FINNISH FOLKLORE AND SOCIAL CHANGE IN THE GREAT LAKES MINING REGION ORAL HISTORY PROJECT 1972-1978
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We'd like to begin this interview by asking Mrs. Pyykkonen, since you came from Finland and I understand Mr. Pyykkonen was born in this country, could you say something about the area from which you came and your parents, also, what was their home? in Finland?

Kuhma, Oulunlaani, Kuhma

And was your father a farmer there?

I haven't even seen my father, he came to this country before we did and then he was dead before we came here. We came by our relatives, with my mother and my other sister.

How many children were there in your family?

Just the 2 of us.

Art: What was your maiden name?

Ann: Heikkinen

Art: And do you recall the year that you came to America? What year were you born?

Ann: 1899.

Art: So you came shortly after 1900

Ann: Must be because I was 5 years old

Art: 1904. You were very young, I don't supposed you have any remembrances about the trip over.

Ann: Very few. Lotsa water and the weather was real bad

Was there a lot of Finns on the ship with you?

Ann: All kinds of 'em. There was a lot of Finns

You landed in New York then?

New York and then in Hancock with the train

Art: You came by train to Hancock? I see. And you had other relatives here?

Ann: Ya, my aunt and uncles and all kinds of those kind of relatives

Art: Had your dad worked in the mines here before he passed away?

Ann: No, he hadn't been up this way; he'd been over state of Wyoming.

Art: And did your mother find employment here in the Copper Country?

Ann: Yes, she did housework and later on she remarried

Art: Let's ask Mr. Pyykkonen about his parents. Where did your parents come from?

Edv: Puolonga, Finland

Art: Is that in Vaasanlaani or Oulunlaani?

Edv: Oululaani
What type of work did your father/there in Finland before he came here, or was he a young man?

Young man.

Was he the only one of the family to come here or did brothers and sisters also come?

He had brother here.

Art: And he came directly to Hancock, to the Copper Country area?

Ya. Copper Country.

Art: Did he meet his wife, Mrs. Pyykkonen here then?

No. They was married in Finland, so they came over as a young couple

Did your father ever tell you why he came to America? Was it to find work?

Find better living; here they were cutting wood

Oh, he worked in the woods then? Right around this area?

Ya around Atlantic

The woodwork that he was involved in, were the timbers used then in the mines?

Some was used in mines and lot as cordwood.

What year were you born?

Edw: I was born 1894.

That puts you as a young child just at the turn of the century. Do you have any recollections of your childhood days, where did you first go to school?

Boston.

Boston location?

Yes.

Were they all Finnish children who attended that school?

Most of them

Did you have a Finnish teacher?

No.

How did you learn your lessons then?

I started 1st grade, them days they said 1st grade, and I only got to finish 4th grade— I had to quit school.

You went to work then?

I went to work with my dad

Art: In the woods?

Edw: No.
They were living in Boston that time already and they had operated a grocery store.

Art: So you worked in the store

No

With his father, see, he was so young. See they did some delivering so he was helping his dad.

Edw: Opening gates. Because to every house there was a gate, there was no good roads nowhere. And that's why he took me out of school.

Oh, he delivered groceries. Did you go with horse and wagon?

Horse and wagon

And you were the gate boy.

Gate boy.

I imagine that may not have been so hard a job in the summertime but in the wintertime it must have been really rough.

Well, in the wintertime there was no gate. But I was helping running around.

In the wintertime did he had a sled?

Ya, sleigh and little bit of sleigh, pull it in the house.

Art: Did you take care of the horses at home?

Edw: Oh, yes. From a little boy, I could take care of 'em.

Art: Did the horse understand Finnish?

Ann: That's all they spoke, Finnish, (laughter had to understand.

Art: In the delivering of groceries, did only Finns buy from your father or different nationalities?

Pretty near only Finns. Few English fellas, they come once.

Art: How did the Finns get along with the other nationalities?

Fine. Very fine.

Art: There was no problems between the Finns and the Italians or the Finns and the Irish.

No.

It seemed to work out all right.

Ya

Did your father ever work in the mine?

Yes. Before he started that business.

Did he say anything about the mine work, was it pretty hard?

Well, yes,
Art: Little bit later, I'd like to talk to you about your own work in the mine. I'll ask Mrs. Pyykkonen, where you went to school?

Ann: Franklin Mine, it's still up there.

Art: I suppose there's a pretty good cross-section of nationalities represented in the school.

