

me: My name is Ann Disbrow. I am interviewing Jean Johnson Warlin, at her house. Today's date is November 1, 1996. In this interview we will be discussing her time as a student and a teacher at the Ely/Diorite township school.

me: When were you born?

Mrs.W.: I was born in Diorite in 1933.

me: Could you explain where in Diorite you were born?

Mrs.W.: I was born in one of the houses on the lak shore across the lake in Diorite.

me: What were your parents names?

Mrs.W.: Charles and Laina Johnson

me: How do you spell Laina?

Mrs.W.: L-A-I-N-A

me: If you had or have any brothers or sisters could you tell me about them? Page 1

Mrs. W: I have 1 brother, who lives in Republic. He had eight children, so I'm like their best Aunt! (laughing), and I keep track of them on their birthdays. There are only two that are single out of the eight. And, uh, I rent my mom's house, next door, I own 30 acres and 3 homes here. I rent my mom's house to my neices and nephews that are college age. And give them Cheap! rent so they'll be able to continue their education.

Me: How much older or younger are you than your brother?

Mrs W: I am 5 years older.

Me: who in your family do/did you have the most in common with?

Mrs W: Well, my mother. I look like my mother, talk like my mother and I

have all the interests that my mother had.

Me: What was a typical elementary school day like for you?

Mrs W: Well, let me tell you, I loved it! I Loved going to work every morning. I think I was a teacher all day and all night, cause I... I enjoyed planning lessons and I loved the, not only the challenge of it, but I loved to incorporate art into my lessons, make them bright and cheerful. And the kids that I had before will tell you that I used to do all my lesson plan charts in color, I had a theory that a... a color makes learning more fun more inviting so... They'll remember that!

impt

Me: What was lunch break like?

Mrs. W: Lunch break for me was... was busy, because I was up in my room correcting papers, and making lesson plans while the kids were out... They usually had a monitor, sometimes I had to go out there with them... talk with them, and watch them play, which I didn't mind except in the winter! (Laughing)

Me: Was it cold?! (Laughing)

Mrs. W: Yes! (Laughing)

Me: Did you were living during the depression where were you living?

Mrs. W: Well I was living ^(born) in Diorite during the Depression, and wh... wh my parents. Well I had alot of relatives, aunts and uncles and my dad was originally from Diorite.

emphasize
Mrs W: We moved into this location and I
have been in this location since
1937! On this lot!

Me: Wow!

Mrs W: Since 1937! My dad built, ah... a log
home, right here, and we lived here
since 1937. And when my parents
died I got all the property. So
I've been here.

Me: How did it affect the ~~rest~~ school?

Mrs W: The Depression?

Me: Yes.

impt
Mrs W: Well it wasn't hard for me because there
were only two children, you know. But
I do know in the Depression, right
after the Depression, I had... had a
serious illness. I had a brain tumor that
caused paralysis, and uh. I had to have
surgery, and I thanked the lord... it was none
Page 5

- follow-up?
- surgeon?
- where
- how old?
- how long
recup.
- danger?

malignant, but it had paralysed my left side. And my parents were in a dilemma, for how were they going to pay for it... after the Depression my dad had jobs, here and there for the ~~the~~ OMR of that day. But they did manage, they paid for it, and my dad still... you know it was very hard.

Me: Did it (the Depression) affect many people up here?

Mrs W: Yes it did! I tell you, after the time of the Depression, we had to have a cow and chickens. And, uh, my mom would milk the cow every day. And, uh, we just had a lot of milk and eggs! And then my mother had a garden, here, and we had our own potatoes, onions and carrots, anyway. So my mother was very very busy at that time. My father got whatever job he could get away from home.

Me: What was the most memorable thing that happened to you from school?

