"BUT THE PANTS... YOU JUST DIDN'T SLIP OUTTA' YOUR PANTS AND GET IN THEM PANTS UNLESS YOU BUY 'EM. THAT WAS A NO, NO. SHOES. . . YOU KNOW, THAT'S JUST LIKE NOW. BUYING A PAIR OF SOCKS, YOU DON'T HAVE TO TRY ON A PAIR OF SOCKS. YOU KNOW YOU JUST PRESUME THAT'S WHAT YOU GOIN' WEAR. AND YOU JUST TAKE 'EM OUT WITH YOU."

L.S.: "YOU KNOW YOUR SIZE..."

M.M.: "YEAH. . .THAT'S THE WAY. . .THAT'S THE WAY YOU DID YOUR CLOTHES BACK THEN. . . YOU JUST TAKE. . . SHOES. SAME WAY, YOU DIDN'T PUT YOUR FOOT IN ANOTHER PAIR OF SHOES. AND... YOU ASK 'WH?' HE SAY 'WELL, I MIGHT WANT TO BUY THAT PAIR OF SHOES AND TRY IT ON, AND I DON'T WANT MY FOOT IN THERE WHERE YOU HAD YOUR FOOT IN THERE.' YOU KNOW, JUST THAT BLUNT. AND WELL, IF YOU DIDN'T BUY IT FROM HIM AND GO NEXT DOOR AND BUY IT, IT'D BE THE SAME WAY. SO, YOU MIGHT AS WELL GO AHEAD AND ACCEPT IT FROM HIM."

Mansfield Oral History Project

(Unabridged Transcript)

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M.M.: "YEAH HE WAS A JEW. AND HE HAD A ACCENT. AND HE WOULD TELL YOU "NAW." DON'T PUT THAT ON." HE DON'T WANT YOU TO PUT THAT ON. HE WOULD TAKE HIS COAT AND PUT IT ON YOUR BACK, YOU KNOW-PRESS IT UP AGAINST YOUR BACK. AND IF HE DID PUT IT ON YOU, AND IT WAS TOO LARGE. AND THAT'S WHAT HE WANTED YOU TO HAVE, HE WOULD TIGHTEN IT UP AT THE BACK, AND LET YOU LOOK IN THE MURDON DIVIDED FOR THE AND TELL WOULT AND TELL WOULT THAT'S MIRROR IN THE FRONT. AND TELL YOU THAT IS. . .

L.S.: "'THAT FIT YOU GOOD,' HE SAYS, AS HE'S HOLDING IT IN THE BACK."

M.M.: "YEAH. IT'S ALL WRINKLED UP, FOLDED UP IN THE BACK, AND YOU'D BUY IT. DON'T BRING IT BACK EITHER. WHEN YOU BUY IT, IT'S YOURS.'"

L.S.: "HA, HA, HA. THAT'S TRUE. . . YOU CAN'T COME BACK."

M.M.: "'DON'T COME BACK' I MEAN IF YOU WAS WEAK ENOUGH TO LET HIM YOU KNOW, FOLD THAT IN THE BACK, (AND HE'D HUG YOU AND HOLD IT IN THE BACK IN THERE). AND HE'D HAVE IT FITTING JUST LIKE THIS SHIRT ON ME. AND YOU'D THINK YOU HAD YOU A FITTING SUIT, BUT IT WOULD BE TOO LARGE. AND YOU TRY THE COAT

"BUT THE PANTS... YOU JUST DIDN'T SLIP OUTTA' YOUR PANTS AND GET IN THEM PANTS UNLESS YOU BUY 'EM. THAT WAS A NO, NO. SHOES... YOU KNOW, THAT'S JUST LIKE NOW. BUYING A PAIR OF SOCKS, YOU DON'T HAVE TO TRY ON A PAIR OF SOCKS, YOU DON'T HAVE TO TRY ON A PAIR OF SOCKS, YOU KNOW YOU JUST PRESUME THAT'S WHAT YOU GOIN' WEAR. AND YOU JUST TAKE 'EM OUT WITH YOU.'

L.S.: "YOU KNOW YOUR SIZE..."

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S.S.: "GOING BACK TO THE ONE DAY TRIP TO FORT WORTH, WERE THERE MANY PEOPLE WHO WOULD GO TO FORT WORTH? WOULD THEY SHOP FOR THEIR FRIENDS? SAY IF YOU WERE A FARMER, ON WHAT OCCASION DO YOU GO TO FORT WORTH?

"WELL NOW, MORE OR LESS, I DON'T REALLY KNOW TOO MUCH ABOUT THAT. 'CAUSE, LIKE I SAY, I WAS A KID AND I DIDN'T GET TO GO TO FORT WORTH ANY WAY.

L.S.: "WELL, MOST OF THE TIME, (LIKE WHEN MY DAD AND THEM WOULD GO), IT WOULD BE LIKE A 'WAGON PULL' . .

S.S.: Stan Solamillo B.B.: Betty Benjamin F. L.: Fred Lawson

M.B.: Maggie Jackson Briscoe M.M.: McClendon Moody (Mac)

L.L.S.: Lillie Lawson Sheppard M.E.B.: Mary Eliza Burr

S.W.: Shirley Larue Barton-Washington M.E.: Michael Evans