Mrs. Lulu Conoway. This was in high school and Mrs. Lulu Conoway was very, very particular about the way her room looked. And although the custodian did do maybe sweeping once a week, well she still have us do it too and wash the boards. And also she – I remember she told us, "Boys," she said, "Now, look boys, make sure you clean the facing on the door, the door facing because when you go see your girlfriend you can tell whether she needs housekeeper not by way the door facing looks. So make sure you do a good job there."

And then of course, we would beat the erasers and oh just get the room looking tip top shape. And other teachers I had too were – have impressed me greatly. I know I had a teacher one time who, Mr. Dia Petray [phonetic] [0:07:59] that taught Latin and how well I remember some of the classes that he had.

Anyway I decided that I’d like to go to college and of course my pick was University of Delaware. Went there as a freshman, 1927, coming from Sussex County, needless to say I really felt lost. And fortunately I did have a room with a family that was quite helpful to me and had a lot of influence on, I would say, my success in college.

I remember going to a class by my first week and they were French class. And well I just thought it too much about my head and I came here dropping out of the class, in fact deemed dropping out of college. And thanks to encouragement from the family with whom I lived, the Professor and Mrs. Theragood why I stayed on. I’m glad I did for thanks to university why I did in the end become a teacher and later on a principal. And now I am retired, but I still look back on my college days and look back on the – on my association in school work as really highlights of my life.

I should say I think before I go on that the – not only I do value the associations in my school work of those my say in college days, in my
associations in teaching or when I was a principal. But I value too very highly the associations that I had with some of the pupils who are today I feel some of my best friends.

And when I look back over the salary that we had at the beginning of teaching, it's a wonder why I ever stock because as I said the other day why I made more in one month then I did one year when I began teaching. And yet I don't regret one bit being a teacher. I feel like that they meant a lot to the friendships that develop. That meant a lot to me over the years.

Now getting back to Millsboro, I think that something that I should say, relative to the fellows, the people in the community, it was quite different from what yesterday when we don't know everyone as we'd meet them on the street. In those days, we did. You knew whenever you went uptown or went to meeting of any sort, you knew everyone. But today, due to the influx of people who have come here because of the NCR and Vlasic and other industry why we don't have that personal touch like we did in years gone by.

And also I think that we'd have lost the good bit of the friend list we had in calling on people. I remember how people would make personal calls. And they seem to have more interest in what they do now. But yet I don't want to say that today if something crisis develops, I find that people still are very thoughtful, very willing and will go to any extent to assist their neighbors or their friends.

And we do have much better medical care than we did. I know that when I was a child if someone became ill, seriously ill no hospitals near by, so the only thing that you could do would be to put them in the – on a train, a baggage car, on a cart or something and send them to one of the hospitals in Philadelphia. And may I say that that was usually it because not many of them ever returned. Particularly too like cases of appendectomy, by the time they reach Philadelphia, many of them would never survive the trip even.

Interviewer: What about the doctors in Millsboro then, were there one or two? And did they work around the clock?

Mr. Burton: Yes, we had. I remember two. I remember one especially, Dr. Frayne. He was a bachelor. He had his little office and I wish you could have seen it. It was just stacked high with medicine, all kinds of pills and liquid
medicine. And if you could, you'd go to his office. If not, he'd come to the house and treat you. And then you never would have to get a prescription filled because he's have the medicine with him and treat you that way.

Interviewer: Was he a homeopath?

Mr. Burton: I'm not quite sure. I don't believe so though.

Interviewer: What kind of hospital facilities or emergency centers does Millsboro have now?

Mr. Burton: Well, we have I believe three doctors who are here most of the time. Hospitals, we have nearby or near Hospital Louise, the Milford Emergency Hospital, Seaford Hospital and also Peninsula General Hospital in Salisbury. We don't have any hospital locally, but we do have, like I say, three doctors who are here and hold office hours every day except weekends.

Interviewer: What about entertainment in Millsboro now, do you have band, orchestra chamber group? Do you have an active group of people and adults who take part in school extra curricular kinds of activities?

Mr. Burton: Present this summer, we've had a recreation program which has been financed I believe mostly federal. And they have organized baseball, softball, they've had tennis instruction, golf instruction. And they've had art classes and all kinds of classes like that.

[0:14:53]

Now winter time, entertainment wise well they do have of course dances from schools children maybe once a month or so. And they do have of course sports in school at most some are busy with.