Ann: All kinds. Italians, lot of Finns, and English.

Is that where you learned how to speak English.

Ann: It was only in that school.

Art: So you'd speak English in school and come home and speak Finnish with your

Ann: There was lots of Finnish language going on in school even. See, when the youngsters would come, it was very few that would speak English, they all spoke Finnish. They had to speak Finn till they learned English.

Art: Did you attend Sunday School also in that area?

Ann: Oh, yes

Where was it held?

Paavola.

And do you recall the early minister there?

Ann: Pastor Beck used to come to Paavola and then came Pesonen, Haapanen, Wargelin and all those.

How did your parents, or your mother, what kind of attitude did she have towards you going to school? Was she glad you were going to school? Encouraging?

Oh, ya

How were the Finnish mothers and fathers those days? Were they pretty strict with their children?

That's for sure! It had to be so or none at all.

Can you give an example by what you mean by them being strict?

Well, you just had to do as they told you. Go school and go church. They were most important, Sunday School and church. They were very important. And other school, too. fairly

Was this very true of the other households too? Were parents quite strict with their children?

They were strict in some way but not with school, they weren't so strict because there were so many of them and young age, they dropped school, like him and many others; they didn't even finish 8 grades, they didn't have to them days. But this running around, they were much stricter than they are now.

Was there any particular reason why they were strict? Was that the way they were brought up?

That's exactly the way they were brought up in Finland. That's what they always brought up, that that's what I had to do.

I guess times haven't changed too much.
That's what we had to do.

When somebody in your family became sick and they needed medical attention, did you go to the doctor, did you go to the hospital, did the doctor come to see you, or did you have your own home remedies?

Ann: They had lots of home remedies but any way where we lived, the company doctor was pretty close, so we often had the doctor.

Art: He would make a house call?

Oh, yes, he would make a house call and then when you got little bit better, you had to go to his office. That was up Quincy Hill.

Expenses for medical care were very reasonable those days.

Ann: Oh, yes Do you recall how much it was?

$2 a call.

Ann: Yes, office calls would be $2 but if they came to the house, that would be $3 first and then $5. They'd come way from Hancock to Paavola, that's what we know because that's where we lived.

Art: When babies were born, did the mothers go to the hospital? or were there midwives?

Ann: No, they didn't go hospital. That hospital business that's just late years.

Art: Most of the Finnish women had their children in the home

Ann: That's right

Art: Was this true only of the Finns or did other nationalities have midwives, also?

Ann: Other nationalities had them also

Art: From what I've been able to gather, some of the families were pretty good-sized those days, probably was a necessity, the hospitals wouldn't be able to hold.

Maybe they couldn't afford it, either.

Art: That's probably it, a bigger reason.

Ann: That's right

Art: As you were growing up, Mrs. Pyykkonen, you had a cousin who stands out in the minds of local people as a very unusual, and that was Louie Moilanen, called "Big Louie" because of his size, what recollections do you have about him, when he was very young, was he already quite large?

Edw: Ya, he was; he was man-sized when we were running "Pump, pump, pull-away". He was man-sized and we could go around and around and he couldn't catch us. Because we were so quick.

Ann: He was rather clumsy.

Art: As big Louie grew up, he took part in all the regular activities?

Edw: Well--

Ann: Like any other kids.
Oh, ya.

When he grew up to be a man, and quite a man he was, about how tall was he?

Edw: He was 8'2"

And how much did he weigh?

Edw: 460#

That's an awfully good set. What type of work did he do when he grew up?

He worked first in the mine

Art: I'm sure he was a pretty strong man

Well, he was a strong man if he could get hold of you with his hands but he was very clumsy on his feet.

And he quit the mine after a couple of years?

Oh, ya, he didn't work too long in there

He took circus work.

He was in the circus for a while?

He was couple years in the circus.

What did he do in the circus? A strong man who lifted heavy weights?

No, just show his size.

How long did he live? How old was he when he died?

28 years old.

So he died at a fairly early age. After his circus work, what did he do, did he sell

He was on the farm in Salo.

His folks had a farm and he stayed there between time

during the off-season

He wasn't too well, he died of heart trouble, so he wasn't too well, so he needed some rest

Art: Do you have any recollections of him, things that you did together, good time or some-thing that makes Louie stand out in your mind?

No.

Just him being with kids, that's all he's been, see, he went away and he was in different places, separated, didn't get together very much.

