

Audio file

[JoeDenton.mp3](#)

Transcript

00:00:01 Speaker 2

See, there's a little microphone in here, and I just press the record button and it all goes.

00:00:06 Speaker 2

On the tape.

00:00:06 Speaker 1

Oh.

00:00:07 Speaker 2

So everything we say here is going to be put down there. Got to watch your language. No, I'm just kidding.

00:00:10 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:00:16 Speaker 2

No, what I wanted to talk to you about.

00:00:17 Speaker 2

Mr. Denton is.

00:00:19 Speaker 2

I want to write an article about what Northville was like back in in the summer time, mainly in 1925.

00:00:27 Speaker 1

Well, in 1925 N what I got, what where I got it figured out was a wonderful little town.

00:00:35 Speaker 1

You see, I've been used to small towns in the Western Canada.

00:00:40 Speaker 1

And when I came to Northville in 21, it was a small town. We got to know everybody because I was a farmer and most everybody around Northville was farmers or horseman. Northville was a wonderful little horsey town, and some of those horsemen really was great horsemen there. And we had some good horses around here.

00:00:51 Speaker 2

That's right. It's big horse town, yeah.

00:01:01 Speaker 1

Yeah, and.

00:01:04 Speaker 1

Will I? Will I get it when I get it figured?

00:01:06 Speaker 1

Out.

00:01:07 Speaker 1

Northville is a little town. Both I and my wife loved. It was so friendly.

00:01:11 Speaker 2

Ohh really?

00:01:13 Speaker 1

Yes, it was friendly and boy people was good. You know, those days things were different. We used to have a black. There was a blacksmith, A cobblestone blacksmith shop. At the end of the end of.

00:01:27 Speaker 1

East Main near near Hutton. And then there was another blacksmith shop owned by Mr. Litzenberg. It just on Hutton, just around the corner.

00:01:35 Speaker 2

Oh yeah, and now that's all garages and furniture stores there. Now, there's a garage there. Yeah, yeah.

00:01:41 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:01:43 Speaker 1

And then I've been in.

00:01:46 Speaker 1

In Centre St. there just about midway and centre St. and done that. There used to be an another another farm store there owned by Mr. Cattermole. You could buy parts for your flowers and different things like a vet you know.

00:02:01

Mm-hmm.

00:02:02 Speaker 1

And.

00:02:04 Speaker 1

Where I got it figured out it was. It was a wonderful little town. Everyone was happy around here and on a Saturday night we used to meet in front of the drug store, which is now Mr. Lorenzo's drug store. They used to be a bandstand on those 4.

00:02:14

Right.

00:02:16 Speaker 2

I know that's what I've heard so much about that one.

00:02:19 Speaker 1

There used to be a bandstand there and the bandit be up there and it did play all sorts of selections and US family guys we.

00:02:28 Speaker 1

Go around there and listen to the band and talk about what we're going to put in or take off some something or other and.

00:02:35 Speaker 2

You get to see all your friends that way. Then on.

00:02:37 Speaker 1

Ohh yeah, it was a. It was a great place to meet and then.

00:02:41 Speaker 1

There was 2 drug stores those days there was Mr. Murdoch's drugstore, and Mr. Horton's Mr. Horton's was where the Lorenz drugstore is today. And Mr.

00:02:52 Speaker 1

Mr. Murdoch was where the other drug stores, you see, but and they they all had ice cream counters those days.

00:02:55 Speaker 2

Uh-huh.

00:03:00 Speaker 2

With little round tables or long.

00:03:02 Speaker 1

Well, yeah. And or you could sit up to the counter, but where we used to go.

00:03:07 Speaker 1

With Jim's magnolias, he put up the biggest ice, the biggest what do you call it?

00:03:15 Speaker 1

What do you call that Sunday? Banana. Banana split? Yeah, he put up the biggest one with a big banana and lots of ice cream. And he put up the biggest one in town, old Jim. Still living, you know.

00:03:18 Speaker 2

Now split.

00:03:28 Speaker 2

I know now that's his son runs the store spankies. They call it now. Yeah.

00:03:30 Speaker 1

That's his son, Joe, that runs the store. Yeah.

00:03:33 Speaker 1

He had that wonderful family.

00:03:36 Speaker 1

I known Jim for over 50 years and he wonderful, wonderful man.

00:03:40 Speaker 2

Yeah.

00:03:42 Speaker 2

Boy, ice cream must have been a real treat then on a.

00:03:44 Speaker 1

One of those bananas, specially Jimmy, used to make with this wood.

00:03:44 Speaker 2

Hot summer day.

00:03:49

Yeah.

00:03:50 Speaker 1

And it it didn't cost very little those days, you know. Yeah, my gosh.

00:03:54 Speaker 1

Yeah, that's true. And then you see we we didn't, we didn't have the the horse racing we do there, but we used to have horse racing around the track by by, by local, by local horseman, you know. Now Mr. Stark, whether stark, whether he used to breed good horse.

00:04:09 Speaker 2

Stock weather, yeah.

00:04:14 Speaker 1

And there was a Mr. Boshan Bilbo Shawn. He was quite a horseman. Oh, Mr. Markham was a wonderful horseman. And the the Niles was all wonderful horseman. The Niles had quite a family, and they were. They were.

00:04:29 Speaker 1

Practically born in the stable, they they they was really horsemen from the good cradle up.

00:04:32 Speaker 2

That right, I know, I know, missus.

00:04:35 Speaker 2

Shark weather quite well. I'll be going to visit her this afternoon and she tells me about how her husband got that started. He was very instrumental in getting the horses horse racing started.

00:04:37 Speaker 1

Oh yeah. Ruth is a wonderful woman.

00:04:43 Speaker 1

Ohh, he was a wonderful awesome. He had some good horses. He had these Hamiltonians, you know, and they was wonderful horses and.

00:04:51 Speaker 1

Yeah, it it was a. It was a great town, I tell you, I enjoyed well, I've enjoyed all my years here.

00:04:58 Speaker 1

If we go away from away from all used to go back to Western Canada of you, but we would always glad.

00:04:59 Speaker 2

You must have if you stayed here.

00:05:00 Speaker 2

Right.

00:05:03 Speaker 1

To.

00:05:03 Speaker 1

Get back because I had some wonderful friends in Northfield and I was a farmer in Northville for the farm crisis. The state of the Superintendent there. We had that was naked on that road and we had a pill, better judges.

00:05:04 Speaker 2

Uh-huh. Yeah. Still with your home.

00:05:07 Speaker 2

Mm-hmm.

00:05:17 Speaker 1

We had a we had a pill bed of short horns and then we had about 100 head of what we call feeder cattle to feed.

00:05:27 Speaker 1

See, we had 1000 acres on the road. Well then we had a string of polo ponies and string of hunters and we used to run 2 hunts a Week, 2 fox hunts a week but without without a fox we used had the fox scent we used.

00:05:32 Speaker 2

Ohh my.

00:05:39 Speaker 1

To.

00:05:39 Speaker 1

Buy and then we used to get permission around sale and way to through some of the farmers there to go through their place and we used to put.

00:05:40

Yeah.

00:05:47 Speaker 1

Jumps in for the people to go over. You jump over you.

00:05:50

Oh.

00:05:50 Speaker 2

Come on. Yeah.

00:05:51 Speaker 1

And I used. I used to go and lay the the dragline out ahead of the people, and then the hounds. They follow them every so often we'd pick up the dragline so there wouldn't be any scent. And then the aunt would start to circle around and that would give the Huntsman time to catch up with the hounds again. And they keep circling.

00:05:51 Speaker 2

Practice the voices.

00:06:08 Speaker 2

Ohh wow.

00:06:10 Speaker 1

Wide and wide until they got the scent again. Then the way they'd go.

00:06:14 Speaker 1

Again. Uh-huh.

00:06:15 Speaker 2

Well, the people back in those days, of course, in 1925, the automobile, the Model T was around, but not many people had one, I don't suppose.