Now when I was a child, I remember we did have a theatre in town. It was in the days prior to silent movies. And how well I remember going there especially Saturday and it would be crowded. They'd have a film run through a projector cranked by hand and the music to accompany was on a player piano. And what's most interesting how when the film became exciting while the cranking would start faster and the film would go faster and the music would go faster, it was – the mood of the picture was shown very well and the mood of the projectionist and the pianist. It was projector or piano, that was all they had to do was pump little faster.
The heat of the theatre was by huge coal stove and also a little small coal burning stove.

Interviewer: Did everybody in Millsboro tried to go? Was it mostly teenagers? Was it all day and evening or one?

Mr. Burton: Just one program at night. And I'll say this, it was packed. So that indicated that in fact everybody went. Now many times parents rather than going on a Saturday night rather than going to the movies, would go to some of the – one of the local stores and sit around the stove and talk for a couple of hours while their child watch the movie and then get together and go home afterward. But everyone really enjoyed the pictures and also the – like I say the parents enjoy the fellowship around the stove in the country store like.

Now about one week during the year, there'd be coming to town a stock company that would put on a play in this theatre. Probably it'd be a different play every night. And they would also play to [inaudible] [0:17:13] as usually. Now when the commencement came around for the high school, that's where we'd hold our commencement program, the class night and also the commencement exercises themselves.

Interviewer: Well how many people were in your graduating class when you graduated from high school?

Mr. Burton: Only 11. So that's quite small compared with the classes of today. I don't recall just how many were in this year's class which of course is now Sussex Central Senior High School which is in Georgetown. And locally here our – we just had the Sussex Central Junior High School going up through grade nine. Now that change came about roughly seven or eight years ago. And that came about the result of the New Indian River School district.

Interviewer: What was your tenure as principal? At which school were you principal?

Mr. Burton: Well, I was principal of the old Millsboro High School for six years. I became principal after I had been science and math teacher for many years with the exception of five years that I did spend in the army during World War II.

Interviewer: Could you contrast the job of the classroom teacher in Sussex and the principal and also changes that you observe for example, the desegregation of schools?
Mr. Burton: Yes, both the – both of those have been most noticeable. Let's go first to the advantages and disadvantages. I like the classroom teacher. I think the big advantage there is you're nearness to the child, nearness to the pupil. In the administrative field, you – it had its advantages. You're not bothered as much with the classroom discipline problems you might say though they are your responsibility not directly but they come to you very often. And then I do think that the biggest change that I've seen and I had this brought out very vividly this past year on a committee that I served. I mentioned about something relative to discipline problem that had come up. And I was soon told that we just can't do anything about it because of the student rights.

[0:20:04]

And then later on, the same meeting I something mentioned about teachers doing something and I have felt like I was out of place and I mentioned about that and I was told, "Well, sorry but nothing can be done about that because of teachers rights." So I think probably one of the biggest changes that I have seen is well, say, the influx of my say, rights both from the teacher's standpoint and from the pupil's standpoint which frankly I don't think is all together for the good.

Interviewer: What about standards in teaching, do you think they went down in quality at the same time discipline was lessened?

Mr. Burton: Yes, I think that the standards did drop. I feel like that probably one thing that made the change was the ruling of course on desegregation, with the change in the school population, the influx of large number of students in many instances and all created a problem there that I feel like is improving but still there's long ways to go. And I think that in our area here that I've seen in recent years a big improvement I think in the way that the quality of education is becoming. I think that I'm glad you say that. For awhile I must say I was discouraged, but I do think that in years why it's gradually becoming much better than it was.

I think one of the probably the chief reasons for this improvement is the extent of the program which is offered now which can be used by so many of the students whereas a few years back the student didn't have an opportunity. And now they have so many more fields that they can get that would be interesting to them through a vocational school and also through subjects which are offered locally. I feel like that the subject matter by being adapted more to the needs is certainly fulfilling one of the needs that we have in our school system. And I think that that's one
reason why we are seeing some improvement. And I believe that we'll see even more improvement.

Interviewer: You were mentioning vocational opportunities, are you trying to steer the person who may really not belong in school the full required time into a vocational situation where he can use his skills?

Mr. Burton: Yes, that's right. By taking auto mechanics, by taking even the welding, maybe the girls could take up such things as hairdressing et cetera. While they're finding that they like to learn those things and that fits them for life later on much better.

