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**FINNISH FOLKLORE AND SOCIAL CHANGE IN THE GREAT  
LAKES MINING REGION ORAL HISTORY PROJECT 1972-1978**

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Jack Foley  
August 9, 1972

Art Puotinen

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INTERVIEW BETWEEN:

INTERVIEWEE: Jack Foley

INTERVIEWER: Arthur Puotinen

DATED: <sup>Aug. 9</sup>  
~~July~~, 1972

A: Jack--you said that the people who began the copper industry in this area could hardly be classified as a group of saints, or angels;-----what do you mean by that?

J: Well--it was a rough business, and to survive you had to be rough and tough. Not only in the line, but at the end of the line. And there were the type of people who were descendents of people who were rough and tough--and the history of the United States.

A: By rough and tough, what do you mean by rough and tough?

J: Well--they were hard-nosed and perhaps not too <sup>ethical</sup> ~~ethical~~ in their business arrangements.

A: You mean, ah---management was labor or management was-----

Management was labor, management was public relations, management was management, in all industries; competing industries. You know----if--there was more money----if there was more money invested in the mines in the early days, local mines, perhaps things might have been different. But, the promotional money came from Boston and New York, and lots of the larger--larger investors in these mines came from Boston and New York. And the promoters of the mines froze the investors. They did it in several way, they would---have a very poor \_\_\_\_\_ for instance. And they would tote it to the skies, sell out the stock-----the history of the Arcadian Mine is one of those type of things. Ah-----that's been written up several times. The Arcadian Mine had what was low grade copper in those days. It was low grade--ore---copper ore. We have rock up here, we don't have ore. We have mineral---not ore. But, anyway it was low grade-----but they toted it to the skies-----and they sold millions of dollars worth of stock--and they really had nothing in comparison with the \_\_\_\_\_  
Now there was, for instance the Michigan line-up in Ontonagon. Ah, they built a mill and sold stock of that mill. It was utterly, physically impossible to use that mill. They had no machinery in that mill. They had just the shelter of

the building and they had a tressel which was up at a forty-five degree angle which no man could possibly push a car up , or a rock; or even the most powerful steam engine of those days couldn't get those cars or rocks up there. But they sold a hell of a lot of stock on the pictures of that mill and the pictures of the mine. Then there was the other way of doing this thing and pleasing the public; they would get a good strike--they would get a good mine. And after it's operating, if the land was operating, they would not take out the good rock, they would take out the poor rock--- the low grade ore. And their earnings would be way off--they must have had loads of money and the price of stock would go down. They would blame it on the stock market and buy up the shares of this stock and then after they had got control of it and after they had got most of the stock----then they would operate the mine at a hell of a good profit. And the original investors got nothing out of it, you see?

- A: Were there any mines that developed along those lines, that you can remember?
- J: Oh, yes, there was---practically all of them.---Practically all of them. They had their ups and downs ---poor rock--- when they wanted to drive the stock down on the market they shipped poor rock, down to the mill then their earnings would drop, see?
- A: Are there any existing documents , you know, to verify that observation,, are there memorandums, you know, or statements said-----
- J: No----for those things you won't find memorandums. There was one man who used to write the truth----He used to get advertising, he based his book on advertising. And most of the advertising were people who sold their stuff to the mines. And so he couldn't get them to take advertising if you docked their customers. It's a closed thing like it is today and like it always has been. There are some , there are some records for instance, I'll tell you this as sincere, and I'll show them to you. This is written up by Horace Stevens, who was the greatest authority on copper who ever did any writing up here. He published the handbook from 1901, 1900 he started and the first one in that book in 1900 and the second one in 1902. In 1902, he wrote---he was writing an article about the Quincy and he was very frank in telling his story of something that was done at the Quincy mine and which men would be sent to jail for if they did it today, see?
- A: But--- What?
- J: They----the Quincy Mine bought the Pewabic Mine through the president of the Quincy Mine, Charlie Mason. They paid the Pewabic 710,000dollars for that mine.. . and they sold it to the stockholders, to the Quincy Mining Company for a million dollars. In other words, they took a 290,000 dollar profit from their company , the directors.. Now, that was done through

Charlies

Charles Mason, but the other directors were certainly not going to let the president get by with that, they had their fingers in the pie too. Mr. Todd, the president of the Quincy Mining Company, his father was the secretary of the mining company at that time. So, that is the type of man we had in these mines. Now I'll show the authority for that statement.

A: Maybe I should read this and get it out of the way

J: Yes, read it.

A:

Pewabic Open <sup>of the property</sup> 1883, closed 1884. On the west half of 25,55,84, officials allowed the charter of the company to last and controlling interest was secured by T.F. Mason, president of the Quincy Company. at whose insistence the affairs of the Pewabic were wound up and the mine ~~seced~~ sold to Mason for 710,000 dollars. and by him to the Quincy Company for one million dollars. to the great profit of both purchaser and buyer. It is now known as the north Quincy portion of the Quincy Mine lying immediately south of the Franklin. This is in the Copper Handbook volume 2 for 1902.

A: You would go to jail for something like that today.

A: Yes. Now, would you say, was this just unique to say the copper field here, or was this pretty typical for mine fields throughout the country?

J: I do not know anything about the mine fields in any other part of the country. There were people left here--- the mines in Montana were operated by people from here. John D. Ryan, the president of Andeconto died a few years ago--was a Hancock boy, his father ran a grocery store in Houghton where the Brown auto parts is now. John left here---became a salesman for the Standard Oil and selling oil and greases to the railroads-- and he met James ~~Hill~~ Hill, a great railroad man. John was a very handsome man, tall---handsome for a man and he and Harold became great friends and Hill got interested in the mining out there they got in a lot of property from the government --- all these railroad bids, you know. They ran their railroads through and right away the government gave them the mile ~~on~~ on each side of the railroad---and the property happened to go to a very good mining company. Well, Hill got into this mining out there and John went with Hill. and he became the president and finally chairman of the board of the Adeconto. He used to come up here--- his son Carlos, who is dead now, and I were very good friends, we sent around together when we were kids and he died a few years ago and married a Hancock girl, Margery Close. So, I don't know anything about it, but a rather humerous story about a fellow on the green, I don't think he was ever up here, he was a ---- my father knew him quite well, he was a prospector and forerunner of companies such as Bear Creek Mining Company which is owned by the Kenecotte--they do nothing

But prospect and sell or lease--like the Banner Mining Company, the biggest today--they sell or lease what they find. One of the biggest mines the Adecondack got today---The Twin Butes--that's leased from the Banner Mining Company. But this man Green was a forerunner of these companies and he nearly supplied these mines and sell, you see? Well, he got that prospecting down in Mexico and he ran across this copper depositor, The Green Cantonaya. And he went to New York to find that--to look for money. to finance it or sell it--- and this banker he went to told him to go back and write a prospective on it---write a story about it so he can take it up with his associates. Well, Green went back to the hotel and bought himself a bottle of whiskey and sat up all night writing a story about these mines--then he goes back to the banker the next day and he says, "yes, have you got your prospective with you?" He said, "Yes, but I'm not going to sell the mine." He said if it's as good as I say it is-----I'm going to keep it!

A: That's pretty good!

J: So, it became a very prosperous find--but there was a lot of these---a lot of this thing going on---in the early days of the mining companies here----they were strictly mining companies. They mined the rock and milled it and the concentrate was sold to amokers which were owned by the directors of the mining companies. In other words, they took the claim. A mine in those days---was into a lot of individual mines--they could not afford to have a smelter for every mine. Si they had these various smelters--the Michigan Smelter, The Lake Superior Smelting Company and so on and so forth. And these various mines used to send their mills--they all had their own mills, you see! But they used to send their concentrate----- the copper concentrate--the mill concentrate to the smelter for refining. And they paid a low price for it and sold the copper for a high price. Then another thing in the supplies----- for instance--- the coal docks--mined a lot of coal---all steam power in those days. The directors of the mines owned the coal docks, they sold the coal to their mines--at a very high price and made a nice profit out of it. So the money was made out of the copper mines as much out of the side issues as it were out of the mining company. Now the stockholders in the mines did not get any of that--profit from the smelters. Ah--then they had their sales agencies afterwards when they began to have their own ~~S~~ smelters. Then they set up sales agencies and the presidents of the companies charged the mining companies for selling the copper. So, they ~~met~~ <sup>bled</sup> this thing!

A: How about the labor question? How did they exploit labor?

J: Well, the labor was largely brought from the foreign countries. The first wave of immigrants were Cornish ones, who had experience in Cornwall--in underground mines, similar to the ones we have here. They were the first/- Then the Irish came. Ah--and there were Frenchmen in there before, but they were largely trappers--they were not mining men--the French didn't get

into that. Then the Irish came in.

A: We're talking about the Pre-Civil War period now, aren't we?

J: Well, , , yes, mining didn't get started here really until-- oh--- until the Civil War, The Civil War was what really gave it its first boost. And---there were very few mines---so you see Calumet-Hecala didn't get started until 1860, Quincy got started a little earlier, and the Tamarack and Osceola was the third big boost. Of course the early mining was not done here in the peninsula, it was done way out in Keeweenaw. And they were after largely mass copper. And then mine copper was discovered in Ontonagon County. So it was Keeweenaw public county, Ontonagon county, and then Houghton county--in that order. Quincy was the first big strike, the Pewabic in the Quincy, and then the Calumet and Hecala, and a little later the Tamarack and Osceola. Now there is an interesting thing, the difference in the groups of people, who started these mines. The group of Calumet, Tamarack, and Osceola were New York people and they had visions ---not only of this area being the leading copper mining area of the world --of the United States---plus the leading fabricating area. So they started directors again-- they started---the directors organized the Tamarack and Osceola Copper Manufacturing Company. And they put the mills in Dollar Bay, and that's where my father came into the picture. They were working for somebody---they had sheet metals, copper sheet metals, copper rolling metal, copper wire metal---that's where my father came into the picture. He came out here to run the wire. A man by the name of Berg came from Pittsburgh to run the rolling mills---my father came out to run the wire mills, but then took over the rolling mills also. In the course of events, Calumet and Hecala first acquired control of the Tamarack and Osceola and then ultimately acquired the full ownership. And at that time if my memory is right---about 1909---Jim McNaughton was the general manager and was a reactionary of the tough Peshalon. He was the boss.

top echelon

A: How did he compare to Agese---who was here before?

J: Well- <sup>AGASSEZ</sup> Agese, of course were the money people. McNaughton was a mining man--he came from the Iron River Mine.

A: Did he have a chape in mind in Iron Mountain? He worked there didn't he?

J: Well--he worked around these various iron mines. He came up here as the general manager. And when they were fired --they the Tamarack and Osceola. He said we are miners we are not men of \_\_\_\_\_. We closed those mills. They were way ahead, of every other copper company in the United States at that time. Because ~~none~~ of them were in the fabricating business. And the money was in the fabricating! And they closed the mills--

my father was the foreman. He got froze out of a job. He didn't have the money to buy them himself, so he went down to Trenton, New Jersey. And he got the Johnny Rolling Sons Company to buy the plant. They were manufacturing copper wire down there as well as steel wire. He got them to buy the plant and then he leased it back from them, and he operated the plants then under his own name. And it wasn't two years after that Calumet and Hecala sold that plant. when ~~Adasoda~~ <sup>Adasoda</sup> was the first of the big mines to get into the fabricating business. They bought plants and they built plants. They got into brass and they got into copper sheet and they got into copper wire. The ~~cost~~ <sup>cost</sup> went down to Trenton, New Jersey and tried to find factories. It went to the south. So there is one big blunder.

