NORTHERN MICHIGAN ORAL HISTORY PROJECT ITALIAN-AMERICAN COLLECTION

OH-47

DANI, Flossie (Hermansville, MI 6/21/82)

Indexed by: Faye A. Oja Indexed June 24, 1983

Summary: Flossie discusses her earler life in Hermansville. She compares it with life today.

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Flossie Dani M47
Vermonville. 6/21/82.

TYPICAL WORK OF HOUSEPERSON.

The experience of Flossie Dani a woman of French Canadian ancestry, but married into the Italian experience is typical of she first worked at IXL Lumber Co. Vermonville sorting #1 flooring lumber. When she married, housing was short so they lived with in-laws until a house was available. As she put it "Life was not too nice."

The boys were born in 1927 & 1929 and the girl a year later. By this time IXL had the employees on a 3 day week. To augment their income the family kept a vegetable garden measuring 200 x 500 feet, a garden in the backyard, & little over 2 acres for pasture & hay bought from the co. A barn was built in the yard for the cow & pigs & the garage was converted into a hay barn.

With this arrangement they never had to go to the store. In the late summer & early autumn nearly 1000 qts were processed. This was done by the women. Root veg. kept in basement. Hogs were processed in fall into salt pork & sausage by men & women rendered pork for lard. 6 potatoes for a year.

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21 240
480

In 1930-31 started to keep boarders at $20 per mt. They added on a room for them. As a result Flossie had to maintain the house, cook & wash for all of them.

For noon lunch for kids peanut butter cooked veggies in H2O red drink of stove warm when home from school.

Flossie in Nov-Dec worked in pea pack processing plant. Elaine also worked. 7-8 hrs per day. Also been packing, milk processing & sweet processing.

Oct at 6:30 a- breakfast for men. $1.87 per day- bought clothes for children

Made bread.
Wire- mailed by bankbook.
Served by wife- $20 + in coins sold at 35¢ per pint.