

[Russell:] Ok we got it on again. Mrs. Zeno, we are back interviewing you--

[Zeno:] So used to him, I'm so used to him he's just like George [Lewis] to me.

[Russell:] The last time you were talking you asked if you should speak in French. Would you rather talk in French than English usually, do you?

[Zeno:] Well I have to talk in English, you know because I-- it's only English now. Me, I prefer French.

[Russell:] Prefer French?

[Zeno:] Oh yes. Give me my language.

[Russell:] Do you still read very much or not?

[Zeno:] Well, I can't read no more Mr. Russell.

[Russell:] Because of your eyes now, huh? Where are all of your books? Are they still over at your other home?

[Zeno:] Huh?

[Russell:] All of your books that you had?

[Zeno:] They far over there. There're piles and piles and piles of books.

[Russell:] Did you read very much when you were young?

[Zeno:] Oooh, I'd get in the bed [unintelligible]--had candles then, you know.

[Russell:] Yes. By candlelight, huh?

[Zeno:] Candles. I'd get under the mosquito bar with the candle and I'd read. My mother would say, "Oh, that gal gonna set this house afire. She reads, she reads, she reads, she reads." Oh, I loved to read when I was young. Not foolishness no. I never read foolishness.

[Russell:] All serious good books, huh?

[Zeno:] Yes, I didn't never like foolishness [voila (Fr.) ?].

[Russell:] Did you read--

[Simmons:] You don't have to look at me. You just go ahead and talk, [now ?].

[Russell:] We just be talking [it] is all right.

[Zeno:] Uh-huh.

[Russell:] Did you read mostly French books or?--

[Zeno:] French, French.

[Russell:] French.

[Zeno:] Well you see Mr.-- (flash bulb flashes)

[Simmons:] Oh, I'm sorry.

[Zeno:] [Fait (Fr.) ?].

[Simmons:] I'm sorry.

[Russell:] That's a bright light.

[Simmons:] Did that bother you?

[Zeno:] No, scared me.

[Simmons:] Scared you. Well it'll go off every once in a while.

[Allen:] I thought you'd be used to that by now?

[Zeno:] Yeah, I ought to be.

[Allen:] So many camera people around. All the time, huh?

[Zeno:] I had people in that little two by four room.

[Russell:] Taking pictures up there, yes, so many, uh-huh? That hurt your eyes.

[Zeno:] No, my eyes run water, you know, [all day ?].

[Simmons:] It just scared her, that's all.

[Zeno:] Because--no, my eyes run water because I'm so young, you know, I'm ninety-four years old.

[Simmons:] I don't believe it.

[Zeno:] Well, you're very polite, indeed. You don't believe it.

[(French) ici ?]

[Allen:] You'll have to talk to his wife.

[Zeno:] Huh?

[Allen:] His wife speaks French. Not him.

[Zeno:] I'd like to see her.

[Russell:] Maybe that won't bother you so much over there.

[Simmons:] Put it over here, then you won't have to look at it.

[Zeno:] [All right ?].

[Russell:] So don't be surprised when it goes off there again
it'll--

[Zeno:] I ought to be used to that.

[Russell:] Yes, well you didn't know there was goin' to be a
bright light right there so close.

[Simmons:] I had it too close to you, I think. This time it
won't be close.

[Allen:] What was your favorite book of all?

[Zeno:] Huh?

[Allen:] What was your favorite book of all? Your favorite book?

[Zeno:] Well, I'll read everything that was good--everything that
could open my intelligence.

[Allen:] Oh, I see.

[Zeno:] I never read foolishness, never did--love stories and
all that, I never did care about that. I like serious things.

Now you see I've tried to follow [La Vie of Lafette, Jean LaFette ?].

[Allen:] Oh yeah.

[Zeno:] And I had a big bundle of, you know, out of the newspaper.

[Russell and Allen:] Oh yeah.

[Zeno:] My ma say, "She's gonna go crazy"--she burned them up.

[Russell:] Did you read many--anything in Spanish or German books too?

[Allen:] She thought reading would drive you crazy?

[Zeno:] She thought so.

[Allen:] Huh.

[Zeno:] I ain't crazy, she's gone and I'm ninety-four years. I ain't crazy and I'm a long way from being crazy yet.

[Russell:] Helped your mind to read those.

[Zeno:] I loved to read. Oh I love--love good literature.

[Allen:] And was--Bill says--was French the only language you could read in?

