

Norman High, Interviewer

Date: June 26, 1973

Place: 20 Glendale Pl., Galt

Participants: Elven Shantz, E.I. McLoughry

Discussions on their W.W.2 Experiences

- Shantz was a member of the Military Problems Committee
- McLoughry was the provincial representative working with the Alternative Service Officer, responsible for placing CO's on farms or in camps
- McLoughry had a pro-militaristic upbringing, but was sympathetic to the Mennonites - developed close friendship with Shantz; interceded the cause of the CO's to the government when it was not keeping its promise to give them farm leave
- a review board was established to examine all those who applied for CO status, consisting of Shantz (church rep.), McLoughry (provincial rep.), and Angus (federal rep.)
 - Angus was a good man but knew nothing about farming or Mennonites, therefore he didn't have much to say
- McLoughry understood that many of the Menn. boys had never, been far from home and had been very isolated, but was forced to assign them to the camps, despite the pleading of delegations of mothers and fathers
- Shantz - feels that over 90% of the Menn. boys could have applied for exemption as farmers but they didn't so that they could make their peace stand clear; exemption as farmers would also have exempted them from making Red Cross payments - as CO's they had to make these payments and as a result, many of them did not have enough to live or to support their families

NOTE: this interview contains many interesting anecdotes concerning, the visit of the Review Board to Leamington; the delegation of Old Order parents who visit McLoughry to plea for their sons; McLoughry relationship with Levi Fry and his experience at Fry's funeral; McLoughry's discussion with PM. King concerning the payment of Red Cross fees by the Mennonites