

Interview with Richard Harvata

by Steve Moyle

ME: My name is Steve Moyle of the Nat'l Mine School im interviewing Richard Harvata about the great depression.

ME: Do you remember the stock market crash?

RH: Yes no well ~~ohh~~ I was only lets see what was in 1929 I was only ahh nine years old at the time

ME: Did you have any money invested in the stock market?

RH: No I was to young to have money invested.

ME: ~~Did you have any money invested?~~

ME: How old were you then?

RH: 9 yrs. old but ahh alot of people lost money during the stock market crash and the guys that had the money they made millions of dollars in the stock market crash and when the stock market crashed and the stocks went down real low and the people with the money they they bought up the stocks and and they eventually became millionairs

ME: where did you live

RH: Ishpeming

ME: Did you then have a job then loose it when the stock market crashed?

RH: nope, I was to young

ME: Did you ever stand at a corner and wait for a job

RH: yes I ~~I~~ not at that time ^{I was 9 yrs old} later on in the depression I was looking for work that was in 1935 around in there so I was in my teens at the time I was looking for job

someone with job

ME: Did your parents do any kind of work?

YES, MY DAD WAS AN IRON MINER WORKED IN IRON MINES

ME: How important was the car?

RH: Well he had to get to work with it, he had to travel about 5 miles to work so he had to have a car

ME: Was there a lot of people with cars

RH: Not to many

ME: How how bad was ~~the~~ family life hurt during the depression?

RH: Well it was pretty bad ahh ahh you had to stand in a center where they were giving out shoes and stuff ahh and you were lucky to get one pair of shoes of off them.

ME: Were kids getting a good education?

RH: YES WELL ANH THE WERE GETTING A GOOD EDUCATION THE
 BASIC 3 R'S.

ME: What kind of food did people eat?

RH: Most of the food that people ate were grown by themselves

ME: Did you ever stand in a bread and soup line?

RH: NOT IN A BREAD AND SOUP LINE, BUT STOOD IN A SHOE
 LINE

ME: Did your parents ever stand in a bread + soup line?

RH: NO

ME: WERE there and trains coming into Nat'l Mine?

RH: I don't know about Nat'l Mine just a freight train and that, but the passenger train never went in there it went into Ishpeming.

ME: Did alot of people come to work in the mines?

RH: YES most of the people that had jobs worked in the mines?

ME: Did you ever listen to FDR say the only thing to fear is fear itself?

RH: Ya I heard that I was ready to go into the army at that time

ME: DO you like FDR?

RH: YES EVEN if he did send me into the army it still believe in his programs he started like CCC's ~~etc~~ Civilian conservation corps. I was in that as a radio operator for a while in Gwinn Ham 16-20 and then in Isle Royal for few months

ME: Do you like president Hoover

RH: No

ME: Why

RH: (he's laughing) why? Well why ask a democrat why he likes a republican.

(Interview 1)