They were living in Salo only they came over and we were delivering stuff, we went there every Friday. That was our route, in Salo.

You were telling me the other day some information on his death and his burial. I wonder if you could say what that was.
When he died, Crawford was undertaker here, they gave the measurements and send that to the factory where they make caskets and coffins, there came telegram back saying, you made a mistake. That this can't be true. Crawford had to send "you make that casket the way you have the measurements." "That man is so big, it has to be that kind of casket."

Do you remember the measurements from it?

He was 8'3" tall
So it would have to be all of 9'.
All of that!

When the funeral was held, where was that held? Was it held in the church?

In the church by the Scott Hotel.
St. Mathew's.

Ya.

How many pallbearers were there?

8.
They must have been pretty husky men.

There's still one man living here in Houghton

Ann: They just had to use a dray wagon to put his casket, couldn't use no

They couldn't put that in a regular hearse. They had to use a dray wagon. And you should have seen all the people!

Like 4th of July, hey?

Edw: Just like 4th of July, watching.

Was Louie someone who was—I'm interested in why they came, just because he was a big man, or had Louie over several years, kind of built up—did people like Louie? Were they interested in him as a person? Had he become well-known?

Edw: Well--

He became well-known by his size and I didn't know him that well that I could say about his personality or anything, but he became well-known, and the funeral, of course, had to be like that because it wasn't like the other funerals, with a big wagon like that and all that and they all wanted to go and see his body, how he looked in the casket and all that. Because it was different from others. I think that drew the crowd.

Art: So Louie sort of stands out as one of the local characters.

Ann: Oh, yes

Edw: I'll tell you another thing you want to know. He had laid 2 years in the grave and his mother was a very small lady. And they said that Big Louie is not in the grave, that museum wanted to buy that body. Well, his mother was living and father was dead before, well, she didn't want to give it away anyway, she wanted him in the grave,
and she started worrying, I wonder if he is in the grave no more, well, that
started bothering her so much that she couldn't even sleep. Well, my dad was
Louie's mother's brother, well, it went so bad that we had to get permission to go
and open the grave. And I was big man then already; well, him and me and Big Louie's
brother-in-law, we went to open it and we took that mama there with us, we drove
there with the horse and we dug that grave open, open the box, and open the
casket, and poor ma, then she was alright when she seen the body in the grave.

So nobody had tampered with his remains

no.

The people made it bad, they were making her believe that they taken him to a museum,
the way they wanted to buy, of course, somebody old like her, started believing it,
like they would have wanted, so she didn't have no peace, she just had to get people
to work on it and get permission and then it was alright because she saw that he was
there.

Then she was all right. She was happy

That's a very interesting story. I'd like to move on to something a little bit
different: when did the 2 of you first get acquainted?

It wasn't too hard because we were neighbors.

Is that right? So you met each other in school?

Not in school, we didn't go same school. But then when we were bigger, we moved to
Paavola and they were in Paavola already.

We moved to Paavola.

Then in Sunday School and then in Temperance Halls and all those.

Ya, Temperance Halls

Let's talk a little about those Temperance Halls. What kind of activities did they
have for the young people in the Temperance Hall?

I'll tell you. They had meetings first and programs which was very nice, and after
that, there was no dance but there was some kind of a play------ring-around-the-rosie
(laughter) much in that type.

Art: Let's describe it: was it just one big ring, boy-girl, boy-girl, or were there 2 rings?

One big ring.

Edw: One big ring and then there was couple inside

Ann: There were different kinds. You could do it this way or that, and they were singing,
it was much like a dance but no music only by singing.

What was the purpose of this ring-around-the-rosie or whatever it was called?
To get acquainted? It was a game?

They used to call it "beeri leikkil" in Finnish, it didn't mean no beer or nothing.
That's what it was called. Because they couldn't dance, it was next to the dance.
They weren't allowed to dance in those Temperance.

Because that belonged to a Temperance Hall and 2 churches
Were there church services held in that Temperance Hall?

Ann: Oh, yes. Both, Apostolic Lutherans and also Synod. In those small places they couldn't afford to build a church.

And that Hall is still in Paavola.

And then we used to belong to Hancock church. The minister used to come there once a month or twice a month whichever they agreed.

What was the name of the Temperance Society there in Paavola?

Nousee Raittius.

And do you remember any of the people from the early years who were the spokesmen?

