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

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<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>PAGE</u>	<u>COMMENT</u>
Family History	1	
Grandfather came from Finland	1	
Education	1	
Nursing School	2	
Instructors at Nursing School	2	
Uniforms	3	
Taking State Boards and Passing	4	
No long forms before admitting Patients	4	
Doctor Lun	4-5	
Cross Infections	5	
Worked in Emergency	5	
Parents build house on Wallace	6	
Father's Occupations	6	
Owned Chickens and Cows	7	
An Amusing Incident	7	
Grew and Canned Food for Winter	7	
Saunas	7	
Different Nationalities at School	7	
Family spoke Finnish at Home	7	
Using Finnish Language	8	
Coming over with Friends and Relatives	9	
\$75 from Finland to U.S.	9	
Street Car	9-10	
Father's first car	9	
Changes	10	
Palestra	10	
Marquette - Annice place to live	10	
Marquette Fair	11	
Father was very strong	11	
Cars	12	
Visiting Minnesota by Train	12	
Berry Trains	13	
Read Fortunes by Melting Lead	14	
First Vacations	14	
Goals for Finnish Immigrants were to build a House and Educate Children	15	
Picking Potatoes and Apples	15	
Reasons why Finns settled here	15	
Sweden and Russia bounce Finland around	16	
Italians and Finns get along	16	

I This is \_\_\_\_\_ 1975 interviewing Ileen Savola Jacobson. Mrs. Otto Jacobson of Marquette. Interviewer Elma Ranta

R I am Ileen Savola Jacobson and my parents were both born and raised in Finland. Mother's name was Emma \_\_\_\_\_ Savola and my dad was Carl Valentine Savola born in \_\_\_\_\_. Mother was born in \_\_\_\_\_. They both came here in the year around 1907 or 8. They met here and married and they had two children, myself and one brother Arvid Savola.

R My grandfather came over here first and worked on the Northern Pacific Railroad and then the oldest brothers, see there were five of them and my dad was the youngest of the five of them, so they all came into the Marquette area. They worked in the mines and then my dad started railroading.

R This is Ileen again and I was educated, born and raised in Marquette attended John D. Pearce School and then graduated from Marquette High School.

Did you go to the John D Pearce through the eighth grade?

R Through the tenth and of course the elementary school at that time was not called the John D. Pearce, it was called the Normal Training School. Then it was changed to the John D. Pearce when they built the high school. In fact when I started school, I spoke only Finnish and I had to learn the English language as I went along. After I finished high school, I went into training here at St. Luke's which is all together different from what it is now. Our program was a three year program which they have cut to two year now and we did not have any college courses. We were all taught by instructors or doctors. We worked from 7 to 7 with two hours off. We worked nights and if we weren't too busy we could have a couple hour nap but we still had to attend classes in the daytime. Sometimes they were from 8 to 10 or 9 to 11. We had to get out of bed and attend class and go to work and work from 7 to 7 o'clock the next morning. The doctors of course gave us our special lectures. Like Doctor Hornbogen gave us our eye, ear, nose and throat and Doctor Markham gave us our OB and Doctor Harkin gave us our Psy. and then after the first year of training, then we were sent to Detroit for our affiliation which was six months. There we had our communicable diseases. Of course now they don't have that because you hardly even hear of diptheria or scarlet fever anymore. They are almost all outdated. I can't remember how long they go away now but they get a more advanced psychiatric care. This is done in Ypsilanti. Of course we all had to be in at 10 o'clock and lights had to be out.

I Where did you live?

R We lived at the nurses home and we were not allowed to spend any nights at home and here I lived only a couple blocks from the hospital. The only time we were allowed to spend a night at home was when we had a vacation and if I remember correctly I don't think I even had a vacation until my second week of training. So I wasn't allowed to spend any nights at home. Christmas time we all had to be on duty and everyone was on the floors and they felt this way because they felt everyone should be there and be a family. We had to do our studying when we got off duty and still our lights had to be off at 10. We were allowed one late leave a week which was until 11 and then one longer leave a month which would be until 12 o'clock. So we had all these rules to abide by.

I Where was your nurses home?

R Our nurseshome was on the corner of Kay and Presque Isle Avenue.

I Kay?

