

This is Michael Goldsworthy
interviewing Ethel AHO

M.G.: How did the depression effect your family economically?

E.A.: There was a family of five children at the time and my dad used to work in the Lloyd Mine one or two days a week and we used to get a load of coal from the county about once a month and my mother used to go ~~to~~ to the rummage sales and we'd have to share our clothes. She always made beef at meals, but we never had any sweets or extra fruit or anything it was always plain meals, she used to ~~buy~~ ^{bake} bread every other day for our family, wash clothes and hang them out

M.G.: Were there any games that you could play?

E.A.: We didn't have money to spend on games, so we used to make up our own games, and we did have a deck of cards which we used to play cards and we used to read a lot, and we became quite a close family on a count of it

M.G.: Did your family ever have a car or truck in the "30s"?

E.A.: My dad had an old hut mobile and it used to run half the time and that was it.

M.G.: Were there any striving businesses?

E.A.: I don't recall any really striving businesses but the grocery stores kept going but I don't know how good they prospered.

M.G. Were there any strikes that you know of during the "30s"?

E.A. NO I dont recall any strikes during the thirties.

M.G. How did people treat one another during the "30s"?

E.A. As I recall it brought families close because you had to help each other, you had to share, and that's what I think brought families close together.

M.G. Were people loosing faith in the American way of life?

E.A. People were very depressed and down, I think they did because it was so rough with the people and families.

M.G. Did kids think they were poor during the depression?

E.A. Yes, I did because of my clothes, I didnt have as nice clothes as the other kids did, and I felt poor, yes.

M.G. What mines were in operation during the depression?

E.A. I'm not sure but my dad used to work in the Lloyd mine maybe 2 or 3 days a week, but I'm not sure about the other mines

M.G. ^{Did} you know of any teamsters at the time?

E.A. If your talking about the people who went around selling stuff, ~~there~~
yes there were teamsters.

M.G. Did stores extend credit at that time?

E.A. yes, I remember a few stores in West Ishpeming did, there was
Kallatsa's store and

M.G. Did your family ever hunt or fish for a living?

E.A. No, but my dad used to go fishing a lot, but not for a living.

M.G. Did you have toys or games and if so were they home made?

E.A. I remember one christmas I got a book called OUTDOOR GIRLS
ON A HIKE and I still treasure it very much, because it was the only
present I got.

M.G. What did you do for entertainment?

E.A. We had an old radio which we used to listen to ghost stories
when the lights were turned off, and we had cards and we used
to invent our own games.

M.G. Did you ever listen to fireside chats?

E.A. I didnt listen to them but I know my dad did and his and my mother's
friends did to.

M.G. Thank you this is Michael Goldsworthy talking to Ethel Aho.