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[G. E. Oden]

[S241 - LA?] DUP

FORM A Circumstances of Interview

NAME OF WORKER George Hartman ADDRESS 2438 N. Lincoln, Nebraska

DATE Oct. 18, 1938 SUBJECT Folklore

1. Name and address of Informant. G. E. is Oden, 3230 S.
2. Date and time of interview. Monday afternoon 4 to 6
3. Place of Interview. 3230 S. Street
4. Name and address of person, if any, who put you in touch with informant.

[None?]

5. Name and address of person, if any, accompanying you. None
6. Description of room, house, surroundings, etc. Nice comfortable home. [??]

FORM B Personal History of Informant

NAME OF WORKER George Hartman ADDRESS 2630 W St.

DATE Oct. 17, 1938 SUBJECT Folklore

NAME AND ADDRESS OF INFORMANT G. E. Oden.

1. Ancestry. Scotch-Irish

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2. Place and date of birth. Beatrice June 4, 1888

3. Family

4. Place lived in, with dates. Beatrice 25 yrs. Grand Island [5?] yrs.

Lincoln 20 yrs.

5. Education, with dates. 9th grade.

6. Community and accomplishments, with dates. Insurance salesman for 25 years.

7. Special skills and interests. Football—sports

8. Community and religious activities. Christian Church

9. Description of informant. 175 pounds. Well groomed business-like.

10. Other points gained in interview. Is an insurance salesman. Has not had any exciting life. His points on the [fact?] that his father owned one of the few Arabian horses, proved interesting.

FORM C Text of Interview (Unedited)

NAME OF WORKER George Hartman ADDRESS 2630 W St.

DATE Oct. 17, 1938 SUBJECT Folklore

NAME AND ADDRESS OF INFORMANT G. E. Oden.

I was born in Beatrice. Lived in the same house for 25 years. Slept in the same room I was born in.

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Interested in hunting, roamed the country around Beatrice. I worked in the [Dompster?] plant. On November 1st 1913 I started to work for Metropolitan Life Ins. at Grand Island Came to Lincoln an assistant manager and been continuously with them.

The first homestead in United States was near where I lived. There was nothing then but a log house, pens and corrals. But now it is a national park or preserve.

Indians were rather rare in my boyhood. They occassionally came through Beatrice.

In those days there wasn't any fence and my father herded cattle clear into Brownsville. Wolves were more plentiful and caused trouble. Wolves were run down because the country wasn't fenced in. My father had a Arabian stallion which we raised from a colt. He later sold the white horse to the county attorney; L. W. Colby for \$150.00. Colby refused \$5,000 for the horse afterwards. This was just about the only Arabian horse in Nebraska. Colby also owned another Arabian stallion by the name of "Lindentree" which was presented to him by the sultan of Turkey.

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Both were beautiful horses. This Arabian stallion was so fast it could run down wolves. [He?] was envied because he had this horse. "150.00 in those days was a lot of money for one horse. These two horses were the only Arabian stallions in Nebraska. The horse, Lindentree was the first horse brought to Nebraska from out of the country.

Colby had a fairgrounds which he named after the horse, "Lindentree" where county fairs were held for many years. The had the best track in the country and the famous horse "Dan Patch" once raced there.

In the old days we used to hold chautaugos at Beatrice at the old Chautauga grounds in the old days of 2 a train fare. As many as 50,000 people came to this chautauga. Had such noted speakers as San Jones, W. J. Bryan. Lyman Hawes first moving pictures. People came from all surrounding states. [We?] used to go down to tho river, take off

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clothes, wade across [to?] get in free in order to save the money our folks gave us to buy hamburgers, etc.