

## REMINDERS

Songs heard at Home: "Over the Waves" "I'll Take You Home again, Kathleen"  
What was son dad sang when, on occasion, he would rock one of the kids on his crossed leg.

How Pa and Ma met & married. Dowry of cows, horses, furniture provided newlyweds.

Ma and Pa active in local farmer's organizations, cooperatives, Farmer's Union, politics

Goose, duck and chicken harvesting, dressing and sale to butcher shop.

Because mother a second field hand, and cow hand, working at both crops and care of cattle, none of children assumed, or expected to assume much responsibility for those chores.

Photographs, time exposures, taken in homes or studio in late 1800's. Kodak box camera marketed to public in 1890's. Portrait photography not developed until about 1840-- before that tintypes, daguerrotypes.

Our photographs at home ruined when grandchildren and neighbors came to visit and played with them.

Nineteenth century--the agricultural west included what is now Wisconsin

The farm--windmills, animals, wagons, machinery.

The blizzard closing the train tracks--what year. Year of constructing Hi. 19 and boarding  
Near the barn burned--cows in woods, milked in the workers.  
temporary stanchions.

Family served in wars: Ingwersons in Civil War; C Schuster in WWI in Europe; Lila, Cy, Jerome, John, Burdette in WW II--where stationed.

Boarding houses for travelers in late nineteenth century. Mother worked at Mrs. Greens boarding house and hotel restaurant. Met tobacco buyers and other business travelers there.

John had the best team of horses, and buggy, and was good looking, and family well-to-do

Grandma Schuster had some of the best Rhode Island Red hens that produced the best eggs. Grandma Blaska and Grandpa drove over to buy some of those hens, hence the families met. John and Rose walked home from Catholic school in Sun Prairie when they were kids. Sometimes John would walk almost to her house and then return to his home cross-lots.

When did Post Offices open in Wisconsin?

Grandma Schuster used medicinal roots for illnesses. Believed in spiritualism, and our mother claims a spiritualist cured her bleeding after Cy was born by taking one of her vaginal hairs and performing his exorcist act over it. I think she had a retained placenta and needed to have what is now known as a Dilatatioand curretage of the uterus to remove the retained part of the placenta. Her prolonged bleeding episode was the reason I was not born until three years after Cy, rather than the usual two years between most others.

One can only wonder what great grandparents brought with them from/Europe, and then on their trek across the frightening trip across the atlantic in steerage of a ship that would be some tangible link with their family left behind and never again to see.

Our mother's leg-of-mutton sleeves, tight bodice, feathered hats etc. of the late 1800's and early 1900's

*Telegraphs, Telephones, Industrial Revolution*

## REMINDERS

### Speakeasies

"Roaring Twenties" --a crazy, charming era. Flappers, bootleggers. Marathon dancing. Model T Ford Knickers in style, and worn by women. Breeches for women controversial. Movies had just begun Bloomers worn to play basketball. Exposing bare legs criticized. Corsets still encouraged by mothers, but girls could Dr. McCabe--our country doctor--"vaccinations that took 1/2"(dubbed "Old Ironsides" by dance partner No prenatal care--all babies delivered at home. Aunt Mamie, Mrs. \_\_\_\_\_ came to care for mother and child Hard work, few dollars and child Long days in fields, sun-up to sun-down \$1.00 bought a loaf of bread & a dozen eggs.

House parties

Victrola and records.

Visits and talk on Sunday afternoons.

After automobile, a Sunday afternoon drive to State Street in Madison to watch the people go by, and if we had a dollar, to go to Chocolate Shop for a soda. Big treat.

Swimming suits--well covered. Men expected to wear "tank tops" to cover chest along with swimming trunks. Robes to be worn over bathing suit until one reached water's edge.

Closest we came to swimming was to go to Aunt Edies to wade in their creek. Shorts criticized.

1927--Knees exposed.

(More Roaring Twenties)--cigarettes smoked. Flappers, cloche hats, short dresses, long beads. Home brews and homemade wines.

Gangsters in Chicago--Al Capone

Horses main source of energy on farms. Hard tedious factory work--10-hour days. No overtime, no child labor laws. \$25 to 30 cents/hour wages--\$16.66 per week. Nursing 20-hr. duty.

Late twenties--Movies--Douglas Fairbanks, Mary Pickford, Rudolf Valentino, Shiek of Arabi, Johnny Wiesmiller--Tickets 5 cents--Silent to sound motion pictures.

Babe Ruth, Jack Dempsey, Gene Tunny, big heroes.

Gertrude Ederle, first woman to swim the English channel.

1927--Lindberg crossed the Atlantic.

Radios--the Atwater Kent

Telephones hung on wall. One, two or three, four rings. We "rang-up" people to talk.

Electric lights-- electric irons replaced sad irons heated on stove??

Refrigeration--

First Ford car--1908, 1910--assembly line 1925 with Model T's.

1929--Stock Market crash. Herbert Hoover President. Economic depression. Farmers lost farms.

Ku Klux Klan--lynching, hanging. Racial and religious antagonism.

Late 40's--1949 Only 190,000 TV's in the U. S. Five years later, TV's in 21 million homes Slovak-German-Austrian-Hungarian immigrants in mid 1850's.

Homestead Act of 1862--160 acres of free land offered to settlers who paid a nominal fee for filing, built a twelve-by-twelve structure et. in far west.

Immigrant trains said to have a cook stove at end of each car, and seats that would let down and make into a bed at night. Travelers brought their own bedding.

Grandma Schuster had Indian visitors, came up to farm in nearby creek to exchange corn for tobacco. She made her own butter and soap

Our automobiles--years purchased, to crank and backfire. Isinglas sides. Grandpas autos--

Landmarks in Sun Prairie. Waterloo and Amherst Junction during logging period.

Look up when flags were changed as states and stars were added.

Always much talk of politics around home. Evelyn and Dad had long discussions as he admired Dad became town chairman, assemblyman and Farm Bureau officer her.

Evelyn would teach us to dance at home to phonograph records.

Button hooks for high shoes worn by mother. Thimbles for sewing.

Barn raisings.