

anything like that.

[Wilson:] Oh, yeah. You all played quadrilles, you remember?

[Barbarin:] Oh, yeah, yeah, plenty of that.

[Allen:] What was a quadrille like? Get him to tell us.

[Wilson:] What was a quadrille like?

[Barbarin:] Well, it was a--

[Wilson:] I think they had a bunch on that side and bunch on this side--

[Barbarin:] It was just like a dance, you know.

[Wilson:] [Old folks saying?].

[Barbarin:] Different section, you know, to the dance, you know?

[Wilson:] I used to hear him saying that. Part would stay over there and the other part would stay over here.

[Allen:] Ask him did they dance ratty?

[Wilson:] Did they dance ratty?

[Barbarin:] Oh, no, not them times.

[Paul
Barbarin:] Not them times, no.

[Allen:] When did that start?

[Wilson:] When did that start, he say.

[Barbarin:] What?

[Wilson:] About what year that happen in ?

[Barbarin:] What's that?

[Wilson:] When they used to dance the quadrille.

[Allen:] Ratty.

[Barbarin:] Oh, that was in my young days.

[Wilson:] That was in his young days.

[Allen:] And when did they dance ratty?

[Wilson:] When did they start dancing that jazzy stuff, ratty music?

[Barbarin :] Oh.

[Wilson:] What time of the year?

[Barbarin:] That's very late, that.

[Wilson:] That was late[recent].

[Barbarin:] The people at first [unintelligible]; they used to enjoy music but not that kind of music.

[Allen:] Ask him was it before the Spanish-American War.

[Wilson:] Was it before the Spain--Spanish-American War or after?

[Barbarin:] What's that?

[Wilson:] Was that ratty dance after the war--after the Spanish and American War or after?

[Barbarin:] Oh, that was long after.

[Wilson:] After.

[Allen:] Ask him if it was before the--

[Barbarin:] People didn't dance ratty--no.

[Allen:] Did they dance ratty before the big storm?

[Wilson:] That was in 1915.

[Allen:] Uh-huh.

[Paul
Barbarin:] Oh, sure, sure.

[Wilson:] Yeah, yeah, they were dancing ratty then.

[Paul
Barbarin:] Sure; I can tell you that, because I was following--

[Allen:] Okay. Well, I'm trying to figure out what year--

[Paul
Barbarin:] I was following them in 1910, man; in 1910 I was following them. [Remember he used to whistle at me?]? [Demonstrates whistle]

[Allen:] Uh-huh.

[Wilson:] Uh-huh. Run him home. He never holler at none of us.

[Paul
Barbarin:] Never holler at none of us.

[Wilson:] He'd never [call you?], and we'd come home.

[Paul
Barbarin:] And I'd cut out, man.

[Wilson:] He never raised his voice.

[Paul
Barbarin:] That Onward Band had a band. That [man?] had a band, boy; they had a band, boy.

[Allen:] Could we get your name on the tape? We'd like to have it.

[Paul
Barbarin:] O. B. B.'s, they called them.

[Russell:] Could we have your full name, too?

[Allen:] Yes.

[Russell:] Your married name.

[Wilson:] Teresa Wilson.

[Allen:] Teresa Wilson. Got it.

[Russell:] How many brothers did you have, Paul, all together?

[Paul
Barbarin:] We had four of us--four brothers.

[Russell:] Four brothers and one sister?

[Paul
Barbarin:] No, there's more.

[Wilson:] There was four sisters; we were four--there was five sisters and one died
when she was small. We were eight.

[Paul
Barbarin:] We were nine.

[Wilson:] Yeah, nine; but I mean eight, we [were living?]; now we are six, because
we lost two recently, about four years ago--a brother and a sister.

[Allen:] Did his [Isidore Barbarin] brothers and sisters play music?

[Wilson:] He didn't have any brothers; [he had] one sister.

[Allen:] Uh-huh.

[Wilson:] Your sister didn't play any kind of instrument, huh?

[Barbarin:] Huh?

[Wilson:] Your sister?

[Barbarin:] No, no.

[Wilson:] He didn't have any brothers.

[Paul
Barbarin:] And his father?

[Wilson:] No, I asked him and he said no.

[Russell:] Now, what part of town were you all raised in when you were children?

[Wilson:] On Touro between Rampart and Burgundy; that's right over on the other
side of Claiborne.

[Paul
Barbarin:] Uh-huh.

[Wilson:] That's right--that's most in the French part of town--see, it's right
coming from the Vieux Carre, about nine ^[c.4] blocks from the Vieux Carre.

[Allen:] Where was he born? Was he born in the city?

[Wilson:] Yeah, he was born in the city. Where was you born; do you remember where
you was born--what street, or where?

[Barbarin:] Yeah; I was born on Touro--Union Street.

[Wilson:] Union Street? That's the way--yeah, they used to call those streets
down in there--

[Allen:] Union and what?

[Wilson:] Union and what? What was Union Street? After Union Street, what [did]
they call that street? That wasn't St. Claude, huh?

[Barbarin:] No; Union Street runs this way.

[Wilson:] Yeah, but what street that was?

[Barbarin:] What?

[Wilson:] What street that they named it now--Union Street?

[Barbarin:] Touro.

[Wilson:] Touro?

[Allen:] Uh-huh. And what were the cross streets?

[Wilson:] What was--between what two streets? In between what two streets--St.
Claude, Marais, Urquhart or where?

[Barbarin:] They done changed all them streets.

[Wilson:] I know, but just tell me now, so he'll know.

[Allen:] Where was?--

[Wilson:] Huh?

[Allen:] Ask him if it was near Claiborne, or Rampart or--

[Wilson:] That's what I'm asking him now. Was it near Claiborne? I don't think
it was that far.

[Barbarin:] Oh, no.

[Wilson:] It was around St. Claude?

[Barbarin:] No, around Royal and --

- Wilson:] Oh, around Royal--that's in the Vieux Carre part.
- Barbarin:] Those names was changed--
- Wilson:] Yeah, you know where he means--around Royal. Was it Kerlerec Street, Pa? round Kerlerec? You know, Pete Street? You know, that little street they call Pete treet?
- Barbarin:] Yeah, they all there.
- Wilson:] It must have been up around in there, huh?
- Barbarin:] They all there. Kerlerec Street is supposed to be after Esplanade.
- Wilson:] That's right.
- Barbarin:] But--yeah, after Esplanade.
- Wilson:] Uh-huh. And they had a little cut street; then they come to Touro, and auphine Street cut across and Touro'd run, run continuation.
- Barbarin:] What's that?
- Wilson:] I say, [you come down Bourbon Street and you come down Touro Street hat run from--oh, what was that in that cut there, by Dauphine, up in there?--and un back?].
- Barbarin:] Yeah, that was--Touro Street used to run back far as--it run way back.
- Wilson:] Yeah, I know.
- Russell:] That's all right. I wondered about the bands, if they ever played a arch, a parade with maybe eight or nine men, or if they had a twelve or fifteen-- big band.
- Wilson:] He said, how many men [did] they use when y'all played a march in the band, parade--how many men? Did you have eight, twelve, fourteen, or what?
- Barbarin:] They had twelve--twelve, mostly twelve; the regular band was twelve men. ow they play with anything.
- Russell:] What kind of uniforms did they wear in those days?
- Barbarin:] Heh?
- Wilson:] What kind of uniforms y'all wore?
- Barbarin:] Blue.
- Wilson:] Blue with black stripes up the side, huh?

[Barbarin:] Yeah.

[Wilson:] With [the] black seam--you know, Paul--and the coats had the black on them.

[Barbarin:] [in the] summertime, white pants and blue coat and white caps.

[Wilson:] In the summertime they had white pants, white caps and blue coats.

[Barbarin:] They wear that 'til now.

[Russell:] Uh-huh.

[Wilson:] Oh, no, they're big shots now; they ain't like a long time ago.

[Allen:] Did they wear their uniforms on dance--at dances?

[Paul
Barbarin:] Yeah.