Also I really am in favor of the athletic program that they have. I feel like that it's much better to have a child that gets interested in athletics. It keeps them off the street very often, it keeps them interested in school and I think it's one way of preventing, in the end, preventing crime.

Interviewer: What about the Burton family that you belong too, that is a large family with a long history in Sussex, is it not?

Mr. Burton: Yes, it is. I think my ancestors came to this area around 1732 and they settled in what we call the Long Neck area. And they have been, well you can look on the maps, early maps of the county or of even Millsboro where Burton's did have quite a bit of land in the area. And also accidentally my mother was a Lingo, so that's another Sussex County name that over the years has been seen quite a bit in local affairs.

[0:25:07]

Interviewer: About how large is the Burton clan in Delaware? And where has it spread to or has it mostly remained locally?

Mr. Burton: Well mostly locally, but there have been some of the family. Years and years ago I believe they moved to Ohio and other parts of the mid west. But quite a few of them have remained right here in Sussex and they are still, well active in community affairs and do do a lot of, my say, work for the state and also for the local area.

Interviewer: So what about farming? Was your family involved in farming? And what kind of farming right now is happening in Millsboro? And what is the attitude of young people coming up toward helping the farm?

Mr. Burton: Yes my family in the early days was active in farming. However my father was a merchant and his father in turn was a merchant for many, many
years like here in Millsboro. But the family farm which was a little bit to
the west of here was named Pleasant Grove and on it is a family burying
ground. And it passed out to the family. It was sold and just maybe 25 to
30 years ago, I bought it back. And I am glad it is back in the Burton
family.

Incidentally those story told about one of my ancestors who live there, he
was back in the – way back in the field farming. His wife was in the house
preparing the noon meal. A little baby was on the floor playing around
when suddenly the door opened and in came an Indian. And he picked up
the child and ran away with it. Well needless to say, the mother was
frantic, but she couldn't do much about it. Her husband was way back in
the field and she ran back to him though and they – well nothing could be
done. And that evening lo and behold, the Indian came back with the
child, placed it on the floor and the child seemed to be happy, well cared
for and clean. And it really surprised the family, but for several days after
that, the Indian did the same thing, would come and take the child away
and bring it back that evening.

And they couldn't explain just why unless it was due to the fact that
maybe the Squaw, Indian Squaw had lost a child, about the same age and
this white child was fulfilling back in there that the Indian family had for
at that time.

Interviewer: So why did that happened day after day I wonder?

Mr. Burton: Well, after they had seen that the child had been well cared for and after,
I guess, trying to avoid any conflict with the Indians, they permit it to be
done.

Interviewer: They've rested in living near in an Indian tribe?

Mr. Burton: Yes, the area where they live is called Indian Town to this day. So there
was apparently Indian tribe right nearby. And I have found some Indian
artifacts on the farm, well not recently but few years back.

Interviewer: Well are you rending your land out now?

Mr. Burton: I leased it to a farmer who I have done for several years now who tilts the
land and pays me just rental fee.

Interviewer: Do you ever go over there and spend any time maybe you found any
things that might have been your great grandfather's interest?
Mr. Burton: Well going out there now is one of my hubbies. I like to hike. I like nature. So I usually go out there, two to three times a week, but mostly on Sunday afternoon and with our dog Tippie enjoy hiking through the woods that had some trails and just enjoy hiking around. I haven't come across any of the family things left unless maybe then and now and then I find a piece of fence that's been left or something. The house itself was where my father was born and it was torn down few years back.

Interviewer: I'd like to ask you something which has to do with today in '76, driving down from New York on the highway, we see constantly the Purdue trucks.

[0:30:05]

Now what is the impact of the Purdue industry been on Southern Delaware?

Mr. Burton: Well I think the impact of the Purdue industry has been in recent years quite – well most of it have been quite helpful to some of the area farmers. But may I say I think that the chief impact has been over the years from all of the facets of the chicken industry and not only from the standpoint of the farmer who grows a chicken, but from a standpoint of the feed producers, those who help distribute the feed, the feed stores, the processing plants and all like that have had a tremendous impact on the industry of the area.

And rather than seeing crops like we used to see mostly, well, good many vegetable crops like the old gardens and so forth, now we see primarily corn and soybeans which of course are connected with the chicken industry.

