

School Info Teachers
Personel Info
after school

Ralph Emanuelson

School Information

Q
A

Where were you born?
I was born in National Mine on a farm behind the powdermill and we lived there for 13 years and then we moved into National Mine and my father bought his old home back from the father, and we lived there for the rest of our period that we were in National Mine and that's where the brown boy lives now.

Q
A

How many brothers and sisters do you have?
I had 2 brothers and 2 sisters and one of each are dead now.

Q
A

What are those names and ages?
Their names and ages are Lawrence was the oldest and he would be about what I think about 80, the oldest than that, I'm over 80, he would be close to 90, and then my other sister Elizabeth the youngest died when she was only 57. So the oldest and youngest are gone. And then my sister Fern and I and my brother Joe are still living. He's out in Arizona and she's down a Manitowish and I'm at Ishpeming.

Q "How many of them went to National Mine School?"

A "They all went to National Mine School and graduated every one of them."

Q "When and who did you marry?"

A "I got married June 16, 1934 to Ernest Anderson from Ishpeming and we lived for 3 1/2 years but I've been a widow now for going on 19 years."

Q "Do you have children?"

A "I have one son, Gary, and he graduated from Ishpeming High School and from Michigan Tech and then he got his masters from Western Michigan. And he's a chemical Engineer and now he's been elevated he's a Senior Vice president at Dow Corning in Midland."

Q "Did they go to National Mine?"

A "No."

Q "What years did you attend National Mine School?"

A "I went from 1913-1926 I graduated in 1926."

Q "Did you remember some of your grade school teachers and what were they like?"

A I remember most of them and my second and third grade teacher was my mother's youngest sister so it was nice having her for a teacher and knowing her so well because she used to spend a lot of time out on our farm with her siblings on vacations and like that so um she influenced us quite a bit because she went to Northern and graduated there so she could teach at National Mine and my father was on the school board at National Mine to in early days of the Township and then he also served a supervisor for 2 or 3 years in National Mine in the board of Review he was always interested in Politics.

Q "Do you remember any humorous or interesting stories about them?"

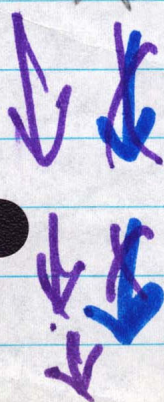
A I don't think so every body was so serious in those days they didn't have much time for humour I was all work and no play but um we never had much humour in school in those days.

Q "Do remember some of junior high or high school teachers?"

A "I remember all them my high school teachers are. Tony Winter, Margaret Dene, Letha Shirley, Ruth & Runover, Mrs. Hymud, Mrs. Krueger, Mrs. Bledt, then a Tom Wellman, and a he brought mammals and then Mr. Gleason, come when I was in 10th grade he come the to National Mine Mr. Robinson and Mr. Skup a taught quite a few classes because they had to they didn't have many teachers in those days. the superintendent had to do some teaching to and they usually taught a couple or more classes beside run the school too.

Q "Do remember any humorous or interesting stories about them?"

A other than most of them who come to National Mine. I led snow and a one fellow named Sewy Brown who had a big dog sled and that would hold about 12 to 15 people and we'd start up at the top of Bunches Hill and come down past a lake. store or was almost to the cliff drive it was a good.



long side and every body enjoyed that
teachers as well as the students at National
Mine. I know that several of the pupils
teachers especially on the weekends have
a side because some of them came from
places where they didn't have as much
snow as we did and of course in those
days very few cars were running in the
winter only one Jack Clancy & we used to
go to the show every night & he'd
come home at 9:00. We'd go to the
first show and come home at 9:00 so
the boys that ran the bot would always
on the lookout for him because you
couldn't meet him the road wasn't
wide enough for the bot and the
car with the snow ya know somebody
would be keeping their eyes on the watch
for 9:00 to see when he'd be coming
back home back home. We had a lot
of fun over that.

Now long was the school day and when
did you start?

A ~~We~~ started at 9:00 a.m. and we were out at
9:00. It wasn't 5:30 like it is now,
we put in the hours boy.

Q "Wow did you get to school and how far was it?"