- A: I'd like to analyze that blunder with you a little more. Why---if the money was in the fabricating and that was probably there to see in the financial records ---why close down? What led him to such a decision?
- J: A h--how can you understand another man's thinking? He did that's all. Why--we don't know. For the same reason perhaps his thinking that he threw his hands up, washed his hands of the White Pine. The Calumet and Hecala owned the White Pine. and they let it go for taxes. McNaughton was in Europe at the time they came up for taxes. And they wired McNaughton over in Europe and said his property was up for tax sale--what should they do about it? He said offer them \$150.00. Well--the Copper Range bought it. And Boe Sharp, who was the head of the Copper Range developed the process of refining that peculiar type of water they have up there. To Jim McNaughton --that wasn't copper it had to look like a penny...to be copper.
- A: Well--the general manager--he had to answer to someone didn't he? To his board of directors? I mean --how could he do these things, that sound to me as you describe them to be very much in an ~~arbitrary~~ <sup>arbitrary</sup> fashion.
- J: Well--I don't know. I can't answer that question. I can merely tell you that the thing is they were making so much money. When you're losing money you begin to take a look at things, but when you're making money you get kind of careless. And--but the fact is that is what they did. They got the White Pine. Through a blunder! Another blunder here which was recent was the opening of the Osceola Mine---a few years back. The old-timers, the miners were down there--- said there was nothing there--there was nothing left. It isn't worth it. The officials spent 18 million---20 million dollars reopening the Osceola Mine, which was government money. But that was another blunder--the history of the Calumet and Hecala was-- is one blunder after another. The history of the Quincy Mining Company, from the time that Mason retired, and Todd became president, Todds father. . .became a dairy company instead of

instead of a mining company. . .they started to milk it. They had started a good shaft up there in number nine and they dropped it . They began to milk the company---take everything out and put nothing back in. And by the time 1940 came along, the company was absolutely broke. And it's got one of the richest deposits---the richest deposit of copper let in the Copper Country, here in Quincy. But they put nothing back . Take it out and milk it.

A: Now--by not putting anything back---what would they put back?

J: Develop new grounds--develop new mines!

A: And the copper was there to do that

J: The copper is still there! The copper is still there! In 1945--the U.S. Bureau of Mines made a survey up there. Yes, they made a survey up there--in fact --I have a copy of the report of the survey. They Quincy Mine----- it said there was as much copper in the Pewabic lode. As much copper in the Pewabic lode than was ever taken out. And what was taken out was close to one billion ~~tons of~~ *pounds* copper, 1980 980 some million pounds of copper were taken out of the Quincy--and there's still that much there, according to the United States Bureau of Mines. Now there are other properties in this country that are just as good.. You see, Art, if we had socialism in this country if we had a government that would conserve our national resources, which is the only type of government that there is under socialism. Capitalism exploits it. The high grade deposits, they took out the best stuff and left the poorer stuff behind. So, they could not go back again because it isn't the equipment with which to mine. But, if they had been under government control, and they had to take the poor with the rich, they would average up and make a fair profit. Instead of making an enormous profit they would have made a fair profit and we wouldn't have this copper in the ground that we can't get out.at the present market price.. Our mines would be so operating!!

A: Well-- I think your observation is especially valuable in that early period you have been describing in which speculation ran wild. There was no government really, or legislation, or muscle by the courts to halt this type of speculation, was there?

J: No--you know there was no desire on the part of the government to halt it. The government--our government has always been run by the rich, the wealthy people,, by industry. It still is today. Whether you're Democrat or Republican--it is still run by big business.

A: Did the presidency of Roosevelt--Teddy Roosevelt----did-

progressive period----did that have any impact?

J: Not on the mining! The Teddy's Roosevelt's mark in the history was the anti-trust legislature. There was a trend in this country similar of that in Europe towards Cartelthe. where the entire industry was controlled by a group. Now that began to develop in this country and that is where the Sherman anti-trust act came in. Teddy Roosevelt was a great president and not so long ago I took me out of a paper ---the Milwaukee Journal---about the progressive people of this country. Did you see that? (No) And the real progressive people--the radicals as you would call them --were really people from rich families. Teddy Roosevelt was one----- Franklin Roosevelt, which was from the same family was another.

(End of side one of tape one)

Side # 2  
Tape # 1  
A: You were mentioning about Franklin Roosevelt and other progressives.

J; Ya---Abel Haraman---father was one of the worlds great rail-road builders and mastered a tremendous fortune . And Abel Haraman is very much of a progressive ---he's an old man, but still alive and still active. Greg Steelman, down in Clayborn, Ohio, became a personal friend of Nikieta Kruchev. They became so friendly they visited---he could go to Russia any time he wanted to. and he did go---he made half a dozen trips to Russia. And Nikieta Kruchev sent him a team of white horses and a drawskeep for Christmas. He's a progressive and also a wealthy man. The son of a wealthy man and a wealthy family.

A: How about the average ordinary sort of guy who's been a least in the rhetoric of socialists. This is the man who has to be mobilized and put into the movement.

J: Say that again!

A: Well, you described the progressive as the enlightened -----the enlightened elite, so to speak.

J: Well--those are the people who make the headlines. There are a lot of others--perhaps more enlightened, more brilliant but it is the money that got them into the headlines. It is the money that got them into office. When you get into office you make that up again. Hamm Was a candidate for president, the Roosevelts were both presidents there were other men for president like Woodrow Wilson who were not wealthy men, but who were prominent in the education field.

A: Ya-- I guess I always associated Socialism more with grassroots,

a poorman's movement, you know, and I think what you are saying is true, I'm just-----

J: Well---you know Art--my own feelings in this -- and I think I'm not alone--I to put it plainly--love my country, I don't want to see it go down the drain, but it is going down the drain very fast. And it is being put down the drain by the very people who are fighting socialism, the industrial complex of the United States, the industrial society, they are the people who are pushing the this country into socialism. They are --- they have allowed our technological advancement to go out too far out in front of sociological advancement. We're putting machines into the work of men . They do not make better products and in a great many products they do not make cheaper products. We have been hearing for years and years ~~that~~ this technology will lower the cost of living --we've got technology to the highest degree and we have a hell of a high cost of living. Quite recently here I have a friend who is the executive-vice president of General Cable Company. And we have had associations, being both in the wire business --- he sent me one time some technical data on a new method of making rods which they were going into and he wanted to know what I thought of it. Well-- it was general, developed by the general \_\_\_\_\_ it is fine, but it can put a lot of men out of work. And I was talking to Bill on the telephone, and I said Bill, you boys are going to keep on with this technological advancement to the point where every dollar that you can make is going to be taken away from you to pay welfare bills. And that is what is happening. People in the United States today--on welfare--one kind or the other---social security, pensions, or something like that -- it is all welfare. Call it any other name that you want, but it is welfare. We are talking of billions and billions of dollars of increases--- where is that coming from? It is not coming from the people who are going on welfare with three million more people unemployed since Nixon became president than before he became president. Now those people have got to be supported-- you can't take them out and shoot them. Somebody has to support those people. So, this comes out of the taxes of the people who are earning money. So, the very people who ~~are~~ who should fight socialism are pushing the country into socialism. And without this socialism today, this country would be in terrible shape. If it wasn't for social security, unemployment compensation--- and I can remember back in the days of Franklin Roosevelt when this stuff started to develop. If you talked about social security--you were out and out communist. Today, those very people, neighbors around here that I know, if they don't get their social security check on time--they are raising hell. But they were the ones who were fighting it, you see? Socialism. The problem is that people don't understand the meaning of socialism and communism and stuff like that. They are fed a lot propaganda, the boogy men, you see?

Don't vote Democrat--vote Republican. The Democrats are socialists--the Democrats are Communists. That's propaganda. Like they have people like Judge Downy, he used to be up here---he saw communists behind every table, behind every tree. And nobody knows what communism is. What is communism? How many kinds of communism are there? We talk about communism, we use communism as a boogey word, stop communism--stop communism--they want to stop communism don't fight a little country like Viet Nam. Stop communism at it's source. if they want to stop it--like Russia. But those wars--keep the business--keep the wheels turning. Make the profits come.

- A: Let's go back, I want to ask you---you were describing the blunders made by management in developing the mine fields here. Do you feel management made blunders in terms of its relationships to labor to the working-----
- J: Oh--Absolutely! The mining companies up here have had the poorest labor relations and the poorest public relations of any industry, I think, in the United States.
- A: And did that begin at the inception of the mines or do you--?
- J: It was all through the entire history of the country this is no different from the any other mining. The gold mines, the copper mines and everything else. It is just the nature of the beasts. Alright, they built the houses for them, they had to have houses, that was a necessity. Bringing people over here from the European countries to work in the mines, they had to have housing. Where are they going to live, outside in the parks? There were no park---sleep under a tree----they had to have housing. Alright, they rented the housing for cheap enough---\$6 a month--\$4 a month. A dollar a room. it was a six room house. That's what they used to pay in Dollar Bay for the company houses-- a dollar a room. They had stores around the mines, some of these miners never saw their paycheck. It went right to the store---they bought their clothes, their fuel, from the mining companies. They bought their groceries from the mining company's store, they bought their clothes. They had their hospitals. They were sarfs---feudalism---that's feudalism. And that is not good labor relations.
- A: All of the miners were not involved in company housing--there were some----
- J: No, they weren't----but a great many of them were, you see? In the ~~army~~ <sup>early</sup> days practically all of them were.
- A: What you're suggesting then, is that the mining company really had an economic strong-hold. Not strong-hold-----I guess strangle-hold!

J: A strangle-hold, yes. They still have it on them. They are afraid to open their mouths on taxes because they don't know how something will last. And that lease--that land is cancellable within sixty days. Thirty days. I will give you an example of exactly how rough these mining companies will get. A couple of years ago there was a contractor in Calumet by the name of Earl Melfred, who died a year ago. And, he bought a school building from the school board, the Calumet housing, to use as a workshop and an office, to have mill works in it. And Bill became, he was a very nice guy, found in military circles, he was a general or colonel, or some what---very fine guy. And Bill got appointed to the Houghton County Road Commission. One of the commissioners. Shortly after he became commissioner, he--something came up that he did not go along with the cause---and voted against it--and I talked to him. Two days later he was called into Calumet and Hecala office by the fellow who was in charge of the land. A very good friend of Bills. And he said, "Bill, I am sorry I had to ask you to come over here, but he said, "I just work here." The orders came down from the top, and somebody said, "You be a good boy, or you take your building off of our land." Now, I'll give you another example of it. A few years ago in 1955, there was a fellow named Calumet he went by the name of Wilbur McCloud. He worked for the U.P. Power Company. and he got fired ~~from the U.P. Power Company.~~ for changing his name by the U.P. Power Company. There was a man by the name of Benedict, who was a big shot in the Calumet and Hecala mining company, who was given an honorary job as the chairman of the Welfare Commission, the county Welfare Commission. AH-- Benedict didn't know what welfare was, I don't think he even knew the meaning of welfare--- it was an honorary job---he never went to the meeting, he never went to the office and the arrangement was bad ~~the~~ and the terrible pay. And Wilbur McCloud was a supervisor--was on the board of county supervisors,---Wilbur introduced the resolution to ask for Benedict's resignation. And of course that draws everybody up in arms against Wilbur. --they were all mining company men or they were ~~blackies~~ or supervisors. And one or two others. And it was coming up for a vote ~~on~~ on a Tuesday night. Well, on Tuesday ~~night~~ noon the fellow by the name of Paul Destrampe from Calumet, or from Chassell, who was the supervisor of Chassell township. He went all the way up to Calumet to see Wilbur and Wilbur said, "What are you doing up here, Paul?" He said I came up to tell you that I'm going go vote with you tonight. Wilbur said, gee,, that's fine Paul, Now there will be two of us. So, they went down to the meeting and Paul votes against him. So, Wilbur said, "Paul, what changed your mind?" He said, "Well, I don't know, Wilbur if this is a coincidence or not, ~~but~~ I don't know if somebody told that I was up to see you or not, but anyway I got back to work. He worked in a box factory in Chassell. Well, I was called into the office and told how to vote tonight, and if I didn't vote how I was told to vote not to bother coming back to work tomorrow.

