

The following transcript of
Lloyd King's interview

on

Memories and Music

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INTERVIEWEE: Lloyd King
INTERVIEWER: D.M.

TAPE NO: 59

D.M. Now our guest Mr. Lloyd King, who retired in March of 1972 in, after about some 42 years or so with Inco. At which time he was a shop's general foreman. All right Mr. King I know that you have an interesting story to tell, let's begin at the beginning. Where, where is your home town, where were you born?

L.K. I was born in Espanola.

D.M. ~~NA~~ Did you grow up and go to school there?

L.K. I did.

D.M. Now I gather Mr. King ~~xxx~~ that ~~xxxx~~ some tragedy or hard times entered into your life fairly early, is that right?

L.K. Yes my father died when I was 3 years old and my

D.M. But

L.K. My mother had to go to work to support three older sisters~~m~~ and myself.

D.M. Well that's, that's hard times. Your a, a, your mother I believe no first of all your father, where was he from? Was he from this part of the world or

L.K. ^{or} He was from this part of the world, he was a ~~xxx~~ northerner.

D.M. Had he grown up on a farm or something and gone to work for the, what was it the Spanish River Pulp and Paper Company was it? Or ~~a~~ whatever.

L.K. No he worked for a lumber company, (unintell.) company in Blind River and then he went to Espanola^{For} to work for the Spanish River Pulp and Lumber Company.

D.M. Oh I see.

L.K. And that's where he had his accident, was killed when I was about, approximately 3 years old.

D.M. And your mother where, where did she come from?

L.K. She came from the farm country down around Owen Sound.

D.M. Well that's a fine part of the world. Do you, you were~~x~~ telling me you don't know just how the, how they met or how, what brought her out?

L.K. No I don't, I ~~don't~~ don't know at all.

D.M. Well anyway a magnificent woman, when this happened she went~~x~~ to work to look after~~you~~ you and your three sisters, eh?

L.K. She ~~sh~~ sure did, and a, when you talk about hard times, when I

look back at it now I don't think we had too many hard times. She took pretty good care of us all.

D.M. Right, right I guess so. I can well believe it. Now . . . you need/would go to school then in Espanola, eh?

L.K. I did

D.M. Do you remember anything about your a, your early days of going to school? Name some of the teachers or some of the fellows that you went to school with or anything like that.

L.K. Oh yes I remember a, . . . the public school principal's name was Snorten, she was a very strict person but a lovely person. I think we all respected her and liked her.

D.M. Good.

L.K. She died here a few years ago and we all felt bad about it and then ~~Ik~~ I, I had it, a teacher~~er~~ of, M of Miss Lowe and she ~~ε~~ eventually married and settled in Espanola and she died her two years ago.

D.M. Well it's nice to hear that you know that you can look ~~had~~ back

L.K. And a

D.M. With fond memories on, on these early teachers.

L.K. We, I sure can. And I had alot of good companions in school, Sammy ^{ce} ~~Diston~~ ~~fo~~ from Espanola, ~~W~~ a fellow named Willy Ramsey

D.M. Think that a, Mr. Dice or Mr. Ramsey might be listening to this broadcast.

L.K. They could be, I hope they are.

D.M. Tell us something about them. I mean some of the mischief or something, they or you got into in those early days.

L.K. Well Sammy, Sammy Dice he was, he had a big, family he was raised in a big family and me being the ~~sk~~ only boy in ~~k~~ our family so I, I chumed around with people with big families in Espanola and I enjoyed big families, they were the ~~ah~~ happy families and a, MR. Dice he always had ~~am~~ an old inboard put-put and he used to take all the kids. We used to go fishing and camping and he took good care of us, this is why I remember the Dice family as well as any because we had alot ~~fof~~ of good times together.

D.M. Well that's good, ~~that~~ that's nice to heard and I, if there, there ^{just} could ~~k~~ be alot of the Dice family listening to this and I

L.K. Yeah.

D.M. And I guess you send them your best, eh?

L.K. Yep.

D.M. And how about a, Willard Ramsey?

