

Christmas Past

(As told to Katie Johnson by Ethel Wedhorn Dailey)

I was born in Hamtramack and moved to the Dublin area in the mid 1920's along with my younger brother Earl and my parents, Otto and Freda Wedhorn. My mother was in poor health and her doctor thought a move to the country might improve her well being. My father built a cottage on Kenneth Street in the Marjorie Vesta Park subdivision. Mother's health seemed to improve and we made our permanent home there.

I do not remember a lot about our family Christmas except that Earl and I went to bed on Christmas Eve and we would awaken to find a tree set up and decorated with a few gifts.

Earl and I attended the one room Dublin School when it was on Union Lake Road. I cannot remember if we had a tree at school or not. With mother's illness and my father working away from home, I had a lot of responsibility caring for my brother and taking care of mother. Perhaps that is why I cannot remember a lot.

One Christmas party I do, however, remember. Our church (Mandan Lake) began meeting at Dublin School. When winter came, however, it was too cold to meet there. I remember a lot of snow. Mr. and Mrs. Everett who belonged to the new church group invited the boys and girls and their parents to their home which sat on what is now known as Half Acre Street. I recall the house having stone pillars on the porch front. My family arrived in an old Dort automobile with curtains on the side windows and no heater. The program was held in the Everett living room. We recited verse, scripture and sang carols.

Times were hard in the late 1920's, our area was poor. The children received candy and popcorn. We were so happy. I can remember Susette and Jack Everett, Dorothy, Ross and Muriel Howden, June, Helen, Bill and David Giroux, Frank, Alex, Charles and Florence Marcoux. I remember it being very cold and there being a lot of snow.

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