

Date: March 2/75

Participants: Morgan Baer, Harold Schmidt

Pre-War

- both lived on farms and both lost their fathers when they were 14 years old, during the peak of the Depression because they were the oldest they learned early the meaning of work and responsibility
- had solid family lives centred around church and the strong spiritual guidance of their parents; non-resistance was emphasized in the church and the home
- no mention of anti-CO feelings

War

- felt that they were placed in camps to get them out of the public eye; the work they were doing was not at all that important but they were satisfied to do what the government expected of them
- coming from isolated rural settings the experience was a broadening one in that they encountered many new people and ideas; at times there were tensions when some would not do their jobs the way they were supposed to, but in general, friends were made easily
- the importance of communication with home was mentioned
- since there was much free time the boys would often just sit and read (the major reading material was the Bible) or else dialogue
- had very good relationships with the foremen and other public officials
- there was no minister in residence when M.B. was in Montreal River; different ministers would visit a day or for a few days during the week