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

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Finnish American Historical Archive and Museum
Finlandia University
601 Quincy St.
Hancock, Michigan 49930 USA
906-487-7347 - fax: 906-487-7557

INTERVIEW BETWEEN:

INTERVIEWER: Art Puotinen

INTERVIEWEE: Al Harvey

DATE: June 18, 1973

A: Well----today we are with Al Harvey and we want to get started this afternoon by talking about your recollections of how the timber industry and lumbering began up here. Was that directly connected with the mines?

H: The timber line was connected quite heavily with the mining. Because the timber they used to use was underground, you know. They had all of these big timber piles up there at Tamarack and up at Hecala, South Hecala, and Calumet there----and they used to bring those logs in by rail on flatcars and they used to pile them up and bring them in on the trains----pile them up 35, 40, 50 feet high. Maybe some of those piles would run, I'd say, about a thousand feet long. And they used to have a crew, a timber landing crew----they would take care of all the surface line timber. There were quite a few men employeed on that and quite a few horses. So, they used to take these logs off by big chains, break them down and off of the cars----they would come in on those skidds. Then from these skidds they had big chains that they put over these log piles. And they had horses and they would pull----the logs would roll in those chains. And fellows on top would pee-wee. They used to call them pee-wees----it was a hook with a point on the end, and then it had a claw----that used to close like that, see? With the sharp point here, they could get that log to roll wherever they wanted. One on each end, and put it in its place on the pile in that lumber bed. They would do that all day---continually from morning until night.

A: Where did they logs come from?

H: Different places. They used to ship in there from down on this end---the south end of Houghton County, here----Keeweenaw County, anywhere they could get their logs. Smitz Brothers----down there at Mud Lake----not Mud Lake----they did call it Mud Lake----we'll call it Mud Lake----down near the Rondewops----on the lakeshore down there. By the McClain Park. They had a saw mill, it was called Smitz Creek. That creek used to come through there---they used to have that lumber outfit there----they did all that logging around Bear Lake. That is the regular name of it---Bear Lake.

(SM H'S)
7-MILE

A: What kind of trees did they cut down?

H: Oh---they cut Hemlock, Pine, everything that there was to cut. Birch, Tamarack----different kinds of timber that was in line for use in the underground.

- A: Did any of the logs----were they eventually cut up and used for planking, or-----?
- H: Yes, they had a mill that they used to cut into planks and different dimensions of lumber. And they would haul that up to the mines. Especially the planking, they used to use that for what they call the _____ down at the stopes and underground, where the dirt used to be shot down from up in the stopes. They would come down from the stopes and they would shoot that piece of ground up over----that they were digging up towards the other level, and blasted it down and it would come down through those timber lines. It was set up there in the stopes like I told you. They stuck them up there to put in the hanging----hold the hanging up. Well, it would all come down through them; just like coming down through a _____. It would come down through the bottom--- and come onto that flat down there. Then the miners would go in there and fill the cars up. Push it up the shaft and send it up the ~~leg-house~~ loft house.
- A: Who were the lumberjacks that were involved in that operation?
- H: Well--the lumberjacks---they were coming and going all the time. You couldn't keep in touch with those fellows, because they were a bunch that moved from one place to another.
- A: Were they single men?
- H: Yes, they were single men----the average of those fellows, yes. Wherever the high pay was, they would go.
- A: They tell stories about lumberjacks coming into town on the Saturday nights and being a rough and rowdy bunch----was that true of the-----?
- H: Well---I'll tell you. They would come in on a Saturday night, and they would go into the saloons-----they were really a rough bunch. They got pretty drunk and they would start up the fights----and the policemen would have to act quick. But, some of them used to wait until the winter was over---in the big camps where they were-- they had these camps that they used to go in and stay all winter-- they fed them and everything right there. And they would go in those camps and let their pay stand until spring. Then when the weather broke up the snow mass-----and no more timbering that year, that winter-----they used to come into town and the war would start. The lumberjack fight was on.
- A: Was that about when-----March---April-----?
- H: Ya, that was in the April months----after the snow would go. The later part of March and April. They used to have some great battles----those fellows. There were Irishmen and all kinds of mixed up nationalities. They used to really get into it.

- A: Do you remember any of the old lumberjacks by name? Were there any interesting characters that you can remember?
- H: No, I never paid any attention to their names. That's one thing I never did, I used to see them get in there and start their fights and I used to clear out of there quick. My uncle used to have a Halfway saloon down there at the Delaware----William Roarton. And he owned that Manhattan property down there-----he sold that to the C&H way back in the 1900's. Then he was there at Helltown, they used to call it Helltown----
- A: Was that because of the lumberjacks-----?
- H: Yes, they used to come in there and they would sleep there any place they could get a chance to sleep. They would spend money until their checks were gone. They used to hold their money up with the fellow that they were working for----and he would give them a check for the four, or five, or six months---or whatever they had coming. And then they would go in and blow things wide open. They would get drunk and that was it. Some of them would move on and some of them would stay for a while until their money was gone. That was the way that the lumberjack lived his life. The lumberjack----he was a rough and ready guy all the time.
- A: Did some of the lumberjacks work in the mines in the summers?
- H: Yes, some of the lumberjacks would go in the mines and work tram, and timber, and different things. Some of them knew how to mine. There was a lot of different things that they did, anything to make a living.
- A: Did you ever visit a lumber camp yourself?
- H: Oh, yes----I visited camp.
- A: What was it like?
- H: They had a nice place there-----they had their room, they had a big room for them to eat in-----big tables, and they had their cook and everything----a kitchen for the cook. They had their fellows serving on the tables and that. Some camps had women that would come down and serve the meals, wash dishes, and that They would get things ready.
- A: You know----they say a lot about the lumberjacks' breakfast. Did you ever have breakfast in one of those lumber camps?
- H: Oh, yes----lots of times.
- A: What do they have?
- H: They had pancakes, eggs, and they had bacon. They fed them good

They fed them quite well in the lumberjack camps. They fed them good. They used to have venison (sp) and different things.

- A: How did the lumberjacks get along with all the bugs---and the mosquitoes?
- H: Oh, they used to take and put----when they had lice in there they used take and go out and they cut these cedars-----cedar boughs-- and they would take them and put them in under their blankets, over the mattresses and that would kill.
- A: What was there in the cedar boughs that would-----?
- H: I don't know. There was something in there, I don't know what it was, but there was something in there that would kill them off. They wouldn't stay around the cedar.
- A: How about when they were actually on the job---?
- H: Well---they had a place there. A wash place that they used to go and wash and clean up themselves.
- A: Did they have a sauna?
- H: Oh, yes---they had a sauna. They had a big sweat room. We used to call it the sauna, but it was a sweat room to me. They would go in there and wash up-----those fellows did keep clean.
- A: It seems to me that I recall someone saying that the lumberjacks used something called Citronella. Do I have the name wrong? They used this to keep off the bugs.
- H: Oh, they had different stuff. I never paid any attention to what it was.
- A: Well---what kind of tools did the lumberjacks have? How did they cut the trees-----?
- H: Oh, there was the crosscut saws and the axe-----that was what they used on the timberline. A good sharp axe. Some of them were so sharp you could shave yourself with them.
- A: Did you do any logging or lumbering yourself?
- H: Yes, I did some logging for a fellow called Saurmensen. I have done some logging for John Messner, and I have done some logging for Pearl-----we always came at four. We came home in the evenings, and went out in the morning.
- A: How far from home did you go?
- H: Oh----maybe two, three, four miles. You didn't have to go far, the timberline was right in. The timberline was close around

Calumet there----the outskirts---and then you hit the timberline.

A: What was a typical day like for you when you were working in the woods? Did you get up very early and go to work?

H: Oh---we would get up at five o'clock in the morning. Get up at five o'clock in the morning and get your lunch pail and go down to the barn where the fellow had his horses----where he had the sleigh. Then you would jump in and away you would go. We would go to the timberline and they would show us what to cut, and we would cut it down----trim it up and take the branches off. Saw it into different lengths.

A: On a good day about how many trees could you cut down?

H: Oh---sometimes we would cut down four, five, or six trees. It all depends on what kind of a place you had to work in. If it was a bad place---swampy or something like that, or lots of snow that you had to clear off in the bottom to saw your tree down----

A: Was that dangerous work?

H: Well---it was if you didn't know how. When he sawed a big tree we would always put a knotch in it like a V-----which way the wind was blowing, and then when that tree----we sawed it in--- it would take off right off of that V we had sawed. And then that would fall off of that V, and the wind would take her right down. As soon as you hit the V it would snap off. Sometimes we would have to use a wedge if we thought the wind was going to blow it either way----we would take and use a wedge,----a wooden wedge. And we would put that in our sawing and we had the hammer there, the sledge hammer, and drive it in.

A: Did you ever use metal wedges?

H: No, we had them though. We used them once in a while, but generally we picked up the regular hard wood wedges; and push them in there----and haul them in. But, we had the metal wedges too. They were six to eight inches long.

A: When you sawed the logs----just with the crosscuts, you just cut lengths-----you didn't ever wedge----?

H: No, we cut the length that he wanted.

A: And then you used the horsed to skid them off?

H: And the horses would come in there and they would hook up with a hook----and there was two clamps on it with short points on it that would hook into the log. And when they pulled on it the two clamps would close in on it. One on each side of the log, it would hold it there and they would pull it out onto the landing. Then they would load them up out there, and pull them out.

A: Now by landing do you mean-----?

H: That was a place where they used to take and hoist them up and put them on weights. Make loads out of them. They had big sleighs out there and they would load those sleighs up with fifteen----it would all depend----on what size lumber you had there--timber----and bring them out.

A: So, what you are describing now took place in the winter time? Is that right?

H: Yes, the winter logging. That was our winter logging. Some camps were doing heavy logging ----they would ship it in on railroads----they had a landing out there, and they had a machine and a cable, and an outfit that they hooked this hook into the log and they would hoist it up and swing it out on an arm right to the car. They would pile it in these flatcars. They had big stakes on the sides----six inch stakes----about eight feet high on the side of the railroad car, the flatcar,----they would pile the logs in there on the flatcar and chain them on the top----so they wouldn't roll over or anything. Run off when the train was in action bringing them in.

A: The different men that you worked for over a period of years----was the ~~the~~ contract always with the mining company, or did they send the logs to other places too?

H: If it was with the mining company I did not know, because that was private business, you see? They would never tell you where it was going or anything. But, we always figured out where it was going alright. We pretty well found out what company it was going to ----Tamarack or C&H-----or Ameke or Alouway----Mohawk or wherever it was.

A: Yesterday you mentioned that you receive a dollar a day as grow boy----what was the wage as a lumberjack?

That was the days the lumberjack was in.

A: How much were you paid as a lumberjack for a day's work?

H: The lumberjacks?

A:

H: Well---some lumberjacks were paid, I think, two dollars a day. And then some of them used to cut timber on contracts----so much a foot.

A: Roughly how much per foot?

H: Well---footage, that's something I never did cut on----footage. I worked on the day. We were getting something like three dollars

-three dollars and thirty cents a day

A: And what year was this?

H: Well----that was around 1910-12, in there.

A: Did you work with a partner?

H: Oh, yes---you had to have a partner for your crosscut saw. Your six foot crosscut saw----you had to have your saw all sharp for cutting your trees-----axe.

A: Who was your partner?

H: Oh----my partner used to be Earl Blaugh. Earl is dead.

A: Was he a school chum that you met in school, or did he just----?

H: NO, I knew these boys after I got out of school. I got acquainted with them.

A: You hear and you read about all kinds of lumberjack song and tales--do you remember any of them? Did they have any back then?

H: No, the fellows on the average where I worked -----they were pretty quiet fellows. There was never any trouble or anything/. Kingston, when he ran the big camp down in the Keeweenaw, Morrison and Groul----that was the merry-go-round down there. That was the big fight town. I used to call it the big fight town. Those were the guys that used to really get into it.

A: The fights that you described----were they between different lumbercamps----or were they among the lumberjacks----?

H: Some were. Some would start a fight between different fellows coming out of different camps, you know. Meeting in the saloons--they would all gather in the saloons together----somebody would say something or knock something over----and then the fight would begin.

A: What did they fight over? Did they ever fight over some girl--or what?

H: Oh----I don't know. That was something that you couldn't get onto because it was just like a fly----like the first thing you would know---you'd be in there, and I'd see them standing up and I'd watch them. They'd be in there drinking at the bar, and the first thing you'd know somebody would be in there monkeying around or talking about something----and all at once, BINGO, that was it! The fight was on.

A: Did they fight with knives, or fists, or-----?

H: Oh, no fights with knives. They used to fight with fists--

fist fights. Bare fists, they let them go to a certain extent--- and then they'd stop them, you know.

A: Who would stop the fights?

H: Oh, the bartender---and they had a few fellows around there all the time, the bouncers, we would call them the bouncers---- they would bounce them out. The bouncers would get them out, and then say, "Alright, boys, out the door for you." Out they go.

A: Did you ever have organized fist fights or boxing matches at that time?

H: Oh, that was in the----the fighting, the fist fighting----the regular boxing-----that was in the town hall. We had regular young fellows that used to go there and box, like Woodycon, Murphy, and Willmers, and all that bunch. And Cuff in Hancock here---he was a fighter.

A: How about Jaskelainen?

H: Yes, Jaskelainen was a handy boy with his mitts. You bet, they had some pretty good boys. Weiko was about the best of them all, though. He took in some of the big times----he went down to the city likr Chicago, and California, and that. St. Paul Peterson, he was a fighter. He was in the middle-weight class. And Weiko was in the _____ class, about 140-150 pounds. And they had the light-weight class down and under that. But, the average of the fights down there waa in the _____ class and the middle-weight.

A: Did a lot of people come and watch the fights?

H: OH--- yes. They used to have the halls filled right up. One time they had big doings up there---Holly Nelson fought that _____ from Chicago. Well, that boy we had in the Copper Country-- he was good with his fists, but he said he never saw so many fists fly in all his life than when he got in the ring with that man Nelson from Chicago. He said, "All I saw was fists flying." Ya, Holly Nelson, He was called. He was quite a tough boy, though

A: He was Swedish then, right?

H: Oh, yes he got defeated alright.

A: No he was Swedish!

H; Ya, he was Swedish. He was quite a boy.

A: Did you see that fight with Fadley Nelson?

H: Yes, I saw that fight.

A: How many rounds did it go?

H: It only went three or four rounds, it didn't go very far.

