

Gilbert Pelletier, Norman Fleury, Sherry Farrell-Racette

Video 2

Start: 10.57.46.07 SHERRY FARRELL-RACETTE - Well, one of the things that you had mentioned was some of the nicknames that people had. Can you think of, were the nicknames in English or Michif or everything?

GILBERT PELLETIER - They were all Michif nicknames pretty well.

SHERRY FARRELL-RACETTE - All Michif? Yeah.

19.8 GILBERT PELLETIER - They were all Michif, most of them were Michif nicknames, you know, that English, you wouldn't understand them in English.

20.0 NORMAN FLEURY - And the nicknames, I think it's sort of a universal thing, like it's a universal, it's a cultural thing, because I think a lot, most ethnic groups use, that I know, use, have nicknames. Today they'll have nicknames for certain hockey players or ball players or kids who will give each other nicknames. But in those days, they really described that person. A lot of times they would use names to describe that individual, or, or things that might have happened or something, but for some reason there was somebody would give you a nickname, like somebody in the family would give you a nickname. All of a sudden you had a nickname, like I know that...

GILBERT PELLETIER - It would stick with you.

NORMAN FLEURY - It would stick with you.

GILBERT PELLETIER - It would stick with you.

SHERRY FARRELL-RACETTE - Give me some examples from where you're from.

NORMAN FLEURY - Like this one person, we knew him and he's gone now, and, and, and he had...

SHERRY FARRELL-RACETTE - So we can talk about him?

NORMAN FLEURY - And, and he had, he liked **(Michif Word)**, no he's passed on actually and his name **(Speaks Michif)**. You know and **(Michif Word)** was his nickname. Well, he might have said to Grandma or his Mom, all the time asked for the bannock, you know.

SHERRY FARRELL-RACETTE - Yeah I had friend whose nickname was Bannock.

NORMAN FLEURY - So they'll say well, **(Speaks Michif)** You know...

GILBERT PELLETIER - Because he always asked for...

SHERRY FARRELL-RACETTE - Because he always wanted bannock...

NORMAN FLEURY - He wanted bannock, so, there's different, different reasons, like, they would give him **(Michif Word)** or somebody went dancing a lot, like to dance, they would call them maybe **(Michif Word)**. There was a man called **(Michif Word)**. **(Michif Word)** was his nickname this guy. So he probably was a jigger, you know.

SHERRY FARRELL-RACETTE - Can, what are some from...

(Video Time: 10:59.32.06) 21.5 GILBERT PELLETIER - But le chien, and dog. They weren't, I guess they weren't, the first time they went to Edmonton, the big city, and well they were able to read and write a little bit eh? And there was a sign there says no dogs allowed, they were gonna go

into this café and eat and they said no dogs allowed. Well we can't go in here, well we're not allowed in here, he says, cause one of them was named le chien which means dog too eh, and one of them was named dog. So they weren't allowed to go into the café. He was laughing at himself because it, that was his nickname eh, that was, that was just a nicknames. One of them was Hubert and one of them was Alec I think eh. Alec and Hubert, wasn't that their name? Their real name?

NORMAN FLEURY - I think so, yeah. **(Speaks Michif)**.

GILBERT PELLETIER - And a lot of these people like...**(Inaudible)**...

NORMAN FLEURY - Yeah Eileen and that, yeah.

GILBERT PELLETIER - That's the only way I know, is by their nickname. I don't know...

NORMAN FLEURY - **(Speaks Michif)**

GILBERT PELLETIER - That's **(Michif Word)** brother though.

NORMAN FLEURY - Yeah, dog, yeah.

SHERRY FARRELL-RACETTE - So what was the first name...**(Inaudible)**...

22.4 NORMAN FLEURY - And then my, my family they had **(speaks Michif)**, that could have been louse or skin, I don't know, that was my nickname **(Michif Word)**. They used to call me **(Michif Word)**. And, and there was the **(Michif Word)** was my brother and that, an old lady gave him that name **(Michif Word)**. See it was again older people that gave you...

22.9 GILBERT PELLETIER - Yeah, and, ours was, my, my older brother was name was **(Michif Word)** and my younger brother was, Bert was his real name, but they called him **(Michif Word)**.

SHERRY FARRELL-RACETTE - **(Repeats word in Michif)**.

GILBERT PELLETIER – **(Says word in Michif again)**.

SHERRY FARRELL-RACETTE - Yeah that's a common one.

GILBERT PELLETIER - Yeah that's a common name **(Michif Word)** and they called him that, that's his nickname **(Michif Word)**.

(Video Time: 11:01.11.17) 23.2 NORMAN FLEURY - **(Michif Word)** was one of my cousins too, **(Michif Word)**. It was **(Michif Word)**. Baker was my, one of my brothers, he's gone now but he, my Mom tells me, when any time she bake he was there. So she called him Baker. That was his nickname. And there was, and some of them didn't have nicknames at home.

23.5 GILBERT PELLETIER - See, I knew, I knew this lady, **(Michif Word)**, I don't know her real name, that's the only way I knew her was **(Michif Word)**, well you know her real name, I don't know her real name, but that's the only way I know her is **(Michif Word)**, and I knew her for a long time.

NORMAN FLEURY - And everybody knew hers, that.

GILBERT PELLETIER - Yeah, and **(Michif Word)** was her nickname, and her name, her sister's name was **(Michif Word)** and what was the other one?

NORMAN FLEURY - **(Michif Word)**

GILBERT PELLETIER – (Repeats in Michif).

SHERRY FARRELL-RACETTE - Well do those translate?

23.9 NORMAN FLEURY - Well they got them somehow, we don't know, like **(Michif Word)**,

GILBERT PELLETIER - (Michif Word) I don't know what that is. I don't know, what does **(Michif Word)** mean, I don't even know what it means in...

NORMAN FLEURY - It's just a nickname.

GILBERT PELLETIER - It's just, it's just a nickname.

NORMAN FLEURY - But **(Michif Word)** means small eh?

SHERRY FARRELL-RACETTE - Little.

NORMAN FLEURY - My sister, they called her in English my oldest sister, her name was My Girl. And it always stayed, people knew her as My Girl, no, it was...

SHERRY FARRELL-RACETTE - How do you say that?

NORMAN FLEURY - **(Speaks Michif)**

SHERRY FARRELL-RACETTE - **(Speaks Michif)**

NORMAN FLEURY - Or ma fille you see. But it's My Girl, and her name was in English.

GILBERT PELLETIER - Ma fille is my girl.

(Video Time: 11:02.27.18) NORMAN FLEURY - Yeah, and Mary **(Unknown Name)** was one of them and they had just different names, but I remember one of our sisters we used to call her **(Michif Word)**, one particular sister we called her **(Michif Word)** was our oldest sister. But that was the way you used to actually, that was the word that you'd use, but as far as nicknames go, there was a lot of nicknames, and...

24.8 GILBERT PELLETIER - And all that means a man eh? One of them back home, that's what, that was his nickname you know. And his sister they would have some company and they said, "Oh **(Michif Word)**." That means that he's coming, like he's coming and his name was Joe, his real name was Joe, but his nickname was **(Michif Word)** so they figured some stranger was coming, a man was coming eh? Because **(Michif Word)** is a man, and this guy looked out, he says, "Where? I don't see no man coming." You know, 'cause he was just a young kid.

End: 11:03.21.09