[Wilson:] Yeah. Y'all wore the uniforms at dances?

[Barbarin:] Heh?

[Wilson:] You wore the uniforms at dances, too, huh, when you played picnics or any of those concerts? You had to have your coat and everything?

[Barbarin:] Yeah.

[Wilson:] Uh-huh.

[Russell:] And they played for--

[Barbarin:] Oh, yes; they had to go there and represent a band, you know.

[Russell:] When they played for a dnace, did they use two drums?

[Barbarin:] [That was it?].

[Wilson:] He say, when y'all played for a dnace, did y'all use two drums?

[Barbarin:] Yes, we did--two drums--small drum and a bass drum.

[Russell:] Did the whole band play for the dance--the whole twelve men or just part?

[Wilson:] Did the whole band play for the dance or just part of the whole band?

[Barbarin:] Oh, yeah, yeah.

[Allen:] Would the brass bands play the mazurkas? Ask him.

[Wilson:] Did the brass bands play mazurkas?

[Barbarin:] Did what?

[Wilson:] Did the brass band play mazurkas?

[Barbarin:] Play anything--polka, mazurka, and so on, you know--quadrille.

[Paul
Barbarin:] Schottische, all [of] them.

[Russell:] Waltz?

[Wilson:] Uh-huh. They played waltz--waltz--

[Barbarin:] Waltz--

[Wilson:] Schottische--

[Barbarin:] Mazurka--

[Wilson:] Mazurka--

[Russell:] When they played for a funeral, what kind of music did they use?

[Wilson:] When y'all played for a funeral, well, what kind of music did you use--
instruments, you know, [that] you used?

[Barbarin:] Same instruments we used for parades.

[Russell:] I mean, did they play slow marches, [then fast ones, too?]

[Wilson:] Y'all played slow marches or fast marches?

[Barbarin:] Slow marches.

[Russell:] After, after the funeral, did they play some real fast numbers like they
do now?

[Wilson:] After the funeral, would they play fast numbers, ratty music?

[Barbarin:] Yes--not ratty, but--

[Wilson:] No, but fast numbers, huh? Uh-huh.

[Barbarin:] Yeah, yeah.

[Allen:] Ask him if they would be 6/8 or 2/4?

[Wilson:] Would they be 6/8 or 2/4?

[Barbarin:] 2/4 and 6/8.

[Russell:] Would they ever play spirituals and hymns at a funeral mostly, or what?

[Wilson:] He said, did you ever play spirituals or hymns at the funeral; which ones
you played the most?

[Barbarin:] Hymns.

[Wilson:] Hymns.

[Allen:] Uh-huh. Could he give us the names of any of them?

[Wilson:] You know the names of them?

[Barbarin:] Well, I know "Nearer My God To Thee."

[Wilson:] "Nearer My God To Thee."

[Barbarin:] They've got some others here, but I can't remember them.

[Allen:] Uh-huh.

[Russell:] Yes, that's an idea.

[Allen:] Yes. Does he know the names of any of the other tunes that they played--
any tunes--any kind of tunes?

[Wilson:] Do you know any of the names of the tunes they played?

[Barbarin:] Let's see--I can't think of them, you know.

[Allen:] Any--ask him any song, any quadrille--

[Wilson:] Any song, any song that y'all played [at] different dances--any quadrille
or schottische or anything like that. Waltz--anything you played--any songs that
y'all played.

[Barbarin:] I can't remember all of them.

[Allen:] [Unintelligible]

[Wilson:] [That's a?] long [time?].

[Russell:] Yes, that's a long time.

[Paul
Barbarin:] Ask him about the Onward Band, the bands he played with--the regular band.

[Allen:] Ask him did he ever hear of the Onward Band.

[Wilson:] Onward Brass Band.

[Barbarin:] Huh?

[Wilson:] The Onward Brass Band--did you ever hear of that?

[Barbarin:] I used to play in the Onward Band.

[Allen:] Uh-huh.

[Paul
Barbarin:] Uh-huh. Who was in the Onward Band?

[Allen:] Who was in it?

[Wilson:] Who all played with you? Who all the musicianers was?

[Barbarin:] They all were--they all [are] dead.

[Wilson:] Yeah, but [do] you remember their names?

[Barbarin:] Yeah, Lanier--

[Wilson:] Well, tell them their names.

[Barbarin:] Lanier was the leader of the band.

[Paul
Barbarin:] Go ahead, Pop, [and tell them?].

[Wilson:] Go ahead; talk, talk fast--

[Russell:] [Unintelligible]

[Wilson:] It's all right? Okay, go ahead. And [do] you know the rest of the fellows?

[Barbarin:] Yeah.

[Wilson:] Well, call their names, every one of them, if you can think.

[Barbarin:] Bruno.

[Allen:] Uh-huh. What did he play?

[Wilson:] What did he play?

[Barbarin:] Gabe, Gabe Lawrence--he played tuba.

[Allen:] Uh-huh. What did Bruno?--

[Wilson:] What did Bruno play?

[Barbarin:] Heh?

[Wilson:] What did Bruno play?

[Barbarin:] He played alto.

[Allen:] Uh-huh.

[Barbarin:] Me and him used to play alto.

[Russell:] Oh, yeah.

[Wilson:] And who else?

[Barbarin:] I can't think of them fellows.

[Allen:] Tell him--ask him if it had a manager.

[Wilson:] Did y'all have a manager to that band?

[Barbarin:] Manager?

[Wilson:] Yes.

[Barbarin:] Yeah, they had a manager.

[Wilson:] Who was the manager?

[Barbarin:] Ah--Steve Johnson; yeah, Steve Johnson.

[Wilson:] Steve Johnson?

[Barbarin:] Yeah.

[Allen:] Did he play?

[Wilson:] What did Steve Johnson play?

[Barbarin:] He played trombone, yeah--piston trombone.

[Allen:] I wonder if he's related to "Buddy"? Ask him if he's related to "Buddy" Johnson.

[Wilson:] Is he related to "Buddy" Johnson? There's so many of them.

[Barbarin:] I can't answer that.

[Allen:] Uh-huh.

[Paul
Barbarin:] [Unintelligible]

[Allen:] Ask him did he know Theogene Baquet. Is that how you pronounce his name, Theogene?

[Paul
Barbarin:] Who, George Baquet?

[Allen:] No, no, the old man, the father--Theogene.

[Wilson:] Did you know Theogene Baquet?

[Barbarin:] Oh, yes; he was the Excelsior Band's leader.

[Allen:] Uh-huh.

[Barbarin:] Had a good band.

[Allen:] Uh-huh. Now, what did he play?

[Barbarin:] He died in Texas somewhere.

[Wilson:] What kind of instrument he played?

[Barbarin:] He played E flat, E flat [clarinet].

[Allen:] Uh-huh. Ask him if he knew his sons.

[Wilson:] Did you know his sons?

[Barbarin:] Heh?

[Wilson:] You knew any of his sons?

[Barbarin:] Yeah, his son died. He was the finest clarinet they had in town.

[Paul
Barbarin:] That's right, that's right.

[Allen:] And what was his name?

[Wilson:] What was his name?

[Barbarin:] Well, his name was Baquet, you know.

[Paul
Barbarin:] George.

[Barbarin:] Georgie Baquet.

[Paul
Barbarin:] That's right.

[Allen:] Uh-huh.

[Russell:] [Ask him?] about the Tios.

[Paul
Barbarin:] He was, he was the best, too.

[Allen:] Did he know the Tios?

[Russell:] Did he know "Papa" Tio?

[Wilson:] Did you know "Papa" Tio?

[Barbarin:] Who?

[Wilson:] "Papa" Tio?

[Paul
Barbarin:] "Papa" Tio.

[Wilson:] "Papa" Tio?

[Barbarin:] Oh, yeah, I knew hem; there was three clarinets.

[Allen:] Uh-huh.

[Barbarin:] "Papa" and Lorenzo[Sr.], and they had a young fellow--what was his name?

