

CITY OF SYDNEY

COMMERCE AND WORK ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

Interviewee: Adam and Morris Perkal Part 2 (and Ercole Palazetti)

Date: 5 June 2009

Place: Crown St, East Sydney

Interviewer: Roslyn Burge

TRANSCRIPT

0.00 **RB:** You mentioned those multiple numbers of shoes you make but, of course, in the paper it's been mentioned that you made thirteen pairs of boots for Kerry Packer.

AP: That's right, Kerry Packer. Kerry Packer came about thirty six years ago, he came to the Hay Street, he came with Sinclair Hill. Sinclair Hill was – do you remember?

RB: I remember the name.

AP: You heard about him. He was his trainer for polo; he introduced him to the polo. So, he came in on a Friday morning – it was about eight o'clock in the morning – and we made for Sinclair Hill we [had] made some polo boots before. So, he said, "That's Mr Packer". I didn't know who Mr Packer was in that time. So, he said, "Take his measurement and make him a pair of polo boots". So, Mr Packer said, after I took the measurement he said to me, "The boots should be ready by ten o'clock Saturday morning". That was a Friday morning. I said, "Mr Packer, it's not Hong Kong that I make you overnight. It takes a pair of boots to make it for a week, one week it

takes us to make a pair of polo boots". So, he said, "Look, how much is a pair of polo?" I said, "Seven hundred and fifty"; it was seven hundred and fifty dollars in that time. He said, "I'll send over a cheque, a double cheque in the morning with my driver and the boots has to be ready" and we worked day and night, all the staff. In that time we had six men working in the Hay Street.

1.56 **RB:** **Did you?** [side conversation]

AP: At ten o'clock in the morning the driver came over with the cheque, fifteen hundred dollars and he got them. Since then we made for all the whole team, all the Argentineans. He was so generous to them; we made two pairs of boots, two pairs of shoes, a pair of sandals and slippers for all the work from Ellerston [Packer-owned pastoral property]. And then it was when he went over to England for the World Cup, so they got the gold medal from the Queen in that time. [side conversation] So, on the way home they took the horses into England and they took all the gear and they lost six pairs of boots they lost on the way - I don't know how - so he rang us up. He said, "I'm sending over the plane to Mascot [Sydney airport] and the plane is waiting there for the six pairs", and that was a week before the Gold Cup and we made them.

RB: **And did he send the plane just for the boots?**

AP: They took us with the helicopter to Scone [near Ellerston] to take some measurements.

RB: **Oh, my goodness.**

AP: That was our best client and we made thirteen pairs for him every year and he wore then a few times and the valet brought us over the boots and we gave them to the Salvation Army but he said not to mention that to anybody.

4.05 **RB:** **Were there any other customers who you'd make so many shoes for in a year?**

AP: Oh, yes. Mr Saunders from, you know, Mr Saunders [original partner with Frank Lowy in Westfield] what they had the Westfield, for him. They came from England, a Mr Jennings came from England; we used to make him five pairs every year. He came specially from England. He said in England he would have to pay three times as much, so he said "The fare doesn't cost me", so we made him five pairs. And they came from America and for Frank Sinatra we used to make him patent shoes.

RB: **Only when he visited here?**

AP: No, we took one measurement whenever he was here in Australia and then we send them over.

RB: Every year?

AP: Not every year but every two years. And we made also for, you know – he used to be professor from technology in Australia, now he lives in America. Every year we [were] sending over a pair of boots, Mr Gumson.

RB: So, when you had staff working for you, extra staff, you must have made a tremendous number of shoes each year?

AP: We had, yes, the best bootmakers in Australia, made from all the nationalities. We had the best Australian ones who used to work for Thomas Jones. When we started we took them over, took us time, we were working, you know, at that. Like I used to - when I went on in 1948 Mr Sheinberg said to me - from the handbag [Park Lane Handbags] – “The first week was six pounds, fifteen”, the wages.

