

Anatole Kolomyets

Interviewer - *Do you remember how they came to dekulakize?*

AK - Yes, I remember. Three or four people came, with long rods, with sharpened ends with holes in them, and I asked one of the men, "what is that?" He told me that when they prod the floor the rod will show them if my grandfather is hiding grain. They came and prodded the oven, everywhere. I remember this.

[The authorities] took everything. Yes, everything. Step by step they took everything. They took the horses, the wagons. When they began to dispossess the villagers, people slaughtered their animals, and salted them. So some things were saved; chickens, and so forth. I don't know if they had a cow or not, but I think they did. But later they had to get rid of it. In other words, only the house was left. Where did they get food? People would bury it in the summer and fall and dig it up in the winter.