I remember too we used to have quite a few strawberries growing in our area. We use to bring them in by the wagon load and to the auction block. And then after they were sold, they'd be loaded on the train and box cars which were iced and sent to the city markets. But now I don't know of any strawberry fields which are in this vicinity. It just seemed like maybe a few people have several plants in a garden but that's it.

So the chicken industry on a whole had had a big impact on this area not only from the standpoint of we say just growing a chicken but the related industries too.
Interviewer: Was that the strawberry crop went and the peach crop went, is that partly because of the problem with migrant workers getting enough people to harvest or other factors more importantly?

Mr. Burton: No, I don't believe it so much the problem of getting migrant workers as it was the fact that the chicken industry itself would probably be more profitable to them. I remember in case of Townsend Incorporated which is locally. As a child they would have apple orchards and peach orchards and that was one of the place that well the high schools kids could get work during the summer. But now those orchards are gone and they're gone and have been replaced with chicken houses and feed stores, feed building and so on.

Interviewer: What about the Sussex County personality of you said that we have a change with people coming in the Vlasic plant and the NCR, new industry moving in, but on the other hand, it seems that when you're talking, you're talking about a Millsboro that hasn't really changed a great deal. It's still mostly farming more than industry, is it not?

Mr. Burton: I expect that yes, mostly farming, chicken growing and related industry. But I will say this that NCR has brought [inaudible] [0:33:29] to our community, Vlasic had brought a few and several of those have purchased homes and are taking an active part in the community affairs.

Interviewer: What about plans that are now happening? Does Millsboro have a town meeting of any kind the way they do in New England? Do you have active community groups that are trying to plan ahead for Millsboro at any way? And what about the church life here, socially and as it touches the community, socially in terms of entertainment and other ways?

Mr. Burton: We do have a town council that meets once a month. We have a town manager who is on duty all the time and of course the town secretary. And they do seem to be very receptive to suggestions. And they have been in the past very active. I know that we do have a town park and we do have – we purchased not too long ago, the pond, the town did. And also we're trying to get a land adjacent to the pond so that we can have a swimming hall.

Churches, there are three in Millsboro in the town limits itself. There's a Methodist Church, Presbyterian Church and the Wesleyan Church. They are all three quite progressive, quite active.

[0:34:58]
They do have their different organizations and they do seem like they are helping the community out and they are I think very essential in our community life.

Interviewer: What about entertainment and things like lecture groups or something that took the place maybe of the quilting at churches?

Mr. Burton: I don't really have too much of that, maybe occasionally we have some of it, maybe like a study course, bible study course. One of the churches still has a mid week service, but they – and some churches have newcomer's night in the fall when the new people in the community are welcomed back. And they have a social evening with ice cream and cake.

We do have of course church schools. And presently this week we're having a date a vacation bible school which is open to all the children of the community. Yet I don't believe the church is quite the center of social life like it used to be. I guess there are maybe other activities, other organizations that have replaced the church in that respect.

Interviewer: What about your famous citizen, John Williams, could you give us some recollections that you may have about him?

Mr. Burton: Yes, I remember, Senator Williams when he first moved to Millsboro. Then he came here incidentally due to the chicken industry that he came. He opened up a feed store in town. And I remember very well how we used to get out a few pounds of feed from him to feed our chickens that we had on our yard here.

But he went off from there to purchasing several farms. He has his chickens which he's growing or was growing himself and the feed store became bigger and his industry became bigger. And then of course, he was elected to the Senate. And we locally feel like he was one of the best. We especially liked him for his honesty, for his, well, he wasn't strictly partisan. He seems to do what he felt was best for the country and we all had great respect for him.

We occasionally see him. He goes to the same church that we go to he and his wife. And he has a summer home at [inaudible] recently they're staying. His office is right down the street and we occasionally see him go by coming either from or going to the office.

Incidentally his daughter, Mrs. Blanch Baker was the Chairman of the Millipore Bicentennial Committee and she really did a tremendous job
and we feel like that Millsboro as a community we would celebrate it by centennial in an outstanding way.

Interviewer: What were the bicentennial activities here?

Mr. Burton: Well, we did publish a booklet on Millsboro history. We planned a medium strip on 113 that runs through town here with several trees. We did have a big celebration on the 4th of July this year and other things too that all parades and what not that most in keeping with the bicentennial.

And incidentally, partially it was my privilege this year to be in the cast of the play 1776 which was presented by local dramatic group [inaudible] [0:38:57] players. We gave it six nights at the college in Georgetown and every night we were quite happy to play before a full house.

