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Gailerd C. Page and Viola Bemis Page (March 1, 1972, second interview)

C. Richard Arena

Second Oral History Interview

with

MR. GAILERD C. PAGE
MRS. VIOLA BEMIS PAGE

March 1, 1972
Yorba Linda, California

By Dr. C. Richard Arena

For the Richard Nixon Oral History Project

ARENA: This is interview #2 with Mr. Gailerd C. Page and Mrs. Viola Bemis Page. On this occasion we will begin with Mr. Gailerd Charles Page of Yorba Linda, California. Today's date is March 1, 1972, Arena interviewing. Mr. Page, may I begin by asking you where and when you were born?

G. PAGE: I was born in Willoughby, Ohio, September 9, 1898.

ARENA: And what was the occasion that brought you out here? Did you come alone or with your family or relatives?

G. PAGE: We had relatives out here and so my father and mother brought me out.

ARENA: And about when was that?

G. PAGE: 1918, wasn't it, and we have been here all the time since.

ARENA: And do you mind if I ask you what your business was when you came to Yorba Linda and more or less summarize what it was after you came here.

G. PAGE: Well, we came from Ohio and my folks were ranchers and we had relatives here in Yorba Linda, the [Loren] Pikes, and we come out here to the Pikes from Ohio and bought some property here in Yorba Linda.

ARENA: Was this the Mr. Pike who was a partner of Mr. [Francis Anthony] Frank Nixon, the President's father?

G. PAGE: It was.

ARENA: Would you mind recalling whatever you can about that partnership? Was it involved, if there was any machinery involved, like tractors, or horse teams, whatever you can.

G. PAGE: The Nixons and the Pikes went together and bought a tractor, and it was one of those old-fashioned ones. It had wheels in front and a caterpillar track in the back. And they bought that when they first got out here.

ARENA: Any idea what that tractor might have cost them?

G. PAGE: Oh, gosh, I would just have to guess. I have seen the tractor and in those days I'd say it probably cost \$2500. It was expensive.

ARENA: Any idea that they paid for it in cash or paid for it on installments?

G. PAGE: Well, I really don't know. I was just a kid. I really don't know how they bought it.

ARENA: Any idea if that tractor might still be around anywhere?

G. PAGE: No, I don't think so. I don't know of it. I've been around here for a long time and I haven't seen it in years. And it was out of proportion--nothing like the tractors of today.

ARENA: Was it the first tractor, do you think, in Yorba Linda at that time?

G. PAGE: I think it was, don't you Viola [Mrs. Page]? I don't think there was any other tractor here then.

ARENA: Do you recall the color of the tractor by any chance?

G. PAGE: Well, black, it was dark, iron and steel, a great big heavy thing, and it had tracks in the back and a big

front wheel ahead of the tracks. Caterpillar tracks with a wheel up in front.

ARENA: Do you recall it was a new one that they bought?

G. PAGE: Uh huh.

ARENA: And did the town seem to be impressed by it? Were you impressed by it? Was it that unusual?

G. PAGE: Uh huh. It was the only one in the town at that time.

ARENA: And do you recall how they used it to earn a living; did they rent it out; did they rent it and themselves out; did they have a hired hand run it?

G. PAGE: No, Nixon and Pike bought it and one of them drove it all the time.

ARENA: Do you recall they had horses as well with the tractor?

G. PAGE: Yes, they had horses.

ARENA: Do you recall anything about the partnership also handling kindling wood or selling logs in any way? Did they sell wood?

G. PAGE: No, not in those days.

ARENA: Do you recall that they had any business with Mr. Johnson, Joe Johnson's father, who I think might be Fred Johnson, who sold feed and maybe some other items?

G. PAGE: Yeah.

ARENA: As far as you recollect, were they in partnership with him or just engaged in business with him?

