

The following transcript of
John Ray's interview
on

Memories and Music

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INTERVIEWEE: John Ray

TAPE NO: 97

INTERVIEWER:

THEME:

^{Now}
Well freinds we're, we're going to ~~x~~ have another chat now with another guest on "Memories & Music" and a guest whom . . . I think I can say is a happy man. You can judge yourself after you've heard from him and heard him tell his own story. His name is Mr. John Ray and he retired from Inco, what ~~yrx~~ year did you retire ~~x~~ from Inco? Mr. Ray?

J.R. 1956.

That's right 1956 which is 19 years ago and . . . Mr. Ray is getting on a bit ^{now}. How old are you now Mr. Ray?

J.R. 84.

O.K. Mr. John Ray, 84 years of age, retired from Inco in May of 1956. You were working, ~~wherewere~~ you working ~~wherx~~ at Inco when you retired Mr. Ray? What department?

J.R. Plate shop.

In the Plate shop, eh. Well then it would seem then Mr. Ray you would be born ~~x~~ back around 1891.

J.R. 1891, yes.

A few years ago, whereabouts?

J.R. In Italy.

Why now.

J.R. South, south Italy.

South part of Italy. Whereabouts, ^{oh} give us an idea, was that near Naples maybe?

J.R. ^{Near} ~~near~~ near Naple

Would it be in a ^{in a} village on a farm there, or what?

J.R. No it was in a village about 22,000 people.

^{What} What was the name of the village?

J.R. Mounte Morea

What does your father do there Mr. Ray?

J.R. A jail guard~~ian~~ ^{//} Well that's interesting. What this sort of a big prison, a penderitry like we have in Kingston or a small jail or what?

J.R. We have 30 days.

Oh one of the smaller ones, eh?

J.R. Ah yes.

So he, they wouldn't worry too much about jail breaks or anything in there, ~~would they?~~

J.R. No it was about, up to 15, 20 people at a time.

These would be for minor offenses

J.R. Minor ^{minor} offense, that's ~~fix~~ right.

What would ~~this~~ this be for? Small theft, things like that?

J.R. Oh well they fight among themselves or

I guess (unintelligible)

J.R. That's right.

Now I'm interested what did your mother do there?

J.R. My mother, she owned a bakery shop.

Oh good for her. She, she made money on the side then.

J.R. Oh yes.

What

J.R. We used to sell bread to different stores.

She did, eh?

J.R. Yes.

Good for ~~that~~ ^{them}, father brought in some money as a jail guard and mother ran a bakery shop, eh.

J.R. A bakery shop.

Did you get involved in delivering or doing any work?

J.R. No.

For your mother.

J.R. No I used to go to a school, and learned the ^{learned the} trade of tailor.

You learned the trade of tailor at school, eh?

J.R. That's right.

Now what, ^{well} now would you . . . I'm interested what would you, would you start out right from when you first ~~wx~~ went to school to learn the tailor trade or would you, you pick it up later.

J.R. A few years after I went, I was about 10 years of age when I started to learn the trade.

Oh I, yeah, yeah.

J.R. Yeah.

What . . . when a kid is going to school in a little town ~~xxx~~ in Italy like that.

J.R. Four hours school and four hours to learn the trade.

Is, is that right? Eh?

J.R. That's right.

Is ^{is} that still, I don't know whether it's still like that or not? I don't know, it's probably ~~xx~~ changed.

J.R. No, no you ^{got} put in 8 hours in the school now.

Yeah. But would you learn . . . ~~any~~ in effect reading, writing and arithmetic, eh?

J.R. Oh yes.

In, in Italian.

J.R. In Italian. I can read and write ~~in~~ pretty good yet.

In, in Italian.

J.R. Well I write a little bit English, too.

(unintelligible) in English.

J.R. Yeah.

But what I'm getting at, ~~wh~~ would you learn like the ~~2x~~ times table and the ~~2~~ ^{3x} times table.

J.R. Oh yes.

Like

J.R. Oh yes arithmetic, yes.

^{in Italian}
~~One~~ times douze

J.R. Yeah that's right.

Douze times douze ~~xxx~~ ~~xxxx~~ equals quatorze or what ever. I'm not doing too well but you would, you would learn it in Italy, in Italian.

