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Transcript of DARE Interview (1967): Two Harbors, Minnesota; Primary Informant MN011 (Tape 0747-S1)

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INTRODUCTION: The following was recorded from Dictionary of American Regional English, tape zero seven four seven, side one.

FIELDWORKER: This is a tape of Mrs. J. [beep] made at Two Harbors, Minnesota, August second, nineteen sixty-seven by [beep].

5 INFORMANT: Well my father came to this country from Sweden when he was about nineteen years old, and, uh, he worked on the ore boats, when he fir-, or lumber boats, when he first came to Two Harbors.

FIELDWORKER: Uh-huh.

10 INFORMANT: My mother came here when she was six years, not quite six years old, and they lived in Two Harbors for a while.

FIELDWORKER: Mm-hmm.

INFORMANT: Then they moved out to the country to a settlement called Waldo, about four miles, three, four miles from town, and my father cleared land and did farming.

FIELDWORKER: Mm-hmm.

15 INFORMANT: Raised cattle. Uh for a time, off and on he would work, probably, on the road at times, on the county roads, or in the shops here in Two Harbors, but for the greater number of years he delivered milk in Two Harbors.

FIELDWORKER: Mm-hmm.

INFORMANT: And, uh, did general farming, because this isn't really a big farming area.

20 FIELDWORKER: Yeah.

INFORMANT: But, uh, we lived out in the country the greater part of my life.

FIELDWORKER: Uh-huh.

INFORMANT: And, uh, we had a little grade school right near our farm where I attended for five years and then after that we were transported into Two Harbors. So I graduated from Two Harbors High School.

FIELDWORKER: Mm-hmm.

INFORMANT: But I was out of town for a good number of years working, and then I came back here after I was married.

FIELDWORKER: Mm-hmm.

INFORMANT: Uh, my family, uh, lived here, my father passed away in nineteen thirty-eight, but my mother is still living, and as I told you, at this time she has lived in Two Harbors longer than perhaps anyone else—

FIELDWORKER: Uh-huh.

INFORMANT: —in the city, oh, {or this area.

FIELDWORKER: Oh, when'd you say} your f-, your parents came here?

INFORMANT: Well, my mother must have come here in eighteen eighty-six.

FIELDWORKER: Right after the town was built.

INFORMANT: Yes, and my father came some years later, probably in the eighteen nineties.

FIELDWORKER: Mm-hmm. Uhm, what was it like, working on the ore docks in those days?

INFORMANT: Uh, lumber boats it was. Well, they'd get called when the lumber boats came in, uh, I remember reading about a church, in a church history, said that they c-, could have their congregation in church, and pretty soon they'd hear the toot of a lumber boat and half of the congregation would walk out, because that was the sign that they should go to work.

FIELDWORKER: Uh-huh.

INFORMANT: And uh, he didn't tell, say too much about it except that the part of Sweden that he came from was also a lumber, uh, town, and I suppose that's why they came over. When my father came, they were thirteen boys in the same village in Sweden who left and all came to Two Harbors.

FIELDWORKER: Oh?

INFORMANT: Many of them, uh, went other places after that, but a good number of them stayed here and of course now they've all passed on.

FIELDWORKER: Mm-hmm.

INFORMANT: But they did stay together and I remember they, um, used to come up to our farm, uh, and celebrate the twenty-fourth of June, which was a midsummer holiday in Sweden.

55 FIELDWORKER: Uh-huh.

INFORMANT: And they'd carry out the traditions of the midsummer holiday and as much as we'd take birch trees and put them up on the yard and make a little bir-, a little house, and we'd put a table inside, bring out a table cloth and we had these little linnea flowers too, these little pink flowers, we'd always have on the table. We'd always make homemade ice cream on that day.
60 Uh, many of these people's children still live in Two Harbors.

FIELDWORKER: Mm-hmm. Uhm, y-, was your father raising mostly dairy cattle?

