

## **Dairy.**

Bob Olson, son of Alex Olson shares with Barb Koski in April of 2008:

Bob recalls working working working. Picking rocks. They had about 20 dairy cows. Milk was first sold to **Stella Cheese** and later to **Copper County Dairy**. Art Lantto used to pick up local dairy farmer's milk. Later Wilbert Lampainen Bay Shore Road took over Art's route.

Large Dairy farmers were: Selma and son Art Lantto, Waino and son Bob Lahti, Doug Solmonson, Wesley Johnson, Wilbert Lampinen.

See write up on Portage Lake Creamery Company in Oskar.

**Our daily schedule** from Monday through Friday as far back as I can remember. Evelyn Olson shares this from her 1980 document (she was born 1913):

8:00 AM

Get up. Get dressed. Have a cup of coffee and off to the barn to milk cows by hand. In later years they had a milking machine. We had 15 cows. Then we go to the dairy house to bottle the milk into quart bottles which my father delivered to Hancock and Houghton 9 miles away every other day for 8 cents a quart.

9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Off to School. Sweep the schoolhouse. The oldest ones in the family had this chore so your turn was sure to come. My father (Alex) was the janitor of the school for \$8/month.

5:00 PM

Back home and to the dairy barn. Dropped hay from the loft upstairs for the cows to feed. Milked the cows. Dropped the silage from the silo for the cows. Gathered the eggs. Glass eggs were placed in some of the nests to encourage the hens to lay eggs. Carried in the wood for the stoves. All of the kids at home did something here so it did not take long.

6:00 PM

Come in and eat. Do dishes. Do lessons. Then play.

Saturday was the same but included more... like house cleaning- sweeping, change papers on the cupboard and pantry shelves. Clean wood stove and polish with black stove polish. Scrub floors.

We also had Sauna on Saturday. We did not have bathrooms then. Then did Sunday school lessons.

Sunday. 6:00 am same 'old milking. 10:00 Finnish Lutheran Sunday school at the school or family homes.

Researched by Barb Koski, Osma Plat Road, Houghton MI.  
I welcome stories. Contact the webmaster. Submitted 2009.