

Mrs. Jacobson

Born in Scotland - 1900

Came to Canada in 1902 or 3

Lived in Dorion - came to work - knew a family - all bush

No roads - CPR wheat freight - once a week

Bishops Trail - went to a mine - train delivered groceries

Small cabin - little bit of timber

13 children - she was the oldest

Mother - Mrs. Whatie ? - was a midwife.

Men were not allowed to bring their wives up - her father was the Justice of the Peace and convinced the authorities to let the women come up.

Mother went to deliver a baby - would celebrate for about 48 hours after.

Mother was not trained - read a doctor's book - used carbolic acid to sterilize - ~~onlyxexex~~ - unpaid for task -

All we ever got was colds.

Who delivered your mother's children? My dad. Doctor for the last one. She did not like it.

Many miles for a doctor to travel - came from Port Arthur.

Tasks as children - clear the bush, got to school for about 3 months.

Log school about a mile and three quarters away. Had to walk

Consolidated school came for her children.

Didn't have any teachers.

1920 or so worked for the YMCA, cooked, cleaned- married around 1938.

Went to Schreiber.

Was working during the depression - remembers the freight trains being loaded with men.

Around Hurkett, no money paid to men - reporter from T.O. Star did story - refer to William Holder.

Hurkett and Dorion - active politically. Women attended meetings.

Pass on the railroad once a year for working in the Y. Went somewhere each year. - Winnipeg, , Victoria, Seattle, Travelled by herself.

Everything went well while travelling.

Travelled alone. Went to Windsor.

Relates an incident once when she lost her suitcase on a train.

Started at \$30. per month and board. Demanded higher wages. Went to \$45. per month. No problem in holding down her job. O.K. for single women to work. 7 days a week. 8:00 to 5:00

Second World War - not affected by it.

Very little communication. Mail regularly delivered. Had to be. Different from today.

Mrs. Miller - did not know her. Got quite a chuckle out of her.

I cut pulpwood. 4 foot wood. Used cross-cut saw, axe and chisel.

Hauled it to Lake Superior. 80 chords, in one winter.

Summer - vegetable garden, gathered fruit (wild).

Went hungry one summer but managed to get a deer.

Discuss a friend of the family - Harry ~~Brian~~, Bryan, organizer of some labour unions.

Entertainment - dances once a week.

Dances usually at someone's house - fiddler - eventually got a town hall.

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House in Dorion - 1-room log shack - shovel off snow on roof -
Relates story of Lynx coming to visit house.
Used to snare rabbits, fish for trout
Kept house warm by cook stove.
More and more children came - house did not expand - just the family.
Eventually built a bigger house.
She did not live in the bigger house.
Small ravine with root house - well with surface water - dug well.
Summer - water turned brown - mosquito larvae in summer - would
touch the water and the larvae would dive under - then they would
draw the water.
Baths - once a week - barrel cut in half would be bathtub.
Friendly community
No alcohol - too busy - trying to get a farm going
Had no cattle - chickens and pig they had
Hitched pigs up to a sleigh - made a bell for the pig but it did not
like it.
Pig would follow the kids like a dog.
Used to follow her to the trapline. Eventually had to slaughter the pig.
Indian families - one across the tracks in Hurkett -
woman
had an Indian housekeeper with a wooden leg.
Indians were "down the line". Little contact with the whites.
Not many ethnic groups in Dorion - mostly from down east
Hurkett - Bulgarian population
Knew little about other people's backgrounds.
1933 CCF was organized - 1934 she joined Railroaders against the CCF
~~Wxxxxxx~~
She was attending the meetings so when she went to vote her name
was already struck off the list
Nothing much you could do about it.
Active in the CCF - worked in committee rooms - went to conventions.

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