J.R. You'd learn it, yes, you'd learn ~~xxx~~ Italian.

Spelling, ~~wx~~ would you, would you have ~~x~~ readers, like ~~x~~ kids'

readers.

J.R. We don't take no spelling that part of the country.

Oh I see.

J.R. No we in a, we were just say we were writing. We don't take no spelling whatsoever.

Yeah.

J.R. And I can ~~say~~ sit down here you, I can take me a ~~xx~~ letter and I wouldn't make a single mistake and I don't ask you ~~how~~ how you spell and how this and how that.

Well it's interesting I ^{didn't} didn't.

J.R. Yeah.

You took, you took reading, you learned from a child's reader though. Child, childish stories

J.R. Oh yeah.

~~and~~ of one kind or another.

J.R. Yes, that's right.

Would these be sort of ~~far~~ fairy stories and ~~the~~ things like the kids learn around here?

J.R. Oh yeah we started it ^{well} will be see, ^{like same you} ~~countryxxx~~ ^{you know} probably do in this part of the ~~x~~ country.

I guess so, not that much difference, eh?

J.R. No, no, no

Between

J.R. Hardly no difference whatsoever.

And then as you say, you started out, you into the tailor trade, eh? How ~~x~~ far did you

J.R. In tailor Well I didn't go real, too far because I left the country and ~~x~~ then I, I

You abandoned it then, eh?

J.R. Yes I, I

What can you do? Can you sew any buttons ~~xx~~ on or

J.R. Oh ^{yeah} ~~yes~~ I can sew buttons on your hand. That's right.

At what age did you leave the country? Did you leave Italy?

J.R. I was 14 years of age.

Oh yeah that's

J.R. And immigrated here.

~~you~~ immigrated to where? North America.

J.R. United, United, America.

Well now

J.R. NY U.S.

You were telling me that you came, that somebody arranged to have a group ~~to~~ all come at the same ~~time~~ (unintelligible) eh?

J.R. That's right there was a group and a man taking charge of us.

Now what would, why would he do that? Would he get paid to do that?

J.R. ~~he~~ No ~~you~~ don't get paid, he volunteered himself. That was they style them days. I came, I come

This was a man from your own village that would do that.

J.R. That's right, it was the law in Italy. You under age you had somebody to take care of, look after you to immigrating

And . . . he was been helpful, ^{or} at least ^{the} young fellows 14, 15 thought they saw (unintelligible) ^{more}

J.R. Yes right they were only 20

More opportunity in a, in a new country, eh?

J.R. That's right, that's right.

~~x~~ So could you speak any English, I guess you could speak no English, eh?

J.R. No, no English ~~was whatsoever~~ whatsoever.

So

J.R. I learn in English.

Pretty, pretty fast letter, eh?

J.R. Pretty fast (unintelligible) in English.

I'm still interested in the, . . . this trip of yours. Where did you sail from?

J.R. From Naple.

On what ship?

J.R. America.

An American, an American ship, eh?

J.R. No the name of the ship was America.

A The name was the American, eh? And a

J.R. An Italian. . . well an Italian liner, liner.

Where did you land?

J.R. ^{we landed} Right in New York. [✓] That would be, what would your, how would you have any adventures going over on that ship?

J.R. Oh yeah.

What, what do you remember most about it?

J.R. Well I remember but I doubt I was ~~ever~~ going to ^{never} ~~enter~~ come out on land because we small ship you know nine, nine ton ^{Yeah} and we'd get into a few storms and make about 2 or 3 miles now. We took about 28 days to cross the ocean.

Oh.

J.R. I tell you 28 days to ~~xxx~~ cross the ocean. ^{JR Yeah}

That ~~xx~~ would be, yeah. That would be, seem like a long way over there, wouldn't it?

J.R. And I was, and I was (unintelligible) ~~xx~~ when we landed to New x York, Ellis Island you call them.

Ellis Island that's right.

J.R. Yes, yes that's right.

And you, and you went through immigration then at Ellis Island, eh.

J.R. That's ^{to}, that's right ^{to} the vacation and everything else.

Now

J.R. Fumugate, fumugate ~~you~~ our clothes. ^{JR Yeah}

You know it's great to hear somebody, we've all read about these things, you know. But not too many of us have ~~xxx~~ heard somebody tell us about it.