No I, I don't remember, because the Temperance was there when we moved and when you moved.

What was the Temperance meeting like? What happened during the meeting part?

They had officers just like any other. There were chairman, secretary and treasurer and all the committees and there was a regular meeting held, the very first. And before the meeting, they used to sing the temperance songs and sometimes if it wasn't a meeting, they just had like a program, they had prayers, and religious programs and things like that. But they had special songs, they're religious and temperance, also.

Art: Was the Temperance Society just against drink?

Ya, strictly.

Art: Was there other emphasis, too, in the Temperance, in other words, that you should

Ann: church

church was emphasized. I've been told that in some of the Temperance Societies there were some splits over dancing and then some of the socialists tried to take over some of the temperance societies, you didn't have either of that problem in your day.

I don't think they had it up Copper Country, I don't think so.

Art: Were most of the people in the Paavola area, farmers?

Ann: no, miners

Art: Were you in mining, Mr. Pyykkonen, when you became acquainted?

After my dad sold that store, well, then we were married then already.

What year was that when you were married?

1917.

So you married right during World War I and after the copper strike

Ya.

Do you have any recollections of the copper strike of 1913? Or were you kind of removed from that?
No, we didn't have much to do with it, of course, my stepdad, he was striker, but then again they had the store, they weren't.

We had the store

Ann: Oh, there's all kinds of stuff about that, there's hard feelings between the strikers and non-strikers very bad.

Were the Finns on both sides of the fence?

There was some on both sides

Ya, there was some on both sides

Art: That must have been pretty hard for the Finnish community.

Very!

You weren't in the mine at that time?

Well, then I went after we married.

During World War I did quite a few of the young Finnish men go in the Army?

Quite a few, but they didn't take from the mines. They wanted to ship copper so bad

Which mine did you work in?

Ewd: Quincy Mine, No. 8.

Were you underground then?

Ewd: Oh, yeah

Art: What was it like to be a miner in 1917? When did the work start? How deep did you go? What was your job?

We had to start work 7 o'clock. We had to go down get ready and put on our mining clothes.

Art: Did you have a lamp?

Carbide light right on.

How deep did you go?

730 — They started from the surface, every 100 feet, there's a level.

You worked with a partner then, too, didn't you?

I was working mostly in timber gang, putting timber.

All the men in your timber gang, were they Finns or were there

Ya, they were all Finns.

Was the foreman a Finn, too?

Ya. The foreman, there was 7 men in that timber gang and the 7th man was the boss.

Ann: That was Henry Piiparinen
That isn't Ray Piiparinen's dad?

Yes. We had Art Ulster first and

ye, ___

Was that pretty dangerous work what you were doing?

It was dangerous.

What was the danger? Falling rock?

When we were timbermen (end of tape)

In your timber work, were there ever any accidents?

Oh, yes

What kind of accidents?

The skip, bringing the dirt, copper rock from the mine, to the surface. Well, we had to watch that skip all the time, and sometimes it did hit a man, killed him.

There was no way for a man to protect.

Edw: Oh, no; well, there was long as you know, and there was 2 skips, one was going down and the other was going up, on the same roller

and it would kind of sway and that's how the person was hit

ya, and the boss was, we were working the shaft, they called that shaft, he was supposed to be always—mind which skip is coming and when we were working on the track we were putting stones, timber and then we put boards on top, so it's safe up and down. And then there was levels, that's where they had them cars and there were trammers and miners and they drill and blast and they was pushing that little car and dump it in the skip. And that skip would bring it up.

Do you recall what you were being paid a day for 10-hour shift?

Well, it was a good 10 hours before we got home. But we was about 9 hours.

Do you recall what the pay was?

I think it was $3 because the shaft gang used to get more than the level gang. Because we were more in the danger. And we were always on the day shift. A lot of timber gangs they worked night and day.

I think it could have been about $3, maybe a little more.

Around $3.

in your

How did you and the men crew feel about the company? Did you feel that they treated you fairly?

Well, we didn't have nothing to complain about, because it wasn't no better no matter and that is good, mine men were making more money than surface men.

Did you have various benefits for you and your family, did you live in a company house?

Edw: no.
But you had the health benefits, though?

No, we didn't have nothing.

But only the insurance if they got killed or hurt.

And doctor was.

And doctor was free, them days already, it wasn't as bad as it was years back, they didn't have nothing. Before the strike and before that even.