R Now, I guess that's College Avenue. The girls who were on night duty and the girls who were working in the operating room, they stayed on the third floor of St. Luke's. Because when you were working in the operating room, you were on full time call. When you were on call you had to stay right there. Really the hospital wasn't filled that much. The first floor was all ward or two bed wards. The second floor was private rooms and I remember many times those rooms weren't filled. People didn't have hospitalization and they would just have the doctors come to their home which is very unusual now because you don't see them making house calls. But the doctors I think made more home calls than office calls. In the operating room we had to take OB call, any accidents so we would stay on the third floor. The Third floor was OB rooms, surgery, nursery, x-ray and lab and then in the south wing was the nurses quarters.

I Who were some of your instructors?

R Well going back, when I entered training, we had a Miss Franklin who was our Superintendent of Nurses. But she didn't stay too long and then we got Miss Skiak who became our Superintendent of Nurses and she got us our Dietician, Miss Gibson and Miss Pringle was our instructor and they were all from Canada. They were graduates from Victoria Hospital in Canada. I don't remember what part of Canada that would be but I know it was a large hospital there. Then our doctors taught us. Like I said before, there was Doctor Markham, with OB and Doctor Hornbogen, eye, ear, nose and throat, Doctor Harkin was with psychiatric nursing, and Doctor Lun was surgery, Doctor Bennett, was also surgery and then Doctor Sweten that also taught us on medicine, and old W. A. Hornbogen who was an uncle to Doctor Dan. In fact he was the one who was killed at the prison when they had the riot. He was considered our orthopedic man, he was more interested in bone surgery. He was more interested in that. Then the lab technician was Miss Erickson, she was in charge of the lab.

R Miss Erickson gave us our lab training and then Miss Gibson gave us our dietetic training.

I Who was in charge of x-ray.

R Our dear friend, I have to mention him. Anybody who know Frank I think that was the highlight of their training. We just couldn't associated St. Luke's without Frank Stalkey. He was the x-ray man, and he was the anesthetist and he was the male nurse. They finally honored him as Mr. Marquette, and gave him a nursing degree and we all have very fond memories. In fact I feel very sorry for the girls in training who didn't have a Frank Stalkey to help them out. He was really one of our highlights and really kept us going. He helped us out in many ways..

I He seemed to be a friend of the older finnish people.

R Yes, and he spoke Finnish and Swedish. I can remember when I first entered training, we wore stripes and of course we didn't have our caps yet we had our three month period before we could get our caps, I didn't know Frank that well but the first thing he said to me when we were in the diet kitchen and starting to pass out trays, he said do you have any old uniforms that I could cut into carpet rags. Here I was there with brand new uniforms I hadn't even been in training very long yet. But I certainly wish that some of these kids that are in training now would get a little more interest in human interest towards patients. Of course we were a small group. And being born and raised in Marquette, alot of these patients that would come in, I knew them. I had alot of the human interest there but still it was insisted that we were supposed to be called Miss Savola.

I Now what about your uniforms, you talked about a striped one

R Yes, we had striped uniforms, we had to have black shoes and stockings, and then we had to have white bibs and aprons. Then when you were in training for three months and passed your period which is an orientation period, then you get your cap. We didn't get our white shoes or stockings until we were seniors which would have been our third year. Then we would get our white shoes and stockings and how we envied those who wore there white shoes and stockings.

I What about your capes?

R Yes, we had capes too. They were dark blue lined in red which was part of our uniform too. Mostly all of us went and made jackets out of them now. We have no use for them now. We wore them then because we would have to walk from the nurses home to the hospital which was a little better than a block in cold winter months so we wore our capes. Now of course the uniforms are different, I guess they have the all white or are they in all blue I guess. But it has changed very much like everything else has. They only have a two year program and they don't get on the floors as much or they don't have as much special training.

- R After they graduate then they have to start learning on the floors and get their training that way. Then at the end of the three years we take our State Boards. That covers everything from your three year period in training. Needless to say they were some very anxious moments to wait for. I think I waited every day for the mail and finally Steve rang our door bell and he said Ileen here it is and you passed. I said I did, how do you know, he said you have R.N. at the end of your name.
- I That was a wonderful day.
- R It was great.
- A I remember that day very
- R You remember too?
- A Oh yes, very well
- R Well Steve rang the door bell because his wife was a graduate of St. Luke's too.
- A I think it was a real personal thing, just like a big family. Frank was a stable influence with all the girls. If you had any problems you could just go to Frank and he would straighten you out.
- R Oh yes. If things were real bad it seemed that he would guide you right along.
- I And people coming in did they have to fill in this long form like now?
- R Oh no, of course there wasn't insurance they just had their name typed in and in a couple of minutes they were in bed. No, it was altogether different. In a few minutes they were in bed. They didn't have the medications that they have. There were only a few medications that you treated them with. I still think we did a real good job taking care of pneumonia patients without penicillin.
- A. You didn't mention Doctor Lun, was he there?
- R Yes, he was considered our top surgeon. In fact Arvid gave me some anxious moments when he developed a ruptured appendix and he was in there for a month. I had that experience of having my family and I think that makes you a better person in a way. You have a little more compassion for someone else when some of your own is real sick. He was really ill and it was nip and tuck for a while, it's just fortunate that he came out of it.
- A Well it was Doctor Lun who did it.
- R He came over to the house.