A: He got knocked out?

H: Yes. Knocked right out is right. This Nelson from Chicago crawled all over him. Yes, that was quite a fight. Jack Debsey was up there one time, at the colosseum.

A: Did he fight or referee, or what?

H: Now he was refereeing the fight----the box at that time. They had all these _____ weights and middle weights in there fighting, but who they all were I don't know-----Willmers, Jaskie, and Jaskelainen, and all of that bunch that was in it then. And Francis Cuff here, and Murphy, and there was an Italian lad that his father ran a saloon----I can't think of his name. But, he was quite a fighter, and we used to call him Tony. Him and Witi-ker used to fight some pretty hard battles.

A: How did you get Debsey to come up here?

H: Well---through Earl McDonald, who was the automobile man, he was the man who brought Debsey up here. He used to run the Hut-chen Etsey's garage---I was working for him at the time. And he brought Debsey up here. Joe Klein was the man that drove him back to Iron Mountain.

A: Well---we're on the subject of sports. You were very active as a baseball player, weren't you?

H: Yes, that was it.

A: Would you like to talk about how you got started and some of the games you were in?

H: Well---I got started in Tamarack first, when I was just a small youngster. I came coming up every year until I hit the big Tamarack team----what they call the Tamarack team----the big one

A: Was that sponsored by C&H, or who?

H: No, that was sponsored by a _____ we had there. His father used to run the big Tamarack barn for the big Tamarack Mining Com-pany. Jim Caine. And he had Charlie, Joe, and Henry----they were three ball players----very good ball players.

A: Now, they were brothers?

H: Three brothers. One was a pitcher, one was a first baseman, and the other one was a fielder. Henry was a fielder, Charlie was a pitcher, and Joe was a first baseman. The three Caine brothers. Then I had my brother Bill---he was a pitcher. I played third base. Pete Murphy used to play with us. He used to be the Caufer

of C&H. Well---Pete used to be their head man up there, their head cauf. Pete played with us at that time. We had a very good ball team. We were the only ball team that beat the North Tamarack Team. North Tamarack had a team too. That was under Dan Cusick, the surface boss up there---and Captain Rosefear. There were two Rosefear boys that played on that team. I know all those fellows good. They were the Champions of the Copper Country-----that's the team.

A: They were semi-pros, then?

H: Semi-pros, yes. Then they went in---they went up to Virginia, Minnesota, and played for Virginia in the northwestern league over there. And they took the championship in 1920, over there. So, Bert Rosefear, he----Bert is up where the big mines are---they are at Hibbing now. If I'm not mistaken, I think Bert is the Head Firechief of the city, or Chief of Police of the city---I don't exactly know. But, I do know that he is one of the big men in Hibbing there.

A: Going back to your own ball team----how did you have time to practice if many of you-----?

H: After school. we were all home to school, us young fellows. Coming up everyday, you know.

A: And that was in what year?

H: Oh, that was in the 1905's., and up in there. When we were able to get in there and play ball, we went in there and played ball.

A: When did you have your games---Sundays?

H: Oh, Saturday-----Saturday was the big day down at the

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H: field-----that's where we used to play our baseball. You would see baseball games there from morning until night. We would play Saturday until the sun went down. Maybe you would see four, five, six ball games there in one day. We had quite a baseball-----Calumet, every little place in Calumet, Swedetown, Rambletown, New Town, Albion, Pine Street, Tamarack, Yellow Jacket, North Tamarack, Centennial Heights, -----they all had ball teams.

A: Who sponsored all these teams-----?

H: Well----There was naturally a sponsor for them, and they had a fellow that would ⁵⁴⁸sponsor them. Some fellow would pick them up and say, "Well, I've got a ball team.

- A: Did the mining companies-----?
- H: North Tamarack used to sponsor their ball team. Because they were playing in what they called the Senior Ball League. There was Tamarack, North Tamarack, then there was Albion, there was New Town, Osceola, Swede Town, and there was Ameke and Mohawk and Gay in that league.
- A: I am kind of interested in the team that was sponsored by the company. Were these guys-----?
- H: Well--that team that was sponsored for the company----I'll tell you-----that was called a C&H league. I came back from Lead's Cith, South Dakota in 1911. I was p̄aying with Deadwood. And after I got done playing with Deadwood I came back to Ameke---- and I went down to Ameke with Charlie Ouksela and with Amos Peterson. So, when I went in there I was supposed to go back again, to Deadwood. So, Russell Smith, the superintendent there, he was talking to Ouksela and Peterson about the baseball. So, he asked them who I was. So, they told him-----that I had just got back from South Dakota-----that I was a ballplayer there with the South Dakota team----at Deadwood. So, he called me in-----and told me that I really knew my baseball, and then he said, "Well, will you stay here and play baseball with us?" I said, "Well, if you can write out there and get in touch with the manager of the team---- and if it is alright with him---I'll stay here, as long as I get a good job out of it." So he did and I stayed there. In 1911.
- A: You said if you got a good job----did they hire you then?
- H: Yes, he hired me. I was taking care of the big engine up in the big rock house. Where the crushers-----it was an engine that ran the crushers up there. It was in three and four shaft house.
- A: Did you put in a full day's work there or did they give you-----?
- H: Oh, yes---we had our regular day there, the same as anyone else. On surface-----the surface work. We put in our eight hours every day. Then we had days that we used to down to the ball field and practice together----get off at one o'clock. We would go down and practice and they would give us our time. So, we would be ready for the big Saturday battle----it was always on Saturday. There was Hubbell and South Hecala, Calumet, Ameke, and they had the different teams----Lake Linden, Hubbell. Lake Linden had a team, Hubbell had a team. They had some pretty hot ball players in that league.
- A: Were there any ball players in the leagues that ever made the big league?
- H: Oh, yes. There were fellows that were in that league and were in the big league-----and just came in and played ----like Jesse Becker. Becker played with the Hubbell team there-----he played center field for them----he came from out of the big league. And

George Warner----he was up in the old Northern League that was up here then----he was a pitcher----him and Joe. Ya, they were both pro ball players. There were quite a bunch of them around there that came in ----Bacaballer, and a bunch of them----Billy Schmitt and those fellows were the local boys---but they were good enough for one ball player. They were good enough for the good little big show. We had some fine ball players up here.

A: What is the biggest difference between the ball playing we see today and those early days?---Is it the nature-----?

H: Well---I'll tell you----the fellows today----it seems to me that their minds are on something else, not on baseball. There is something else that just isn't right with them. I have watched them and looked them over---they have got something else on their mind instead of baseball. When it comes down to making a fast play or something ----they haven't got it in their mind up here/ What they are going to do with that ball when they are going to get it. You have to----if you are going to be a ball player----you have to have baseball in your mind. When you're out there playing ball, when you get that ball hit here or whatever it is--you have got to know what to do with that ball if you're going to make the play. You can't just monkey around.

A: Are you saying that there was more discipline in the early days?

H: Oh, yes. There were no fights about anything. They had umpires that were good umpires----they knew their baseball. But, you take today----they pick them out out of the crowds, and they say they're umpires----and they don't know anything about baseball. Well---that's what makes roughstuff here. Rough going---you'd see some fights, or something. Brush up! And say get the rule-book out and say, "Here it is!" It is not like it used to be----we'd call them out, and in the oldern days when we called you out--you were out. They had the game under control all the time----the umpires.

A: Al, do you remember any game that was really the big game for you?

H: Yes, I sure have. I got one that I pulled Calumet out of the fire one time. The bases were loaded, and he got a hold of one and out of the park it went. That was up in Ironwood during the Fireman's Tournament----1920. And there was quite a write-up in the paper about it, about me playing third base. They called me the Big Leaguer. But, I didn't pay any attention to it----I'm a fellow who doesn't pay any attention to what they used to say about baseball, or about my playing. If they thought that I was a good ball player----it was up to them----I didn't want to brag or blow about it at all, I just took it as it came. I went out there and I tried to give them the best could all the time, playing the game.

A: What kind of uniform did you wear?

H: Oh, we had old wool uniforms---they were wool, you know. We sweated out with them. On hot days you would come in there pretty well loaded down with sweat.

A: Did you have a glove?

H: Oh yes

A: What did it look like?

H: A regular finger glove. A regular baseball glove, like they have today.

A: There is not much difference between the ball glove we have today and they one they -----?

H: Oh, no. Of course today they use that webbed mit more than what they did in my days. We used that glove with the fingers---all fingers--five fingers, there was the thumb, your four fingers here--this one and this one and this one.

A: There was no webbing?

H: Yes, there was a webbing-----between the big finger and next to your forefinger. Ya, there was a web in there and there used to be a pocket in there. When your ball hit---get your glove in there and it would hold it. Ya, they had the five finger gloves then. But, they had the regular catching mitts----same as they have today---first basemen mitts.

A: Was there any nationality that was more interested in baseball than any others?

H: No. As a whole they all were baseball fans. You could go down to that park and I am very positive ~~am~~ that you could pick out every nationality under the sun. They really had them-----they were great fans. They really stuck to their team. They went in there and their team was their team and that's all there was to it.

A: Today there are women's leagues----did they women play---?

H: Oh, yes. The women used to come. We played the Boston Bloomers one time. Well---Carey Nashon was with that team----she was a great ball player. She was known all over, the country here. ALL over the United States----that was quite a ball team. They used to travel.

A: And they came up here to play?

H: Yes, they came up here. And they had quite a ball team. We beat them, but they were quite a ball team. You bet, she could throw a ball like a man. She was a rough one. She wouldn't take any backings from anybody. I don't forget it----she hit me here in

the left arm----to get me away from the plate. And brother, I'll tell you, I had a sore arm for three weeks. I sure did. Oh, she was a rough one----she could throw that ball like a bullet, though They had a good ball team---very good.

A: Is there any significance in the name Boston Bloomers----is that the kind of uniform they used to wear?

H: They used to go by the name of the Boston Bloomers. Some used to call them the Boston Bloomers----and some used to call them the Carey Nashon team. But, the Boston Bloomers was the regular name for them. That was the real name. They had nice uniforms, and everything.

A: How did the local women react to this----?

H: They never---the local women never played ball. It was a treat to see those women play ball for the women up home here---to see how well that they played ball. And we really had a park full of people down there, at that time.

(end of side #2 of tape #1)

side #1 of tape #2

A: We're interviewing Al Harvey here in his home on June 18th in 1973, and we are very happy to visit with him. Al, you were born in what year?

H: I was born in the year of 1891.

A: Here in the Copper Country?

H: No, I was born in Highland, Wisconsin.

A: And when did you move to the Copper Country?

H: I was brought into the Copper Country here when I was an infant. Just a baby.

A: Did your father work in the mines?

H: Yes, my father was a mining man.

A: Which mine did he work in and what did he do?

H: The Tamaracks. My father worked the Tamarack Mine----he was a miner. He was a man that knew mining from A to Z. He operated mines in the Wisconsin state there where----at Highland. Lead and zinc mines. And he operated these mines and he used to send his ore to the Illinois Lead and Zinc Company at Peorie, Illinois. From out of a place called ~~Couf~~ they used to haul it, with horses

Cob

and wagons. And they would bring it there and ship it away--- out of Cob-----on the railroad to Peorie, an outfit that was in Peorie, Illinois----they used to make paint or something, I don't know,---it was some kind of industry there in Peorie.

- A: Do you recall what year you and your folks moved here to the Copper Country?
- H: No, I was too young for that
- A: Did your dad ever tell you about any experiences he had there in Tamarack?
- H: Yes. One time my father was working there and my father fell in the shaft. And when they found him, he was sitting on a piece of timber in the shaft.
- A: Was he badly hurt?
- H: No. He wasn't badly hurt. He was shook up and that. Then one time he got hit with a rock there, and he laid in the hospital there in critical condition----at Tamarack Hospital. Doctor Rodive, Doctor Lava, Doctor Gregg, and there was another doctor there---Doctor Quick-----they used to be at the hospital there. Mrs. Painter was the head nurse there, and we weren't allowed to see my dad for three or four days,----when he got that piece of skull,----broke.
- A: Were the working conditions pretty tough?
- H: Yes, the working conditions were very, very hard for the men in those years. They worked very hard.
- A: Long hours?
- H: Long hours, yes. Long hours, very long.
- A: How many children were in your family?
- H: There were eight of us. Four boys and four girls
- A: And your home was right near the Tamarack Mining-----?
- H: In the Tamarack Number 5 Location----on Cherry Street. And I lived up on the hill there, right up off of the Tamarack store in the big house. It was a big double house. Tatrels used to live on one side and we used to live on the other.
- A: In the mining location community----were there a lot of different ethnic groups living there? Like Finns, Italians, and Swedes?
- H: Oh, yes----they were all mixed up. There were Finnish, Swedes, Norwegians, and Italian people. But, everybody was just like one family there. It was neighborly. It was brotherly love---

I can call it. Everybody was just like one. If you wanted any help---you got it. Sometimes they would come over in the night at half past ten---if there was a light on they would knock on the doors and say,"Is anybody sick, can we give you some help?" No, everything is alright---so that was it. It was brotherly love.

A: Did your folks live in one of the company houses?

H: Yes, we lived in the company house. They were all company houses then,----owned by the Tamarack Company. The mining company there

A: Where did you go to school?

H: Tamarack.

A: You went to school thereand you-----?

H: Ya, I went up to the nineth grade. Yes, Mrs. Landers from Kerserge was my teacher. And Mrs. Craig, and Miss Sincock----I remember my three teachers.

A: How about these different groups of people like the Finns and the Italians, and the Swedes, and so on. Did all of the children speak English well?

H: Oh, yes. Well----why didn't they, they would always come around to listen---to find out the English language. They would all get around and they would all try to learn that English language.

A: When did you pick your interest in baseball? When you were a youngster?

H: Well----brother, that's so far back I can hardly remember, when I was just a young fellow. I played ball with this Hartly Anderson, this great coach and football player----He lived in Tamarack and his father was a boss at the mining company there.

A: So the miner's sons and the boss's sons got along just fine?

H: Oh, yes-----everybody got along, everybody. Swedes, Norweigans, Finnish people-----all of them, they all got along fine.

A: If you were born in 1891-----you were here when the copper strike took place, weren't you?

H: Yes I was.

A: And do you have any remembrances about that?

