

Marlene and Doris remember Black Mike as an early timer in Dawson, coming, the story goes, with the N.W. Mounted Police as a dog team driver. Black Mike did not come with the '98 stampede. Came short time later, however. They do not doubt his age (103 in 1973).

Population in Dawson in 1939....Big dredging outfit had about 700 on its payroll in summer season. Steamboats running added to population. The Yukon Territorial government was seated in Dawson so that added more people. At that time - 1939 - there were eight hotels and five cafes. Hotels: Central Hotel,

(more)

Yukonia Hotel, Royal Ally, Regina, Rochester, Principal, Westminster and Occidental. The hotels and cafes operated 24 hours per day. The R.K. Cafe had the best chef in the north, Marlene declares.

Marlene's brothers all stayed in Calgary and worked in the family fruit retail business in the main market in Calgary. They bought fruit from growers and retailed it. Marlene and Winnie worked in that fruit stall for many years. Marlene was 27 when she went to Dawson. She tells of the many, many hours they worked each day. She and her sister took left over berries home with them at night and made jam. The jam they then traded to farmers for vegetables, eggs, chickens.

Her brothers were Jim, Sam and Fred. She let each one come to Dawson for a year to work at anything they could get. They lived with her and her husband Jack.

Haircuts in 1939. Fifty cents, and a shave was 25¢. Hair wash and set was \$1.

Winnie and her family went back to Edmonton when the children got old enough for school. She started a beauty shop in building where they had living quarters above. Now she has a very prosperous business in Edmonton.

Marlene and Jack adopted two children. Jackie (girl) is 22 now and works at information booth (for visitors) in Dawson. Marvin is 18 and thinking of going into aviation. His rock music is playing in the background in adjoining room so is heard on this tape. Difficult to get these two ladies at a time when they are not working. Living quarters not too spacious hence other noises, voices and music background.

The Osborn family was an old timer family in Dawson. Mrs. Osborn (Doris's mother in law) was very active in the Imperial Order of the Daughters of the Empire. Mr. Osborn had the Klondike Mill (lumber) in Klondike City across the river from Dawson.

Discovery day this year is a good one, celebrating the 75th anniversary of gold discovery. However, past observances have been better because of bigger population...particularly when the Yukon government was located in Dawson (prior to 1950).

Doris talks about meeting Genieve Parker from Alaska. Both recall the old international curling bonspiels...good times?