[Zeno:] Well, it wa--it's the language that I could read with more facilité.

[Allen:] Yeah.

[Zeno:] But I read--because, you see, Mr.--old Mrs. W. W. King, Grace King, you know, she all--

[Russell:] Her mother?

[Zeno:] Eh?

[Russell:] Grace King's mother?

[Zeno:] Grace King's mother. I work there and there they used to have classes every three--about four days in the week. One date would be Capitan E Shevaré that was for the Spanish. And nothing but Spanish and he'd speak it to me and I'd giggle like a little young crazy thing, you know, I wasn't twenty years old. Then one day it was Herman Gessner; you must have heard of Herman Gessner. He teaches at Tulane, but this Herman Gessner that's there must be his grandson, but old Herman Gessner used to teach at Mrs. King, Capitan Eshevaré, Madam [Gerard ?] and how-you-call-'em, Charles Gayarré.

[Allen:] And which language did Gayarré teach?

[Zeno:] French with Madam [Gerard ?].

[Allen:] Yeah.

[Russell:] Who was that lady that was voted, you know, she got some honor about two years ago that she was voted the best teacher of the year? You remember she sent you her orchids that time. Do you remember she?--

[Zeno:] I don't remember.

[Russell:] She got some award.

[Allen:] Was she from Newcomb or Tulane?

[Russell:] She was from Newcomb yes.

[Allen:] Could that be [unintelligible]--

[Zeno:] Gracie King--Gracie Renshaw--Gladys Renshaw [spelling ?].

[Russell:] That's who it was I'm quite sure, yes.

[Zeno:] Gladys Renshaw, yes.

[Russell:] And you worked for them too, did you?

[Zeno:] [(French) ?].

[Russell:] I don't remember the lady, how she looked.

[Zeno:] Maybe she don't teach no more now she's--

[Russell:] No, she's retired I guess.

[Zeno:] Retired.

[Russell:] Did you work for them then too, did you?

[Zeno:] I've been in that family since here sister which is dead now was fourteen years old.

[Allen:] Is she related to Miss [Dagmar Renshaw] Le Breton?

[Zeno:] Huh?

[Allen:] Is she related to Miss Le Breton?

[Zeno:] Who?

[Allen:] Uh--Renshaw.

[Zeno:] Gladys Renshaw. Well, that's her sister.

[Allen:] I see.

[Zeno:] Yes, Judge Renshaw had, I believe, nine girls and two boys. Ah, but that was a man worth imitating. He had such nice manners: so quiet, so serious, so charitable. Oh, I liked the Judge very much. Stayed with him 'till he left this earth.

[Russell:] I was wondering if you could tell us anymore about your grandmother--if you remember more about her--you told us a little bit about her the other day, how she taught you some of these Senegalese--

[Zeno:] Senegal.

[Russell:] Senegal words and some of--did she teach you some of the songs too.

[Zeno:] Huh?

[Russell:] Did she teach you to sing?

[Zeno:] No, she never, taught me many songs. Just that--well Song of Haiti [French Pron.] [(French) ?]

[Simmons:] How was that? That bother you?

[Zeno:] You want to blind me, I see.

[Simmons:] No, I pointed it at the wall.

[Zeno:] What she speak to me, I was the only one she'd speak her language too, but my mother didn't want, "Ooh," she say, "[parle (French) ?] go talk that with Alice [(French) ?] don't come to me with that, go talk that with Alice" and I loved it, [yes sir ?]. I followed every step she made and I'd ask her, "[gagan ?] show me, tell me, yes, tell me."

[Allen:] And what were some of the expressions she taught you? From Senegal?

[Zeno:] Well, [unintelligible] that means "Good for nothing."
[unintelligible] "Good for nothing." And "Good morning" is
[unintelligible] everybody [unintelligible]; [unintelligible]
says "Good morning everybody." And at night [unintelligible]
"How's everybody home?" [unintelligible].

[Allen:] And what did she call the puddings that--

[Zeno:] Huh?

[Allen:] What did she call the puddings that you made?

[Zeno:] [Pain patate ?].

[Allen:] Oh.

[Zeno:] Yes, [pain patate ?].

[Allen:] Well that's French.

[Zeno:] Yes, [pain patate ?] is French.

[Russell:] That was that sweet potato pudding, uh-huh.

[Zeno:] Uh-huh. Made grate not ma--boiled--no grate.

[Russell:] You grate it.

[Zeno:] Uh-huh. And you put plenty black pepper in it.