- L.K. Well Willard, Willard still in Espanola. He never left Espanola, he's still around and his brother Stanley still in Espanola and they were, they were our school chums, you know.
- D.M. Right what did you do? Did you a, play baseball or skate on the lake or river around there?
- L.K. No we had an indoor skating rink in Espanola pretty near all, all the years that I remember.
- D.M. Well
- L.K. The company, oh yeah we had, we were right up to date in those days.
- D.M. You were right with the, with the, with the rich people, eh?
- L.K. That's right.
- D.M. Try ~~x~~ playing any hockey Mr. King?
- L.K. Oh no just (~~unintell.~~) shinny.
- D.M. Just (~~x unintell.~~) shinny.
- L.K. Yeah, we did alot ~~fof~~ skating, alot of skating and hockey but we'd ~~xxx~~ play a little shinny.
- D.M. However you remember these days and ~~x~~ the good times but a, you learned how to work as a pretty young lad a, at around the age of 9 or thereabouts you were a, let's see now wait a minute now. This would be the time of the Spanish Influenza epidemic but you were (~~unintell.~~) Now tell us that story.
- L.K. Well the schools closed down at that time, and it was pretty serious alot of people dieing and so forth and I, my mother worked the company store so I ~~xxx~~ guess she was (~~unintell.~~) in getting me a job there and I worked after to, all the time the schools were closed I delivered parcels. We'd get our maps saturated in the morning and we'd deliver parcels and drop them at the door step and rap at the door and take off. And
- D.M. And did you not also deliver papers and magazines and some hot lunches or something also.
- L.K. Yes a, we deliver, I delivered 50 daily newspapers, ^{Sault} ~~Soo~~, The Sault Daily ~~x~~ Star and they're, the matter was that they, they delivered the day they were printed and they'd used to come to Espanola at 8 o'clock at night on the local. So we had to deliver our papers after 8 ~~xx~~ o'clock which some nights, some stormy nights in the winter time and it was pretty rough.
- D.M. All right, all right. Now the less I
- L.K. Then I had magazines, I had little, (~~unintell.~~) ^{I sold} 60 magazines, magazines a month and then I delivered hot lunches to the ~~xxx~~ paper makers at noon time and at summer time from ~~the~~ ^{the} farm from the boarding houses.

D.M. Right.

L.K. And if you, if you spill a ~~lunch~~ lunch you usually got a kick in the pants for it, you know.

D.M. Well, well ~~for~~ folks there's a reason for me bringing this up ~~a~~ that early on, like this because a, Mr. King has been a good, successful, a fine life and I think that part of it has been due to the fact that he learned a, how to work fairly early on. Now a, after . . . did you not ~~then~~ then Mr. King, you got in a year of high school after public school and then you went to work in the, in the paper plant right about 1926 or thereabouts.

L.K. That's right.

D.M. What were you doing in the plant there?

L.K. Well, ~~well~~ ^{on the} I started on the paper machines on the wet end of paper machines and they called me a screen monkey and I don't know just what that, what ~~that~~ that meant but I was down at the wet end and washing screens and so ~~on~~ forth and then eventually I went to the machine shop as a machinest apprentice.

D.M. O.K. ~~then~~ now tell us what ~~axahpp~~ happened then?

L.K. Well I've, I worked there for a couple of years and the place slowed down and eventually when it closed down all together. It closed down in 1928 and I went up to Kapaskasing for a, a winter in ~~129~~ '28 and I came back to Espanola in the spring of '29 and . . . then worked about a year and the place closed down permanently and I left.

D.M. Well that's a good reason for leaving as any.

L.K. Yeah

D.M. Where didx you go?

L.K. I came to Copper Cliff and got a job with Inco worked a few months

D.M. Real, this is about 19 what let's getx our years straightened around. What, what are we talking about '27.

L.K. ~~Around~~ A, we're talking around '30, '31 now ,eh?

D.M. We're as far up as '30 or '31, oh yes.

L.K? Yeah it was '29 close to, to, I don't remember dates and years too well.

D.M. We don't have to do, be too precise.

L.K. No.

D.M. So you got a job with Inco ⁱⁿ around about '31, eh?

L.K. Yeah '30.

D.M. But you didn't stay.

L.K. No I, I was working the machine shop and a, oh I didn't, I never cared for Sudbury too well when I first came. Not that I didn't like my job, I had with Inco. But I just wanted to move on a little bit I guess and

D.M. You had itchy feet, eh? for

L.K. I, I guess so. So I took off for a ~~h~~ while back ~~xx~~ eventually landed back. Once a northerner, always a northerner.