You see--they had reached out to a supplier. They controlled their supplier. The supervisors were either combining company men or suppliers of company men. Or were just plain bought off by the mining company. That is the nasty side of our labor relations and public relations. Even as late, as late as 1945, the Quincy Mining Company was paying 75 cents an hour, the enormous rate of 75 cents an hour to men who were working 9000 feet underground. Just think, 75 cents an hour!

A: How significant was the unionization of the workers? How can you say something about the struggle to bring in the union and-----

J: Well-- it was bloody struggle. And that history you probably got. I got a resume of that and a book on Michigan History, have you seen that? The story of the strike days. It is made out of book form, I don't know if you have seen it or not.

A: Joe Salaman wrote an article on the copper strike and so did Bell.

J: Well-- maybe, but----

A: You were mentioning McNaughtons and they way he handled just mangement and technological problems. How would you access his role and his attitude toward labor? How did he handle the labor?

J: They've always fought like that. They've always fought. They seem to think that that is what they had to do to fight labor. It seems that what they had to do was fight the public. It seems what they had to do was not to pay taxes. You know, no industry is the desired industry if they can't pay their fair share of the taxes. And if they were not making a lot of money that would be one thing, but they were making a hell of a lot. They're anti-social---if you boil it all down they're anti-social.

A: Let's-----you mentioned taxes----let's --let me ask you about that a little bit later. I'd like to spend some time on this whole labor issue. We won't say too much about the copper strike----were you up here at that time?

J: Yes----I was up here at that time. The copper strike----I was 16 years old. I was born right here in the \_\_\_\_\_. Seventy-five years ago.

A: What do you recall at the time? What were your impressions as a young man of what went on at that time?

J: Well-- My impressions at that time were merely ----I was im-

pressed by what I saw and by what I heard. I didn't know-- I did not understand what it was all about---I mean I really understand. I saw the violence.

A: What do you mean by the violence? What kind of violence?

J: Well--I experienced a little violence. There were violence, there were shootings, there were what they call muggings today.

A: Who shot whom, and who mugged whom?

J: Well, I'll tell you. This strike had been brewing for a long time before it occurred. And both sides were preparing for it. You, know, the western federation of miners came in there. And they were considered, using your word, , a radical group. And all they were doing was fighting for the betterment of-- the betterment of the workmen. They came in here and started to organize, and of course the companies fought that, so, they began to gather strength, memberships, and big mining companies prepared for that and they brought in Foggy, Wadel, Pinkerton, and the Western Federation of Miners shipped him case after case of Winchester rifles and ammunition. It came in under the name of fire-machinery and things like that. So the things followed were pretty well ironed by the time a group of the strikers, or the radical younger element, were pretty well armed by the time the ~~wild element~~ <sup>armed</sup> got in there. And there were shootings into boarding houses where strike-breakers were living. And there were fights and a lot of this stuff formented by the high school kids. They were young men in those days, they ~~ar~~ weren't kids like they are now. High school boys in those days were 19, 20, 21 years of age and they saw to a lot of this trouble---the fights and so on. Of course there was a lot of drinking -- when men are idle--have nothing to do--they spend their time in the saloons and they get drunk and they are not responsible entirely for what they do. But, it was a rather <sup>rough</sup> time. And the preliminary strike up here, the preliminary strike---was by an old man's mill. They knew what was going on around with the mines, and everything else, and they went out on strike. This was about three months before the other strikes.

A: What was your dad's impression? What stance did your father take?

J: Well--he just locked the doors, he wouldn't go near the mill and he had a couple of watchmen down there and they knew what he wanted -- he wanted to destroy it, he wanted their jobs, but they really had nothing--they were the highest paid labor in the county. So, one night, the delegation came to the house here, three men, I knew them all. They wanted my father to come over there to the hall to talk to them. My father said what do you want to talk to me about, he said,,you're out on

strike, I'm not on strike. When you get ready to come back to work,,you come back. When will you come and tell us that? He said, Jack, come on along---so I went along with him. When they we got there he said-- I have very few words to say to you. This was on Saturday night, he said if you want to come back to work Monday morning, we will go back to work Monday morning---but if you don't want to go back to work you can stay out until all hell freezes over. WELL-- they were all back Monday morning. But, the attitude of the mining company was that they wanted to control everything in labor and everything else. I have an experience, 1940, I bought these mills myself, they were closed down for six years. I was away from here, and I had my little money and they closed in 1933 during the depression. And they wanted too much money. By 1939, we were edging towards the war and the price kept coming down every year and I finally had bought them. And the mill--I bought the mill--the mill needed a lot of renuvating---new equipment, floors, roofs, stuff like that. And , so, I got a gang together, the boys that worked there and their sons, and I told them what I had done, and wha that I had made arrangements for the output of the plant. And if they wanted to go back to work for the minimum wage until we get the wheels turning, they could come back Monday. It sounded good, so they came back and the minimum wage was 40¢ per hour. So, while we were fixing the place up I told them that as soon as the wheels started turning, you will get the purse then. So, after the mill was all ready to run, the first payday after the wheels started to turn---they got 50¢ and hour. We paid every two weeks and then two weeks later they got 60¢ and an hour, then two weeks later they got 70¢ an hour. And they never asked me for anything and I gave them raises of ten cents an hour. Finally I get-a-eall they got up to 90¢ and hour and I got a call from the general manager of the Calumet and Hecala, a friend of mine. He said, Jack, I understand that you raised your wage again. The Calumet and Hecala wage was 82¢., top wage. And I said, ya, Andy, I rang raised it and I'm going to raise it again. He said, you can't do that. We control the labor market here-- I said, Andy you run your mine--you're a smaller hill than a mill, I will raise these wages any time I want to---you can't tell me what to do and what not to do. So we did--we were the highest paid wages here, but they tried to control me too, you see?--Tell me what to do-- I have to tell you a little story about a reactionary--the reactionary Jim McNaughton. I have forgotten how reactionary he was. The copper companies again tried their roughtstuff on me. Word got around through the copper industry that this mill was opening up again--at one time our mill supplied the entire mid-west with copper wire. In the days of the expansion, the telegraph and the telephone, all the wires went on over-head wires. We did a tremendous business. So, it was a well known mill. It was the first mill built west of the Conneticut (sp) Valley. So, it was a well known mill and my father was a well known man in the business. My father , for instance, made the first long-distance telephone wire that had ever been made. He made the first piece of poly-

wire that had ever been made. So, word got around and I got a call from the Neering Electric Company. Paul Neering, an old friend who we used to supply with wire and rods and the whole bit, and he got building, making his own wire, and we went and got him started in that. And he bought his rods from us. And he said, Jack, I hear you're going to start that mill up there again and I said ya,. He said you know I got a couple of fellows up here with me, we're going to come up and see you. And I said --who, who is with you? And he said, I guess you only know one of them, Harold Ang. Oh, Harold Ang, he was the president of the Adaconda wire and cable company. And I said well--Paul, I'd like to see Harold, but tell him that there is no <sup>use</sup> for him to come up there. I had an idea of what he wanted, and he said--well--you're too small to throw us out, he said we're coming <sup>up</sup> down, meet us at the train and take us to breakfast at your house and we will go to the mill. So I did, they came in ~~and they saw it.~~ the next morning, beautiful day, ~~and we were~~ in June and we were still just fixing up the mill. And after we had gone walking around, Harold Ang said Jack, Let's you and I sit down on that log. So he said, "What do you want to open up this mill for?" Well, I said, I have several reasons-- I like the copper business, I like the wire business, I like to live up here--it is my home country. And I like those men out there, they're working out there--they've been out of work for six years. And he said -- why don't you sell this mill to the Adaconda? And I said -- all you will do is close it up tomorrow--isn't that right? And he said, yes that's right. And he said, we'll give you a good job if you want to go into the copper business, and he said -- I don't know exactly what you paid for this, but I'm authorized to ~~pay~~ give you 50,000 dollars plus what you paid for the mill. I said -- no deal. He said, well-- I tried. Then he shook his head and said good luck to you and I hope you make it. Well, I had the                      copper. They couldn't refuse to sell copper. You know, the copper up here is not good for wire. It is too high in silver, and some of it got a lot of arsenic in it. And you can't get it out,, it is too costly too get it out. It's alright for sheet, It's alright for brass, ~~and~~ but it is no good for                      lead. The silver in it for heavy wire, poly-wire, stuff like that, is fine, but it is no good for fine wire. It makes-- it is a good conductor--but the cost of making it --because the silver content makes a wire harden faster. Work harder. So you have to ennail it a couple of times on your way down to your fine wire. Then when you get down, you have to                      it at 200 degrees or higher than you do electometric wire, and that 200 degrees costs money too. And, so, I had to depend on the big companies to get the wire and they said they could sell us copper, but they couldn't promise silver. We don't know when we can start delivery, so I was in a pinch and I went down to Chicago and once we drew his broker down there we, copper broker, we scrapped him and George Burken was saying, and I said George, I had known him, and I said George, I want you to get me a million and a half pounds of number one copper. He said, sure I can do it, but it will cost you a quarter of a cent a pound more because you want all number one. I said OK,

I can absorb that quarter of a cent. And I had a hunch it wouldn't last long before the copper became available. See, when they found out that I was going to run anyway. I went to see-----

(End of side #2 of tape #10)

A: You went up to see Level

J: Ah----I went up to see Andy and these guys and I told them that I had made arrangements to get a million and a half pounds of number on scrap and would he convert that into wire bars for me. Sure we will he said, we would be glad to have the business. We need it to the smelter and it will be more business for our railroad--they owned the Mineral Range Railroad and he said when----when do you start shipping it in? And I said it will be three weeks, four weeks yet. He said I'll tell you what I'll do, I have to set this thing up and you come back in a couple of weeks. I'll call, you and we'll arrive at the price, and I said well--I won't pay you more than I can get it done elsewhere. Well--he said, what is that charge? And I told him, and he said, "I'll have to check on that." He called me about five days later, Jim McNaughton was the boss up there and Level was the county superintendent, and he said, Jack, come on up here, I want to talk to you---- I want to see you. And I said, "What's up?" And he said, I'll tell you when you get here. So I went up there and I went to Level's office and he said, "Jack, I had the biggest shock of my life, I went to the old man and he said, "No, under NO." We will not convert it, but I want you to go in and talk to him. And I said,----"He's your father-in-law and if he says no to you, he'll just throw me out of the office." He said, "But, I want you to go and talk to him." So I went in there and Jim McNaughton had been very fine to me when I was a kid, I used to go around with his daughter and his niece, and he had ~~fleet~~ a lot of automobiles out there and we had one car, and he said to me one day, he said, "Jack, he said, you know I wanted to bring your family car out and take the girls out, and take that little one out for the summer. Keep at your house, take it down for the summer, ----he was that kind of a guy----nice personally. But when I told him what I needed he said, "No, he got up and shook hands and said NO." And he ----Then I went at him from another angle and he said, "NO." And he said, "Is there anything else?"----and I said, "NO." And I went out. Well----Level was waiting for me and he said, "Well, what did he say?" And I said, "He said NO twice." And I said, "What's up?" And he said, "I don't want to talk about it now, but I'll be in touch with you." So, about a week and a half later he called me and he said, "Jack, can you still get that copper?" And I said, "Yes!" And he said, "Well, you get it and we'll convert it for you at the same so much per ton." Same as everyone else. And I said, "How did you get ~~de~~ to do it?" And he said, "I had to go over the old man's head, he went down to Boston!"



