

LINDALA

Mrs. Kauno Lindala (Hilma Lievonen) Remembers
(from Hilma Lindala, November 1, 1974, her 77th. birthday, R.S.)

We were married in Sudbury on the seventh of October, 1914 and in November I turned 17.

I suppose it's because I was the baby of the family and they all spoiled me - I wasn't ready at all for marriage. It's just one of those things you do because you don't know any better.

We went to Toronto. Kauno worked there. We had been keeping our eyes on the lots owned by the "Lindala Company", and when they went on sale, we bought one. We settled there and that was it.

It was the spring of the year when we came up. Some land was cleared on ^{the other} ~~this~~ side of the river, but nothing was cleared on this side. There was no house. We slept at my mother's house and walked over every day along the river bank (in the spring we came by canoe) to work on our place. We used to hang our coats on a little spruce tree while we worked because there was no place else to hang them.

We sawed the logs

Did you saw logs?

Oh yes. And split the cedar logs to make shingles for the roof....

Did you split shakes?

Oh yes. Oh, it's all fun when you're starting off to make your own place. We built a little one - room house and moved in quite soon. We lived in it for a year or more.

For a couple of years after I was married, I wore my hair in braids hanging down my back.

That first summer we had no horse. We didn't try to put any crop on the fields across the river. But we broke up some land with shovels and hoes and put in a garden. We planted potatoes, carrots, turnips, beets, onions, and they all turned out so good. We made a root cellar.

We didn't have a cow that year. My mother had a cow.

We ate a lot of fish - mostly pike. We all fished (once they were settled). I liked to fish early in the morning. I would get up before everyone else to do a washing. I used to do the washing in the sauna. After I had carried the water up in pails from the river and had a fire going to heat it, I would go fishing. I would have a fish caught and the washing done before the rest of them got up.

A Near Drowning

When Toby was close to two, he fell in the river. I saw him lying in the water with about this much water over him. I guess maybe he had been down and was coming up again. I don't know how deep the river was there - no bottom to that river. I jumped in and we both came to shore. I don't know how. (Hilma never learned to swim). It all happened so fast. I threw him over my arm, and I can remember the water just pouring out of his mouth.

But when we finished there we were O. K. We turned the place over to Toby. We had everything and we didn't owe anybody.