A Walked all my years, like the first from kindergarten up to 6th grade we were living on the farm and that was 3 miles to school and I walked that every day. No ride in those days and no cars out our way. The nuns had any and then after we moved into National Mine well then of course it was only about 1 mile I guess from where our house was up to the school. Because we'd go up the tracks take the shortcut ya know follow the railroad tracks up to the High Shaft. So it was all good exercise.

Q "What subjects did you have and " was your favorite one?"

A I always liked English and history and then Biology, and the plants. I liked those. The trees best because they were more interesting and you could get practical use from them like with biology we learned about growing things and like that ya know. You can have a garden of your own.

I think that you have to talk and be able to use good English or you won't get anywhere in this world, and then I was always pretty good in English and then history. I used to like that I used to read books from the library pertaining to past histories and like that.

We used to have a pretty good library for that, I imagine it's much larger now and more complete than you know, we got by.

Q "What was the toughest subject and why?"

A "Math. I didn't want to study it that's all. I didn't have it made up in my mind that I would be using that although I liked geometry better than Algebra.

I never liked, Lybra, much because you are always had to changing your numbers so often & so many times I never cared for algebra and yet my son he caught on to it, we could add & he could. honestly he just caught on to it like nothing, just pick it up. That was his strongest subject. We took all the highest math he could take in the high school and at

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Question What was the toughest subject and why
Answer Math I didn't want to study it

Math, I didn't want to study it at all. I didn't have it made up in my mind that I would be using ^{that} it although I liked geometry better than algebra. I never liked algebra much because you are always ^{had to} changing your numbers so often + so many times

I never cared for algebra, although and yet my son ^{he} caught on to it. He could add + he could, he just caught ^{honestly}

just picking it up.

on to it like nothing? That was his strongest subject. He took all the highest math he could take in high school and at Tech. And some of that was pretty tough. And one teacher at Tech told him ^{that was} he took statistics from him ~~told him~~ and that he said he never had a student ^{that} who could work these statistic problems to the end degree ~~of a page~~ (fill a page) and they're hard ^{cause they} you use factoring. You know a little about that I suppose. So ^{like I said, I don't know} anyway how he got so smart but he was and made the honor roll ⁱⁿ at high school and at Tech. You have to be good to do that.

Question - How did kids dress? Was there a dress code? No, you wore whatever you had. No, nothing said about a dress code ^{or anything} of course Osprey had had one but not National Mine.

Question - How were kids expected to act and behave? Always under control. They'd stand by their doors and watch them. They ^{teachers} were real strict. They'd snap at us pretty

↓ quick if they did a little bit that
↓ they shouldn't do. I never saw anyone
↓ whipped ^{although} but I heard that sometime
↓ earlier in ^{the} National Mine History some
↓ were, and they, but they deserved ~~it~~ ^{it} to.
↓ But I never saw them.

Question Did they obey?

Answer Most of them ~~did~~ obeyed. But ya know
↓ the funny thing ^{was} when I started school
↓ we had over 30 in our class in kinder
↓ garten and when I graduated there
↓ was only 6 and three of them came
↓ from out South. ^{only} Three from down ⁱⁿ the
↓ town graduated.

Question What punishments were given?

↓ They used to have a detention ^{rule} room what
↓ they called, they'd make them stay after
↓ school and then ^{they'd} give them problems
↓ to work or something to write ^{or something} for ya know.
↓ and for so many hours or so many minutes or
↓ what ever ya know, ^{and} I never had to stay
↓ after so I don't know exactly what it was
↓ that ^{but} happened I know that they practiced
↓ that quite a bit even if in high school.

Question What kinds of extra curricular activities were you involved in?

Answer Only music. We we had a glee club and that we used to sing. Have ^{at the} a Christmas concert and ^{sing for} graduation and like that. But other than that, ah they really weren't any activities ah that you could call extra curricular. I think it was

my last year of high school ^{when a bunch} we had ^{them} a little club and we'd go to some of the people's houses and have a little party at night or on the weekend.

of girls got together and they wanted to have like a club.

and the boys used to make fun of it because they found it silly for women. ^{I suppose} I don't even remember what it stood for now, but

men would say something or other, to make it sound silly you know but that only lasted a few months cause we had to

walk everywhere we went. And ah we ^{was} went out to Larson's Farm and that was way out, Green Creek ya know way back ⁱⁿ off the road and everything.

one place we did go

I know we went there one night. I ^{think it was} know around Thanksgiving or Halloween it was around one of these holidays anyway.

and we each brought something for the lunch and then we ^{ah we} sang a few songs and had a little program and then walked home again and that was quite a long walk I'll tell you. When we went out there cause we'd meet at school and then go ~~out~~ ^{from} there you know.

