

Interview with Gram and Fod

Interviewed by Christina Andriacchi

Interview date: December 10, 1998

Gram's interview

Me: This is Christina Andriacchi. I'm interviewing Gram & Fod at their house in Ishpeming.

Me: What do you think is the most important invention in science and technology?

Gram: I think the greatest accomplishment was either the telephone or the TV.

Me: Why do you say that?

Gram: It is important to learn about what is happening in the world around you. With the TV you can see what is happening. With the phone people tell you what's happening.

Me: How has performing household chores changed with technology?

Gram: It's helped a lot. I remember when we had to wash all the clothes by hand and then had to hang them out to dry. Then came the washing machine, we used to think that it was so great to actually have something do the washing for you. It was much easier and it didn't take as long to do the household chores. I also remember we first got a

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vacuum cleaner that was so great because we didn't have to scrub on our hands and knees anymore. It made it so much easier for people to clean. I remember when we first saw the TV. It was different to see the picture going on the screen.

Me: How has things that you do for entertainment such as amusement parks, movies, radio & TV changed?

Gram: I remember when I lived in Ohio, my friends and I went to an amusement park there and we went on the roller coaster. That was so much fun. As for TV, it went from black and white to color in the late 50's. I thought that that was a great accomplishment.

Me: How much did things cost when you were a little girl?

Gram: Everything was fairly inexpensive during the 30's, 40's and 50's. Milk and gas didn't cost that much way back when I was a little girl.

Me: How much did they cost?

Gram: Milk cost a few cents a gallon. Gas was the same way in the 70's.

Me: In what other ways had technology changed?

Gram: I think that technology has changed for the better because it has improved people's lives considerably.

Fod's Interview

Me: In what ways have you seen science and technology change in your lifetime?

Fod: I've seen a lot. When I was younger, I've seen the invention of flight and airplanes. I think that that was a great accomplishment for this country. I also saw the transition from horse and carriage to cars. There used to be horses all over Ishpeming. When cars first came out everyone was excited to have something that went faster than a horse. It was easier to make trips to Chicago with a car than with a horse. It was also much easier to go to school. I attended the University of Notre Dame. Cars made it much easier to get from one place to another. The cars back then weren't as good as they are now. They didn't have the luxuries that are put into cars today like air conditioning among others.

Me: What other changes have you seen in technology?

Fod: I've seen changes in the airplanes and flight. Those were very significant in the shaping of the world's history. I've seen many of the wars and some of the things used in them.

Me: What do you think about computers?

Fod: I think computers are useful for people that need them.

Me: Thank you both for the interview!

Gram and Fod: Your welcome!