Mrs W: As a child? Um? Let ~~me~~ me think

now... I loved school, you know, I loved my music teachers and I loved learning. I enjoyed my early elementary school teachers. I oh was in the corner one time, in my whole career. And that was for throwing papers out the window the janitor happened to be down there mowing the lawn. I was in kindergarten! And I just couldn't resist! I just had to throw some wads of paper down at him. And he hollered at me! (laughing). And my teacher put me in the corner. (laughing)

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quote

Me: Did you have much homework when you were little?

Mrs W: Yes, well I took books home every night, because, you know, I. I enjoyed doing it. And I wanted to do the best.

quote

I wanted to be the top student. And, uh, I did I got all A's, you know. I always got 100% on my spelling test.

Me: Did you have spelling bees?

MrsW: Yes, that's what I liked, I remember about 5th grade. I had Mr. ^{Bill} Larmour, at that time, and he used to have spelling bees and geography games. And, uh, I always won the prize! So finally he let me be the caller for the geography games. But I do remember 5th grade, how I loved those things.

Me: Do you know how you spell your 5th grade teacher's name?

MrsW: It was Willard Larmour. W-I-L-L-F-R-E-D L-A-R-M-O-U-R

Me: L-A-R-?

MrsW: L-A-R-M-O-U-R, he was from Greenwood
Page 8

me: What did you have to write on? Paper and pencil?
uh. Did you use paper and pencils?

MrsW: Yeah, we had to buy our own tablets. We
we bought those... what... whatever they were
a coarser paper, lined tablets. We had to
buy our own pencils, and the teacher just
provided pencils in case of an emergency.
But we had to buy our own.

Me: Um... How long was your school day?

MrsW: Well, even in Kindergarten, for the whole year
quote it was from, class began at 9:00am and ended
at 4:00pm. So we had a full day of
Kindergarten. And our Kindergarten, our teacher
had Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd all in the
same sec.-classroom!

Me: Wow!

MrsW: So by the time, if we were good listeners, we
were really smart in 1st grade!

me: So you had 2nd grade learning in Kindergarten.

MrsW: Um-hm. All in the same room. And the teacher
would teach the Kindergarten class and get them
Page 9

busy with seat work ~~and~~ ^{and} then she would go to the first grade and then to the second grade, and then back to kindergarten. (laughing)

Me: That would be confusing! (laughing)

Mrs W: Yeah, it was neat!

Me: Do you remember 1st grade & your kindergarten 1st, and second grade teacher?

Mrs. W: Yes. Gladys ~~Allen~~ Molborg.

Me: How do you spell Molborg?

Mrs W: uh. M-A-L-M-B-E... No!... B-O-R-G...
B-O-R-G

Me: um! Where were your jackets and boots kept?

Mrs W: We had... in each of the rooms, we had lockers and closets, and they had little hooks. We hung our... I was on the same hook every day.

Me: Did you have your name by it or did you just memorize it?

Mrs W: We just knew! We just knew!

me: was it special to have your own room?

MrsW: Oh. Yes! Um-hm.

Me: What games did you play during recess?

MrsW: Hm, baseball, mostly during the summer, cat, and tag. And black sheep run.

Me: What's that?

MrsW: My I, Mother May I, and uh, did I say London Bridge?

Me: No.

MrsW: Well London Bridges

Me: Most of them sound like games you and Ken played.

MrsW: ^{yes} Then it was boys chase the girls! and girls chase the boys! laughing

Me: Did the boys and the girls play with each other very much?

MrsW: Yes, uh-hu.

Me: So it wasn't like the girls thought the boys had cooties and visa-versa?

Mrs W: No, No, No, because the classes were small. Like wh, one year, I don't know which of the years it was, but we only had 8 students in a class, so we were like family. Even though the third and fourth grades were together, and 5th & 6th, & 7 & eighth. We were like family because there were rarely more than 25 in a room.

good quote

Me: Did you have any male teachers ~~in a room?~~ while you were in elementary school?