[Paul
Barbarin:] Lorenzo [Jr.]

[Russell:] Lorenzo, Jr.

[Allen:] Junior.

[Barbarin:] They had three clarinets--good ones, all good ones.

[Russell:] Ask where they came from.

[Wilson:] Where they came from; was this their home town?

[Barbarin:] Heh?

[Wilson:] Was this their home town--they were born and raised in New Orleans or
where?

[Barbarin:] Who?

[Wilson:] Tio, "Papa."

[Barbarin:] They all born here in New Orleans.

[Wilson:] Uh-huh.

[Barbarin:] They learnt here in New Orleans; they were good musicians.

[Allen:] Ask him if they played the street much. Did they play in the street?

[Wilson:] Did they play on the streets much--music, you know--out on the streets,
like parades and different things?

[Barbarin:] Yeah, they played anything.

[Wilson:] Uh-huh.

[Allen:] Did he work with them?

[Wilson:] Did you ever play with them?

[Barbarin:] Who, me?

[Wilson:] Yeah.

[Barbarin:] Yeah, I played with them--they played with me.

[Allen:] In what--in what?

[Barbarin:] I used to hire them all the time.

[Allen:] What band was this?

[Wilson:] What band--you know the name of the band? [Or did they play with you?]
--
what band they played in, your band?

[Barbarin:] Well, sometime we didn't have no name for the band; we just get the men,
you know--

[Wilson:] They mixed them up.

[Barbarin:] But they was regular fellows [that] used to play with good bands, you know.

[Allen:] Uh-huh. Did Manuel Perez ever play in his band?

[Wilson:] You played with Manuel several times, huh?

[Barbarin:] Who? Manuel?--

[Wilson:] Manuel Perez.

[Barbarin:] Yeah, Manuel was the leader of my band once.

[Paul
Barbarin:] Ask him what the name of the band was.

[Wilson:] What was the name of that band when Manuel was the leader?

[Barbarin:] I--

[Paul
Barbarin:] Was it Onward?

[Wilson:] Was [it] the Onward Brass Band or the Excelsior?

[Barbarin:] No. Might have been the---

[Wilson:] The Eureka?

[Barbarin:] I don't know what--I don't believe his band had a name.

[Allen:] Yes.

[Barbarin:] We just made up bands, you know.

[Allen:] Ask him if Manuel Perez--

[Barbarin:] When he'd get a job, he hired the men, you know.

[Allen:] Uh-huh.

[Barbarin:] And after the job was over, everything was over.

[Allen:] Ask him did he know Eddie Jackson, the tuba player. [That's a good one?].

[Wilson:] He want to know if you know Eddie Jackson.

[Barbarin:] Ohhhhh!

[Wilson:] That's recently.

[Allen:] Uh-huh.

[Barbarin:] He was a bass player.

[Allen:] Uh-huh.

[Barbarin:] You could hear him from Broad Street coming this way.

[Allen:] Uh-huh.

[Barbarin:] He could play.

[Paul
Barbarin:] He could play is right.

[Barbarin:] That's a good, a good tuba player--really was good.

[Russell:] Ask if they used a piccolo in the old bands in the street--piccolo.

[Wilson:] Did they use the piccolos in the old bands on the street?

[Barbarin:] Yeah, they did; there wasn't much of them. There was Theonard[spelling?]-
you know Theonard? You don't know him, huh?

[Russell:] No.

[Barbarin:] He was a piccolo player.

[Wilson:] And who else?

I
JANUARY 7, 1959

[Paul
Barbarin:] Bab Frank.

[Barbarin:] Huh?

[Wilson:] And who else? Who were the other fellows?

[Paul
Barbarin:] Bab Frank [unintelligible]

[Barbarin:] I'm thinking about it.

[Paul
Barbarin:] Ask him was it Bab Frank.

[Wilson:] Was it Bab Frank?

[Barbarin:] Adolph, Adolph Minique[spelling?]--you know Adolph Minique?

[Wilson:] Adolph Minique.

[Russell:] No.

[Barbarin:] He used to play piccolo, you know.

[Allen &
Russell:] Uh-huh.

[Barbarin:] You know him?

[Russell:] Never knew him, no.

[Barbarin:] He's another good musician. Yeah.

[Russell:] Just about out of tape, too.

[Allen:] Yeah.

[Russell:] Any other questions, Dick, that you can think of--or Paul?

[Allen:] Ask him if he knew any accordian players. Did they have them?

[Wilson:] [Did] you know any accordian players?

[Barbarin:] Oh, no.

[Allen:] They didn't use any?

[Wilson:] That wasn't in their line.

[Russell:] Ask if he ever heard--

[Barbarin:] Naw, we didn't bother with that.

[Russell:] If he ever heard "Buddy" Bolden play?

[Wilson:] You ever heard "Buddy" Bolden play?

[Barbarin:] I heard him a--yeah, I heard him play a [dance?].

[Russell:] When did he start? Was it later than [you]?

[Wilson:] When did he start--after you or before you?

[Barbarin:] I couldn't tell you. That fellow was [from a, from away--he come here?], you know. [He go and come like that?]. And on their way, going and coming, they'd make up a band. But they wasn't no reading musicians, you know? They played by head.

[Allen:] Ask him who played by head--who were some of the guys who played by head?

[Wilson:] You know any of the fellows that played that didn't play music; just played by head?

[Barbarin:] Oh, they all dead.

[Wilson:] You don't know their names?

[Barbarin:] It's hard to find out, you know.

[Allen:] Yes.

[Wilson:] It's been so long ago.

[Barbarin:] Did you know "Buddy" Bolden?

[Allen:] I've--tell him I've heard of him.

[Russell:] Heard of him.

[Wilson:] He say he's heard of him--he's too young to know him.

[Barbarin:] He used to play by head.

[Russell:] Ask the first time he heard any blues. When was the first time?

[Wilson:] When was the first time you heard them play blues, when you started to play music? Do you remember?

[Barbarin:] Play what?

[Wilson:] The blues.

[Barbstin:] Ohhh! That was common here. Everybody was playing them.

END OF REEL I
JANUARY 7, 1959

[Wilson:] The Pickwick Band, he said.

[Paul
Barbarin:] [Well, Papa?]?

[Russell:] That's all right, it's on. The Pickwick Band--who was in that? What was that?

[Wilson:] Who was in the Pickwick Band?

[Barbarin:] The two Manettas, brothers.

[Wilson:] The Manettas?

[Barbarin:] They used to--they live over the river.

[Russell:] Ask about the blues again; [tell him] that we didn't get that [on the tape].

[Wilson:] Ah!

[Russell:] When he heard the blues--[unintelligible].

[Wilson:] Yeah. He said did--was you young when they played the blues?

[Barbarin:] [I just answered that?].

[Wilson:] You just answer like you answered before. He said when they played--when they started to play the blues was you a young man or you was already in age?

[Barbarin:] Oh, I was pretty good size then.

[Wilson:] Uh-huh. They always did play the blues, huh?

[Barbarin:] Yeah, everybody was playing the blues.

[Allen:] Ask him if the Manettas were named "Num"[Norm] and "Deuce"; were those the names?

[Wilson:] The Manettas--was they "Num" and "Deuce"?

[Barbarin:] They two, were two brothers--

[Allen:] Uh-huh.

[Barbarin:] The first leader and the assistant leader. And they had another trumpet, but I don't remember him.

[Allen:] Yes. They were related to Manuel, I guess, to Manuel--

[Wilson:] Manuel Perez?

[Allen:] Manuel Manetta.

[Wilson:] Manuel Manetta.

[Allen:] Right across the river.

[Wilson:] You knew a Manuel Manetta?

[Barbarin:] Manuel Manetta?

[Wilson:] Yes.

[Barbarin:] I don't know his first name.

[Wilson:] Uh-huh.

[Paul
Barbarin:] Professor Manetta.

[Barbarin:] I know they both was Manettas.

[Wilson:] Uh-huh.

[Barbarin:] They lived over the river.

