

## **Emigration**

Emigration and unemployment were a very big issue in the early forties and continued to be a very big issue during the time that I was leaving school you left school at fourteen years of age then so I was leaving school in fifty one there was no tradition much here in this area here of going on to secondary school or what we would call today the grammar school and the reason for that when I came to leave school was that the families were mostly very big families the top members of the family the eldest members of the family had to go and look employment and there was good employment around this area but it wasn't employment that was leading to very much promotion there were a number of linen factories that were still operating around here and we in this area had the soap factory in Donaghmore and there was a lot of employment but then after the war with the big building boom in England people started to go there and you found out that your school mates were going to England and were earning three times as much as they were earning at home most of my class in school who left primary school went to England to work very few of them stayed at home I was one of the rare ones I the first one or the second one from my school I think that went on to secondary education.

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