Question Which ones did you participate in?

Answer ~~I~~ ^{us to} all anything that came along that they asked ~~me~~ took part in.

Question Did any teams win a trophy or championship?

Answer Not while I was there ^{cause} they just got the basketball the year I was there graduated.

But after that, one of National Mine's Basketball teams won the state Championship one year. I forgot ^{it was} what year,

it was after '26 anyway, ^{cause ah} like I say we ^{say} ~~but~~ just got ^{that year} ~~it~~ so we didn't have any championships ~~to~~ team up to that time.

Question What effect ^{did} this have on the school?

Answer I think it put ^{em} them on the map before that well you mention National Mine well they think that's out in the sticks

But, ah nobody lived out there or something like that. I think that put the name on the map because it

seemed to appear more after that. Then about different things because ah they ~~started~~ ^{kept on} with basketball and

I think they still ~~do~~ ^{don't they} at Westwood? They're quite a bit? Yea it put National Mine on the map.

Question How did the team travel to other schools? ^{70's} I think I remember they traveled with a three coach and maybe one other car now wether that would be like a the father of some of players or what I don't know but I know Pat Gleason used to haul a bunch of them.

Question How far did they go?

Answer Well they covered Marquette County although not the big cities but the smaller towns like Michigamme, Republic, Champion, ^{and down to} Swin, and Palmer. I know Palmer was one of our first opponents and I don't think they went below Marquette just up more in the central area at that time.

Question Do you remember any special cheers for

Answer the team? I haven't heard a cheer for so many years honestly I wouldn't know one to say anymore. The year was when we were in high school but I really haven't heard them years. My granddaughter or a aa has been a cheerleader every where they lived and she just graduated from high school in Midland last June & she was a cheerleader right up until she graduated so she may get into ~~the~~ cause she goes to Purdue University now, + she may get to do some cheerleading ^{after} ~~one~~ this first semester is over.

Question - How would you describe your academic performance?

Answer - My, I'd say average. There wasn't too much incentive to try to excel in anything. We're all alike. We do our work + carry out what was allotted to us ya know. But ah, There ^{was} ~~were~~ nobody that was real smart or and not no people who were ~~spendingly smart~~

but not exceedingly dumb either,
~~but also no one who was really dumb.~~
People were more on the average.

That's what I'd say it was.

Question **When** was lunch time?

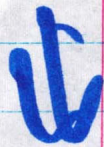
Answer The only lunch time I remember is
eating down in the furnace room. In the
old school. They may have fixed up a
lunchroom later, I don't know anything
about it cause after we moved into National
Mine I'd go home for dinner. I'd walk
that mile to school and back and
back after dinner, lots of times I'd
go back after supper if we were gonna
be practicing singing or something like that.
No, I never used the lunch room
much after we moved right into
National Mine.

Question Where was the cafeteria?

Answer no cafeteria

Question Who was the principal and would
you describe him or her.

Answer Well, ^{at} ~~in~~ in the early grades I
don't remember there being a principal,
But, uh, in ^{the} high school, ^{there was} Fanny
Huntula and Mrs. Bell was and
they were both nice people. I got along well



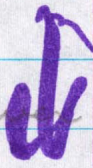
with everyone and they were strict.



Most people abided by what they were told. There wasn't a rough bunch there at all then.

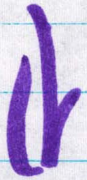
Question

Did the schools have many picnics or outings?

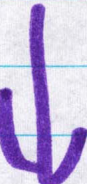


Answer

I don't remember having anything ~~and then I remember~~ ^{until}, I think it was my senior year, and then David Trubiblock had a big open Day truck and ^{he took} a bunch of us ^{midwife to} to Presque Isle ^{just for the day} ~~part~~.