Mrs W: I had wh, Mr. Richards for a while in second grade. wh, I don't know wh, how it happened, but he took Mrs. Melborg's place for a while. And we loved him! And in ^{3rd} 4th and 5th grade we had Mr. Gilbert Larmour, 5th was Mr. Wilfred 5th and 6th was, and 7th and 8th was Mr. George Hannuksela.

Me: Do you know how to spell Hannaksetä?

Mrs: Yes, uh, H-A-N-N-U-K-S-E-L-A

Me: S-A-L-A?

Mrs: S-E-L-A. Hänur-uk-sätä

Me: Wow! (laughing)

Me: What style of clothing were, was, in style?

Mrs: Well, we, in early elementary, we either wore long legged stockings with a garter belt, or long long brown stockings with a garter belt. You know!

Me: Did most girls wear those?

Mrs: And, uh, we also in the early elementary grades had long underwear that you had to tuck under, because it was so cold you know, you had to go out and play out at recess time. And our mothers really bundled us up! (laughing)

me: Our Red Dust Teacher, Mrs. Richards,
was telling us stories of when she
was little, and she said that her
mom just put her in layers, and layers,
and layers of clothes.

Mrs: Yes, yes, yes.

Me: ~~What~~ Were all the kids in layers?

Mrs: Yes, um-hm. We all had, like, heavy
wool type, malcom clothe, snow pants.
And you know the snow ball would hit
stick on there and sting to you. (Laughing)
You were all decorated up when you
went to class. (Laughing)

Me: Sounds funny! (Laughing) During the
winter did you have to wear gloves and
hats.

Mrs: Oh, yes! Yes! We were. My grandmother
always made mittens for me.

me: Did she?

Mrs: So I always had home made mittens,
from both of my grandmothers, and
^{uh,} I don't think ~~that~~ that they made
scarfs, but I had scarfs! Those
choker scarfs, tied up tight every
morning. (laughing)

Me: So when you got to school you
couldn't wait to take everything
off!

Mrs: Right! (laughing)

Me: Did the ~~guy~~ girls ~~where~~ wear pants
under ~~the~~ their dresses?

Mrs: Uh. not in, they did in the 7th & 8th
grade, yeah they did, they wore slacks
~~in some~~ under some of their dresses.

Me: How did you get to school?

Mrs: The bus picked me up right here. ↗

Me: How far away was the school?

Mrs: The school is about a mile. *

Me: Were there many buses in the school
district.

Mrs: wh, just 2.

Me: How big was the school district that they had to travel?

Mrs: Well, they didn't, see they didn't pick up the Spur kids, it was just from Clarksburg through, Greenwood, and North and South ~~of~~ Greenwood. Then they would pick up ^{impt} the high schoolers and bring them to Ishpeming Highschool. I graduated from Ishpeming Highschool and so did my daughter. By the time my son graduated he was in Westport. But he started Highschool in Champion Highschool.

Me: Wow! How were the holiday celebrated in school?

Mrs: We had our Halloween parties, .. Halloween parties and Christmas were the biggy.

Me: ~~well~~ Could you tell some stories?

Mrs: Well, I don't remember from when I was a

child, but I do remember because
I taught there for 28 years. I remember
some of the things ~~at~~ while I was teaching.
I remember one when I was teaching, we had
to look... We ~~used~~ usually had the same
pillow come and be our Santa every year.
And this one year we couldn't get him, so
we... I asked one of the fathers of one
of the students to come. And while he
was up on stage just getting ready to
pass out the candy... his pillow fell out!

include

(Laughing)

All the children sat right up, their eyes
were sooo big! (Laughing) I'll never for-
get that! (Laughing)

Me: Did most of the children believe in Santa?

Mrs: In second grade... uh... Most of the
children believed in Santa in second grade.

Me: So they were pretty ~~sh~~ shocked when
Santa's stuffing fell out?!

Mrs: Oooh! Big Eyes!