Interviewer: What were you 200 years ago?

Mr. Burton: Well I happened to be the Reverend John Witherspoon, a delegate from New Jersey.

Interviewer: Was that hard to do?

Mr. Burton: No, not too hard since there wasn't any singing involved. There was of course in the play quite a bit of music and that was just not my field at all. But I did enjoy it. I enjoyed especially the associations that I had. We met new friends and we had a good time.

Interviewer: Who represented Cesar Rodney in the cast?

Mr. Burton: One of the local teachers, Darrell Hudson. He did a tremendous job. He really portrait that role I think the best it could be portrait.

Interviewer: What about your family, you haven't talked anything about your wife? Do you have children?

[0:40:02]

Mr. Burton: Well my wife if May. She is from right nearby Dixboro. She works one day a week for a local dentist doctor at Keens. We have a son named James. He and his wife and three children live in nearby Dixboro. He did recently get his degree at Northeast Bible College but presently he is working in construction at the Delaware Power Plant.
Interviewer: What about your public service and areas of interest outside of your teaching career?

Mr. Burton: Well I do do quite a bit of work in the church, at the Methodist church in Millsboro. I did – I am on the town park commission. I also have done quite a bit work in scouting over the years. Presently I’m on the state forestry advisory council. And incidentally I must tell you something, one of my classmates in college who was then the governor, Kale Boggs, I never will forget call me my first day as principal when the school opened in September asked if I would serve on the state commission of corrections. I said, "Well Kale I'll have to think that over." But in the end, I did accept. And it was a change over at that time from the old present system to the new State Board of Corrections. And over the years I did enjoy serving in that capacity. And when I retired from being the chief school officer in Millsboro, I went out to teach in Maryland for one year – for a few years, I believe it was eight years all together. I gave up that position on the State Board of Corrections.

But since appointed by Governor Peterson, I had been serving on the State Forestry Advisory Council which I also enjoy very much. I do like out of doors. I like to hike. I like nature. I try to do what I can toward conservation. Of course this particular year I have been very much interested in the bicentennial. I did served on the Millsboro Bicentennial Committee and had done quite a bit of work in the local affairs along that line.

Interviewer: What has been your experience in the Forestry Advisory Council, for example, the state forest at Allendale, is that the only public land kept for forest management except for parks?

Mr. Burton: There is quite a nice park up in the New Castle, in New Castle at Kent called Blackbird State Forest which is a very, very nice place for picnicking and also we have quite a large – quite a few large trees there. It’s quite a nice area. And then of course, the Redden State Forest right near Allendale as you said. And it has owned a new large which had just been recently been repaired. And something that the people and state should know about because it does provide a nice place if they want to go, an organization might want to go for meetings and recreation purposes.

Interviewer: Oh, is that an overnight facility?

Mr. Burton: It could be provided that you take along your own bedding or whatever you might need. It is very nice. And I certainly would advice people to look it up.
Interviewer: Now for a big question, what do you see, what trends do you see now in Millsboro in Sussex County if you were going to have to try to write something about what you foresee in 20 years time, what would you come up with?

Mr. Burton: Well, right now, with the prospect of oil drilling off the coast and with the possibility that oil will be discovered off there, I hesitate to say just what I would predict. I'm afraid that the way I feel now that I wouldn't be too favorable toward a lot of it. I think it would have an influx of just an overnight people coming here for the purpose of helping out with the industry, employees and so forth. And I don't know if that would be for the best of our area.

[0:45:00]

We still like to maintain more or less a country like atmosphere as possibly as we can. We do have our beaches and I think there could be – well we wouldn't want another market up for example down here at Sussex County. We realize that the discovery of oil would be a big help to us and what we hope that maybe if they do find it there, they can pipe it to the already existing refineries and thereby eliminate the development too much industrially of the local area here.

Interviewer: What do you see as the coming Sussex County generation coming along, the boys and girls, do you think they're very much different from your generation?

Mr. Burton: Well I've always had great faith in youth. I have great faith in the way that they will grow up to become citizens, adult citizens. And I think some of them have good solid foundations. I don't believe that we will see an overall change for Inner County in the makeup of the basic feeling of the people. I do think that naturally we're going to lose lots of the traits which had lingered here for years. We're just about to lose oath by people coming in from the outside. So a lot of original likes and dislikes would disappear, but still...

[0:46:44] End of Audio