INFORMANT: Yes, mostly dairy cattle at the time. We'd have horses and of course later on he got a tractor to do the work with, but my father worked very hard, clearing land and so on. I remember one time we had a demonstration up there, pulling stumps, and, uh, that was quite a
65 bonanza, because otherwise the stump pulling was an arduous task.

FIELDWORKER: Ha, I can imagine.

INFORMANT: Uh, to clear land. We raised potatoes (in) our garden, we raised oats, sometimes wheat, and uh, rutabagas, {hearty crops mostly.

FIELDWORKER: Uhm} what, what did you call the cows that were giving milk?

70 INFORMANT: Milk cows.

FIELDWORKER: Uh-huh.

INFORMANT: Dairy cows, but mostly milkers.

FIELDWORKER: Uh-huh. Um, what did you call a cow who was about to, uh, have a calf? What uh—

75 INFORMANT: She was about to freshen.

FIELDWORKER: OK, and uh, a cow then who had just calved and was giving milk would be what kind of a cow?

INFORMANT: Fresh cow.

FIELDWORKER: OK, um, was there much farming done around here at all?

80 INFORMANT: Well, they called them farmers, they lived out in the country and they cleared land, I think they've done very well as far as that goes, but you see the railroad, uh, here in town offered employment to a good number of people, so many of them would farm on the side and work in the shops—

FIELDWORKER: Uh-huh.

85 INFORMANT: —uh, as their main employment.
FIELDWORKER: Was never done very much for profit.
INFORMANT: Not a great deal, it was hard work to farm here, because the season is so short and there's so few crops that they could—
FIELDWORKER: Yeah.

90 INFORMANT: And, uh, actually, my brother carried on the milk or the dairy business after my father, but then when the pasteurization law went into effect, then he quit.
FIELDWORKER: Mm-hmm.
INFORMANT: And he had a chance to sell his herd and then he went into insurance.
FIELDWORKER: Did you have a barn for {(cattle)

95 INFORMANT: Oh yes}, oh yes, one of the last buildings we built was a barn.
FIELDWORKER: Uh-huh.
INFORMANT: A new barn and, and a hay shed.
FIELDWORKER: Uh-huh.
INFORMANT: That has been torn down since that time, but, uh, we did have a hay shed.

100 FIELDWORKER: I suppose you raised hay for winter.
INFORMANT: Yes, we raised hay and he'd take it, uh, at first I suppose they just pitch all the hay from the hay wagon into the, uh, hay mall, but later they had a hay carrier, which would raise the hay and the horse would pull it in as well as pull it up to the barn.
FIELDWORKER: Um, how did they first, what did they first use to cut hay?

105 INFORMANT: Well, as far as I can remember, we always had the mowers pulled by the horses and later by the tractor.
FIELDWORKER: Mm-hmm. Um, how much education have you had?
INFORMANT: I have had, I have a college degree, four years.
FIELDWORKER: Uh-huh.

110 INFORMANT: Plus {credits.
FIELDWORKER: From where?}
INFORMANT: I have attended UMD in Duluth and Minnesota University.
FIELDWORKER: Mm-hmm.

115 INFORMANT: I spent one term at Superior University, I've done a lot of correspondence work. I actually had one year and six months of college in succession when I started teaching, but I went back to summer school and I took correspondence work through university extension until I finally got my degree.

FIELDWORKER: Um, s-, w-where else have you lived since then?

INFORMANT: Uh Floodwood, Minnesota, the greatest part, I taught there.

120 FIELDWORKER: For how long?

INFORMANT: Fourteen years.

FIELDWORKER: And then you moved back here to {Harbors?

INFORMANT: Yes}.

FIELDWORKER: Um, what, what sort of teaching have you been doing here?

125 INFORMANT: You name it, I've done it [laugh]. I substitute. I have never been under a contract in, since I've been married, but I have taught almost every year, and I started by substituting in the grade school, simply because they were short of grade school substitutes, and I had my grade school certificate, you see, by my first teaching, now I have my life in high school teaching. And, uhm, I did a great deal of substituting at almost any grade, including kindergarten, which I never
130 did attend.

FIELDWORKER: Uh-huh.