6.14 And the second week he gave me twelve pounds. And then afterwards when it came Christmas-time he said, “Look, come in Christmas-time you sort out the leather there because it’s the holidays”. I was a newcomer and I wanted to have some money just, you know, for rent. And he said, “Look, I’ll give you” - - -

MP: Now, lady, have a look, have a look a nice pair of kangaroo boots, brown kangaroo, good Australian. [break in recording]

AP: So, he said, “Look, ‘Stocks and Holdings’”. He used to start building some in Maroubra and Malabar, he used to build some cottages and townhouses. So, he said, “Adam, I’ll give you a townhouse and I’ll take out instead of a mortgage I’ll take out from your wages every week”. I said, Mr Sheinberg, thank you very much but I would like to go on my own” – that was in 1948. So, in the meantime in January I phoned up at Thomas Jones – at Wesley Jones because Thomas Jones was his cousin – I started with him to make some uppers. You know, uppers is the tops for the shoes because he had about six men working and I used to make the uppers from eight o’clock till five. I used to go home and then I used to take some work from all around the other five in Sydney.

8.05 **RB: The other five bootmakers?**

AP: The bootmakers. I used to make the designs in the uppers. I was working at home until twelve o’clock in the nighttime because when I started I was there in a room opposite the Centennial Park. I used to pay some rent, one room, but then my wife got pregnant so I paid key money, twelve hundred pounds in that time to get into a place. I paid

rent, thirty six and sixpence rent but I had to pay one thousand, two hundred dollars.

RB: Pounds or - - -

AP: Two hundred pounds for the furniture.

RB: Whereabouts was this?

AP: In Maroubra, Cooper Street.

RB: That's a lot of money at that time.

AP: Ho, it was a lot of money. And then after, up to 1953 I was living there and then I went to America.

RB: Adam, just going back to when you had all the people working for you, you don't any more have anyone working for you?

AP: I do.

RB: You do? [side conversation]

MP: That's the famous architect here in Surry Hills [addressing visiting customer Ercole Palazetti].

EP: I had two back operations and I can't lift properly, they damaged the nerve so I can't lift properly my left foot. And I can wear basically only boots. Sure, I can keep my foot up - - -

MP: Can't lift. A dropped foot is that.

9.57 EP: Yes, they damaged the nerves, we don't know where. So, driving in here every single day I had the pair of boots that I bought in Italy because I am going often back to Italy but they had enough. They were five years old and they are getting really – so I say “Must stop”. It was Saturday I think – what is now? – two years ago finally I stopped. I came in with my beautiful Italian boot, old, very old, they had enough, so - - -

MP: We made it.

EP: They made it; they made this one for me.

MP: And we made now the new one.

EP: They were very similar to the one that I bought in Italy and they put the black one and this one.

MP: He's going to Italy; his son is getting married.

EP: My first one.

RB: The other shoes you just had on had a much stronger toe area. Did they start out like this?

EP: Yes, this one here, that's very soft.

MP: Yes, soft.

EP: That's so soft. Look, you can see them, so soft looks like gloves.

RB: They do, they look beautiful.

EP: And it's for me these, I can walk everywhere and I never get tired. That's the way I discovered those two gentlemen, I discovered them and we having a chat to this other one that come in here and that's it.

RB: Fantastic.

EP: So, I have another pair made there.

AP: My wages were twenty five pounds but I was working from eight till five and from five till twelve I was working at home for the others and I made altogether I made about sixty pounds a week. That's why I had the twelve hundred pounds to pay for the key money.

RB: There can't have been many people earning that sort of money at that time, though?

AP: No, no.

12.03 **RB: Were they trained in your trade or did you train them?**

AP: No, they were - - -

MP: They made the most beautiful - - -

AP: - - - most beautiful, the best

MP: - - - makers and it'll never exist any more like that.

AP: The best.

MP: They were Sicilian bootmakers. The world doesn't see it, so beautiful. All of them died.

RB: You're hitting your head with astonishment as you tell me this.

MP: Yes.

AP: Yes.

MP: They were fabulous.

AP: The best.

MP: The best.

RB: So, why do people not want handmade shoes, why is there not more bootmakers such as yourselves around?

MP: Nobody wants to work hard. You've got children?

RB: No.

MP: No.

AP: We had four apprentices and they didn't take one.

MP: Four apprentices, not one wanted to take on the trade.

RB: And your children didn't want to come into the business?

MP: My son is an accountant.

RB: And your children didn't want to come?

AP: I've got two daughters.

MP: Two daughters. My son never had a hammer in his hand yet.

RB: You've both got very strong hands.

MP: Why? Who said strong hand.

AP:

MP: A vice.

RB: It is a vice.

MP: Vice versa.

RB: I'm also conscious that I'm taking your time. There are just a couple of things that I'm curious about.

AP: Yes.