[Allen:] Uh-huh.

[Barbarin:] They was born and raised over there.

[Allen:] Oh, let's see. Let me ask him--

[Wilson:] Go ahead.

[Allen:] About the Onward Band. I saw a picture of the Onward Band.

[Barbarin:] I was in there.

[Allen:] Oh, yeah--let's see--they had--if I can remember--Manuel Perez, Peter Bocage, Andrew Kimball--let's see, Vic Gaspard, "Buddy" or "Yank" Johnson, I can't remember which.

[Paul
Barbarin:] "Buddy" Johnson.

[Allen:] Was it "Buddy" or "Yank" that played with them?

[Paul
Barbarin:] "Buddy."

[Barbarin:] Who?

[Allen:] "Buddy" or "Yank" Johnson?

[Wilson:] Was it "Buddy" Johnson play with you all?

[Barbarin:] "Buddy" Johnson.

[Allen:] "Buddy." Did you have another trombone?

[Barbarin:] Heh?

[Allen:] Two trombones?

[Wilson:] Who else; who was the other trombone?

[Barbarin:] "Buddy" Johnson's brother, he was playing, too.

[Allen:] Oh, both of them--"Yank"?

[Wilson:] "Yank"?

[Allen:] "Yank" was his name--let's see, and--forget who--Vic Gaspard--

[Russell:] How about Adolphe Alexander [Sr.]?

[Barbarin:] Vic Gaspard was playing baritone and slide--he's dead now.

[Allen:] Yes.

[Russell:] How about Adolphe Alexander; did he play?

[Wilson:] Adolphe Alexander--he played with you?

[Barbarin:] He played--yes; he played with me [here lately?].

[Allen:] Uh-huh.

[Barbarin:] He died--died about a year or two years.

[Wilson:] Oh, he's been dead longer than that.

[Allen:] Well, I'm working on this one particular thing; I want this straight.

[Wilson:] He's dead longer than that.

[Barbarin:] Huh?

[Allen:] They had--let's see--in the Onward Band they had Matthews on drums, huh?

[Barbarin:] Who?

[Allen:] Matthews.

[Barbarin:] Matthews.

[Wilson:] Yeah, Matthews--

[Allen:] From Algiers.

[Wilson:] On drums--did a Matthews ever play any drum in the Onward Band?

[Barbarin:] I don't know.

[Paul

Barbarin:] Ask him "Bebé" Matthews.

[Allen:] "Bebé."

[Wilson:] "Bebé"--you remember little "Bébe" that used to play drums with y'all in the brass band? "Bebé"?

[Barbarin:] Yeah, I remember him.

[Allen:] And did "Dandy" Lewis play in that band?

[Barbarin:] Huh?

[Wilson:] "Dandy" Lewis?

[Barbarin:] Oh, well, sometimes.

[Allen:] Uh-huh. And what did he play; what instrument did he play?

[Barbarin:] Heh?

[Allen:] What instrument would he play?

[Barbarin:] He played a bass drum.

[Allen:] Uh-huh--the bass drum. And let's see--what am I leaving out now, in that band? Oh--

[Russell:] Is there a--

[Allen:] Eddie Jackson--did Eddie Jackson play with that band?

[Barbarin:] Eddie Jackson was playing with the band I was in; but he died.

[Allen:] Uh-huh.

[Barbarin:] He died at the hospital.

[Allen:] He was in the Onward?

[Barbarin:] Heh?

[Allen:] He was in the Onward? The Onward--O.B.B.? He wasn't?--

[Wilson:] What band he played in--Eddie Jackson--was he in the Onward Brass Band?

[Barbarin:] Tuxedo Band.

[Wilson:] Tuxedo.

[Allen:] Uh-huh.

[Paul
Barbarin:] They had another Jackson playing for them--not Eddie; another Jackson,

[I think it was?].

[Barbarin:] The Tuxedo Band is up now, but they [are] different mens, you know.

[Russell:] Yeah.

[Barbarin:] All the men used to play in there, they all about dead.

[Allen:] Tell him Harrison Barnes is still going on.

[Wilson:] Harris?

[Allen:] Harrison Barnes.

[Wilson:] Harrison Barnes?

[Allen:] He was in--

[Barbarin:] Harrison Barnes?

[Wilson:] Yeah; you know him?

[Barbarin:] Play slide, eh?

[Allen:] Uh-huh.

[Paul
Barbarin:] Yeah.

[Barbarin:] He was good; he was a good one; he'd play anything.

[Paul
Barbarin:] That's right.

[Allen:] Uh-huh--cornet--

[Barbarin:] He used to--things was so bad; you couldn't get musicians--

[Allen:] Uh-huh.

[Barbarin:] And he was playing a funeral way up in McDonoghville. And say, "Who's gonna lead the band?" Say--how you call him?

[Paul
Barbarin:] Harrison.

[Wilson:] Harrison. Uh-huh.

[Barbarin:] Say he's gonna lead the band. He was supposed to play baritone, but we couldn't get no trumpet player.

[Allen:] Uh-huh.

[Barbarin:] So he played trumpet.

[Allen:] That was his original instrument, I think.

[Barbarin:] Oh, he's good musician.

[Wilson:] That was his original instrument, trumpet?

[Barbarin:] Naw, he played--

[Wilson:] What [did] he use to play?

[Barbarin:] He played that whenever it was needed, you know.

[Wilson:] Oh, yeah.

[Russell:] We don't want to bother your father too much--I mean, if he's getting tired.

[Wilson:] Oh, he's all right; he'll tell you when he gets--are you tired? You can answer some more questions?

[Barbarin:] Yeah, I'm nuts. What time is it?

[Wilson:] It ain't dinner time yet. It's about--what time is it, Paul?

[Allen:] Three-fifteen.

[Wilson:] It's about fifteen minutes after three.

[Paul
Barbarin:] [Unintelligible].

[Barbarin:] Yeah.

[Collins:] Do you have any questions about those early days?

[Paul
Barbarin:] I want him to tell you about that Onward Brass Band with Joe Oliver, and
all [of them in it?].

[Russell:] Yes.

[Allen:] He knows--

[Paul
Barbarin:] That Onward Brass Band--that was the band.

[Allen:] Yeah.

[Wilson:] He wants to know about the band when you played with Joe Oliver--the
Onward Brass Band.

[Barbarin:] Heh?

[Wilson:] Tell them all about all of those musicians that you played with.

[Barbarin:] Joe Oliver--

[Wilson:] Uh-huh.

[Barbarin:] Joe Oliver led the band when Manuel Perez went to Chicago, you see. And
he took charge of the band. He was playing second trumpet, you know.

[Allen:] Uh-huh.

[Barbarin:] You see, when Manuel went away, he played--he lead the band. Eddie
Jackson was playing tuba.

[Wilson:] Who else?

[Barbarin:] And we had a good band.

[Wilson:] Can you remember?--

[Barbarin:] And we was playing--played Washington--Washington [and?]--[big place?]
there at Carondelet and Louisiana Avenue. And it was a big parade; it was a Labor
Day parade.

[Wilson:] White or colored parade you played for?

[Barbarin:] We had a good band.

[Wilson:] Was it a white or a colored parade?

[Barbarin:] Colored.

[Wilson:] Uh-huh.

[Allen:] Ask him if he ever played for the Fireman's [Day?].

[Wilson:] Did you ever play for the Fireman's?

[Barbarin:] Oh, yeah.

[Paul
Barbarin:] The 4th of March.

[Wilson:] And y'all used to play on Carnival Day, huh?

[Barbarin:] Heh?

[Wilson:] Y'all played in the Carnival parades?

[Barbarin:] Oh, yeah.

[Wilson:] In those white Carnival parades that they have now? He used to play in there.

[Barbarin:] We played--but they didn't last long, you know.

[Wilson:] No.

[Allen:] Ask him when was Fireman's Day.

[Wilson:] Do you remember what day was Fireman's Day in those times?

[Barbarin:] Heh?