INFORMANT: But, uhm, I got so that I really enjoyed it. I did, uh, teaching one day a week while one of the principals in Two Harbors supervised her building and she was an excellent first grade teacher, and I learned a great deal from her, really got to enjoy first grade teaching, although I'd
135 done most of my teaching in junior high school. Then I've also done a lot of homebound tutoring. I think I can say that I've tutored about forty children in Two Harbors who were homebound due to sickness, accidents, some other causes. And they have ranged from about the third grade through seniors in high school. And most recently, because I've had so much experience, I suppose, in teaching in the grade schools and in the various rooms, because I've been in almost
140 every room in our grade schools, but I suppose because of that, I was asked to do re-, they start out by calling it remedial teaching in the high, junior high school. And of course when I taught at Floodwood, I was a junior high school teacher. And I've become very much interested in it. Enjoy the work, enjoy the contact with the children, and if I didn't like teaching, I certainly wouldn't {in the (xx) [laugh]

145 FIELDWORKER: No, that's for sure.}

INFORMANT: But I do enjoy the contacts with the children and, the fact that I've had a good cooperation from the authorities, administration, so that's made it more pleasant too.

FIELDWORKER: What's the, some of your biggest problems teaching remedial?

150 INFORMANT: Most of the children don't like to be s-segregated from the others in the class, naturally, because they think they're, uh, labelled by being in a special class. We're overcoming that to some extent, and I can't say that I blame the children, I try to make it a pleasant, as pleasant for them as I can and truly try to help them so that they will be better able to go on in their high school. Now you understand these are not retarded children that I am teaching.

FIELDWORKER: Yeah.

155 INFORMANT: I'm just teaching children who, for some reason or another, had a little difficulty with reading so they've- s-, missed some of it, or, uh, some places where they've gone too fast and they haven't been able to keep up with the others. But just to give them a little boost, both in their, uh, ability to read and to comprehend and, uh, to keep up with their classmates.

FIELDWORKER: Uh-huh. {Uhm—

160 INFORMANT: To} make school a little happier for them.

FIELDWORKER: Yeah. What business is your husband in?

INFORMANT: He's retired right now. He was a scale inspector for Duluth, Missabe and Iron Range before he retired.

FIELDWORKER: Mm-hmm. What did that job involve?

165 INFORMANT: He'd have to travel from Two Harbors to Ely, Two Harbors to Highland, wherever they had scales to Proctor, to Virginia, to Iron Junction, to Duluth and in Two Harbors itself. His starting point was from Two Harbors, and he would commute and come home most every evening from that, but wherever the company had scales he would, uh, go and check the scales and he would go with the state men when he came to check the scales and some of the scales
170 were rented from the Streeter-Amet Company in Chicago, and when their representative came, he would go around with them to check those scales too. But it was railroad company work that he (worked) for, so.

FIELDWORKER: (I see.) Uh, you mentioned kolaches before.

INFORMANT: Yes.

175 FIELDWORKER: How were they made?

INFORMANT: Uh, I just, uh, bought some recently, uh, they're made of a, uh, rich pie dough and they're cut in squares, about four, five inches and slit from the corners in, and a little bit prunes, cooked prunes, or apples, or peaches, any kind of fruit that you want to put inside and then the corners turned in so they sort of look like a star, but you can see the fruit from the top of it too.
180 I was rather delighted when I saw these in a bakery shop. I've never made them myself, but they

are, I, uh, learned to know what they were in Floodwood and a number of people made them there, especially around Christmas time.

FIELDWORKER: Mm-hmm.

INFORMANT: They were a specialty then.

185 FIELDWORKER: I see. Uhm, what were the dominant nationalities around Two Harbors?

INFORMANT: Mostly Norwegian and Swedish and Finnish, now of course, they're so intermarried that I don't know if you could pick them out, but I still say it would be highly Scandinavian.

FIELDWORKER: Mhm. Would you have quite a few Irish, or?

190 INFORMANT: Uh, no, not so many. There was a time when the Scandinavian languages were used in the churches.

FIELDWORKER: Mm-hmm.