H: Yes, I have,----great remembrance----and I'll tell you why. At the time of that fire----at that big party that there was at the Italian hall----Joseph Cadell, the Chief of Police of Calumet----if he was here beside my right now, he would tell you what I am

going to tell you. We were standing on the corner because I had came through----I was up in Canada, and I came down about three days before ----from Canada. And I had bought a pair of Skates Shoes at the Weider Hornis Company----they used to call it, on 6th Street righ opposite the big city hall. I brought my Skates to people who lived right by the city hall----in the back----called Neiberghs. I brought my Skates Shoes in there to get sharpened because I was going to go to the rink that night. And we were standing on the corner talking, we knew the party was on, and Joe Cadell said to me, "What's that noise?" And I said, yes, I was just going to say to you, "What's that noise?"----"in the hall up there." And there was an awful commotion up there----hollering, screaming, and yelling, and everything else going on up there. Fire, fire, fire, ----all we heard was fire----there's a fire----get out of the place. Get out! We never saw anybody get out of there----we were standing right there on the corner and nobody came out of there---out of the hall. They had the windows open and they were hollering. Once we heard that loud noise they were coming down the hallway. The steps----we went running over there. When we got over there, we tried to push the door in and we couldn't. The door opened inside----the door opened inside, that went into the lower part of the saloon---down in under. That opened the inside. If they opened outward, we could have pulled that door off and let them out of there. But, we couldn't. It was jammed. We heard the noise up in there----the crying and everything else----it was an awful commotion. So, what could we do about it? Old Cadell ran and got a ladder-----put it up to the window, and we got up there everything was just jammed. The hallway was jammed clean from the top to the bottom. There they were---jammed in there, one on top of the other. I have never seen anything like it. They were like sardines in a can. Children-women----piled up.

A: Did any of the people jump from the windows to the-----?

H: No, nobody jumped through any windows,----not that we saw.

A: Did local ambulances or -----?

H: Yes, everything came out. Everything came out. It was awful. That was something.

A: So, what happened when you finally got the doors opened?

H: Well---they started to pull them out----there they were----they laid them out all over.

A: That was quite a blow to the whole community, wasn't it?

Oh, man----I'll tell you----people were crying, there wasn't a dry eye around the place.

A: Well---you mentioned that there were cries of fire, but----was there a fire?

- H: There was no fire. There was no fire, brother---no. There was no fire. I swear with my both hands to my Almighty Father that there was no fire. If my friend Joe Cadell was sitting here with us----he would tellyou the same as I am telling you. There was no fire---somebody hollered it. They never did find out who hollered that there was a fire in the building. They never did. They investigated everyway that they could----and they could not find out. It was just one of those things that had to happen.
- A: Did that kind of bring the end to the strike, then?
- H: Well----I wouldn't say that it ended the strike, or what. It was a Christmas party, you know. It was just a regular party that they had there----that was going on.
- A: Were you working in the Tamarack Mine at that time, yourself?
- H: No, I wasn't working at that time
- A: You were still fairly young at that time?
- H: Ya.
- A: When you finished your schooling, did you go into the mine?
- H: I did. I went ~~to~~^{fill} into the mines as a ~~drill~~ boy and we would get a dollar a day.
- A: For how many hours of work?
- H: Well---there was ten hours. We'd go in in the morning---early about five o'clock, and by half past five we were down and underground. And we used to get up after the miners and take care of the drills and put them in the skip---and take and bring them up and put the bottle on the plack----and they would pick them up in a cart that they had. They would bring them over the blacksmith's shop to get them sharpened. Now, as a drill boy, we had to make clay rolls for the miners when they blasted the clay. About eight inches long they were, and about two inches in diameter. Then after they put the powder in the hole and the cap, and the fuse---they put that clay behind that. They would shove it in the hole, in the ground behind the powder----and they would pank that in. So that when they blasted----that would hold the compression or something that would blow out the rocks.
- A: That was kind of dangerous work for you, wasn't it?
- H: Yes, we had to be careful----they always told us to be careful. Those caps-----we used to cut those fuses a certain length---one longer than the other.
- A: How long would the longest be?

- H: Well----the longest would be about ten feet long,----eight feet long.
- A: And the shortest?
- H: The shortes would run about a foot or so. A foot and a half. We had a car--a power--that we used to put that cap in that was going to blow up--that power in that hole--. We had a stick and it had a sharp point on it, it was like a little rod, and we would take that and put it in on the powder, like that. At the head, and then push that in-----and then push the cap in there and the stick of powder. And then tighten that up in there with a little _____.
- A: As a drill boy, did you do this by yourself----or were there several drill boys-----?
- H: Oh, there was a drill boy for----each party of miners had them. To take care of their drills and we had to carry water up the hill for them, because there was no water liner machines then. Everything was dry drilling.
- A: Now, was that the two man drill or was that the one man drill?
- H: That was the two man drill---the two man machine.
- A: Were you working in the mine when they instituted the one man drill?
- H: Yes, I was. They came out with a machine and it was called the Telemann Machine. What the men had before was the Ikersol Ran Machine. That was a piston machine. It worked by air.
- A: How did the miners take to the new machine----did they think that it was a good idea?
- H: Well--it was a great thing. Yes, it was a great help to them. It was a lot faster and everything. Then they came out with what they call the WaterLiner Machine. That had a rod that went right through the machine, and there was a hook-up on the waterline-- it would go through the machine and into that rod and right down to the drill. The drills had holes in the middle of them. And the water went down through kept the slush that was cut ----- the copper cuttins and that----that would come out of the hole then. Keep the hole clean and the drill would keep on going.
- A: The area where the mining was done---was it quite wet and damp?
- H: Where the mining was?
- A: Well---where you were working, yes.
- H: No, it was dry up in there where we were.

A: Was it very hot or cold?

H: Yes, that was the trouble. The heat----there was a great volume of heat there.

A: Do you remember what kind of an outfit you wore?

H: Yes. We had a hat----we used to call it the "shinner Hat"--- and we used to hook it up here. We had grease, we used to put it until we had a wick. We got it just like string. And that went down in the bottom of the can, we would fill our can with that-----it was just like a regular old can. It had a hook here on it and it would come up here with the spout on it. And our light was up over our head. And we used to take and light that and put what they used to call "sunshine"---and we used to put that on that wick, and then we would start that blaze going, see?

A: Did it give pretty good light?

H: Yes. It gave fair light. And afterwards somebody came out with a patent that they had the Carbide Lights. The Carbide lights--- they used to take and put the carbide in a container that was a two piece outfit. And it had a shining globe on it. I don't know what that was made out of----but, you lit that. It was just like a point of gas coming out, you know. Well--we would light that and it would stay lit. We had a place there that we could adjust it a little. We would put a little water ~~that was in the~~ in that container that was up above-----there was just like a little wire going down in for the top part of that lamp. In on the carbide to drop in the can----on the carbide. To keep that carbide fuse coming in your light. And you could adjust that. By making that point bigger in that small point where the gas came out----or you could make it small. We had small thin wires like hair that we used carry bunches of them. We would clean it out if it was dirty, and the carbon smoke and that, you know. Well--we'd just put that wire in there, bring it around a little, and clean it out. So, we could put our light on again----test it out and see how it worked. We carried them in little cans in our pockets, and points to put in the lights. Yes, in the carbide light. They used to reflect----they had a reflection just like a mirror. We used to follow them----they used to shine and give us the good light. We had regular polish for that.

A: Could you give a little description about the men you worked with-- were they young or old----family men or single men?

H: Oh, mostly all of the men were married. The average of them were family men. There were lots of young single men, but there was lots of old men. They were good miners---number one miners.

A: How would you describe the spirit or the moral of the men? Were they pretty----how should we say-----satisfied with conditions?

- H: Well---everybody was satisfied. They had to be because there was nothing else for us to do. That was all the living we had to take into it.
- A: There has been a lot of talk about how the miners used to eat pasties---and take them down-----?
- H: Yes, the pasties. They used to call them my cousin Jack's pasties. Yes, I ate them. A good many of them, my mother used to make them.
- A: So, was that pretty typical for many miners----did they really eat the pasties?
- H: Oh, yes. Those pasties-----they, that was a great meal, that was
- A: Who started the pasties up here anyway?
- H: Well---the English people brought them in. The English people brought them in----they came in from England. There were quite a few English people there in Tamarack at the time. They had the big Tamarack church up there---Reverand Walker used to be there. Yes, the Tamarack church was a big congregation. We had our church to go to on Sundays-----and on Sundays we used to go to our Sunday School. And go to our church.
- A: And you belonged to that church?
- H: Yes, I belonged to the Tamarack church, with the Reverand Walker. His son used to get down there and play ball with us fellows and everything, in the field down there in Tamarack. Clearance Walker ---I knew him as well as I knew my own boys.
- A: Did the congregation have a lot of different nationalities represented too, or was it just----?
- H: No, the people had all the churches in Calumet. They had the Austrian church, the Norweigan church, the Swedish church, and the Finnish church. They had the English church, they had the French church. They had every congregation-----the Italian church---every nationality had their own church to go to and they used to go. Boy, they used to go to church. The people never missed their church.
- A: What kind of activities did your church have----besides, well---there was Sunday morning worship ----?
- H: Oh, they had their Sunday worships and then they used to have---a big day used to come up for their picnic----once a year.
- A: What was the church picnic like?
- H: Oh, man----they used to go up to the Tamarack park----that was

was up there near the Tamarack Mine. They had a beautiful place up there. They had dancing permitted up there and they had a big cooking place up there----on the west side of the park----and they had beer stands up on the other side of the park, separate from the others-----all separated out. They had the cooking down here where the women used to cook---- everything was in that big place. Then they had the beer stands up here on the other end of the park, and down here where you would come in by the gate----they had the big dancing pavillion there.

A: Now, there was dancing at the church picnic then?

H: Yes, they used to dance. People used to dance. They had a good time and they enjoyed their life extremely.

A: I suppose that that was an occassion or a time when a young man could met a young lady?

H: Yes. That's when the young men used to meet up with the young ladies----and get married. When they had their weddings they used to really celebrate.

A: Can you describe briefly what went on?

H: They used to invite everybody that they knew. They invited people--- everybody that they knew and they had a wedding. It was great. It was brotherly love, you know. It was great. They had beer there----but, in those days you would never see the kind of idiots you have today----they would never lay in the beer, and-----I don't know----like some of them live in beer. But, they never did that years ago.

A: So, what you're saying is that they had drinking-----?

H: They would drink---a glass of beer, two or three glasses of beer. But, that was it. But, if a lady was seen coming out of those saloons in those days----boy, her name was mud. They wouldn't look at the side of the street she was on.

A: How do you account for that?

H: I don't know. They just didn't want it ----that was all. If people wanted beer they had the brewery----the Bosch Brewery, and the Sherman Brewery had their beers there. They could go and buy their beers. They used to have it in cases----tweleve bottles in a case----tweleve quarts. They sold for a dollar a case.

A: Well---as far as the women go-----?

H: Women never touched beer.

A: No, I'm just raising the question

- H: No, that is one thing the women never did----they never touched the beer. If they did----well----you know. It would just be too bad for them. People wouldn't talk to them.
- A: Was the Women's Christian Temperance-----?
- H: Oh, yes-----the women were. Yes they were. They were greatly in the temperance line. You bet they were.
- A: How about in your own community of Tamarack?
- H: Yes, Tamarack was the same way. Everyone in the community was the same way. The women were strictly not for beer. No liquor.
- A: But the men could drink as much as they----?
- H: Well---they worked hard everyday, you know, and they would go and a glass of beer-----"Come on in partner and have a glass of beer"--
---they would go in and have a beer or two --- and out they would come. You would never see them sit in there and drink, drink, drink, until they couldn't come out of there, on their feet. No, they were strictly against that line of the beer. Everybody would go in and have a glass of beer and come out.
- A: What else would miners do for a good time besides having a beer or going to a church picnic---what else did you do?
- H: Oh, they used to go around and they had plenty to do, you know,-- the families, they always had wood to chop for winter, different things around----plant gardens, their homes----we always had gardens----big gardens-----
- A: Did you have your own cow?
- H: No, we didn't have a cow, we used to buy all of our milk from our neighbors. For ten cents we would get a five of ten pound pail full of milk.
- A: Was this right on the mining location, then?
- H: Yes----the people had their own barns there, right on their own premises.
- A: And the company permitted that?
- H: Yes, and they used to bring the cattle in the summer----they would bring the cattle out to the pasture, they had a pasture there-- the company did-----

(End of side #1 of tape #2)

Side B of tape

- H: They used to take care of the big gate. He had a little shack there and he would stay there until night----from morning until night.
- A: And collect the charge then?
- And he would stay and charge the people so much for their cattle and then he would row them out through those places all around Tamarack. Out on the Tamarack Brewery road they had a big pasture there that the cattle had----I don't know how many acres of roaming that they could go in and eat.
- A: Well---how did the farmers tell their cows apart-----did they brand them or-----?
- H: No, no. They all knew their own cows----they never had any trouble at all----in finding their own cattle.
- A: Were there a lot of horses in those days too?
- H: There were a lot of horses, yes, but they didn't put the horses in the pastures. The people who had horses, they used to take and feed them----they would get hay and that that they would cut and feed them their own hay. Buy their own oats and that and they would feed them.
- A: Did the mining companies use horses for their work?
- H: Oh, yes. The mining companies used horses.
- A: In what way?
- H: Well---they had carts and they used to use the horses on those carts for hauling stuff----different stuff to the shaft house. Supplies to the shaft house, for the miners and that. Different things.-----they used to haul water over there and the beer kegs that they would put underground for the men to drink. Drinking water----some levels had maybe two kegs of water, some had one--and they would put those kegs off on every level for drinking. They had a faucet on them. Big beer kegs they were. They used to keep the water pretty cool.
- A: You mentioned earlier that there was a lot of timber in the mines--did the horses haul logs and timber-----?
- H: What timber was there it was the natural forest; and it was underground. There was timber, there was Hemlock, there was Pine and you would wonder what they were going to do with that beautiful pine. They would go down there and go in the stopes----they had it to hold up what they called the foost and the hangle. They would cut that top on that, just like an angle to a certain degree, and that timber was cut so long----eighteen feet, twenty feet, or maybe thirty feet long----and it was put on a degree like a 45 degree angle. And when they were at the sawmill they had there

they used to cut them. And then they used to drill a hole in the middle of that timber----and when they used to put that timber over at the shaft house to take underground, they would put that big _____ through that hole----and they had chains on each side of that timber, on that bar it held it there. An angle like this----here's your bar----that timber, that hole went through that timber up at the top. They would hook those chains on each side of that bar and then they would hoist the skip--- the chains went under the sides of the skips, and they would take and hoist that skip up and that would lift that timber right up and that would go right down into the shaft. Right in under the skip. And the chains would hold it there. And then they would put it underground. When they would bring it underground they had what they would call the timbermen. They would be down there underground and the would get the skip ready to come down. They would have a timber, and they would get a rope and they would put that rope around it and then pull it in on the plank and one fellow would give him a signal on the bell for the engineer to lower down. They would put that on a small outfit----they had a small outfit there----it was just like a little cart on wheels-- on the track. And when that would come down, the skip would lower down, then they would pull that in on the plank----the landing plank. And then they would take those chains off and hook them together and the skip was alright again to use for hoisting rocks again.

