

Carmen Stubinski March 11, 1972

Interview 2 3/4 hrs.

1. Alfred Seed

2. Alf

4. 69 Nickel St. Cobalt

5. 679-8324

6. 77 yrs old 1894

7. Bradford, England,

8. England

9. Feb. 3, 1912

10. Empress of Ireland, across ocean to St. Johns, New Brunswick by train to Cobalt

11. My dad Arthur Seed came to Cobalt 1911 ahead of the family. My 3 sisters and mother came next. We three 12. boys came later.

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14. Farmer

15. Housewife married 1929

16. retired

17. retired

18. I joined the Canadian Army in 1916 got my discharge March 1919. In the oldest member of Branch no 44, Cobalt. The Cobalt Branch Legion 44 was organized in 1917. I was a private. Fought in France, Germany. I was Based on the Canal Du Nord in France. We were preparing an advancement on the Hindenburg line. I was 23 when I enlisted in the army. I was in the 26 Canadian General Hospital in France I was a patient when the hospital was bombed several nurses and Doctors were killed in that bombing, I escaped.

18. In 1919 we came home I was glad to get back. Cobalt was busy then. Lots of mines were operating. That's when they put the silver bars on the express cars to ship out. At that time there were lots of people. We had all nationalities here from all over the world.

19. There used to be a creek, that ran from Galena Street, behind the pelt office as of now. It emptied into the slimes on Swamp st. There used to be a bridge in front of where Purdy's Store is today over the creek. There was a Prospect Hotel when Charlie Ferris it today a large 4 story building. Dick the Nigger was a shoe shine boy there in the lobby.

20. When my dad decided to come here. He had been paying very high rent for a farm in England, Farms were scarce and expensive. He saw a canadian advertisement in an English paper. The paper was advertising Canada. It read land for sale 500 per acre. He applied for land and got it. He settled in Bucke Township. He got 160 acres. William my brother got 160. Its at sharp lake yet. Jonas my elder brother got 80 acres and he got 80 for me. We signed the papers in England for me. Later my brother Joans and I bought land form the Atkinson brothers. one was the former Magistrate Atkins. Lumbering, clearing land, cutting pulp, farming. I used to bring wood into Cobalt and sell it by the cord. It was the 16" wood. I'd bring in and sell it depending on the grading at \$1.50 to \$2.25 per cord. We used to sell a lot of 4 foot wood. once I was in Cobalt I'd wouldn't go to the door. I'd look in the wood shed and it wood was needed. I'd put the wood in. I remember upper Helen street. They were mostly all Finlanders that lived on that street. I always sold 2 cords at the time. We used to work for the government on the roads opening them with horses and wagons. The year would get \$125 per day. The man would

get \$1.00 per day. Breaking those new roads was for the government we worked from 7 to 5 that 10 cents per hour and we worked all by hand in those days.

24. We got a log shack. Some prospectors had deserted it. It was made out of poplar logs. It was a good big one 5 bedrooms living room and kitchen was one room.-Later used to sit by the box stove, freeze our backs and burn our faces.

25. I remember the first christmas well. We had just finished eating our xmas dinner and this fellow came along asking for a drink of water. We had moved from the table and we were all sitting around the box stove talking. Dad got up went to the table to get his bottle of rum. The man had drank all the rum

26. we had coal oil lamps and a outdoor toilet

28. It was a wood stove

29. Box wood stove. We had all kinds of wood to burn

30. All individual stores. Pete McKewen had a grocery store

31. theatres, square dancing. We had a long way to walk to the shows 6 miles each way to town and back. We made our own fun. They used to say every other house on Lang Street was either a whore house or Blind pig. I remember Mary Aussie. She always try to sell us something she didn't have. One day she tried to sell me some kitchen cupboards another day some fancy lumber to build a cupboard. If you gave her the money in advance that was it. She never could supply what she was trying sell. Cobalt Casey his last name was Shaw. If the kids called him Casey he'd curse and swear at them. He wanted to be called Mr. Shaw. He'd step dance and play the mouth organ for 10 cents

32. Cricket and football in england

35. Dogs and sleigh.I got off the no 10 train in Cobalt when I first came here. The train was always loaded in those days. It was a sight to see, those people down at the station.

36. Dr. Taylor

37, Miners Hospital

38. At home on the farm. We had 5 children. The last one had schooling. The others took correspondence courses sponsored by the department of education

42. Single handed and double handed drilling contests

43. We lived good on the farm. We had our own meat, eggs, chickens, vegetables. We got it ground at the New Liskeard Griss Mill. (wheat) We had grade 1 flour grade 2 flour Bran we used to cook with or make into shorts for the animals. Out of the wheat we got 5 to 10 bags of flour. My wife always made her own bread. She made everything.

45. I wore overalls all the time and machine shirts. It was all I had to wear. We didn't have much money to spend

49. Life and Friendliness. The streets are better, Better quality houses that shows the feeling of the people

55. yes

56. Would like to see more jobs made for the people. Would like to see silver go up. Gold is going up why shouldn't the silver. Would like to see the mines open up again. More prospecting done by the mines in this area.

57. All year round seeing I'm retired and doing nothing

58. Social companionship with other old timers and legionnaires at the Legion Hall.

59. Going to the Legion. Having a beer with the boys around the round table.

60. There has been too much striking by the unions. No wonder there's no work. If the mines would open up we could use our own raw material at home.

61. Tourist's

62. Glory holes. Its own natural resources where the silver came from. Mine tours, sight seeing in the immediate area. Since I've been in the army. I've been President, Past President and made life member of the Cobalt Legion Branch 44.

Alf Seed is a colourful figure at the legion he's there daily. A little and mostly under the influence from his visits at the legion. Never misses and Armistice day parade.