<sup>W</sup>  
When you are up against an unequal distribution of income. An Unequitable distribution of income. This is what is wrong with our country today,----the unequal distribution of income. I'm using the word unequal not as equal, you see----but as unequal.

A: Well--the union came in in the 40's didn't it?

J: The 40's? The union came in in 1913.

A: No, I mean, the union came in, but it was never officially recognized as the bargaining agent for the workers until after Roosevelt and the New Deal and -----

J: Well, I don't know. They had the ----well, you got me on that question, I don't know really. Not exactly when they came in.

A: Well, that's what I uncovered in my research. I think it was in the 40's and some of the figures that were important in '68 were all ready there----like Gene Saari, for example.

J: Do you know Saari? <sup>Saari</sup> ~~Saari~~ <sup>Saari</sup>

A: No, I don't know him personally, I have heard about him, you know.

J: Ya, Well--Gene and I used to be good friends.

A: You used to be? (ha-ha)

J: (ha-ha) It is quite a story. Gene used to come down to Dollar Bay in 1940 and I---before I was married----and I used to see him over at the saloon over there and we'd have a drink together, you see? And Gene would say, "Jack, I'm coming into your plant." And I would say, "You're coming in over my dead body." I said, "Why do we need you?" I said, "These men here, they all know me, I all know them, and ~~th~~ if they have any grief and they can come in and talk to me and if I got things to say to them I go out and talk to them, I don't need ~~another~~ <sup>an intermediary</sup> mediator, you see? I said, "I'm paying the highest wages in the county, what can you do for them?" So, he never did come in. So, we were good friends, until I reopened, until I was instrumental in reopening the Quincy ~~Smelter~~ <sup>Smelter</sup> three years ago. I kept the union out of there. Not because I was against the union, but because I one official of the Calumet and Hecala----the Quincy Mining Company was trying to oust another official. The Quincy Mining Company had the steel-workers union at the reclamation plant and the sponsor was not operating it. Calumet and Hecala and the Michigan ~~slaughter~~ <sup>smelter</sup> were refining there---- mineral on a toll basis. Then Quincy opened the ~~slaughter~~ <sup>smelter</sup>, and they had a unit of the ~~slaughter~~ <sup>smelter</sup> group join the union who ~~was~~ <sup>at</sup> Mason at the reclamation plant. Then both plants were closed.

They ran out of sand and the smelter was closed----they were both closed. So, I keep my eye on everything around here-- I know what's going on--what I don't find out myself, people tell me. So, I noticed that they were going to close that plant---so I called Todd on the telephone---the president--- I said, "Mr. Todd, what ~~are~~ you going to do with your smelter when it closes down the first of June?" He said, "How do you know it is going to close down the first of June?" I said, "Well, you're going to close down your reclamation plants down there--you're all through down there---what have you got to smelt in?" He said, "Nothing---no ~~wh~~ are going to close it down then." I said, "What are you going to do with it?" He said, "Nothing." I said, "I said, you mean you're just going to let it rust away?" He said, "Sure, what else can we do with it?" I said, "Well, let's convert that into a secondary refinery---to mine scraps." He said, "You can't get the copper----you can't get the scrap." I said, "Who said so?" He said, "I said so." I said, "Have you tried to get it?" He said, "No." I said, "How the hell ~~do~~ you know you can't get it unless you try?" So, he said, "Can you get it?" I said, "I don't know----but I can try." He said, "Go ahead." I said, "Alright, you write me a letter authorizing me to get it." He said, "You write the letter and send it back to me and I'll put it on my stationary and send it back to you." So I did. So I went out and researched the market, researched the social supply, researched the cost, and everything else--- and I wind up with scrap, see? So we were ready to get going at this moment. The men at the reclamation plant and likely had seniority over the ~~slayer~~ people in that community, in that local. So they wanted the jobs at the smelter---and there is only one or two specialists in a smelter, the rest was just plain, ordinary---labor, see? You got your refiner-- you got your refiners--and you got one man in the laboratories--so it's only two--Men that really got to know anything, the rest are just plain, common ordinary labor, see? So these fellows could do the work if they wanted to. But, Louie Koepel, down there was trying to bluff these jobs off and he was bragging about it. And Louie Koepel threw a monkey wrench into the reopening of the Quincy Mine---he tried to swing it over to ~~the~~ his pals over there at the college--you know. Take that away from ~~them~~.me. They reopened the Quincy Mine--and I would have nothing to do with that----so, I had to fight him and John Sena's wife called me one day and told me how terrible John was feeling since Louie was trying to get John's job. And I said that he would do it over my dead body. So, I had all those fellow workers down here and made a union all in my house here, and I told them that I would not get the copper if they belonged to that local. I said, "You can organize your own local, you can have your own union, you can join any kind of a union you want to, but I will not----I will not have anything to do with that smelter if you belong to that steel workers thing. So, they---unit took us to court, a labor relations court-- and I got a little double crossing from my lawyer, on that thing, I had these men hire a lawyers and they agreed to go along with me, see? And after I had opened it,

(Sena)

they would organize their own local, or union, or something like that. And I said, "That's fine, but I don't want that local, because I would get to his men----Koepel's men, you know." So anyway, we had the hearing up there, and the judge was very fair.

A: Who was the judge?

J: Ah--- Silacofy?----Silafoufy?----something like that. From down Milwaukee---Green Bay area. And----so, they had there lawyers up in Pittsburgh and <sup>Gene</sup>James Harry was there and gees--- <sup>Gene</sup>James was mad at me---he got that because we beat him---- he was talking--and he said, "You're the worst son of a bitch in the county, there is nobody in Calumet <sup>Hecla</sup> or Copper Range that is worse than you." I said, "You talk to me like that-----yes you son of a bitch I must have been drinking or something--" then I said, "I am going to hand up on you ---goodbye." So, that is the last I ever heard of him, but he was up there---

A: Say, you won the case then?-----

J: No----technically no-----we won it, YES, but they were saving the face of the union. I had a hunch that what Gene Harry and Ufrady and the union and Pittsburgh were going to try to do. They were going to try to bargain---at that meeting--turn it into a bargaining session. We have asked them---we have asked them for the designation of the steel workers union of these men, see? And they all signed----all got them all to sign --- the individual resignation. And I got them all to sign a petition for the designation---they wanted to talk to these men and they wouldn't talk to them, see? Ufrady tried----we had a meeting down at the hall and one of their stewards came in down there and he said, "Ufrady said that you can't hold your meeting." And I said, "You tell georgeous Ufrady to go fly his kate." ----"We will have all the meetings we want, no matter what Ufrady says." So the guy turned around and walked out. Ufrady didn't have guts enough to come himself. And, so anyway, I went up to his meeting---I went up to hear him---and I had a hunch they wanted to turn it into a bargaining committee. So the judge made us sit down and I immediately got up on my feet, and said, "Your honor, there is something I want to say before you start this talk." So he said, "Let's hear it." ¶ I said, "This is a designation, sir, I will not permit this to turn into a bargaining session---the minute it starts, I will walk out and these men will walk out with me." And He said, "I will not permit it." And he stopped them three times. None of that----none of that, you see? They tried to start bargaining with these men. If they had allowed them to bargain----gone into a bargaining session----they would have recognized the union----if they had allowed any little bargaining at all. They would have recognized the union as a bargaining agent. So,----I killed that. Well- the fact that these men were not----some type of technicality----they just

dropped the whole thing. And we went ahead and opened the smelter without dealing in anyone for two and a half years. But, I'm not against unions---as a matter of fact, I'm for unions. When I sold out my business down here, these men came to me and said, "Jack. we think they're different down there now than when you were there----we're more controlled" he said "We think we ought to join a union, what do you think?" I said, "Well, if you think so----by all means --try it." But I said, "Don't join the \_\_\_\_\_ union, join The Electrical Workers union----all the other wire mills in the country are part of the Electrical Worker's Union, so--you join The Electrical Worker's union--and you run your own business. So they did---they joined The Electrical Worker's Union----and Gene----he was mad at \_\_\_\_\_ about that too.

- A: Let me ask you a little different type of question now. What do you think has been position of the church in all this proper industry development---you had some contact with Bob Langseth and but, going beyond, before that----how, where have the church leaders stood in all of this?
- J: Ah---I can't truthfully say that I know of one single church man who really and truly carried the banner of labor. Ah--it is only in recent years that churches have become independent----that you have men like Langseth, who will speak out. They are always looking for contributions, and you get money from where money is . And the bigger contributions come from the wealthier people. They come quietly. To Bob Langseth---is one of the few men who- that have will speak out on the cause of labor. My association with Bob Langseth only goes back a few years----I went to him with an idea that required an organization in back of it, --to put it across---like any idea needs,---the backing of an organization. And I firmly believe that the church----- and when I say the church I mean all denominations of the church should become involved,----in social problems, civic problems, and government problems. I think it is their duty. They have had the advantage of development of their minds. Men are born with brains or they are born without, and all the schooling in the world won't develop brains. It's the result of having them to start with, ---but it is study, and research, and thinking, and working---working and thinking at the same time, that develops a person's brains. Clergymen have that opportunity to study----- they learn to think----like a mathematician-----he studies mathematics and it teaches you to think. History doesn't teach you to think----it teaches you to remember. Mathematics, chemistry----stuff like that , which is all under mathematics , they teach you to think---to use your brain. So, so the clergy have had that research----training----they learned to use their brains---and I think they are quite capable, on the whole---of making the changes which should come over this country. They have a captive audience to which they can talk----and instruct, yes, I think they should become involved.

