

Our home was on a hill, overlooking the river. thirty-eight acres of land. We three older children had our chores to do daily, we owned two horses and three cows, two pigs and a number of chickens. Our walk to school was two miles in all types of weather. I remember getting frozen ears at one time.

We had no car, so attending church meant walking too which we did regularly. As my parents came from the "old country" we were called many unpleasant names, such as "hunky", "cat licker" and "dumb Pollock." I had an inferior complex, and low self esteem due mainly to this name calling. This resulted in a few fights of which I was sometimes the victor.

My dad found work in a local steel mill across the river, he rowed his boat daily to this job, about three quarters of a mile. He did this until his retirement many years later. My mother a petite woman, at a height of under five feet, was a ruling character in our family, often making me feel ashamed if I offended her.

There was no running water in our home, later a pump was installed in the kitchen, this saved a tremendous amount of water carrying. In the early 30's electricity came our way and what a delight to have this convenience. The radio now became a source of pleasant entertainment. Now electricity was available in the barn this eased our chores considerably,