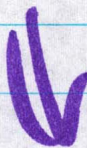
~~We took our lunch~~ I'm sure I was a senior when that happened. Was so long ago and I think we just ~~took our own lunch~~ and we walked around the island I know that there wasn't much open. I think



maybe the pop stand was open and we brought our own lunch



~~and~~ ^{because in} in those days there was no eating places we just spent the day there and ^{then} went back home and we had



to pay our own ways and and no school or any one paying your way in those days so um we just spent one day for a holiday



Question Did any of your teachers have an impact on your life.

Answer Well my mother's sister was a teacher life I said was a teacher and then a my brother's wife was a teacher and I think they influenced us sum because they wanted us to keep on and go to school you know and not stop at High School as the result of that ^{with} power of us kids graduated from High School about went to college too all of us did I'd say ^{to} those two had lots of influence and the teachers in general when they'd speak they'd speak they'd try to improve on us ^{try to} how important it was to study hard and improve your condition ^{like that} you know, so that when you'd get out in life you would ^{be able to} get a better job, get paid more money and so on ya know, I think that that helped to influence us.

Q What was your graduation Ceremony like?

A It was very quiet. We had a speaker I think he was from Marquette. + ah, ah, we people in the Blue club sang ^{with} in the Blue

Club and ah, I think the valedictorian and the solutatorian spoke. But aside from ^{it was just an ordinary} that, ~~at~~ I don't think it lasted more than an hour or so. ~~I think it lasted~~ Maybe an hour and a half at ^{the} most. We didn't have fancy ones like they do now.

Question What special memories do you have of your graduation?

answer Well we were all saying goodbye and tears were running down our eyes saying we'd hope to we'd see each other again ya know but like some of them ^{any} like Roy Peter Don ~~we~~ never saw again ^{him} after we graduated. And then shortly ^{shortly} after that he went in the service and was killed. I think WWII. So ah, it ^{well one especially} was a sad good-bye ^{that}

Question Did you have a prom?

Answers Noooooooo, They never mentioned such a thing in those days.

Q Did any tragedies occur while you were in school?

A None that I know.

Q Were you able to maintain contact

with childhood friends?

A Yes, I see ^{like} Viola Magnuson.

She was one grade behind me in ~~in~~ school. And ~~at~~ ^{but} she lived near me.

So We used to go to ~~church~~ ^{school} together and go to church together, and every thing like that and then when I

went to Northern and then she came

the year after too. So ~~at~~ she's been ~~the~~ ^{that} ~~one~~ ^{who} ~~was~~ ^{has} been the closest to

me, all the neighbors went ^{now} back.

and like your grandma I never saw much of her at all after we

graduated, because ^{as I think} she married

soon after graduation, and ^{then} ~~at~~ ^{where} ~~she~~ ^{suppose} ~~was~~ she just wasn't any place ^{that}

^{you know} I was ⁱⁿ ~~at~~ never saw her much ~~at~~ all

until after ^{well} I forgot how many years ago when ^{her} ~~her~~ ^{cousin} ~~was~~ ~~I~~ ~~think~~ ~~it~~ ~~was~~, I forgot

Niles. Rutha Niles.

Q. What do you think is the biggest change since you were a student?

A. I think they have so much new stuff to use that we never heard of and ~~at~~ they should ~~it~~ be a lot smarter ~~then~~ ~~what~~ ~~we~~ ~~were~~. With all the

↓ additional new things, but ah ^{like} we never
had typing ^{and} short hand ^{or} no
business at all in the school at all
↓ at that time, that come long after
↓ and ah I think its for the good
↓ if they make use of it but ah
the way some people talk to much
for the kids to grab in a short
time you now.

Question ↓ What are your fondest memories
of National Mine.

Answer ↓ Well its a quiet place good place to
live and raise a family.

Question ↓ If you could give a message to the
students today what would it be?

Answer ↓ I would say Study hard and take
advantage of all the new things that
are available and do your best when
you are in school don't give up
↓ keep on as long as you can.

Question ↓ Is there anything else you would
like to add

Answer ↓ I had fon memories of National
Mine and of the school even with
the short coming at the time ya
know, but I think that then we did

✓ I owe most with what we
had at the time and so I had no
regrets about that. We were satisfied
✓ I guess that's it.