RB: When you say you take someone's measurements – this is a very simple question, a very obvious question for someone who doesn't know your business – what do you take the measurements with?

AP: Tape measure.

MP: Still in inches.

RB: Still in inches?

AP: Yes.

RB: I love it.

AP: Yes, we're still working in inches.

MP: I come to Australia and I didn't know what it means "an inch" because Europe you've got centimetres. And I started with inches and I - - -

AP: And we're still working in inches.

MP: - - - still don't want to go back.

RB: So, when you take the measurements, what do you do with them then?

AP: We make a last.

MP: Then I make the last.

RB: So, how do you make the last?

MP: Ah, I'll tell you the secrets and you'll open up a shop next door. No.

AP: No. We are making the lasts.

14.05 **RB: You make them in wood?**

AP: We've got the wood, it's all ready.

MP: No, we've got the wood and you adjust.

AP: And we adjustment for the width and for the length, for the instep, you know, according to the foot.

MP: The boy is from the country. Mr Tate. Mr Tate was a very famous - -
-

AP: Yes, real estate agent here.

MP: - - - real estate in Sydney, polo player.

AP: President for the Polo Association.

MP: President from the Polo Association. His son was born with polio. You see, he's got one and three quarters inches shorter the leg and his foot goes like that. [Demonstrates visually]

RB: Over to one side.

MP: We're making for him since he was sixteen.

RB: And he's now -?

MP: He's about forty, fifty.

RB: But you've added to a wooden base, you've added cork.

MP: That is cork – shorter the leg.

RB: And then once you've done that what do you do next?

MP: We make the uppers, then we make – that's called uppers.

RB: Yes,

MP: Yes, and then we make the soles and everything. Here you are, that's for this gentleman the shoes and we design the upper to the arrangement, what the customer wants. That's kangaroo. You never seen kangaroo leather?

RB: I haven't.

MP: That's the best leather in the world.

RB: Why is that?

MP: It is strong like an Aussie.

AP: That's Mr Tate, that's what we've just shown you.

MP: Yes.

RB: His card.

AP: Yes. I have to get my glasses.

RB: Do you keep his measurements on a card?

MP: No, in the box, every customer is in the box. Unless they die, they go in another box.

16.05 **RB: You have a great sense of humour.**

MP: I told you.

RB: I wanted to ask you where you source – I'm not asking your business - - -

MP: Yes.

AP: Started. I've got another one before but here, that's from '88.

RB: No computer?

MP: Computer, no.

AP: Computer, that's my computer is here. [Indicates visually]

MP: Computer - wouldn't know. You know how to operate computers?

RB: I do but I don't know how to make boots.

MP: And we don't. We had a computer; we put it outside and say "Please, help yourself".

AP: We threw it out.

RB: Did you?

MP: "Please, help yourself".

AP: We left it outside there, an old computer.

RB: I'm not asking your business practices but where do you go to get your leather?

AP: The leather? We were leather merchants for forty two years.

MP: We were leather merchants also.

RB: The same merchants?

AP: Yes.

MP: We got leather, Australia had in Botany – you know that – Botany was the biggest - - -

AP: That's the computer.

MP: - - - manufacturers of leather in the world and the best.

RB: In Botany?

AP: That was up to '95 and we have got from '95, we've got thousands of clients, thousands.

MP: Thousands, hundred thousand.

RB: Do you remember them all?

AP: I remember all their names.

MP: I've got short hand, long memory.

AP: I'll tell you because I make out the tickets and the invoices, so I remember the few names.

RB: So, you do all the invoices by hand, not by typing?

AP: Yes, everything.

MP: Everything, everything.

RB: And you go to the post office and post them all and do all that yourselves?

MP: No, no.

AP: No, fax, we got fax, faxes.

MP: We got fax.

18.00 **RB: So, you fax all your invoices?**

AP: Fax them, yes.

MP: Yes.

RB: But I'm curious about your leathers. Do you go overseas to look for leathers?

MP: No, no, we got enough leather to last us another hundred years and another hundred years.

RB: Is there a favourite kind of leather that you like working with?

AP: Now, kangaroos. Kangaroo is the best.

MP: Kangaroo, kangaroo. You know what's "kangaroo"? Chinese kangaroo: kangaroo.

RB: What about lizard?

MP: We've got lizards, we got snakes, we got crocodile.

RB: Do you have to lock them up or put the in a safe?

MP: No.

AP: No.

