

ME: when where you born ?

E.L.: June 20, 1930, June 19, 1920

ME: o.k. How long did you live in this area?

E.L.: I lived here all my life, except for 17 years + 2 months that I lived in Waukegan Illinois.

ME: As a child do you remember anything on, like epidemics going around.

E.L.: pardon

ME: Do you remember any epidemics. (voice gets louder) like dickness

E.L.: going around that you had to get a shot at the doctors.

E.L.: No I don't

ME: none at all.

E.L.: The epidemics that happen were during world war I and I wasn't born yet.

ME: o.k. How many people were in your family?

E.L.: Actually there were 2 marriages on my father's side and 2 marriages mother's side. So out of those 2 (pause) 2 marriages for each there was 13 children. And I'm the youngest of the 13.

ME: um.

E.L.: But 7 of those children died in Finland. Before my folks came to this country so there was only 6 of us in this country.

ME: um. Where did you go to school?

E.L.: I went to school in North Lake, West Ishpeming, and

E.L.: National mine.

ME.: o.k. Did you ~~walk~~ walk or take a bus?

E.L.: I walked. I walked to North Lake from first grade, I never did attend kindergarten, Ah from first grade through the 5th ~~grade~~, And then I walked half a year West Ishpening And in middle of the term transfered to National mine and my, my father drove us in a model T. To National mine.

ME.: was you car important to you's, to your family?

E.L.: Not to began with.

ME.: um.

E.L.: Not to began with. We had the horses, so the car important to began with. But later on as life progressed, it became important.

ME.: who was the President when you were born? Do you know?

E.L.: President Hoover or:

E.L.: No. 1930, was it ah Wilson, was during that WWI. I don't know if he was still President when I was born or not.

ME.: o.k. Do you remember anything about the Deal Deal that President Roosevelt did ^{make} ~~at~~?

E.L.: Not to much, Not clear in my mind anymore. I may have at the time, being up on it. But, ah, ~~at~~ not having revinded back to thinking about it I, I wouldn't (pause) remember

ME.: o.k. Do you remember listening to F.D.R. Fire Chats on the radio?

E.L.: Well, actually we, ah, we did not have a radio, at all because we never had any power, we did have a battery set at one time but ah, it worked very poorly. So we never did get to listen to it on a regular basis. Just maybe some little musical program. Sometimes if we were lucky to hear it.

ME: O.k. Was there lots of successful businesses in this area?

E.L.: I imagine there were some people who were successful. But, a, I think when you're younger and as a child you don't pay much attention to who's successful or who isn't or those things comes much more a parent and important as you get older. You start to realize things.

ME: O.k. What did your dad work in?

E.L.: My dad worked in the Iron ore mines, and also on the farm, and eventually it was totally just the farm.

ME: What mine did he work in?

E.L.: He work Anh- in the old North Lake mine, now I don't know what it was called at that time. And he call Anh- And he worked at the 16 mine, it was called. That was line in Salisbury. Here it was called the old 16 mine

ME: Do you remember any railroads going through National Mine?

E.L.: Through National mine?

ME: yes.

E.L.: (very quickly) no. I remember the one plainly going by our farm ^{going down by the farm.} which is still there.

ME: which one is that?

E.L.: That's the one that crosses stoneville road, The Railroad by Carp River.

ME: O.k.

E.L.: um - um.

ME: Was there any unemployment in this area?

E.L.: O. yes.

ME: Lots.

E.L.: Unemployment. And and strikes and I remember the Depression some of it is vivid in my mind and then other parts that are not.

ME: O.K. Do you remember when the stock market crashed?

E.L.: Yeh. That was the Depression I remember story's being told by my parents and you know as a child you hear, a, parts and then you miss out parts so you get kind of a not complete picture of it. But I do remember that.

ME: Was ~~at~~ your family like, struck hard when the crash hit?

E.L.: Not really because we were living on a farm and, A, we always had, a, meat, potatoes, milk, eggs things like that. In fact we helped the other children who were married. An that, You know, they would come to the farm pick up produce and things like that.

ME: Do you remember any of the banks closing?

E.L.: No. No I don't remember I just heard my folks talking about it. And talk about some people loosing. A, everything they had or there money that they had in the bank. (Covers lightly) thats all I remember.

ME: Do you remember any relief programs?

E.L.: ~~Oh~~ Oh yes.

ME: Which ones where there?

E.L.: Well there was the County Relief program. Because I remember one year my dad went down there to try and gets some hay for our cattle. It must had been a drought year where we didn't get - oh - much hay to feed our cattle. And he went down there look for a relief so that we could at least, get hay for them.

ME: Do you remember, like, um, there's the CCC camps?

E.L.: Yes. I remember those. Thats the Civilian Conservation Corps. Yeh. I remember those.

ME: Could you describe what they did like?

E.L.: Oh they did alot of work on road and the Park System. on this end. They did alot of cleaning up.

E.L.: And a lot of road building. That I remember.

ME: Do you remember anything about the WPA?

E.L.: That is very vivid in my mind because the WPA Is the Program help to improved the road that went to our farm. beause during to spring and fall that road was practically imposible. You could go with a horse on it, but for a motorize veicals it was terrible. And the WPA help to Ah- put that road in improved it.