J.R. I guess they happened to me. I (unintelligible)

You know you went ~~x~~ right through it, eh?

J.R. Yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah. That's right, yeah.

^{if And we went to}
So you when, through this, through the drill end at whatever,
Ellis Island and then you took for Philadelphia.

J.R. Yeah.

So here you are a bright young fellow of 14 or 15 and you
have ~~a~~ to earn a ~~big~~ living so you, what did you do, shoe
shine boy for a while, eh?

J.R. Shoe, ^{shoe} shine ~~boy~~ and selling the paper.

Selling papers.

J.R. And I went out picking fruit for about, strawberries for
a month or so. Like I don't remember the ~~park~~ place.

^{I mean}
Good for you though, you were out there earning a dollar

J.R. Oh yeah I earned a dollar, I have to pay room and board.

Sure.

J.R. And it was \$2 a month rent.

We didn't have unemployment insurance in those days.

J.R. No, no such a thing in ^{them} ~~those~~ days.

Right. Good for you Mr. ~~Rx~~ John Ray. You were hustling
as a kid, eh?

J.R. Oh yes.

Make a dollar where you could.

J.R. That's right.

Selling papers, shining shoes.

J.R. And I was ^{anxious?} (unintelligible) to see new ~~dxm~~ country.

And seeing, I guess you, ^{you} liked this new country

J.R. Yes

That you were in I suppose.

J.R. Oh yes, that's right.

^{what}
What, was different about it? What ~~idid~~ you ~~like~~ like?

^{well}
J.R. I, I find it was more free ~~country~~ country over here. In my
young days in that part of country, you had to say, Good
day and good day and good morning to ~~x~~ every Tom, Dick and
Harry. But over here well

~~Yx~~ Yeah, well I'll be darned ~~x~~ (unintelligible)

J.R. And more free over here.

Good, well that's ~~sxx~~ good to hear that too. Now . . . how long did you stay in Phileadelphia.

J.R. About close to two years.

And then what happened?

J.R. Then I came to Canada, Ontario, Canada what everyone calls.

Canada, *yeah*.

J.R. Ontario.

Why did you ~~sxx~~ come to Canada?

J.R. Well when my uncle call me over here.

Ah, he knew you were in Phileadelphia.

J.R. Yeah.

Had you written him or something like that?

J.R. He told me we'd earn more, more money here so we, we got 10 cents ~~sxx~~ an hour.

Yeah That's ~~sxx~~ easy, that's, that's fair enough. So where *about* did you go in.

J.R. Then, then we worked in Parry Sound on, on construction gang.

Now you'd be then about 17 years old, eh?

J.R. Close to that.

(unintelligible)

J.R. That's right.

But . . . you say you worked in a construction gang, you wouldn't be very big Mr.

J.R. Well I was big enough to carry lumber board.

You were telling me that the men were kind to you, ~~sxx~~ that they figured

J.R. Very kind, very kind.

They gave you work you could do there.

J.R. That's right.

construction, So then you were, here we got you in *in* about ~~19~~ 1908 working on a railroad construction ~~sxx~~ gang out at Parry Sound. Right?

J.R. Out at Parry Sound, that's right.

Where, where did the, where did ~~it~~ go? Where did your first line go to?

J.R. ~~From~~ From Parry Sound we'd lay the steel up to Bolton Junction
Oh ~~that's~~ that's, that's near Toronto.

J.R. Near Toronto, that's right. And then another branch at Coldwater. We ~~laid~~ laid the steel on Coldwater with Victoria Hydro.

Well . . . all, all that up on Georgian Bay or up in that area.

J.R. Yeah that's right on Georgian Bay, that's right.

And how did, how did you like this ~~work~~ work, (oh very much?) ^{unintelligible}

J.R. ^{Oh I,} Well I, had no other, ~~choice~~ no other choice.

You had no choice about it.

J.R. I ^{have} to like it

Were you saving any money or?

J.R. Well

Trying to save some?

J.R. A little bit. I save a little money all right.

I guess you would, even though you weren't getting paid ~~xx~~ much.

J.R. Yeah I bought the first suit clothes, ~~xx~~ it cost me \$2, 2.75

Right.

J.R. I was anxious for the Canadian suit clothes.

^{JK.} Then the clothes I came from, from Italy. I, I throw them back.