[Wilson:] Do you remember what day was Fireman's Day? You know, when y'all used to play for the Fireman's?

[Barbarin:] Yeah, we played for those.

[Wilson:] What day--you don't remember--in July or August or what month? And what date?

[Barbarin:] 4th of March.

[Wilson:] 4th of March.

[Barbarin:] 4th of March, that was their anniversary.

[Wilson:] Oh, yeah.

[Allen:] Ask him what they did.

[Wilson:] What did they do--they had a picnic, or how did they amuse theirself?

[Barbarin:] Oh, just--

[Wilson:] Just parade, huh?

[Barbarin:] Yeah. They had a banquet afterwards--after--

[Wilson:] They had a banquet afterwards.

[Allen:] Did they have engines in the parade?

[Wilson:] Did they have the fire engines in there? No, huh?

[Barbarin:] In the parade, yeah.

[Wilson:] Yeah? With the horses, huh?

[Barbarin:] Yeah, they had the horses, too.

[Allen:] Would the men pull them?

[Wilson:] Would men drive those horses during the parade--the firemen were on the fire wagons?

[Barbarin:] Some of them horses was going by themself; [straight up?]-trained, you know.

[Wilson:] Yeah. Now, didn't y'all have the 4th of July? Then you had the 14th of July--what day was that? I used to hear y'all talk about that. Was that the French or something that celebrate that?

[Barbarin:] The French was on the 14th[Bastille Day].

[Wilson:] Uh-huh; they don't celebrate that no more.

[Allen:] Quatorze Juillet.

[Barbarin:] And American people was on the 4th of July.

[Wilson:] Uh-huh. I know I used to hear him talking about his playing, you know.

[Allen:] What did you do on the Quatorze Juillet?

[Barbarin:] Huh?

[Allen:] Quatorze Juillet? What did you do, huh? Bastille--

[Wilson:] The 14th of July--what did y'all do--what, where y'all played--for who?

[Barbarin:] We didn't play that day.

[Allen:] No, huh? No parades? Ask him if they had parades.

[Wilson:] Did they have parades--they had picnics, heh?

[Barbarin:] They had picnics, you know--

[Wilson:] Yeah--

[Barbarin:] But no parades.

[Wilson:] I know I used to hear him talking--uh-huh.

[Barbarin:] That was a French day--14th of July.

[Paul
Barbarin:] [I thought maybe he knew?].

[Russell:] Ask Mr. Barbarin if he belonged to any of the organizations, you know--
fraternal, the clubs--

[Wilson:] That he played for?

[Russell:] No; did he belong to any of them, himself?

[Wilson:] Did you belong to those clubs that you used to play for--the Tulane--
what else did you belong to?

[Barbarin:] Tulane, the--

[Paul
Barbarin:] The one around the corner.

[Wilson:] The Liberty? Oh, yeah, you belonged to the Liberty Society; you used to
play for the funerals.

[Barbarin:] Oh, I played for [unintelligible]. I belonged to them.

[Wilson:] Yeah. And the Perserverance--

[Barbarin:] Oh, well, I--

[Wilson:] You played for them, yeah; uh-huh.

[Barbarin:] Yeah, we played for them.

[Wilson:] Uh-huh. And did you belong to the Hobgoblins?

[Barbarin:] Yeah, we played for them.

[Wilson:] And who else, Paul? The Bulls--you didn't belong to the Bulls, huh?

[Barbarin:] We played for the Bulls, too.

[Wilson:] You played--he played for them.

[Barbarin:] We used to play all them jobs.

[Wilson:] You belonged to the Friends of Orders, huh? Yeah, you used to belong to
the Friends of Orders and you used to play the funerals for them. You remember?

[Barbarin:] No, I don't remember that.

[Wilson:] You belonged to the Friends of Order--that was his [main group?].

[Allen:] What about Odd Fellows? Did they have Odd Fellows?

[Wilson:] The Odd Fellows--how's about the Odd Fellows--you didn't belong to that,
huh? He used to play for that.

[Barbarin:] The Odd Fellows had funerals every day.

[Wilson:] Had funerals every day.

[Barbarin:] Music funerals, too, you know.

[Russell:] Oh--which church [does] Mr. Barbarin belong to?

[Wilson:] The Sacred Heart, right there on St. Bernard--Catholic.

[Russell:] Yeah.

[Allen:] Bill, let him talk--[anytime he talks?], he talks--just let him talk; man, he'll tell us, you know.

[Wilson:] He wanted to know what church you belong to. I said the Sacred Heart, right on St. Bernard Street.

[Barbarin:] Yes.

[Allen:] Where he was baptized?

[Wilson:] Where was you christened at? You know what church?

[Barbarin:] Ah--

[Wilson:] Was it St. Joseph's--that's an old church--or St. Katherine's, or St. Rose of Lima--the Cathedral?

[Barbarin:] St. Augustine.

[Wilson:] St. Augustine--that's on St. Claude and--

[Barbarin:] It's right there around the corner.

[Wilson:] Governor--Hospital, huh, Paul?--Gov. Nicholas[Nicholls].
[Paul

Barbarin:] Gov. Nicholas.

[Wilson:] Yeah.

[Allen:] And ask him did he ever go in the Mississippi Valley Hall?

[Wilson:] Did you ever go to a hall by the name of the Mississippi Valley Hall?

[Barbarin:] Oh, yeah, I used to play there. On Poydras Street--yeah.

[Wilson:] On Poydras Street.

[Barbarin:] We used to play there often.

[Allen:] Uh-huh.

[Barbarin:] And different people give a dance, you know?

[Allen:] Uh-huh.

[Wilson:] Now, what was that other hall I used to hear him talk about around there--

you know where the Auditorium is at now? [Over there?] by the Auditorium. What was the name of that hall?

[Paul
Barbarin:] Oh, that was the Globe's Hall.

[Wilson:] Yeah; I used to hear him talking about that.

[Paul
Barbarin:] Ask him if he ever played at the Globe's Hall.

[Wilson:] Did you ever play at the Globe Hall?

[Barbarin:] Oh, yeah.

[Wilson:] That's an old one.

[Barbarin:] Mardi Gras balls we used to play there.

[Wilson:] We all little bitty babies then.

[Barbarin:] Yeah, that's at St. Peter and St. Claude.

[Wilson:] That's it.

[Paul
Barbarin:] That's right.

[Wilson:] I knew it was somewhere up there, but I didn't know where.

[Paul
Barbarin:] That's where. I knew where it was at.

[Allen:] Can you ask him what--did he ever hear of the Oriental Brass Band?

[Wilson:] Did you ever hear of the Oriental Brass Band?

[Barbarin:] I don't know about that; I don't remember that.

[Allen:] 1886.

[Wilson:] In 1886.

[Allen:] Gee, that's, that [was years ago?].

[Barbarin:] Colored?

[Wilson:] Colored? Yeah, he say colored.

[Barbarin?] [Naw?].

[Allen:] Ask him if he ever went to--

[Barbarin:] They wasn't known.

[Allen:] Wh-huh.

[Wilson:] They wasn't known.

[Barbarin:] They might have organized, you know; played one or two jobs.

[Allen:] I wonder if he ever went to the L'Equité Hall.

[Wilson:] The L'Equite--oh, you went to the L'Equite' Hall, huh? You remember the L'Equite'?

[Allen:] On Robertson.

[Wilson:] That was on Robertson Street--it's still there.

[Barbarin:] Yeah, it's there yet.

[Wilson:] Uh-huh.

[Allen:] Near Columbus.

[Wilson:] You used to play there.

[Barbarin:] It's one of the best looking hall in town.

[Allen:] Uh-huh. We'll have to look that up, Bill.

[Paul
Barbarin:] Ask him about the Francs Amis.

[Allen:] What about the Francs Amis?

[Wilson:] You played at the Francs Amis?

[Barbarin:] Yes.

[Wilson:] On Robertson, between St. Anthony and Pauger.

[Barbarin:] Yeah, that's where I got hurted.