So it improved. Was it after World War I that the copper mining sort of tapered off, there was a great demand for copper during World War I but afterwards, was it a kind of a hard time here?

Ann: It was hard time all over.

But you had steady employment after World War I?

Ann: Oh, ya, in the mines

Did you have a family at that time, any children?

Ann: We just had 3, so we had 2 already.

And you were busy at home taking care of the children.

Ann: Ya, married woman didn't work them days like they do now. Stayed home

Later on then we went on the farm.

1922

that's when we moved to Chassell.

And then you gave up mining altogether, and farmed fulltime

Ya.

Tell me a little bit about that farm. Did you have cows on the farm?

Lots of cows

About how many head? How many milking cows? A dozen?

Steady, we used to have about 12, but he used to buy big herds of cows and sell them.

For meat, and calves and sell 'em.

Ann: Oh, ya.

What kinds of crops did you raise?

Oats, rye, barley, potatoes

Did you invest a lot in machinery or did you sometimes buy machines with other farmers together?

No. Trashing machine, we had engine and the neighbor had the separator.

That was first when we went on the farm but later on, we had our own. There used to be a few things that we used to share with the neighbors, something that wasn't used too often
Art: Was there a cooperative store there in Chassell then when you got going?

It wasn't there yet, it came after. We were still in Chassell when it came but not then days when we went there, there wasn't any.

Art: Where did you ship your milk?

Bridgeman-Russell.

It was cream first; and then later on,

We had a separator and put it in cans and then we brought it to

But then there came this Stella-Cheese, they're the ones who started buying milk. So all the farmers, they got more on their feet then. And better price and all that.

Did you milk all your cows by hand those days?

First

Art: Was that a family affair? Did you milk too?

My folks were living then with us, they were on the farm with us, I didn't milk much but I did milk quite a bit. Mostly I was in the house and the others were in the barn. And then later on, we had a machine.

Ya, we built a new barn.

Apparently the farm was very profitable. It sounds very good. How many acres were there on the farm?

First we had 80, then we bought 2 more, had 160.

Did you have to clear the land when you got it?

Partly, not much.

Was the soil pretty rocky?

Edw: No, not too bad.

Art: You got a good plot.

Ann: First we were on the other farm but we got rid of that and then we bought another farm from over there, on Painesdale Road so everything was more modern then.

Art: Tell me this, thinking back on the Finns that you know now and that you knew then, many of them went into farming, but a lot went into farming, did lot of the miners hope that they could earn enough money to buy themselves a farm?

Ann: They sure did and many of them did go on farms. Anyone, if they had a chance, they did go. Then of course the mining went slow and there wasn't much so quite a few of them went on the farm. All around Chassell when we went there, there was a lot of Finns and most of 'em had come from mines.

Art: Did you enjoy life more on the farm than you did in the mining locations?

Ann: I think so, it was very nice.

Art: For what reason?
Ann: Well, you were your own boss. (laughter)

Art: That's right. Evidently you were making a go of it and

Ann: Yes, you can make a nice living. Of course you have to work just like anywhere else when we went on our first farm, we met those poor years so that was pretty rough but then after 3 years, it started picking up.

Art: How was it on the farm during the depression? in the '30's?

Ann: That's when we were there, that's what I was just telling you, it was bad, and bad years, it was so dry

Art: It was dry, too? You had weather problems as well as financial.

Ann: Yes, everything. It wasn't only us, we all had it

Art: How did you survive? You and everybody else.

Ann: Oh, we're here (laughter)

Art: Did people pitch in and help one another?

Ann: When it was really bad, just in Chassell Township, he just happened to get the job of overseer's job

Edw: I was highway commissioner

Ann: That helped a lot, he was elected

Art: Did several of the farmers get WPA work done?

Ann: Most of them.

Art: As highway commissioner were you involved?

Ann: Oh, no, he didn't work for that

Edw: I didn't go on welfare at all

Art: No, I meant that, were you in charge of the road-building

Ann: no, no, that's different; this was just township

Edw: Township highway

Ann: But then when they were building roads, that was the county and then that was the state when they were building new---when it was WPA. It wasn't just the county.

Art: Hoover was in office when the depression started and then of course, Roosevelt came in, how did the Finns feel about Hoover and Roosevelt.

Ann: Just like now, others are Democrats and others are Republicans, that's all

Art: Did your mind change about politics during that time at all? Did you stay the same?

Ann: Stayed the same.