They were a little different, yes, yes.

J.R. I didn't want to look too much like ^{of} an immigrant.

Right. O.K. so ~~for~~ now we got you laying steel here than, to did you not also lay a line up to Silwood Junction up (unintelligible)

J.R. To Silwood Junction by the C.N. run out to Capreol.

Yeah.

J.R. To, right through to Vancouver. W I ~~was~~ work~~x~~ all winter on that on a ~~xx~~ ~~xxx~~ rock cut.

Oh I'll be darned. Well folks if you're on the train~~i~~ in that area, John Ray helped to lay those tracks. (unintelligible)

J.R. Yeah, yeah, yeah, that's~~sri~~ right, that's right.

Well great. Now . . . how long did you, you worked sort of on a train on a, on a track lane ~~gag~~ gang as they were for a while. ~~Then, then~~ Then you, then you got a trade sort of in the roundhouse.

J R Yeah I left around 10 1910 then I went in a Roundhouse and, and I asked for job and I got the job so from there on I learned the trade of ~~E~~ boarder-maker.

Ah indeed.

J.R. In the winter so I've been in a Boarder-maker and welder ~~in~~~~ix~~

J.R. And welder, yes, ~~that's right.~~
In the roundhouse.

J.R. That's right.

Where, where was this round-house located?

J.R. In Chapleau.
In Chapleau, ^{JK} that's right.

~~J.R.~~ Is that still there?

J.R. It's still ~~the~~ there.

Is ~~ix~~ it very active now or not so active?

J.R. OH, oh, oh well they got this diesel engine there now.

~~There~~ Yeah they, they don't have the old steam engines.

J.R. Yeah no more locomotive.

That's right. So how long ^{then} were you with the, with the railroad.

J.R. Since ~~from~~ 19, from 1910 to 1935 about 27 years.

About 27 years with the, with the C.P.R., eh?

J.R. Yes.

And you, of course, you became a Canadian, what year?

Around 1913 or thereabouts.

J.R. ~~Exxxxx~~ Yeah I become an authorized ~~xxxxxx~~ Canadian in 1913.

Now you were telling me as we get ready for the program that about 1916, you as a naturalized Canadian you got ~~(unintelligible)~~ ^(unintelligible)

J.R. ~~(unintelligible)~~

JR. called to the army

But that your boss said, didn't think that you were more use on the railroad. Is that right?

J.R. Yeah that's right, ^(unintell.) (how could I ~~xx~~ exempt it)?

How about that part, tell us more about that.

J.R. ^{then} Well we went to Toronto and one of the C.P.R. lawyer inquire us and talk to us and he, to me personally. We was a 10 altogether and he say to me, Mr. Ray you're short you would make good soldier, you would see the German but the German don't see you. But he said, I don't go and see you to the front but ~~x~~ I'm going to send you back to Chapleau because you do more in this country here tis over in the front because we got to get those engines moving to send . . . material and everything else to amitation and everything to the front.

True ~~xxxx~~ enough. Now how many locomotives did you

J.R. So we used to ~~xx~~ ~~xx~~ dispatch pretty near one ~~freight~~ train, one freight train every 20 minutes.

That's ~~axlxxxx~~ alot of freight trains.

J.R. That's, that's ~~axlx~~ alot of freight and I have to have a locomotive ready to go. That was my job.

You had then about more than 80 locomotives on the track did you not?

J.R. 85. Was 85 locomotives.

Oh ho, so then you . . . so then you stayed, of course, then through the ~~xxx~~ war and with the C.P.R. and for until about 1935.

J.R. 1935 that's right, sir.

Now you were telling me that in . . . 1935 you had a difference of opinion or something

J.R. Yes I, that's, that's right

With somebody or

J R A difference of opinion so

You and somebody at the place ^{there} agreed to disagree so you came to Sudbury.

J.R. To Sudbury

Right

J.R. ^{Yeah} That's right and I joined Inco, International Nickel.

You said to me as we were getting ready that that was a lucky day for you sir.

J.R. Yeah it was a real lucky day for me.

The . . . coming to Inco, eh? Even ^{at} after that late, late date sort of eh? (unintelligible)

J.R. ^{Yeah} That's right, yeah, yeah.

What were you ~~doing~~ doing to . . . in Inco here? You were welding.