G. PAGE: No, they were not in partnership with Johnson.

ARENA: Any idea when the partnership between your relative, Mr. Pike, and Mr. Nixon ended? Did it end automatically when Mr. Frank Nixon left for East Whittier, for example?

G. PAGE: Yes, and my uncle, Pike, he died.

V. PAGE: Not then though, not 'til later, after Homer [Bemis] moved to Chino [California].

G. PAGE: When Uncle Loren died. It was back there a long ways.

V. PAGE: He was killed over there, you know, on a silo.

G. PAGE: Well, that's quite a ways back.

V. PAGE: Well, we were living in Anaheim [California] at the time. It was around '23 or '24.

ARENA: That would be soon after Mr. Frank Nixon left, because he left in 1922 as you know, but they did business right up to that time, all the time that Mr. Frank Nixon was here.

G. PAGE: They were together when they first bought this tractor. [Frank] Nixon and [Loren] Pike bought it together.

V. PAGE: I don't remember too much about that.

G. PAGE: I was young but I remember that.

ARENA: Do you recall ever being on it? Did they ever take you for a ride on the tractor?

G. PAGE: No, I don't recall ever riding on the tractor. I was just a kid and I didn't ride on the tractor.

V. PAGE: Well, you were a young man. You had to go into service as soon as you got out here to California, 1918-1919.

G. PAGE: Yeah, 1918. I had to go into the service right away, almost as soon as I got here.

ARENA: Did you have any difficulty in any way at all going into the service where the community was made up of so many Quakers? Do you recall that there was any personal problems or you yourself had any difficulty with anyone on that score?

- G. PAGE: Well, there were Quakers here but I don't remember of any not going into the Army on account of it.
- V. PAGE: Your family were Quakers but you didn't claim that as a conscientious objector.
- G. PAGE: I didn't get overseas. The Armistice was signed before I got overseas.
- ARENA: Although you did enter military service, you did not go overseas. Do you recall conditions in Yorba Linda right after you did return from the service? Was there much of a change because of the war, if any change at all that you can think of? In the case of World War II you know, it just changed so many things in the whole country. Was there anything like that in the way of change in Yorba Linda?
- G. PAGE: Well, except that it took some of the younger men in the service until the Armistice was signed.
- ARENA: Did the government in any way do any building or promote business as it did in World War II?
- G. PAGE: No. Not that I remember.
- ARENA: Nothing like that. Do you remember if the question of war service came up with Mr. Frank Nixon and if he had any views on the subject at all about the war or about Quakers entering the war?
- G. PAGE: Well, they were Quakers and so were the Pikes.
- V. PAGE: They didn't have any children at the time and, of course, Nixons had several children and so he wasn't eligible, I guess, to go into the war. I don't remember that anything of that came up. Not that I know of.
- ARENA: Do you recall some of the other means of earning income that Mr. Frank Nixon had besides his lemon grove, besides his tractor rental business? Anything else he did to earn income during that period?
- G. PAGE: No, I don't think so.

V. PAGE: Didn't he irrigate for people?

ARENA: Or run lands perhaps for owners?

G. PAGE: He might have but I don't remember for sure.

ARENA: Do you mind if I ask you what your feeling was after you did come back from service about remaining in a small community like Yorba Linda? Why did you decide, if you did by the way, to remain? I'm assuming that you did.

G. PAGE: Well, we had relatives that were here that came here before we did from Ohio.

V. PAGE: And because of me probably partly.

G. PAGE: Yes, we started going together.

ARENA: And you thought there would be opportunity here. Traveling through the military, I don't know how far you got, but it didn't change your mind, leaving your hometown area like that? You didn't think the grass would be greener on the other side?

G. PAGE: My uncle came here way before we did, and I came out here with my folks.

V. PAGE: Well, your dad wanted you to help him on his ranch.

G. PAGE: Which I did. But I was just a kid then.

V. PAGE: Yes, I know, but that's the reason. Your father was scared. The prices were higher here than they were in the East and your father wanted you to help him. He was afraid he might lose his property. You know how the Easterners felt.