- A: Let me just react to what you are saying----I think you are just a little bit idealistic at this point. I think you're a little bit idealistic at this point! You know, that all clergymen have developed the capacity to think----and that they are--
- J: Not all of them --no. But, percentage wise it is much higher than ordinary workmen, for instance.
- A: Why----- then if clergymen have the capacity to think and percentage wise have done so well ----why haven't they been behind then---in terms of speaking for labor? Why--then Do I understand you to say that even if they have known what to do they have reluctant ----because they have had to depend on contributions from people who are-----
- J: Well-- I can speak, perhaps, ---my family were Catholic---as far back as I can remember. And so I know more about the Catholic church, than I do about the others. Catholic clergymen do not have the freedom of speech that the Protestant clergymen have. They do not have the rigid supervision that the Catholic clergymen have. The- The Protestant churches go through all the people of the community. They can have lots to say about who they can have for a preacher. It is entirely different in the Catholic church, the diocese own the church, not the people. The bishop selects the priest----the people have nothing to say about the priest. The people of Protestant denomination have a lot to say about who their minister is, see? There are systems of punishing people which can be traced to the Catholic church. They relegate them to the boondogs. They give them----they take them out to some place where they perish. And they do it or else, you see? Or they don't get any parish in the diet, see? So, I think that the Catholics are one reason that the ----the Catholic clergy have not become more involved in social, and economic, and civic matters. And I would like to see more of it ----and I have told them ---~~Catholic~~ Pastor Langseth had a couple friends up there <sup>at</sup> the ~~Catholic~~ ~~church~~----who were working with him on an idea to think about. We had a meeting up there one time, that Pastor Langseth organized----all the clergy and their association----- and there was one minister there who was an out and out \_\_\_\_\_, John Bergstrum. Disturbed nothing----let everything like it is. Now, why a man takes an attitude like that---I don't know. But, ~~these-twe~~ Pastor Langseth and these two men, and a doctor up there----we organized a little group. Pastor Langseth was the head of it.
- A: Now, what specific idea were you implementing? What was the idea that your group was organized around?
- J+
- J: Well---I read quite a bit to keep up with the ----what is going now---nationally and world-wide. And I have done a little research in the copper industry. And at that time they were

handing out tax credits right and left,----to investors,  
 For expansion---modernization----stuff like that. Well,  
 tax credits for modernization and expansion were ----which  
 was usually build a new plant and fold an old one. Build  
 a new plant with paper-saving machinery and lay off the help  
 in the old plant----that's usually what it amounts to. The  
 federal government was giving tax credits for that, see?  
 And, so I got the idea----why not give tax credits for job  
 creating? And I worked it out on this basis----using the  
 automobile company and the <sup>mining</sup> industry----copper mining  
 industry---as the first example of it. The basis of it was  
 that the consumed <sup>consumers</sup> ----the manufacturers <sup>consumers</sup>  
 earners ----of copper, would pay ten cents a pound ----paying  
 them for the copper,----coming from an reopened mine,,,see?  
 That premium of ten cents per pound is tax-backed all the way  
 down the line----all the way to the manufacturers----the  
 insulators, whoever it is----all they way back to the mining  
 company, so that the mining company could afford to pay wages  
 which would entice them to the mine and also make a little  
 profit,----a fair profit----just a fair profit. It is no  
 different than a tax credit given to industry for other things.  
 I took that up to Pastor Langseth ---I didn't know him, but  
 I knew about him----I knew that he was very active, and then  
 I explained the thing to him. And he ----finally it began to  
 dawn on him what a -----

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(beginning of side #2 of tape #2)

it dawned on him when we were talking about it----he said that is an excellent idea. And he said, "What do you want?" And I said, "I would like you to get the churches behind this idea And work not only in the copper industry, but in the mining industry----there are dozens of iron mines closed down. These could be reopened if they had the-----"

A: Why did you feel that the churches were the direction to go?

J: Because the churches can mobilize<sup>an army</sup>---they got their parisheners. And it takes an army to put anything across. And if we could get the churches behind this movement---the politicians would listen to it. And it takes politics----it takes a politician to do this ---- officer holders, senators, representatives, it takes them----it takes pressure. All the bureaucrats, see? So, he said, "Jack, I am going to call Matson we call him the superintendent." So he got on the telephone and he got to some Bishop Matson-----superintendent Matson on the phone. And he tried to tell it----explain it on the phone---and Matson said. "Well, I'm coming up there soon---I'd like to meet this fellow---I'll meet with you and we'll talk this thing over." So Matson came up here and I addressed him in the pastor's office, and I explained this thing to him and this Matson was a pretty sharp cookie. He was a very sharp cookie, and he got it right away. Then he said, "Bob, I wonder if you should tell him about-----?" So, He got on the phone and he called a professor from the University of Minnesota. And I have forgotten his name, and he arranged for us to meet with the professor up at Minneapolis, see? And he said, "Well, Bob, I will foot the bill on this thing." ~~I will foot the bill.~~ He said, "You fellows fly up there, and I will foot the bill." It is a good cause. So, we went up there and I explained this thing to him, and first he didn't get it---nobody got it at the first----it was a little far out, you know. Nobody got it until you analyzed it and then it was very simple. When you say tax credit for job creation they don't know what ----it is pretty hard to understand, not unless someone was here to explain it to you. It is simple enough after you explain it. And he said, "I like it." You know, he said, "You know, I am a member of the Upper Great Lakes Clergical Association." He was a clergyman there connected with the University of Minnesota. I think he was a clergyman---he was a member of the association,-----The Upper Great Lakes Clergical Association. So, he called the bishop---the Catholic bishop from the hotel there----he called the Catholic bishop in Superior, Wisconsin, who was the president of this association. And told him that he had a matter----that he wanted-----that he didn't want to go over the telephone, but it was well worth presenting at his meeting----which was to be held in Ironwood in a couple of weeks.

He said, "I want to be up and be on the agenda, see?" And he said, "I'll be there and Pastor Langseth of Calumet will be there and he said, I will have a professor there from the University of Wisconsin." The three of us will present this thing. Oh, we went up there and we presented it and the meeting was presided over by the bishop----and they endorsed the idea, but it was left up to individual bishops----to implement them and it was killed by-----Pastor Langseth will tell this, I don't like it----but it was killed by Bishop Sołanta, who takes the advice of Father Capo in matters like this-----as Father Capo and I are not the best of friends. He is a member of Upcap----and I don't like Upcap----it is a bunch ----they are a bunch of leaches, who do nothing, and just perpetuate their own jobs----they have done not one bit of good----they have cost the taxpayers millions of dollars since they have been organized. Well, anyway----that was it and nothing ever became of it----but it could have, see? I got the endorsement of the president, Arthur Burns, Senator Durkson, Governor Milikan---- I had quite a list of the endorsees of the program,----they all went for it, see?----but we got a very stupid man representing this district, in Washington, Phillip Ruppe----he's tall, he's handsome, and he's got lots of money----but he has got nothing under his hair. And he just couldn't understand ---and our two senators down there----Hart has got a lot of money, and Senator Hart is married to one of the Briggs' girls----The Brigg Body Company. And----though he professes to be a man of the people, his big score in Washington was in buying----truth in buying and stuff like that, which is a lot of @\*\*----and Senator Griffin, he was an appointee of Governor Romney---he had showed no ability at all----he is personable----but all he does----he is the floor leader of the Republican Senate----and all that he has done is endorsed Nixon's programs, some of which are good and some of which are bad,-----mostly bad, because his programs----everything he has done----have been for his own political advantage, or for the business establishment of the company, see? Mainly to increase their profits--so nothing came of the thing, see?

- A: Didn't you get involved in another project too----which aimed at reopening the mines? That was in '70 wasn't it ---or '71?
- J: '71, yes
- A: Could you describe that briefly?
- J: Yes, very briefly. I'll go back a little before that to demonstrate to you the absolute----uncooperativeness of the Universal Oil Company and their fully and full intent to close these mines from the very time that they aquired them. They are tax-bandits---like most conglomerates are. Tax credits----they took fourteen million dollar tax credit out of closing these

mines----for the Universal Oil Company as a whole----that's much more money than they could make operating. Much more money than the Calumet and Hecala could make in operating that mine----fourteen million dollars in two years, see? And I have been trying to open the Quincy Mine----and I had a very large consumer of copper. Copper was awfully tight at the time. The domestic price of copper was 60¢ a pound, and there was not enough to go around, ----so in order to meet the ----fill the orders----in independents, producers of the wire, sheet, and stuff like that had to buy foreign copper and refine scrap copper----at 79 and 80 cents a pound. I had this firm that was using a tremendous amount of copper and paying a premium of 20 cents per pound, or one third of their copper. Now going into the market against a competitor who produces his own copper was a 20 cent a pound premium on one third of your copper you buy----you got two strikes on you, see? ~~when~~----you got to meet the other fellow's prices. And so I had these people who were willing to ----I got them interested in opening the Quincy Mine. And we had----they immediately brought in a man from the Colorado School of Mines, who put in a very favorable report. And on the strength of that report, they hired one of the best known----I won't say the best engineering company, but one of the best known engineering companies in the United States----Becktone. And he was to come up and make a survey of the cost of opening the Quincy Mine. Well, they sent a couple of engineers up here and we had some silk with us. Ah----they came up with a figure of around 15 million dollars to reopen the Quincy Mine and build the mills, and remodel the smelter. Well, that wouldn't pay up on 15 million dollars, and as soon as they hired this, Bill Krimski called me and told me, "Market, I want you to meet this young man here ----when he got the report ---when he told me he hired Beckbill----well I said, "Bill, you've made a mistake." I said, "I know about Beckbill, I know about their relationship with White Pine, and others----White Pine fired them because their costs were too high----and people who know them tell me that they are cost-plus artists and they're going to town this time because mining is in such a demand. And he said, "What do you think can be done up there?" I said, "How much money are you willing to spend?" He said, "We can go for fifteen million dollars." And I said, "You give me a little time to work this thing out ----so I got----I picked the brains of a lot of people who know what they are talking about--- engineering companies, mine construction men, and railroad men-- railroad construction men---and everything else----so I had to work on that and by getting all this expertise together --each one with an individual project---I came up with thirteen million eight hundred dollars, ~~which included~~ thousand dollars, which included five hundred thousand dollars in contingency fund---- and , but it was predicated on the use , the joint use of the ~~Ameke~~ Mill with Calumet and Hecala. They were only operating with eight heads----they had eight heads in their mill, and the eight heads would have taken ~~of~~ cost of all the production

*Ameeek*

of the Kingston, the Centennial---the two Centennials, the Osceola, and two shafts of the Quincy. They could have handled that. Well, I proposed to the Quincy And to Bill Krimski of the Federal Cable Company---that they operated the Ameke Mill jointly ~~and that they~~ while the Calumet and Hecala, the Universal Oil mill the copper for the Quincy Mining Company. Everybody was agreeable except the owner of the \_\_\_\_\_ company. They wouldn't touch it----wouldn't touch it. Now there was a change for them to put that mill on a paying basis---I talked to the superintendent of the mill and he said himself that it was a good idea. He said, "We can come out even at least, he said." "And not loose money---and what we are allowed for milling costs down here---if we had all these heads working ----" The overhead ~~is~~ the same if we are running two heads, four heads, or six heads. And--so, they turned that down. Then I come up with the idea---and I had another company who was willing to put up the money to recondition the mines---to get them back to work. If the mining company would lease----if the Calumet and Hecala would lease the property of the mines a company which would be organized---made up of the miners----and it is nothing new---employees don't allow the companies ----Sears Robuck ~~don't~~ 80% of the stock is owned by the employees----they run the company ---they make the welding company---all kinds of----- there is nothing new to a novel idea--it is a very good work-able idea. Men are working for themselves and they have a voice in their jobs---so I went to Pastor Langseth with that idea. They would be right out on the job and they would have a lot of these planning men working with him. Well--we ran into opposition from unexpected sources----from the union. You won't be turned down--a joint operation with the Quincy on operating \_\_\_\_\_ . They turned down the operation of the mine on a lease to the employees---they later turned down a proposal----a bonafide proposal that I made----to lease the mines to a large copper consumer . They just burned down every opportunity they had. What they wanted in my belief was that fourteen million dollar tax credit and some hell and high water----and they were going to get it and they did get it.

A: And that's about where it sits now in terms of mining development?

J: Ya. I don not believe that there is any substance to the operations that have highly crowded in here recently-----an experimental work, an unnamed company, but we did through the Gazette, we did find out what from the ~~Home State~~ <sup>Homestake</sup> that they are interested in trying out a theory of mining----they are very secretive about matters, but it is generally known in the industry---and used widely in the industry---is the leaching of metals out of the ore. It has been used up here, as a matter of fact, I think it originated up here. The Calumet and Hecala had a leaching plant to which they put all of their Tamarack----not Tamarack, all their conglomerate sands. I think that what they are going to try is to bypass the milling----crush the rock to a finer size at the mine, and put that through their present leaching plant at Tamarack Mills. I think that is what they are going to try----- take the rock out of the mine, crush it to a

finer size at the mine and put it through the Tamarack leeching plant---plus we will work, see?

A: Has this approach been tried in the copper fields before or is it brand new?

