

Lucy Damiani
March 15, 1972

2;30 to 4;00

1. Mrs. Francis Jones

2. none

3. Francis Wilcox

4. 18 Watson St.

5. 679-5509

6. 78 yrs. old

7. In Harleston, Staffordshire, England Mr. Jones born in Sheffield England

8. England

9. England

10. In September 1920 I married in Sheffield 1918 and came here with my husband 110 by boat to Halifax train from Quebec to North Bay and after a 4 hour wait continued by train to Cobalt.

12. by way of Quebec and North Bay

13. my husband, myself and one son Jimmie

14. mining mostly some logging and work in stores

15. housewife

16. Retired miner

17. retired housewife

17. Mr. Jones was a member of the Second South Wales Borderers - his regiment his number was 247 74 and he was in the service 4 years and 64 days. While in the service he went to rank of Sergeant and received medals for distinguished service, the military medal, the 1914 Star King George Medal and War Services medal for 1914 to 1918. He travelled to battle fronts in Egypt Dardinelle, France and Belgium.

18. It was a busy town and I thought it odd because where I come from there was no rock and hills like here.

190 A big town over crowded with foreign element, Polish, Germans, Italians, Finlanders, Swedes, French and some Jews and Syrians, a town with wooden sidewalks, dirt roads and the houses looked as though they were put up in a hurry.

20. Came here because you couldn't get a home in England so many had been bombed during the war and also through friends and relatives telling us about it.

21. Mining was principal industry and the town was full of stores.

22. about 8 hours a day, every day, even Sunday.

23. \$4 per day

22. In Haileybury first lost all in fire of 1922 then came to Cobalt

25. In 1923 rented an apartment for awhile and a friend who worked in mine with my husband was moving so we bought the house we are now living in from him and foundation was all gone and we had a lot of cleaning and repairing to do, we completely renovated the place twice and now it has a glassed in veranda, 2 bedrooms upstairs, 2 large rooms downstairs.

25. Alone just the three of us the first years Christmas was like another day but other years we enjoyed a good day with family friends and neighbours.

26. Water in house

27. Electricity for lighting only there weren't too many appliances in those days, just washing machines and radio. I remember one of the few radios around was owned by a friend who asked us over to listen to it. My husband was so taken with it we went out and bought one, that was in 1929 and we went to a dealer who gave us a good buy because it was a demonstration model so we paid only \$350. they were actually worth \$500. of course they had all a lovely wood finish cabinet.
28. Cooked on wood and coal at first then on oil stove later, now we have a gas range
29. A big heater with stovepipes going through all the rooms and we burned coal in it.
30. Stores up and down both sides of Lang Street to the bridge. There was Sullivan, Zion Giachino, Damiani Pava Zanins for groceries, Morin Frere and Joe Robitaille too. Clothing stores Buckovetskys, Battahs, Vellis, Kourys, TBS, Lebovitz, mens and ladies wear all kinds of hardware, jewelry stores and you could buy anything
31. opera houses, about 6 or 7 theatres about 10 halls for dancing YMCA for sports and recreation - lots of skating, skiing, swimming
32. none - but my children played baseball, hockey, boxing, skating, swimming.
33. over in England
34. about 13 yrs schooling altogether.
35. horse and buggy, very few cars, street cars and trains
36. Dr. Mitchell
37. Cobalt Miners Hospital can't remember had many rooms but it was a fair sized two storey building
38. Jim was born in Sheffield England
39. Jim quit school at 19 and enlisted in Army. Denis quit school at 18 and enlisted in army. Mary quit school at 17, Joanna quit school at 17, Mae quit school at 16 but went into nurses training course in Ottawa.
40. Jim came out of army and went to mining. Denis went through for Provincial Police Mary worked at Buckovetsky then married. Joannie and Mae married young
41. Just what my husband used to tell me about describing they days of old as dangerous with not as many safety measures as now and of course it was all manual labour now its machines.
42. drilling contests, mucking contests and tug of war.
43. lunch pail to work usually sandwiches, cake or cookies fruit and a hot thermos of tea.
44. We ate very well in those days and there was more solid food on the table meat was our mainstay as most cuts were 19¢ or 29¢ per pound, steak was 27¢ lb. We baked our own bread. Sometimes white flour sometimes whole wheat flour and tea biscuits.
45. We always wore plain clothes for work, consisting of house dresses for women, overalls and plaid shirts for men.
46. On Sundays we dressed up in nice silk dresses men wore suits but most of us took the clothes off when we got home from Church.
47. Going to church writing letters, visiting friends or going for a walk.
48. A few pieces of crystal ware silver candy dish, lovely salt and pepper and condiment set belonged to my mother. We have some albums with many photos
49. now and always a very friendly town.
50. It gives you a good warm feeling to have friends and neighbours close by. You can count on them for help and its a nice pastime chatting over the fence with neighbours.

When you go downtown you stop quite often for a friendly exchange with people you know.

51. The new subdivision, the town was renovated old buildings, built parks and everyone is looking after their premises more.

I think especially since the release of the Mastermet Property.

52. I think all the changes are good for the town

53. yes.

54. There is a lack of business places which are a drug store a department store Like Woolworths or Kresges also a shoe store.

55. yes.

56. I think we should keep our town clean to entice tourists and also do something for Cobalt and area to boost our economy I suggested more stores if we do not more people spending money in these stores it won't help the situation also I would like to see a Senior Citizens Home.

57. I like fall best of all can't stand the heat of summer and fall is beautiful in this area.

58. Go to bingos, played cards, watch TV

59. like sewing

60. We should get government aid or subsidy to boost mining also another industry would help.. Why don't we relocate a small collegiate to

keep young here or a technical school. Everyone is crying for plumbers, carpenters, electricians, TV technicians - the field is open for all these jobs why not develop them?

61. Encourage tourists & visitors my sister her husband and daughter will be visiting from England in August. We went to England last year with daughter and son in law and came home on June 6th. We took a chartered flight from Deep river there were two busloads left from there and a band piped us out. It was a lot of fun a small travel agency would benefit located here because there is a good area to work from.

Highlights

I enjoyed my trip to England very much went back to my home town and the Church I was married in but even now I wouldn't be happy there. I still have friends and many relatives but I was very happy to come back to Cobalt you can quote me as saying there is nowhere in the world a place like Cobalt.