

Carmen Stubinski April 15,1972 3 hours

1. Jessie Johnson (Mrs. Charlie)
3. Jessie Bowers
4. 11 Jamieson St., Cobalt
5. 679-5673
6. 66
yrs. old
7. Thompsonville, Ont.
8. Mother, Mone Township, Dufferin County. Born 1874 she is 98 yrs. old.
The oldest living woman in Cobalt today
9. Thompsonville
10. Dad came ahead of us .in 1907 to New Liskeard Mother Leslie and I
came later the same year. From New Liskeard we moved out to First Brook
township. I was a year old when we moved here.
13. there were 4 of us.
14. miner, millman
15. clerk
16. retired
17. retired
18. When we used to come to town from First Brook. Soon as we hit the mining
corp. property. The noise from the mill. The overhead ore cars above the
road would scare our horse. He'd always rear stand up on his two hind legs
rearing and wouldn't move. It took my dad a lot of coaxing to get the
horse moving. I'd be so scared. I can remember waiting at the station
with my mother one day for we were catching the train to Toronto~ I can
remember a big house boat on Cobalt Lake.
19. Built up, real busy lots of horses and drays delivering the express.
There was an overhead wooden bridge from the Public School across Grand
view to the mines hospital.
20. My dad used to do job logging when we homesteaded in First Brook. He
came into Cobalt for a while and mined. He didn't like mining. So he
went into the wood business. He cut down the timber sawed it into
16" and 4 foot lengths, brought it into town sold it at Pine 16" \$1.50 per cord. Tamarac
and birch @ \$1.75 or \$2.00 per cord
21. logging, lumbering and mining
24. One room log cabin, 10 miles west of Cobalt in First Brook
26. Mother carried water 1/2 mile from a spring. It was very good drinking water. She
melted snow on the stove in the winter and had a rain barrel outside to catch rain in
summer.
27. coal oil lamps and lanterns
28. wood cook stove the cook heated the whole house
- 29.
30. Taylor Pipe, Fred Brewer had grocery store on Cobalt St beside the Public School
School, Chas Rekin, Lowery's Wholesale,

Pete McKewens grocery We use to go to the back wood road to New Liskeard to shop sometimes. I can't remember the stores there they were poor to what Cobalt had in line of stores. We'd walk and part way on roads and they were bad.

31. Riding around horse and buggy, visiting the neighbours walking. I danced when I was 7 years old with my dad. We always had fiddle, and we square dance. The whole family went when they had a dance. It was only twice a year.

32. In summer our pleasure was picking blueberries. We had to pick the wild raspberries and strawberries to preserve. We used to come to town with our blueberries and sell them to get money to go to the show or roller skate. We got 15¢ per quart for the blueberries.

We

had lots of roller skating those days at the rink on Miller Ave.

We didn't have a school when I started school. My first school was in First Brook at Salmon's Mill. Mrs. Salmon taught us in her parlour at home along with her own children. Then they built a school in First Brook S.S No.2 Mrs. Salmon was the first teacher there. Charlotte and Annie Seed went there too Annie later became Mrs. Albert Groom. After that we moved to the Silver Queen property and I went to the West Cobalt school I'd walk a mile in the bush alone till we'd meet up with the Salmon kids. Then we'd walk the last mile together. I carried a

5 lb. lard pail for a lunch pail We'd see the deer. Moose and bears in the meadow. One day this animal was following me.

It went from one side of the road and the ditch to the other. I chased it and whomped it with my 5 lb. lunch pail

it lay still I ran all the way home Momma came back with me to see what it was. It was a ground hog dead, by the

way I hit it. I was only 8 yrs. old and not scared of the bush. I got my final education in Cobalt. I never got to Haileybury High School with the

rest of the kids. I'd get sick every time I'd ride on the street car. We had no high school in Cobalt then. That's why Cobalt High School should stay on account of my own experiences.

35.

36.

For driving, horse and buggy, wagons and teams of horses for heavy duty work Dr. McNaughton in New Liskeard. One time Leslie was so sick. My dad walked 10 miles to New Liskeard to get medicine for him.

37. I remember the miners hospital well

38 Commission st. on this same lot as this house iso She'll be 48 in the fall Mother was a midwife. She brought my first 3 children in the world.

40. Jobs in town at the Minerva Grill. Roy worked in the cookery at the mine

Ray was in the second world war. He was in the army and was in Germany one year.

42. We used to walk to the West Cobalt Ball park to watch the Labour Day celebrations. I remember the hand drilling contests the men had and the hand steel contests. They used to have 3 ring circuses there too. I remember one

1st of July celebration they built a large platform for square dancing. Can still see Casey Cobalt step dancing on that platform I used to call him Mr. Shaw and he liked me anyone calling him Casey he'd get real mad. I knew Dick the Nigger. He was in partners in the four Nation Mining Co. with Abe Campbell and I worked for Abe Campbell

43. Lunch pail

44. I know more about jokers in the bush. It was home made bread, butter, long clear salted pork. Maybe ginger cookies. That was all they took. in the bush as there was no canned food then. Momma cooked for all the men as they went from camp to camp. Supper they have roast beef, home made soup. Dad always bought beef by the side from the farmers, We'd have lots of it. There'd be cutters, skidders. They'd hook 2 or 3 logs together, and haul it down the trail to the skid way. Then haul them to the river in the winter. In the spring they'd dump them in the river and drive them down the water. The river drivers were dangerous the men would jump on the logs and get them moving with their feet.

45. cotton dresses, pinafores, middies jumpers

46. Dressed in our best gingham with a strap across the front on week days wore high laced black boots

48. I have old lockets an old trunk, one pair high top brown laced Palmer boots. I have had over 45 yrs. I have this picture of our first home, one room by cabin. Mother dad Leslie and I. It was a deserted prospector cabin. I have a tin type picture, several other things

49. I've always lived here and raised my family here. Every time I go downtown and every second person I meet I know

51. New lights. Like the new store, the falling down old buildings have been torn down New motel and tavern

52. I don't like them ruining the lake taking all the water out of it, it looks like a sump. If they want to restore Cobalt why do away with the one beauty spot nature has provided. It was beautiful I don't like the streets being in such a bad shape and I don't like the payrolls leaving town

55. yes

56. There should be some industry to employ people who want to work

57. Get out more in the summer

58. Play whist, belong to Ladies Auxiliary Canadian Legion no.44 branch. Women's Institute watch tv

59. Baking first love it, knitting, sewing painting, keep busy all the time.

60. They should use their own raw materials supplied in this area. Would like to see low rental homes and senior citizens homes built here

61. tourists

62. museum, nice tavern, Legion Lounge, Recreation, good lakes, beaches, fishing, mining tours good scenery

Highlights

Mrs. Jessie Johnson had a hard time getting her education as they kept moving from one lumber camp to the other. She studied when they moved to Cobalt, she ddi 3 grades in one year. Is a beautiful writer and one could say got her education on her own. She is busy looking after her brother Leslie and mother.