[Russell:] Oh, really, hot then is it?

[Zeno:] I didn't like it much on account of that black
pepper, you know.

[Russell:] Yes.

[Zeno:] And she used to make funny dishes, you know, her home
dish.

[Russell:] What other kind of dishes did they have?

[Zeno:] Red beans with bananas.

[Russell:] Oh red beans and bananas that sounds good to me. I
like, both of them.

[Zeno:] I like it, I like all [unintelligible] as my ma called
it. All what my grandmother cooked. It was fine.

[Allen:] Where did red beans and bananas come from?

[Zeno:] From Senegal. That's a Senegal dish.

[Allen:] And what are some of the other Senegal dishes?

[Zeno:] Well, they had Tum Tum.

[Allen:] And that is?

[Zeno:] Tum Tum is okra cooked with a sweet potato but the white sweet potato. That's Tum Tum.

[Allen:] And did--do they make gumbo in Senegal or do you know?

[Zeno:] Yeah, they made gumbo, sure they did.

[Allen:] What kind of gumbo would they make?

[Zeno:] Well okra?

[Allen:] Uh-huh.

[Zeno:] Okra--the country, you know.

[Russell:] Yes.

[Zeno:] They make Tum Tum.

[Allen:] Both okra and gumbo are African words, did you know that?

[Zeno:] Yes?

[Allen:] They are both African words.

[Zeno:] Well my grandmother used to cook it. And she fried bananas with ham.

[Allen:] Uh-huh.

[Zeno:] I miss my grandmother, I wish she were here, [you] know, she was over a hundred when she died so I know she'd be just like a monkey now if she were [here ?], but I miss her. I miss her. I miss her.

[Russell:] You lived over on St. Claude Street, didn't you?
In those days was it?

[Zeno:] St. Claude. There we all was born. My grandmother had

thirteen or thirteen--twenty-three grandchildren. All born on St. Claude between Kerlerec and Columbus. All born right there in that house.

[Russell:] You went to that church over on St. Claude--what is the name of the?--

[Zeno:] St. Augustine. St. Augustine.

[Russell:] Uh-huh.

[Zeno:] St. Claude and Gov. Nicholls they call it now. Used to be called Bayou Road, now they call it Gov. Nicholls.

[Allen:] And where were you married--were you married in that church?

[Zeno:] No. St. Joseph.

[Allen:] And where--

[Zeno:] You know on Tulane Street [Avenue].

[Allen:] Yes. I told you that Bill when we passed by.

[Zeno:] Wasn't built, wasn't complete yet--just had start to building it. They didn't have no windows, no confessional box, or nothing when I married there.

[Allen:] I wanted to ask you about a dance. Did you ever hear of a dance called the Calinda [spelling ?]?

[Zeno:] Calinda?

[Allen:] Calinda.

[Zeno:] Oh yes.

[Allen:] And how was that danced?

[Zeno:] That's a Creole dance.

[Allen:] I see. Would they dance in couples or alone or--

[Zeno:] No, dance alone, they hold their dress like that, you know.

[Allen:] Oh.

[Zeno:] Hold the dress.

[Russell:] Hold up the dress that way, huh?

[Zeno:] Uh-huh.

[Allen:] And they dance alone. Does the woman or a man do it or both?

[Zeno:] Well, nobody dance together, they didn't dance together like now. They dance by themselves.

[Allen:] Well that's a Senegal pattern too, huh?

[Zeno:] Then they used to sing, I remember now it just come to me, [unintelligible]. (Sings in Creole French)

[Allen:] All those songs have something to do with food, don't they?

[Zeno:] Eh?

[Allen:] All those French songs have food in it, don't they? Just about all of them.

[Zeno:] Yes, they'd mix it all up. They didn't have music like they got now, you see, in my grandmother's time. They didn't have music, they'd sing, sing all the time and dance, they didn't have music.

[Russell:] Just sing by themselves, no instruments though?

[Zeno:] No, no instruments, no, no instruments. They sing and dance.

[Allen:] When did they start dancing in couples, and in fours?

[Zeno:] Oh, well, I don't remember that because, you see, when I began to have age of reason they was already dancing--yes [unintelligible], [unintelligible] is a Spanish dance--they would dance it together and that was danced together yeah. They hold their own like that and they just make steps like that [unintelligible] well that's a Spanish dance. [Get names of

Spanish dances ?]

[Allen:] Yes. I was wondering about several things--do you remember when they had the battle on Canal Street and at the foot of Canal?