- A: Then the timbermen would take- take the timber-----?
- H: They would take the timber and put it where they were going to use it----up in the stopes. And they would put it up in rotation-- so far apart, or wherever there was a bad break in the hanging where they were fixing. They would put that timber up over that log, to hold that hanging up just like that----see, there was a hole there. Well---they would put timber up over that hole and they would take and put that timber up and put that over this timber here---and then they would wedge that all in with wedges. And that would hold that hanging up. It wouldn't break loose.
- A: Were the timbermen sometimes involved in accidents with the rock falling?
- H: Oh, yes. Lots of the timbermen used to get killed at different places there in the mine----falling rock. Sometimes they had to put those timbers up that were thirty feet long---according to how bad the place was, you know. To fix up the hole.
- A: So, you talked a little bit about your work as a drill boy and you mentioned the timbermen, and you talked a little bit about the miners, can you say something about the job of the trammer?
- H: The trammers---when they blasted the stopes were running at an average of about 45 degrees. And when they blasted that rock would come down---at the bottom of the drift where the stope started. And if there were some that were too big, they had fellows there

that would break those rocks up-----so that they could put them in the cars, you see? They had tram cars----they used to shovel their dirt in.

A: Now, the big rock---how did the men break them?

H: They used to drill them sometimes. And sometimes they used a sledge hammer on them, and bust them open.

A: And then they would load the rock into the tram cars----?

H: They would load the rock into the tram cars and then push them out.

A: By hand?

H: Yes, by hand

A: Were those cars pretty heavy?

H: Yes, I would say that they would hold maybe two or three tons.

A: And it was strictly by man-power that the----?

H: Yes, that was all man-power. That was man-power.

A: How many men did it take to push a tram car?

H: Oh, two men. Two men on the tram cars. And they used to shovel their dirt in and fill their dirt up---and drill the cars and push them out on the flat----and then from the flat they would come down on the skip and they had a rail on the skip----it was built in the skip and cars would come in and they would push the cars in on the skip. And they had what they called a buckle to hold the cars in when they pushed them in the skip. It was a strap-----a steel strap, an iron strap, and they would take that and they would pull it out. And they had a hinge that went over and when they would lift that up to put the car in that would hold that jack up, you see? As soon as they pushed the car in the skip, they would pull that strap down----and that had the car in there so it couldn't get out of the skip. It would hold it right there.

A: You mentioned earlier that as a drill boy you received a dollar a day as a wage----how did the trammers make out?

H: Well---they all lived. Things were cheap then. Eggs, butter, sugar, and all that stuff---all the commodities were laid down. You could go into the store and you could buy a 98 sack of flour for a dollar. You could buy butter ---- butter was 6, 8, and 10 cents a pound. It all depends on what brand of butter you had. Sugar----five pounds for 20¢. I knew when my mother paid only 18¢

for five pounds. Eggs----20¢ a dozen

- A: Well---I suppose a lot of those things like eggs and farm products-----?
- H: All the farm products were down. Everything was down. You could buy a number one pair of shoes for yourself for a dollar and a half. Two dollars----you could get a swell pair of shoes for yourself.
- A: Where did all of this stuff come from----did it come from the local farmers----?
- H: No, the eggs and a lot of the stuff were shipped in. And everything like it is today. It was mostly shipped in.
- A: It came in by the railroad?
- H: By the railroad, yes. St. Paul would come in there at Calumet. South Shore----and the Northwester Railroad used to come in there.
- A: So, years ago the railroads were very active?
- H: Oh, they were busy---they were busy. Tamarack down there---why they had I don't know how many trains they had there for hauling ore. They had the big ~~brown~~ house there-----I'd say there must have been at least 25 or 30 locomotives in that big ~~brown~~ house. Yes, C&H had their own big ~~brown~~ house there. They used to call them switch trains---they would switch the cars. The empty ones and the full ones---they would line them all up on the flat up there, same as Tamarack and them, and they had a certain track that they would run them on---where the full cars were after they got the ore out of the bins in the rock houses, you know. They filled the cars from out of the big bins that they had when it crushed----it was crushed when it was brought up in the top of the shaft house. They had the big crushers. When they dumped that ore it used to come down into a bin-----right into the crushers. The crushers would crush it and then it would run down into the big ore bins. And they had gates there that they used to open up at the bottom shoots----and fill the cars up full of ore. And fellows would run those cars out----they had fellows down there filling those cars----all day long and all night. And when they would get them out they would put them out there on the place and the ~~re~~ train would come up close to them and put them in line, and then they would bring them down to the mills.
- A: Say, Al, last year I heard about an event that took place in the Copper Country----and I still haven't gotten the full story on it. It seems that years ago there was a train robbery, wasn't there?
- H: But, that wasn't up in Calumet. That was down at Champion. That train robbery took place at Champion.

- A: Do you recall what took place?
- H: Yes, Champion was a place where the brains used to change over. From Deluth way, and Chicago way, and Milwaukee way---and out, and that was a regular depot for the change-overs. Your passengers---what direction they were going. The South Shores, the St. Paul Road, or what road you were going on----The Soo Line---well, whatever way you were going to go, you had to be there for the change-over----to get your train. They would come in at a certain period of time. And that robbery took place right out of Champion----right where they slowed down to come into the depot.
- A: When did that robbery take place?
- H: I can't remember what year that was----I was pretty young then
- A: It was right after 1900 then?
- H: Ya, it was up in the 1900s
- A: Let me put it this way----who was involved in the robbery? Who were the robbers?
- H: Well--they claimed that it was a couple of fellows from Laurium connected with that robbery. But, who they were I don't know. But, they claim they were connected from Laurium.
- A: Were men ever brought to trial then----for the robbery?
- H: Oh, they got them alright. They got the fellows. They served their terms. Yes, they served their terms in Marquette.
- A: How was the law enforcement here in these early days? The law, the police----were there quite a few----?
- H: Oh, yes. The police---they were always on the job.
- A: They kept law and order pretty good, then?
- H: Yes, they kept law and order. Everything was alright.
- A: Earlier concerning the Italian hall diaster you mentioned ----was it Tredell----?
- H: Joseph Tredell---he was the chief of police in Calumet on day shift. He was the regular chief. Jim Glazzen was the night chief. They had a days shift chief, Joe Tredell----but he was the regular chief; and Jim Glazzen was the night chief.
- A: What kind of things did they have to do? Was there a lot of disturbances----what e were----?
- H: No, there wasn't a lot of disturbances. They used to go around and see that there wasn't any disturbances. They would go around

and see that everything was kept in order. No fights or anything. They watched the saloons pretty close. If there was any fighting in them, they would arrest them. And the fellows used to hate to get arrested because they would really put it on them.

A: Who was the judge in those days?

H: They had Judge Armer there----that was from Laurium. He was there for quite a while at Red Jacket. Judge Armer---he was there and he was a judge. Then there was Judge Jackala---he was a judge. They had different judges.

A: Jackala-----he was a Finn, wasn't he?

H: Yes, he was Finnish

A: What sort of a fellow was he---did you know him?

H: Yes, he was a big man---a fine fellow. If they got arrested, they carried no grievances against him. They didn't care if he was a policeman or anything. They knew that they were in the wrong,----to get arrested.

A: What was the reputation of the Finns in those early days?

H: Very good. Yes, they were a very fine class of people. The Finnish people were a quiet disposition people. They were very quiet----but, they were a very fine class of people. If you take them as a whole---every one of the generations that I knew, that I came in contact with, they were fine people.

A: There weren't any trouble-makers?

H: No, there were no trouble-makers. There were not any trouble-makers that I ever knew. Everybody seemed to want to get along together good all the time. If they could help you, they would help you--and if they couldn't they would tell you.

A: How about---I understand the Socialist movement was strong among the Finns.?

H: Well----that didn't last long.

A: When did it peter out?

H: That just seems as if it came a in and then went out. It was just like a union----some wanted the union and some didn't. And that is the way that it was----it came in and it went out the same way that it went in.

A: Was it strong during the time of the strike, then?

H: No, the people---they----the only thing they were looking for was a decent scale of wages----and shorter hours. Better working

conditions

A: So it was really a matter of bread and butter?

H: They were looking on the side for their bread and butter---and shorter hours to work and a better standard of living. Because as the times went along, and things got better----everything seemed to go up a little. The living went up and everything, just gradually along with us; but it was kept on the minimum. And it wasn't bounced up 5-6----well, you get a pound of butter. Say that pound of butter was 18¢ or 20¢----well, they didn't say, "we want 35-40 cents for that butter"-----if it was 20¢ a pound it was raised up maybe a cent.

A: Al, you have lived in the Copper Country a long time----when would you say were the best times in the Copper Country?

H: The best times in the Copper Country---I'll say that they run for the mining and everything, the way the things went along and everything up there-----I'll say it was when the price of the copper went up. I'll say from 1910 on the copper price seemed to be better for the mining companies.

A: And those were the best times?

H: Yes they went according to the market, you know.

A: Was that because of World War I?

H: Yes No-----that was before World War I

A: And---when were the toughest times in the Copper Country?

H: Well---the tough times in the Copper Country run from about --- in the thirties----that's when the copper markets were hanging in-----in the thirties.

A: What kind of an affect did it have on the people here----did a lot of people move out, or did they stay here----?

H: Well---on the strike?

A: No, during the Depression---during the thirties.

H: Well---when that big Depression was on it put everybody up against-- that a job was a job. That you had to go where there was work.

A: Was there work here for them so that they could stay here?

H: Well----there was work, but very little. Very little

A: How did you---yourself manage during the Depression?

H: Well---I got a job with the ice company ---The Demeara Ice Company.

I used to go and help them make ice in the winter. And deliver ice in the summer, with the big wagon----with the team. I put the cakes of ice in the big wagon----about thirty cakes----and go out and deliver, and cut it up and put it in the ice houses. We used to have to go into different places in the winter and in the summer, we had to go in the saloons. We would bring a cake of ice----they had big ice boxes. Maybe some of them boxes would hold maybe four, five, or six cakes of ice. Some would hold one or two cakes----it all depended on how big that ice box was,----where they kept their beer. Then they had a place they used to put their beer----the beer ontap they used to call it--it was for the counter--to give the customers. And they had a place in there---of copper coils----copper coils in that box----and we used to take and fill that box with chopped ice. We used to put our cake of ice in there and chop it all up---it would go in that box and then we would put the cover over it. That would keep their beer cold for them all day. If you would go in to the saloon and order a glass of beer----they would go to the tap and your beer would come out cold.

- A: Did the taverns ever give free beer during the Depression? Did they give the beer free occasionaly?
- H: Oh, lots of the fellows used to come in and they would say, "Well, today we will give you a free beer"-----so, they got their free beer. Some of them used to like to drink, but they would watch these fellows and get them out. They would tell them to get out and go home,----you've had enough beer, get home.
- A: Did the people in the Copper Country help each other during the Depression?
- H: Oh, yes. Even when the Depression was on bad there for fuel-----the companies used to open up their timber lines down on the lakeshore down there-----and they would give us places to go and cut our timber and get our wood. Make our wood ---- with the crosscut saw and the axe. We would fill the cars up full of wood and bring them home. Stock them up for the winter.
- A: So, the company helped the people out during the Depression?
- H: Oh, yes. The company did help them out. They used to help the people.
- A: Did you do any hunting----did people get any venason and other types of food-----?
- H: Oh, yes. They used to go hunting----lots of birds and lots of rabbits----lots of deer, lots of deer. Lots of bear.
- A: Did you hunt yourself?
- H: Oh, yes. I used to hunt. I hunted from the time I was about fourteen years old.

- A: What---deer, bear----what did you get?
- H: We used to get deer, hunt deer. You didn't have to go far to hunt deer.
- A: I guess one of the things that people enjoy about hunting----is that there is a lot of hunting stories that develop.
- H: Well---we used to have a lot of hunting stories, yes.
- A: Do you remember any of them?
- H: Yes, fellows used to come in and say they downed them but when they went over to get them----somebody else was hauling them up. Then---my deer was gone, and I couldn't find it. Different things----all of them had hard luck stories. "Well, I hit him, I know that, he didn't go far---but, I couldn't find him." But, on an average though, we didn't have much trouble on the deer.
- A: How much did it cost for a license in those days?
- H: Oh, a dollar and a half.
- A: And on that you could get one deer?
- H: Yes,-----no, brother. When they had the 50¢ license you could go out and get five deer. The deer were that plentiful.
- A: Could you shoot only bucks?
- H: Yes, you could shoot a buck or a doe. They had different seasons and after they were thinning out-----they started to regulate the deer season---according to way the way they thought the deer were
- A: Did you ever trap?
- H: Yes, muskrats, beaver, different things. We used to sell the skin---we would skin the beaver down and sell the pelts. For so much a pelt---it all depended on how much the market was offering for them. Some were 50¢ a pelt, some \$5---beavers ran from 2, 3, 4 dollars a pelt to -----it all depends on how the market was running for them.
- A: So, did you ~~ye~~ do your trapping when you just a youngster, or---? But, not when you started mining.
- H: Yes, when I was still a young fellow. No, not when I was up in the older ages. I ues to go deer hunting----my big game was the deer hunting.
- A: As a drill boy---how long did you work as a drill boy up in Tam-arack?
- H: Oh, I worked the mines there for quite a while. I followed mining

right up through until I quit the C&H.

A: When did you quit C&H?

H: I quite the C&H, I don't know----I think it was in the forties. In the forties---I know it was.

A: Do you remember when the union finally did come in?

H: The union?

A: Ya, it came in in the thirties didn't it?

H: No, right after the strike----the company gave them different wages and set different things going there. They had a meeting and everything was settled in a good way. Everything was so that everybody was satisfied. Everything was fixed up through the officials and through the union.

A: That helped to smooth everything----?

