

Eino Parkinen--Uher 4000

July 16, 1979

1. Collector's announcement--made by Matt Gallmann
2. Interview begins

Eino asks how to begin

Eino relates how he learned music on farm

Eino is nervous

Sighs

Eino talks about his father and the organ *Traded potatoes for organ.*

Eino's father as fiddler in Oulu, Finland *played in the markets.*

Story of how his father acquired a "good" violin

Eino's "my mother didn't approve of his playing (the fiddle) she got religion".

Story of how Eino acquired violin his father played it after 40 years of not playing.

Matt Gallmann's voice is the only male voice besides Eino's.

Did learn to play violin, but

Eino, "I was more interested in playing the accodian".

Eino tells of how he first learned button accodian by playing his brother's button accodian while they were at work. *He had to "sneak it."*

Transition from button accodian to piano accodian

Eino, "We learned to play from records."

Eino's first dance job

Eino learned to play the piano part from the organ. It's the same organ referred to at the beginning of this interview.

Eino, "it comes to you naturally". He relates more specifically how he learns from records.

Eino, "there's very few accodian players that teach each other, you have to learn by yourself".

Matt asks questions.

Eino played in taverns.

(1936)

Eino went to work with the U.S. engineers and didn't touch accodian for 20 years.

"We did manage to sneak through it".

"Money wasn't big. There was a lot of players available."

Eino goes through all the bands he played with.

The first band he mentions is from Boston Location, Michigan. It had 2 guitars, mandolin, violin, accordion, played for baseball team.

Violin player from Calumet, Michigan (Kolpi?)

Dick Trikey? "He was a good guitar player. We had a trio."

Lucy Lodgers.

Eino's wife comments, "Oh, Lulubelle," in reference to Lucy Lodgers. Eino motions for his wife to be quiet.

That was about the last time he played for a job.

Eino picks up accordion

Asks Matt "You're mostly interested in Finnish music aren't you?"

Played for Suomi College group in the "lumberjack" show.

"Director from Finland"----director of music in "lumberjack" play

Eino's wife laughs

3. Tune: "Iitun Tildu" (*learned in the 1930's*)

Finnish Polka

Popular one in Finland

Sara asks, "Do you know what the title means?"

Eino says, "uh, no..."

Wife laughs.

Mrs. Parkinen got herself and Sara some lemonade.

Eino, "I got to warm up"

To Matt, "he's got to warm up, too

There was only a little left so he gave it to himself and Matt.

4. Tune: Mailmen Matti

Eino, "I can't sing".

"I never did take up singing"

Wife laughs

Matt, "Late at night sometimes.."

Sara, "That's popular now?" (In reference to above tune). "That's an old tune now, isn't it?"

Mrs. Parkinen, "Yes".

Sara, "Did you play that for the dances?"

Eino, "You can get that off the machine now. (He's talking about the recorder).

Level Change

Matt, "Yes".

Eino talks about music in the 30's.

Eino talks about his father's music. *He played some marches.* "He had a very good time". Talks of aesthetics of violin music. *Not squeaky, clear + clean tone.*

Sara asks if Eino learned any songs from his father.

Eino talks of present status quo of music. *Play some for senior citizens on St. John's Day (June 24th)*

Eino talks of dances. "You had a following".

Matt asks how many siblings Eino has.

Eino begins to use his fingers to count---he is still holding the accordion.

Eino explains his siblings, Bill, Albert, Ed, me and John. Five boys and two girls.

Eino's older brother lives in Ishpeming, his sister lives in Calumet, and another lives in Hancock--married to Winnus.

Eino was born in 1910 in Boston Location.

He was 16 years old when he started working underground.

He talks of father's migration.

He talks of his mother, "at that time she was in Sweden".

"Met this woman I was talking about (Kolava). (The same woman Eino refers to in "story of how Eino acquired violin").

Matt, "Where have you lived?"

Eino explains where he lived on the Upper Peninsula.

mentions "derrick boat".

it's wash, "I had to put the last load in".

5. Tune: Sakki Jarven Polka

(End Side A)

6. Tune: Life in Finland Woods
comments from Mrs. Parkinen, "here's another we played there" (At the lumberjack).
7. Tune: Yenka
describes dance
Sara--Is that a circle dance?
Matt--did you ever teach?
8. Tune: Tiskarin Polka
Eino announces next tune
Mrs. Parkinen to Sara--"You can't keep up, hey?"
9. Tune:
Mrs. Parkinen--"Didn't Robert sing that one?"
Eino motions for Mrs. Parkinen to keep quiet
Eino tells out line of story that went with above tune
"One farmer up there on the hill told me that he used to know that
from Toivo, Finland.
10. Tune: Schottische
Level Change--No Distortion
That's one tune his dad played on the violin.
Matt--"That's (schottische) a fun dance."
Mrs. Parkinen--"That's one of those skip and hop".
Discussion of church gathering between Eino, Mrs. Parkinen, and Sara.
Eino played for Catholic School once.
Sara to Mrs. Parkinen--"So you're Catholic?"
Mrs. Parkinen agrees.
Mrs. Parkinen--He's (Eino) a convert. He turned Catholic too. But he sings
all his Finnish songs. I don't stop him. I still enjoy them."
Eino is itching to play another tune. He's hoping his wife will be quiet.
11. Tune: Jalas Jarven Polka
Mrs. Parkinen--"You should have heard his brother when he was alive. He
used to sing all them old Finnish songs."
12. Tune: Fiskar Waltz (Norwegian or Swedish)

Eino--"That's a long time ago since I played that one."

Mrs. Parkinen--"That's a pretty one!"

Eino learned it from a record.

At this point Eino is lost for tunes to play. Sara senses this and asks him questions. He seems annoyed because he's trying to remember tunes.

Sara--"What religion were you before you converted to Catholicism?"

Eino--"Lutheran"

Sara--"Just curious."

Eino--"Are you?"

13. Tune: John's Accordion Polka

Talk of tunes and their age.

Matt--"When did you folks get married?"

Eino--"1940."

Sara--"Did you go to school around here Eino?"

Eino--"I went to Cloverland school and Calumet high school.

Eino talks about Cloverland school and the reunion in 1970 at the Boston Hall.

Eino talks of Boston's ethnicity. Italians and Hungarians.

Sara--"Was there any kind of prejudice at all?"

Eino--"The Irish and the Finns would have a scuffle once in a while."

Eino talks of Louie Moitanen the Finnish Giant. He's the tallest man in the world and a friend of Eino's mother.

Cloverland school was all Finnish.

Matt--"What kind of music don't you like?"

Mrs. Parkinen--"There isn't anything I don't think he really doesn't like."

Tape ends.

Matt shut it off at his own discretion.