

Mike Riord Interview
with
Florence Dolson

①

Me: Mike Riord December 13, 1990 interviewing
Florence Dolson & graduated interview in National
Mine. ~~the~~

Me: When and where were you born?

Her: I was born in national mine on December ^{the} 8, 1923

Me: Were you born in a house or a hospital

Her: I was born in a house the one I am living in right
now

Me: Are you the oldest

Her: I'm the youngest (HA HA)

Me: How many brothers and sisters do you have

Her: I answered that yesterday I told you I
had 7 ~~brothers~~ and no ~~7~~ sisters too ~~other~~

Me: How many of them went to national mine

Her: everyone of them

Me: How many of them graduated

Her: Let see 7 of them

Me: What years did you attend national mine

Her: Well it must have been from Kindergarten right
through 12 grade ~~so~~ that was about 1928 I started
kindergarten

Me: Did you graduate

Her: Yes

Me: In what year

Her: 1941

me: when and who did you marry

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Her: I married Douglass Dawson on July the third 1943

me: Where were you married

Her: In dispensing in the Betha Lutheran Church

me: Do you have any children

Her: Yes, we have 3 children two boys and one girl
All my children went to the national mine. Linda and Kay
graduated from the national mine school and Jamie
graduated from a ~~school~~ westwood

me: Did Douglass go to National Mine

Her: No Douglass went to dispensing school

me: Did he graduate

Her: No he didn't he had to quit and go to work

me: Do you remember any teachers that you had

Her: I told you that yesterday. I'd remember most of them

- Mr. Bath and Mrs. ~~Annala~~ Anna Miss ~~Bath~~ Glesin Mrs.
tremback.

me: Did any have an impact on you ~~the~~ five

Her: Well like I said before Mr. Annala very well
because he was so strict in school

me: Why was he so strict

Her: Well He wanted the kids to do the best they could in school

and ~~that~~ they ever get there to ~~the~~ pool

me: Do you remember any humorous or interesting things
about them

Her: Well I remember one day I forgot my English
book at home and ~~so~~ Mr. Annala made me walk all
the way back home to get it

me: Okay Do you still keep in touch with your school
friends

Her: yes

me: How many days were in a school year

Her: I don't really remember but I think it was about the same
as it is now

(3)

~~How long was your school day~~

Me: How long was your school day

Her: Well we started at 9 in the morning and got through at 4 in the afternoon

Me: How long was your lunch hour

Her: I think it was 12:00 to 1:15

Me: Was there lat lunch

Her: No there wasn't ^{we} if anyone wanted to eat at school they had to carry their own lunch we had a lunch room there and ~~anybody~~ anybody who wanted to go in there could sit and eat there lunch

Me: How did you get to school

Her: We walked to school everyday we didn't have a car to ride

Me: You didn't have a bus

Her: No

Me: No one had a bus

Her: Well they had a bus from up on 581 way but the kids from down this way walked

Me: About how far was it

Her: about a mile

Me: How many subjects did you have during the day

Her: Oh I don't really remember I suppose ~~maybe~~ maybe about six

Me: Do you remember any of them

Her: Well we had in High School I had English Latin ~~and~~ typing I think I had

Me: What do you think is the tuffest

Her: Well I never cared for history very much and I wasn't too good at it (H A H H)

(4)

Me: Which one was your easiest

Herr: I liked my typing class because we type

Me: How did student dress when they went to school

Herr: Well nobody wore slacks in those days they all wore dresses or skirts and blouses & sweaters

Me: What were any dress codes

Herr: No we didn't have any dress codes

Me: What were any dress codes for the teachers

Herr: I don't think so but they all wore suits the men all wore suits

Me: What were many rules

Herr: Yes we had a lot of rules there was no running in the ~~hallways~~ hallways or anything like that

Me: What kind of punishment were there if you didn't follow them

Herr: We would have to go sit in Mr. Annala or Mr. Boff's office

Me: Could the principle or teacher hit you

Herr: Yes

Me: Did they hit you with the hand or with a ruler

Herr: I don't really remember anyone getting hit but much but they could slap your arm with a ruler or with their hand

Me: What kind of other activities were there

Herr: There weren't too many she was basketball and baseball and I think that was about it

Me: There was no chess or anything else

Herr: No

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me: Were you involved in any

HER: NO

me: How ~~would~~ would you describe your academic performance
HER: Well fair (HAHA)

me: Who was the principle

HER: Mr. Anuda was the principle

me: What was he like

HER: Like I said before he was real strict tone (HAHA)

me: What was graduation like

HER: Well we had a real small class & graduated with a
class of 7 girls no boys most of the boys in that class
had quit school and went to work

me: Could you describe your graduation to me ~~in detail~~

~~in detail~~

HER: Well it was very much like it is nowadays
only the classes were alot smaller

me: What the Prom or a dance of any sort

HER: NO we didn't have any proms in those days

me: Were you attending school when it burned
down was it where you

HER: No I wasn't

me: Was it before you were in school or after

HER: Before it ~~burned down~~ burn down the year
I was born I think

me: What do you think is the biggest danger in
the school and in the neighborhood area

HER: Well I don't think the discipline is as strict as
it was when we were in school the kids
now days get away with a lot more than
we did

ME: Like what

(6)

HER: Well I don't rely now because I haven't been
up there but from what I hear (HAHA)

We was the mines ^{was at} any a big drage for the area

HER: Yah with tides and the empire mine moving
in here it was a big change

ME: Do you remember any big charges that you can
remember

HER: No just the we had the Hercules plant there then
and that closed that was about the biggest thing
when I was young

ME: Did any one in your family work in the mines
when they came here

HER: Well I think my dad worked in the mines
for a ~~little~~ little while but then he
went and worked at the Hercules power co.
and a my brother my oldest brother worked
in the mines and my other brother worked
at the Hercules power co.

ME: Did you have a job when all you were getting
out of school

HER: No I didn't have a job I started out by
babysitting

ME: Who were ~~you~~ you babysitting for ^{people} ~~for~~
~~around~~ the area

HER: for a family in Ishpeming before or their
little girl and then I worked at the gas station
for a little while then at the national mine store
~~and post office~~

Mc: Who owned the National Mine Store (S)
when you started

HER: ARNOLD ARVICH and Martin Saliba

Mc: If you could give a message to the students
today what would it be

HER: Well it would be work as hard as you can
in school and get some education and go
on to college because there is nothing to
do now day without a college education

Mc: Do you have anything you would like to
add about any of the relatives or any
stories you would like to tell

HER: OK we walked home for lunch ~~every day~~
every day and each at noon that's
why we had such a long lunch hour and
a most of the babies were born at home
in those days I was born at home
Mrs Anna La come to the house she
was the midwife so she come to our
house and was born that's it