(laughing)

Me: Were there any special programs? Like at Christmas?

student or teacher?
Mrs: Yeah, uh, we had a... a Mrs Reed and a Mrs Rynhard were the music teachers. They taught kindergarten in the morning and then they taught music, art, and penmanship in the afternoon. And they had, uh, they had wonderful Christmas programs. They had drills, uh, they worked so hard! They were just great! Programs.

Me: Were the kids excited to be in them?

Mrs: Oh yes! Yes, I remember... my brother uh, loved... He also went to the same school. He loved those teachers and he was a real Ham! Always got the leading parts. So.

(laughing)

Me: I & you went to church where did you go?

Mrs: I . I went to Bethel Lutheran Church in Ishpeming. I'm a member of the church, and ~~is~~, do I tell you about my teaching?

Me: (nod)

Mrs: I taught = uh, Sunday at Bethel Lutheran for 30 years and I taught at Ely for 28. So when I retired I was still teaching Sunday school at Bethel!

emphasize

Me: Wow!

Mrs: But all those years I was preparing lesson plans for 6 days a week!

Me: Wow!

Mrs: So I was burning the midnight oil! And Saturday afternoons and Sunday afternoons I was busy with school work!

But I loved it! I, uh, ~~was~~ ^{was} not such a good housekeeper, I wasn't very domestic at the time; I didn't care for cooking or baking. But luckily my mother lived next door, my mom was still living, so every evening she would come here at about 2 or 3 ~~pm~~ in the evening and start my supper. And I had two kids at the time and I was teaching, and uh, my mom would have my supper started and the coffee pot perking. And that was really neat!

not

Me: I bet she helped you out a lot!

Mrs: Yeah, she did!

Me: Did she watch your kids while you were at work?

Mrs: Well she did when I . . . I was teaching she watched my son until he started kindergarden. Because I was working. My mom and dad were next door so he was like their little puppy! Page 20

(Laughing)

Me: Did they spoil him very much?

Mrs: Yes! (Laughing)

Me: Sounds like an average grandparent!

Mrs: Yeah!

Me: Do you remember who went to the Bethel Lutheran Church, any names?

Mrs: Um, well with me. Like when I was a child or ~~at~~ right now?

Me: Anybody.

Mrs: Oh, I have so many dear friends there Anna Kujja, she also taught second grade with me, she was a dear friend of mine. And uh, do you know Kay and Paul Stienke?

Me: I know the name, but no.

Mrs: Kay uh, Paul teaches at Phelps, and Kay

is at Ely now, she taught at Champion.
She's been in the school system. They
both go to Bethel.

Me: Do you spell Steinke S-T-E-I?

Mrs: Yeah, N-K-E

Mrs: And, uh, Neil Rundenman is a good friend
of mine. And Duwayne and **Rita** Polamaki.
Their also teachers.

~~Me:~~

My Dad: We know them.

Mrs: And, uh, Donna and Ruben Champion, are
friends of mine I went to school with
Ruben. I taught, ... Donna and I taught
second grade all through the years. She
taught in Champion and I taught at
Ely.

Me: So you exchanged um...

Mrs: Ideas

Me: Ideas, yeah!

Mrs: Umhm

Me: How far away was the church?, like the...

Mrs: It was about six and one-half - seven miles from here.

Me: That's not too bad.

Mrs: Yeah! I was baptized there and confirmed and... and uh... taught Sunday school, and I was on a Christian Ed. committee, and on the church committee. And in the Stevens Ministry.

Me: Wow! You do everything!

Mrs: Yeah, the church really fills me spiritually.

Me: You sound really involved in the church.

Mrs: Now, I teach a women's Bible Study etc.

We had one of our members in Mother's Nursing Home, so we go there and teach.

Me: How old were you when the storm 1938 hit?

Mrs: I was 5.

Me: 5?

Mrs: Um-hm

Me: What was it like to you?

