

The War Diary

It is Halifax Nova Scotia in 1942. World War 2 continues to go on and women and children at home are working hard to help the soldiers. Imagine you are a girl, writing in her diary during this time...

Dear diary,

It is December 6th and I am scared. So many soldiers are coming to town, it makes me feel afraid. Every night, more come in. They don't stay long. They are tired, some are hurt, and they are sad. I can tell by their faces.

Dear diary,

It is March 13th, and my sister is now working to help with the war effort. She is making ammunition in the factory. I am collecting scrap metal for the factory, and Grandma is teaching me how to knit. We are making socks and quilts from fabric scraps to send over to the troops. Mom is baking and trying to keep busy. She has been gathering magazines and decks of cards to donate, and making her special egg salad sandwiches for the Canteen. When she's not making food she is at the hall. Our neighbours are all helping to make food and entertaining the soldiers. We are all doing our part.

Dear diary,

We are all missing Dad. Mom says keeping busy helps distract her from thinking about him all the time. He has been gone 26 weeks and 3 days. We write to him, but we never really hear back. We're keeping busy but we are tired and not getting good sleep. We are doing everything we can for the people fighting in this war. It feels like it will never end, but we can't give up! Their lives depend on us.

So many children lost their dads, grandfathers, brothers, uncles and neighbours. Many people were hurt and came back wounded and scarred. Some came back and couldn't walk or see. Their wounds on the outside are easy to see, but on the inside people suffered too. At home people worried everyday. On November 11th, we remember all the bad things and suffering caused by war. Let us never forget and be grateful we live in peace.