G. PAGE: They bought a tractor, the two of them, Nixon and Pike. This tractor--you steer it. It had a front wheel and the caterpillar tracks in the back and you'd steer it by the wheel--a great big heavy thing.

ARENA: Did it have a lot of attachments, do you recall, different parts to it that were detachable for different jobs on the farm?

G. PAGE: It pulled everything, a cultivator and everything--discs.

ARENA: Did it make a lot of noise?

G. PAGE: Not that I recall. I don't really remember whether it did or not.

V. PAGE: Well, all those old tractors made a lot of noise.

G. PAGE: Big pistons going up and down--early caterpillar. It was really an early one.

ARENA: Do you recall Mr. Frank Nixon ever discussing his wanting to leave Yorba Linda before he left in 1922?

G. PAGE: He did leave, didn't he?

V. PAGE: He didn't talk it over with us.

ARENA: He didn't have one of the most prosperous lemon groves in the area, which might have been a consideration.

V. PAGE: It could have been. It was never very productive, really.

G. PAGE: He didn't have a very big place. It might have been five acres.

V. PAGE: I don't think lemons ever have paid anyway.

ARENA: Considering the size of his family--he had four growing up, later on, the fifth son, Edward [Calvert Nixon] was born in Whittier, but the four sons were here and the wife--do you think anyone could have raised a family on that amount of land with lemons alone?

V. PAGE: No, I don't think so. He had to work out. He had to do outside work in order to make a living, I am sure. Because my father had a lemon grove and he couldn't make a living on it, and it was a better grove than Frank Nixon's, and he couldn't make a go of it.

ARENA: How about attendance at Frank Nixon's Sunday School? Do you recall that you were in any of his Sunday School classes or do you recall anyone else who was?

V. PAGE: No, I wasn't in his class.

G. PAGE: No, I don't think I was either.

V. PAGE: I went to the same Sunday School but I wasn't in his class.

ARENA: And the Sunday School classes were not just for youngsters necessarily. You could have had some married couples in these classes. And there could have been more possibility of discussion rather than just someone lecturing. That would depend on the teacher.

V. PAGE: Uh huh. I don't remember ever being in his class.

ARENA: Do you recall during any of the religious services that he would speak or make some points?

V. PAGE: Yes.

ARENA: And how would he go about it from your own recollection? Would it be a question of asking for the floor? Did he seem to have patience, if people agreed or disagreed with him?

G. PAGE: [Laughter] He was pretty . . .

V. PAGE: Be careful now because . . .

ARENA: Would it be all right to ask you about his getting along with his help, people who worked for him and where he worked for other people, were there any problems, say where people refused to work for him or anything like that?

V. PAGE: Not that I know of.

G. PAGE: I don't think so.

ARENA: Did you ever see Mr. Frank Nixon in a position where he was exercising discipline with his sons? What do you recall about that and the occasion for the discipline?

V. PAGE: Well, I used to go over there and play with the kids and visit his wife. I didn't have anything else to do. He was real strict with the boys.

G. PAGE: Well, you were just a kid.

V. PAGE: Yes, I was just a kid too, but I remember he was real strict with them. His wife was the one that always smoothed things over, but he was the one that did the ruling more or less. His wife was very easy going, very firm, but always the go between, always was.

ARENA: Was she a hard worker also, Mrs. Hannah Nixon?

V. PAGE: Yes, a very hard worker.

G. PAGE: That was the beginning of Yorba Linda about that time.

V. PAGE: Yes, she was a real hard worker.

ARENA: Do you recall ever attending any of the meetings during this period of the Yorba Linda Woman's Club, which we mentioned near the end of our interview, but I would like to go back to see if you recall that, even though you may not have been a member yourself. Maybe you attended some of the meetings with your own parents?