INFORMANT: But of course that doesn't exist anymore, although they still call it the Swedish Lutheran and the Norwegian Lutheran, not technically, because they both changed their names, uh, and eliminated the language, uh, distinction, but, uh, some people still refer to them as that.

195 FIELDWORKER: Yeah.

INFORMANT: But they have people I th-, I dare say there are a good number of Norwegian people in the Swedish church through intermarriage, and vice versa.

FIELDWORKER: Yeah.

INFORMANT: And of course there is talk that someday they might merge, possibly they will.

200 FIELDWORKER: Yeah, they used to have that distinction in Virginia too.

INFORMANT: Oh, yeah and they also had a Swedish Methodist and English Methodist, those two did merge, because they became small, the congregations became smaller.

FIELDWORKER: Yeah.

INFORMANT: So, uh, that was just finally the English Methodist Church.

205 FIELDWORKER: Uh-huh. Have you ever, uh, uhm, done much in the line of recreation with this Lake Superior out here?

210 INFORMANT: Uh, no, it hasn't been, uh, you see Lake Superior is too cold for swimming, and uh, there has been some boating, uh, possibly, a number of years ago deep sea fishing was about as much, uh, of course people here are hoping that that comes back again, because a large number of tourists used to enjoy coming up here.

FIELDWORKER: Mm-hmm.

INFORMANT: And go out to the various fishermen, uh, deep sea fishing, hopes of catching trout.

FIELDWORKER: Yeah.

215 INFORMANT: And that may revive too, but otherwise, uh, I've heard my mother speak about, years ago, excursion boats coming here, and, uh, they'd go out on the excursion boats, however, I have no recollection of any excursion boats being out here in Lake Superior. Uh, most everyone around here, uh, go to the inland lakes and there are a great number of people in Two Harbors who have cottages and cabins and homes on lakes nearby, uh where they spend a good deal of the summer, and in the winter too, now with the snow mobiles—

220 FIELDWORKER: Yeah.

INFORMANT: —uh, coming why they can use their cottages in the winter time too, and of course oil heat and so on.

FIELDWORKER: Uh-huh.

225 INFORMANT: Makes that more comfortable, too. And many of them, as I say uh, those that are building today are really building homes, uh, more than just the cabins they used to construct. Summer homes.

FIELDWORKER: What happened to the deep sea fishing here.

230 INFORMANT: Well, the lamprey of course came in, and they are blamed for taking away our trout, but uh they have, uh, controlled the lamprey to quite an extent, perhaps you read about it.

FIELDWORKER: Yeah.

235 INFORMANT: And, uh, the trout are coming back. Commercial fishermen are allowed so many trout, uh we were over in Bayfield and across to Madeline Island a couple of weeks ago, and we inquired at the store about fish, they said, "We don't have any in, they've taken their quota for this month so we'll have to wait until next month," so evidently the fishermen have a certain quota that they are privileged to take.

FIELDWORKER: Yeah.

240 INFORMANT: And then when that quota has been used, they have to wait until another month or until another period when they can take more fish again, but there was a time when deep sea fishing was quite the sport.

FIELDWORKER: Yeah.

INFORMANT: Around here.

FIELDWORKER: Uhm, why don't you tell me a little bit about your antique collection that you have?

245 INFORMANT: Oh, I have never gone out particularly to collect antiques, but, uh, when I see them I sort of like to take care of them.

FIELDWORKER: Mm-hmm.

INFORMANT: Uh, we have these different irons, uh tailor's irons and sadirons, course the electric iron. The electric irons of course aren't antiques, they're something we have to have.

250 FIELDWORKER: Yeah.

INFORMANT: But, I have a few pieces of cut glass that I treasure, and I have, uh, two silver cream pitchers that my sister in law brought over from Norway from my husband's grandmother, so they are over a hundred years old.

FIELDWORKER: Mm-hmm.