D.M. Yes a, but more than that Mr. King a, you quit but you must've left a good taste in ~~x~~ everybody's ~~mouth~~ mouth 'cause you came back the company took you back or

L.K. I didn't have too much trouble getting back on. The master mechanic was John Galow in those days and he give me a little pep talk about a ~~R~~ rolling stone Galow on more, so forth but he gave me another job, which I appreciate.

D.M. I, I, I guess you did, eh?

^{D.M.}
L.K. Well now a, Mr. King about your sisters. Well let's touch on them briefly now. Where are they now and what are ~~their~~ their married names or what are they doing or what's the story with them.

L.K. Well my older sister, she spent most of or married life or alot of her married life up in Kapaskacasing and they retired here a few years back and her husband died last year and between spending the winters in California or up in Chicago rather and summers up in Kapascasing, she's doing very well. My oldest sister she's married and (unintell.) and ~~raisedx~~ raised a family in Gatineau and she died a few years ago and my youngest sister she was a nurse in Kapascasing and she met a chemist up there and he eventually quit and went for the New York Times and a, ~~xx~~ then he, he left New York Times and went to work for the Philaephilia Enquiry and that's where he's retired from.

D.M. (unintell.) the Philaephilia Enquire~~xx~~ I guess (unintell.)

L.K. Enquirer that's a paper, a newspaper, yeah.

D.M. Right. Well it's funny how things work out like that in the (unintell.)

L.K? Yeah, yeah.

D.M. You can't plan a thing like that can you.

L.K. No you just never know.

D.M. Well you don't know what's around the next corner eh?

L.K. That's right.

- D.M. I guess I asked you this and she's ~~a~~ probably quite a Philaephilia Flyers fan, eh?
- L.K. Yes I think probably he is.
- D.M. Right but now Mr. King getting things in some kind of an order here, we've got you ~~a~~, back working with Inco around about 1933. But you were ~~xx~~ married around 1931, is that a true statement sir?
- L.K. That's correct.
- D.M. And who was the young lady?
- L.K. A Sudbury girl.
- D.M. What's her ~~xx~~ name?
- L.K. I met, I met her in Espanola. Her name is (unintell.) Friskem.
- D.M. Well ~~xx~~ what was she doing in Espanola?
- L.K. She ~~a~~, was secretary to the manager of the company store.
- D.M. Oh well now ~~a~~, I as I some times do, I'm going to put you right very clearly on the spot now. Because women remember ~~this~~ these things, I'm going to ask you about the first ~~day~~ date.
- L.K. Well I was, I ~~xx~~ was, I had a hard job getting a date with my wife.
- D.M. Did you?
- L.K. Yeah well at least I got a date and I believe I took her to a show ~~fx~~ the first time.
- D.M. You don't remember what it was, eh?
- L.K. No I don't remember the movie no.
- D.M. This would ~~a~~ be a movie in Kapascasing, eh?
- L.K. No, no in Espanola.
- D.M. In Espanola, excuse me.
- L.K. Oh yeah, yeah.
- D.M. Yeah that's right.
- L.K. And I think I bought her a ~~box~~^{bag} of chocolates if I remember correctly.
- D.M. Well she'll, she'll hear this broadcast and she'll let you know whether you did ~~xx~~ or not. I suppose then you'd be out dancing in some of those things, eh?
- L.K. Oh yeah and then we did alot of dancing together and dated ~~so~~^{so} forth.

- D.M. Right and a, O.K. then you were married I believe as we said around about 1931. Now what family have you Mr. King?
- L.K. ~~Oh~~ I know this is quite a story, ^{you know} I was raised with a ⁴ chummed around with big families and I told my sister that I was always going to have a big family ~~and~~ and a, now ~~of~~ of my sisters had big families, they just had two each. So when I got married well the first year we had one and about 18 months after I had to send them a telegram that Joan was born and then, then a couple years after I sent them another telegram ~~that~~ Barbara was born and a few years after that, about three years after sent another telegram Bill was born so I guess they thought I was going to fill that back yard, have a big family.
- D.M. You were going to have a big family, eh? Well ~~at~~ now a, where are the ~~six~~ sisters now and what are, what are their names now?
- L.K. My daughters you ~~mean~~ mean.
- D.M. Your daughters, your, pardon me, your daughters/
- L.K. Well my, my oldest daughter Shirley her name is Henry Hareu, Mrs. Henry Hareau. They live in Lively and a, Joan she lives in New Sudbury and Mrs. Leonard and Barbara lives in New Sudbury married to Jim McFitty.
- D.M. And the son was killed in a hunting accident I believe so.
- L.K. ~~And~~ And Bill, we lost Bill in a hunting accident.
- D.M. Well that's, that's the way, twists and ~~at~~ turns that life seems to take sir.
- L.K. I guess so.
- D.M. ~~Yes~~ But you ~~are~~ a, your, your ~~are~~ blessed with a fair number of grandchildren, is that a true statement sir?
- L.K. Yeah well I all told my family that I wanted 12 grandchildren, 3 a piece and I didn't think I was asking too much.
- D.M. No
- L.K. ^{And a,} So I got my 12 grandchildren.
- D.M. Right.
- L.K. Joan she fell down, she only had two boys. So Shirley made up for it, she had four, so four children.
- D.M. So you now sir have how many grandchildren?
- L.K. I got 9 grandsons and three granddaughters.
- D.M. And a, I guess they give you something to do at ~~her~~ birth, birth-days
- L.K. Well