RB: Or keep them in a special - - -

MP: We lock them up at night.

AP: No, we insured, yes.

MP: We lock them up at Lockwood.

AP: We are insured.

RB: So when you want to buy leathers now - - -

MP: There's no way. We got enough to last us a hundred years.

RB: So, you're not buying leather any more?

MP: No.

AP: Oh, still, still, sometimes. See, because we've got leather, all the colours in the rainbow.

RB: You've sure got a lot of leathers and you remember where they all are?

AP: Yes.

RB: It's very impressive.

MP: You want to buy some leather I'll sell you some.

AP: See, we haven't got the room to sell now. It came a time all the - - -

MP: Unfortunately.

AP: - - - all the factories are closed. It used to be a very big industry, the shoe business.

MP: Street.

AP: All went to China.

MP: You know Sydney had about a few hundred shoe factories and producing the best shoes. Only one left in Sydney is the Robins Shoes.

AP: It's about a dozen factories, that's all that's left.

MP: Finish.

AP: All the tanneries closed down, that's it.

MP: All are very good friends. The Chinese - Mr Rudd [former Prime Minister Kevin Rudd] what speaks Mandarin - and they produce everything now all over the world.

20.03 **RB: When you started out in business you were in Chinatown.**

AP: We were in Chinatown.

MP: We didn't learn Chinese.

RB: What was that like, working in that - - -

MP: They were the most beautiful, pleasant people.

AP: Chinese.

MP: We had one customer, Mr [Stanley] Wong, I know. Do you know the Tai Yuen Restaurant?

RB: Yes.

MP: That did belong to Mr Wong. Mr Wong was a very good customer. Every time we used to come up to his restaurant there was a bottle of wine prepared and when the bill came out he said "Give it to me" and he tore it up.

AP: He bought us watches.

MP: When Adam was in Hong Kong - - -

AP: When I was in Hong Kong the Mercedes was waiting there at the airport, picked me up and for four days to all the restaurants - - -

MP: Wined and dined.

AP: - - - and the nightclubs and everywhere he took me.

MP: And the last things, Friday morning Mr Wong had ordered a pair of shoes, brogues - - -

AP: And was killed.

MP: - - - and took off his old shoes to repair like this young man, [indicates visually] put them on. It was Friday morning he came - - -

AP: Lunchtime, he was killed in Maroubra.

MP: - - - and the triad, they were waiting there. He lived not in Maroubra, Malabar.

AP: Malabar there.

MP: Do you remember the story - no?

RB: I don't, no.

AP: He was killed.

MP: They cut his throat. Yes, he was the most gentleman's gentleman. Daughter was a bitch.

AP: He was the Mayor of the Chinatown.

MP: Of the Chinatown, he made the Chinatown. You know that ornament what that's standing, it's all his.

21.54 AP: Then we had opposite our shop was a fishing tackle [shop] and the owner was the boss from the Tivoli. We used to get from the Tivoli, every Saturday the matinee we used to get for the whole family tickets.

MP: Not tickets, for the whole Queen's lodge [theatre box in which Queen Elizabeth II sat in 1954] it was there.

AP: In the lodge, we were sitting there.

RB: So, your customers have looked after you one way and another?

AP: Oh, yes.

MP: We were very famous there in the Hay Street.

RB: What were some of the other businesses nearby?

MP: Nearby was – you know it's still there Cyril's Delicatessen.

AP: Delicatessen.

MP: Opposite.

RB: Yes.

MP: Opposite us was the director from the Tivoli. He had there fishing tackles, opposite there, and the Chinese.

AP: And still Mr Shum [?] he's got the jewellery shop there in the Hay Street also.

MP: That little boy, he was sixteen years old. Now he's a multibillionaire.

AP: He started; on the corner he had a little counter.

MP: Fixing watches.

AP: Fixing watches. Now he's a multimillionaire.

MP: He's now number one, multibillionaire.

AP: Yes.

RB: What about the Chinese shops?

AP: Next to us was a butcher shop.

MP: They called us the White Chinese.

AP: There was a butcher shop next to us for twenty five years.

MP: You know, and ducks.

AP: And now he's got in Vaucluse.

RB: What was his name?

AP: George – what's his name?

MP: Greek, Greek.

AP: It's a Greek fellow, forgot this.

RB: Who called you the White Chinese?

MP: The Chinese.

RB: So, would you go out to lunch? Apart from going to the Tai Yuen?