00:06:21 Speaker 1

Yeah, it was. It was around then, yeah.

00:06:25 Speaker 1

Well, they see times weren't so good. Then. You know those? Those she, I forget. I forget. When Ford started the \$5 a day.

00:06:34 Speaker 2

About 1920, I think it was, yeah.

00:06:36 Speaker 1

Somewhere around the well. Was it that early? I don't.

00:06:39 Speaker 2

Know I don't know. Maybe it was later than.

00:06:42 Speaker 2

That.

00:06:42 Speaker 1

I think it was.

00:06:42 Speaker 1

Later.

00:06:44 Speaker 1

But Farm Farm help though today.

00:06:49 Speaker 1

We've only been a dollar a day, although we paid more, Mr. Grundy, because we used to want good health, we we paid more than anybody else.

00:06:55 Speaker 2

Yeah.

00:06:56 Speaker 2

You could afford it too. Well, then.

00:06:58 Speaker 1

Well, yeah, we can afford it. And and when you hire somebody, you want to make sure they're going to stay. So you pay them good wages so they will stay.

00:07:05 Speaker 2

That they'll.

00:07:06 Speaker 2

That's right. Yeah. Would you mind if I?

00:07:08 Speaker 2

Smoke bother you, OK?

00:07:09

No.

00:07:10 Speaker 1

There's a there's an ashtray right there.

00:07:12 Speaker 2

OK, in those days, women didn't smoke, did they? It was very rare for a woman to smoke.

00:07:17 Speaker 1

Ohh gosh, you don't remember? I didn't pay much attention.

00:07:18 Speaker 2

In 1925.

00:07:20 Speaker 2

Yeah, I don't think that happened till about World War 2 that women began to smoke wasn't very ladylike.

00:07:26 Speaker 2

I don't think.

00:07:26 Speaker 1

Whoa.

00:07:28 Speaker 1

Well.

00:07:29 Speaker 2

But the men smoked.

00:07:31 Speaker 1

Yeah, I never smoked cigarettes. I smoke a cigar every day and I've smoked a cigar every day for.

00:07:34 Speaker 2

Always.

00:07:39 Speaker 1

I guess or or maybe when I was in World War, I didn't get a chance to get mine as a guide, but otherwise I've.

00:07:45 Speaker 1

Been smoking cigars for.

00:07:49 Speaker 1

Putting your 70 years I guess.

00:07:50 Speaker 2

Ohh my goodness.

00:07:52 Speaker 1

Never hurt me any.

00:07:53

MHM.

00:07:53 Speaker 1

I love her cigar.

00:07:56 Speaker 2

Lighting cigars are less harmful for you anyway than cigarettes. Did you just smoke?

00:07:59 Speaker 1

Oh yeah, you don't that you don't get that hot.

00:08:00 Speaker 2

A couple of them.

00:08:02 Speaker 2

And you don't inhale them, do you? I know because I.

00:08:04 Speaker 1

No, you don't inhale and I don't think it's a good plan to inhale.

00:08:07 Speaker 2

Smoke anyway. No, it isn't. It really isn't. It's a bad habit. More people do it with the times we live and everything is so fast. You know you sometimes you feel you need a cigarette to slow you down or something. But things were pretty slow moving back in 1925, weren't they compared to today?

00:08:12 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:08:16 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:08:18 Speaker 1

That's right.

00:08:23 Speaker 1

What? What would that?

00:08:24 Speaker 2

Pretty slow moving.

00:08:26 Speaker 1

Oh, yeah. Well, you see, we had some, we had some bad times around.

00:08:30 Speaker 1

Time things wasn't doing so good. There was quite a quite a lot of people unemployed and.

00:08:37 Speaker 1

I don't recall exactly what year it was, but somewhere around that time of the year, I know I get high good carpenters for three or \$4.00 a day. I built a W up on Mr. Grennan's property. I built an old western cabin, and on western corral and put up western gates that you wouldn't see this side of Alberta.

00:09:00 Speaker 1

Those gates, because they was all swung without hinges.

00:09:01 Speaker 2

Really.

00:09:03 Speaker 2

Ohh my goodness.

00:09:05 Speaker 1

And.

00:09:06 Speaker 1

Mr. Grennan was tickled to death with him because while we was building that that winter, he was he was in Texas that winter, him in Mrs. Brennan, they used to travel away in the winter quite a bit, and when he come back, he said. Boy, if I'd have been spoiled and he said because he said I'd have probably said do this or do that and we never got anything.

00:09:16

Mm-hmm.

00:09:25 Speaker 2

Right.

00:09:26 Speaker 2

After he left it up to.

00:09:27 Speaker 1

You and he got. And then I built. I built him a corral without a.

00:09:27

Something good.

00:09:30 Speaker 1

Mail but I didn't have raw hide but I used. I used Hayward just for the fun of building the corral without a nail. I use haywire. That's amazing. Well, it was just the misty good and one wanted something just a little different than he had the money. You could pay for it. And we had our own Poles. We had a lot of woods there.

00:09:45 Speaker 2

Uh-huh.

00:09:47 Speaker 2

Yeah.

00:09:50 Speaker 1

We could cut our own poles for a corral in the woods. You.

00:09:53 Speaker 1

See.

00:09:53 Speaker 2

Uh-huh.

00:09:54 Speaker 1

So that it was all right.

00:09:56

Mm-hmm.

00:09:58 Speaker 2

Did you see many cars on the street though? Like down at main and center where they have the handstand? Yeah.

00:10:01 Speaker 1

Well, there weren't as many colleges as there is.

00:10:03 Speaker 1

Today.

00:10:04 Speaker 1

No.

00:10:05 Speaker 2

The car was.

00:10:05 Speaker 2

A luxury in those days, wasn't it?

00:10:07 Speaker 1

Yeah, they were. They, they, they were a lot of people used to drive to town on the Saturday night. Now with horses, with the, with the buggy or the wagon.

00:10:16 Speaker 2

They come in with their.

00:10:17 Speaker 2

Buggy.

00:10:17 Speaker 1

Ohh yeah, come in with the.

00:10:19 Speaker 1

Buggy or the wagon and.

00:10:19 Speaker 2

Like the people that lived out on.

00:10:20 Speaker 2

The farms and.

00:10:21 Speaker 1

They lived on the farm, yeah.

00:10:23 Speaker 1

But eventually they got the old Model T yeah, and we had little parking places there. And of course, there was no parking meters, those.

00:10:32 Speaker 2

Days. Yeah, yeah. And the roads were a little bit narrower.

00:10:37 Speaker 1

The Main Street was narrower in those days. It was it was wide and later I couldn't tell you just when.

00:10:42 Speaker 2

In 1931, I think they had to widen it, so they made the sidewalk shorter.

00:10:45 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:10:46 Speaker 1

Yeah, they might. They that's right.

00:10:47 Speaker 2

Error.

00:10:50 Speaker 2

Was the road.

00:10:50 Speaker 1

Paved not those days, no.

00:10:53 Speaker 2

It's just a dirt.

00:10:54 Speaker 1

Road it well, it might have been all it was, but it wasn't paved like it is today.

00:10:59 Speaker 2

Uh.

00:11:00 Speaker 2

And more trees probably too, weren't there more trees?

00:11:02 Speaker 1

Hey.

00:11:04 Speaker 1

I can't. I can't recall about the trees on there now. I can't recall that.

00:11:10 Speaker 1

I don't remember about the trees, but of course you see those days.

00:11:16 Speaker 1

Things was different and entry in Northville like you, you might say.

00:11:23 Speaker 1

Round where that little bridge was there, near background of the doctor. Doctor Randall's office. Well, that those, those that wasn't there then you know that place wasn't there then.

00:11:33 Speaker 2

Yeah.

00:11:34 Speaker 1

And and because there might have been more, a few more trees on the banks, you as you entered Northfield, Northfield was really a a nice town to enter. It was picturesque. There was trees, as you know, coming along the Boulevard there.

00:11:47 Speaker 2

Ohh yeah.

00:11:48 Speaker 1

And.