V. PAGE: Well, I did. I think it was the first meeting of the club, but there is a little controversy about that, whether it was or not. My mother had the meeting at her house and it was one of the very first meetings and I remember she said, oh, if she only had some flowers to make some bouquets. And I went out and gathered some of these wild mustard and radish--the purple and yellow--and she made these big bouquets, and I know they were talking about how they would organize the club at our house. And I remember she served maple sugar. I remember that--these plates of maple sugar on the table.

G. PAGE: That was just about the time I came to California.

V. PAGE: No, that was in 1912. My father used to ship maple sugar from Vermont. He was raised in Vermont, and that was part of the way he made a living after he came out here because he certainly couldn't on his grove. Of course, the grove was just planted then.

ARENA: Do you recall that there were special invited guests and speakers? What was the nature of the meetings? Were they business and programs or a kind of mixture of both during this early period?

V. PAGE: Well, they were a mixture of both, I think.

ARENA: And men were invited for the program part.

V. PAGE: Well, I think all through the history of the Woman's Club, men could go, but as a general thing not many do go. But we had our sixtieth anniversary the other day and there were several men there as invited guests, but as a general thing the men did not go to the Woman's Club unless they had a special night or something of that sort.

ARENA: Do you mind if I ask you Mr. Page if you were a member of the Masonic Order in Yorba Linda and if it did go back to that period of Mr. Frank Nixon?

V. PAGE: You're a member now.

G. PAGE: I am now but I don't know how far back it went.

V. PAGE: I can tell you when you joined.

G. PAGE: But it was back of that.

V. PAGE: You didn't join until around '44 or '45.

G. PAGE: But it was way before that when . . .

V. PAGE: Yes, I don't know.

ARENA: Would you happen to know if the Masonic Lodge of Yorba Linda has records or has a treasurer or who would possibly answer those questions about how far the lodge goes and that sort of thing. One of the things I would like to find out, of course, is whether or not Mr. Frank Nixon was a member of the Yorba Linda lodge as he was a member in Whittier and if he was a member whether he came back and attended some meetings here.

V. PAGE: Well, maybe Ralph Shook could tell you that or Mr. C. H. Eichler. Have you interviewed Mr. Eichler? He lives on Eureka, 4852 Eureka, Yorba Linda. He's my brother-in-law, and he's lived here since about '12 or '13. He's been more active in the Masonic Lodge than Gailerd has.

ARENA: Would he be an officer possibly?

V. PAGE: He has been, yes. He's gone through the chairs. That's why he might know.

ARENA: Do you recall that the water department building, I think it's called the Yorba Linda Water Department, do you recall that that building may have also been used by President Nixon at any time during his elementary schooling in Yorba Linda? It was used by some I understand.

V. PAGE: I went to school there, but I was older, you see, than President Nixon, and I think by the time he started to school we had a school building. I can't remember when that first school on School Street was built.

G. PAGE: You're not older than Nixon.

V. PAGE: Yes, I'm older than Nixon.

G. PAGE: Than Frank Nixon.

V. PAGE: No, no, President Nixon.

ARENA: As a matter of fact was the main source of income, taking everything into account, the main source of income for Yorba Linda during that period, 1913-1922, when the President lived here, born and lived, was the main source of income the sale of citrus crops, even though men had different jobs, but the mainstay of the community was the sale of those crops?

V. PAGE: I would say so.

G. PAGE: Lemons and oranges.

ARENA: Do you mind if I ask you about when that changes, when it no longer becomes the main source of income for the community, if it changes at all? Maybe that still is the case.

