

INTERVIEW #10

Tape: (B610-end), 9(A)

I10

Date: Jan.13/75

Place: 383 Colonial Dr., Waterloo

Participants: Tobias Bowman, Len Witmer

Pre-War

- families and church were influential in leading to decision not to go to war; nonresistance was not talked about too much- it was simply assumed that it was the Christian way
- mentioned no particular instances of anti-Mennonite or anti-CO feelings

War

- although the work was not always pleasant the group tried to bear one another up
- much singing
- worship services – would have Sunday School and church services often prepared by various men from the group; lessons and sermons were taken from the Bible – not much other literature available
- ministers from Victoria would come Sunday afternoon and evenings to give messages
- mentioned especially Mr. Olson from the Brethren Church; originally assumed that all were Christians; when he discovered that this was not the case his sermons became more evangelistic than pedagogical
- recreation - mentioned swimming, boating (with a patched-up canoe), hitchhiking, and fishing; also, playing ball
- overall, felt the experience to be a learning one, in which the men, through working together and cooperating with each other; developed a respect for the other person and maturity that comes through broader experiences