J.R. I was welding, I hired as a welder.

Well now we have you working at Inco as a welder starting in 1935, ^{or} thereabouts and things are going well then World War II ~~is~~ comes along.

J.R. That's right, ~~yeah~~. You got him to call me at, at to go and work in the ship yard.

To the ship ~~year~~ yard, eh? Right and what happened in this incidence, tell us about ~~it~~ that.

J.R.

J.R. My, my, my master mechanic Mr. Welburn ^{he} asked me if I was received a ~~xxx~~ letter that day. They must've traced them one themselves and I said, yes. So he said to me, you don't want to go in a war. We only be use you pretty good here. I say, Yes you do Mr. Welburn, so give me the letter tonight. You don't have to go, so I never heard anymore I stayed. But I was put right in a job, no holiday or nothing.

Right. Ah great. So then, of course, this war ended too. And you stayed with Inco until 1956.

J.R. 1956.

^{some} Which is 20 years and 7 months, eh?

J.R. Yeah that's right ^{and} . . . that isn't all that long at Inco, but you, I think your pension isn't too bad is that what (unintelligible).

J.R. Oh no I was satisfied ~~me~~ as pension concerned, I was satisfied ~~in~~ them days. It was \$120 a month, that was, that was a good money.

(unintelligible) Now let's look at some other things, you got married going back a few years ~~(unintelligible)~~ ^{here} (unintelligible)

J.R. 1919

To a young lady, where was she from?

J.R. ~~xGakx~~ Chapleau

Chapleau and what was her ~~x~~ ~~x~~name?

J.R. Mary Fox

How did you met this ~~forxx~~ fox?

J.R. Well we both live on the same street and I see her ~~xx~~ practically every time I go for lunch from the roundhouse to the house and then we got a real (unintelligible) ~~xx~~ ^{talking} over the fence, a little. And ~~we~~ we got really friendly so there ~~xx~~ we were going together.

And that

J.R. After about, I say ^{about} 7 or 8 month go together, we got married.

Great and it's been a great marriage, too,

J.R. That's right, yeah.

So far. ~~Myx~~ Mr. Ray I

J.R. Well we celebrated our 50th anniversary, we are 56 years married now.

56 years, eh.

J.R. ~~Aught~~ August the 25th it be 6, 56 years married.

Ah great, great.

~~nn~~ And about the only thing is she knows a little more football than you do, eh?

JR Oh yeah she's a great for sport. They all fight, ^{for the} TV affair. ~~Whox~~ Who's going to ~~whax~~ watch the television, eh?

J.R. Yeah who's going to have a colour KTV, ~~xx~~ who's going to have the black ~~xx~~ and white.

John I'm going to get back to that but before we do let's talk about your family. ^{Now} Do you mind telling what family you have, where they are, and what they're doing now?

J.R. Well I have a four in the family, two girls and two boys. Ah Jessie the oldest girl she married, Mrs. A Manchee now, she live in Toronto and her husband is a mediator with the government, and they, they bought a condomiom apartment. So they'd doing ~~xx~~ every good. My other daughter Evlin, she's a secretary ~~xx~~ with United Steelworkd~~erx~~ of America and she's doing very good, but she lost her husband about, I say 13 or 14 years ago.

Ah yeah, too bad.

J.R. My son Normand, a Ron, my son Ronald.

Yeah.

J.R. He lost his wife, she die about 8 years ago.

Oh yes.

J.R. ~~And~~ And my son, Normand ^{separated} parted from his wife, I don't know, no reason.

What are they, what are they doing now? Is Ron still in this area?

J.R. Normand and Ron they both work at the refinery, machinests.

Oh I see.

~~And~~ Now ah, what about grandchildren.

J.R. Well I have 6 ~~x gradx~~ grandchildren.

Well that's not too bad.

J.R. Not too bad.

Where are they now and what are they doing?

J.R. Well, well ~~allxxxxxxx~~ they're all here except one, One now in Toronto, Philip. But John, John Manchene, he's a school teacher. Jimmy Turcotte, he's a high school teacher at, at Le~~vack~~ and . . . Cheryl, she's a journalist, she's in Toronto.

Well good.

J.R. And Timmy Turcotte, he's still go to school, he's 17 and Elaine Ray, she still go to school, high school, she's 16.

