

Labor History Class
Western Wyoming Junior College
Chris Plant, Instructor

Carl Maldonado Interview with Fred and Emily Stall, 410 Logan, Green River

My first interview has nothing to do with organized labor, but when I was a young boy growing up in Green River there was and still is an elderly couple across the street from where I lived. I used to visit them from time to time, and I thought it would be good to have some history of the first ranches in this area.

Fred and Emily Stall began to tell me their story before I had a chance to turn on my recorder. I had met them outside in the yard and had explained what I was doing. They agreed to be interviewed and before I could go back to the car to get my recorder, I was already in the middle of a story. What I had asked them was, had they seen the movie "Heartland", and had they known any of the Stewarts from around the Burnt Fork area.

The answer was, "Yes, oh, yes." Knew them well." But they had not seen the movie. Fred started telling me about her. He couldn't remember her first name, though. She claimed her name was Rupert and said the town of Rupert, Idaho, was named after her. She had a southern accent. She must have been from the south before. Fred said that Stewart got her out of a mail order magazine out of Denver, Colorado. "Yes, yes, knew her real well. She wrote a book. Let me see, I think it is in the library. What was the name? "Letters of a Homestead Woman," I think."

At this time I got my recorder and began to tape their story. I found it to be quite interesting. Fred was born south of Green River at a place known as the Burnt Fork area in 1899. Most of his story is from 1905, from as far back as he could remember to about 1940; however, there is so much history here that I strongly recommend that my interview be followed up by other people interested in Wyoming or Sweetwater County history.