

DO5 - Don Ouellette, "Bpt. Brass Closes, Transition into Civil Service"

**Time-Line: Decade IX, Local and National Events, 1980, "The 37 acre Bridgeport Brass ...."**

DO: I heard, through a friend of mine in City Hall that there was an attempt being made at the centralized school for a waste treatment plant employee or whatever.

I: Was this civil service?

DO: Civil service, yes. There I am proud to say that out of the thirty-nine who took the test, I came in first. Man, what a feeling of--. Because it was all about mechanic work and engineer work and hydraulics and things like that. It was right up my alley.

I: About how old were you?

DO: Let's see. When I came out--. Eighty-one. I was born in 1920. Sixty-one. So then I went to work for the city in the waste treatment plant. I expected, from all the exam things, to wear a white jacket and walk around and taking samples and reading meters here and there. Of course, it was nothing like that. It was hard work and I wanted to be able to run the plant, per se. I went to college during the day for [unclear] months. I can show you the diplomas I have on it. How I graduated to be a waste treatment plant--. To run a waste treatment plan. But I got hurt, my shoulder and there was some politics being played in there. So I had to go out of it and that's when I went into the--.