J: Well---no, it is not brand new. They used it here, as I said in the reclaiming --the sands----the conglomerate sands which are now at Lake Linden-----and it's been used, it began a county use out in Arizona-- they were leeching the ore-----this is wrongly called ore up here by some people. It is not an ore. An ore is a chemical composition-----what we have is native copper---pure copper---~~you will find a little~~ metallic copper--- you will find a little ore in the ~~mine~~<sup>mine</sup> but that is not what it is mined for. White Pine is an ore, and there is ore out in the Keeweenaw Peninsula----way out, far out-----there are deposits around Marquette--but in this Keeweenaw lode---it is called by various names, we had the largest deposit of metallic copper ever found in the world. For a long time I thought, and everyone else----before they did a little reading, studying---- that this is the only place that metallic copper is found---- that is erroneous---metallic copper is found in a great many places There are a lot of metallic copper deposits found in Canada --- they are found all over the world, but not in the quantities that they are found here.

A: Could you-----or would you even want to talk about this new idea you had for investigating the copper----the native copper?

A: Is that on?----- (ya)

A: Would you describe, Jack, the study of the Quincy Mine----what features stand out in your mind about it?

J: Well----what stands out more than anything else is common thinking. That the Quincy has one lode----one vein, which is known at the Pewabic Lode. When the Quincy Mine---Mining Company sunk its first shaft, it was not on the Pewabic Lode, it was on what is known as the Quincy Lode. It was fair, but not good. The Pewabic Mining Company sunk their shaft some distance to the east or to the south----southeast of the Quincy shaft on another lode that was named Pewabic Lode----Pewabic vein. And that was a very good one. That vein also ran through the Quincy property, so the Quincy abandoned their first operation and moved their operations over to the Pewabic Lode. And they mined that. Almost exclusively from 1850, around 1850 until they closed down in 1945----there is up there in the Quincy, they have explored----they cross-cut into it, they have drilled somewhat, drilled into it somewhat. There is the Pewabic Lode, the West Lode, the Far West Lode, and the Far Far West Lode. Then to the other side there is another lode which is the conglomerate one----the conglomerate copper-----according to the U.S. Geological ~~Society~~, no less than seven parallel veins in what is known as the Quincy Mine. And only one of those---one of those

Survey

veins has ever really been mined. They have cross-cut here and there into the twenty-ninth level----Fifty-ninth level, the cross-cut into the conglomerate lode, which geologists believe is an extension of the conglomerate lode which was mined out of the north end of the county. I have forgotten the name---I think it was Kersarge. And---so there is an tremendous amount of unexplored copper land up here. But, the Quincy Mining Company does not have the money to do that. And private capital won't take the risk, see?

- A: Do you have any idea how much money is involved in an exploratory effort---how much would it take?
- J: I don't have any <sup>definite</sup> particular idea----but we are spending billions of dollars a year on welfare to men---people who would work if they had jobs. A hundred million dollars a year would be peanuts to the welfare costs----a hundred million dollars just spent in the copper area here would give employment----and build for the future. Employment to a thousand men----fifteen hundred, in these various mines. Up on the south end of Houghton county----the north end of Ontonagon county----Houghton county and Keeweenaw county.
- A: Well-----we're talking about the future----do you see any development in other areas besides mining---small industry, tourism, lumber----how does that part of the picture look to you? Say for the next ten years.
- J: I don't think it is possible to convert this area into an industrial center. There are----unless we develop the copper mine and make it a copper industry or something----which was the idea that some men had ----the Tamarack and Osceola men had a great many years ago. There is a sort of rule that is recognized by business leaders that a successful manufacturing industry must be located either at a good market or at the source of supply. That is of course, unless you've got a product that is protected by patents or something like that---then you can make it anywhere. And if it costs you more to haul in and out and they got no competition---you just add that extra cost on to your price---the price of your product. And if it is something people want---they will pay it. But on a competitive market, you can not <sup>pay</sup> high freight rates, transportation costs---and compete with the fellow who doesn't have to pay that cost. Whether you are at the market----at the source of supply, you're at the market. And if you are at the market, you have to pay the cost of bringing the raw materials in, from the source of supply. If you are at the source of supply---somebody has to pay the transportation to the market. There is such a thing as long haul, short haul. Two trucking or railroad charges of fifty miles each is far greater than a trucking or railroad charge for one hundred miles, see? SO, we have up here only one resource----and that is copper. Our lumber is gone, we have a little chemical wood----pulp, paper---but, our lumber force is gone----they're gone, they have been cut off. So if this is ever developed into an successful-----

- A: Jack, we'd like to go here into a little different area of questioning, and this not only takes us to the present conditions, but to the past a few years ago. I'd like to talk to you about education, and where did you go to school here in the Copper Country?
- J: Well-- I went through the grade school-- the Dollar Bay grade school-- and high school. The Dollar Bay High School. I graduated from the Dollar Bay High School in 1916.
- A: Do you recall anything about the school at that time, you know, on the basis of hind-sight, was it a pretty good school----- solidly financed?
- J: Well-- It was solidly financed, yes----we never seemed to lack money for basic education.
- A: Where was the tax base for that? Was it coming from mining companies?
- J: And private property. But we didn't-----for all my education ~~it was basically the three R's~~ and for years after I graduated was basically the three R's----reading, writing, and arithmetic. And included with the arithmetic came chemistry, physics, mathematics, and up through trigonometry----solid geometry, plane geometry--but we didn't have a lot of this folly-rolly they think is necessary now a days. We learned to read and to write and to think. We had good teachers.
- A: Do you remember any of your early teachers?
- J: Oh---I remember most of them.
- A: Who---who was your best teacher?
- J: Well--- I think one of my best teachers----two of my best teachers were ----two very strict persons----one's name was Miss Pierson, she was a disciplinarian and we if we didn't pay attention and learn, she didn't hesitate to use a ruler on the knuckles. Another one I had was in high school, a Miss Plant---she taught mathematics---she was an exceptionally good mathematician. And after she left here she became the head of the actuary department of a very large insurance company. And---she was good. And---I think I learned ---and forgot again a lot of mathematics from her. But, in my opinion, mathematics is probably the most valuable course a young person can take, because it teaches you to think. Most of the other courses are memory courses.
- A: Could you say a few words about the students----what nationalities were represented----were there very many in the Dollar Bay School System?

- J: Oh, yes a cross-section of the country. In the early days of Dollar Bay----in the early days of Dollar Bay----- there were a lot of French families here who came from the River Rouge area of Detroit. They worked in smelters there, and then they began to smelt copper up here. These people moved in from the smelters of the east and of Detroit and Lake Linden and Dollar Bay had a large French population. And then there were quite a few Irish in Dollar Bay, that came over here from --to mine. To work in the mines. And a lot of them preferred to above ground and they came to Dollar Bay to work in the wire mills and the smelters. And of course there was a lot of Swedes in Dollar Bay. And later on, a lot of Finns. And Dollar Bay was pretty much up until a few years ago----was a family town, or city----a lot of large families. In other words they were Mary or married, you see? And I can trace my own relations through marriage to a dozen families in Dollar Bay, Way back----you don't call them relatives----but they are related, you know.
- A: Well--were those marriages in the same ethnic background-- (no) mixed nationalities,huh?
- J: Mixed nationalities. There was----in a small town where there is so many different kinds of people----different nationalities----and of course there were the ethnic groups. The Irish had their high \_\_\_\_\_, and there were the Catholics, the Episcopal, the Lutherans, the church of Paris-----but the town was pretty small. And so there was a lot of intermarriages-- the ethnic groups.
- A: Well--I get the feeling from what you were saying that it was like a big happy family--- I read stories of different kinds of disputes and altercations between ethnic groups----did you ever have any of them?
- J: Well---I can't recall them in Dollar Bay. Maybe because there was not enough of any particular group ----of any group.
- A: You had a good sprinkling of them all?
- J: A good sprinkling of them all----the only time I could recall any ----anything at all----we had a new Methodist-Episcopal minister came to Dollar Bay, and he was a very strict Methodist, or something like that----one of them that didn't believe in doing anything on Sundays except go to church. And we used to have a baseball team here---semi-professional baseball team. We were subsidised by the various industries in town; the smelting works, the saw mills, the wire mills, the potter mills, all kinds of them. And we brought in baseball players that were good from the outside and they were supposed to be semi-pros and have a job and they were on the payroll of these various concerns----my father had four or five of them, and----
- A: Did they do any work for him?

- J: Oh---they reported to come down and get paid, but the rest would spend their time practicing baseball. Well----we had a pretty good team-- and -- afterall, it did provide a lot of entertainment--something to do---something for the people to do--Sundays--the weekends. They were tired after ten hours a day--I can remember tweleve hours a day in Dollar Bay, and ten hours a day--and half a day on Saturday. And the women wrked hard
- A: They didn't have jobs in the community, did they? You said the women worked hard did you mean-----
- J: In the homes-----in their homes. The families were large and they didn't have the modern conveniencies--they had to wash their clothes on an old scrubbing board -- and they had to haul the wood to keep the house warm----they had a lot of work---- they didn't have vacuum cleaners and those things---keeping house in those days was quite a chore. And so this Sunday baseball was entertainment for the men and women both. Well-- this man's name was Miner, and he started a crusade to stop Sunday baseball, and he not only raised hell in town, but in his own church and they finally got rid of him. And a lot of the members of his church wanted to see the baseball games on Sunday. Aell----they got--a new man came here and his name was Brown, and we had a Catholic priest here by the name of Miller----Father Miller----he was crazy about baseball and ~~no minister~~ was a baseball player himself. He played college baseball. And they raised such a fury over this Sunday baseball that they some fences-- and a lot of people were still back in that mine area, you know,-- and they took some boards off the fence so the new minister and the priest could get into the park without anybody seeing them--and they were sitting out in left field where nobody could see thinking nobody knew who they were. Well----there was a big six footer and the ground was a big 5'6" and he was glad \_\_\_\_\_ . And he was quite a fellow----he met me on the street one day, and he said, "you're Jack Foley aren't you?"--and I said, "Yes, and he said, " I'm Reverand Brown" and I said, "I know you, Rev." and he said, "Father Miller told me you were quite a fisherman"and "You were a trout fisherman and a stream fisherman" and I said, "Well--I like it" and he said, "Would you take me fishing someday?" and I said, "Any day that you want to go", "You have to walk quite a distance, because the fishing is only good after you walk----the lazy people catch the narrow ones." So, we did a lot of fishing together. I met his son just a few years ago. His son was an organizer for the U.A.W. in the Upper Peninsula----United Auto Workers. Ivan Brown, and I brought him to Dollar Bay---I wrote to the United Auto Workers----to find out if they would consider establishing a local up here, to get away from---this was the time Pastor Langseth and I were monkeying with these mines, and we wanted -- we were not against unions----I believe in unions, I believe unions are essential---necessary, but I did not like the Steel

Workers Union. I have my suspicions---still---of what happened at that strike.

A: Now you said you don't care for their-----their policies or their personalities who were here?

\* J: Their Policy, and I don't know the personalities---I didn't know them personally. I couldn't say anything about them personally, but I will tell you now what I didn't want to say the other day. I believe that this strike that we have just gone through and closed these mines was a rigged deal between the steel workers bargaining committee and the Universal Oil Products. They made an offer to the men which in my thinking was a very fine and generous offer----far more than I think the men could have expected from the strike, but the men --- the rank and file of the union --- were not allowed to vote on that offer and no explanation was ever given as to why they were not allowed to vote on that offer. So, I think the offer was made, Mr. Puotinen, knowing that it was never to be voted upon.

