

My name is Matt Coron I am interviewing Joseph House man at his home. To days date is november 9th.

we will focus on school memories as a student at national Mine School.

Me: Where were you born?

Mr.: I was born at Natinal Mine Michigan at my Grandfathers home.

Me: When were you born?

Mr.: I was born on the 6th of December 1934

Me: Did you have Mrs. Gleason for a teachure?

Mr.: Yes I had Mrs. Gleason ^{only} for Music.

Me: Were you ever in her operattas and what did you play as.

Yes most every onc in classes kindergarden through 6th took part in these Christmas progr-ams but only a few of the 7 through 12 played the olde careter parts. Most time the progr-ams ended with the kindergarde through 6th and all of the highschool cours singing a number Pagel

of Christmas carols. I played in many productions but playing a Christmas tree was the most memorable

Me: When you had recesses what did you do?

Mr.: When I first started school there wasn't much to do, we played marbles in the summer time and in the winter throwing snowballs and sliding down the banks around the school was most fun.

Me: What kinds of lunches did you have?

Mr.: I carried my lunches from home up until sixth or seventh grade when the first school lunches were provided.

It started with a lot of government surplus, but over the years things improved to many home cooked meals cooked by Andrea Anderson and Mable Tund

Me: What was your favorite lunch?

Mr.: Sloppy Joes.

Me: How long was your ~~lunch~~ ^{recesses?}

Mr.: 15 min. in the morning, 15 min. in the afternoon and 1 hour at noon time.

Me: Who was your principle and did he or she teach

in a class room?

Mr.: In my time an N.M. we had a supper in tent and a principle. Walter bath was superintendent and

Principle George Annala.

Me: did kids ever get in trouble and what did they usually do?

Mr.: There wasn't much trouble fighting and throwing snow balls in the winter time.

Me: What was their punishment?

Mr.: Most time only a verbal warning was given

me: what was the worst punishment they could get?

Mr.: The worst punishment that I recall was made to stay in at recess time and made to clean the black boards and erasers.

me: Did you ever get in trouble if so what did you do and what was your punishment.

Mr.: Oh I got caught throwing snow balls a few times and the punishment was cleaning black boards and erasers.

me: How did you get to school?

Mr.: In the early days I remember walking and then we had a school bus for a few years and when we got in to junior high we had to walk again.

Me: What did you write with?

Mr.: Mostly pencils than in ink when we started having penmanship.

me: what did you write on?

Mr.: Mostly yellow lined paper.

Me: What was a typical day like at school?

Mr: Having a couple of classes then recess couple more classes then noon hour having a couple more classes and recess and dis missle.

Me: Where did you keep your books you jacket and other stuff?

Mr: Our jackets and such were kept in a kabanet in our room our lunch pail or bog had to be placed on a table in the lunch room at the discribed place.

Me: What kinds of games did you play?

Mr: don't remember playing any games except for kindergarden in kindor garden we played ring around the rosie, farmer in the dell, and such.

Me: How long was a school day?

Mr: I believe it was six hours 8-12 and 12-3 with one hour for noon hour

Me: What kinds of clothes did you wher?

Mr: on the dress side not jeans

Me: What did you do an hole days at school?

Mr: We exchanged valetines and we had christmas programs

me: Did you switch classes for 6th - 12th grade?

Mr: No only 9 - ~~X~~ 12

Me: How many teachures did you have in a year when you switched classes?

Mr: We had a teachure for each class but some time the same teach could teach more than one Pg 4

Me: What kinds of sports did you play and did girls play to?

Mr.: The only competitive sport was boys basket ball, which I did not take part in. There wasn't any girls competition at all.

Me: What was your dress code?

Mr.: There wasn't any dress code.

Me: What year did you graduate?

Mr.: 1953

Me: How many kids were in your class?

Mr.: Don't recall exactly but some were around 18.

Me: Did you have a big celebration?

Mr.: Not in those days.

Me: About how much was it to go to college if you went

Mr.: didn't go to college.

Me: Were you alive during the depression?

Mr.: Yes but only during the later years.

Me: Was it hard to earn money?

Mr.: Yes

Me: What was it like during the depression?

Mr.: Too young to know.

Me: How many kids were in your family?

Mr.: At that time there were two.

Me: Was it easy to feed all of you?

Mr.: I was too young to know.

Me: What were their names?

Mr.: Frank and My self.

me: Did you have a T.V. what was your favorite show?

mr: No T.V. in those years.

me: Did you have a radio what did you usually listen to?

mr: Yes we had a radio the news with Walter Winchell
super man the shadow tom mix the ban ranger Fbber
Me Cez and Mally Tiger baseball with Harry
Heilmen.

me: Did you go to church if so what was the name of
the church?

mr: Yes we went to church. The English Methodist church
at National Mine.

me: When did you go to church?

mr: On Sundays

me: How was your Priest or pasture?

mr: Mr. Shoegrinn was our pasture.

me: Do you remember the barns Heker tragedy?

mr: Yes I remember it but did not have any friends or
relatives involved.

me: How have things changed today from the past?

mr: Things have changed a great deal in the early part of my life
there were charge cards no accounts cash was the
only way. There was much more differences between
Nationalities and religions.

me: Did things cost more than what they use to?

mr: things are a traly cheaper when you consider the value
of the dollar these days.

me: How have buildings changed are they bigger or smaller?

mr: Building have changed much over the years the building
were built of stone in the past unheard of these day most
dwellings were made of wood in the past and still are but
are not built as strong but are beten in staledated concrete
and concrete block have become the popular building material
for schools and stores and industry these days.

How has the school changed?

Mr.: The curriculum has changed dramatically arithmetic is not done by brain power but by calculator the encyclopedia is being replaced by the computer. Children don't have to use their brain power any more.

Me: Are ~~programs~~ classes close to the same as before?

Mr.: No children have things too easy and when things come too easy they are also forgotten easier.

Me: Did your children go to National Mine school?

Mr.: They all went to National Mine school but graduated from Westwood.

Me: How did it change from ^{you} went there as a kid to when you were a parent?

Mr.: Yes when I went there as a child we didn't expect as much as children these days at Christmas we were lucky if we received more than one toy from Santa. The spirit of Jesus Christ and giving and getting together were more important with friends and family.

Me: Do you have any special memories from National Mine.

Mr.: There wasn't any thing extra special for me, I just had a good time in school and really it was the best years of my life.

Me: Do you have any thing to add.

Mr.: Yes an early question was about holidays and what we did at school well there were other activities such as buying saving stamps each week until we had ^{\$97} enough to buy a war bond to help the war efforts in WWII.

and we also use to make donation to the heart and
tuberculosis foundation. Just as children donate to the cam-
paign to help feed a hungry neighbor. I has been interest-
ing looking back at being part of this inter view.

thank you

Joe Houseman,