255 INFORMANT: And, uh, when I've gone places where I saw something that I thought was rather nice looking and an antique that I wanted to use in my home, I had that and we saved toys, I picked up some hat pins, hat pin holder and, uh, little dishes, have a little dresser that I had when I was young that I have saved, but I have never gone into it, uh, so that I studied a great deal about, I've just mostly collected things for my own enjoyment without any, uh, idea of ever selling
260 anything at a profit particularly. Just picks, taken things that I have enjoyed, that's all.

FIELDWORKER: OK, I'd like to have you read this [shuffling around].

INFORMANT: All of it?

FIELDWORKER: Mm-hmm.

INFORMANT: The Story of Arthur the Rat.

265 Once upon a time there was a young rat who couldn't make up his mind. Whenever the other rats asked him if he would like to come out hunting with them, he would answer in a hoarse voice, "I don't know." And when they said, "Would you rather stay inside?" he would say yes, or no either. Excuse me, he wouldn't say yes or no either. He'd always shirk making a choice.

270 One fine day his aunt Josephine said to him, "Now look here! No one will ever care for you if you carry on like this. You have no more mind of your own than a greasy old blade of grass!"

The young rat coughed and looked wise, as usual, but said nothing.

"Don't you think so?" said his aunt stamping with her foot, for she couldn't bear to see the young rat so cold-blooded.

275 "I don't know," was all he ever answered, and then he'd walk off to think for an hour or more, whether he would stay in his hole in the ground or go out into the loft.

One night the rats heard a loud noise in the loft. It was a very dreary old place. The roof let the rain come washing in, the beams and rafters had all rotted through, so that the whole thing was quite unsafe.

280 At last one of the joists gave way, and the beams fell with one edge on the floor. The walls shook, the cupola fell off, and all the rats' hair stood on end with fear and horror.

"This won't do," said their leader. "We can't stay cooped up here any longer." So they sent out scouts to search for a new home.

A little later on that evening the scouts came back and said they had found an old-fashioned horse-barn where there would be room and board for all of them.

285 The leader gave the order at once, "Company fall in!" and the rats crawled out of their holes right away and stood on the floor in a long line.

Just ri-, then the old rat caught sight of young Arthur—that was the name of the shirker. He wasn't in the line, and he wasn't exactly outside it—he just stood by it.

"Come on, get in line!" growled the old rat coarsely. "Of course you're coming too?"

290 "I don't know," said Arthur calmly.

"Why, the idea of it! You don't think it's safe here anymore, do you?"

"I'm not certain," said Arthur undaunted. "The roof may not fall down yet."

295 "Well," said the old rat, "we can't wait for you to join us." Then he turned to the others and shouted, "Right about face! March!" and the long line marched out of the barn while the young rat watched them.

"I think I'll go tomorrow," he said to himself, "but then again, perhaps I won't—it's so nice and snug here. I guess I'll go back to my hole under the log for a while just to make up my mind."

But during the night there was a big crash. Down came the beams, rafters, joists—the whole business.

300 Next morning—it was a foggy day—some men came to look over the damage. It seemed odd to them that the old building was not haunted by rats. But at last one of them happened to move a board, and he caught sight of a young rat, quite dead, half in and half out of his hole.

Thus the shirker got his due, and there was no mourning for him.

305 FIELDWORKER: OK, thank you. Uhm, what s-, what sort of, uh, parties or fun times do people favor around Two Harbors?

INFORMANT: Right now of course cookouts are very popular.

FIELDWORKER: Mm-hmm.

INFORMANT: And, course many people go to their cabins and go swimming and there are sauna parties, uh, the sauna course had become popular here as it has in many places, but of course
310 there's a Finnish element have had their saunas all the time.

FIELDWORKER: Mm-hmm.

INFORMANT: And with the popularity of it nowadays, many people have sauna parties, and uh, course swimming and boating is very popular, fishing for sport is very popular too, being that we have so many lakes around here, and, uh, course sightseeing, on, off the north shore and on our
315 back roads and so on (has always been).

FIELDWORKER: They ever have any uh, celebrations or get-togethers that were called socials or sociables?