[Wilson:] Yeah, he got shot there.

[Allen:] He got shot? [Unintelligible].

[Barbarin:] They had a Mardi Gras ball, you know; this fellow came there and he start a argument, you know. A white fellow and this fellow [unintelligible], and the other fellow--I don't know--they started shooting at one another. *He told me that one was a female impressionist.*

[Wilson:] And he was at the door, you see; he was plcking up the money--he had the money box.

[Barbarin:] I was in the restaurant--cashier in the restaurant--and I got a stray bullet. There was three of us got hurt.

[Collins:] [Did he get?] shot in the arm?

[Wilson:] Uh-uh, in the stomach. He stayed in the hospital--my mother--he was-- my mother was pregnant for him; he wasn't born yet.

[Paul
Barbarin:] Uh-huh, I wasn't born.

[Wilson:] And he stayed in the hospital, I think my mother said, seventeen or

eighteen days. But they never did find the bullet; he still has that bullet. Paul wasn't born yet.

[Allen:] Can you ask him what a hoop drill was?

[Wilson:] What a hoop drill was?

[Barbarin:] Huh?

[Wilson:] What was a hoop drill? You know, when you drill--they call it a hoop drill?

I guess it was some jumping [unintelligible].

[Barbarin:] I don't know nothing about that.

[Wilson:] You don't know nothing.

[Allen:] What was a Calico ball?

[Wilson:] A Calico ball? That was clothes, the clothes they wore--that cheap material--you know, dress material--calico.

[Allen:] And they had Calico balls?

[Wilson:] Uh-huh; they'd come and they'd all go dressed up like that.

[Allen:] And everyone had to wear?--

[Paul
Barbarin:] Yeah, everybody.

[Wilson:] Cali--calico.

[Allen:] Uh-huh.

[Wilson:] It didn't cost them much to go any place.

[Allen:] And ask him how much it cost to get in the places.

[Wilson:] How much they used to charge to go in those dances--it was twenty-five, huh?

[Barbarin:] Twenty-five cents.

[Wilson:] Twenty-five cents.

[Allen:] Uh-huh.

[Russell:] When you played those dances, what kind of a band--how big a band?

[Wilson:] How big the band was when y'all played those dances--you used ten men or twelve men?

[Barbarin:] Ten, twelve--mostly ten. We didn't use no drums.

[Wilson:] Uh-huh. That must have been years ago--Calico--I used to hear them talk about that.

[Russell:] You didn't use drums then, not on the dances?

[Wilson:] You didn't use no drums?

[Barbarin:] Heh?

[Wilson:] You didn't use a drum player?

[Barbarin:] Not all the time.

[Wilson:] Not all the time.

[Russell:] Did they use a piano?

[Barbarin:] [Unintelligible]. They say, well, [ten men, it do just as good?].

[Wilson:] Did they use a piano in there?

[Barbarin:] Heh?

[Wilson:] Did they have a piano player--a fellow to play piano? Y'all didn't use any piano?

[Barbarin:] No, no.

[Wilson:] You used a bass, I guess; that's what it must have been instead. [No.]

[Allen:] Could you ask him if he ever heard the Diamond Brass Band in Algiers?

[Wilson:] You ever heard of the Diamond Brass Bnd in Algiers? They from Algiers.

[Barbarin:] Naw.

[Allen:] Ask him did he ever heard of--

[Barbarin:] You heard of that?

[Allen:] Tell him I found it in a newspaper.

[Wilson:] He found it out in a newspaper--he can root up some dirt.

[Allen:] 1886. Did you--ask him if he ever heard Jackson, Lee, Irving and DuConge's Minstrels.

[Wilson:] Did you ever hear Jackson, Lee and DuConge's Instruments--what kind of instruments did they play?

[Allen:] Minstrels, Minstrels.

[Wilson:] No, Minstrels--they played minstrel shows, you know--Jackson, Lee and DuConge'?

[Barbarin:] I know DuConge'.

[Allen:] Which, which?--

[Wilson:] But you never knew if he played in minstrel shows, huh?

[Barbarin:] I don't remember.

[Allen:] Ask him which DuConge' he knows--[unintelligible]--

[Wilson:] Which one of the DuConges you know?

[Barbarin:] Oscar.

[Paul

Barbarin:] Oscar--that's what I was going to say.

[Allen:] And, [he was a what?]?

[Paul

Barbarin:] [Unintelligible].

[Barbarin:] He'd play anything.

[Wilson:] What'd he play? Anything.

[Allen:] Uh-huh.

[Barbarin:] He played clarinet--he played [connet?]-anything--trumpet.

[Allen:] Ask him if he ever went to the Economy Hall. That's another good one.

[Wilson:] Oh, my goodness--yeah, we went there. He wanta know if you ever went to the Economy Hall--did you play there?

[Barbarin:] Oh, yeah.

[Wilson:] That was the main hall.

[Barbarin:] Yeah.

[Paul

Barbarin:] Hope's Hall, too.

[Wilson:] Yeah; Hope's and Economy.

[Barbarin:] They mostly give Mardi Gras balls there, you know. And the [rich?] people didn't go there.

[Wilson:] The aristocratic people didn't go there; it was just a low class people.

[Allen:] You know the Longshoremen's Hall burned just before Christmas; did you

see that?

[Paul

Barbarin:] [Up here?]?

[Allen:] Yeah, I saw it--it burned; [unintelligible].

[Russell:] On Jackson?

[Allen:] On Jackson.

[Wilson:] Yeah, they did have a fire up there; they had two or three halls burned.

[Paul Barbarin,
Russell, Allen:] [Unintelligible].

[Barbarin:] I used to play, play all them balls--
[Paul

Barbarin:] Tell what you ought to do.

[Barbarin:] At the Globe Hall.

[Wilson:] The Globe [was Cooperator?].

[Barbarin:] St. Peter and--

[Paul
Barbarin:] St. Claude.

[Wilson:] St. Claude.

[Barbarin:] St. Peter and St. Claude.

[Wilson:] Uh-huh. Then they had the Hope's Hall.

[Barbarin:] Heh?

[Wilson:] The Hope's Hall, on Liberty Street.

[Barbarin:] Oh, that's around the corner there.

[Wilson:] Uh-huh.

[Allen:] What was the Globe's Hall like?

[Wilson:] I don't know.

[Barbarin:] They used to give plenty amusement there. All the society used to meet there.

[Wilson:] What kind of place was the Globe's Hall?

[Barbarin:] Kind of a regular hall, like--

[Wilson:] A regular dance hall, you know.

[Allen:] [Did he play in a band?]

[Barbarin:] Upstairs, you know.

[Wilson:] Uh-huh--you played there, huh?

[Barbarin:] Oh, yeah.

[Wilson:] He played there--they played there often; I know I used to hear him
talking about playing.

[Allen:] Ask him did the musicians play in a balcony or downstairs.

[Collins:] He said up.

[Wilson:] In the balcony y'all played? All those halls had balconies.

[Barbarin:] Meah.

REEL II
JANUARY 7, 1959

-114-

[Wilson:] They didn't play downstairs.

[Paul
Barbarin:] They didn't play downstairs.

[Barbarin:] Used to draw the people, you know[ballyhoo for the dance].

[Wilson:] Yeah, all of them would sit up there.

[Paul
Barbarin:] It would look funny for us to sit downstairs and play.

[Allen:] Uh-huh.

[Paul
Barbarin:] Yeah, it was funny for us to sit downstairs.

[Wilson:] Ask him about the Fairgrounds--he played there.

[Allen:] Yeah, we will.

[Russell:] Oh, yeah.

[Wilson:] Who y'all played for at the Fairgrounds, white or colored?

[Barbarin:] Colored.

[Wilson:] Colored.

[Collins:] Did he play dance music?

[Barbarin:] We used to play there often.

[Wilson:] Uh-huh, dance music, uh-huh. And did y'all ever play at Lake Pontchartrain,
when it used to be Milneburg?