- V. PAGE: Well, we're about the main ones that have a grove any more. I think really around 1945 or '50 wasn't it that the fruit began not to pay the growers, maybe later than that.
- G. PAGE: Well, lemons have been growing down there for quite a long time.
- V. PAGE: But they have been going down hill as far as any revenue to the grower.
- G. PAGE: Yes, that's true. On the other hand, they had a packing-house down here, a big packing house, and there's a lot of lemons sold in there.
- ARENA: Were there such things as migrant workers at that time, people passing through for the harvest, or was it mainly the regular community itself that took care of its own harvest?
- V. PAGE: Mainly so, yes. We did have the packinghouses and I guess they did have Mexicans from Mexico that they brought in here to pick fruit. I know they've had quite a lot of trouble about that the last few years.
- ARENA: But during this early period of 1913-1922, do you think there were any?
- V. PAGE: I wouldn't think so, but they finally had a packing house and they hired the pickers but there wasn't much fruit until about '15, '16 or '17.
- G. PAGE: When they started hiring pickers, then they got a lot of these Mexicans.
- ARENA: How long would a picking season be, a matter of weeks, not months though--a matter of weeks?
- V. PAGE: Well, it could have been months there for a while.
- G. PAGE: Picking season?
- ARENA: Yes.

- G. PAGE: Oh, you can pick lemons off and on clear through the year.
- V. PAGE: And Valencia oranges they start picking in May and pick on until September.
- G. PAGE: Yeah, but they don't go clear through the year like lemons do.
- V. PAGE: No. Lemons come on periodically.
- G. PAGE: But there isn't too many lemon groves left here any more.
- ARENA: I believe I had asked Mrs. Page the last time what forms of recreation and amusement there were from the woman's point of view and one of them was the [Yorba Linda] Woman's Club. I was wondering about the men. What did the men have to occupy their free time, or for a change of the routine?
- G. PAGE: Well, I had the Masonic Lodge.
- V. PAGE: There wasn't much. There never has been too much.
- ARENA: Would there be anything like young men having volunteer baseball teams or football teams or anything like that?
- G. PAGE: Not here in Yorba Linda.
- V. PAGE: Well, they had those around 1940, something like that.
- G. PAGE: If they had those, it was in Fullerton, wasn't it?
- V. PAGE: Well, they used to have them down here at the school but maybe they still do, I don't know, but not in the early 19's or early 20's.
- ARENA: Do you recall that Mr. Frank Nixon engaged in any particular form of recreation himself?
- V. PAGE: I don't remember of any, do you?
- G. PAGE: No.
- ARENA: In general, when would the lights go out, we'll say, in the typical home here. Would it be shortly after dark

because of the need to rise early? Do you recall the lights staying on for a long time after the sun went down in the winter?

V. PAGE: Well, at our house I don't know that it made any difference. My father always went to bed early, always did, but the rest of the kids straggled in 'til 10 or 11 o'clock. There were several.

ARENA: Was there a radio, was radio coming in here during this period before 1922?

V. PAGE: No, definitely not.

ARENA: And, of course, there were no movies.

V. PAGE: There was nothing.

G. PAGE: Well, there were movies if you wanted to go to Anaheim or Fullerton.

V. PAGE: Well, yes, but not here in Yorba Linda. The first thing we had for any kind of recreation at all was a small library.

ARENA: Do you recall the origin of the library and about the year when it was founded?

V. PAGE: Well, I don't remember exactly. Mrs. [Ellen] Cochran might remember. But it must have been around 1915 or '16. Maybe she would remember that, but it was early.

G. PAGE: I didn't come out here until '17.

V. PAGE: Well, there was a library before that, before you came.

ARENA: Do you think the Woman's Club had anything to do with the founding of that library?

V. PAGE: I don't recall that they did. They may have, but I don't recall.

ARENA: Do you recall that the library was a standard type of library where books could be taken home?

V. PAGE: Yes. It was not a large library. I think I read every book in there.

ARENA: Would it be on the same site as the present one, do you think?

V. PAGE: No, it was not. It was on the site, I think, where the fire station is now, in that area. It was a small building, not much of a building but it was adequate for the times.