INFORMANT: All the churches have various activities, uh, that they have within their own groups, not particularly money-make-, I'm not speaking of money-making events, but just for, uh,
320 sociability, and lodges have picnics and so on and the Fourth of July and holidays, the American Legion, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and, uh, patriotic organizations have, uh, celebrations.

FIELDWORKER: Mm-hmm.

INFORMANT: Uh, we have, course celebrating the history of our county, and, uh, historical events are celebrated here. Last year we had the one hundredth anniversary of the founding of Lake
325 County, which was celebrated over a period of time, and of course the whole town joined in, including the merchants, so on, the merchants here have certain days they call crazy days or bargain days when they have sidewalk sales, so on, brings out a lot of people.

FIELDWORKER: What were, uh, the older settle-, settlements in Lake County?

INFORMANT: Well, the uh, you mean the outlying settlements, I would say that, uh, Silver Creek, Waldo, Stewart, uhm, Castle Danger was a settlement that was reached by boat only for many
330 years, until the North Shore highway came through.

FIELDWORKER: How did—

INFORMANT: But Knife River Valley and Knife River, too. Knife River was once much larger than it is now, I never remembered it as such, but it was a railroad center too at one time.

335 FIELDWORKER: How about Beaver Bay?

INFORMANT: Oh Beaver Bay, of course, is the old, uh, it was the old county seat at one time.

FIELDWORKER: Mm-hmm.

INFORMANT: And, uh, they have a good number of old timers out there too. I wasn't so familiar with Beaver Bay in the early times, course we've been there a great deal now, but I though-, I

340 was thinking just around Two Harbors, but Beaver Bay was one of the oldest settlements in the county.

FIELDWORKER: You wouldn't happen to know how Castle Danger got its name, would you?

INFORMANT: Uh, there are various, I taught at Castle Danger for one year, there are various stories connected with it, but there is a reef, ah, outside of Castle Danger, out in the lake, and, 345 uh, some say there was a boat castle that was wrecked there, but I, other than that I don't know where it did get its name.

FIELDWORKER: It's kind of a curious name, I was wondering {(xx)

INFORMANT: Yes, it is.} Of course it's played a great part in the tourist industry, they've, the first cabins that I ever remember of seeing were those that the people of Castle Danger erected for 350 tourist purposes.

FIELDWORKER: Uh-huh.

INFORMANT: And, uh, at about that time, they shifted from the herring business in the wintertime to the tourist business in the summertime and of course that was a time when your deep sea fishing was popular and a good many of those fishermen would take tourists out deep 355 sea fishing.

FIELDWORKER: Aha.

INFORMANT: But, uh, of course now the motels are taking over the cabins.

FIELDWORKER: Uh-huh.

INFORMANT: A good number of the Castle Danger people, however, still have their cas-, cabins 360 used by people who come from, uh, other places and stay put at this cabin. Instead of just staying overnight and going on the next day.

FIELDWORKER: Uhm, has Two Harbors been doing anything lately to try and uh, revive its economy at all?

INFORMANT: Oh, yes, they have been working, and hoping, uh, in spite of the fact that the 365 railroad industry did move out to some extent, it is back here now you know to some extent too. But our school population hasn't, uh, shown the drop that you would think that it would have shown by people moving out, because it seems as though our population has been more or less constant, but of course there have been the industrial council which has been formed in Two Harbors and they've been trying to encourage industry. The fiberglass of course had a sad ending. 370 Now they came in here and just survived for so long, and then had to get out or moved out, but now we have the Abex Corporation, which, uh, making something that is used in the taconite industry, and we hope that that will be successful and so far it seems to be very much so, there was a strike, but that has been settled now, so I hope they get back to work. And we're still hoping

375 that a paper mill might come in here at some time. And then we don't know what this copper nickel situation is going to lead to. That could have a definite effect upon Two Harbors, because, uh, some might say well they are a long ways from the, uh, operations, but we're just as far from, no not just as far, but we are far from Silver Bay, but there are any number of people living in Two Harbors who work at Silver Bay.

FIELDWORKER: Mm-hmm.

