

*: I'm Melonie Collick I'm interviewing
my Great Grandma Conchetta
Nardi. It's January 2, 1984 O.K.

ME: How old were you during the the
depression?

GG. when I come here I was twenty
years old, 1920. ^(water running in background) I was 20-29 at the
time of the depression, ya I think
oo.

Uncle
Bruny: ya and when you come here how
old were you?

GG. twenty

Uncle
Bruny: you were twenty when you come
here.

GG. hm. hmmm.

Uncle,
Bruny. and you come here what year?

GG: 1920

Uncle.
Bruny. you come in 1920

GG. yep, ~~1920~~ right at 1920

uncle Bruny: and you were 20 years old

GB. twenty years old

Uncle
Bruny: so you would have to be an 28 or 29
years old

GB. 28; 29 would be (the same)

Uncle
Bruny: you'd have to be

ME: How did the depression affect you?

GB: things were hard we didn't have much to eat
we had milk and bread we didn't have
any money to buy that's what happened that
time anyway. All we had was milk + bread
we didn't have any money to buy anything

ME: Was the stock market one of the main
reasons of the depression?

~~GB~~
aunt
Theresa: Stock market?

GB. What do you mean? groceries and stuff? ^(doesn't understand the English)

aunt
Theresa: NO, money + things, I'm not even sure how
to answer that

GB. no we had no money (not understanding questions)

ME: Did your father lose his job during the depression?

GB. my husband lost his job, but no mother +
father. they were out of work quite a few years

ME: Did your husband ever work for the WPA?

GG: yes he worked a little bit while the mine was closed, it was a little like the WPA.

aunt
Theresa: Oh, I didn't know that MA.

GG: ya, he worked for a few months, ya, that's right

ME: about how long did the depression last?

GG: oh it lasted about 4 or 5 years easy. the depression

ME: was the depression country wide or worldwide?

GG: what do you mean?

ME: was it like ^{just} in ^{around} this country or

GG: this country, I don't know nothing about the other countries

ME: How many people were unemployed in the great depression?

GG: How many people were what?

aunt
Theresa: Oh God Mel, How would you answer that?

GG: Everyone that worked in the mines yes I suppose everyone, and they didn't give any help at that time.

ME: what do you think caused the depression?

GG: what caused it? I don't know, I can't answer those questions

ME: Do you know how the depression affected the big businesses?

GG: It affected everybody but it affected the poor the most. (8)

^{cont}
GG: the ones who wanted to work the most
nobody had any money.

ME: How did the depression affect the
government policies?

GG: Geez I don't know

^{aunt}
Theresa: Taxes I suppose (laughing)

GG: some things are hard to answer

^{aunt}
Theresa: Your grandma can't answer these
questions

GG: I wasn't ^{here} very long when that happened
see I was 20 when I came here then
I was 28 or 29 when it happened. And
I don't know very much

ME: What were your feelings about President
Roosevelt?

~~GG:~~
^{aunt}
Theresa: Oh he was a good president wasn't he
ma?

GG: Well he was all right, he was good

^{aunt}
Theresa: He was for the poor people

ME: How did Roosevelt's policies help or hurt you?

GG: Help me?

Aunt Threasia: She means everybody, the people not just you individually

GG: I don't know we didn't get help from nobody, when grandpa was working we had to pay. When he went to work see we had to borrow at the grocery store, we had no money.

ME: Were the schools shut down during the depression?

GG: no.

ME: Were you working during the depression?

GG: I never worked I stayed with the kids at home.

ME: Do you know how the depression affected the farmers?

GG: the farmer? I don't know about the farmer. If people didn't work they didn't have the money to buy the stuff. It affected everything for me anyway.

ME: Was one of the reasons of the great depression from over production of manufactured goods?

G.G. Yes, I don't know, I don't know how to answer that

aunt
theresa. I don't know how to answer that either

G.G.: I was born in Italy, but I remember the depression, O.K. I wouldn't want to see a nother one

ME: Were there any food programs for the needy?

aunt
theresa Did they have food ^{programs} for the needy mom?

G.G. not very much, some canned meat, and stuff. not much food.

ME: were you burdened ^{with} having to raise a family?

Aunt
theresa were you burdened? well!! how would you explain that having a big family and all.

G.G. yes I had enough (and names all the kids)

ME.

Did your husband have a full time job or a part time job?

G.G.

Well at first he had a part time, but after he had a full time job.

me.

Do you remember what school you went to?

G.G.

I only went to second ^{grade} school. I ~~didn't~~ ^{didn't} want ~~to~~ to go more, I learned how to write a letter, that was good enough.

me.

what mines were working during the depression?

theresa

which ones?

G.G.

the mines ~~didn't~~ ^{didn't} work.

me.

name one or two!

G.G.

the sixteen mine and Oliver Co.

theresa

the Oliver Co. that's where Grandpa worked.

me.

were there strikes during the depression?

G.G.

How could they strike when they weren't working! See I don't know

that much, I had just ^{didn't} come from the old country. I ~~didn't~~ ^{didn't} know

much about this country, but I know we ~~didn't~~ ^{didn't} have much.

me.

were you able to grow gardens for food?

G.G.

we had a little garden, but it ~~didn't~~ ^{didn't} grow much.

me Were you able to ^{pick} berries for food?

GG - How could I do it, I had a bunch of little kids. there were berries, but I ^{couldn't} make it. Grandpa used to go and pick some.

me Did you feel there was a rise in crime?

chessa rise in crime, was there ^K killings and such then?

GG I dont remember any killings, nothing ^{important} important no!

me were there any illegal ^{bars} bars or clubs then? like moonshine or stuff like that?

GG we never ~~do~~ had that kind of stuff, I dont know about the other people

me do you know if there were any chorasis ^{or} or bars?

GG I dont know.

me Did you go to church when you come over here from Italy?

GG yes I go to church

me were neighbors real helpfull then?

GG they ^{didn't} couldn't help you because they ^{didn't} didnt have anything either you had to help yourself

me Do you think Hoover was the cause
of the depression?

G.G. I dont know

me Do you know anybody that lived in
a Hooverville?

G.G. whats a Hooverville?

me a house made out of a cardboard box

G.G. just like a Hillbilly (joke) no I dont
know anything about that.