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ACROSS THE ISLAND

Adam Andrew's Goal Was To Serve Island

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THE PAINTING "Early Days" that hangs in the City Hall office of Mayor A. Walthen Gaudet portrays the heart of Charlottetown as it appeared 100 years ago at the time the original Confederation conference was held here. But, I learned only last week, the painting also contains a picture taken at the New Glasgow mills, which I'll tell you about later.

The painting was given to the city by Adam Andrew, a man who was born not far away from my own former home in Rose Valley, and went at the age of 17 to California where he made a great deal of money which enabled him to do many things for this province, and his friends here, both of which he loved, apparently, with an unusual degree of warmth.

Mr. Andrew paid \$7,500 for the painting to Eric Spencer Macky who never saw the Island, but completed the painting from photographs Adam Andrew took with him to California on return from one of his frequent visits home. The painting was presented to the city, on Mr. Andrew's behalf, in an impressive ceremony on May 12, 1924 by F. J. Nash who was editor of The Patriot at the time.

THE \$7,500 of that day, 40 years ago, would represent at least \$30,000 at today's inflated prices, a number of my colleagues on this paper suggest; and that may enable present day readers to better understand the press of that time calling it "the largest - the canvass is six feet by four feet - most costly and greatest picture in the province". Mayor John McKenna thanked Mr. Andrew for his "noble and generous gift" which in years to come "would enhance and exalt the pleasant memories of the days that are gone forever".

As I said a few weeks ago the old painting was brought back into the spotlight this year when the Royal Trust Company used it on the desk calendar they distributed. It was my friend and former football team mate, Charles F. Bentley, manager of the Charlottetown branch, who suggested the picture to his company in this the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary year of the original Confederation conference.

A descriptive pamphlet that accompanies the desk calendar says "the large building in the right foreground of the painting was the Post Office and Court House (and jail) demolished many years ago, to be replaced by the Post Office building which was razed to make way for the present Fathers of Confederation Memorial building complex. "The building in the centre, resembling a carousel, was the Market Building which was moved forward from that location, later destroyed, then replaced by the large building of P.E.I. sandstone" that was destroyed by fire only a few years ago.

“The church behind, to the right, is the old Zion church which served two denominations, and the church to the left, in the greenery, is one of the two former homes of Saint Paul’s Anglican”, the pamphlet adds.

### New Glasgow Mills Picture There

AND THIS is as good a place as any I think to tell you about the picture from New Glasgow. Adam’s brother, Frank, went to New Glasgow mills where he established himself and raised his family - Blair who lives there now is his son, and the late Blois Andrew of Charlottetown was another - and in the left centre of the picture are seen a man sitting in a horse-drawn riding wagon, and alongside him a man with his hand on a partly-filled cart.

THE MAN in the wagon is the late John C. Clark of Bayview who was the father of Dr. J .A. Clark, city, and the man standing by the cart is the late Frank Andrew, Adam’s brother, whom he often visited; and there is a room in that home that is still called “Uncle Andrew’s room” by his nephew and his nephew’s wife who still recall with deep appreciation and affection the man who slept in that room during his visits. Adam bought a new car for his brother Frank on one occasion, Mrs. Blair Andrew told me.

I should have added that the New Glasgow mills picture referred to above was taken in the yard of the property where Blair Andrew now lives.

The man who went to California at 17 and built his fortune around a 99-years lease on Shasta Mountain - he established a summer resort there, and brought the mineral water to San Francisco where it was bottled and sold as Shasta water - was imbued with the idea of doing something worthwhile for his native province. Blois Andrew worked with his uncle for several years and his widow tells me she tasted the Shasta water when she visited Spokane, Washington last summer. She believes the mineral water was used first as a component part of mixed alcoholic beverages. Since then, apparently a flavor has been added and Shasta Water is sold as a soft drink.

He financed “school day libraries” for Island schools and offered to supply the books if they would provide the shelves or bookcases. I have been unable to learn how many were established, although Mrs. Fulton Sanderson, North River tells me the York Point Women’s Institute was one group that took advantage of the assistance.