MP: We didn't have a lunch, I don't eat in between.

AP: The Tai Yuen.

MP: The Tai Yuen on a Saturday or Sunday we come over. We're waiting the new Tai Yuen and the old Tai Yuen. There was a bottle of wine straight away to open.

24.05 **RB: And about your customers. Do you have more men or more women?**

AP: Customers?

MP: Doesn't matter.

AP: It's about fifty/fifty.

MP: Yes.

AP: Now we are making

MP: We are not prejudiced. That's Kerry Packer's.

RB: A lovely bottle of Moet 1999.

MP: It vintage. That's the Moet, that's cost about - - -

AP: That cost four hundred and eighty dollars was a bottle in that time.

MP: More.

AP: In that time.

MP: Two days before he died.

RB: Did he regularly send you champagne?

AP: Yes. Or we went over there, every year we went over there to Warwick Farm for the [event associated with Melbourne] Cup.

MP: The Warwick Farm in his tent.

AP: Oh, in his tent.

MP: And all the famous ladies.

AP: We couldn't go home. We had to leave the car there and his chauffeur took us home and we were drinking the whole day long with him.

RB: Did you take the family or just the two of you?

MP: The family.

AP: No, no.

MP: Not the wife but my son came along with me. And that time all the ladies, you know, when they go to polo with the high heels and they got to the and tapping it in. [demonstrates visually]

RB: The divots, yes.

AP:

MP: Yes.

AP: Oh, every year.

RB: But you make a lot of boots, I see, too.

AP: Yes.

MP: We made all the boots for the polo, for Kerry Packer.

AP: Dressage, dressage. We made them for dressage, we made for the Gold Cup, you know, for the Olympic [athlete] who got the Gold Cup from the polo, we made his boots. And for the dressage, all the gold - -

MP: We made for all the Argentinean team what worked for - - -

RB: Your brother was saying, yes.

AP: Well, from our boots they got the gold medals. Yes, because for gear they got gold medals for gear.

RB: Really?

AP: Yes. And for the boots separately all of them.

MP: Yes.

26.02 **RB: How does that make you feel?**

AP: Oh, wonderful. And we used to make the - - -

MP: Our ego didn't go up.

AP: - - - skating boots, we used to make.

MP: There was a famous skating boot family makers: it was Kennedy. You don't remember it?

RB: I don't.

AP: No.

RB: Where were they?

AP: He was in the Kent Street.

MP: In the - - -

AP: Kent Street.

MP: In the Kent Street, yes. Ken Kennedy. He was the champion Australian gold medalist in the Olympics.

AP: In Berlin he got.

MP: Champion skate in Berlin.

AP: And it was the Olympics, yes.

MP: His mother was champion skater, his wife was champion skater – his wife was English.

AP: She committed suicide.

MP: Committed suicide, yes. Ken Kennedy.

RB: Your face lights up when you talk about him. Why was he so special?

MP: He was so friendly with us.

AP: Friendly, oh, wonderful.

MP: Listen, we had so many friends.

AP: We made for him for all – you know, in that time it was all the skating clubs in Australia and we made the boots, through him we made the boots.

MP: Dulwich Hill, you remember? Do you remember Dulwich Hill? It was a skating - - -

RB: I think it's still there, isn't it? Now it's turned into a shop.

AP: Is it?

MP: Yes.

AP: We used to make the boots.

RB: Have you still got his boots here?

MP: Wait a minute. We got here.

AP: Here, on the top, no?

MP: Here. The famous skating champion, she's got the school, skating school.

AP: What's that one, what was her name?

MP: We got an accident.

RB: Shoes falling from heaven.

28.00 MP: No, it's only pennies falling from heaven.

RB: What is that?

MP: It's a man.

AP: For the Mardi Gras.

RB: For the Mardi Gras.

MP: Yes, another Mardi Gras.

RB: That's extraordinary. That's half a shoe, half a boot.

MP: There's another one here. Here, the other one, but that's the skating boot.

RB: That's beautiful.

AP: Yes, Pat Gregory.

MP: You remember Pat Gregory?

AP: Pat Gregory.

MP: She was the world's champion, you know, Australian.

RB: I'm sorry, I don't know her.

MP: The world's champion skater, we made for Pat Gregory her skating boots.

AP: Yes.

RB: That's wonderful. These boots are - - -

MP: Stiff.

RB: They're very stiff.

MP: It has to be.

