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We Oley C. Kidd and Terry E. Darby Jr  
Interviewee (print) Interviewer (print)

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Birmingham, AL

on the date(s) of March 19, 1995

for the oral history collection being compiled by Dr. Marshall.

Oley C. Kidd  
Interviewee's signature

Address 5720 - 9th Ave S  
B'ham AL 35212  
Phone 205 - 5977601

Date March 19, 1995

Terry E. Darby Jr  
Interviewer's signature

Address 1403 Tanglewood Dr  
Oxford, AL 36203  
Phone 831-2492

Date March 19, 1995

INTERVIEWEE BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Name: Oley Carson Kidd M/F Male  
Address: 9<sup>th</sup> Ave. South Birmingham AL 35212  
Phone number(s): (205) 592-8601  
Approximate age or date of birth: JANUARY 16, 1909  
Mother's Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Father's Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Places lived and when: Walker County 1909 - 1930  
Tennessee 1930 - 1937  
Education: Ministry/degree in Theology  
Religion: Baptist  
Business, political and social memberships (past and present) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Present occupation: Retired  
Former occupations: Minister  
Special Skills: \_\_\_\_\_  
Major Accomplishments: President AL Baptist Association  
\_\_\_\_\_  
National Events in which interviewee has participated: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Local Events in which interviewee has participated: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
National born U.S. citizen?  Yes  No  
Naturalized Citizen: Yes/No Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Country from which he/she emigrated: \_\_\_\_\_  
Documents, photographs, and artifacts which are in the possession of the interviewee:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Individuals recommended by the interviewee who might be candidates for an oral  
history interview: \_\_\_\_\_  
Additional information: \_\_\_\_\_

Oley Carson Kidd  
Interviewed By: Terry E. Darby Jr.  
Date: March 18, 1995  
Subject: " The Great  
Depressions  
Affect on a  
Alabamian"

TABLE OF CONTENTS  
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- 1) Background *b. Jan 16, 1909*
  - a) family
  - b) birth place
- 2) Fall of Stock Market
  - a) 1929 in Alabama
  - b) economy
  - c) cotton, pigs and cows destroyed
- 3) Necessities
  - a) clothing
  - b) shoes
  - c) food (preparing food during these times)
  - d) money (scarce commodity)
  - e) chores/jobs (had part-time jobs)
  - f) welfare system did not exist
- 4) Miller, Bibb Graves as Governors during this period
  - a) local Government in Walker County
  - b) County Sheriff make up
- 5) Enjoyment for the family
  - a) to the table for a meal
  - b) one eye cat
- 6) Chores on the Farm for PaPa
- 7) Acreage on the farm
  - a) Dad owns land
  - b) Richardson's place
  - c) He sells his part of land in the future for \$35,000
  - d) 1917 bought dad bought land for \$1,700.
- 8) 1929 until WWII
  - a) living in Riverview Alabama
  - b) married Elesia Ellis in 1932
  - c) started Howard College

- d) moved to Henderson Kentucky
  - e) seminary
  - f) had two churches during this time
  - g) finishes seminary
- 9) Making it Through Hard Times
- a) Birmingham Southern
  - b) Howard College
  - c) Riverview Alabama
  - d) spent money during these times less than \$5,000
  - e) five hamburgers for .25
  - f) Bethel church minutes read in 1880
- 10) Hoover leaves office
- a) Hoovervilles reaction from PaPa
  - b) optimistic people during this time
  - c) Government involvement did not exist
- 11) FDR the Feelings for Him
- a) Savior for the situation
  - b) New deals
  - c) WPA, CCC
  - d) three brothers worked for WPA
  - e) Streets by WPA
  - f) brothers job with WPA
- 12) Reasons for Big Families
- a) not much thought
  - b) No birthcontrol/family planning
- 13) Medical care during this time period
- a) Dr. Moon
  - b) fever powders
  - c) Midwives
  - d) Herbs
- 14) 1929-1940
- a) enjoying time
  - b) great decade for PAPA
- 15) Examples of People Surviving from Depression
- a) Depression affects on Alabamians
  - b) Seminary (passing the hat around)
  - c) Taking care of our own
- 16) Hard Times in Alabama
- a) Christmas time
  - b) little things goes a long way
  - c) people then enjoyed things more
- 17) If PaPa was Governor or President during these times what  
Would you have done different?

- 18) Morale
  - a) How where y'all going to make it?
  - b) never discussed this question
- 19) Mother and Father in Walker County
  - a) Jobs
  - b) Pension from son killed in War
- 20) Slaughtering/ wasting of pigs by Government
  - a) Hard to understand
  - b) Resentment

SIDE TWO QUESTIONS-----

- 21) Feelings of Fire Side Chats
  - a) Mr. Roosevelt appealing voice
  - b) Saturday nights (people gathered)
  - c) CCC Movement
  - d) Great Motivator
  - e) He did not have to politic to get re-elected
- 22) Franklin Roosevelt dies in Warm Springs GA
  - a) setting 40 miles from where he died
- 23) Mother saw nothing was wasted at meal time
- 24) Food for Breakfast
  - a) lunch
  - b) supper
- 25) Keeping milk cold
- 26) What was Learned at this time?
  - a) personally
  - b) mentally
  - c) socially
- 27) Thanks for Interview

### Questions for Interview

- 1) Tell me about the Governors of Alabama during the Great Depression?
- 2) What did you do for money during this period?
- 3) What did you and your family eat?
- 4) How often did you get shoes and clothing?
- 5) Tell me about your regular day including chores, family activity and school?
- 6) Tell me about the government within Walker County at this time?
- 7) Tell me about your morale at this time and then as a whole for your family and Walker County towards the Great Depression?
- 8) Was this an enjoyable time?
- 9) Would like to live that period of history over again? Why?
- 10) Tell me how you were able to go to high school? college? and Seminary?
- 11) Did you have a big family? who did you marry? when?
- 12) Why do you suppose there were big families at this time?
- 13) Tell me the effects or some examples of the Great Depression on Alabamians and especially on Walker County people?
- 14) How did your mother prepare food during this time?
- 15) Did you have herbal medicines?
- 16) What about medical care at this time? Midwives?
- 17) Did anyone work for the WPA or CCC in your family?
- 18) Your view of FDR?
- 19) In the last few minutes just tell her, what you learned from this time period and how it affected your life personally, socially and mentally?