00:11:50 Speaker 2

And of course, the racetrack wasn't there then.

00:11:52 Speaker 1

The the racetrack wasn't there then, about 19.

00:11:59 Speaker 1

I'd say about 19.

00:12:02 Speaker 1

42 or three, I don't recall. We we had a we had a race, a flat race put on, I think, by Mr. Scott Cole, you know, with saddle. What do you call it? Flat race with horses, like a regular horse race. Not, not not a sulky.

00:12:04 Speaker 2

19 yeah, 19.

00:12:17

Oh.

00:12:18 Speaker 2

Race. Yeah, but they.

00:12:20 Speaker 2

The the jockeys rode on the horses.

00:12:21 Speaker 1

Jockey jockey rode the.

00:12:22 Speaker 1

Horses. Well then the next year it was either.

00:12:27 Speaker 1

It might have been because I say I can't recall exactly, but 4445 then we started the sulky racing.

00:12:36 Speaker 1

And boy, they was picturesque and of course most of the horses those days was in tents.

00:12:43 Speaker 1

We didn't have enough stables those days. The house, the and of course the grandstand was an awful lot different than what it is today.

00:12:51 Speaker 2

Ohh yeah.

00:12:52 Speaker 2

Yeah, I've heard about them.

00:12:53 Speaker 1

And but previous to to having the races, we used to have little little races. But these gentlemen I told told you about like Mr. Scott with his horses for Mr. Bill Beaujean and and no Mr.

00:13:10 Speaker 2

Sarah, Mr. Tall, that you remember Mr. Talla.

00:13:12 Speaker 1

Hey.

00:13:14 Speaker 2

PUL.

00:13:16 Speaker 1

Tell.

00:13:16 Speaker 2

Him. Tala, I've talked to his wife. Very tall.

00:13:18 Speaker 1

I can't. I can't. I seem to seem to remember that name. But ohh, Mr. Markham was another good old driver. And the Niles was, of course, was wonderful drivers. They had. They had not only Mr. Niles, but their sons, you know. And then, of course, we used to get. They used to come over from Canada. Some, some of them.

00:13:36 Speaker 1

And if if Northville is a well respected little town in the.

00:13:42 Speaker 2

What did you do for fun? What did you do for fun? Like on a Saturday night? You went down to the bandstand?

00:13:44 Speaker 1

Right.

00:13:47 Speaker 1

Well, on a Saturday night, I just can't recall what we did for fun other other than come down and listen to the.

00:13:54 Speaker 1

Band.

00:13:54 Speaker 1

And of course, there was a a saloon or two, you know?

00:13:58 Speaker 2

Yeah.

00:13:58 Speaker 1

And you could go in the saloon.

00:14:00 Speaker 1

And of course.

00:14:00 Speaker 2

The ladies didn't go in the saloon.

00:14:01 Speaker 1

No, that's not the ladies, no.

00:14:04 Speaker 1

And.

00:14:06 Speaker 2

And that was the Salvation Army band that played there.

00:14:09 Speaker 1

The Salvation Army used to come in sometimes on a Saturday night and play. I'd never. I recall it now you.

00:14:15 Speaker 1

Speak of.

00:14:16 Speaker 1

It yeah. Yeah. They used to come in and play.

00:14:19 Speaker 2

And people would sing with them too, wouldn't they?

00:14:21 Speaker 1

Oh yeah, yeah.

00:14:24 Speaker 1

But you know, they used to be.

00:14:26 Speaker 1

There, there, there was no Krogers or or AMP stores. The only stores that I can recall there is the the the CF Smith store.

00:14:30

OK.

00:14:37 Speaker 1

And they used to be Mr. Elliott's grocery store.

00:14:42 Speaker 1

There used to be Mr. Lakes hardware.

00:14:45 Speaker 1

And Mr. Elliott's hardware.

00:14:48 Speaker 1

Another Mr.

00:14:50 Speaker 1

And then they used to.

00:14:51 Speaker 1

Be.

00:14:53 Speaker 1

The little T-shirt pushed the name of the cut. Remember that name?

00:14:57 Speaker 2

Oh, a little tea shop, really.

00:14:59 Speaker 1

And I know name. What's them people?

00:15:03 Speaker 1

On on those, on those buildings, near near where this.

00:15:08 Speaker 1

On the end of Upton St.

00:15:10 Speaker 2

Ah, I'm building there. I'm trying, not the stones.

00:15:12 Speaker 1

His mother used to have.

00:15:13 Speaker 1

A little teacher.

00:15:16 Speaker 2

Already.

00:15:17 Speaker 1

Across families this way.

00:15:19 Speaker 2

Across from Ellis and I've had them.

00:15:22 Speaker 2

I don't know, but what was the T?

00:15:23 Speaker 1

Sharp, like. Well, tonight. A little room she had to, but we used to go there. My wife used to like to go in there because my wife wouldn't go in there alone anyway. And she used, like, going and have a cup of tea. This is where it was, missus. Where's tea shop then? They used to be old Mr. Mccullough's shoe shop. And.

00:15:42 Speaker 1

And then they used to be the the Stock Brothers shoe shop.

00:15:46 Speaker 1

They they was fine. Fine. All fine. Old gentleman. Then. Of course, there was Mr. Fridell. The Taylor? He they're. They're still here and.

00:15:56 Speaker 1

And never.

00:15:57 Speaker 2

And people had to come from miles around to do their shopping.

00:16:00 Speaker 1

Yeah. Yeah, they did. Yeah. Because we hadn't got no stores to run like we got today.

00:16:00 Speaker 2

Right in downtown.

00:16:01 Speaker 2

Knoxville. Yeah, there were no shopping centers.

00:16:05 Speaker 2

Yeah.

00:16:06 Speaker 1

And if I'm concerned, I think in North Phillip been better to stay that way. Yeah, I tell you, there's nothing like a little farming community for me.

00:16:10 Speaker 2

And I think so too.

00:16:16 Speaker 2

Well, that's one of the reasons why I want to write this article, because I think in this day and age we're too spread out. We're too fast. We depend too much on the automobile.

00:16:23 Speaker 1

That's right.

00:16:25 Speaker 1

And and I think like like Detroit, when you get too many people in one place, it's a mess. You can't handle it. Little communities, it's far better.

00:16:34 Speaker 2

That's right, people can know each other and help each.

00:16:36 Speaker 2

Other.

00:16:37 Speaker 2

And and stick together.

00:16:37 Speaker 1

Yeah. Now what? Where I used to be as a kid in Western Canada.

00:16:42 Speaker 1

I think in in the in the little town and and and all this Township around it, I think there's still about 500 people that it's never got any bigger, it's it's a Prairie town. And my wife and I used to go there every year for years and years and it's still a fairy talent. And and I was classified as one of the old timers.

00:16:51 Speaker 2

My goodness.

00:17:02 Speaker 1

When they had their hundred under the 100th year, that was about two years ago. Yeah. See, I knew Winnipeg when it was, when it was a horsey town. And you see, Winnipeg is a town where the Red River and the Assiniboia River meet.

00:17:07

Oh.

00:17:18 Speaker 1

Come into Winnipeg and then they see that's where they, the Indians and the and the Alfred, just to bring their furs up there and sell to the northwest company and the Hudson Bay Company and.

00:17:30 Speaker 1

And so, you know, I knew the West windshield was rough.

00:17:34 Speaker 2

That you did. Yeah. You know what you told me? Why I can.

00:17:37 Speaker 1

I got some scars on me from the West. Yeah, and but.

00:17:39 Speaker 2

Yeah. From the **** * that stuck his knife in your hand and.

00:17:44 Speaker 1

But.

00:17:46 Speaker 1

And that book I would have showed you that book, but I I I lend it to my son. He was out here just before he went to Germany while ago. He just got back from Germany. He he goes to Europe every year back for a trip around. He likes that country.

00:17:55 Speaker 2

Oh my.

00:18:00 Speaker 1

And.