Mrs: Well I remember that I could see out of the window, well, I couldn't because I was only 5.

(Laughing)

Me: Our class was looking through a day in the past in the Mining Journal, and it showed a picture of the storm.

Mrs: Um-hm

Me: It showed how power lines were down, and...

Mrs: Um-hm, in 1938, when the storm was, we didn't have electricity in our house yet, my dad had just built it in 1937 and that year, too, our walls were not completely sided yet, and we, my dad had cardboard on the walls. It was cold, the water froze in the water. We didn't have running water yet, we had a pump.

I'm Texas King

And our drinking water was froze
and uh... It was mighty cold!

Me: When did you graduate?

Mrs: 1951, from Ishpeming High School.

Me: How many people were in your graduating
class?

Mrs: Hm ~~let~~ let's see, about 120 something like
that.

Me: Wow! So the numbers are going up! [!]

Mrs: Yeah, going up.

Me: What was the price of a movie when you
were younger? Like going to a movie?

Mrs: I don't remember, maybe like 30¢, But
let me tell you about the movies. When
I was in grade school, my mom and Dad
didn't have a t.v., but you know that every
Friday, Saturday or Sunday when my
dad was off we would go to the movies.

used to be
next to
what is
St. Vincent
DePaul - downtown

We would go to the Ishpeming Theater on Saturday nights to see a double feature. And uh, we'd see Roy Rogers and Jean Audrey, you know, cowboy movies. That gave us fodder for the week! Then all the neighborhood kids would act out the Roy Rogers, and Jean Audrey we'd be the cowboys chasing the ~~cow~~ robbers. It was great fun!

And I'll tell you my mother loves Shirley Temple and we went to all the Shirley Temple movies. And today, I happened to be surfing... channel surfing and I found on AMC, my very favorite... a Shirley Temple movie called The Bluebird! And I sat there and watched the whole thing!

Me: Did it bring back memories?

Mrs: Yes, yes... It's a wonderful movie, I would make a great play for high schoolers or something. But I do remember the fire! There was a big.

Sire in the forest when they were looking for the blue bird. That ~~scene~~^{scene} from that movie still comes back to me year and year later I still dream about it! And today, all day! (laughing)

Me: That's pretty neat!

(laughing)

Me: Do you remember what the price of a candy bar or pop was?

Mrs: Oh, let's see. Candy bars were a nickel and popcorn must have been 15¢.

Me: Wow!

Me: But then the wages were small too! And uh, even when I started at N.M.U. or when I graduated from Ishpeming High School, my dad worked full time at the mine and he made a salary of \$6,000 a year.

Me: Wow!

Mrs: So that was good money in those days, for the miners. What the miners make now like \$10,000 and in 1951 it was only \$6,000! Page 27.

Mr.: How did the prices change from the old ones?

Mrs.: They went up and up and up.

Me: Did you stop going to movies so much?

Mrs.: No, no, we did all the things that we loved to do. (laughing)

Me: Was it family time?

Mrs.:ardon?

Me: Was it a family time for you?

Mrs.: Yes, yes, for both my mom and dad, loved to sit in the movie eat popcorn, drink pop! I was brought up that way! (laughing)

Me: Did you share that with your children?

Mrs.: Yes, yeah when my children smaller, you know we would take them out to eat, I just not too, we would go out twice a month, the four of us, And I would... if we went to a nicer place, I would always let them ~~then~~ chose from the menu.

later
in
story

because my son used to love to
through the menu and choose
different things. But my
daughter always wanted burgers and
fries!

Me: Sounds like nice

Mrs: But whatever my son wanted he got
it. If he wanted frog legs he got
it.

Me: Did he ever try it again.

Mrs: Yes, he likes assorted seafood.
He just likes to eat!

(laughing)

Me: When did you get your first TV and/or
Radio?

