My Remembers
Stimpson, Eddie, Byrd, James

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Keep Clean

During my growing up days at school and at home sanitary was taught. In school we had a class period designated to health. We learn how to brush our teeth and keep our body clean. You all know that most families kept clean but there were some that did not keep clean nor keep the kids clean, so in school the teacher would teach kids how to keep clean, especially the girls.

At home mother was very strict on cleanliness. First thing we were taught how to keep the house clean, wash dishes and food before cooking. Make sure your pans are clean.

People may not know this these days, that people did not take a bath every day back then. But in my home we keep clean by taking a bath at least two or three times a week. And it made no different if you took a bath at five in the evening, when bedtime came, you had to wash your face, hand, and feet. In the morning we brush our teeth and wash up or wipe down, whatever you want to call it. We never had any toothpaste so we use soda and salt to brush our teeth.

There were one thing for certain. Mother would not go or let anyone in the family leave home without clean underwear, including Dad. If she had to wash our underwear every night, she did. So that is one thing we were taught. She did not care about the outside, if the pants or dress was dirty or not. Of course Bessie would lie or try to say she had clean up. So Mother would check. And most of the time you could hear mother say, Get in there girl and wash up and put some clean clothes on. I'll be watching you, too.

It made no difference what came or went, did or did not, Bessie was involved in it. Whether it be good or bad. If things were kind of sad around the house, Bessie could perk them up. If things were good, Bessie could mess it up.
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