

Remembering Life as a Child, 1945 to 1960 in Annisquam

Ellin (Pear) Royds

Certainly the most memorable Day was a sunny evening on August 15 1945. We four Pears: Bill (11) Ellin (7) Jimmy (6) and maybe Mary (3) were enjoying the garden and suddenly, leaping wildly down the uneven Granite garden steps was Mrs Coburn the cook, shouting THE WAR IS OVER! 'We heard the bells of the Annisquam Village Church together with car Horns in the valley. She happily provided us with pots and pans and we and noisily marched around Rockholm. A great day!

Summer days were mainly filled with trips to Lighthouse Beach. On rainy days, There were games of Sorry, Parcheesi, and puzzles 🧩 and long Monopoly battles. It was a treat when Mom suggested that we get on our bathing suits to play in the rain. Our leaf-stuffed driveway drain provided Pear Lake.

During the 1945 to 1960 wonderful Happy Days, daily life was much easier for Mom and we made lots of rainy day trips to visit the "Hysterical Houses". Like many Annisquamers we said goodbye to a wonderful black kerosene stove that cooked our dinner, burned trash and heated cold days. Replaced with a shiny white metal Electric stove/oven. A trash masher that burned garbage but was later outlawed as "polluting." In like manner the ice box that used a huge block of ice to cool, was replaced by the Westinghouse.