Mrs: Well, we've always had a radio while I was
growing up. But my husband and I got our
first TV it must have been in . Page 29

1955, I do remember did just ~~have~~ ^{had}
a baby, my daughter, and my husband
was just going hunting and preparing my
deer camp, with his brothers. I
didn't want him to leave me all
alone, just with the baby! Of course
my mother and father lived right
next door. But I said "What am I going
to do?!" So he went out and bought
a television set, our first!

Me: Did many people have them at that
time?

Mrs: No, No, in ~~1953~~ ^{1953 or 54}, I was
teaching, and one of my student's father
was on the school board and I was one
of the children's babysitters for a while,
and they invited me over to watch TV.
We watched, I think we watched Jackie
Gleason! ^{Gleason} (laughing)

Me: What shows did you watch?

Mrs: Ed Sullivan, Jackie Gleason, and Gunsmoke
I remember we watch that, that was a long time
ago. Page 30

I don't remember any other. I was too busy with myself to watch too much T.V. except on weekends.

Me: Did watching and having a T.V. stop you from going to movies as much?

Mrs: When I was married we didn't go to movies. We... the kids were small we stayed home when they were small and watched T.V.

Me: Where did you go shopping for clothes.

Mrs: When I was younger?

Me: Yes.

Mrs: When I was younger my man used to order our clothes through a catalog. She used to order... what was it called... she used to order from Sears and Roebuck and it was
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called the Chicago mail order catalog. I don't know whatever became of that, but when we go school clothes she ordered them out of the catalog. But when she did go shopping she would go to Ishpeming to the J.C. Penney there.

Me: Wow! I didn't know there was a J.C. Penney in Ishpeming!

Mrs: Yeah, they had a J.C. Penney in Ishpeming right across from "Old Ish" she'd do alot of shopping there. We didn't get to Marquette very often.

Me: Where did you go when you were older?
To go shopping.

Mrs: Marquette. When I was older sometimes we'd go to Green Bay. In the fall or November we... around hunting season, we would go to Green Bay to go Christmas shopping.

Me: Was that a ~~is~~ once a year event?

Mrs: Once a year, yeah.

Me: Was it exciting?

Mrs: Yeah, it was fun we would go out to eat, see all the stores, get out of the country, and get out of the rut.

Me: Where did you go shopping for food or other ~~resources~~ ^{essentials}?

Mrs: I always shop for food at Jubilee, ~~of the~~ or Joseph's Super Value in Ishpeming, now.

My Dad; How about before?

Mrs: Before... um, my mom and dad were faithful to a... there was an A and P grocery store in Ishpeming. Right ~~is~~ were Symons Hardware store is, that was the A and P. My mom used to do our shopping there. I do remember my mom would have the ground 5 o'clock coffee and have it ground in the store. I do remember that!

me: Did you use all of the food in the garden, and your cow?

Mrs: Oh, yeah, yeah.

me: Was that your main vegetable resource?

Mrs: Well we just had tomatoes and onions, ~~at~~ a lot of variety. But my mom used to shop... My Dad would get paid every two weeks and then she would go to the A + P and fill up a couple of carts and that would have to last for two weeks, you know. During the summer, too, my mother canned berries; this is blueberry country all around here, and she used to can more than 50 cans (Jars) of blueberries. She'd have Strawberry Jam and every fall she used to can peaches.

me: Did you grow them?

Mrs: Oh, no, no. We used to buy them from ~~Pete's~~ ^{Cohodas} Kahotis, we used to pick up a bushel or two from ~~Pete's~~ ^{Kahotis} Kahotis.

Mrs: My brother and I earned our spending ^{quote} money ~~was~~ picking blueberries and selling them to Canada

Me: What did you want to be when you were a little girl?

Mrs: I wanted to be an author. I used to have hundreds of paper dolls. They used to have in Hollywood, they used to have ~~thing~~ shows like Zodiac Annies Iced parades and they used to have these beautiful costumes, just gorgeous costumes. And I used to have all those paper dolls. I used to like to write skits...write that this doll said this and that one said that.

quote part

Me: Were you good at writing stories?