- I I'll have to tell you, before I went into the third grade, I smashed my elbow very badly and I had Doctor Lun. He was our family doctor. My elbow had to be broken five times and he would have a consultation with Doctor Elsinga and he was very badly smashed. So I can remember Doctor Lun.
- R He was one of our top men
- I Then he died soon after that.
- R He died and I think they found him dead in his office of a heart attack but he worked right up until the end. He was really a top notched surgeon I think. We have to give them credit because remember we didn't have antibiotics to combat all of our diseases that we have now. I don't even remember if we even had an infection or anything like this. Now you hear of staph and I don't even remember in all my training days that we even had a staph infection. We had emphantigã in the nursery but I don't remember in those days that we even had anything like this. But I think it's because we were taught that we had to be cautious. I think it's the same thing with our training down in Detroit. They had the scarlet fever and diptheria and of course we all had to have our tests which tells if your allergic to one disease or another. If you weren't allergic then naturally you had more of that type of patient to take care of. Then we had what you would call a mixed infection and there you had everything. But they were all infectious diseases or contagious diseases. I remember this one, I can't remember her name, but she was a supervisor and she had been there for years and the first thing she said to us was if we get a cross infection. If a patient comes in here with measles and comes here during the incubation period for mumps and that patient comes down with mumps you're responsible. Because you have cross infected a patient. Because you had poor techniques. So we were really drilled. But I'm not sorry.
- I Now you worked in emergency later on?
- R Yes, this was later on. In fact it's just the past five years that I haven't worked. I had worked on the floors relieving once in a while and I did go back and work in the emergency room at St. Luke's which was a new experience to me and that can be pretty gory at times. It was interesting and I had students working with me. But we started that on a small scale too. When I first started it wasn't covered as fully as it is now. When I first started I worked from 7 til 1. Then a nurse came on and worked from 1 till 8 at night. Now it's gotten so busy that they have full coverage. The supervisor used to take care of it after eight o'clock at night. Now it's fully covered plus ward clerks, plus a couple of nurses plus nurses aids so there's about 3 or 4 there when it used to be one. But it had to be because it has gotten really busy. I really enjoyed it. I think if I had my life to do over again I don't think I would change it, I really enjoyed going into nursing. Although right now I don't think I could because everything has changed so much. The treatments have changed and I haven't had and I've been away from it and that does change very very quickly.

- R I still don't mind taking care of a patient if I can take care of him in a certain way but when it comes to all these treatments and iv's I'm a little more dubious about it.
- I Now going back to your mother and dad coming to Marquette and being married here and so, where did they live?
- R I don't remember, Arvid do you remember?
- A They first lived on Presque Isle Avenue I think it was in the Dubois House. Mom and dad built the family home on Wallace Street and that is where I was born and that's where our family home is and still is.
- I And where did your father work?
- R South Shore or the Soo Line now.
- What was his job?
- A He was a \_\_\_\_\_, he also worked on the wrecking crew but his primary job was \_\_\_\_\_.
- R How many years was it he worked there, he worked there quite a few years didn't he?
- A It was 40 years or so.
- R Ya. He had a short career with the police department didn't he Arvid?
- A Ya they hired him and he quit the following week. I guess they hired him because he was the biggest guy around the yard. He didn't like that kind of work.
- R One night he was on nights and he came home and said I just can't do that so I think that was the only thing he ever did besides working for the Soo Line.
- A Well he worked on the docks too. Most of the Finnish people worked on the docks.
- R That was during the Depression time wasn't it?
- A Yes. That was just part time.
- I Because the seniority rights were very important to those people
- R Yes. They seemed to manage quite fine. I was in school and Arvid was in school and everything seemed to go quite well.
- A We never had any money but we were never short of food.

R We had warmth and food.

A Mother and dad had some chickens and a cow and I remember years ago when I was a kid they used to board the cow over in \_\_\_\_\_ field over where the University is now.

