

Diseases and Tuberculosis (TB)

When I was at that school there I saw a shop, a very nice shop going up that school bray that the school bray there and I saw him, a great fella Packie Mullan they called him. Packie Mullan was going up that bray was turning round and looking at me going up that hill that was the last time, he died.

There's a family up this road here I had a sister actually died it was the eldest of the family she died when she was 32 years of age I'd say it was TB that killed her and that was the want of money to treat them and it all started with a bad dose, a bad chest cold settled on her chest never cleared up now you have antibiotics you've all the stuff there to clear up but nothing at that time.

I had another sister and only for good home doctor and poultices, the back of the lungs you know what I mean, behind the shoulder blades, the poultices and the room that she was in was all insulated off with blankets and stuff on the doors and kettles steaming to keep the air moist to keep the air she was breathing and my mother thought she had lost her, she pulled out.

Two girls two fine looking girls up there dying with TB. I was at school with them there was two up that hill there up that hill just out here the Relough Hill. There was two of the finest looking girls, there was one of them like a film star now, good looking, she was a beauty.

Wavy curly hair and they had money and they tried, but it got too far. The father was a cattle dealer and he was fit to send to Foster Green's at that time, well, that were anybody had money that could afford it, the last resort was Foster Green's.

Now Dungannon Sanatorium that's were the ordinary folk went till it, it was whether you had money or you hadn't. Two of the loveliest girls there and I saw

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them I was at school with them they died. Kathleen and Dymphna was the two girls Christian names the road straight down there two girls I was at school with they died.

There was a family up at the back do you know the school in the middle of the village up in Donaghmore, the Protestant school, go right round to the low side of it and up there and that brings you back up till the old Rotharlann Hall (Bicycle hall). There was a family there maybe 5 or 6 I remember two brothers, I can remember maybe 4 or 5 dying out of that house.

Two fellas went to work in Brown's yard, two young fellas, Packie and John Mc Crory and what did the land Stewart do and there was an old man that told me that he put them into the worst jobs he had, with wet feet and so on, the two of them died. They died maybe not 20 years of age.

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