[Barbarin:] Yeah, was little, little places, you know; it wasn't no big, big to-do,
you know.

[Wilson:] But he played out there.

[Barbarin:] [Private?] picnic.

[Wilson:] Uh-huh. That's what they used to have out there.

[Paul
Barbarin:] Ask him how many bands they used to have at the picnics, if he remember that.

[Wilson:] How many bands they'd have at the picnics at the Fairgrounds? Do you
remember?

[Barbarin:] How many bands?

[Wilson:] Yeah. They had more than one band; you know that.

[Barbarin:] They had two bands.

[Wilson:] Uh-huh.

[Paul
Barbarin:] Three, sometime.

[Barbarin:] Robichaux--

[Wilson:] Did they have three sometimes?

[Barbarin:] Robichaux and--

[Wilson:] Who else?

[Barbarin:] A brass band.

[Wilson:] And then they had another band; they had a string band, a jazz band.

[Paul
Barbarin:] In the field.

[Wilson:] In the field--you know, out in the field they'd have the other jazz--

string band.

[Paul
Barbarin:] That was the Eagle Band.

[Barbarin:] Yeah.

[Wilson:] The Eagle Band.

[Allen:] Ask him did he know any of the fellows in the Eagle.

[Wilson:] You know any of the fellows in the Eagle Band?

[Barbarin:] In the Eagle?

[Wilson:] Uh-huh, in the Eagle.

[Barbarin:] I don't remember them.

[Wilson:] No, huh?

[Paul
Barbarin:] Ask him if he knew Frankie Duson.

[Wilson:] Did you know a fellow by the name of Frankie Duson?

[Barbarin:] Yeah, I knew him.

[Paul
Barbarin:] He had a band.

[Barbarin:] He's dead, ain't he?

[Russell:] Yeah.

[Wilson:] He had a good band, huh?

[Barbarin:] Yeah, he had a pretty good band.

[Russell:] Let's see--

[Wilson:] He done wore y'all out, huh?

[Chorus:] Yeah.

[Allen:] Ask him who was with Celestin in the Tuxedo.

ISIDORE BARBARIN
REEL II
JANUARY 7, 1959

[Wilson:] Who played in the Tuxedo Band with "Papa" Celestin when you used to play with him?

[Barbarin:] I played with them.

[Wilson:] And who else?

[Barbarin:] I can't think of them now.

[Wilson:] A fellow by the name of Bill Jackson used to play with them?

[Paul
Barbarin:] Huh?

[Wilson:] Bill Jackson, he used to play with them? Wasn't there a fellow by the name of Bill Jackson played with "Papa" Celestin, when he played with him? I used to hear him talking about Bill Jackson.

[Allen:] I can't place him.

[Paul
Barbarin:] Huh?

[Allen:] I can't place him.

[Barbarin:] Celestin was the leader, you know.

[Allen:] I can't place Bill Jackson.

[Wilson:] I remember him saying about a fellow named Bill Jackson.

[Russell:] I was going to ask about Alphonse Picou, if he played with him.

[Wilson:] Picou?

[Barbarin:] Picou's--

[Wilson:] You played with him?

[Barbarin:] Well, he played with us.

[Wilson:] Oh. You can't put him down.

[Russell:] When did he start, was he?--

[Wilson:] Did he play music the same time around when you started?

[Barbarin:] No.

[Wilson:] Oh, he started after you, huh?

[Barbarin:] He was playing, but not regularly, you know.

[Wilson:] Uh-huh.

[Allen:] Ask him if he knew Henry Allen.

[Barbarin:] Picou good clarinet.

[Wilson:] That was his buddy. You know Mr. Allen, from across [in] Algiers?

[Barbarin:] Who?

[Wilson:] Mr. Allen.

[Barbarin:] Uh, he's dead; that's the old man.

[Wilson:] Uh-huh, that's right.

[Barbarin:] He used to hire me all the time.

[Wilson:] Yeah. He' ring him up all the time--everytime he had a funeral.

[Barbarin:] I had to laugh sometime.

[Collins:] They had a similar band, [the same kind?]?--

[Barbarin:] I'd say, "Don't hire me; I don't believe I can play tomorrow." He say, "Oh, man, I'm sick myself."

[Wilson:] Yeah, it was a brass band; when he couldn't ge his men, he'd call him

[Barbarin].

[Barbarin:] He used to have a band, you know; he always would make up a band; get plenty jobs over the river.

[Wilson:] Over the river.

[Barbarin:] Yeah.

[Collins:] Had the same kind instruments in both bands?

[Wilson:] Listen--Mr. Allen--he had the same kind of instruments like the band you played over here with, huh?

[Barbarin:] Yeah.

[Wilson:] It was a brass band, huh?

[Barbarin:] Yeah.

[Wilson:] Uh-huh. Only thing, he'd hire you all the time.

[Barbarin:] Yeah.

[Wilson:] Uh-huh.

[Allen:] Ask him did he ever know "Sonny" Henry and--

[Wilson:] [Did] you know "Sonny" Henry?

[Barbarin:] Oh, he was playing with, with me and Matt--Manuel.

[Wilson:] Manuel.

[Allen:] Uh-huh.

[Barbarin:] He play yet.

[Allen:] Uh-huh.

[Paul
Barbarin:] Ask him--

[Barbarin:] He play with the Eureka Band now.

[Paul
Barbarin:] Ask him if he knows Georgie Hooker.

[Wilson:] You know a fellow by the name of Georgie Hooker?

[Barbarin:] Oh, he's dead.

[Allen:] What'd he play?

[Barbarin:] He's dead.

[Wilson:] What he played?

[Barbarin:] He play anything.

[Wilson:] Got to be good when you can play anything.

[Allen:] Did he know a fellow named Man Creole, huh?

[Wilson:] Man Creole?

[Barbarin:] Huh?

[Wilson:] You knew a fellow by the name of Man Creole?

[Barbarin:] [Man Creole?]?

[Paul
Barbarin:] Ask him if he knows Crusto, Crusto.

[Wilson:] You know Crusto?

[Barbarin:] Oh, yeah; Crusto used to play in the Onward Band.

[Paul
Barbarin:] That's [unintelligible]; that's little Crusto's grandfather.

[Allen:] His grandfather?

[Wilson:] Manuel, huh? Was it Manuel?

[Allen:] What was his name?

[Paul
Barbarin:] Oh, I don't know; maybe he can tell you.

[Wilson:] What his first name was? Do you remember?

[Barbarin:] Sylvest.

[Wilson:] Sylvest.

REEL II
JANUARY 7, 1959

[Allen:] Uh-huh. And he played what instrument?

[Wilson:] What did he play?

[Barbarin:] Trumpet.

[Wilson:] Trumpet--no wonder Manuel played trumpet.

[Allen:] Oh, yeah. I think he played in Donaldsonville, too, [had he not?]? Ask him if he knew Claiborne Williams; that's a thought, too.

[Wilson:] You know a fellow by the name of Claiborne Williams?

[Barbarin:] Yeah, I know him.

[Allen:] Uh-huh. Ask him where he was from.

[Wilson:] Where was he from--here?

[Barbarin:] I don't know.

[Wilson:] What he played?

[Barbarin:] I believe he played trumpet.

[Allen:] Uh-huh.

[Wilson:] That's right.

[Russell:] Well, ask what kind of a band Robichaux had--John Robichaux.

[Barbarin:] He had a good reputation, all right.

[Wilson:] John Robichaux--what kind of band he had? Brass band?

[Barbarin:] No, no--orchestra.

[Wilson:] Oh.

[Barbarin:] He used to play, he used to play in a brass band, you know.

[Wilson:] Uh-huh.

[Barbarin:] But he had a [real?] orchestra, you know.

[Wilson:] Uh-huh.

[Allen:] Ask him if he played--

[Barbarin:] [Vic] Gaspard used to play slide, you know.

[Allen:] Uh-huh.

[Wilson:] Ask him if he played violin?

[Allen:] Did he play violin in the brass band?

