

Title:

Leeds, Yorkshire

Shelfmark:

C908/8

Description:

The unknown speaker recalls a couple of incidents relating to his time as shop steward at Mattison's Foundry just after World War II.

Lexis:

aught = anything; *By!* = exclamation of surprise; *grand* = fine, excellent, great; *naught* = nothing; *morn* = morning; *hisself* = himself; *afore* = before; *learn* = teach; *gaffer* = boss; *fettler* = man who dresses rough metal castings removed from moulds; *tother* = the other; *reckon* = to think about, decide; *urine* = urinal; *and all* = as well, also, too; *want* = to need; *fettling shop* = workshop where rough metal castings are dressed; *beggar* = pest, nuisance; *right* = real, proper

Phonology:

definite article + C → [ʔ ~ t]; H-dropping; /r/ → [r/ ~ ɹ]; <-Vt#> + V → [r/ > t ~ ɹ];

Yorkshire assimilation (*I get paid for* [pE:ʔt fQ] *this*)

FACE [E: > EI]; START [a:]; GOOSE [Uu:]; GOAT [O: > OU]; PRICE [a:ɪ]

<-day> → [d@]; <-ow> → [@]

note also *first* [f@st], *better* [bEʔ@], *arrangement* [@r/E:nZmEnt], *with* [wI], *envelopes* [EnvEl@ps], *go* [gu], *aught* [OUt] and *naught* [n@Ut], *one* [wUn], *for* [fQ], *yes* [j@s], *yours* [ju@z], *getting* [gEr/In], *all right* [Olr/EIt], *there* [DI@], *have* [Ef] and *having* [EvIn], *making* [mEkIn] and *make* [mEk], *in* [I] and *through* [Tr/IU]

Grammar:

conjunctive particle, *than* → *nor* (*the Second World War finished better nor the First*)

preterite *come* (*we were on three days when we come back; my gaffer come out to me; he come to me one day*)

at + general time phrase (*at Friday night; at Saturday morn*)

third person singular *were* (*that weren't my way of going on; he were a beggar, were one of them; he were on ovens; he were in the First War and the Second War; he were a beggar; he were a right soldier, were Sid Long; he were in the urine; he were telling some on them*)

multiple negation (*I didn't say naught*)

verbal inflection with *I* (*I says*)

use of *thee*, *thou* and *thyself* (*thou can go for it thyself; that'll learn thee a lesson*)

inverted verb phrase as tag (*he come to me one day, did the gaffer; he were a beggar, were one of them; he were a right soldier, were Sid Long*)

third person plural *is* (*fettlers is getting it; let me know who them two is*)

have as full verb (*I've no objection to that*)

determiner, *those* → *them* (*them two*)

zero *as* (*seeing _ I'm the shop steward*)

preterite *telled* (*he telled me just the two that I had in mind*)

zero indefinite article (*this fellow had _ awful habit*)

of + pronoun → *on* (*he were telling some on them*)