H: Yes, everything went along fine after that. Things seemed to come right along gradually until where they are today.

A: Going back to the strike----I've heard that a lot of people moved out of the area. Lots of people went when the strike was on a lot of people moved out of Calumet even----they went to Milwaukee Chicago, Detroit---actually they went all over. They went wherever there was work. They went there and got a job and that was it. Detroit especially----they went to Detroit very heavily,----- Milwaukee and Chicago---those three cities. And Flint, Pontiac. The automobile industry was coming along then.

(End of side #2 of tape #2)

side #1 of tape #3

A: Now, when did you start working here, Al?

H: Oh, I was here around 1906 and '07. I was here 1907

A: At Opel's Store?

H: Yes, around in there.

A: What's the name of this smelter here?

H: The Hubbell Smelters, they call it.

A: What operation took place here?

They used to melt their copper here. And, make it into ingots. Or else sheet copper, and put it in _____ over there to separate the silver from the copper in the tanks

A: Was there very much silver that--

Yes, when they were up on the top levels, there was a lot of silver. The mines were producing a lot of silver, way down to the 1500 level in the mines. From the top level---the first, all the way down through.

A: Did you ever work with any of the silver yourself when you were working in the mine?

H: Oh, yes. We used to get the silver when we were mining. We used to pick it up. C&H didn't have any rights, no claim on the silver at that time. But, years long, as they ran into it more---they stocked it up and they took over the silver rights, you see. The miners and that couldn't take and vote.

A: I see, so it was valuable stuff, then?

H: Oh, yes----75, 65, 55,--85 cents an ounce you could get for it.

A: Did you ever work on a railroad gang, Al?

H: Yes, I worked on the C&H Railroad, the town gang, and we used to go around what they called the Bellfear, and do the plowing. There's the ball field here, that's where I used to play ball. That's the area.

A: Is that named after the----?

H: The Hubbell Field, that is. Yes, that is the Hubbell Field. The Hubbell Baseball Field. I never worked on this side here.

A: What is this plant called?

The Lake Linden Electric Plant. The big one here. That's where they supply their electricity here, for the company and everything, Lake Linden.

A: Do you remember any major power failures years ago?

H: Yes, they had major power failures. See those big condensers in there and everything, see them? And, they had different apartments back in their machine shops and that, you know.

A: Here's the museum. Did you ever go in the museum years ago?

H: No, that's one thing that I have never seen. That came after I left here. This museum came after I was out of here.

A: What was it years ago?

H: The museum? I don't know what that was. I think that was sort of a warehouse for the Houghton County Electric Company. I never did pay any attention. But, there is a building over in the field there that some fellows had built. And, they used to make medicine in there.

A: Is that right? What kind of medicine? Patented medicine?

H: Patented medicine for coughs and that, yes. I will show you where that is. It is over here on the road where you go to Lake Linden---just a little ways. Right by the place where you said the museum----down in off of the main street, is it? Or is it?

A: Which?

H: That museum that they have here.

A: Oh, I thought we passed it a little while ago.

H: Well---they have a place over here that they sell those different things and that. (Oh, I bet he means the Copper Country Arts, I bet he means---Mrs. Puotinen.)

Yes, the Copper Country Arts outfit. Yes, I will show you something there, we will take a run there---right here, off of the corner, down. There used to be a warehouse there. I think it belonged to the Houghton County Power Company if I am not mistaken. Right down in here a little ways---right in there, down there. And, the big saw mills used to out here, right here. Yes, that's it. That's the place, it was a warehouse. Now, if you go down further, I will show you where the old mill was. Do you know where the old saw mill was? (No.) Well---I will show you. It is right on the other side of the river a little ways, over across the bridge.

- A: Who was that again?
- H: Sam Meady and McGorman Lumber Company.
- A: Oh, they used to have a saw mill
- H: Yes, they used to be in this building here, right here to your right. Right in here it was, that mill. It was right in here, here's the spot. Right here on this flat.
- A: Was it a pretty large operation?
- H: Yes, that had quite a large operation there. Quite a large operation, quite a mill. They used to have their lumber piles down in there, and all around there. And, they had one of those little Dixie Engines----Dixky Engines, they used to call them. A little small engine that used to haul their lumber out into the yard---pile their lumber up so it would dry and that. But, the mill lay right in there. That was the mill, the scene of the mill.
- A: Where did the lumber from the mill go?
- H: Well----they shipped lumber all over. Oh, yes. They shipped lumber out of here, they shipped lumber all over the country. Now that there, I don't know when they tore that mill down, actually. It was torn down since I have been out of here, but it can't be very long.
- A: Did you ever work there?
- H: Yes, I worked there. I worked there for Sam Meady
- A: What type of job did you have in that mill?
- H: Well---I was in there taking the lumber off of the----as they sawed it, piled it in on the trucks. Yes, so when we had it piled up so far on the trucks, that little ledge would come in and pull that load out, and bring it out to the yard and pile it up to dry. And, all of that place over there was lumber piles----it was all lumber piles. It was all around that end over there, right down in through. Of course, quite a bit of that place is grown in with small trees.
- A: Is this the field where the men made the medicine?
- H: No, that field is over here. I will show you that. Joe has got his saw mill back there now.
- A: I see. What was the patent medicine used for?
- H: It was for colds and that, for coughs, you know
- A: Did you ever have some?

- H: Yes I had two or three bottles of that. It was pretty good.
- A: What did it taste like?
- H: It was some kind of combination. Well----let me see, what did it really taste like? It tasted something like, well----I'll have to think about something now. Well, it tasted something like a prune juice to me.
- A: Is that right?
- H: Yes.
- A: They didn't put any alcohol in it, did they?
- H: I don't know if there was any alcohol. I don't know the contents of it.
- A: Did you feel good after you had it?
- H: Yes, it was a good cough medicine
- A: Did you ever see how they made it?
- H: No, nobody was allowed in there. Nobody was allowed in there, they wouldn't let anyone in there.
- A: Why was that?
- H: I don't know. They just kept it undercover, that's all I know.
- A: When did the operation begin?
- H: Oh, that was way in the beginnings of the 1900s.
- A: How many years did it operate?
- H: Oh, that operated quite a few years. Then all at once it went out. That was it, that was the end. Yes, it was quite a building, quite a large building.
- A: What was the year? Do you recall what time that was?
- H: That was in the 40s.
- A: Did anybody lose their home?
- H: No, they didn't lose their homes, not until the river----the Traprock River went up---it overflowed it's banks, and this was all underwater, all up here. They had to take and go through here with a tractor.
- A: Right here by the Lakes Drive-In Theater?

- H: Yes, right up through here, there was water all in here.
- A: Al, do you remember any year-----?
- H: Koski's Place here-----I used to get groceries here, when I used to go out to my brother-in-law's camp----when we were planting potatoes way out there. We used to plant potatoes, my brother-in-law. And, I used to work for him.
- A: Did you plant them by hand?
- H: No, no----we planted them by machine. We had forty acres out there. I know ther people who operate that store there.
- A: Al, do you remember any years, any years that there was really a lot of snow?
- H: Oh, well----brother, we had snow all the time. Every year there was a lot of snow. 1913 was the years we went through that was a beautiful winter.
- A: That was the year of the strike, then?
- H: That was the year of the strike. That was a beautiful winter, open winter. We would just get a little snow after Christmas--here and there a little patch. Yes, that was a beautiful winter, an open winter. Now, there's the big saw mill over there. See. that started up.
- A: What's the name of that mill?
- H: I don't know what saw mill that is
- A: Yes, we are going north of Lake Linden now
- H: Yes, we are going up north of Lake Linden. I don't know if Kallio has that mill, or Clouthier. Oh, say-----I wanted you to get something. My partner that I used to go with years ago, he lived here. He had these cattle in here and everything.
- A: His what?
- H: He was raising cattle
- A: Oh, do you want to go back there?
- H: Yes, I would like to. He is there too----I'm pretty sure. There is a place to turn around.
- A: You said you went to school with Pastor Heideman years ago?
- H: Yes, him and Longres Fredrickson, down on Pike Street.

A: What kind of a student was Pastor Heideman?

H: He was quite a student, yes. He was quite a student, he was a very smart man. The whole family was a smart family. The whole Heideman family was a smart family, a fine family. But, there was a small door going right inside, and the stairway was right up there. We came here, and we were standing right on that corner. Hello, Rod! (Hi!)

Rod: The snow would be way up over the doors.

H: Yes, the snow would pile up something awful in the winter time.

Rod: You can take all those buildings around here----look at that church, look at the steps going into that church.

H: That building there, I helped to build that building. That was the big building. Lyle Beaman built that, a fellow who used to contract in Laurium. A fellow called Lyle Beaman, I'll never forget Lyle.

Rod: Paul Rame, he built the-----

A: Did that fire escape----?

H: That fire escape was there, but they never used it. You would go out the alley way. Because George was here, that house I was telling you about. How are you?

?: Well----you got a big bow and everything else.

H: Well---I'm just like you trying to be a young fellow again. Going back to our old He-days.

?: Yes, that's the way to do it. Sell you an automobile or something?

No, I'm going back home in about another month or two. I can't afford it.

?: Sure. What part of California are you----?

H: Stockton. Yes, I buried my last sister out there the day after Christmas. She was 87, my second oldest sister. Yes, the other one we buried was 94. Homer, he was 96 when he died. He was a drummer in the band.

?: Do you live in Hancock now?

H: Yes, I like the old town. I like to change over. It isn't that I don't like my Calumet High----I love my Calumet the same as anyone else. But, I like to change over, and there isn't as much snow over there, you know. I get around. Well---how is the car business going, pretty good?

- ?: Oh, not too bad.
- H: Well----it was nice seeing you fellows. I hope I see you again before I go down California. Yes, he was writing books at the time.
- A: Where did you meet him?
- H: I met him out there on the creek. Out of Lake Linden where we were, that place down there where I told you about the medicine and that. I met him down on the bridge down there, many of times--McCullen's Creek. I will show you where I met him--- had many a talk with him.
- A: What sort of a guy was he?
- H: Well---he was a man that was highly self-confident. He was confident in himself. That's the way I take it. Right there used to be the number 2 Allouez shaft.
- A: Well---did Hemingway enjoy fishing, or what?
- H: Oh, he was writing books. He would do a little fishing, but very little fishing. I asked him, but he didn't do so awfully much fishing. Only when he went on special trips, he would do some fishing. But, his category ran into life----life history more, you know. Sort of a business set-up. Enterprise stuff. He was a man who was highly educated. You could look at him and you could see it.
- A: When did he come up, was it just in the summertime?
- H: Oh, yes, that's all. He was ust here in the summertime
- A: What years was that?
- H: That was in the 40s. That was in the 40s
- A: Did he ever tell you any stories, or-----?
- H: No, that's one thing----I always wondered if he had something to come out with, but no----. No, he was always interested in what you talked to him about. That was his category.
- A: Did he own a place up here?
- H: No, not that I know of.
- A: He just rented, huh?
- H: He would just rent stuff up here and go out.
- A: Did he come up by himself?

- H: Yes, he would always come up by himself. He was always alone when I saw him. Yes, he was always alone when he saw me. I would make a date with him and we would take a walk. He would ask me about different things there, on the creek. I would answer him, tell him.
- A: What kind of things was he interested in?
- H: Well---I will tell you. He was a man that was highly interested in-----like tourists, and stuff like that. And about the lay-out of the country and everything.
- A: Was he interested in the mining history?
- H: Yes, we went into the mining. I told him a little about mining and that. But, he was more highly interested in the way the country was going, you see. He used to ask me about the different people and everything. Yes, he used to ask me quite a bit about the Austrian people, the Finnish people, the Swedes, Norwegians, Finnish----and all of them, Polish people---all of them. Yes, we would sit down there on the old bridge, McCullen's Creek there, and he would get that book out.
- A: Did he ever write an article or a book about your conversations together?
- No, no, no-----not that I know of. He always called me Al. Oh, yes-----Hemingway was quite a man, quite a story man. I guess he wrote a lot of nice big books. He must have been a man with writing knowledge, you know, about different things. He used to come in there with sacks of silver on his back.
- What Frenchman was that?
- He was a Frenchman from up in Quebec. In Canada there somewhere
- A: Was it up on the Keeweenaw where he-----
- H: Yes, up in there around Phoenix. At Phoenix there where my uncle moved up to Phoenix.
- How did he bring in the silver
- I will show you the house and everything where he lived, where my uncle lived.
- How did the guy bring in the silver?
- Made out of a deer pelt, the bag
- A: What shape was it in?
- H: There was two slings that you would put on your shoulder, you would put the bag on your bag.

A: How big were these-----?

Oh, he would come in with chunks like that.

A: The size of a baseball, hey?

H: Oh, yes.

A: How long ago was that when he used to come in like that?

H: When I was there at Ameke----1908, 1909. I used to go down Louie's Place there, and sometimes I would stay two or three days with him.

A: Did he say how he found them, was he trapping, or what?

H: No, he would never say a word. My uncle, on time, tried to follow him out in the night. He would never come in in the daytime, he would always come in in the night, with that bag on his back.

A: Did he get a pretty good price for it?

H: Oh, yes-----the silver would always pay a very fair price. 50¢, 45, 60, 70-----it would all depend on how the silver market was running. My, they are building something up in there too, now. It looks like we are going to get some rain, it is starting to cloud up.

A: Hey, Al, what was the name of this fellow that we went to visit?

H: John Bodwine. *Beaudson*

A: John Bodwine, and tell me a little about him-----what is his background?

Shmuck H: Well-----he used to play ball with us. He was a miner, he worked in the Ameke Mines there, and then after Captain Rapsen died, he took over as Captain of the Mine. So, the last he was on was the Captain of the Mine-----then the mine shut down.

A: But, you and he played baseball together in 1908 or 1912.

H: 1908, and 1912-----and then after that even.

A: What position did he play on the team?

H: He played in the field. He always played center field, he was a good fielder. A good ball player, an all around good ball player.

A: Did your baseball team take trips very often----to far off----?

H: No, no. We had what they called the C&H League then.

A: You never played outside of Michigan, then?

H: No, we had it up here. We had Lake Linden-Hubbell, we had here and then the Calumet area was populated heavy. Even Caluemt
A: had a team. Ameke, Lake Linden, Hubbell----the C&H League it was called. They played pretty good ball, too. The players would come in from all over then. It was a good league, a very good league. It was pretty hot baseball. Yes, Johnny, I'm glad that I saw him.