Well very fine. Now . . . we got them all, eh? We haven't ~~everxx~~ overlooked anybody, eh?

J.R. ~~x~~ I think we got them all and one great-grand.

And one ~~x grad~~ great- grandchild, eh?

J.R. Grandson, ~~eyes~~.

And

J.R. Manchene

Manchene

J.R. Manchene, ~~eyeah~~.

~~Now how o~~

Now how long is he as of now?

J.R. He's about . . . oh I say about . . . 2½ a month old.

I guess you got high hopes for him, eh?

J.R. Oh yes, sure but make a lot of fuss that little boy.

Yes different.

J.R. O.K.

I ^{bet} ~~guess~~ you, you have some pretty fine reunions, eh?
Would that be at Christmas or

J.R. Oh yes, ^{oh} yes a private reunion every Christmas.

(unintelligible)

J.R. And every other, real several the other day when christened the baby.

Yes.

J.R. My son and my grandson, John and my granddaughter, Joanne. that's the baby's mother, she's a ~~high~~ high school teacher, too. Oh we had a ~~big~~ big celebration.

Ah I bet, I bet you.

J.R. And now they made a lot of fuss of a great grandson, four generation.
You must've seen (x unintelligible)

J.R. We took a lot of pictures of.

Now, now Mr. Ray, here we have you and I ¹ can say that you're a ~~great~~ healthy-looking individual, if I may say so.
(unintelligible)

J.R. No I ¹ don't mind. I don't get by supper and I think I have my drink of wine everyday.

Well

J.R. Pretty fine meal.

What have you been doing to keep out of mischief now, since you've

J.R. Oh I do a little carpentry work and (break a sink under a pail sink) and a good friend around the neighbour need anything. They come and get Johnny, Johnny go, go, good fellow they go there and help him out and I, I spend the time pretty good. I got a lot of tool in the garage.

J.R. Yeah.

J.R. Get friend to come over and use the shop-plane and everything. So

Right.

J.R. So they're keeping me pretty busy. ~~Well now~~

Well now . . . so here you are, you're, you're keeping busy with carpentry. You, you got all these children, grandchildren a great-grandchild, a great-grandson to sort of keep you occupied.

J.R. Occupied.

I guess you watch a fair amount of television, eh? You and your wife

J.R. Well

Now (unintelligible) Is she, ~~is~~ she the big sport fan in the family.

J.R. Oh she's a very big sport fan.

She a

J.R. She watch a ~~h~~ football, baseball and hockey, especially those three things.

Yeah.

J.R. That TV belong to her.

Does it.

J.R. And if a Canadian lose a game.

She's pretty unhappy, eh?

J.R. She's not ^{very} ~~pretty~~ happy.

Yeah great.

J.R. After the Expos win, ~~not~~, no very ~~good~~ good ^{meal} ~~need~~ the next day.

Now she plays some bingo too, you were telling me.

J.R. Ah ^{yeah} she's a, ~~great~~ she's a great bingo player.

Now

J.R. If she got them, she ~~px~~ play about 25, 26 at a time.

Ah I was going to say, has your wife who is, is Ukranian actually, is that correct? (unintelligible)

J.R. No ^{yeah} ~~ah~~, no ah no, my wife's she's a Luthwainian.

Luthawain, eh.

J.R. That's right.

But has ~~h~~ she learned to cook any good Italian food.

J.R. Ah yes, very good, she make a good spaghetti.

Does she?

J.R. And good meatballs.

Ah well now Mr. Ray I opened this show by saying ~~that~~ I thought I was talking to a happy man and I, I, I think so. Now one or ~~two~~ ~~in~~ two other angles we haven't touched on here. Have you ever done, have you done any travelling, taken any trips east or west or south or anything.

J.R. Oh yes I went ~~into~~ ~~Toronto~~ Toronto and Ottawa and Montreal.

No I'm saying more out to the coast or down to Florida.

J.R. No, no I was suppose to go last, last winter but I, I, the wife didn't feel not too good. So my daughter and my son-in-law, they go practically every winter. But I expect this coming fall

Following, following winter you'll take a ~~xxx~~ trip down there, eh?

J.R. Yes, yeah.

What I, what I . . . ^{JK} I took a trip with, back to Italy in 1913.

~~JK~~ Oh did you, eh.