380 INFORMANT: And their children attend our schools here. So, even though, uh, we haven't the industry here, they've been working elsewhere and commuting and many of them have kept their homes here, even though they've gone away to work for a while, hoping something would come in and some of them are back working in the Abex Corpora-, for the Abex Corporation. Some who
385 got temporary employment at Silver Bay are back in Two Harbors working now, but it seems as though the greater number of people have been able to fend for themselves and find something to do.

FIELDWORKER: Yeah. It's a lot like Virginia. Uhm, have you travelled much around the United States?

INFORMANT: Uh, mostly since I've been married. We have been out West to Glacier Park, to, uh,
390 Yellowstone National Park, I had a sister that lived out there some years, so we got out there more often and so we visited the Black Hills several times. Uh, we have been to, uh, Los Angeles and that area, we drove out in the, nineteen fifty-seven, from Thanksgiving to Christmas, out there, we took a trip out East to Washington D.C. one year and this last spring we did the most wonderful thing that we have ever done, we flew out West to San Francisco, ah, Las Vegas, and
395 to Hawaii.

FIELDWORKER: Oh.

INFORMANT: Uh, well this was our first flight, we were very thrilled with it.

FIELDWORKER: Mm-hmm.

INFORMANT: And we went on a tour which was sponsored by AAD Temple Shrine in Duluth and
400 it was really wonderful. We enjoyed the trip very much. Of course Hawaii was just beyond our greatest expectations.

FIELDWORKER: Mm-hmm.

INFORMANT: And we learned to know so many nice people, we enjoyed every minute of our stay, and of course I was interested, we both were, in the different scenery that we saw, and, uh,
405 it was just a wonderful trip all the way through. I read about it before I went, I'm still reading about it, [laugh] but that was from April first to fifteenth, so it gave us some nice weather in, during the time when we were having a few snowstorms and—

FIELDWORKER: Yeah.

410 INFORMANT: —rainstorms and hailstorms and what have you back here, but we're always glad to get back to this area, because we truly like the northern part of Minnesota.

FIELDWORKER: Yeah.

INFORMANT: So and of course as far as traveling, we, Canada, and uh, oh around the immediate area we go out a lot.

FIELDWORKER: Mm-hmm. How would you describe your social contacts?

415 INFORMANT: Well, we like our friends very much that we have here. Uh, we enjoy perhaps the area in which we live, uh, in that it has become part of our social life too, we picnic and we often travel just to see other places, uh, just within the county and the state, and, uh, we like to, uh, pick berries, so sometimes we form a group and go out picking berries for those that are crazy enough to call it enjoyment. [laugh]

420 FIELDWORKER: [laugh]

INFORMANT: And, uh, we have our cottage, twenty-five miles from here on a small lake. We enjoy going there and spending time in the summertime. We like to go to the cities, go out to the nice places and have our dinners occasionally, we like, we've enjoyed going to various functions at the, uh, arena in Duluth, which was new about a year ago, and, uh, we enjoy our home very much, we enjoy entertaining in our home.

425 FIELDWORKER: You're pretty mobile.

INFORMANT: Yes, that's right [laugh]. Some people think we never stay at home, but we think we are at home, uh, and w-, and we enjoy our home a great deal, but we are, for people maybe of our age, maybe they think we go out more than a lot of people do, but we like it, we like people.

430 FIELDWORKER: Say, a question, are there any um, special kinds of rocks or stone found around the {North Shore here?

INFORMANT: Oh, yes,} the agates and the thomsonites. Uh, there's uh, rock hounds are very much interested in our area, and I think maybe we've had more rock hounds come here since the, uh, (broad) around Lake Superior has been opened up. We've been around there four times and of course you, the stone cuts of the rocks that you see up there are just beautiful, so I think a lot, I'm not a rock hound, but I like rocks. I don't know much about them, that's one field that I haven't studied too much about, but, uh the agates of course, they have been hunted and picked here for years and years. Uh, but the thomsonites are a little more rare. They're found close to

440 Grand Marais.