[Wilson:] But--Robichaux, huh?

[Allen:] Yeah.

[Russell:] What did he play in the brass band?

[Barbarin:] Who? Who?

[Wilson:] Robichaux.

[Barbarin:] Yeah, yeah, sure, he was the leader.

[Wilson:] Uh-huh.

[Allen:] In the brass band?

[Barbarin:] And he had all of that work among the French peoples there.

[Paul Barbarin:] Maybe he didn't get the question[right?] ?

[Russell:] No.

[Wilson:] Hum?

[Paul Barbarin:] He didn't get the question.

[Wilson:] Listen.

[Russell:] What did he play; what instrument did he play in the brass band?

[Wilson:] What instrument Robichaux played in the brass band?

[Barbarin:] Bass drum.

[Wilson:] Bass drum. Oh. Cause he said violin.

[Allen:] Yeah; he played violin.

[Paul Barbarin:] I thought he gonna get confused, you know.

[Barbarin:] He just played because them fellas wanted him to play, you know, that was the Excelsior Band.

[Allen:] Uh-huh.

[Russell:] Robicuaux's band--was it--did they read music or was it a ratty band or what?

[Wilson:] Did they read music or it was a swing band?

[Barbarin:] Who?

[Wilson:] Robichaux.

[Barbarin:] Yeah, good readers.

[Wilson:] Uh-huh; but was that a ratty band or one of the just--?

pet.
dsonville, too, [had he not?]? Ask
ght, too.
aiborne Williams?

Robichaux had--John Robichaux.
right.
band he had? Brass band?

o play in a brass band, you know.

tra. you know.

[Barbarin:] No, that was no ratty band.

[Wilson:] Uh-huh, no ratty stuff.

[Barbarin:] He used to play for all of them people around--

[Wilson:] French Quarters, huh?

[Barbarin:] Yeah.

[Paul Barbarin:] [French Opera and all them?]

[Barbarin:] He used to play them big jobs with them people, you know--white people.

[Collins:] I wonder--

[Barbarin:] And he would even play at the French Opera, and big balls, you know.

[Paul Barbarin:] [1920?]

[Collins:] I was wondering about the Manetta band over the river.

[Barbarin:] He had a good orchestra.

[Wilson:] Manetta?

[Collins:] Yeah; see if they had the same instruments and--

[Wilson:] You know about the Manetta band? Did they have the same instruments?

[Barbarin:] Who?

[Wilson:] Manetta.

[Allen:] The Pickwick.

[Paul Barbarin:] Manetta.

[Wilson:] The Pickwick.

[Barbarin:] The Pickwick Band?

[Wilson:] Uh-huh.

[Barbarin:] That was all Manetta's.

[Wilson:] Uh-huh. They played, they played the same instruments that you played, in your band?

[Barbarin:] Yeah--the same.

[Allen:] Ask him who the best trumpet players were.

[Wilson:] Who was the best trumpet players in those days?

[Barbarin:] Best what?

[Wilson:] Trumpet players--cornet players.

[Barbarin:] Oh, there's so, so many of them.

[Allen:] Uh-huh.

[Barbarin:] Yeah; most of them is dead.

[Wilson:] Yeah; but the good ones: like Joe Oliver and Manuel Perez--who was the good ones?

[Barbarin:] They both was good.

[Paul Barbarin:] Name some of them, tell him.

[Barbarin:] But--

[Wilson:] Name some of them.

[Barbarin:] Manuel Perez went away to Chicago, and Joe Oliver took his job here in town.

[Wilson:] Yeah, I know; he know that, but he wants to know who was the best between Manuel and Joe Oliver? Who was the best one?

[Barbarin:] I don't know, I don't.

[Allen:] Ask him who the best melophone--alto player?

[Wilson:] Well, who was the best alto player?

[Barbarin:] It's hard to say.

[Wilson:] They had all good musicianers.

[Barbarin:] Well, I know they used to hire me for all the jobs.

[Wilson:] Can't put him down. Uh-huh--can't put him down.

[Barbarin:] I used to play all the jobs.

[Wilson:] That's the truth, though; they'd always be [hollering?] and coming to get him.

[Paul Barbarin:] He played a [unintelligible] most every day.

[Wilson:] Yes, he could play. That's right.

[Paul Barbarin:] Night too, sometime--picnics and all that, balls.

[Wilson:] Parades--

[Russell:] We're just about out of tape--time for refreshments.

[Barbarin:] Yeah, they had some pretty good trumpet players; they all was good them times, you know.

[Allen:] What about Alcibead Jeanjacques?

[Barbarin:] They was about the best thing they had in the brass bands.

[Wilson:] What's his name?

[Allen:] Alcibead Jeanjacques.

[Wilson:] Alcibead Jeanjacques

[Allen:] UUh-huh.

[Barbarin:] He was a good trumpet player; he died.

[Wilson:] He might have been related to Louis and them.

[Barbarin:] He died young.

[Wilson:] Yeah.

[Paul Barbarin:] He died young.

[Allen:] Related to Louis Jeanjacques?

[Barbarin:] He used to live on Villere Street.

[Wilson:] Had a fella by the name of Louis Jeanjacque we know, yeah--family we know, in fact. Used to live on Villere Street?

[Barbarin:] Yeah; between Annette and St. Anthony.

[Wilson:] Was he related to old man Jeanjacque?

[Barbarin:] Must be.

[Wilson:] Uh-huh.

[Allen:] What about "Punkie" Valentine, "Punkie" Valentine?

[Wilson:] Do you know a fella by the name of "Punkie" Valentine? "Punkie"?

[Barbarin:] "Punkie" used to play with us in the Onward Band.

[Allen:] Punkie did?

Reel II--retyped
January 7, 1959

[Barbarin:] "Punkie" was living on Esplanade Street, between Robertson and Claiborne.

[Wilson:] He lived on Esplanade Street? On Esplanade?

[Barbarin:] Why, sho.

[Wilson:] I didn't know colored people lived on Esplanade.

[Barbarin:] Colored people used to live anywhere; all they had to do was get a house.

[Allen:] Things were different then.

[Wilson:] Yeah, things were different.

[Paul Barbarin:] Yeah; all our neighbors--

[Wilson:] They lived all in between one another and the white people were white people.

[Paul Barbarin:] Was white people.

[Wilson:] And, they lived [very nice?].

[Paul Barbarin:] I didn't know I was colored until, I mean, well, later years--I didn't know I was colored.

[Wilson:] It was very nice; they lived neighborly, and people got along, too; they didn't fight and have all that sort of stuff they have now.

[Paul Barbarin:] Oh, naw.

[Wilson:] You played with the white children and never fight and all that stuff.

[Paul Barbarin:] They came over here around our house and all that. Sit down and drank beer [with one another?]. Yeah, we used to have fun. They used to have to leave before he come, cause they'd be drinking beer, you know.

[Allen:] Ask him did he know Baptiste DeLisle?

[Wilson:] Do you know Baptiste DeLisle?

[Barbarin:] Oh, he's died.

[Russell:] Was he a good musician?

[Barbarin:] He was good; he was a pretty good musicianer. He had went to war, you know.

[Allen:] Oh, I see. [Ask him which war?]

[Barbarin:] He was playing, he was playing--let's see--he was playing alto when he went to war, but he got over there and he took up trombone. Either trombone or baritone, he was good on both of them.

[Allen:] Ask him did many musicians go to war?

[Wilson:] Did they have many musicians go to war?

[Allen:] In 1898.

[Wilson:] What that was, the Civil War?

[Barbarin:] Not much.

[Russell:] No.

[Wilson:] In 1898.

[Allen:] Spanish-American.

[Wilson:] Spanish and American War. One of my mother's brothers was a musicianer, huh?

[Barbarin:] Yeah, Alphonse.

[Wilson:] Louie--Louie.

[Allen:] Louie who?

[Paul Barbarin:] Louie Artidore.

[Barbarin:] Alphonse--

End of Reel II
January 7, 1959
Isidore Barbarin