J.R. Yeah I only stay 24 days.

Well it's funny I didn't ask you that, eh? Or right back to the old home town (unintelligible)

J.R. ^{Yeah} That's right, that's right.

I suppose you saw your brothers and sisters when you ~~h~~ were back there, didn't ~~Yxx~~ you?

J.R. Yeah I ¹ see them all.

And your mother would she be

J.R. Yeah

And your father (unintelligible)

J.R. Oh yes, oh yes. They're always in good health.

~~xxxx~~ Have you heard ~~from~~ ~~an~~ from any of them since. I mean lately are they, mother and father (unintelligible)

J.R. No I only got a one sister left in France.

Yeah.

J.R. She write me practically once or twice a month. And I had two sisters in Austrália and one in Italy. But they, the two sisters in Austráliáx that die.

Oh yes, yes, well

J.R. So I got alot of grand, nephew and niece in Australia.~~now~~
You're going to have to take a trip to Austrália.

J.R. Well one, one my nephew and niece, they come to see me here last year. They made complete around the world.

Right.

J.R. ^{They} From Australia ~~also~~ went California, from California they came to see me here, from here went back to California, from California they went back to Italy, ~~from~~ from Italy they went back to Australia. They went around the world.

Right around the world.

J.R. Right~~xxxx~~ around the world,~~x~~ and ~~there~~ they're doing pretty good in business.

They must be, that, that be expensive

J.R. And my sister she got a sheep & farm, sheep farm in Australia and this nephew he run the hotel, the ~~xxx~~ ~~xxxx~~ cocktail bar, and

Right

JR. So on. They're ^{all} pretty well look

~~What~~ Well what I ~~x~~ keep coming back to is, here we have a little family and this ~~x~~ little village of 22, 2200 or what ever it was you told me, or 22,000 or 2200.

J.R. Yeah that's right.

Near Naples, your father was a jail guard and ~~your~~ father and mother baked, ~~xxx~~ kept a little bake shop and the boys and girls went out in the world and did all right, eh.

J.R. Ah yeah, my family's all over the world.

(unintelligible)

J.R. But after they got married you know, they husbands immigrated to Australia to France.

Right.

J.R. And so the, ~~wif~~ the wife borrowed the husband.

Well of course, of course, but I, and you said yover and over again.

J.R. Yes.

That a, that a, that you're happy you came to (unintelligible)

J.R. Well I'm happy that I came. I must've been the black sheep of the fam~~k~~ family because I was leaving at 14 years of age.

Yeah they got rid~~d~~ of you early, ^{yea yea} ~~thxxx~~ they're going to see what happened to you I guess.

J.R. That's right.

And I think Mr. Ray would it be fair to say that you're pretty happy with Inco, was that (unintelligible)

J.R. ^{Oh} I'd very ~~am~~ happy, I say that it's the only company to work for.

That's, that's very nice.

J.R. Yeah.

^{that} Well we have after being retired all the~~se~~ years, those are the views of Mr. John Ray.

J.R. That the company would keep me, I would still work ~~x~~ with the company. But I had to get off at 65 years of age so.

Right. Mr. Ray we talked to a man who has fate~~x~~ that worked out pretty~~xx~~ well for him through~~x~~ the years. We some times ask him for oh a little philosophy of life or any advice you'd ~~gxxxxx~~ give or you have given to your own children or would give to your grandson. Is that a fair question? What would you say now in this day ~~x~~ and age?

J.R. Well, well I just say to~~x~~, first of all not be lazy, when you work to a any company you got to take order and do what's right. 'Cause anything don't suit you, the foreman, something going in a nice way and tell what's what. I always advice my family to obey the order. As long as you obey the order, you never go wrong. My two sons at the refine~~nt~~ I say the same thing to them.

Right.

J.R. And ~~that~~ they think to follow my advice ^{#3} ~~the~~ the right track.

Well thank you, thank you John Ray, now friends I think you'll agree that ~~wxxx~~ we've had a most charming, a most interesting ~~gxxx~~ guest today on "Memories & Music" Mr. John Ray who retired in May of 1956 after 19 years with Inco. Mr. Ray is now 84 years young, I think as the saying is. Mr. Ray its been a pleasure and a privilege to~~x~~ have you with us on "Memory~~ve~~ & Music."