

Joanna Stubinski Feb.28/72

2 hours.

1. Mr. Alexander J. Fraser
2. Alex
- 3.
4. 15 Miller
5. 679-5630
6. 89
7. South Side Harbour - Antigonish Nova Scotia
8. Mother - Summerside Antigonish . Father - south side harbour
9. East coast
10. Passed through Cobalt in 1907 came to live in 1912
11. By train to south Temiskaming in 1907, then boat to New Liskeard there to North Temiskaming on survey in Quebec east of Abitibi Lake. On way back came to Clock's farm by canoe on Lac des Quinze walked to New Liskeard 35 miles - stayed at the Canada House - left there the next day for Ottawa. In 1912 came up by train from Nova Scotia.
12. North route.
13. Came with a friend of his named Boyd. His brothers were in the states
14. Worked in a blacksmith Shop. The Nipissing and learnt the trade.
15. Still single.
16. Retired.
17. Dead. Alex was married twice.
- 17a. Alex wanted to enlist very badly in the army but because of his bad knee he knew he would be turned down, but Father O'Gorman a good friend of his and parish priest at St. Patrick's Church said he would see he'd get in. Sure enough he got on the boat and they accepted him. They left Jan 1st 1917. For 10 months he worked at building the 7th Light Railway. Became a blacksmith there where he worked for rest of the time. This was in Ypres Salina France - Etope for 3 months went before the medical board on account of his knee. He ended up in Sergeant. Salina France was one of the worst places for bombing. In 1918 took trench fever was sent to the centre of France. In 1919 war was over - so Alex came back to Windsor Great Park - in England 2 months later went back to France as Master Mechanic. Oct. 19, 1919 - got married to Marie Mimiaque. Came to Nova Scotia -then in 1921 came to Cobalt for 2nd time.
18. Very busy - didn't like it too much at first but did later – boarded with Mrs. Pierce - and old school friend from Antigonish. Then when he came back in 1921 - also stayed with her again - for a few months then he and his wife found a place. They used to go to the big French Church on O'Brien Property across the lake but it blew down in 1914 - in a heavy wind storm - after St. Pats and St. Theresa's were built.
19. Pay day night you had to move with the crowd.
20. Had a lot of hard luck with mill so decided to sell when Boyd told him about Cobalt = then his luck changed for the better.
21. They came in Fall, cut wood with Bill Newton in bush made enough to live then in spring went into blacksmith shop. Torn McCormick best blacksmith in town then.
22. 10 hours.
23. i31.75 a day

24. Had a room up on Lang St. - then moved to an apartment over Tommy Black's. Then he worked for Mining Corp. and wife took over Racine Apts.
25. Had visitors in Don McEacheron and wife
26. In house.
27. Electricity
28. Wood Stove
29. Coal heater.
30. Real good a lot more than today clothing - 2 hardware's - Taylor & Rowdon's
31. 5 theatres. At least 7 or 8 blind pigs. Sports - 3 or 4 hockey games a week.
32. No there was a YMCA in town - really lively place.
33. No.
34. quit at 16 - worked 4 years on sailing vessels at sea off the east coast.
35. Street cars every 15 minutes - lots of horse and buggies.
36. Dr. Mitchell.
37. Mine's hospital - very good - was in with tonsillitis.
- 38.
- 39.
- 40.
41. Worked at Silver Centre on Hoist - ran a tractor from Cobalt to Silver Centre.
42. Drilling - hand steeling at ball parks.
43. Same as today only heavier meals desserts always included.
44. Same as above - went to a huge market to shop - people came from all over.
45. Didn't have mini skirts then - wore work pants.
46. Suit - white shirt - well dressed.
47. Went to mass - played cards - a game called Pedro.
48. No.
49. More friends in both Cobalt and Latchford.,
50. Above
51. Town looks better.
- 52.
- 53.
- 54.
55. Not really.
- 56.
57. Summer
58. Play cards mostly cribbage - watches television and goes to Church
59. Not now - but years ago liked to build things - built an automatic switch which should have been patented but couldn't afford it.
60. There's people that won't work anyhow.
61. People with money.
62. Mining tours, Museum , good clean air and water.

## Highlights

Alex's interview was really terrific for a man of 89 his memory was and still is terrific. At one time in Cobalt he owned the Fraser house - named it after himself. They rented the Bilsky Block in 1930 - and owned it from 1934 bought it from Vanburg for \$6500, made it into hotel - when beer was legalized. They owned it from 1934 - 1937. Alex's wife died in 1937 then things fell apart. He remarried Flossie Legris they lived in Gillies for years till his wife died in 1969. He sold his house and now lives with Father Costello.