00:18:01 Speaker 2

Of course, in the House days, nobody went to Europe except the very, very wealthy.

00:18:04 Speaker 1

No, that's you, that's you wealthy. But what? And yet it didn't. It didn't cost much.

00:18:04

Do they?

00:18:06 Speaker 2

Yeah, I bet you've seen a lot.

00:18:10 Speaker 1

It didn't cost much. You could. You could go from new friend or or Montreal those days to to Liverpool, London for \$50 anyway. That's. Yeah. You get you're used to you'd be 10 days on the water for \$50.

00:18:21 Speaker 2

Is that right on the vote?

00:18:25 Speaker 2

MHM.

00:18:28 Speaker 2

\$50.00 was a lot more money.

00:18:29 Speaker 1

Well, yeah, because it it took about two months.

00:18:32

Yeah.

00:18:34 Speaker 2

My goodness.

00:18:35 Speaker 1

But I'll tell you, closing it down. So it's cheaper though. That's one good thing. But you haven't got to pay 20 bucks for a pair of shoes.

00:18:38 Speaker 2

Oh yeah.

00:18:41 Speaker 2

That's right. My grandfather tells me about when he used to pay \$0.08 for a shirt.

00:18:45 Speaker 1

Yeah. Well, you, you, you could. I mean, you get all the all the shirts you want for a dollar fee. So day we used to pay. We used to go from from from Manitoba into into.

00:18:56 Speaker 1

In the Minnesota to the to the in Duluth. There, there used to be a big store called the Big Duluth and Boy, you could get stuff for a song.

00:19:03 Speaker 1

You know.

00:19:05 Speaker 1

My God, I can't recall exactly, but I know overall it didn't cost a dollar those days and and.

00:19:16 Speaker 2

Did the men go around dressed in overalls and then dress up on Saturday night?

00:19:18 Speaker 1

Well, we we used to have, we used to have overalls most of the time. Yeah, and.

00:19:23 Speaker 2

And the ladies, what did they dress?

00:19:25 Speaker 1

With the ladies all wore long dresses, you know.

00:19:27 Speaker 2

Even in 1925, weren't their dresses up to about? They started to.

00:19:30 Speaker 1

Well, not so much. You must in Canada.

00:19:31 Speaker 2

Go up a little bit.

00:19:33 Speaker 2

What about here in?

00:19:34 Speaker 1

Northville well in in Northville I I believe they got him just above their ankles.

00:19:40 Speaker 2

Just above the.

00:19:41 Speaker 1

Well, there's my wife up there. She she that was taken because that was taken in, in, in.

00:19:47 Speaker 1

That was taken.

00:19:49 Speaker 1

About 20 years ago.

00:19:50 Speaker 2

Uh-huh.

00:19:51 Speaker 2

But still I I I know after World War 1 is when women started to wear their shirts, their skirts a little bit shorter before World War One it was always all the way down, covered the ankle and it was really something when they.

00:19:58 Speaker 1

Yeah, that's about.

00:19:59 Speaker 1

It.

00:20:03 Speaker 2

Showed their ankle.

00:20:03 Speaker 1

Used me.

00:20:05 Speaker 1

They used to wear them way down.

00:20:07 Speaker 2

But they were pretty much covered up even in the hot summer.

00:20:10 Speaker 2

Time they didn't.

00:20:10 Speaker 1

Well, they used to wear petticoats and all that kind of thing under the dresses.

00:20:15 Speaker 2

Yeah. How they stood it when they hot summer time.

00:20:17 Speaker 1

Well, I don't, I don't. The way I got it figured, I don't know the devil. They shouldn't know were nothing on some of these. They these kids come over from school and they're putting in naked, you know, going along, you know, and and I'm still got my coat clothes on.

00:20:29 Speaker 2

Yeah.

00:20:30 Speaker 1

I think a woman I don't know. Do they feel the heat?

00:20:33 Speaker 2

Wanna man? No, but it's just, I don't know. People are into showing their bodies more these days, young people, even I I'm not that much older. But I look at like 18 year olds and they dress with like, say almost nothing on. And that to me.

00:20:47 Speaker 1

Well, what, what? What's the sense to it?

00:20:47 Speaker 2

I would feel.

00:20:49 Speaker 2

Oh, because we're more.

00:20:50 Speaker 1

I just want to see a woman nicely dressed.

00:20:53 Speaker 2

Mm-hmm. That's right. Yeah, I agree with you. Things have changed so much, though. Like I said, every.

00:20:54

Yeah.

00:20:59 Speaker 1

Why?

00:21:00

But.

00:21:01 Speaker 1

I I don't know. I I like to see a woman I own. Some of these done things on the television. They're a pain in the neck.

00:21:06 Speaker 1

I.

00:21:06 Speaker 1

Only try to get channel 9 to get to get some western pictures or wildlife pictures or.

00:21:10 Speaker 2

Yeah, yeah.

00:21:13 Speaker 1

Enough listening, pictures coming anymore. They seem to be falling out.

00:21:17 Speaker 2

Yeah, yeah.

00:21:19 Speaker 2

What? When you went on a picnic in those days, what was it like?

00:21:23 Speaker 1

Well, of course the the the park was being built. The park is being built now quite a few years.

00:21:30 Speaker 1

That part was built on God. She's asked me to to say.

00:21:35 Speaker 1

OK.

00:21:36 Speaker 1

And that parts have been built for 40 years. See Mr. Grennan used to own some of.

00:21:40 Speaker 1

That.

00:21:40 Speaker 1

Park and.

00:21:41 Speaker 2

You mean the Ed Hines Park there?

00:21:43 Speaker 1

Yeah, around there. You see, we used to that was a part of his farms one time before they before they made the roads different. That was a part of that was uh, and there's several other people. I think Mr. Butch Ball went owned the part of it well, where, where, where Mr. Hallas owned is now, that was all farm trusted.

00:21:47 Speaker 2

Ohh my.

00:21:57 Speaker 2

And Cass Benton.

00:22:03 Speaker 1

States those days.

00:22:04 Speaker 2

Ohh wow.

00:22:05 Speaker 1

Of course, Mr. Allen is now in Switzerland. He, I mean, he sold that but and.

00:22:10 Speaker 2

So there were quite a few wealthy people in Northville too, with the wealthy.

00:22:13 Speaker 1

Yeah, that's right.

00:22:15 Speaker 2

Person.

00:22:16 Speaker 1

And you know that that Six Mile Rd. when you went up Six Mile Rd. that wasn't as wide as it is today. There was a little wooden bridge there those.

00:22:23 Speaker 1

Days.

00:22:24 Speaker 1

Really. Yeah. Before the other bridge was built. Well, then, when they started to build.

00:22:28 Speaker 1

The the park.

00:22:30 Speaker 1

Well then, then the companies, you know, like forge and different people add their.

00:22:36 Speaker 1

There of what we're just talking about.

00:22:38 Speaker 2

Company.

00:22:39 Speaker 1

Picnics in in those in the park there. All that property was owned by, oh, Mr. Cash Benton.

00:22:42 Speaker 2

Uh-huh.

00:22:45 Speaker 2

That's right. Yeah, he donated it.

00:22:47 Speaker 1

Yeah, it's a little cash.

00:22:49 Speaker 2

Huh.

00:22:50 Speaker 1

Yeah. And it's and it's like, it's like the little depot down, you know that the train used to run there and I used to know the station agent. We used to come up there and unload cattle and and different things and.

00:23:02 Speaker 2

Where was the depot at?

00:23:03 Speaker 1

It was really rid of you if you kept going straight down Main Street, you'd run right into.

00:23:08 Speaker 2

It right there, near where the Ford factory is.

00:23:10 Speaker 1

Yeah, well, well, right behind where, where they still have, they still got the spring with the water right behind.

00:23:16 Speaker 2

Yeah.

00:23:16 Speaker 1

That.

00:23:17 Speaker 2

Right behind that, huh?

00:23:18 Speaker 1

Yeah. And the trains you to come in there daily, you know? Yeah.