AP: Has to be.

MP: You know, otherwise they break their ankles.

RB: Well, I think I could sit here all day, talking to you.

MP: All right, we will. You have lunch with us.

AP:

RB: That would be lovely but I feel that I've intruded enough in your time. Heavens above.

MP: That is Mardi Gras.

RB: This is a heel which must be eight inches high and a sole that must be four inches.

AP: Yes.

RB: How do people walk in that?

MP: It's the Mardi Gras people.

AP: The Mardi Gras.

MP: See the Council gives them.

AP: They're walking on stilts.

MP: They make money for the Sydney Council.

RB: They do.

AP: Yes.

RB: I'm looking over here and there's a photograph of a saddle. Do you make anything else other than shoes?

MP: No saddles, no.

AP: No, no.

RB: Only shoes and boots?

MP: It's enoof, it's enoof, it's too mooch.

RB: My meter alarm has just gone.

MP: Okay.

RB: So, is there anything else before you hop up, Adam, is there anything that I haven't asked you about that you want to tell me about?

AP: If you'll go through and you think that something is missing, so you can come in and we will - - -

30.04 **RB: That's very generous.**

AP: Yes, any time.

MP: And 'Joe the Gadget Man', you remember him?

RB: Yes.

MP: He used to say, "Bring the money with you and bring yourself".

AP:

MP: 'Joe the Gadget Man'. I was in the old home, the Montefiore home where he was there before he died, I've seen him. He was there – my mother in law was there too. My mother in law was ninety nine and a half.

AP: Our oldest brother who died about twenty five years ago, his wife - - -

MP: His wife, a hundred and one.

AP: - - - hundred and one. We made a big party for her.

MP: A Pommie, she was from England, yes.

AP: We made a big party for her in the Montefiore; it was the whole community from Montefiore were at the party.

MP: And the whole community.

AP: Music and everything, the Mayor.

MP: And the Mayor, the Mayor from Hunters Hill was there.

AP: And we go and that's it.

RB: How wonderful.

AP: So, two weeks after the party, [demonstrates visually] she got sick.

RB: So, when do you two plan to retire?

MP: I beg your pardon? What, you want me to argue with the wife all day long? Cut it out - who wants to retire? You only get Youngzheimer's or Old Timer's disease.

AP: See people are coming now to order in shoes because they are afraid that we are going to retire.

RB: Are you getting younger customers as well as your older customers?

MP: Of course, younger chicks, yes.

RB: You've both been very generous. Thank you very much for your time.

MP: You're welcome.

AP: That's all right. [Break in recording]

MP: With the government for the Veteran Affairs.

RB: Yes. And you were telling me you made a number of pairs of shoes for the Queen?

MP: Yes.

AP: Yes.

RB: How many did you say you made?

AP: No.

MP: No, only one pair of golden slippers.

AP: One pair of golden slippers.

RB: I thought you said you made thirty?

MP: No.

AP: No, thirty six pairs we made for the Mounted Police.

MP: For the Mounted Police.

32.00 AP: The Mounted Police, when Sergeant Livermore was there.

RB: When was this, when the Queen came?

AP: When the Queen arrived in 1954.

RB: Do you still make boots for the police?

MP: No.

AP: We used to make for the police, just, you know - - -

MP: They are having, you know, I mean gaiters.

RB: Gaiters?

MP: Listen, I can't be bothered any more. You think we are running after business? We're not running; we were running after our health to come over and time to pass.

AP: Yes. We used to go, you know, to take measures at home.

MP: No more.

AP: Not any more.

RB: No.

MP: No, what for?

RB: Adam, just as we wind up again, you're wearing this wonderful leather - - -

AP: That's kangaroo.

MP: He had to give it to a tailor to make it.

RB: Did you?

AP: No.

RB: Did you make it yourself?

AP: Yes, oh yes, yes.

MP: Of course. Who else?

RB: So, you've got a pocket for -?

AP: A pocket for pens, a pocket for the glasses. Here is for the big pens (indicates visually) and here is just - - -

MP: For the glasses also.

RB: It's wonderful. You don't wear an apron?

MP: Of course.

AP: Yes, also.

MP: Blue flowers.

RB: Your apron looks as though it's seen a few more years. This looks like a newer apron.

MP: My one?

AP: Oh, that's about two years ago.

MP: We wear it out; we put on a new one, make a new one. We ask a tailor to design it.

Interview ends