A: Very interesting analysis.

J: I really think that the Universal Oil Company intended to close these mines down, from the time they took possession of them. Everything points to it. Including the offer the men were not allowed to vote on.

A: That's what you would call an educated hunch----I mean there has been no public records to suggest that----no statements?

J: Who would make a statement----who would admit it? Who would admit it?-----If you and I are in a conspiracy to depret defraud somebody, neither one of us are going to admit that, are we? And we would deny it-- and there would be no proof of it. Merely circumstantial evidence.----that they rejected so many offers that I was involved in working out a deal with the Quincy----leasing the mines---tearing them all down. Taking the fourteen million dollar tax ~~credit~~. credit.

A: Ya, I think we've got your observation on that, now firm and fast----and I like to take you back up the past where we were a little while ago. We were talking about the development of Bollar Bay, now.

J: Oh, yes. You will have to pardon me for going off on a tangent, because that thing will disturb me always----because I will never know the answer.

A: The only reason I am not probing it more is that we have gone into it in some depth. I am very interested in the kinds of social patterns that emerge, you talked about baseball as being recreation--now what--and fishing I suppose was another thing people did for enjoyment ---were there many organizations like the Lions, or the Rotary, or orchestras----or cultural activities

No-no-no. There was very little of that. There was an organization called The Modern Woodmen which was non-sectarian, everybody could belong to it----my brother----Junior did--- I can remember my older brother drilling with a wooden axe--

A: What was the purpose of the organization?

J: I don't know---I don't know. Probably for ternal----probably there was some insurance involved in this. But the organizations----all I can remember is The High Buryons, The Modern Woodmen, and then there was The Temperance Society-- The Swedish-Lutheran Society Temperance Society, then if you got drunk----you had to join all over again--pay your dues all over again, see?

A: You were around here in the 1920's---you mentioned temperance and this got me thinking---what was the prohibition era like here in Dollar Bay----was everything-----

J: I will tell you---I was not here in Dollar Bay----I was not in the Copper Country during the prohibition era. I had the desire like my grandmother did when she came to this country, she was an old Irish lady----to see what was beyond and beyond. And so when I got out of the service, I was in World War I, and I went back to college and I finished college----

A: Where was that now?

J: University of Michigan. And I came back here for a very short time and I decided I wanted to see a little of the world--so I went out and got a job in Chicago.

A: What type of job?

J: Well- it was wasn't much of a job. It was working with the Chicago Surface Lions -- estimating the amount of power that was consumed during the different periods of the day. And it was while I was in Chicago, on that job, that I a friend of mine came into town, a boy from up here, and we were going out together and going out to The Edge Water Beach Hotel---- a couple of girls who used to live up here---and-we-were-taking them-out, and were working in Chicago---and we were taking them out to dinner and an evening of dancing and then this fellow was working for a man whose home was in Lower Michigan----I don't think I want to mention his name. I think it was kind of an amusing incident---of how I happened to meet him. He knew about me--I had never met him----he knew about me through Bob, and Bob was supposed to meet him at the Union League Club at a certain time and he hadn't showed up, so he called up and ---our apartment, and he was pretty upset about Bob not showing up ---not meeting and keeping the appointment --- and I said--"Bob has an appointment with me this evening--we're going out together, and I said, why don't you come along?" And he didn't said that he would or not, but he did come.

We had some words over the telephone, I was rather hot-headed and so was he and so were in the dining room dancing and eating and somebody knew the girl I was with and they came over and asked her to dance, and Bob was dancing with his girl and he left this gentleman and I alone together. And he said, "What the hell was the matter with you this afternoon, anyway----and I said, "Nothing was the matter with me, what was the matter with youi----you're the one who called up and started raising hell with me"----"What right have you got to do that" --Well he said, "I'm sorry----I'm sorry." One thing led to another and he said, "You working here in Chicago?"---and I said, "Yes"----and he said, "do you like your job?"----and I said, "No" then he said, "How would you like to work for me?"-- I said, "Sure!" -- I didn't even know what I would be doing! Then he said, "Meet me in Detroit on Thursday." "I'll give you my address." So, this was on Monday, I think, and I meet him with some guys Thursday and I spent from 1922 until 1939, seventeen years associated with this man, working with him---working for him, and if I got an education, a broadening of the mind---I got it from that man.

A: What was your responsibility working for him?

J: He was one of the greatest organizers--

Labor organizers?----

J: No, organizers----business organizers. One of the greatest politicians that were lived. And so my duties were varied, they were all very interesting-- and it required that I do a lot of traveling----meeting a lot of people, and I think I got my education in those seventeen years.

Tell me--what was The Depression like in Detroit? In your own experience.

J: Well-- one of the most---The Depression in Detroit---I really wasn't touched by The Depression. Matter of fact, I made very good money all through The Depression. What I remember mostly from The Depression was the foot-long hotdogs for 10¢. You could get a meal----there was a vey good hotdog stand down in the First National Bank building. And you had to stand in line to get in therŷ you see. You could get a full meal for 20¢. Twenty-five cents---- a hotdog, a cup of coffee, and a piece of pie for twenty-five cents. You couldn't keep yourself alive on twenty-five cents today. Well--I didn't---I was never touched by The Depression. I was associated with people who were trying to make money out of The Depression, In other words, there were business opportunities during The Depression for people who had the money to invest. And one of the most interesting jobs I ever had was the running of the Executive Secretary of the National American Legion Employment Campaign.

People--a lot of people out of work, and nobody was doing anything about---there were bread lines, and food riots, and soup kitchens----and it was pretty bad all over, not only in Detroit, but all over. Then The American Legion----this man was the king of the king-makers of the American Legion--and it kind of amused me---I was a member of The American Legion myself--and it amused me to thinking---learning while they're--the rank and file of The American Legion, ~~like their commanders~~ ~~ere~~ doing nothing, like their commanders----same as the rank and file of the people doing a --elect a president. You're are given a choice in the presidency of one or two men --the Democrats and the Republicans give you a choice. And the people don't have much to say about who it is. Getting away from that -- they started having the direct primary now-- but for a great many years-- well in The American Legion it is all pretty cut and dried. And at the 1931 convention, The American Legion decided that they would try to turn the thing around--to do something--nobody was doing anything-- and they wanted somebody to do some research work and I was picked for the job--- so I went to Indianapolis---The American Legion Headquarters there and from September to October, November, and December and I worked about fourteen hours a day in re-searching work and did a lot of traveling on--studying on what had been done to create employment and stuff like that. And we had this '31 convention---decided to set up the organization to try to stimulate business and jobs, and that is where I think I got my first interest in helping the underdog -- trying to find jobs for people. And we worked down in New York-- we had a meeting in Washington first, and decided that The National Commanders---The State Commanders--that New York would be the place to --rather it was The Executive Committee of the legion that operated down in New York--so we set up office in the Filmore Hotel and we in New York, The main dining room there--we could have it for nothing. Nobody could afford to eat at The Filmore during The Depression, so---they closed the dining room. We ran 37,hundred campaigns around the country, out of that office and we tried to create jobs for a million men. And we had working with us the heads of big organizations, big business, big labor --I got to know Matthew--the vice-president of The American Federation of Labor very well, during that time---he was a very fine little guy. And----there were bankers and bread-willed presidents, and everybody else---all contributing-----

(end of side #1 of tape #3)

(side #2 of Tape #3)

A: From your point of responsibility--how would you access Franklin Roosevelt in the New Deal Period?

J: I think Franklin Roosevelt was the savior of our country. I don't--if it had not been for Franklin Roosevelt and The New Deal with this country---well--- we would have had a revolution. It would have turned to anarchy, because there was nothing--no where to turn-- nowhere to go. We were sinking deeper and deeper and deeper. Factory after factory were closing, that diminished the purchasing power--so those people couldn't buy the products of another factory. And that factory closed--it is just using that as an example it didn't pinpoint one factory or another----it is just when the purchasing power is taken away it just kills the industry. They lay off men and it still makes it worse. So, if we didn't have this W.P.A. and this A.W.P.A., and what was the other one---the P.W.A.---if we didn't have those programs this country would have gone----well this country would have had a revolution, that's all. Because when people start starving, they resort to violence.

A: Do you think they would have turned to communism then?

J: Positively--they had to turn to something--we had to come out of this thing with something. We would have had a military dictatorship, is what we would have come out of it----because it would take the military to quiet---- I went down----it was part of my job---I had to go to Washington on a bonus--not much, hey? The veterans around the country were demanding a bonus--something to live on--to tie them over--they had nothing, they had no money. I saw the camp -- I saw how they were treated--I saw the soldiers brutalize them. And Mr. Hoover turned General McCarthur in on them. Well--I think that Franklin Roosevelt and his brain-trusters were the saviors of this country. It wasn't only his idea, you know, and ~~X~~ got thanked for it by the poor people and damned for it by the rich people.

A: Someone has said that The New Deal in large measure lifted out of the Socialist platform a lot of its planks.

J: Well-- Did it lift it out of the Socialist platform, or did it lift it out of the Gospels? What is the Gospel? What are the teachings of Christ? The Brotherhood of man, isn't it?

A: Well, did Roosevelt----I mean---was there any-----

J: There was no religious motive at all. But, what's different whether you mention religion or not---it was done for the brotherhood of man. This was helping the poor people, charity is the greatest of all virtues. But, there is always someone willing to accuse someone else of being a Socialist or a Communist. and most of them don't know what a Socialist or a

Communist is, they are probably just repeating propaganda that they heard.

- A: Well--not only charity---there was a tremendous amount of social justice. I think during that New Deal period that is when labor got its biggest boost, in terms of in I.R.A. and the C.I.O. came in during that time.
- J: Well--if it hadn't started then--it would have started some other time. Just what is starting now is bound to come, you know. It's bound to come----we're facing a change in our social life, a change in our economical life, a change in our political life----I just hope I live long enough to see it. I saw one change----I would like to see another one. It didn't do the job entirely, you see?
- A: Are you optimistic for the future?
- J: I'm optimistic about this country, yes. I think this is a great country, I think we are capable of doing anything, and we are capable of changing our economical and social life for the betterment of the people.
- A: Let's take one particular topic in terms of community development---we can certainly talk about the present condition, but maybe we had better start further back. And I am talking about medicine---what were the medical health facilities like when you were growing up as a child in this area----were they adequate?
- J: Well--we had socialized medicine ----so to speak, in those days. We had a company doctor and everybody----he was the company doctor for every company in town. He was the company doctor for the smelting works, the wire mill, the saw mill, and powder plant-----those are the four industries we had here, see?
- A: And did he subsidize his work?
- \*J: Everybody paid two dollars a month. All the employees paid two dollars a month. And they held it out of their paycheck. And everybody paid two dollars, and the people who weren't working---they paid the two dollars directly to them. And he had pretty good income. In those days, 15-20 thousand dollars 15 thousand dollars a year just from----well-- I would say say he was making 15,000 thousand dollars a year from his operating fees--his medical fees.
- A: What kind of---did you have a hospital here in Dollar Bay?
- J: No----no, we just had the hospital in Hancock, but we <sup>had</sup> a ----well, we call it a clinic -- he had an assistant here--- he used to

take a intern, a graduate from some medical college--usually from the University of Michigan. And he served an apprenticeship here under Doctor Abrums, he is the one I remember most, he was here the longest. And, of course, we didn't get the kind of medical treatment we get now.

A: Did Doctor Abrams make house calls for his patients?