00:23:21 Speaker 2

Uh.

00:23:23 Speaker 2

Would farmers send their produce in on the train or?

00:23:26 Speaker 1

Well, I don't know what the farmer sent the produce in on it, but if we if we was buying stuff like we used to buy cattle from up north and we.

00:23:35 Speaker 1

And we buy the foot lighter by the truck level that that would all come in there. Like, you know, the fate would come in there.

00:23:42 Speaker 2

Right, yeah.

00:23:43 Speaker 1

And the mail would come in there too. Yeah. Mr. those days. Mr. Perrin used to meet the male there.

00:23:45 Speaker 2

Oh yeah.

00:23:51 Speaker 2

Yeah.

00:23:52 Speaker 1

And a a policeman used to guard him used to go out there and meet with him, and he didn't need to. But if we had, that was the rule.

00:23:54 Speaker 2

Oh my.

00:23:59 Speaker 2

Yeah, yeah.

00:24:01 Speaker 2

Yeah. And they had street cars that people.

00:24:03 Speaker 2

Could get around.

00:24:04 Speaker 1

There was a Street car that used to run from. I believe it was Bates St. in Detroit, long Eight Mile Rd. They used to call it the interwoven and that used to stop around there near Pennell Ave.

00:24:13 Speaker 2

Huh.

00:24:18 Speaker 1

It it hates modern come come later on, then go to.

00:24:21 Speaker 1

Plymouth.

00:24:22 Speaker 2

That's right. You go all the way from Detroit to Plymouth and stop at Northville if you wanted.

00:24:25 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:24:26 Speaker 1

You eat something? No, but my wife used to often take it.

00:24:26 Speaker 2

To.

00:24:30 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:24:30 Speaker 2

Well, when did you get a car? When?

00:24:31 Speaker 2

Did you get your first car?

00:24:32 Speaker 1

Me. Well, I tell you, I was always lucky. I always had money. I bought a car. A new car every year from 21 until the year 65. I bought a new one every year. And sometimes as many as three-year. When I when I would change models or when or when my children graduated or something like that.

00:24:52 Speaker 2

Uh-huh. What was your first car then?

00:24:53 Speaker 1

I bought.

00:24:54 Speaker 2

A Model T.

00:24:55 Speaker 1

My first car was rear.

00:24:58 Speaker 1

And then I think my second car was what they called a Gray car. I bought that in Farmington.

00:25:04 Speaker 1

Then I then my next one, I believe was an Oakland not not knows. Maybe an Oakland and I bought several Oldsmobile and I bought Buick and I bought Pontiacs, but I bought more Fords than anything.

00:25:19 Speaker 2

More boards.

00:25:19 Speaker 1

Yeah, I bought a lot of.

00:25:20 Speaker 2

Fords yeah, well, that was a good car too.

00:25:22 Speaker 1

A good car I bought. I bought 1 special Studebaker, I remember.

00:25:23 Speaker 2

OK.

00:25:26 Speaker 2

Oh my afford was a.

00:25:27 Speaker 1

And all that.

00:25:28 Speaker 2

It was a.

00:25:28 Speaker 2

Was a good car and it was a cheaper.

00:25:30 Speaker 2

Car too was.

00:25:31 Speaker 1

Yeah, that was made a lot of wood, though. They that specials too debate. I probably bought that in about 1920.

00:25:39 Speaker 1

22 or three, I can't remember exactly.

00:25:41 Speaker 2

Yeah, yeah.

00:25:43 Speaker 1

But my wife and I, we all drove to Toronto fair and we're.

00:25:43 Speaker 2

So, but most dear neighbors.

00:25:48 Speaker 2

You drove in your car all the way to to Toronto.

00:25:50 Speaker 1

Well, yeah. Gosh, I I drive my car to British Columbia every year for many years, for 30 years, for sure.

00:25:56 Speaker 2

Well, how long would it take in you to get to Toronto?

00:25:59 Speaker 2

By car back in those days.

00:26:00 Speaker 1

Ohh, you'll get there today.

00:26:03 Speaker 2

Well, now you can get there in 4 hours.

00:26:03 Speaker 1

We we used to go see those days. We used to go across the river in a boat.

00:26:08 Speaker 1

In a very.

00:26:09 Speaker 2

Right. But your car on the ferry?

00:26:11 Speaker 1

Put the car in the ferry and go over and you know well. And sometimes my wife and I, we drive to Port Huron and and and go over there to Sarnia and go that way through London that.

00:26:20 Speaker 1

Way.

00:26:20 Speaker 1

Mm-hmm. And and there and.

00:26:23 Speaker 2

She couldn't go very fast.

00:26:25 Speaker 1

Well, you you probably couldn't go as fast as you can go today.

00:26:29 Speaker 1

You could go around 4550 miles an hour. Think.

00:26:31 Speaker 2

Is that right? Well, that's almost as bad. Yeah.

00:26:33 Speaker 1

Roads weren't as good as they are today. I mean, there was a lot of rough roads those days. Pretty, pretty.

00:26:36 Speaker 2

Yeah.

00:26:38 Speaker 1

Bumpy. Hmm and.

00:26:40 Speaker 2

Well, did when you traveled for a long day like that. Did you carry food in the car with you?

00:26:42

Oh.

00:26:43 Speaker 1

Ohh yeah, we all escaped. Plenty of food my wife, but with the son of, we're gonna have sandwiches packed up and every other damn thing.

00:26:45 Speaker 2

Yeah.

00:26:51 Speaker 2

Yeah, of course. You didn't have any.

00:26:53 Speaker 2

Plastic and you didn't.

00:26:54 Speaker 2

Have any paper like we do today?

00:26:55 Speaker 1

No, no, she. But she had little tins or boxes whether.

00:26:59 Speaker 1

You call them.

00:27:00 Speaker 1

She was down and she just know how to fix something. She will need old come related and she know how to fix up things.

00:27:06

Yeah, yeah.

00:27:07 Speaker 1

We used to go to Western Canada, let's say, every every year.

00:27:11 Speaker 1

We used to drive to British Columbia and that that was 3000 miles of this each way.

00:27:18 Speaker 2

You drove that in your.

00:27:19 Speaker 1

Car. Sure, I I that was the thing I'd do. I used to buy a new car practically every year when we started off to.

00:27:26 Speaker 2

And sell your old one.

00:27:27 Speaker 1

So most of them, but it didn't cost much to those days to trade in. They I trade my old one in and gosh, I don't think that's the time you have to face about 6 to 700.

00:27:36 Speaker 1

Dollars to.

00:27:37 Speaker 1

Trade in. Yeah, well.

00:27:39 Speaker 1

You know you that didn't mean much those days. Not to me.

00:27:43 Speaker 2

What did the kids do for fun? What did the children do?

00:27:45 Speaker 1

Well, my children was on the farm.

00:27:49 Speaker 1

And and and I bought horses. My little daughter. She could ride horses. I bought her from ponies and to to to a smaller horse, to a good horse. So she rode in the in the in.

00:28:00 Speaker 1

The show. Ohh.

00:28:01 Speaker 1

My. Yeah. And then my other boys, they could, they could ride on the farm, they could ride any of the farm polo ponies if they wanted. They all had a good.

00:28:02 Speaker 2

Hi.

00:28:09 Speaker 1

Time and we had some very good grooms those days.

00:28:15 Speaker 1

Fellas, it was good. Horsemen, fellow name. But Tom Wall, John Walls and old Tom Campbell and.

00:28:22 Speaker 1

And I can't remember the name of the Mel Boram, but they were we we had a good outfit of people and good dairymen, you know.

00:28:31 Speaker 2

Right.

00:28:32 Speaker 2

So the kids were busy.

00:28:33 Speaker 2

They had enough time to get in trouble or anything like that.

00:28:36 Speaker 1

Well, they, they they didn't used to be, didn't seem to be any trouble though they they didn't seem to be so many non kids around. Heck we only had this one school in Northville those days.

00:28:46 Speaker 1

And that was when that was filled and up. And then we got and how many schools?