[Zeno:] Uh-uh.

[Allen:] That was years and years ago you may have just been a little girl then--

[Zeno:] Yes, I must have been.

[Allen:] But that was during Reconstruction days, you know.

[Zeno:] I must have been very young then.

[Allen:] Yes. You know, they had Federal troops here--do you remember when they had the Federal troops after the war?

[Zeno:] Uh-uh.

[Russell:] I think they had them until she was about twelve years old, maybe, 1877 was it or something?

[Allen:] Until '77 it was. The had--I think that's when battle was, in '77.

[Russell:] You should have been about twelve years old, it's funny you didn't remember any--

[Zeno:] Well, you see, children didn't go about like children now. You couldn't pick yourself and go where you want.

[Russell:] Did you ever get uptown, up to Canal Street very often when you were a girl?

[Zeno:] No. Not often, I'd go with my grandmother when--because I followed her every step she made and she'd tell me, "[(French) ?] c'est la Rue Du Canal." And then when she passed on Esplanade Street she tell me, "C'est Esplanade" and they had an old house I remember on that side of the banquett, old brick house, the brick would fall like dust, you know and she told me, "You see,

[unintelligible]."

[Russell:] Was that on Esplanade?

[Zeno:] That was on Esplanade.

[Allen:] What was that last word.

[Zeno:] Where they sold "niggers," where they trade--

[Allen:] Trader.

[Russell:] Trade--like trading.

[Zeno:] [Unintelligible] so Frenchy and me too. She say

[Allen:] Now, had she ever been in Haiti?

[Zeno:] My grandmother?

[Allen:] Yes.

[Zeno:] No, her mother was sold from her [unintelligible] in Senegal.

[Allen:] Yes.

[Zeno:] Haiti's in--somewheres in Cuba. It's between Cuba and Spain, eh?

[Allen:] Yes. Well, I just wondered, you sang that song, you know, which dealt with the Revolution down there and I just wondered if she'd learned it--

[Zeno:] Well you see my grandmother used to sing it to me all the time, that's how I could--

[Allen:] I wonder where she learned it?

[Zeno:] From her mother.

[Allen:] Oh, from her mother.

[Zeno:] Her mother came there and was stole[n] from her country, you see, when she say she eight years old but she couldn't speak nothing but they had an old man at [Charles Perrette ?] [spelling ?] that bought all the Senegalean "niggers" that he could and old man that they called Pajacaud [spelling ?] and he was a Senegalean

and he translated, you know, and there's where my grand--my great grandmother then began to learn how to speak. Well, she say she was eight years old and they had gone to bed by the, not lagoon, lagoon is Spanish--by the river anyhow.

[Russell:] Yes.

[Zeno:] And she said they saw a man and he had pretty things in his hand and that must have been red beads and things, you know, like that and he made them come [to get some ?] and that's how they bought her here. She was only eight years old, my grandmother--my great grandmother.

[Russell:] Only eight--and she remembered when the slave traders came there?

[Allen:] What about Mardi Gras songs; do you remember any Mardi Gras songs?

[Zeno:] Oh, [yes ?], ooh. [(French) ?].

[Simmons:] Nice laugh.

[Zeno:] Eh?

[Simmons:] You have a nice laugh.

[Zeno:] Sons dent [spelling ?]. Sans

[Allen:] "Without teeth" she says.

[Zeno:] You know I got to eat--you know what I've got to eat: grits, mash potatoes anything [like that ?], I can't eat meat no more.

[Allen:] Well your healthy though.

[Zeno:] Well, I ought not to complain because for my age I see many younger than me that is more helpless than I am.

[Allen:] Well, you enjoy life though, don't you?

[Zeno:] Eh?

[Allen:] You still enjoy life?

[Zeno:] Oh yes. If I was over there on St. Peter Street in my old two by four, I'd be fixing my things, my windows and-- can't climb no more to put curtains but, I'd pay somebody to hang up my curtains and [fix ?] Christmas. Gladys Renshaw, everytime she comes, she say, "Well Alice, you still have the spirit." I say, "I gonna have it till I die."

[Russell:] That's good that you do.

[Simmons:] You mentioned about a Mardi Gras song--

[Zeno:] Oh, yes, I like to make Santa Claus, like to make the Santa Claus with the children, you know, oh I love to--all that St. Philip Street there.

[Russell:] What was Christmas like when you were a girl, did they have any big celebration, trees or anything?