### Orphanage Grounds Landscaped

FROM Ira Brown who was secretary of the Orphanage at Mt. Herbert for many years, I have learned that Adam Andrews suggested, authorized and promptly paid the bill for landscaping the orphanage grounds, including the planting of the beautiful trees that surround the building. The late J. Walter Jones of Bunbury was in charge of the job, Mr. Brown tells me.

A word about the artist, and then I’ll tell you something about Mr. Andrew’s family background. Mr. Macky was born in Auckland, New Zealand and studied in many schools in England, France, Holland, Italy and Spain after he left his native land. Recognized as one of the leading artists of his time, he died in a car accident in 1958.

Adam's mother was the former Caroline Middleton who first married Alex Dixon who died at an early age from exhaustion caused by his fight against a forest fire that threatened his mills. Ten children were born of this marriage and six survived. Frank Andrew came to take charge of the mills and he married Alex Dixon's widow.

Adam and Frank, along with William and one daughter, Annie, were born of the marriage and Mrs. Andrew, who had been the former Caroline Middleton died at the early age of 41 years from rheumatic fever. A charming and accomplished lady, and a trained vocalist with a beautiful voice, she had been ill only a few days.

The home, incidentally, is the same home in which George and Verna Dixon live now on the hill just above the old mill property. And the Dixons at Stanchel now get their water by hydraulic ram from a spring Adam often visited on his trips to the Island, George tells me.

Francis Andrew stayed on at the mills until his stepsons, the Dixon boys, were old enough to run them, then moved to Elliotts to run the mills for a Mrs. Elliott who was a daughter of the late Alex Dixon. (Other people who wrote to me suggested that he had gone to other places but this one seems the most logical though, of course, I am not absolutely sure that it is correct.

FRANCIS ANDREW later remarried and moved to East Royalty where he raised a family that included the late John B. Andrew whose son Wallace Andrew is on the old farm at Wright's Bridge at the present time.

But this story is concerned more with Adam Andrew and I have learned that he spent some years with George Dixon at Clyde River, the grandfather of the present George Dixon whose wife, the former Margaret MacQuarrie of Hampton, is the lady who writes the interesting column "Ellen's Diary" for the Guardian. There are several beautiful souvenirs in the Dixon home to remind them of those years, though George cannot recall just how Adam happened to come to their home.

Adam married in California and he and Mrs. Andrew had a son, Prentis, who died some years ago, and a daughter, Carol who is now Mrs. Flowers. I had planned earlier to list the names of people who have written, phoned me and talked to me in person to provide information on this interesting man. But the number became so large that I have regretfully decided to abandon the idea. My warmest thanks go to all of you though.

Before I leave the subject I should explain that the house where Adam was born was in Rose Valley then, but the district is Stanchel now. When the school burned at Rose Valley many years ago, the Stanchel school district was established and it is made up of a slice taken off Rose Valley on the West and Springton on the East, so far as my information goes. Incidentally that is something I did not know until Mrs. James Craig, Breadalbane passed it on to me from her father Daniel Dixon who is 87.

### Gaelic Is Need For Bilingualism

I HAVE room, I hope, for a reference to Monsignor G. J. McLellan who died early this week. I did not have the privilege of knowing him, though I did consult him last year while I was researching the column on the Dalton Sanatorium. But I recall with appreciation his humorous performance at the dinner meeting which followed the St.

Dunstan's Centenary in 1955. There were representatives from many Canadian universities, including a number of French-speaking ones from Quebec.

Msgr. McLellan was introducing Alex Matheson who was premier at the time and when he identified him he called him "Alasdair Mor MacMhathain", then proceeded to explain "for those of you who are not bilingual" - and the emphasis was heavy on that word - "that means Big Alex Matheson."

The completely unexpected sally from the Monsignor brought unusually warm applause and I believe nobody enjoyed the remark more than the French priests, and I had an opportunity to observe them for I was seated at the same table with them.