R Over where the housing is now

A I have to tell you this, mother was telling us about an old janitor over at the college, it was a normal college at that time. The janitor was up on a ladder washing windows or something and the cow started rubbing his side against the ladder and finally dad had to chase the cow away.

R I think most of the finnish people had cows and chickens and I don't think we had any sewage until after dad built the house on Wallace Street.

A They always grew their own stuff we always had plenty and they canned and picked blueberries and raspberries and we'd get our winter supply of potatoes.

I They all were very hard working people.

R Oh yes

I It seemed if there was a lazy finn there weren't toomany of them!

R No. They were always clean too. I noticed that even with patients coming in. They used to always talk about saunas but one thing when the Finnish people would come in, they were always nice and clean. I never had any trouble with that, their bodies were always clean. They might have had little bit ragged clothes but their bodies were never dirty at all.

A Talking about the families around here, of course there's Germans Italians, and Swedes, and there are quite a few Finns around here too. I remember when I first started school I couldn't talk english but I wasn't alone, alot of my schoolmates were in the same boat. We'd talk Finn when we couldn't understand something but we gradually got into the English.

R Well mom and dad spoke English but they were more comfortable with the Finnish language. They were a little bit shy fearing that they were going to make a mistake so we did speak Finnish at home.

I I think it was the same at our house, my dad would say he doesn't want us to learn railroad english.

R That's

I But they got along and we understaod much more than they thought we did.

- R Oh yes, and mother and dad read the mining journal and they could do those things.
- I Many of them when they retired, I know when my dad retired then my mother and dad started all Finnish. They would use Finnish more than English.
- R But you know it's surprising how much we don't use Finnish, I'm not talking Finnish anymore. I think you do forget and sometimes I like to go someplace where I can talk Finnish.
- I And it's very stiff
- R Yes. Then I get alot of English words and can't understand and I know I did alot better when I was speaking Finnish at home. I'm sure I did.
- A When your cousin Mauno came here from Finland he traveled with me when I was on the road quite a bit and I said let's just talk Finn. He'd really get a bang out of my Finn.
- R They did with me too when I was in Finland.
- A He understood me though.
- R Of course they understand but he spoke English quite fluently. I can't help but admire our two parents Elma. They came here from their home country to a strange country and started digging in and raising a family. I think the majority of them did a pretty good job, I really do.
- I They had to do hard work because they didn't understand the language and English is difficult.
- R I think it is too
- I It's so different from the Finnish.
- R Like they can't understand we have double meanings on some of these English words. It is difficult. But to think they had the courage to do this.
- A Almost every one of them who came here after they got married built a house.
- I And how they had enough money and the know how
- R Yes, isn't that great. When you stop and think, I myself would hate to venture into a foreign country and start over, I don't think I could do it.

- I Many of them who came over had a few friends here first
- A I think that's what happened here with Grandpa. He came over and then another brother.
- R Well dad had a brother here but mother didn't have any family and then her sister came and then she had one uncle but that's all the family mother had here. Then of course her sister died in 1914 but I can't remember when her Uncle Alex died. Mother didn't have any family but there was some family who did sponsor her here, I think it was Aho. They had a boarding house and this is where she started working and paid back her debt.
- I Some of those jobs paid so little because some of them got ten or twelve fourteen dollars a month.
- R I don't think they even got that did they.
- I Do you have any idea what the fare was then?
- I About seventy-five dollars.
- A Was it seventy-five dollars?
- I Someone told me that and our brother had told us that he had sent our mother seventy-five dollars for the fare.
- I Now looking back can you remember any changes in Marquette, in cars?
- R Yes, I can remember going by street car out to the island. That used to be a weekly thing it seemed. We had a car but that was always tied up for winter because the wheels weren't always that great.
- I What year did your dad first get a car?
- R I think it was around 1926 wasn't it Arvid?
- R Well they first had a Palmer Singer.
- I That would be about 1920?
- R about that, then he bought an Essex
- R That would be in about 1926 or 27.
- A Going back to the street car we used to take the streetcar out to the island it would cost us three cents.
- R Then'd we'd walk to the tourist park because the tourists would have picnics at the tourist parks.

R Of course now the streetcars are discontinued and we do have the bus service. Of course that's nip and tuck, I don't know if they are going to keep on either. I can remember going down town and you always met people. After being born and raised here you felt as though you knew almost everyone. Now you go down town and you might meet one or two that you can actually stop and talk to. Of course I'm not out that much. It's changed so much with the college kids coming up and the younger kids, I just don't know them anymore. In fact I know their grandparents I guess.