00:28:51 Speaker 2

Yeah, yeah. We're so much bigger now. How many people do you think were in Northville in 1925?

00:28:57 Speaker 1

You know, I l'd, l'd, l'd hate to guess good. I don't.

00:28:59 Speaker 1

Think there was?

00:29:01 Speaker 1

I wouldn't think there was much over 1000. I don't know. I can't remember exactly, but I don't think there was much over 1000 in within the city limits because we used to call it the village of Northville those days, yeah.

00:29:04 Speaker 2

Yeah, because we have.

00:29:10 Speaker 2

Yeah, that's right. Yeah.

00:29:15 Speaker 2

Yeah, because now we have 6000 just inside.

00:29:17 Speaker 2

The city limit.

00:29:18 Speaker 1

Is that well, then you see, we used to have them.

00:29:22 Speaker 1

A village president those days, not a village mayor, a village president.

00:29:26 Speaker 2

Oh really?

00:29:27 Speaker 1

And then we had the doctors were Doctor Snow, Doctor Holcomb, and then Dr. Hutchinson.

00:29:36 Speaker 1

And of course, before those, they used to be the old doctor, Henry's brothers, Henry. They were doctors, you know, and.

00:29:42

Thank you.

00:29:43 Speaker 1

And Doctor and Mrs. Sparling.

00:29:46 Speaker 1

They they were, and we used to have our own little hospital.

00:29:49 Speaker 1

Here.

00:29:50 Speaker 2

Did.

00:29:50 Speaker 1

You down, right and it was.

00:29:51 Speaker 1

A good little hospital.

00:29:53 Speaker 2

I think that's the one right on the corner where my parents live at Dunlap St. on Dunlap St.

00:29:58 Speaker 1

It's, you know, it's it's it's, it's the hospital is is is on the West.

00:30:04 Speaker 1

Plane.

00:30:05 Speaker 1

About about midway. We're not. It's not too far from Linden going to Rogers, about midway between Linden and Rogers, you might say.

00:30:15 Speaker 2

Was it a black building?

00:30:17 Speaker 1

No, no, no. It's just an ordinary bit.

00:30:19 Speaker 2

To think, because there's a doctor's office right there on the corner of Linden and Dunlap, facing on to Dunlap.

00:30:26 Speaker 2

And I wondered if that was it.

00:30:28 Speaker 1

Well, that's doctor snows place.

00:30:29 Speaker 2

Oh, is it?

00:30:30 Speaker 1

Yeah, that's where Doctor Snow lives.

00:30:31 Speaker 2

Oh, I see.

00:30:33 Speaker 1

The old dog, he's been there. Good. Well, he was a wonderful.

00:30:35 Speaker 1

Doctor too, yeah.

00:30:37 Speaker 1

Grand fellow.

00:30:38

Hmm.

00:30:39 Speaker 1

Yeah, it was a wonderful town. That little hospital we had, I'd tell you. That was a shame. When?

00:30:43 Speaker 1

We lost.

00:30:43 Speaker 1

It. Yeah, my my daughter was born there. Yeah. Yeah. And my my wife had. It was operated on in that hospital too. It was a good hospital where some good doctors here.

00:30:46 Speaker 2

Is that right?

00:30:54 Speaker 2

Sounds like a.

00:30:56

Yeah.

00:30:57

Yeah.

00:30:58 Speaker 2

Well, did you like going downtown on Saturday night? Was that a pretty regular?

00:31:01 Speaker 2

Thing for you.

00:31:02 Speaker 1

We all we always went down on Saturday night. We all done gang of the Farm boys and we used to go in old gym store and never Sunday and then I talked to well you know the

00:31:12 Speaker 1

Kind of the old time farmers, Herman Staman and the Christian boys and.

00:31:19 Speaker 1

And the and the whipples Howard Whipple and.

00:31:23 Speaker 2

Ohh yeah.

00:31:23 Speaker 1

And I can't remember them all now.

00:31:25 Speaker 2

Do you know the shipleys? Do you know the shipleys?

00:31:29 Speaker 1

Oh, Mr. Shipley sure used to be a Barber. Yeah, I knew him. And now Charlie Luke was another great old gentleman. A farmer.

00:31:31 Speaker 2

Oh really?

00:31:37 Speaker 1

The one just outside north of there, Charlie was a wonderful CC. Right now he's over 90 years old.

00:31:44 Speaker 2

Oh my.

00:31:45 Speaker 2

Gosh.

00:31:47 Speaker 2

Where does he live? Still lives in Northville.

00:31:49 Speaker 1

Charlie no. Charlie lives in, like, like what? His life. Only, you know, those days. He didn't call it Livonia.

00:31:53

Ohh yeah.

00:31:55 Speaker 2

When they call it.

00:31:56 Speaker 1

Then, well, it was more more or less in the suburban areas. You know, I I think I think N for you to deliver that with mail on their rural routes those days.

00:32:06 Speaker 2

Uh-huh.

00:32:08 Speaker 2

That's right, Livonia was probably farmland a lot.

00:32:08 Speaker 1

Send.

00:32:10 Speaker 1

Of it was all farmland. All. Yeah, sure. All the land around you. And then there used to be Mr. Hills farming on the.

00:32:17 Speaker 1

8th.

00:32:18 Speaker 1

On the eight mile Rd. There and.

00:32:21 Speaker 1

Well, I'll tell you, he was Northville was a wonderful little place.

00:32:26 Speaker 1

We had some good crops.

00:32:30 Speaker 1

Well, I don't know. It seemed it seems to me it was a happy little town. I I never heard of many complaints those days. Then you see the Gibson boys they used.

00:32:37 Speaker 1

To be quick.

00:32:40 Speaker 1

Quite good sized farmers, but they had they had fruit orchards, they they they was on the Sheldon in the in Six Mile there you know they're both both both sides of the.

00:32:47 Speaker 2

Ohh yeah.

00:32:50 Speaker 2

Road, where there's now, there's a Golf Club or something there. Yeah, I know.

00:32:54 Speaker 1

The the Golf Club on the other side that you to be the old Doctor Johnson's farm years ago he used to be a vet and then the old doctor Covell was another vet. There was another great old gentleman. He was a veterinary surgeon.

00:32:56 Speaker 2

Where?

00:32:57 Speaker 2

Live but.

00:32:59 Speaker 2

Ohh really?

00:33:08 Speaker 1

And.

00:33:09 Speaker 1

We'll tell you.

00:33:11 Speaker 1

You know when you get told it's a good thing we have memories. Memories are a treasure, really. Because they they they were good old days. Now you see, since since I've been crippled up I can't get out. I haven't been down to Northfield. Only just and my daughters drove me through for 15 years.

00:33:16 Speaker 2

Oh yes.

00:33:31 Speaker 1

Because I can't get around and.

00:33:33 Speaker 1

But long as I've got the memories of what Northville used to be, that's the main thing to me, and I had some wonderful friends in Northville.

00:33:37 Speaker 2

And try. That's what I want.

00:33:43 Speaker 1

Then on on the on the corner there. Let's see. I don't know whether the record office still have it. Mr. Hannaford used to have a store there. And before that, Mister Weir used to have a store there. And Mr. Huff used to have a store there. I mean, we see all that stuff changed, you know, as they went along.

00:34:00 Speaker 2

Yeah.

00:34:03 Speaker 2

Well, when you got together on Saturday night, where the streets just filled with people.

00:34:08 Speaker 1

Well, there wasn't that many to to create a gem, but the sidewalks, you know, the people that talk to one another on the we generally used to meet near the near the bandstand we're near.

00:34:22 Speaker 1

Near Mr. Horton's drug, soon we'd be talking around there, you know.

00:34:25 Speaker 1

And.

00:34:26 Speaker 1

And I'd be talking and say, well, how many acres going to gonna put in today because we had, we had a lot of acres we had, we had that was.

00:34:33 Speaker 1

Negative land, you.

00:34:34 Speaker 1

Know umm and.

