

I am Interviewing my grandfather who is
retired from the Mother B Mine

Mike
Salmer

Q: Where were your parents born

A: My mother was born in Negauanne
and my father was born in Helsinki,
Finland

Q: Where were you born

A: I was born in Negauanne

Q: Where did you grow up

A: I was born (stuttered) or grew up in Negauanne

Q: What did you do for a living

A: My Father was a druggist & who worked
in a drug store years ago, and then he
went to the Mines

Q: What was your first job

A: I worked for the city of Negauanne as a Commision
labor

Q: What type of pay did you have

A: at that time it was \$1 dollars a month

Q: When did you first start work in the mine

A: December 9, 1942

Q: How many different jobs did you work at

A: I worked at five different mines, I worked at the
Bunker Hill, mother A, Humbolt, and the mother B

Q: What type of job did you clean in the mine

A: Well I started with the moss as a motor man

as a motor man I went to Mining contract mines
Q: what were working conditions then compared to now

A: In them days they used Timber to support the mine,
and later on they started to use steel, it was a stronger method

Q: how many hours did you work a day
A: 8 hours

Q: did you have a suction time for coffee breaks

A: we were allowed 20 minutes for our coffee breaks

Q: what type of transportation did you have when you first started working,

A: well I didn't have a car at that time I had to walk

Q: what type of machinery did you use in the mine

A: well we used a drill for drilling the ground
for blast, and then they had poppers which were used
to scrap dirt with, and they had motors to pull the
cars with

Q: is mining dangerous work

A: yes to a certain extent you had to be careful at all times

Q: what types of accidents were there
A: well there was cutting grounds and powder and dynamite because a lot of drilling accidents

Q: why did you decide to retire

A: The mine I worked at lost the market & closed down

Q: do you enjoy retirement

A: yes very much