ARENA: Do you recall that the Yorba Linda Woman's Club took on special projects, something like the WCTU [Women's Christian Temperance Union]? In the minutes of one meeting, I noticed there was a report about the new Children's Bureau that had been passed by an Act of Congress. Do you recall if the club took a stand on certain questions such as that and, again, if they helped to start maybe a hospital or a clinic or anything like that?

V. PAGE: Not that I know of. I'm sure they took a stand for the WCTU. I'm sure that they would do that because that has been their policy all the time. But the main thing that the Woman's Club started, they bought trees and planted them throughout Yorba Linda. A lot of the trees that are still growing were planted by the Yorba Linda Woman's Club. The main thing, I guess, was just to give them something to do. It was partly a social club to start with. Of course, they had activities too, but there was just nothing out here to do so the club served its purpose that way.

G. PAGE: I came out here in '17 didn't I?

V. PAGE: '17 or '18.

ARENA: Is there anything that I have not mentioned this time that you would like to bring up in the interview, either you or Mrs. Page--any point that has not been discussed?

V. PAGE: I don't know what to tell you.

G. PAGE: Yorba Linda's changed a lot since then.

V. PAGE: When Mrs. Nixon used to come to Woman's Club, I used to visit with her all the time. They'd ask her to come and visit and I would always sit with her because she knew

me from the time I was a little girl. She asked me one day when she came to Woman's Club if I would please sit with her because she didn't know so many of the people. So I always did. And it was between the time he lost the Governorship and everything. You know there was a time in there. And I asked Mrs. Nixon, "How do you feel about your son becoming President?" And she said, "Well, whatever Richard wants, that's what I want too." I remember her telling me that. And he came after her that day at the Woman's Club and she introduced me to him and he talked to me several minutes. I told someone the other day that he has that quality that when he's talking to you, you're the most important person in the world. He has that gift that a lot of people don't have. He does. You just think you're real important to him when he's talking to you.

G. PAGE: I haven't seen him in a long time.

V. PAGE: Well, I met him down there. His mother introduced me to him down at the clubhouse.

ARENA: Do you recall that the Woman's Club would sponsor programs where there would be political speakers during campaigns or those who would speak on political issues in a non-partisan way?

V. PAGE: Well, sometimes they would just very briefly, people who were running for different offices here in town. They would let them have a few minutes but the club has never taken any definite stand on politics. But they will give all of them equal time.

ARENA: Do you think that belonging to the Yorba Linda Woman's Club gave the women, including Mrs. Hannah Nixon, some practical experience in politics, in the sense of a constitution was written and proposed and discussed? And that's the first question. Do you think that it did give women practical political experience?

V. PAGE: Yes, it did, and then they had to get their charter. And then also they had their rules that they tried to run the club by. They still have those rules. The club is definitely run by those.

ARENA: The next question would be, do you think the President might have gotten some political experience from Mrs. Hannah Nixon who is frequently referred to as a quiet

reserved person but nevertheless, do you think he could have gotten some political experience from her because of her association with organizations like the Woman's Club, and not necessarily all of his interest in politics from his father, who was always obviously interested in politics?

V. PAGE: Well, I have always felt his father was the pusher, the one that jumped to conclusions.

G. PAGE: Yes, he was.

V. PAGE: And was the pusher a little bit in the family and a little more radical.

G. PAGE: Yes, he was quite radical.

V. PAGE: And his mother was the one who would smooth everything over, and we have said all the time that he is a cross between the two, but he has that push that his father had and yet he has this way that his mother had too, which was good.

ARENA: Do you mind if I ask you, thinking back to that period, what opportunity was there for people in Yorba Linda to meet say some national figures? During the period especially when the President was growing up, 1913 to 1922. As a youngster he wouldn't be interested, of course.

V. PAGE: There was no chance. Yorba Linda was too small and too unimportant.

ARENA: I'm thinking of this possibility. Your brother, Mr. Homer Bemis, mentioned that in 1913 William Jennings Bryan was a guest speaker at the Fullerton High School assembly.