I Neighbors, you don't know them as much anymore

R This is it, our neighbors have changed. With mom and dad's friends I think there is only one family that is together. All the rest either both are gone or one is left. But there's only one in that group that mom and dad used to be with. Of course a lot of our friends too they're married and moved away and of course our relationships change as time goes on. I think it's changed a lot. I hate to see K Hall going down but I guess you hardly remember them anymore.

A The Palestra was always a great thing. You could go down there and skate and then dance for twenty-five cents. You could skate and dance all night and this was a great thing for the community and the kids.

R They used to have good bands there.

A Ya, it was all live music.

R But Arvid don't you think when you go downtown there's a lot of people you don't know and at one time you could say hi to almost everyone.

A That's true.

R Of course your downtown and working with the public too so you get in contact with them a lot more.

A Of course there's still a lot of people I don't know. I think Marquette is a great community. I know when I worked for Lake Shore they wanted me to move to Iron Mountain and I couldn't see Iron Mountain because Marquette is a real nice town. It's got a lot of advantages more than the other towns.

I Especially the scenery.

A Yes. The Lake front is beautiful.

R I think we are quite lucky we don't have the crime, we have a few breaking and enterings but we are sheltered from too bad things. Although one comes along and shakes us up a little bit..

- A It's funny when you think back because there was always alot of rivalry between the east and west and north and south. You wouldn't dare walk a girl home in South Marquette you might get beaten up. People looked up to the Finns because mostly they were better athletes and if somebody got a little wild they could handle them. We have all kinds here but between Seventh Street and College Avenue I would say would be one section. It was like a melting pot. I got quite a kick out of this combination of Italian and Finn. The boys name was Eino Philzetti, it sounded kind of funny.
- I What about the Marquette County Fair, do you remember anything about that?
- R Oh, do I remember the Marquette County fair. Dad usually took us, but I think Arvid was still too young at that time. Somehow I remember dad and I going alone that time. That was my first remembrance of the fair really. He had gotten me a big, big doll that he apparently won on something and then we got on the ferris wheel. If I live to be a 100 I'll never foret this, I was frightened up there and clutching this doll as we sat on this ferris wheel. From then on we would go out there every year. In fact Arvid would work out there during fair time earning extra pennies.
- A When they would have the horse races out there, then after the horse ran his race I would have to walk him to cool him off. Going back to my dad though, without a doubt I think he was the strongest man in Marquette. I think the way he won that doll, remember the big hammer deal when you would ring the bell.
- R Oh yes, I suppose
- A Well dad hit that bell so hard he knocked the bell off
- R Yes, he had super strength. He was really a big big man
- A Remember the time when they had these tug of war pants
- R Wasn't it Chalmer and Burns who put them out
- A Yes, they would have a pair of trousers and three men on each side well dad tore it by himself and the guy couldn't believe it. So they gave him a pair of pants and it was in the paper that Charlie Savola was the champion pants tearere.
- R He tied them to a post and that was it. I think I still have that clipping that mother had saved and was in her book. I/m sure I have it here someplace.
- A As a matter of face the road to the fairgrounds used to go right past our house and some of the old model T's would get stuck and dad would pick up one end of the car and put it back on the road again.

R That's right.

I And those Finnish drivers were fast drivers because they would always try to out do one another.

R Right

I And who's car was the fastest.

R And if you would be able to make Green Garden Hill on high, that was the best car.

A Remember when we used to go to Chatham?

R Ya.

A We'd practically walk because the car would get a flat tire and we'd get out and walk and the gals would walk. Pretty soon dad would catch up to us when the tire was fixed and then we'd go another ten miles and get another flat tire. I'll bet we had about twenty-five tires on a trip like that.

R It seemed as though we walked most of the way.

I Then they couldn't use the cars during the winter.

R No, they were on blocks.

A The only way they could get around was on the streetcar tracks because they used to have a big broom that used to clean the tracks.

R Right.

A I remember it was always a tough job to get a dime out of dad or mother to go to the show on Saturday afternoon.

R Yes, it was hard.

A Of course they just didn't have the money that's all

R I guess we made our own amusements and if we ever got any money that was a big deal, a great big deal.

A Remember we used to have a pass and if we went to Duluth that was something special.

R Yes, that was something too. That would be an annual thing too, that we would go to Virginia Minnesota and visit. We'd have to get on the train with this pass and it took forever and a day, it was so long.

