

MARY OREB

in 2-11-08 interview by CSU Fullerton student, Taran Schindler

Remembers cannery output, the war-time night shift, and the number of women working at one time.

TS: So a 24--One days work is one round of cooking?

MO: Exactly.

TS: How much is being--do you know how much is being cooked at one time?

We have sometimes we do maybe 50,000 cases a day, and sometimes during the war it was 100,000 cases a day but that was a 24-hour time that was during the war see, we did that.

TS: After the war, was that second shift, that night shift over?

No, it continued for about 12 years, I worked that shift, 12 years more, almost 12 years.

TS: And the night shift essentially worked in similar ways as the day shift?

Yes, with a smaller crew though, if you had 1000 women in the daytime say you might have 500 at night. It just depended on how much fish they wanted done. It could be 50 tons, could be 25 tons.

There could be three tables or four tables, every table is equivalent to 100 women. There's 80 women cleaning, plus the extra 20 in different departments. There's the cutting and the packing of the can and the inspecting of the cans
So you actually have about 100 women per line.