A: Are any of those other teams still alive?

H: Yes, and I was asking him about Art Pourri. He was a Finnish fellow. He used to play with us too. He was a big fellow. I would have liked to get a hold of that picture. Maybe I could get a ----- from that, hey?

A: Could be----yes, that is a nice picture.

H: Yes, if I could get a ____ from that, it would be a nice picture---1912. I go down and see John sometimes. I will call him up, and see if he will give it to me to get a static-photo of it.

A: When you were a young fellow, Al, where did you go swimming?

H: Oh, we used to go in the dams

A: Wasn't that dangerous?

H: Well----we always made sure we could swim before we went into the deep holes. We would go in the shallow part first, until we learned how to swim good. We didn't take any chances, like some of them take chances now.

A: Didn't C&H have a pool at one time?

H: Yes, yes----I will show you where that is? I will show you when we go by it where that pool was.

A: Was it right in Calumet, or what?

H: No, it was on this road where it goes right straight through to Keeneenaw. You know where I told you where Jim McDove lives, across the street, kitty-corner. Yes, that was it----the C&H Company swimming pool there.

A: Did they charge you to go in, or was it free?

H: Yes, they used to charge 10¢ or so. You would get a towel and everything.

A: Was the C&H Public Baths----was that a sauna? Did they have a sauna in there?

No, just a bath---that was all. The bath and the shower. We had the pool and the showers.

A: Say, that house that is right across from the Hut Drive-In. Who used to be in that house again?

H: Superintendent Dingler.

A: What mine was he superintendent of?

H: He was a Wolverine Man. He was with the Wolverine Mines

A: Now, was that building already up when you came?

(End of side #1 of tape #3)
(No side #2)
(End of interview)

Fishing days
at Big Paradise small
Traverse Island at
Key Stone Point
Canal Lake to Belle
before the Lamprey
Came in

Well here I am again this
time I am fishing, we will
go to Key Stone Point first
year ago there was 4 or 5
fishermen there fishing they
came in with their 40 foot
boats always well rigged
up from front to back of
the boats say 2 feet or
even 3 ft deep with Lake
trout they even had cribs
around the motors that
were in the middle of the
boat that the fish would
not interfere with the motor
as I said it back in them
days when we use to go to
see them come in off the

2

Take old say some of them
had as high a 5 Ton of
Take trout to the food
You looked into the Boat
and all you could see
was fish from one end
of the Boat to the other
and nothing but trout
it sure was a sight to
see, it runned that way
for a good many years
then things turned around
on came the Lamprey and
then the loads of fish
started to brink down
to hardly a few hundred
pounds, the Fishermen
put out more meets to
no avail then in comes
the Lamprey and the marks
on the trout from the

Lamprey, until now it
time for Big Action on
the Conservation part to
kill them off so that
the fishing would come
back again so the
Conservation had to find
out a method to cope with
the Lamprey and give
the Lake trout a chance
to survive they sure went
to work and if I am not
mistaken they are still
after the Lamprey in the
rivers and streams and
lakes where the water
runs from the inland
Lakes to Lake Superior
it is a terrific job to get
rid of them as I know
I used to have a camp

4

with a partner of mine
on the Big Traverse river
in the timber line it was
more of a deer hunting
camp than for fishing
but we all liked double
trout and Rainbow trout
to eat so we went fishing
on the river, it was
right up from the place
where the West Branch of
the Traverse met the
larger North Branch of
the Traverse river it had
a sandy bottom and
small pebbles also so
one day I was fishing
on the West Branch and
I looked down into the
bottom of the river and
saw a movement in

5

between a root of a tree
in the river and saw
fish come from under
it but it was not a
fish it was a Lamprey,
so very soon it went back
under the root again and
I watched it it backed
so under so I could
see that it had like a
round vacuum on its nose
or head, so I watched for
a good half hour, down
from where I had seen
the lamprey I knew there
was fish in a quite deep
hole so I picked up a
small pebble and threw
it in the hole sure enough
up came some speckled
trout right in front of

6

me and I kept quite
and did not make a
move there was two or
three speckle trout there
all at once one of the
speckle trout maneuvered
close to the root, and
all of a sudden Mr
Lamprey made a strike
at the speckle trout and
got hold of the speckle
trout in the middle of
its body, well the battle
was on the lamprey was
about 8 or nine inches
long I know because
I measured it after I
had seen the battle there
in front of me going
on, I had a dip net and
I sure went in action

7

quick, I put my net
in the water as I had
trip boats on and I
saw that the Lamprey
was trying to shove the
fish against the river
bank to put more pressure
on the hold he had on the
trout so I got within
good action for my fish
net and got the two Mr
Lamprey and also Mr trout
I went and took a hold
of the trout and then
I tried to pull the Lamprey
off but nothing doing
he sure had a hold on
the speckle, I had a pair
of gloves with me in my
pocket so I put the trout
and Lamprey on the ground.

8

do you think he would
let go, nothing doing I
put my one foot on the
head of the speckle and
the other foot on the
tail end of the speckle
so then I got hold of Mr
Lamprey and started to
pull, well now I am
going to tell you fishermen
I did not get him off
the speckle, I believe I
had stretched him over
a foot and still nothing
doing, well then I seen
right away he sure had
that vacuum nose of his
tightened on the trout, so
I got busy I got my
fish knife out and
put it under his throat

9

And let him have it quick, you talk about blood fly, it sure did there, but that finished Mr Lamprey, but that was not all, when I picked up the Lamprey and Trout together, I looked at the Vacuum Cup that was on the spindle and it seemed to me to be at least 3 inches in diameter and that was quite large so I cut its throat and I had a hold of it and the Trout and it looked to me as though that sort of a cup was getting smaller as it was bleeding, so I kept on watching, sure enough it shrank to about

10

an inch in diameter and
all of a sudden it left
loose of the trout after
it had bleed so much
blood, I looked at the
middle of the cup and I
saw its teeth they were
rotating around like in
a circle and pointing
straight out from the
suction cup, so I soon
realized that as he had
bit the speckle he started
to cut into it with them
rotating teeth and bleeding
the speckle to death, well
I sure learned some-
thing about Lamprey then
and learned why they were
such trout killers, so
after that ordeal was
over I went back to it

11

Bank of the river and took a rather good look at was sure on the alert watching, so the pile of small pebbles that were near that root in the bottom of the stream seemed to be like moving so I kept on watching the place on the root near the bank of the river I thought that I had seen something move so I watched, sure enough about 1/2 hour time I looked and seen another little ring come up under the root and pebbles that were there, sure enough I dropped another pebble in the water below me

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I did not make a move
but up came a few
Speckle Trout again from
the whale, well I had
my net read and my
knife I put in the blade
a small tree near me
ready so I could grab
it, I kept on watching
that root and pebbles
The Trout were swimming
around and one got near
the root again, all of
a sudden Mr Lamprey
made a bit for the
speckle but the speckle
got out too quick from
the place but the Lamprey
came out, about 8 or 9
inches long so I left
him swim around and

cl had put my net in the Stream Again after cl had caught the first one and cl caught hold with my hand of the net and got a good chance and sure nailed the Lamprey, so there cl was with this one in the net, do you know what happened to this second Lamprey cl had caught did, well cl am going to tell you right now, there was a small piece of a Board about a foot long, on the Bank of the River so cl thought to my self, cl wonder if he will strike at that piece of Board if cl put it in

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The net near that ring,
well did I get a surprise
I put it near his snout
and sure enough he sure
gave it a strike right
away so I said to myself
there all alone I wish
some guy would come
along on the stream
fishing and see this
what was going on
so I put my gloves on
again and grabbed hold
of Mr Lampy, and the
board and tried to pull
him off the board the
same way as I tried to
pull the other one off
the spectacle nothing
doing, so I said to my
self, now I see why

They are such fish killers
 I claim I do not know
 much about Lamprey and
 that but I sure learned
 a lesson from what I
 had just went through
 All I can say is that I
 think they are number
 1 fish killers from the
 word go, it looked to
 me that they are blood
 suckers in the first degree
 no wonder that the
 Conservation has their
 hands full to bill them
 off in the Lake where
 the water is so deep,
 so that was my experience
 with the Lamprey, I
 sure wish them all the luck
 in the world to get some-
 thing to clean them out of

Lake Superior And all The
Other Lakes And Streams
but from what I had
learned about them that
day, I think that they
will have a terrific Battle
on their Hands, I know
as a sportsman that it
will take quite a long
time before the Lake
Trout fishing will be
back to where it was
before the Lamprey came
into the Lake, for I
had seen many a boat
loads of fish brought
in before the Lamprey
came in, yes the fishermen
will tell you the same
story as I have told it
to you,

Fishing in Lake Superior at Keystone, Lac LaBelle, Big Traverse, Small Traverse and at Keystone Point, Bete Grise, Canal, before the lamprey came in.

Well, here I am again this time I am fishing, we will go to Keystone Point first. Year ago there was 4 or 5 fishermen there fishing they came in with their forty foot boats always well fixed up from front to back of the boats say 2 feet or even 3 feet deep with lake trout they even has Cribbs around the motors that were in the middle of the boat that the fish would not interfere with the motor. As I saw it back in them days when we use to go to see them come in off the Big Lake I'd say some of them had as high as 5 ton of lake trout to the load. You looked into the boat and all you could see was fish from one end of the boat to the other and nothing but trout it sure was a sight to see, it runned that way for a good many years then things turned around on came the lamprey And then the load of fish a started to shrink down to hardly a few hundred pounds, the fishermen put out more reels to no avail then in comes the lamprey and the marks on the trout from the lamprey until now it time for BIG Action on the conservation part to kill them off so that the fishing would come back again so the conservation had to find out a method to cope with the lamprey and give the Lake Trout a chance to survive they sure went to work and if I am not mistaken they are still after the lamprey in the rivers and streams and lakes where the water runs from the inland lakes to Lake Superior it is a terrific job to get rid of them as I know I used to have a camp with a partner of mine on the Big Traverse river in the timber line it was more of a deer hunting camp than for fishing but we all liked speckle trout and rain bow Trout to eat so we went fishing on the River, it was right up from the place where the West Branch of the Traverse meet the larger North Branch of the Traverse river it had a sandy bottom and small pebbles also so one day I was fishing on the West Branch and I looked down into the bottom of the river and saw a movement in between a root of a tree in the river and saw a fish come from under it but it was not a fish it was a lamprey, so very soon it went back under the root again and I watched it it backed in under so I could see that it had like a round vacuum on its nose or head, so I watched for a good half hour, down from where I had seen the lamprey I knew there was fish in a quite deep hole so I picked up a small pebble and threw it in the hole sure enough up came some speckle trout right in front of me and I kept quite and did not make a move there was two or three speckle trout maneuvered close to the root, all of a sudden Mr. Lamprey made a strike at the speckle trout and got hold of the speckle trout in the middle of its body, well the battle was on the lamprey was about 8 or nine inches long I know because I measured it after I had seen the Battle, there in front of me going on, I sure had a dip net and I sure went in action quick, I put my net in the water and I had hip boots on and I saw that the lamprey was trying to shove the fish against the river bank to put more pressure on the halt he had on the trout so I got within good action from my fish net and got the two Mr Lamprey and Mr Trout I went and took a hold of the trout and then tryed to pull the Lamprey off, but nothing doing he sure had a hold on the speckle, I had a pair of gloves with me in my pocket so I put the trout and lamprey on the ground do you think he would let go, nothing doing I put my one foot on the head of the speckle and the other foot on the tail end of the speckle so then I got hold of Mr Lamprey and started to pull, well now I am going to tell you fishermen I did not get him off the speckle, I believe I had stretched him over a foot and still nothing doing, well then I seen right away he sure had that Vacuum nose of his tightened on the trout, so I got busy I got my fish knife out and put it under his throat and let him have it quick, you talk about Blood fly, it sure did there, but that finished Mr. Lamprey, but that was not all, when I picked up the lamprey and trout together, I looked at the vacuum cup that was on the speckle and it seemed to me to be at least 8 inches in diameter and that was quite large so I cut its throat and I had a hold of it and the trout and it looked to me as though that sort of a cup was getting smaller as it was bleeding, so I kept on watching, sure enough it shrank to about an inch in diameter, and all of a sudden it left loose of the trout after had bleed so much blood, I looked at the middle of the cup and I saw its teeth they were rotating around like in a circle and pointing straight out from the suction cup, so I soon relized that as he had hit the speckle he started to cut into it with them rotating and bleeding the speckle to death, well I sure learned something about Lamprey then

and learned why they were such trout killers, so after that ordeal was over I went down back by the Bank of the river and took another good look I was sure on the alert watching, so the pile of small pebbles that were near that root in the bottom of the stream seemed to be like moving so I kept on watching the place on the root near the Bank of the river I thought that I had seen something move so I watched, sure enough about half hours time I looked and seen another little ring come up under the root and pebbles that were there, sure enough I dropped another pebble in the whole below me I did not make a move but up come a few speckle trout again from the whole, well I had my net ready, and my knife I put in the blade on a small tree near me ready so I could grab it, I kept on watching that root and pebbles the trout were swimming around and one got near the root again All of a sudden Mr Lamprey made a hit for the speckle but the speckle got out too quick from the place but the lamprey came out, About 8 or nine inches long so I left him swim around and I had my put my net in the stream again after I had caught the first one and I caught hold with my hand of the net and got a good chance and sure nailed the Lamprey, so there I was with this one in the net, do you know what happened to this second lamprey I had caught did, well I am going to tell you right now, there was a small piece of a Board about a foot long, on the Bank of the River so I thought to my self, I wonder if he will strike at that piece of Board if I put it in the net near that ring, well did I get a surprise I put it near his snoot and sure enough he sure gave it a strike right away so I said to myself there all alone I wish some guy would come along the stream fishing and see this what was going on so i put my gloves on again and grabbed hold of Mr Lamprey, and the Board and tryed to pull him off the Board the same way as I tried to pull the other one off the speckle nothing doing, so I said to my self, now I see why they are such fish killers I claim I do not know much about Lamprey and that but I sure learned a lesson from what I had just went through all I can say is that I think they are number 1 fish killers from the word go, it looked to me that they are Blood suckers in the first degree no wonder that the Conservation has their hands full to kill them off in the Lake where the water is so deep, so that was my experience with the Lamprey, I sure wish them all the luck in the world to get to get something to clean them out of Lake Superior and all the other Lakes and streams but from what I had learned about them that day, I think that they will have a terrific Battle on the Hands, I know as a sportsman that it will take quite a long time before the Lake fishing will be back to where it was before the Lamprey came into the Lake, for I had seen many a boat loads of fish brought in before the Lamprey came in, yes the fishermen will tell yous the same story as I have old it to yous,