ME: Did you or any of your family work in this Program?

E.L.: Gee. I don't remember, I know my dad didn't work in that, know I don't remember, maybe my brother did. I only had one brother and it's possible he did. know I can't be sure about that.

ME: Did any of your friends work in, like his friends?

E.L.: Oh- yeh. um-um. But of hand I couldn't name anybody. cause it's not fresh in my mind. any- more.

ME: O.K what did you guys do for entertainment?

E.L.: well we mostly had to do our own things we used to go in the woods + build shacks, and we play Indians and when we were kids. And we went swimming & we went fishing.

ME: Did you go to the movies at all?

E.L.: NO. well we went to a few silent movies. I remember in the old northlake clubhouse they used to have silent movies. And my oldest sister lived in North Lake and Ah- I used to go with my nieces. To the, but that was very rarely.

ME: Did your family, like, belong to any club? in this area?

E.L.: They only we always belong to the church, to Bethel Lutheran church. And that's about the only club. My folks were born and raised in Finland. So they, they spoke Finnish mostly so they didn't participate. They may have belong to some Finnish's club's earlier, but being that they lived on a farm there life was so full of work that they didn't really get to participate in extra crecular activity. But church was more of less something that they felt that was a must. ^{because they} had been brought up that way from childhood.

ME: o.k. Do you think your family got closer during the depression.

E.L.: well, um- I can't say ~~it~~ ^{that} it got closer. I think that the fact as soon as the children were old enough to go out and handle a job. they left home. Acuttally we were more seperated. For me it didn't make a difference. cause I was the youngest⁺ one in the family. So I stayed with the family naturally but, the older children, my sister got married very young and they left home and went to work ~~at~~ at a very young age. So I can't say that it really brought us closer. So then again in another way the fact that the when they got married they lived in town or something and they didn't have as much we did on the farm, then they would have to come over and we would help them out so maybe in that way that, that was ~~a~~ closeness. which wouldn't had been there if it haddent been the depression. And they wouldn't in need. so its ~~a~~ kind of. Ah- mix picture. On one half we were seperated and the other half the relied on ~~a~~ us. so

ME: when you went down town, were the people really nice to you.

During the depression or did ~~they~~ ^{they} say hi.

E.L.: well as far as I remember, I don't remember being any illfeelings of any sort that I can recall anyway.

ME: Do you remember anything like moonshine how illegal moonshine

E.L.: oh yes. I remember that.

ME: could you describe that you remember

E.L. oh I remember of different an- men who were drinkers. Being able to, to go to certain homes. where they knew where it was being made. and they could buy it. you know, I imagine it was on the Q.T. You know the law wasn't suppose to know about but I think those men who were drinkers were able to get it and drink it.

ME: Do you remember any clubs like the son's of Saint George. any of those kinds of clubs.

E.L.: very very bagly. I remember hearing the name son's of Saint George. way way back. know I don't know when that was in excecpm. but to me it seems a in my memory I can remember hearing the son's of saint George.

ME: when you sisters got married did they have wedding gowns and

E.L. no I don't remember my 2 older sisters marriages at all cause I wasn't born. I have 2 nieces and a nephew who are older than I am. and I am an aunt to them.

ME: wow. Did you graduate from Highschool.

E... no I didn't.

ME: Do you know if they had ~~gowns~~ ^{gowns} graduation gowns

E.L.: Are you thinking about the time I would have graduated.

ME: Yes.

E.L. I believe so. I can't be sure. I would have graduated in 39. I believe they had gowns.

ME: Did they - oh - like class ring and class photos

E.L. Yes, Yes they did.

ME: Do you remember anything about a home owners loan.

E.L. No I don't.

ME: That they loaned money for people who needed homes.

E.L: I don't remember that.

ME: Did you live in a house or trailer?

E.L: A house. A Farm house

ME: Could you describe it.

E.L.: Well my father torn down a big old boarding house in Charlevoix, Michigan and all the lumber that he salvage from that boarding house went into building the house that was on the farm Dorn and raised in. I was born right in that house. Cause my mother had never been to a hospital to have a child. All the children were born at home. Even I the youngest was born right at home. I don't forget milk or anything.

ME: Did you ever have to go to eight or ten miles to get milk or anything or did you get it all from your farm.

E.L.: We got it all at our own farm. We had the cows.

ME: Did you feel poor when you were growing up.

E.L.: In some respects I did. As far as material things go

E.L.: And not having them, the nice cloths that somebody else did I did. But, I think it was only in that area that I felt poor.

ME: Did you notice that there was a rise in crime, or stealing?

E.L.: I don't recall that aspect at all really.

ME: Oh. Did you lose faith in America cause of the depression.

E.L.: No. I never did. I lost more faith in America now ~~and~~ then later ~~and~~ years because of all that has transpired ^{de} in our,

in our governments life, life in the individual who worked for the government + for the state + in what all has been going on I lost more faith in them now then I ever did there when I was a child, I felt very secure with government home everything even if we didn't have much a very patriotic feeling. I still have maintained that I still feel very patriotic.

ME: Thank You

E.L.: Your welcome.