J: Oh, yes, he made house calls, sure. He made house calls. We got ~~take~~ care of pretty well, I think, perhaps better than the average. He had office hours every day, ~~except~~ seven o'clock to nine o'clock down there in the ----I used to help Doc Abrams. He always had some ----helping and driving his horse when he made house calls. And there were certain ages that would probably go out and get a job and they couldn't do it--so I would go out--I think I was in about the seventh or eighth grade when I used to help him---drive his horse, help him at the office----mix his cough syrup for him.

A: What--what went into that cough syrup?

J: Ah---simple syrup, cherry flavoring, and <sup>num</sup> latona~~t~~ <sup>laudanum</sup>. The latona~~t~~ <sup>um</sup> soothed your nerves. Doctor Abrams used to ---don't record this----- Alright, you asked for it----I'm going to give it to you----(OK) Doctor Abrams' job----he was the health officer, and the county paid him a certain fee----part of his job was inspecting the houses of the evening--

A: The houses of the evening?

J: Ya---inspecting the houses---inspecting the ladies of the evening and Saturday morning was his inspection time in Houghton and there were three houses in a row down there and this Saturday morning we went up there earlier than usual because he had some operations to perform, so the doc got out in the blustery, wintery morning and he got out and pounded on the door and his old madam came to the door--she was an old Finnish girl and she said, "Oh, I thought you was a man" and he said, "What the hell do I look like?"

A: Well, those early days sounded to be pretty funny! lively!

J: I don't think they were any ~~livlier~~ livlier than they are today----but they were controlled better than they are today. If I may use plain language in this----the whores were in the whore houses, not on the streets. And they were medically inspected---where the street walkers are not.

A: Well--that was evidently the county or company policy to do that then? Or?----

J: No, that was not a company policy

A: Well--a county policy then.?

- J: That was the county policy. And that was the county health inspector. And these places----they paid----they paid a license fee. They were licensed houses. And those were the only ones who were allowed to operate---licensed houses----- and to get the licenses, they had to subject everyone in the house to weekly medical inspections.
- A: Was there---I heard an analysis--or rather I read an analysis of prostitution in I think it was Minnesota and the guy who wrote about it said that one of the reasons why the houses were prevalent was that in the mining community there was a large preponderance of single men as opposed to married men, and this created, you know, a need for that.
- J: Well--I'll tell you--perhaps in a new mining area that might be true----
- A: But this was a pretty well established -----?
- J: Oh, yes. Our mining was pretty well established. Our mining in those days---at that time was fifty years old. And there is bound to be in a new mining camp---a preponderance of men, but -----
- A: Well--the existence of these houses was evidently common knowledge. Were there any type of crusader groups who were anxious to board them up or anything? Or was that just accepted as a way of life?
- J: Oh, yes----there was the church groups and women's groups trying to do that. Women didn't have much voice in anything in those days, you know, this was quite a while before women were franchised----allowed to vote.
- A: Well--that is very interesting --what you mentioned about the medicine in the early days.
- J: It was socialized by this time
- A: Did the policy or practice of company doctors run into the 20's or the 30's?
- J: Oh, yes--yes. As a matter of fact, the mining companies maintained hospitals at the town. The Calumet hospital was a pretty good hospital in the mining companies. The Copper Range had a hospital in Painesdale---the Quincy Mining Company never had a hospital, but they had the hospital in Hancock, but they had dispatcheries--- dispensing ~~latanum~~ up there too..  
Laudanum
- A: Do you recall any--any epidemics, flu, or other things , or other-----
- J: No, we didn't know it was the Flu then, we absolutely had the

flu, but we called it something else. Well, I can remember one time we had an epidemic of scarlet fever, I recall that because my brother had it. They used to put a great big red sign outside the house so nobody could come in or out. But, I think that is the only epidemic that I----there was the small pox at the time, and there was more tuberculosis at that time than anything else, but I would say that in 99 per cent of the cases was tuberculosis---bovine tuberculosis. Everyone was ----there was no sanitary laws as far as keeping cows and selling milk, and we have a tuberculosis sanitarium up here that is just filled with people all the time. We don't even have one any more. It was bovine-tuberculosis---it was contracted from drinking milk. We used to keep--we had cows around here, we used to have a couple of cows and a barn out there, and if we didn't have that --we'd buy milk from somebody else, and goodness the cows were never inspected---the milk was never inspected, never pasturized----no wonder they had so much TB.

A: How were the sanitary conditions in the mines?

J: Poor----very poor---- and they are still very poor. They are still very poor--there are not toilets in some of these underground,,and the man can't come to the surface. There's a drinking water pipe down there, but that is all.

A: So, if a guy has to relieve himself----he just doesn' t?.

J: You would have to find an empty stope , or drift or something and there are no toilets in some of these----not that I know of. Mining conditions in these mines were never bad----there were a lot of accidents because they didn't maintain their timber range as well as they should. And there were a few fires, but none of them serious, because there are no poison gases in these mines.

A: Say a man who has a wife and three kids years ago---- what would happen to the family if he got killed by a rock fall-- what would --what could the family expect?

J: I don't know--I didn't know----I really don't know when these workmen compensationllaws went in, but we've had them a long time, but there was a ---there was in the mining areas there were these societies, benefit societies----we didn't have them in Dollar Bay Because we didn't have enough people----- but there was the Italian Society, the Finnish Society, they took care of their own pretty well, and neighbors and everybody else helped out--I can't recall of anyone in Dollar Bay starving or being hard up because the neighbors took care of them. My mother had two or three families that she was sort of look-after or taking care of, seeing that they had food, clothing, and fuel. My father did the same.

A: Some time ago--earlier in our discussion, you mentioned this certain particular Methodist minister. How would you evaluate the certain church organizations in the community----did they

*relationships  
between*

---did the Lutherans get along with the Catholics, or was there competition----

- J: They always have except that one time. That one trouble-maker, you see? Everybody got along, everybody got along-- they attended each others households socials and dinners and stuff like that and -----
- A: In other words, when the Catholics had a social---a pancake supper ----the Lutherans and the Methodists would come?
- J: Oh, certainly----and vice versa----vice versa. They got along fine. Most people will get along fine until they get some God dam trouble-maker come in. But, it is natural for people to get along.
- A: What do you think----I'm trying to bring this discussion a little bit into the current times----what do you think has made for the biggest change for the social life in Dollar Bay?---was it the adding of the automobile or the TV or-----
- J: Certainly--certainly----the same as it has made a change in everybody's life. With the coming of the automobile, used by nearly every family who has got one--you get out, go places, met people---that you never could do before, you see?
- A: In those real early days, did young guys court their girlfriends with automobiles too?
- J: Well--automobiles came to this country in 19---the first one came in 1906 or 1907, somewhere around there--- the first automobile ride I had was in an old white steamer, and you got in through the back--it was like an Irish jaunting cart--you would sit on the side sideways, see? In the old jaunting carts you would sit facing off the ----they used to have a little door in the back and you would sit facing each other, and the driver, two seats in front of----- But the automobile made a difference in everybody's life and of course there was some courting in automobiles then, as they do now, but it was not as prevalent then because there was very few automobiles--- they used to go walking --in the evening you could see them walking away, sometimes three or four couples together, sometimes a pair, something like that---but, they courted each other in their homes.
- A: Was Bicycling popular?
- J: Not particularly. A few kids had bicycles, like myself, and ----a dozen bicycles in town at one time. The principal of our high school died recently, a few years back, he had quite a bicycle--it was a chainless bicycle and his son has still got it. Ever see a chainless bicycle?
- A: No-----how does it work?

J: It was quite a machine. It operated by gears, you know, a drive shaft from the ---pedals like any other bicycle, but they were driven through gears in the shafts, see? He was quite a fellow. His name was Thomas R. Davis. We just built a school in his memory over here. The Thomas R. Davis intermediate school. His father was a minister, a missionary minister in Japan---he was raised in Japan---he had very few friends in Japan because the Caucasian race was not looked upon with friendly eyes---they weren't too friendly, so he had very few friends--he was a good educator, a very smart man---but he was awfully difficult to get acquainted with and he and I became very good friends, because of the automobile. When I was a kid, I was extremely interested in automobiles, my first car we had in this family in 1910, and I got very much interested in automobiles--I used to teach people how to drive, and when someone got a new car they used to ask me to teach them how to drive, and I used to overhaul cars here for people when I was in high school. And we used to look at automobile catalogues, he subscribed to an automobile catalogue, I think it is still published. And he used to give me these magazines after he had looked at them and one day he came in to the assembly room and, came into the room---school room---and he called to my desk and he said, "I'd like to see you in my office." -- and that's when I thought, "Boy, oh, Boy, what did I do now?" -- he was the principal. So, I got in there and he said, "Jack, I want you to help me"-- and I said, "Sure, I'll help you, what do we have to do?" He said, "Well, I don't want ~~to~~ ~~to~~ you to tell anybody about this, until we are through with our job-- he said, "I bought an automobile" and it is being shipped in here this week--"Will you help me put it together?" In the early days, the automobile was sold by mail-order, you see? You put them together yourself. And he bought a Metz from the Sears Robuck, and I went down and got the horse and wagon down there, you see---the wire mill, and we drove up and we loaded these chases of car and put it in a tent on the side of his house. We assembled his car---he had instructions for it, I helped him assemble that car---it had two little bucket seats, no top, no lights, no nothing---but it drove well. We got to be very good friends--but, he was a man of very high, very strict principles. And if he had to do something, he had to do it, regardless of if it hurt a friend or not. And I used to like fun, had fun everywhere I went--in high school, and when it come time for me to graduate and go to the University of Michigan, I he put on my credit card that he sent to the University of Michigan--- and this thing I held against him-- 'that I went to school as much for a good time as anything else' and a result I went on probation down there at the University of Michigan---and when I came back in the summer time, I went down to see him and I raised hell with him. Well--he apologized and said that he should have told me about it. I said. "Certainly you should have told me about it"--"I don't understand why you didn't ---and he said, "Neither do I."

And he told me it was awfully hadd and difficult for him to make friends, and he told me about his wife and family. And years later when I cam back to Dollar Bay, he was living just down at the end of the block--just he and his wife--the family was all grown up--his oldest son comes to visit me every summer. He lives out in Spokane, Washington---he's a re-tired naval commander---he's due here any day now, you see? He will slip in through the back yard and get out and bring his bag in and stay with us four or five days. We never know when he is coming, but he was living down at the end there and they fixed up a room in the back where he could look down at the lake. And there was a picture window out there, and it was all growing up the poplar and wild cherry trees, and I used to go down every spring and when I came back and found the condition it was in----I did it myself -- I went down and I cleaned out---all the area there--cut down all that stuff --kept it trimmed down so he and his wife could sit down and look out at the lake ----they loved it. So I had a little garden there---carrots, tomatoes, and stuff like that. I would take some down to them--they didn't have any friends. And Mrs. Davis said,"You know, Jaek, ---I brought them down a big buch of carrots and stuff like that---she said, "You know, Jack, you are the only person who has ever brought us anything." And -- he was--they were hard to get acquainted with-- he was a very stric Methodist--he was against Sunday baseball. And he would not allow his children to do anything on Sunday, except go to church,---until they grew up -- and they rebelled. His daughters and his sons--they rebelled.

A: Say, a thought ocured to me---I was going to mention it before. From those Sunday baseball teams----did anyone go into the big leagues?

J: Oh--no,no. They ---we were a minor league--there were fellows who had been in the big league, but weren't good enough to make it. They didn't stay there.

A: Where did they play, was it just in the Upper Michigan area, or did they-----

J: Just in the county area. Houghton, Hancock had teams. Calumet, Lake Linden, and Dollar Bay. I think there was----- then there was played some outside games in all areas of the little league. But----I think there was five----I think there was five

(End of side #2 of tape #3)