- D.M. Anniversaries and what not, eh?
- L.K. It's, it's just lovely to have them. We enjoy them all the time.
- D.M. Right and I'm, certainly they're listening to this broadcast and a, I guess you send them your best, eh?
- L.K. I should do.
- D.M. Right. Well now Mr. King yourself apart from grandchildren and a, happy family life and so on. You're a, you're hobbies have been duck shooting and hunting, is that right?
- L.K. Pretty well, yeah.
- D.M. Have you not had a summer camp too?
- L.K. Yes we, we, ~~mother~~ and I scrogged around, we eventually got a camp at Long Lake when the children were very ~~small~~ small and we raised the whole family down at Long Lake. We had the camp for over 20 years.
- D.M. Right.
- L.K. And a, the kids all enjoyed it. ~~We~~ It was a cheap holiday for a, for alot of kids. You can't take them travelling so this ~~willy~~ would, this was a good holiday for them.
- D.M. I would ~~a~~ say so.
- L.K. And they all enjoyed it. They still talk about the times they used to have but as they got older and had other interests, I think they all got married actually.
- D.M. Yeah.
- L.K. They had their own camps and so forth. I got rid of that one, I build a camp in Panasha now and I've been on Lake Panasha for several years.
- D.M. Oh so this a, the camp in Panasha of course, they, all the grandchildren and the daughters are welcomed but a,
- L.K. Oh yeah they get there, oh yeah they all get there occasionally. We are, our~~s~~ family's still together.
- D.M. I bet they still get out there.
- L.K. Oh yeah, oh yeah.
- D.M. Right.
- D.K. But I'm very close ~~a~~ to one of my daughters ^{up} ~~one~~ ~~there~~ there, she has a camp right close by.
- D.M. Now apart from a, . . . the camp and so on. You have done some travelling, is that right? Did you try ~~to~~ Florida?

L.K. Yeah I tried Florida once.

D.M. Now long ago was that?

L.K. Oh this must be 10, 12 years ago.

D.M. You ~~dirx~~ drive down there.

L.K. Yeah.

D.M. Where all you go?

L.K. We went to the Gulf side and a, we made a bit of headquarters in Naples and we went up, we came back up around Tampa and Fort Myras and then we went across the old Tameane trail was it.

D.M. There is such a name in Florida there, that's right/

L.K. Over, over the Atlantic side and we spent 3 or 4 days to 4 days around Miami, Fort Laterdale, Hollywood and then went back to Naples and spent 9 days of beach time. That was, I loved it.

D.M. Well now Mr. King you've had a good look of Florida, eh?

L.K. Yeah I think so, yeah.

D.M. Did, did you like ~~ix~~ it?

L.K. I enjoyed it very, very much.

D.M. What part did you like the best?

L.K. I liked~~ix~~ the Gulf side much more than the Atlantic side of what I saw.

D.M. A lot of people say that I've personally have, ~~i~~ this winter was down to Clearwater. I, I, I

L.K. ~~S~~ I see Atlantic City.

D.M. Liked Clearwater pretty well, yes.

L.K. Yeah. Well I, I don't say, I didn't see too much of the Atlantic side just Miami, Fort Laulandale and a, Hollywood. But a, ~~M~~ my impression, I'd sooner have the Gulf side.

D.M. But would you . . . I doubt very much ^f ~~that~~ you'd want to go down to retire there though. Is that

L.K. Oh definitely no, no, no, no way.