Art: Did people hunt, get deer or rabbits

Edw: Some did.
Some did but not too much

Edw: When they wanted meat, they killed a calf or a cow, chickens

On the farm it's different. Some hunted, just like now too. Of course it's bigger now, hunt and fish.

Did any of the Finns from Paavola leave the area during the depression?

Ann: Oh, yes, many of them went over to Menominee on the farm. My uncle did

Did any leave the country? Go back to Finland or Russia?

Ann: no; some of them went to Russia but not too many. Not from Paavola, no one went. But some from the Copper Country area. But none that we know, didn't go to Finland because I don't think it would have been any better there.

How did the people in Paavola react when the Finns went to war against the Russians? The winter war.

They just about fought with them. (laughter

Art: Did you send over clothing?

Ann: Oh, my goodness, yes, it was a big project. Everybody did what they ever could. They were knitting for the soldiers and packages overseas, everybody sure did, and here in Hancock, too, they sure worked hard just to try and help them.

What Finnish newspapers have your read throughout your life? Did you read the Suometar?

Oh, yes. That was the main newspaper

Amerikan Suometar. And finally

Paivä Lehti.

and then came Valvoja.

Did you know any of the men who were in charge of the newspapers? The editors?

I know Suometar, it was Emil Pesonen. (I can't remember)

So there was a quite active newspaper life here

Oh, I should say, those Finnish newspapers and everyone missed the Suometar very bad when they quit. And Valvoja.

First there came Paivä Lehti.

Why were they so valuable for the

Well, they read the news because the majority couldn't read English, well, they wanted the news

Art: Did you ever yourself write news into the Suometar or

Ann: No

Art: But you had correspondents in Paavola who would

Oh, yes.
Looking back at life, what would you folks look upon as your biggest accomplishment? What have you done that stands out in your mind?

Farming was pretty good. Well, since we've been in Hancock we've been pretty lucky.

Do you feel as you look upon life today the same as you did years ago? Even though the times have changed?

Yes, we know that, everything is gold.

It's much better than it was before. (laughter) Money is easier to get.

And before she worked in the college and I used to work you don't have to tell them, so and I used to work in funeral homes.

Which funeral home was that?

Memorial Chapel.

That used to belong to our son-in-law. Then he died but it was sold to Peterson.

You held 2 jobs, you had a job in Chassell and he worked day shift in the funeral home. Night shift I want to clean the box factory, there was a box factory in Chassell then. Sounds like those Finns worked pretty hard.

Oh, most of em.

Ya, I worked 2 shifts, night and day.

It wasn't through day and night but part time.

You've lived in this area most of your life, but not all of your life, what do you think this area is going to be like in 10 years? 20 years? from now. Are we going to see the mines open up again? Or are we going to see more small industry, what do you expect?

Edw: I even think that these mines that are closed now, they're going to be going full-blast 15-20 years from now.

Why do you feel that way?

Because there's so much copper left in there.

What's it going to take to get them open? So you feel that this area will boom once again and we're going to get jobs, and more people and more.

Edw: I'm pretty sure.

Ann: Well, they should get more jobs so the people won't have to go from here when they get that age, they look for jobs they should have some jobs and I think that would be a wonderful idea, if there would be some men that would do it, or the company. They are planning, there's quite a bit talk about it; I don't know then when it will come, of course, we won't see it, that the mines would open and will open.
How do you feel about the tourist industry? Do you think that's going to hold any hope for the area?

Ann: Well, it's getting bigger every year, I don't think tourist alone would be enough. Have to have something more steady.

So, there's that type of change in the possible economic life, what do you think about the church life? At Gloria Dei we have Finnish services, and what do you anticipate is going to happen to the church life? among the Finns in the next few years?

It's getting smaller all the time and within 10 years, maybe there won't be any at all. But I hope it will keep for 10 years because in Gloria Dei we have quite a few there, well, I don't know would it be full 10 years but anyway quite a few years.

What kind of activities do the older Finns enjoy, besides gathering for worship on Sunday mornings, are there any activities that they get together on a regular basis?

All we have in our church is Finnish services and Suomi Kerho. We have our meetings once a month, get quite a few there, that's all there is. Of course there's other doings that Finnish people go to church, most of them understand English, well, there's all kinds of doings.

I think that's about it, unless you think of any question to talk about. We talked to you a little bit about your family, about your education, jobs you've held, social life at the temperance society, so maybe we'll close at that.

(end of tape)