Mrs: Yeah, I think so. I still write some stories for my grandchildren when I get the urge to,

Me: When did you first get your drivers license?
Age 35

Mrs: I was uh, 20 years old. My dad taught me how to drive when I was in college. He took me out to a field and taught me, because we didn't have drivers training then.

me: Did you have to get a license or did you just drive?

Mrs: Well when he taught me how to drive, we went to Marquette to take my drivers test. I was scary! I was so scared!

(laughing)
me: Did you have yearbooks in elementary school or highschool?

Mrs: Highschool, not elementary.

me: Did you play any sports in school?

Mrs: No... No. Exept, you know, I loved Baseball in elementary school, and I have always been a "Tiger" fan. Me and my dad were. We would both love to listen to the game on the radio and keep score.

me: what courses did you take to become a teacher?

Mrs: I had, uh, actually in college I took Elementary Education, and I had all of the required courses.

me: How many years did you have to go to college to become a teacher?

Mrs: Well, actually, up until the early 1950's they would take you if you had completed the basic 2 year teaching course and you had to take courses and earn 6 credits per summer. Then you had to renew your certificate. That's how I became a teacher and I went to NMU almost all the time in the summer to keep my certificate renewed.

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me: Were you allowed to teach without a bachelors degree?

quote

Mrs: Yes, back then you didn't have to because you had to take the courses during the summer.

Me: How big was Ely School?

Mrs: Well it was K-8, and I think at one ^{when?} time in our history we did have a high school.

Me: I think that it burned down.

Mrs: Yeah, it did, it was in that spot but it burned down. And when it was rebuilt it was K-8.

Me: And all the highschoolers had to go to Ishpeming Highschool.

Mrs: Um-hm

Me: How many students were in the school; do you know?

Mrs: Maybe less than 200.

Me: So it wasn't big but it wasn't small.

Mrs: Yeah, one year, when I was teaching kindergarten, my larger class was 34.

Me: Wow! I don't even have that many people in any of my classes.

Mrs: 34 in one session! That is the class that will live in my memories for years to come; I had 3 sets of twins in that class! And that had never happened before. In that day it wasn't stressed that you had to know how to tie your own shoe by the time you reach kindergarten. Getting them ready for the bus they'd be lying on the floor with their legs up like spaghetti, and you had to try to get their boots on, and everything else, by the time the bus came. (Laughing) 34 kids in one session; Boy! (Laughing) I had an ~~other~~ eighth grade boy come and help me. He was just like a "Para" to the kids, and they just loved him; I just wish I could remember his name.

Me: What grades did you teach?

Mrs: Well let's see I taught kindergarten, and grade Art for the whole K-8, 6th grade English and, 7th grade health.

Me: when did you first become a teacher?

Mrs: In 1952, I first became a teacher.

me: Where did you begin working?

Mrs: At the Ely school. yeah

me: When did you get married?

Mrs: I got married in 1953 to my husband
Lestie.

me: Were you still allowed to be a teacher?

Mrs: yes, but it was frowned upon, because
impt they thought that if you got married
and started a family of your own you
would be less devoted to your job.

me: Do you remember going to school with any
of the Clarksberg, Barnes-Hecker, Simmons,
and/or North Greenwood children?

Mrs: yes, I remember going to school with
the Clarksberg and the North Greenwood
children, but the Barnes-Heck page 407

accident happened before me.

Me: Were there more male teachers teaching at the end of your career than at the beginning?

Mrs: Yes, because at the beginning of my career ~~there~~ all of the men were going to war. At the end they were all just coming back and making a life for themselves and ~~there~~ their families.

me: Which war was it?

Mrs: Well, at the very beginning it was World War II, but in the middle it was the war in Vietnam.

