

Sarah Peterson's Interview
with
Vie Colbert

1. 1.

me: my name is Sarah Peterson and I am interviewing Vie Colbert on December 14, 1990 at her house.

me: O.k. um, when and where were you born?

Mrs. C: Right here in this house.

me: O.k. How many brothers and sisters did you have?

Mrs. C: One brother and one sister.

me: ^(um) can you tell me their names?

Mrs. C: My brother's name is Connie, and my sister's name is Marie.

me: O.k. and when and where did you marry?

Mrs. C: I married Clinton Colbert

me: ^{OK} How many children did you have?

Mrs. C: Just the two, Tom and Rita.

me: O.k. and um when and where were your parents born?

Mrs. C: My dad was born in Sweden and my mother was born in Duluth.

me: O.k. can you tell me their names?

Mrs. C: Inga and Alfred

me: O.k. (um), what years did you work at National
mine School?

mrs. C.: (pause) mmm

me: do you know what year you started?

mrs. C.: that is when I retired (cough) I
started in June ~~of 19~~ 15th. I don't
know what year it was, 23
years ago

me: O.k. and um, do you remember any
of the people you worked with?

mrs. C.: yes, Don Solka, Andrea Anderson
(pause) and I think that's all.

me: O.k. and do you remember any
humorous ^{or interesting} stories about them?

mrs. C.: about those two?

me: ya. Or people you worked with?

mrs. C.: no, not really no.

me: O.k. mmm. Do you remember any
particular students?

mrs. C.: students?

me: ya

Mrs. C: Well, I can't say particular ones there were a lot that came down here everyday though, ah who were they, mmm, Frank Moody, ahm Albert Christian, ~~Oh~~ Ireen Armstrong.

me: Ok. and Do you remember any humorous stories about them? at all.

Mrs. C: they were all characters just like I am (laughing), they had fun when they went to school.

me: Do you um, were you involved in any particular picnics or outings that ^{at all} you cooked in?

Mrs C: Yes, we used to have our ~~school~~ student picnic up at the grove and ah, we had to cook for it and bring the food up to the kids

Mrs C: That's the way we did it. Our grove was right up here. We used to serve a meal.

me: what was lunch time like?

mrs.c: we served good food. It was all home made, none of this ah store boughten food like you have now. fast foods. we were always given the good stuff.

me: O.K. where did you eat lunch.

mrs.c: we had a lunch room ~~right~~ a cross ^{from the hall} from the kitchen. I cant remember ~~what~~ whats in there now.

me: maybe the shop room.

mrs.c: No, on the other side of the hall.

me: The art room? I dont ~~know~~ know,

mrs.c: Is that ^{what} ~~the~~ art room ~~is~~ is?

me: there ya, there is the art room and then the shop room across the hall.

mrs.c: ya thats were it is. we used to serve lunch in there.

me: what kinds of meals did you make?
Like what was your favorite?

Mrs. C: mmm I know we'd sit and peel potatoes (giggling) um we used hamburger a lot gravy, and mashed potatoes and an hot dogs and we made our own beans, baked beans mmm I'm stuck, we made a lot of good food up there, Pasties we made,

me: Did you walk to work every-day?

Mrs. C: 3 hours up (laughing)

me: Did the, what was the principle like then?

Mrs. C: We had George ~~Annala~~ Annala He was very, very strict. ~~We have Mr. Annala~~

me: we have Mr. Annala for a history teacher now.

Mrs. C: No, not that Annala, This is the older ~~one~~ boy. He'd be his uncle I guess

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me: was he nice at all

mrs.c: ~~X~~ Oh he was a nice person but he was strict.

me: what was your fondest memories of National Mine?

mrs.c: mmm they were all good I think. I like school. ~~X~~ They were all good years.

me: what is the biggest change in the schools today? like when you were there.

mrs.c: I don't know if I could teach school today (laughing). Everything was done up here kindergarten through twelve grade, and an. it was more interesting then.

me: what time did you start in the morning?

mrs.c: work?

me: ya.

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Mrs C: We started at 7:00 and we
got through about 1:30.

Me: If you had a message for the
students what would it be?

Mrs. C: mmm Don't run the food
down that you are served,
it's all good, and um just
eat it, be nice about it
that's all.

Me: Do you have anything else you
would like to add? a story
that happened or ~~or~~ anything?

Mrs C: mm I don't remember if I
was a kindergarden or not
when the school burnt up
here, and we had to
ship the kids ~~to the~~ ^{from the} town hall,
to the Metna Region church,
to the Swedish church to the
English church. That's ~~we~~
where all our schooling
was done, when the
school burnt.

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me: Did you cook there then?

mrsc: No there was no hot meals
they all had to bring there
lunch.

me: Did most of the kids have
hot lunch or cold lunch?

mrsc: mostly cold lunch, sandwiches
with fruit.

me: well I guess thats it then.

mrsc: Thats nice.

me: O.K. Thank you!

me: Now vie has four dogs and
lives with her daughter and
grandchildren