

Name of Interviewer: Carmen Stubinski

Interview

1. Charlie Dakins
2. Charlie Akie
3. Date: March 21

Time: 3 1/2 hrs.

4. 4 1/2 Nickel St. Cobalt
5. 679-4841
6. 62
7. Dorchester Station Ontario
8. Dorchester Station
9. United Empire Loyalists U.S.A.

10. 1912 taught school in Charlton 4 yrs, We were married in Englehart while teaching in Charlton. We went to our wedding in Englehart in a cutter pulled by a team of horses. Married 1913. I started in a 2 room school house with 45 pupils, Later they got me an assistant. That school burnt in 1922 fire. J. C, Darke came from England did a lot of construction in the area he was one of the first men to locate in this area to locate you had to buy 160 acres, once that was patent you could buy another 160 acres. Mrs. Darke bought two locations. He lived in a little log shack where the Silverland cemetery is today. That house burnt in the 1922 fire. We lived in this cottage. J. C. Parke built; it is where Hugh Wright lives today. It has a 19" foundation. I had put 40 cords of wood in the basement the day the fire had left a wheel barrow full of wood at the basement window. Maybe if I hadn't it would not have caught on fire.

I taught school at Millage 104 and Cobalt, when I taught a Millage 104 it was a 2 storey building with 2 class rooms. We had 80 pupils at the time. I taught there for 8 yrs, A. E. Bryson was principal of the Public School in Cobalt. He was principal at the Cobalt Public School and still lived in the house at Mileage 104.

When I was principal there were 80 pupils trying their entrance exams and in those day they had to write their exams,

Cobalt Public was the Central school there were 4 schools to look after

The entrance class was divided in two. Miss Holiday had the class that skipped Jr IV from Sr. III to Sr. IV meaning grade 6 to 8 out of that class 79 passed out of 80. Miss Nokes had the Sr. IV that came from Jr. IV her pupils all passed each had to pupils of the entrance class.

The President of the bank of Commerce today of Canada was one of the pupils that skipped Jr. IV Evan Donaldson the Millionaire was one of my pupils.

We promoted our pupils 3 times a year then we promoted them when they were ready, We didn't keep them back for the slow ones as a consequence you had a lot of them passing at 11 yrs. old,

12. I was Cadet Instructor in Cobalt, we had 40 Cadets, Wendell Brewer was the Cadets Captain, and we wore putties in those days.

I won lots of prizes in sports; I was never beaten in the Hop skip and jump 14" hop 14" step 14' 6" jump. Pole vault 8'4"

When I was in high school I was Captain of a foot ball team, In Ingersoll and Woodstock, When I wasn't in school I spent most of my time in the gym. When I wasn't in school

14. Teacher

15 never work

16. Retired at 80 yrs, old, after I retired from teaching I took a job as clerk treasure for the Township of Coleman stayed there 16 yrs. When I was teaching at Mileage 104. I was clerk Treasurer for the Township of Buckle also.

20. I got my Matrix and teachers certificates and I came north to teach. We normaled in North Bay we were paid \$4.00 per week for attending teachers college at that time it paid my board in North Bay, imagine board at \$4. per week.

21. We had to sign up and teach in Northern Ontario for 3 yrs. to get paid the \$4.

22. I taught in Charlton for \$650. per yr.

23. In Cobalt I got 1200 per year as principal and Cadet Instructor

24. Bought a house from Dr. Cooper in Charlton.

25.

26.

27. We had no Hydro

28. We got our water from the pump. Next door. We had outdoor plumbing. We had a good wood stove.

29. When I got off the train in Cobalt you could hardly get elbow room, a gang of men would get in the train and go to Haileybury to get their liquor. You could not buy it in Cobalt, as prohibition was on I remember the dog name Cobalt very well

30. There were lots of stores on Lang St.

31. Hunting fishing, I caught loads of fish at Latchford. Below the bridge. I caught an 8 lb. base there

32. I've played very game except golf. Baseball, tennis, foot ball, I played with the Canadian Champion of Canada in Tennis. His name was Charlie Hind. But I didn't win. I worked as a farmer delivering milk to the train, that how I met Charlie Hinds, Charlie got me a racquet. We had a tournament that fall and we won it. I was 19 or 20 at the time.

35. Horse and cutter was our transportation the only way you could get out of Cobalt was By train. If you had a car and wanted to take it with you you'd have to ship it by freight to North Bay. We had no highway.

36, Dr.Taylor

37. Had a hospital on the corner

38. Charlton at Home

39, they were all educated before they went to work

42. At west cobalt they had everything going. Main thing drilling contests. Races of all kinds. 100 yd, dash, 320 yd dash, 1/2 mile race 1 mile race. They had a large grand stand. When they held their celebrations at West Cobalt. The streets were crowded and the Ball Park. There were all kinds of sports. In the Hay days they had a floating population of 12,000

I had a relative visit me once he couldn't get over the unsanitary conditions refused from the outdoors running into Cobalt Lake and people drinking the water in fact payed for it. He said if these people don't get typhoid it will be something funny. We did get a typhoid epidemic and several people died.

47. church

48. My important things burnt. I lost all my sport prizes in the fire 1922. I felt bad. I had a pair of speed skates. The front stuck out in 5 or 6 places. They were a long blade

49. Its home. Our home is the old cobalt jail

50. I retired as town clerk of Coleman in 1970, at 80 yrs. old

51. The buildings are being built more permanent. More substantial no more shacks. They are all decent buildings now.
52. Don't like to see the mines closing down
They need to double the price of silver to make Cobalt boom again
53. Cobalt has been good to us. We have been here the second time came back to retire
55. yes
56. Would like to see it made profitable for the mines to reopen
- 57, summer
59. Walk every day
60. The only salvation for Cobalt is developed the tourist industry
61. tourists
62. good fishing, sports of all kinds, Go to bed at night with no fear. The sense of freedom for people. It's not like living in Toronto don't have to lock our doors. We have things to show people they haven't got anywhere else. Beautiful scenery. The sightseeing ride to Fountain Falls Upper and Lower Notch to Silver Centre and down the Lorrain Road.

Mr. Dakins was quite an athlete all his life. He is very well preserved for his age--only his hearing is bad.