

(How long did it take before you could speak English pretty well?)

Well, I been in there all year and don't hardly know nothing. I remember one time, the...this matron told me said, "Louise you go in there and get the dust pan and dust brush, in that little closet." And I didn't know what she's talking about. And I got the other girl and I told her, what she said. I told her that's my cousin, Della, I told her that. She told me and she took me over there. This is called dust pan. But they in school before I did. I was older than them but I didn't want to go to school. I hate school. So she told me what to do, when I got finally I catch on little, by little, by little and finally I caught on. Mostly.

(What did you do during the days down there?)

Well, we got a playroom. We allbunched up in there, play. Blackboard on the wall, we could write on it if we want to. And when school bell ring, well we all get up and get ready and go to school and when school's over in the evening we come back go to bed. Course, it was after supper. And next morning we get up and go down eat breakfast. And we go off..bunch of girls wash dishes, call them dishing room girls. They stayed there to wash dishes and clean up dishes. But while I was getting ready upstairs for school, well there we could hear the bell ringing. We line up and go down there for school. Finally I keep learning and learning and I learned it. Just every day same thing over. But I sure did, be rush Saturday to come, so I could go to town. And I been watching the road towards north, and I could see my daddy coming in the buggy. And I had to run down there and tell matron, I said, "I want to go home for awhile." She say, "alright, get ready, but be sure to come back this eveing." Alright, we get ready. Course Saturday morning, we all take a bath. We take our water, hot water take a bath, clean up. Put all our dirty clothes away. We ready to go. Alright my daddy come and he come up there and I be lup there to get ready. But sometime, I want to take one of my seice. You know, he didn't have no mama and daddy. I want to take her. Her names' Helen Sunrise. She lived