- R I think we used to have alot of fun playing, I imagine kidsstill have fun doing these things. Now when you see kids in school, they evenhave a car. I don't think any kid had a car when I was in high school. Did you?
- A No, I remember we used to borrow dad's car
- R Well yes, we could use.
- A We didn't have that too darn often.
- R No, that's for sure.
- A If we wanted to go to Negaunee, lots of times we hitchhiked.
- R I never hitchhiked. But we'd get there someway I guess and it was a novelty when we got there.
- A Do you remember when we used to take the train to Big Bay?
- R Oh yes, to pick raspberries and blueberries. They used to call them berry trains.
- I My mother used to tell me about the berry train. You'd leave very early for Gordon and all day you would pick.
- R Yes, that's right. They would come home with pails and pails of berries and I think the train stopped downtown and they had to carry them home. I don't remember if they had a car at that time or not.
- A They got on the streetcars.
- R Oh that's right I forgot about the streetcar. That was a hard day's work.
- I Then you had to can all those?
- R Yes, we'd can all those, but they seemed to enjoy it.
- I My mother said that the Finnish people who had less than a hundred quarts were lazy.
- R I wouldn't doubt it.
- A Do you know that my mother and dad had alot of friends who lived on farms and whether it be two or a dozen she'd go down the basement and bring up canned meat. She'd have a dinner on in short order.
- R Ya, we never starved to death.
- A When we were playing highschool basketball, the coach couldn't figure out why the boys always took off at 4 o'clock. We'd run home and have our coffee and homemade bread or donuts and then run back and play basketball.

R They always had to have afternoon coffee

A We used to melt lead and then read our furtune

I We always did that on New Year's Eve. We had a coal furnace down the basement and we'd go down there and then we would have a dipper and melt this and then throw this in the pail. A few of mine said I was going to get some money. Of course I haven't seen it yet.

R Maybe you spend it too fast

A I remember that too

I I still have some of mine

R I never saved any of mine, and that's a shame.

A We did that even after mother and dad died for a while

R I always looked forward to it

I I bet it was a little more difficult when you had your stoker.

R It was.

I You'dhave to stop the stoker and then work at it.

R That's right. I know Dad had even a special ladle worked out for that purpose.

I All the South shore must have had them.

R They must have.

A I think the railroads paid for them ladles because everyone of them had one I'm sure. That was alot of fun though.

R It sure was.

I Well they didn't get the extra compensation. My father worked 41 years and then he got his first vacation of one week.

R Did he work for the railroad too then?

I Yes, for 45 years.

R He was for the \_\_\_\_\_ though wasn't he?

I No, he worked for the South Shore.

R He

- I He was with bridge and building. But it took 41 years for him to get his first vacation.
- R Well you know there is alot of good about these times when you stop and think.
- A Oh yes.
- R You wouldn't want to go back into all of that, but still why couldn't you just strike a happy medium.
- A You know when somebody would build a house, it wouldn't be long before it would be done. You know they all helped each other.
- R Of course now, everybody moves at a different pace, of course now we're surrounded so much more with younger kids.
- I But somehow they all got their own homes
- R And educated the kids.
- A That's what I was saying before when they first came over, they wanted to build a house. Just like their camp, they wanted to build a camp of their own. Matt said what do you want to build a camp for this is your as much as it's mine.
- R We used to spend summers there anyway.
- I My mother and dad used to go and visit the people who used to live in Marquette before and they would go and pick potatoes.
- R Apples too.
- A Well we used to go where the Hillcrest area is now at Rantta's and pick potatoes.
- R I wonder why the Finnish people ever came here. Do you suppose it's because of the climate that's comperable to the Finnish climate.
- I Actually the reason why is because there were jobs at that time. It just happened that the geography was about the same.
- A And the mining was here too.
- R But look it the Swedes all landed in Minesota.
- A There's alot of Swedes here too.
- I But not as many Finnish people came here to Marquette as they did to the Negaunee Ishpeming area.
- A I think it was the mines that did this because they recruited people.

R Didn't the Swedes settle here ahead of the Finnish people?

I Finland belonged to Sweden but there were alot of Finnish people who came in 1638.

R Well I knew a lady who used to say Finland good, Sweden no good but I think it was because they used to dominate Finland at one time. Sweden used to be a domineering country. Finland used to be bounced like a foot ball between Sweden and Russian right along.

I Now going back to Marquette, and north Marquette, did you feel that the Finnish people got along with the Italians and others?

R I think so.

A Also I think it was because most of the Finns could handle any one of them and they didn't dare to get involved.