[Zeno:] Nothing. Oh, yes, they had trees--no they didn't have trees that I can remember, but the old folks would take a high something, you know, something high enough and they didn't have all the little lights and things like that, didn't have things like they got now and the dolls wasn't like now: the body was saw dust and this part was just--and this half of the arms, you know, all the rest was saw dust.

[Russell:] Like rag dolls, I guess?

[Zeno:] And rag dolls, yes, they make plenty rag dolls. My grandmother used to make rag dolls for all of us.

[Russell:] I was wondering a little bit about George's early life. We didn't get to talk so much to George the other time.

[Zeno:] No.

[Russell:] When he first took up his clarinet and started playing, you mentioned you taught him one little song, was that on his little flute or on his clarinet, I forgot?

[Zeno:] No, on the flute.

[Russell:] On the flute, uh-huh. How long did he play that flute before he took his clarinet?

[Zeno:] He wanted a clarinet, you know, and George was always small and I thought George wouldn't live to see fifteen years-- I didn't want him--I say, "I'll give you a violin but I'll not give you a clarinet 'cause you'll die before you're fifteen years old." And he'd--"Oh, no, ma I don't want no violin, I want a clarinet." Well I never did give it to him until one day he ask--I sent him to bring--because I used to wash plenty: shirt and more so--I sent him to bring a bring a basket of clothes by Mr. Grima on St. Louis Street. I had sent him around the corner to bring some clothes and I gave him a nickel or a dime, I don't remember. When he come back, I say, "Well now go bring Mr. Edgar Grima's clothes: shirts and collars. They wore collars detachable, you know.

[Russell:] Oh yes, I did too.

[Zeno:] Yeah. And he say, "Ma, can I get a flute?" I say, "Now [unintelligible] I just gave you--I don't remember it was a nickel or a dime." He say, "It only cost a [dime ?]" "Yeah," I say, "Well go ahead and get it." And he went and he got that little ten cent flute and there's where he start--tootle-oo, tootle-oo, tootle-oo--and I never give him a clarinet. And one day he went with his father on Canal Street and was looking in the showcase and he told his papa, "You see, I want that and mama don't want to give it to me." And his father say, "Well, let's go in there and see," so he went inside and the clerk told him, "It's for this little fellow?" He told him, "Yes." He say, "Well, I--he's a beginner, I have a small one, a second hand,

I suppose but it's forty dollars. For a beginner it's all right."
And there's where he went--there's where he start with the clarinet.
But I never give him no clarinet.

[Russell:] How old was George's father when he died?

[Zeno:] We were the same age.

[Russell:] How old was George when his--

[Zeno:] Well Henry is dead now; my grandson dead, Joseph; it's
thirty-four years ago.

[Russell:] Uh-huh.

[Zeno:] 'Cause he was only--Joseph was only six months, I
believe when his grandfather died.

[Russell:] Yeah. Well, when did George change his name to
Lewis, when was that? About?--

[Zeno:] I don't remember the year.

[Russell:] I mean about how old was he, was he playing music then
and changed it?--

[Zeno:] He'd play at night, you know. [May ?] he was working
on the river and twice he got hurt on the river and didn't know
and he belonged to the National Insurance.

[Russell:] Yes.

[Zeno:] 'Cause I had all my children in the National and I had
them: George--Joseph Lewis Zeno and him--everybody called him
George Lewis so that name went on, so that made a confusion.

So the man told him, "You'll have to do that either one or the
other." That's where he went to the notary, I believe and just
let it be George Lewis.

[Russell:] They called him that down on the riverfront too?

[Zeno:] Yes.

[Russell:] That name. I thought maybe he changed it on account

of music to have an easier name, you know.

[Zeno:] No, no. It was just by have so much trouble with the insurance.

[Russell:] Insurance, uh-huh.

[Zeno:] He just let it go George Lewis short. But all his children and his wife and his [acquaintances ?]--

[Russell:] How did you pronounce his first name, originally, was it Francois how do you?--

[Zeno:] Joseph Francis.

[Russell:] Joseph Francis.

[Zeno:] Yeah.

[Russell:] I forget how.

[Zeno:] Yeah.

[Russell:] I forget how.

[Zeno:] Well, everybody call him George: my mother say, "Call him George, it'll be good." Well I can't complain.

[Russell:] No, that's a good name, it's easy to remember, it's easier to remember and say it that way, huh?

