

## [Marie Haggerty--Worcester #3]

Mass. 1938-9 Mrs. Marie Haggerty Paper Three 7/17/39

STATE Massachusetts

NAME OF WORKER Mrs. Emily B. Moore

ADDRESS 84 Elm Street, Worcester

Massachusetts

DATE OF INTERVIEW May 20, 1939

SUBJECT Living Lore

NAME OF INFORMANT Mrs. Marie Haggerty

ADDRESS 63 Austin Street, Worcester,

Massachusetts

Name: Emile B. Moore

Title: Living Lore

Assignment: Worcester

Topic: Mrs. Marie Haggerty Paper Three

“Oh, I don't mind the snow, or the weather at all, for it's much better to get out and get away from the wrangling at my house. Well, you see, when I first started talking to you about my early life, they didn't mind, but now Marie and John said they'd be the laughing-

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stalk of the town, and for days they've been harpin' at me, till I'm about to lose my temper. You're sure you won't use my real name in your story? Well, I'm glad of that, for I think I can tell you some more things if you want them. You asked me one time if I had any beaux before Mr. Haggerty. Yes, indeed I did, and I had lots of good times, too, and there's one that I couldn't abide, and he made a bet with a friend of his that he'd get me in spite of myself. Well, them days people didn't telephone to make dates and it was hard for a man to see a girl without goin' and ringin' her bell. If I'd see this one at the door, I wouldn't open it and just let him ring. Well, he knowed I was fond of chocolate drops, so he sent me a big box of them and they's all tied up in ribbon. I was so innocent I didn't think anybody'd do anything, but them days they had 'love powder' and if you wanted the love of anyone, why you'd just buy some of the powder and see that they got it somehow. Well, sir, he knowed I couldn't abide him, so he got some of the love powder and put it on the chocolate drops. I et them without knowin', and would you believe it, the first thing I knowed, I was thinkin' how nice he was to send me the candy; then I got thinkin' again that he wasn't so bad as I thought, and the 2 next time I went walking with my girl friend, I gave him the parasol sign, and he came right after me, and we walked and talked, and he was a nice fellow after all. I kept company with him for a lang time, and at Christmas time he gave me a broach on a chain, and I gave him a cane with gold top, for dudes carried canes them days. Well, we went together until come Valentine day, and in them days, if you loved someone you took a valentine and hung it on your sweetheart's door. I always thought Mr. Haggerty had something to do with this, but a body couldn't prove it. My friend put a nice valentine on my door, and it was all fancy, and inside was chocolate drops and colored rock candy. Well, he didn't come around like he should, and I met him outside and I gave him the sign, and he followed me and I asked him if he was sick, but he was so mad he said everything. He had gone to his door and got one of the 'penny dreadfuls' (comic valentine) and it made fun of him, and he never let me explain that I didn't send it. Well, I couldn't do anything about that, could I?

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“Did I ever tell you about the time I cashed my insurance policies? Well, it was when Marie went to the hospital for her tonsils, and poor Pa was gone, and the boys wasn't working, so we had to get money somehow. I never told Marie I cashed my policies, and last week she wanted to borrow them, and I didn't have them, so she's mad about that. Now, you see, with my pension, if things get too bad at home, I can go and get me a room somewhere. If it was a few years ago, it would be awful, - so you see the pension makes a body independent. I was thinking the other day, if I'd stayed in New Brunswick with my uncle, I would be rich now, for he told me many times all the money he had in the box would be mine if I stayed with my aunts, but that's what it is to be bull-headed. I suppose if I didn't have to work so hard them days, I'd still be there. You know, I feel so good at times, I often think I'll answer some of them ads for a companion. I always liked to travel or take care of people, and I never forgot even one thing I learned when I was working for rich families. I was sort of a companion, for I always talked with the women I worked for, and I've learned a lot since, and I know I'd make a good companion for an old lady. You see, when a body is born right, and acts like 'quality' people, they never forget it. I've always said ladies and gentlemen are born, not made. I'm lively enough for my age, and I been about enough to talk on anything, so I'm thinkin' of applying for a job. I still have my character reference from Mrs. French, and if I got one from you and Dr. Freeman, I know I could get a good job.”