Of the Finnish people the mines
and the timber. as it was
in the hey days

The Great Finnish Boom
came to life in the Copper
County, well here it is as I
had seen it from the year I
was born in 1890, the copper
mines were starting to go into
action more vigorously, the
O.S.H. the Tamarack Mines the
Centennial mines, the Alloway
mines and the Kearsage mines
as they keep on going down deeper
they needed more men for
the operations that were going
on, so, in comes the Finnish
people they emigrated at a
great height, not 4 or 5 but
10 and 15 at a time came in
to work they used to trim that
that is what they called them
then, they use to fill the cars
with hand shoveling and
get paid by the car loads

9

They use to fill, push the
Cais in the drifts the miners
used to blast and they filled
the Cais and pushed them to the
shaft and dump them in the
ships, and as the hoist used
to have a Tally Boy sitting by
the engine used to put on
a Tally sheet where the ships
had stoped and came to the
rock house and dumped the
rock in a chute and into
the big Crushers, so that the
rock was small enough
for the heads at the mills
to crush up fine and pass
over the tables, they were called
wash tables, the plates on
the tables in the mills were
quick silver plated and the
Copper that was runned down
with the Copper from the heads

3

used to call the Copper it was then scrapped of and was put in buggys two wheels on them and it jumped into the furnaces and melted from the heat of the big furnaces and after it was brought to a certain heat from the big furnaces it was poured out by the men that used to pour them into what they called ingots, C.S.H. did not have the electrolytic process until in the late 20's after they got that process which Mr. Bernidid brought to the company, they use to make sheets of copper and they had a large building called the electrolytic house they had big tanks what they used

4

To hang in the tanks it used
to separate the silver from the
copper of which was a paying
process, for the company, before
the Electrolytic process was
in operation the Calumet & Hecla
and the other mining Co were
selling their copper to Germany,
and Germany was making money
on the Electrolytic process as
they could separate the copper
from the silver they were
making big money by being
the big copper buyers from
over here, no one knew about
it but it leaked out that,
that was why they made money
on the copper that was sent
to Germany, they had other
processes for the copper and
also had their currency made

5

from the silver that they had consumed all the years before we that is the P.M.A. and all the other mining companies knew any thing about what they were doing, it must of runned up into the millions of dollars the silver that they had accumulated from the copper that they had gotten from over here from the mines the copper that was sold to Germany must of helped them that is the German government to get the copper at a low cost to them for the amount of silver they got through their electro lute process paid of for them to buy big quantities of copper for to get the silver out of it, they found out

that the I.S. H. had a better
Letic plant to separate the
Copper from the Silver and
their Copper buying cut down
on the Market so the mines
were operating on a smaller
paying market, so it kept
the Copper market up and
down on the price of Copper,
but the demand kept on
coming along as our County
grew larger and larger
and telephones, Cars and
different things kept on
showing up for the demand
for Copper, so here we are
1972 and still they need
Copper, for Copper Tubing for
the Cars and light lines,
also for other machinery
which is coming along daily

7

As I see it up here in all my years and experience, I still say that some day if not now that our Copper Country is going to Boom Again. As I had seen it in under ground in the shafts that I had worked in there is a great quantity of Copper in the mines yet that was not touched by mining it as it was, I saw with my own eyes Copper that was under the regular vein was taken out by drilling under the regular vein and in under the vein the Copper was very plentiful, As far as mining goes I still say that they will come up

8

in Mineralogy and find
a process to get the copper
out of the mines yet and at
a lower cost than the companies
operated on before, I should
for the facts that the P. S. H.
or the Oil Co that bought
the P. S. H. will some day open
up some of the shafts and go
for the copper that will be
needed for our great
industrial organizations
will look for it to buy,
I still say we will never
see the day when we
have runned out of copper
up here in this great upper
peninsula of Michigan
I have talked with miners
that were 20 or 30 years older
than I am and we have

9

had some great arguments but they all came up with the same answer, as we have come up with, now for the finnish people we used to live in Tamarack location a short walk to what we used to call Red jacket the main city, Saturday and Sunday you could hardly walk the streets of Red jacket on the plank side walks which they used on both sides of the street, there was so many people down town dirt roads nothing but the plank sidewalks all the business places all thrived every body seemed contented and every thing seemed to go along fine.

every body whom wanted
a job could get one, if you
quit one mine you could
go get a job at another mine
So that the way life went on
in Calumet and vicinity
I remember the Houses that
the Company use to put up
5 or 6 room houses, they use
to have 20 or 25 Boarders in
them, I saw with my own
eyes that they had Mattresses
on the floor for the Boarders
the day shift would go to
work and the night shift
men use to sleep on the
same mattress, they use
to have big long tables for
them to eat on, Saturdays
the day shift men use to
come home at noon time

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And all the Boarding houses
us to have plenty of help
by young women, to get the
buses for them, for Sunday
and Saturday nights they
that is the Boarders use to be
friendly and gay and they
all got along fine together
no fighting or causing on
of any kind they were like
one big happy family, they
all seemed to be very
pious as they went to
church every Sunday and all
the different denominations
went to their church, the
churches all thrived well
and we had an awful
lot of churches there for
them to go to, we had the
French Catholic Church the

Sacred Heart church, The
 Italian church, The Swedish
 church, The Finnish church
 The Norwegian church, The
 well to put it straight we
 had churches of all ~~nations~~
 Xmas time the churches all
 had their great day for the
 children and grown ups to
 go and praise the Almighty
Lord our Savior of the
world, they had five
programs in the churches
for all to hear, so Calumet
was a great city it would
say we had about 65,000
people there in the 18 days
of the Great Copper Boom
that is Counting Osceola,
Tamarack, Yellow Jacket
Sweden Town Red Jacket Shaft

North Tamarack, North
 Tamarack Junior, Centennial
 Heights, Albion, Kearsage
 Wolverine, North Kearsage
 All these places were the
 Out skirts of Columbus and
 of course there was
 Laurium Village which
 once was the biggest Village
 in the United States as
 Laurium had its Village
 of Florida location, the
 Upper County Mine was
 booming from 1905 to 1913
 then we had the Big Bolt
 of lightning to hit us the
 Tribe what a sorry
 year, people started to
 leave and it seemed as
 though every thing that
 was built up was falling

apart, which it sure
did people went to Detroit
by the dozens Flint,
Pontiac Millwaukee any
place they could find
employment, so after
the strike things got
going again but not like
before as the mines were
getting deeper and deeper
and the cost of material
was going up the
mining companies were
burdened with higher
prices to pay for the
minning operations were
getting higher the companies
had to curtail lay off
men and the copper markets
down low, and not only
that but other countries

13

we cutting in on the Market
with low cost copper it
put all the copper mines
here and in Arizona and
Montana in a bad
situation as I had
heard from lots of the
old timers that were way
up ahead of me in age that
it would sure hurt the
copper market here in
the United States and it
sure did, and I under-
stand right now that
the foreign copper is a
sure side bet the copper
mines today,

Now for the Great
Timbers of the Upper
Peninsula,
if you had been a young
man as I had been in my

16

days here and saw the timber that was put in the mines to hold up the hanging that is the roof of the ore vein, and what they called the foot of the copper vein you would wonder where is all that timber put to well my friends it is there under ground in the stope drifts and it sure is a great timber yard in under ground millions of board feet of the finest timber the upper peninsula ever had as a drill boy I worked in Tamarack no 5 right near the road going to the cemetery the deepest straight shaft in the

world 1 mile and $\frac{1}{2}$ deep
 straight up and down
 where they put the No 5
 shaft going down they
 sank the shaft 1 mile
 deep before they struck
 the copper vein on the
 30th level, from the 30th
 level they runned a drift
 over to Red jacket shaft on the
 30 level over there for air
 ventilation. To the both
 shafts, after they went
 down to the 39th level for
 their copper, they sure
 twisted the copper up
 with a great speed & cl
 worked for the No 5
 of Amarrack Company as a
 Talley Boy cl had a paper
 chart and cl used to time

the Haist, they used to
Haist up Copper at the
rate of 54 second to a
minute from the Bottom
of the 39 Level over a mile
and a 1/2 deep to the crusher
that was up in the shaft
house, so you can see
that the mining proposition
was a great industry, yes
they needed the timber to
help get the copper out
and to hold the weight
of the ground where the
Copper vein was taken
out, from one level to
another in the stopes as they
called them you could
count hundreds of timbers
wedged up from the foot
of the vein to the ceiling

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different lengths some 25 or 30 ft long and 4 or 5 ft in diameter they used to send it down by cutting the top of the timber 45 degrees and put a whale through the timber, they put a big steel bound bar through the whale and had two long chains and they hooked the chains one on each side of the bar they would hoist it up under the ship and it would hang in under the ship and send them down to the level the timber gang would want them or they had a small engine on the plat they would get a hold of the bottom of the timber and

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pull it in on the level plat
as the levels were called
put it on a cart that
was on the same track
as the trammers used to
haul out the copper ore
from the drifts and stipes
row after row of timber
would be put up of timber
to hold the roof of the
vein from caving in, as
I had seen it when I
was a drill boy in under
ground at No 5 Tamarack
people us to see the great
log piles as they were
called up around the
mines as timber was
brought in by the trains
and they were piled up
by men every day, so do

not wonder where all of
 our great timber we used
 to have is at as the
 Southerner used to say
 way down yonder in the
 depths of the copper mines
 that's where its resting place
 is today and for ever not
 to return any more, there
 used to be timber cutters all
 over the Upper Peninsula
 Keweenaw had a lot of
 Camps Gaing, Kingston had
 a large Camp, Bruno had
 a large Camp, Heppins had
 a large Camp, Quells had
 a large Camp
 Morrison had a large Camp
 and other smaller Camps
 that were sub contracting
 for the bigger Camps, Smith

Brothers also of Bear Lake
 down near the Pondwian
 near the lake shore had
 a quite a large Saw Mill
 they used to haul the logs
 up on big sleighs with
 open teams to No 5 Tamarack
 so as the mines went along
 so did the timber cutting
 go along, Sam Eddy at
 Lake Linden had a big
 Saw mill as all you good
 people used to know he
 did a lot of logging and
 lumber cutting for the
 companies that were up
 there, they also had a
 narrow gage Railroad
 that they hauled timber
 to the mill in Lake Linden
 from around Big Traverse
 Bay and Rice Lake district

then there was George Hall
 cuttings they used to haul
 from up there then the
 timber was being cut in
 the trap Rock Vally as
 the Finnish farmers
 settled in the great trap
 Rock Vally, I was
 very well acquainted with
 the farmers down there in
 the Vally, all Finnish
 people, and up on the
 Gary Lake Linder Road so
 the Finnish people were
 on the move have their
 big families and they
 traveled all over the
 upper peninsula from
 one place to another until
 right now you can go
 to any place in the upper

peninsula And you will find 90 per Cent of them are Finnish people, they are a wonderful people good common sense people polite cautious and god loving people, not saying that the other people whom came here to this great upper peninsula of Michigan arent fine people as they all are very fine people from England, Sweden, Norway, France, well to tell the truth they were in here from all over the world, we even had the Chinese here running the laundries, thats what made the upper peninsula

a great place to live in
Yes they still love our
Upper Penninsule as
every body can see, they
come from every state in
our Great Country up
here to visit their old
Birthplaces and homes
no matter where they are
at this present time of the
year. The good old
Summer time, the great
Lake Superior and
all the hundreds of
smaller lakes, to fish
for speckle trout, white
fish or are great Lake
trout fish of all kinds
we have them and I
sure hope the conversation
people will keep up

Their good work of Building the Fishery up even bigger than they are, so that when people come up here for their home coming they will say we certainly enjoyed our Home Trip and good fishing, yes as a citizen of this Grand United States I have been a partaker of Building good Roads for the tourist we had our W.P.A. and what not, but we have the fine Roads to drive over and some of the greatest, scenery in the world right up here in the Upper Peninsula you can go to Neweraw

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And did say you would
ride on Great Roads for
you to see the scenery
like Mountain drive
go up there on Sun down
in the west, just turn
your eyes toward Chole
Kajal, you will be so
surprised to look upon
one of the grandest Sun
dawns, that I would
say no Artist could
paint the picture as
it is you would think
Chole Kajal was going
down in Lake Superior
with the Sun, then we
have the Beautiful Copper
Harbor, Eagle Harbor Cat
Harbor 5 mile point then
the Canal, Beautiful Bays

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To swim in or even
for canoe rides, of course
if you have larger boats
you can go out on Lake
Superior and fish or
enjoy a great boat ride
we also have the smaller
inland lakes to do just
that, the same as at the
Big Bays swim and boat
ride and fish it all
amounts up to what you
want to do for your
Hearts Contentment, or
have a nice family picnic
at one of the lakes and
Bays, you will always
find the caretakers at
the parks cautious and
willing to help you in
any way they can to

Try And help you's spend
a nice days hunting, yes
we are coming along fine
at dale Royal, and all
the parks are Building
up to make your stay
visit An enjoyable one,
yes we have a what lot
of Finnish people up here
they stayed here Built their
Homes here, raised their
Families all up, up here and
I figure the way I see it
that they have mixed with
us people got married to
different Denominations and
have given us a great
Finnish population up
here in the Upper Peninsula
As I had married a Finnish
girl my self and we had

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5 children 4 boys and a
girl, of course my daughter
is gone home and my
wife also so here I am
with my 4 sons now,
I love my upper peninsula
the same as the rest of
the people here do, I have
been around to other states
but I still say Michigan
my Michigan and I
will say Michigan for
ever more for me, I
am a Christian man
I go to church every Sunday
listen to the word of our
fine Finnish Rev. M^ekelson
whom is one of our great
Finnish preachers and a
wonderful person to
talk to, and put you

on the right road to
 Christianity, we have
 also the Big Finnish
 Church at Pine St in
 Calumet, you will find
 a fine young Finnish Rev
 Karola there also his
 Father whom is a Rev,
 And then there is the
 Rev Heidaman whom
 followed his Fathers
 foot steps to being a
 Rev, year for year after
 year the Finnish people
 have been multiplying
 in the Upper Peninsula
 So here they are today with
 us all, so that is the
 way I see the Finnish people
 today coming gradually
 along with the rest of us

people here on This Great
Upper Penninsula of
Michigan, Palusket
Curley Started off the
Great Finnish population
we have here today, and
it is still growing, All the
people whom have come
up here years ago have
been contented and raised
families up up here and
they all have enjoyed our
great upper Penninsula
thats why even to this
very day those whom were
here years ago and went
away always love to come
back to the good old
upper Penninsula and
enjoy the purest air in
the world, and have their