00:34:36 Speaker 1

And then they talk to the whipples or the Christensen Boys or or then there was another old gentleman.

00:34:46

Ohh bill.

00:34:52 Speaker 1

You used to have a farm there on.

00:34:55 Speaker 1

On Novi Rd.

00:34:58 Speaker 1

And his son used to.

00:35:00 Speaker 1

The sun used to be connected with the races. Later Bill Rattenbury. That's old Bill Rattenbury. He's another gentleman.

00:35:05 Speaker 2

Hmm.

00:35:08 Speaker 1

And gosh, you know.

00:35:08 Speaker 2

What did that name?

00:35:11 Speaker 1

I'm sure you're thinking more of you. I'd just love to meet some of those old timers, but a lot of them.

00:35:14 Speaker 2

Yeah, yeah, yeah, that's right. Yeah, yeah.

00:35:15 Speaker 1

Have passed away. That's the digging of it.

00:35:20 Speaker 1

To me, the the old, the old.

00:35:23 Speaker 1

The Old World was the best.

00:35:26 Speaker 2

Yeah, it sounds pretty.

00:35:27 Speaker 1

I had. I had more fun when I was young and I'm getting to deal today.

00:35:32 Speaker 2

Well, you know, so many of the kids around Northville today complain about it being a boring town, and there's nothing to do. I hear this from the high school.

00:35:40 Speaker 1

Well, if the kids want something to do, why don't they come around now and say to me, could you give me a little job for now or two? I'd say sure. Come on clean.

00:35:40 Speaker 2

Kids all the time.

00:35:47 Speaker 1

Up. Yeah, do this and do that.

00:35:50 Speaker 1

And.

00:35:51 Speaker 1

By God, you know you can always give a.

00:35:53 Speaker 1

Kid a.

00:35:53 Speaker 1

Job or two. But but you're not going to give a kid \$5.00 an hour when you're not. But that's what they want.

00:35:58 Speaker 2

That's right. And that's what they want. Yeah, exactly. I know, I know. I know my brother. I know some other young people. They don't want to work for a dollar an hour even.

00:36:00 Speaker 1

I said Dickens of it.

00:36:08 Speaker 1

No, I I know. If a kid was worth \$5, no joy to pay it. But you know, you you don't expect the kid to do a man's work. And and if he. And if he was a good kid, well would give him \$2.00 an hour. I I never cheat on a kid. I I I give him plenty of like, you know, I paid over \$50 this year for shoveling snow.

00:36:27 Speaker 2

My goodness.

00:36:27 Speaker 1

Yeah, I always keep my eye like it is now.

00:36:30 Speaker 1

All winter.

00:36:31 Speaker 1

So my daughter can drive in or out or.

00:36:33 Speaker 1

Anything like that, you know?

00:36:34 Speaker 2

Oh, wow, that's good. Yeah.

00:36:36 Speaker 2

Did you go to the movies back then?

00:36:38 Speaker 1

Yeah, we used to go to the movies by Gully. They used to be the old movie theater there, and we used to go there. Harry, I can't think of Harry.

00:36:47 Speaker 2

The movie theater that's still there now, really.

00:36:49 Speaker 1

Yeah, yeah. You know, years ago in, in, in the twenty 1920s that we said little little movie, not a movie, but a little theater on the.

00:37:00 Speaker 1

On the center St. you know? Yeah. Near where the old catamore building was.

00:37:02 Speaker 2

Oh.

00:37:05 Speaker 1

And right there was where Mr. Mr. Braid of Old Sam Braider first started up his little store with ladies dresses was when he first, when he first come in and then later he he took with a braid of stories today, you know. And and boy, he was good. They give us good people to deal with.

00:37:18 Speaker 2

On Main Street, yeah.

00:37:22 Speaker 2

What did they have live plays? Did they have plays like?

00:37:24 Speaker 1

Right.

00:37:26 Speaker 2

In the theater.

00:37:27 Speaker 1

Yeah, those days. Yeah. He had dropped, you know, a little.

00:37:29 Speaker 1

Dramatic.

00:37:30 Speaker 2

Uh, presentation, please, let's say.

00:37:30 Speaker 1

Please. Yeah, and that's been pulled down now for quite a few years.

00:37:35 Speaker 2

Was that the Opera House with the Opera House? Yeah, yeah.

00:37:37 Speaker 1

Yeah, it's called the aprils. That's right. I forgot about that.

00:37:41 Speaker 1

Then and then Mr. Sid mose.

00:37:41 Speaker 2

Yeah, that burned down, didn't it?

00:37:44 Speaker 1

You have a butcher butcher shop.

00:37:47 Speaker 1

Put near. Put near at the end of the street where that where that or what do you call that place? You know the restaurant. There's something ending.

00:37:54 Speaker 2

Yeah. Over by the old mill.

00:37:57 Speaker 2

Or the.

00:37:57 Speaker 1

No, right on on the center St.

00:38:02 Speaker 2

The winner circle the bar right on center St.

00:38:05 Speaker 1

On centre St. right, right across from the from the What do you call that Drawbridge? Pretty close from that. Well, Mr. Sid Moses used to have a butcher shop there.

00:38:12 Speaker 2

Oh yeah.

00:38:14

Wow.

00:38:17 Speaker 2

Uh-huh.

00:38:17 Speaker 1

And he was one of the first when my wife and I come from Canada, we went down to SIDS and met Sid and Sid come from Canada too, you see. And and side daughter.

00:38:25 Speaker 2

Oh yeah.

00:38:28 Speaker 1

Sid Moses. Your daughter lives right across the road here from me. She married.

00:38:33 Speaker 1

She no. Obviously. Mr. Moses son lives across the border from me.

00:38:38 Speaker 1

And he married. And she he married the daughter of I just told you about. Bill. Bochum used to be quite.

00:38:44 Speaker 1

A horseman? Yeah.

00:38:45 Speaker 1

And they're so Marion and Sid live right across the road, and they're very good neighbors.

00:38:48 Speaker 2

Uh-huh. Yeah. What did you do back in those days? Young people when they wanted to go out on a date or something. What was their? What did they do? Because you were. You were married by then, I think.

00:38:56 Speaker 1

All right. Now if I know because I I didn't do anything.

00:39:00 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:39:01 Speaker 1

I don't. I don't know what they probably had bicycle do.

00:39:04 Speaker 2

Did people ride bikes a lot in those days?

00:39:06 Speaker 1

Well, they they used to ride basically. And my kids all add bicycle build they. And because my my boy had cars when they were quite young too.

00:39:15 Speaker 2

Uh-huh.

00:39:16 Speaker 1

And they can.

00:39:18 Speaker 1

Yeah, it it was quite, quite a phrase. Mm-hmm.

00:39:22 Speaker 2

Sounds like it and when you went on a picnic and you had to keep something cool, how did you do that?

00:39:27 Speaker 1

Well, you know, you didn't. You didn't go in for all that ice, but Mr. Early used to have a ice house here and you could go and buy your ice there. Or you could have your ice delivered every day.

00:39:35 Speaker 2

Uh-huh.

00:39:39 Speaker 2

Yeah, there was. Someone went around with the truck like that, pulled by horses.

00:39:40 Speaker 1

Truck. Yeah, they went around with the truck and Mr. that's it. Mr. Healy used to do that.

00:39:46 Speaker 2

Oh.

00:39:47 Speaker 1

Yeah, they used to have the ice cells.

00:39:50 Speaker 2

And you'd get your 25 or 50 lbs of ice, yeah.

00:39:52 Speaker 1

Yeah, whatever you wanted, yeah.

00:39:54 Speaker 2

Now was that before plumbing? Did they have indoor plumbing back in those days?

00:39:59 Speaker 2

Or did you have our houses?

00:39:59 Speaker 1

Well, we, we.

00:40:00 Speaker 1

Of course, we had indoor plumbing. Yeah, we had indoor plumbing. When? When I came here in.

00:40:04 Speaker 2

21 but not everybody did. Out on the farms.

