

TAPE INDEX

March 11, 1981

Collectors: Jim Leary
Matthew Gallman
Informant: Ray Maki
Bayfield County, Wi.

ETHNIC HERITAGE
SOUND ARCHIVE & RESOURCE CENTER
NORTHLAND COLLEGE, ASHLAND, WI

1. Collector's Announcement.
2. Learned to play Dad's two row 'cordeens "years ago." Likes to trade instruments, has had 7 or 8 button accordions, likes to play tunes of all nationalities.
3. Dad played at Finn settlement, accompanied sometimes by an old organ (pronounced "oregon"). Ray learned by watching his Dad.
4. Dad came from Finland to U.S. at 17 or 18. Ray tells a lengthy story of his father's coming.
5. His dad apparently learned to play in this country while working in the mines at Montreal, Wisconsin. Played only Finnish tunes.
6. Other Finnish Musicians in the Finn Settlement: Karl Kainu, violin; John Koski, organ; Matt Maki, button accordion; Mattson on banjo. At times they played together in the hall.
7. Dances: waltzes, polkas, and schottisches at Washburn's Finn Hall. Not much square dancing "like the Swedes and Norwegians." Also broom dances and the "Rattikko," and two steps too.
8. Ray started to play very young when "mother turned her back" and he seized the accordion. Born February 2, 1910.
9. Oldest of seven kids, four boys, three girls. Brother Hugo plays piano accordion; brother Walter, now dead, played button "cordeens."
10. Dances with many different nationalities at school houses in surrounding townships. Ray played solo ~~from~~ for some of these.
11. Ray mentions hearing tunes from many nationalities when working around Iron Belt. Heard Viola Turpeinen at Minersville Hall in Marengo; also in Duluth and Iron River. Admired Viola and has many of her records.
12. Ray talks of traveling in the 30's for seven years "all over the country."
13. About working for DuPont during World War II as a guard.
14. Ray talks about why he likes the button accordion.
15. About how he quit playing in halls (people left, halls got bigger). Never tempted to turn professional.

(WE CHANGE REELS PRIOR TO RECORDING MUSIC)

16. "A Norwegian Waltz."
17. Same tune again.

18. "Orpopajan Valssi."
19. Swedish version of "Kulkurin Valssi."
20. "Finn Polka."
21. "Njulantalkoo Polka."
22. Another Finnish one, this with a Russian sound.
23. One of "my Dad's old tunes": a Finnish polka.
24. Ray feels his way into another Russian sounding one.
25. A Finnish tune ? ?
26. "Over the Waves."
27. Fragment of a "German Tune."
28. Another Finnish one.
29. A Finnish schottische played before.
30. Another polka, Finnish or Scandinavian.
31. "a German tune."
32. "Rattikko" played for the first time in years.
33. "Kukka Se Sauna Lemitha."
34. Another of "my dad's old tunes": A Russian sounding waltz.
(THE SESSION ENDS)