[Zeno:] You see, I had lost already three children before I raised George and I was so outdone, so discouraged, I was losing my mind. So when George came my mother say, "[(French) ?] George, he live." I say, "Well that's--we call him George but he wasn't christened George.

[Russell:] Did he practice much around the house, did he--was he always bothering playing a lot or--

[Zeno:] [Unintelligible] all day, all day, when he wasn't at school, he was with that clarinet, that clarinet, put his head at the foot of the bed and his foot on the heading of the bed, and that tootle--oo, tootle-oo all day long. The day of the

storm I thought sure we would all perish, that--I believe it was 18--1815--1915, eh?

[Russell:] I think it was 1915.

[Allen:] Yes.

[Zeno:] That it swept almost the city. All day I was there-- I was afraid to iron on a--I was afraid of lightening and I kept a telling him, "George, prepare your soul; we may all be in judgement before the day is out." And he depts on with that music, kept on with that and about six o'clock that's the last--the wind passed through the house just--I was the only one in the house: all the slates and everything had gone and it--the house looked like--looked like the house was crumbling and he run to me and he put his head--I said, "Prepare your soul." That's all.

[Russell:] That was a bad storm, I guess, I read about it.

[Zeno:] Ooh, that was a storm. And they tell me they had worse storms than that, but that's about worse one I saw.

[Russell:] Do you remember any of the big floods when you were a girl? Was there water in the houses?

[Zeno:] Plenty, plenty water. Plenty, plenty. See they didn't have no sewerage. The [Cong ?]. How did they call [Cong ?]? Blind ell, I believe, they call'em then, big, big moccasin something like that.

[Allen:] Uh-huh.

[Russell:] Oh yes.

[Zeno:] They poisonous--well, sometimes the water would come to the door like that and things were getting out of the--what's the name--and come in the house.

[Allen:] Uh-huh. Water moccasins.

[Zeno:] Moccasin, I believe, they call them.

[Allen:] Water moccasin, [of course ?].

[Zeno:] We called them [Cong ?] in French.

[Russell:] What kind of pieces did George play when he was a boy?

[Zeno:] Everything he heard.

[Russell:] Everything he--

[Zeno:] He practiced and try and make a mistake and come back and 'till he play it right.

[Russell:] Can you think of any more questions you want to ask we only have about another minute or so here.

[Allen:] We were talking about Mardi Gras.

[Russell:] Oh, yes.

[Allen:] A little bit. I was wondering if you thought of any more Mardi Gras songs, that they sang?

[Zeno:] Well, yes, I can think of [unintelligible] (sings Mardi Gras song) That's Mardi Gras song. They walk and sing and 'twas Mardi Gras then--it was worth looking at. Mardi Gras ain't pretty now.

[Allen:] No.

[Zeno:] Uh-uh.

[Russell:] The costumes or the parades what was better, were the parades better or did everybody mask and have pretty costumes or what?

[Zeno:] No, they didn't have no pretty costumes. In the Mardi Gras my days they masked--some with masks and then plenty Indians, but they dressed like the Indian. They didn't no fancy thing--they had guinea blue dress with yellow bias, you know, and red and little short waist like that, you know, like the real Indian wear. And they dance and they had the basket on the--like real Indian. Now the Indian is not real Indian. And they fall down [ba dum ?] and sit down and cross their leg like this and eat out of

the gamet [spelling ?]. It was pretty. Some would mask in Spanish--Spaniard, you know. Try to imitate the dress like all different kind of nation. And after while they begin then to dance like ballet then. Wasn't at all the same.

[Russell:] Was their dancing out in the street--a lot of them?

[Zeno:] Yes, sure, in the streets. My cousin "Tati"--which would be eighty-nine years old now in March--he used to have a gang. He'd band [of men, not music], you know, and when they hear him coming--when they'd hear that song of [(French) ?], everybody would run, oh that's "Tati" band. And they'd have an old piece of broom and they sweep and they dance. It was really amusing.

[Russell:] Were there many instruments out in the street--any bands that you remember.

[Zeno:] No. If they had bands it was young people, you know, some had tin plates and spoons.

[Russell:] They'd hit on that, huh.

[Zeno:] Yeah. Some had washboards and they made music with that.

[Allen:] What would they hit the washboard with?

[Zeno:] I don't know what they do, but they'd have the wasboard and they run their hand like this on it, you know, and make music.

[Russell:] I guess--

ALICE ZENO
END OF REEL I
DECEMBER 10, 1958