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wonderfull remembrance
of the Upper Penninsula, yes
oh yes, we have the little
mosquitoes on our streams
and lakes, to bite us a little
but not no poisonous Rattle
snakes to bite us, so I
hope the little mosquito
won't be bad to doctor up,
for your cutings, a
little mosquito hope
will do the trick try it,
well here I am on the
subject of our Finnish
people and this I think
will let you all know
about the Finnish people
they loved it here and they
stayed here, this is their
home, for some forever

Oral History Transcript
July 14, 1972 (Handwritten/typed 9/1998)

Al Harvey, Hancock, Michigan

The Finnish People, The Timber, and The Mines; As it Was in the Hey Days

The Great Finish Boom Came to life in the Copper Country, well here it is as I had seen it from the years I was born in 1890, the copper mines were starting to go into action more vigorously, the C&H the Tamarack mines, the Centennial mines, the Allouez mines and the Kearsarge mines. As they keep on going down deeper they needed more men for the operations that were going on, so, in comes the Finnish people they emigrated at a great height, not 4 or 5 but 10 and 15 at a time came in to work they used to tram that is what they called them then, they use to fill the cars with hand shoveling and get paid by the car loads, they use to push the cars in the drifts the miners used to blast and they filled the cars and pushed them to the shaft and dump them in the skip, And as the host used to have a talley boy setting by the engineer used to put on a talley sheet where the skip had stopped. And came to the rock house and dumped the rock in a shute and into big crushers, so that the rock was small enough for the heads at the mills to crush up fine and pass over the tables, the plates on the tables, they were called wash tables, the plates on the tables in the mills were quick silver plated and the copper that was runned down with the copper from the heads used to catch the copper it was then scrapped off and was put in buggys two wheels on them and dumped into the furnaces. And melted from the heat of the big furnaces and after it was brought to a certain heat from the big furnaces it was poured out by the men that used to pour them into what they called ingots, C&H did not have the electrolytic process until in the late 20s (1920s) after they got that process which Mr Bennidid (Benedict) brought to the company, they use to make sheets of copper and they had a large building called the Electrolytic House. They had big tanks what they used to hang in the tanks it used to separate the silver from the copper of which was paying process, for he Company, before the Eletrolytic process was in operation. The Calumet & Hecla and the other mining companies were selling the Copper to Germany. And germany was making money on the Electrolytic process as they could separate the copper from the silver they were making big money by being the big Copper buyers from over here, no one knew about it but it leaked out that, that was why they made money on the Copper that was sent to Germany, they had other processes for the Copper and also had their currency made from the silver that they had consumed all the years before we that is the C&H and all the other mining companys knew anything about what they were doing, it must of run into the millions of dollars the silver that they had accumulated from the copper that they had gotten from over here from the mines the copper that was gold to germany must of helped them, that is the german government to get the copper at a low cost to them for the amount of silver they got through their electrolytic process paid off for them to buy big quantities of copper for to get the silver out of it, they found out that the C&H had a electriclytic plant to separate the silver from the copper and their copper buying cut down on the market so the mines were operating on a smaller paying market, so it kept the copper market up and down on the price of copper but the Demand kept on coming along as our country grew larger and larger and telephones, cars, and different things kept on showing up for the demand for copper, so here we are 1972 and still they need copper, for copper tubing for the cars and light lines, Also for other machinery which is coming along daily

As I see it up here in all my years and experience, I still say that some day if not now that our copper country is going to Boom Again. As I had seen it under ground in the shafts that I had worked in there is a great quantity of copper in the mines yet that was not touched by minning it as it was, I saw with m own eyes copper that was under the regular vein was taken out by drilling under the vein the copper was very plentiful, As far as minning goes I still say that they will come up in Mineralogy and find a process to get the copper out of the mines yet, and at a lower cost than the companys operated on before, I know for the facts that the C&H or the Oil Co. that bought the C&H will some day open up some of the shafts and go for the copper that will be needed for our great industrial organizations will look for it to buy, I still say we will never see the day when we have runned out of copper up here in this great upper peninnsula of michigan

Hey Days (cont'd)

I have talked with miners that were 20 or 30 years older than I am and we have had some great arguments but they all came up with the same answer, as I have come up with, now for the finnish people I used to live in Tamarack Location a short walk to what we used to call Red jacket the main city, Saturday and Sunday you could hardly walk the streets of Red jacket on the plank side walks which they used on both sides of the street, there was so many people down town dirt roads nothing but the plank sidewalks all the business places all thrived every body seemed contended and everything seemed to go along fine everybody whom wanted a job could get one, if you quit one mine you could go get a job at another mine so thats the way life went on in Calumet and vicinity

I remember the Houses that the companys use to put up 5 to 6 room houses, they use to have 20 or 25 boarders in them, I saw with my own eyes that they had Mattreses on the floor for the Boarders the day shift would go to work and the night shift men use to sleep on the same mattresses They use to have big long tables for them to eat on, Saturdays the day shift men use to come home at noon time And all the Boarding houses use to have plenty of help by young women, to get the meals for them, for Sunday and Saturday nights they that is the Boarders use to be friendly and gay and they all got a long fine together no fighting or carrying on of any kind they were like one big happy family, they all seemed to be very Religious As they went to church every Sunday and all the different denomations went to their church, the churches all thrived well and we had an awful lot of churches here for them to go to, we had the Sacred Heart church, the Italian Church, the sweedish church, the finnish church, the nowegian church The will to put it straight we had churchrs of all denomations Xmas Time the churches all had their great day for the children and grown ups to go and praise the Almighty Lord Our Savior of the world, They did fine programs in the churches for all to hear, so Calumet was a great city I would say we had about 65000 people there in the days of the great Copper Boom that is counting Osceola, Tamarack, Yellow Jacket, sweed town, red jacket shaft North Tamarack, North Tamarack Junior, Centennial Heights, Albion, Kearsarge, Wolverine, North Kearsarge, all this places were the out skirts of Calumet and of coarse their was Laurium Village which once was the biggest village in the United States as Laurium had its village of Florida Location, the Copper Country sure was becoming from 1905 to 1913 then we had the Big Bolt of lightning to hit us the strike what a sorry year, people started to leave and it seemed as though every thing that was built up was falling apart, which it sure did people went to Detroit by the dozens Flint, Pontiac, Milwaukee any place they could find employment, so after the strike things got going again but not like before As the mines were getting deeper and deeper and the cost of Material was going up the Mining Companys were burdened with higher prices to pay for the Minning Operations were getting higher the companys had to curtail lay off men and the Copper markets down low, and not only that but other countrys were cutting in on the market with low cost copper it put all the copper mines here and in Arizona and Montana in a bad situation as I had heard from lots of the old timers that were way up ahead of me in age that it would sure hurt the copper market here in the United States and it sure did, and I understand right now that the foreign copper is a sore side for the copper mines today

Hey Days (cont'd)

Oral History Transcript Al Harvey, Hancock, Michigan
July 14, 1972 (Handwritten/typed 9/1998)

Now for the Great Timbers of the Upper Peninsula

If you had been a young man as I had been in my days here and saw the timber that was put in the mines to hold up the hangings that is the roof of the ore vein, and what they called the foot of the copper vein you would wonder where is all that timber put to well my friends it is there under ground in the stopes drifts and it sure is a great timber yard in under ground Millions of Board feet of the finest timber The upper peninsula even had a drill boy I worked in Tamarack No 5 right near the road going to the cemetery the deepest straight shaft in the world 1 mile and a half deep straight up and down when they put the No 5 shaft going down they sank the shaft 1 mile deep before they struck the copper vein on the 30th level, from the 30th level they runned a drift over to Red jacket shaft on the 30th level over there for air ventilation. To the both shafts, after they went down to the 39th level for their copper, they sure hoisted the copper up with a great speed I worked for the No 5 Tamarack Company as a talley boy I had a paper chart and I used to time the Hoist, they used to Hoist up copper at the rate of 54 seconds to a minute from the bottom of the 39 level over a mile and a half deep to the crusher that was up in the shaft house, so you can see that the minning proposition was a great industry, yes they needed the timber to help get the copper out and to hold the weight of the ground where the copper vein was taken out, from one level to another in the stopes as they called them you could count hundreds of timbers wedged up from the foot of the vein to the ceiling different lengths some 25 or 30 ft long and 4 or 5 ft in diameter they used to send it down by cutting the top of the timber 45 degrees and put a whole through the timber, they put a big steel - bound bar through the whole and had two long chains and they hooked the chains one on each side of the Bar they would hoist it up under the skip and it would hang in under the skip and send them down to the level the timber gang would want them on they had a small engine on the plat they would get a hold of the bottom of the timber and pull it on the level plat as the levels were called put it on a cart that was on the same track as the trammers used to haul out the copper ore from the drifts and stopes row after row of timber would be put up of timber to hold the roof of the vein from caving in, As I had seen it when I was a drill boy in under ground at No 5 Tamarack people use to see the great log piles as they were called up around the mines as timber was brought in by the trains and they were piled up by men every day so do not wonder where all of our great timber were used to have is at As the southerner used to say way down yonder in the depths of the copper mines thats where its resting place is today and for ever not to return any more,

There used to be timber cutters all over the upper peninsula Keweenaw had a lot of camps going, Kingston had a large camp, Bruno had a large camp, Hepkins had a large camp, Quello had a large camp. Morrison had a large camp and other smaller camps that were sub-contracting for the bigger camps, Smith Brothers also of Bear Lake down near the Rondivou (Rendezvous) near the lake shore had quite a large saw Mill they used to haul the logs up on big sleighs with oxen teams to No 5 Tamarack so as the mines went along so did the Timber cutting go along, Sam Eddy at Lake Linden had a big saw mill as all you good people used to know he did a lot of logging and lumber cutting for the companys that were up there, they also had a narrow gage (gauge) railroad that they hauled timber to the Mill in Lake Linden from around Big Traverse Bay and Rice Lake District then there was George Hall cuttings they use to haul from up there then the timber was being cut in the Trap Rock Valley as the Finnish farmers settled in the great Trap Rock Valley, I was very well acquainted with the farmers down there in the valley, All Finnish people and up on the Gay-Lake Linden Road so the Finnish people were on the move have their big familys and they scattered all over the upper peninsula from one place to another until right now you can go to any place in the upper peninsula you will find 90 percent of them are Finnish people, they are a wonderful people good common sense people polite courteous and god Loving people, not saying that

Hey Days (cont'd)

the other people whom came here to this great upper penninsula of Michigan arnt fine people as they all are very fine people from England, Italy, sweeden Norway, France, well to tell the truth they were in here from all over the world, we even had the Chinese here running the Laundrys, thats what made the upper peninnsula a great place to live in yes they still love our upper penninsula as everybody can see, they come from every great country up here to visit their old birthplaces and home no matter where they are at this present time of the year, the good old summer time, the great Lake Superior and all the hundreds of smaller lakes, to fish doe speckle trout, white fish, are great Lake Trout fish of all kinds we have them and I sure hope the Conservation people will keep up their good work of building the Fishery uo even bigger than they are, so that when people come up here for their home comming they will say we certainly enjoyed are home trip and good fishing, yes as a citizen of this Grand United States I have been a partaker of building good roads for the Tourist we had our W.P.A. and what not, but we have the fine roads to drive overt and some of the greatest, cenery (scenery) in the world right up here in the Upper Penninsula you can go to Keweenaw and all day you would ride on great roads for you to see the senery like Mountain Drive go up ther on sun down in the west, just turn your eyes toward Isle Royale, you will b so surprised to look upon one of the grandest sun downs, that I would say no artist could paint the picture as it is you would think Isle Royal was going down in lake Superior with the ssun, then we have the beautifull Copper Harbor, Eagle Harbor Cat Harbor, 5 mile point then the Canal, Beautifull bays to swim in or even for canoe rides, of course if you have larger Boats you can go out on lake Superior and fish or enjoy a great Boat Ride we also have the smaller inland lakes to do just thata, the same as at the Big Bays swim and boat ride and fish it all amounts up to what you want to do for your Hearts contention, or have a nice family picnic at any of the lakes and bays, you will always find the care takers at the parks courteous and willing to help you in anyway they can to try and help you spend a nice days outing, yes, we are coming along fine at Isle royal, and all the paarks are building up to make your stay or vivist an enjoyable one, yes wehave a whol lot of Finnish people up here they stayed here Built their homes here, raised their Familys all up, up here and I figure the way I see it tht they have mixed with us people got married to different Denomations and have given us a great Finnish population up here in the Upper Penninsula As I had married a finnish girl my self and we had 5 children 4 boys and a girl, of coarse my daughter is gone home and my wife also so here I am with my 4 sons now, I love my upper penninsula the same as the rest of the people here do, I have been around to other states but I still say Michigan my Michigan and I will say Michigan for ever for me, I am a Christian man I go to church every Sunday listen to the word of our fine Finish Rev. Mickelsen whom is one of our great finish preachers and a wonderfull person to talk to, and put you on the right road to christianity we have also the Big Finish church at Pine st in Calumet, you will find a fine young Finish Rev Torola there also his father whom is a Rev, and then there is the Rev Heidaman whom followed his Fathers foot steps to being a Rev, yes for year after year the Finish people have been multiplying in the upper penninsula so here they are today, with us all, so that is the way I see the Finish people today coming gradually along with the rest of us people here in this great upper penninsula of Michigan, Calumet surly started off the great Finish population we have here today. And it is still growng, All the people whom have come up here years ago have been Contented and raised family up here and they all have enjoyed our great upper penninsula thats why even to this very day those whom were here years ago and went away always love to come back to the good old upper penninsula and enjoy the purest air in the world and have their wonderfull remembrance of the upper penninsula, yes, oh, yes, we have the little misqitos on the streams and lakes, to bite us a little but not poisonous Rattle snakes to bite us, so I hope rhe little Misquitoes wont be bad to doctor up, for your outing, a little Misquoto Dope will do the trick try it, well here I am on the subject of our finnish people and this I think will let yous all know about the Finnish people they loved it here and they stayed here, this is their home, for some forever.....