D.M. You, you like ~~wa~~ what you got here.

L.K. Yeah.

D.M. Right.

- L.K. A lot of people say are you going south this winter? I say, "I'm not old enough yet." ~~Ixx~~ still, I still like the winters.
- D.M. Ah great, wonderful. Now a, also ~~did~~ or did you tell me that your wife is not too fond of travelling.
- L.K. No mother is not fond of travelling at all. She has a sister on Vancouver Island and a, I tried to get her out there ~~x~~ for a few years but ~~x~~ she ~~would~~ ~~x~~ ~~would~~ wouldn't have any part of it. And I think she made up her mind one day, she was going to go, so we went and she enjoyed herself very much. And we spent a month out there and a, then ~~we~~ ^{we} went back out again last May and spent another month and it was very ~~x~~ enjoyable. ⁸²¹ Well I still wouldn't want to live out there either would she?
- D.M. You're pretty fond of Copper Cliff.
- L.K. Oh boy, I say I am. I still live in Copper Cliff not Sudbury.
- D.M. I see. A, Mr. King I, just talking to you and we've, we've never met before. I get the feeling that a, that you work pretty hard and that I, I think, you think ~~that~~ the company ~~is~~ has been reasonably good to you. Is that a true statement?
- L.K. Very definitely true. I a, ~~ix~~ I've been treated very, very well by International Nickel Company.
- D.M. Well that's
- L.K. Very well I've no complaints whatsoever and I ~~think~~ think if it ~~is~~, anybody sit back and I've raised a family there and a big family. I've ~~xxx~~ raised them well, they're a happy family anyways with no hardships, even ~~x~~ in the depression we had no hardships.
- D.M. Yeah, yeah.
- L.K. So I'm very
- D.M. Yeah you're a healthy looking, active individual. I mean you could, ~~em~~ you could take off for anywhere
- L.K. Oh I've, I've
- D.M. In good shape?
- L.K. Yeah.
- D.M. This is kind of an odd, ~~efoh~~ first of all we talked about you being fond of the ~~company~~, this northern Ontario, of Copper Cliff and so on but you said that there don't seem to be the characters around anymore, there used to be. Is that a true statement?
- D.K. Well you know I always ~~ix~~ enjoyed going to work, we always worked ~~f~~ fairly hard, never, never too hard. But I think we worked, we worked fairly hard and I think we give the company a good day's work. But we always had a ~~lug~~ laugh. It ~~is~~ was always this character

to, and ~~every~~ everybody remember old Joe MacDonald, Whispery Joe MacDonald and the group around the shop will remember ~~the~~ Sandy McNeem, was a machinest, real ~~such~~ characters, ~~Polly~~ Audi Fersale another character. Now ~~the~~ Audi's still living but he's still a character. But Sandy McNeem and Joe MacDonald ~~there~~ ~~they~~ they're gone, and there's no characters~~x~~ coming up to take their place.

- D.M. I guess it's a little different world or something (unintell.) or something.
- L.K. Something, I don't know what it is. They're not the ~~same~~ same anyway.
- D.M. I think I ~~do~~ know what you mean. But anyway Mr. Ross now here's another question that's kind of a toughie and so on. But a, I ask~~x~~ this because things have evidently have, first of all you have been very much your own man I would say from having talked with you. You came~~x~~ to work for the ~~company~~ company for awhile, you left, tried something else and then you came back and they took you on again, you, independent enough. What ~~is~~ advice . . . sir things have worked out better well for you. What advice would you get to a young fellow starting out in life?
- L.K. Well a, the~~x~~~~main~~ main thing is, no matter what you do, do it well and, and when you work for somebody and you're accepting ~~this~~ their day's pay, give them a day's work for it, ^{but} don't lay down on the job. If you don't like the job well quit but don't lay ~~down~~ down on it definitely.
- D.M. All right, all right Mr. King thank you very much. I don't, ~~think~~, I don't think they're, that's putting it as neatly ~~as~~ and as tidely as I've, as I've heard it ~~was~~ put it a long time. Thank you for been with us ~~for~~ friends, our guest today Mr. ~~the~~ Lloyd King who retired in March of '72 after he was in his 42 year with the company when he ~~was~~ ~~x~~ retired and at which time he was a shop's general foreman. Thank you Mr. King for being our guest on "Memories & Music."