00:40:06 Speaker 1

Well, probably not everybody did. Or maybe a lot of people didn't, but we did.

00:40:11 Speaker 2

MHM.

00:40:12 Speaker 2

And electricity and all of that you have already.

00:40:14 Speaker 1

Yeah. Yeah, we had everything that way. And and I'll tell you on the farm, I didn't. I didn't have pipeline gas.

00:40:21 Speaker 1

But I bought this.

00:40:22 Speaker 1

This tank gas and we we used to have three big tanks all the time because my wife used have to do a lot of cooking we used.

00:40:30 Speaker 1

To have a.

00:40:30 Speaker 1

Lot of help on the farm, you know, and we had the tank gas.

00:40:34 Speaker 1

And and that was very good guess too.

00:40:36 Speaker 2

M.

00:40:37 Speaker 1

So we, we we was lucky. We was always lucky we never had.

00:40:41 Speaker 1

The.

00:40:42 Speaker 1

The the only thing my wife never had those days with the washing machine. And she was after washing the tub.

00:40:45 Speaker 2

Oh boy.

00:40:48 Speaker 2

I wouldn't have wanted to be the wife in those days with.

00:40:50 Speaker 1

Well, I tell you, a woman didn't grumble either. A woman was worth her weight in gold, and I still think a woman's appeared a man in in anything she.

00:40:50 Speaker 2

All the work they had to do.

00:40:58 Speaker 1

Undertakes. Ohh.

00:40:59 Speaker 2

I like that.

00:41:00 Speaker 1

Well, I'm telling you I do. Because a woman is a wonderful.

00:41:04 Speaker 1

And my gully, anything that she can handle? She she she. She puts more into it. I don't know.

00:41:11 Speaker 2

Yeah, she. Well, women had to work pretty hard. I just talked to a woman named Mrs. Horsfall. Yeah. Yeah. Do you know Mrs. Horsfall?

00:41:18 Speaker 1

Lived over on the north side.

00:41:20 Speaker 2

Over on Horton, there by the neck. Yeah, yeah, yeah. He was an engineer on the lakes for a while. Well, that was her first husband. I don't know what her second husband.

00:41:21 Speaker 1

Yeah, that's it. Sure. Yeah. I used to know her husband too. Yeah.

00:41:30 Speaker 2

Did I think?

00:41:31 Speaker 2

He worked for Ford's.

00:41:32 Speaker 1

I believe you did. I just forget.

00:41:33 Speaker 2

Yeah, and she worked for Ford too. They had a ladies plant over at Phoenix.

00:41:37 Speaker 1

Yeah, that's why my daughter worked as a young.

00:41:37 Speaker 2

Or something like that.

00:41:39 Speaker 1

Girl.

00:41:40 Speaker 2

And she was telling me about what it was like to do the ironing and the washing and the baking of the bread. Did you like?

00:41:47 Speaker 1

Yeah, there's a bake. The bread and the, you know, a woman was never done from the time she got up in the morning, the time she went to bed at night, she's walking all the down time. And I I.

00:41:48 Speaker 2

Baked.

00:41:56 Speaker 2

That's right. Well, men worked just as hard, though everybody worked hard.

00:41:58 Speaker 1

Well, men will God, but I don't think I tell you when you get this, you're washing and ironing and cooking and all that. I don't. I think I shouldn't be working.

00:42:07 Speaker 1

Out in the field all day.

00:42:07 Speaker 2

That's your idea.

00:42:09 Speaker 1

Yeah. What? Never bothered me. I I never, ever got tired of.

00:42:12 Speaker 1

Work.

00:42:13 Speaker 2

Yeah, you enjoyed it.

00:42:13 Speaker 1

I I never. I never got tired of any job I ever had.

00:42:19 Speaker 1

I've had a wonderful life.

00:42:20 Speaker 2

That's a wonderful thing to say, is it?

00:42:21 Speaker 1

Yeah, I've never. I've never got tired of any job I ever had. No. And I always got on fine. Any job I ever had. And I have no regrets whatsoever. I never wished that I hadn't done this or hadn't done that. I it seemed as though that everything has gone my way.

00:42:28

MM.

00:42:37 Speaker 2

You were very lucky then.

00:42:38 Speaker 1

Boy, I'm looking and and the only thing that ever got wrong with me is this damn arthritis. But I'm so healthy. I've never had a day sickness in my life.

00:42:46

That's.

00:42:47 Speaker 2

Amazing.

00:42:48 Speaker 1

But I've been. I've had bones broken and shot up a bit and different things like that, but that's nothing compared with the sickness.

00:42:57 Speaker 2

Yeah.

00:42:57 Speaker 1

A sickness. A sickness will get you down quicker than anything.

00:43:01 Speaker 2

That's right. Yeah, because you don't.

00:43:02 Speaker 2

Know how to fight back?

00:43:03 Speaker 1

That's right.

00:43:04

Right.

00:43:06 Speaker 2

And you were a lucky person and.

00:43:08 Speaker 1

I've been awfully lucky.

00:43:10 Speaker 1

I I never know what it was to have to lay in bed with the sickness.

00:43:14 Speaker 2

Well, I think that's partly in your mind too.

00:43:17 Speaker 1

Thank you.

00:43:18 Speaker 2

I think it's partly in your mind, I think if you've got a strong mind and.

00:43:21 Speaker 2

A strong will it's like.

00:43:21 Speaker 1

Well, I think a lot of a.

00:43:22 Speaker 2

Back.

00:43:23 Speaker 2

Little bit more.

00:43:23 Speaker 1

Lot of people.

00:43:25 Speaker 1

They they fear things, you know, a lot of there are people that would feel good having the tooth out. I think fear is the worst thing in the world.

00:43:33

Yeah.

00:43:38 Speaker 1

I never feared anything and I and.

00:43:39 Speaker 1

I've had a.

00:43:40 Speaker 1

Rough life.

00:43:41 Speaker 2

Mm-hmm.

00:43:41 Speaker 1

I was a cavalry scout in France when the I was at the beginning of the war.

00:43:47 Speaker 2

Back in 1914.

00:43:48 Speaker 1

Didn't I show you my pictures once?

00:43:49 Speaker 2

You showed me those? Yes, those are fascinating.

00:43:50 Speaker 1

10 and I know what it is to be in the wars in.

00:43:55 Speaker 1

The cavalry, yeah.

00:43:57 Speaker 2

Yeah. Well, you learned early at 15 when you.

00:43:57 Speaker 1

I'm not.

00:43:59 Speaker 2

Took off to South Africa.

00:44:00 Speaker 1

Yeah, and.

00:44:02 Speaker 1

I I know what it is that to to go and fetch herd cattle and fetch cattle. And when the mosquitoes are so damn bad on the prayers you couldn't breathe.

00:44:12 Speaker 2

Oh my gosh, I don't know.

00:44:13 Speaker 1

Yeah, I'm telling you, that's the truth.

00:44:15 Speaker 2

What did you do about the mosquitoes? You didn't have any repellent to rub on you?

00:44:16 Speaker 1

Well.

00:44:18 Speaker 1

We used to rub cedar, cedar oil and and that we we rub axle grease on the orchard belly so they wouldn't keep kicking in buckets and some of those non mosquitoes and and those bull flies or we used to call them Bulldogs, they'd make a horse kick and buck.

00:44:25 Speaker 2

Ohh my.

00:44:37 Speaker 1

And we'd never clip with all horses here, you know, let all the hair keep in the ear because they're done thing to get in the horses here and drive a horse crazy.

00:44:44 Speaker 2

OK. Yeah, yeah.

00:44:46 Speaker 2

Oh yeah, did you ever go camping? What we call camping nowadays is when you said.

00:44:51 Speaker 1

No, I never ever went camping, but it seemed as though I never had no time for camping.

00:44:57 Speaker 1

I should make the letter rough days in in Canada, out all night on the prairies, but it wasn't camping. I spent a lot of down rough days in France, it wasn't camping.

00:45:09 Speaker 2

Well, when you drove to to.