

Saanich Archives

Oral History Collection

Madeline Howden (nee Bradshaw)

Excerpts from Oral History Interview:

- “I was in highschool when the war... And I'll never forget it, the boys from highschool went off as though they were going to a picnic. And of course my beau was killed. I came across a picture from the other day, you know, anyway. Our whole lives were ruined. All the boyfriends were killed. Day after day there were lists in the paper of deaths. Was nobody left. And then of course when the war was over there was a terrible slump in Victoria and there was no work and the boys that did come back from the war went off elsewhere to get an education or to get jobs. So it was very lean times.”
- “I stayed there [teaching] till Christmas and I came home for Christmas. And the news was bad. My brother'd been injured, my beau was dead, my two sisters were away at the war. It was a dreary time.”