Me: What was your teaching salary at the beginning of your career?

Mrs: I + was \$3,000.

Me: Wow!

Mrs: I + sounds little, but that was a lot of money back then.

me: what was the salary in the end?

Mrs.: I think it was around \$26,000, but I'm not sure.

me: How long did you teach at Ely school?

Mrs.: For 28 years. And I loved most every minute of it! *good quote*

me: How was your family affected by World War A?

Mrs.: Well, um, we had ration books, you know for gas, and every time you got gas you had to get a stamp; you were only allowed to use your car very rarely, because once the gas stamps run out that was it for the month, you couldn't get any more gas, you know. And then we had to have a food stamp for coffee, sugar, and such; again you were only allowed to have so much a month. It was very wise to have a victory *page 42*

garden. That's what we called them "Victory Gardens," people would plant potatoes and such in them.

Me: Did you have any family members in the war?

Mrs: Uh, a lot of uncles, but my dad happened to be working at ^{one of} the iron ore mines up here; and the thought that the iron ore

Me: was needed.

Mrs: yes, was needed so he got to stay home and mine.

Me: I better your mother was happy with that!

Mrs: Oh yes! she was very happy, but she was also worried for her brothers.

My mom had 2 brothers that were in the service and my dad had one brother that was in the service.

Me: Do you know where they were stationed?

Mrs: um, my dad's brother was in New Guinea, my mom's ~~was~~ ^{were} in, one in Tokyo, Japan, and the other in England; my cousin was in the Battle of The Bulge.

Me: were there any deaths caused by the war?

Mrs: No, no there wasn't even one!

me: Did you and/or your class sell war bonds?

Mrs: No. Oh as a student yes. Yeah, we sold them in grade school.

Me: woa! Did your family buy bonds or did just the students?

~~Mrs~~
Mrs: Mostly the students but the families did sometimes. In fact when my dad died we found that he still had \$100 savings bond that he started when WWII was going on!

Me: How did you get the news about the war?

Mrs: Through the radio, yeah, we were listening to the radio in the living room when ~~we~~ we heard Franklin Roosevelt, ^{when he} ~~was~~ the president, saying, "I don't want war, Eleanor don't want war" (with accent) But then he explained that ~~they~~ they would go to war because of the bombing at Pearl Harbor.

Me: Was everyone alert during the time when war was announced?

Mrs: Yes! Everyone was just horrified! Everyone was wondering who was going to have to fight this war. Like my mom thinking there goes her brothers and her husband. But then she found out that her husband didn't have to go.

Me: I bet she was happy!

Mrs: Yes

Me: Do you have anything else that you wanted to add that I didn't mention?

Mrs: Yes, ah, one thing is that we had many interesting Saloe experiences, and, ah, when the kids were little we took them to the world's fair in Canada. And when my son was in the Navy we went and visited him in Virginia and Washington, and when my daughter moved to Alaska we've been there 4 times; and one year we went to Yellowstone, we visited Custers last stand and we saw the burial ground.

Me: Wow! That must have been neat!

Mrs: Is hobby^{ies} going to far?

Me: no, that's fine

Mrs: My hobbies, I collect angels, it started for me when I had one of the ^{Fegan} girls in my class, and she gave me a pair of angels for christmas. Page 46

Mrs. I collect mini. plates and spores and
I now collect plants. I have about 11
or 15 plants around the house. yep.

One of my concerns now, is when
the Ely School closes, I don't just
want it to sit there and collect dust.
And it's gym, it's got a great gym, and
quote it should be a comuntee center for
basketball or something, or the whole
school could be used as a business
complex or an apartment building.
So I just hope that it will be
put to use soon.

Off Recorder! Names of children:

daughter - Lana
- 1 boy (son)

son - Dean
- 1 boy (son)

- 1 girl (daughter)

Father worked at Blueberry
and Jones + Lockland Mines

didn't you have more teaching questions?

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