V. PAGE: Well, that could be. I . . .

ARENA: And in that way there might have been some contact. I am just wondering if maybe there were other situations like that, if not in Yorba Linda, in nearby communities where you, yourself, might have heard someone like William Jennings Bryan.

- V. PAGE: I didn't hear William Jennings Bryan but I did hear other speakers at Fullerton. I went to high school there and junior college.
- ARENA: Do you mind if I ask you what period your high school and junior college years were?
- V. PAGE: I graduated from high school in 1920 and started junior college and then decided I wanted to get married. Went most of a year to junior college.
- ARENA: And I possibly cut you off, you were saying that around that time there were some speakers.
- V. PAGE: There were some speakers. They used to get as many good speakers, famous speakers, as they could at the Fullerton High School. Helen Keller was there. I heard her and Admiral [Richard E.] Byrd. They had him. And I don't know who else. You used to go with me to some of those.
- G. PAGE: I didn't go to school there.
- V. PAGE: No, but you went to some of the programs. But I didn't remember William Jennings Bryan.
- ARENA: Was this fairly common with other young ladies your age? Did the average young lady of Yorba Linda graduate from high school, especially Fullerton, and start or have some college education at that time, in the 1920's?
- V. PAGE: Well, I think so. They all graduated from high school. Some of them didn't go on to junior college.
- G. PAGE: Fullerton had two years of junior college right here in Fullerton.
- V. PAGE: But I didn't finish because we decided to get married, but anyway, most of them finished their high school.
- ARENA: Do you recall possibly that that subject of starting college and not finishing ever came up between you and Mrs. Hannah Nixon, because she had the same experience?

V. PAGE: No, I don't remember that.

ARENA: You don't remember discussing her college years with her?

V. PAGE: No.

ARENA: In her case, of course, the college was Whittier College. Do you mind if I ask you to what extent, thinking back, your high school education was a good education in the sense that the quality of the teachers and the subject matter and the general question of curriculum, or if the subjects that you were taught, were of use to you as you went through life after that period?

V. PAGE: Yes, most of them were. I know I had a lot of history and I had a lot of mathematics, and I thought they were unnecessary at the time, and finally this last October we took a trip down to Tahiti and around, and I said, "Finally after all these years, that three years of French did me some good." I could read some of the signs and understand a few things.

G. PAGE: We went down through Australia.

V. PAGE: But my history has helped me as much as anything. And every year Mr. R. S. Redfern would think I should take history again and I used to argue about it, but it has helped me more than anything.

ARENA: And Mr. Redford.

V. PAGE: Mr. Redfern. He was the one that helped figure out the courses for us.

ARENA: And on the question as you think back now, a good quality education?

V. PAGE: Yes, I thought it was very good. Better than they are getting sometimes now, I think. Of course, they spread the education a little thinner; they get more things now. But I think we were taught some of those things a little more thoroughly.

ARENA: When the President attended Fullerton High School-- that would be his first two years and to be precise, 1926 and 1927, and he graduated in 1930--did he possibly ever stop through this area to visit some relatives, visit former acquaintances and friends such as yourself, do you recall?

V. PAGE: No, he never stopped here. I don't think he would remember me now. I met him, of course, but then he meets thousands of people. And no, I don't remember that.

ARENA: Do you ever recall him, maybe the information came from his mother or from another source, do you ever recall his recalling Yorba Linda?

V. PAGE: Oh, yes. When he was campaigning he was up here in Yorba Linda. He's been out here. He comes out and plays golf once in a while when he comes out to the Western White House. He comes unannounced, and all of a sudden here he is over there playing golf. He does that frequently. He has a soft spot for Yorba Linda.

G. PAGE: Oh, sure.

ARENA: I want to thank you again for allowing me in your home on the second occasion and consenting to this interview for the Presidential Library, Mr. and Mrs. Gailerd C. Page.

G. PAGE: Thank you.