

Big Business Established By Islander In Argentina

If you are free enough and rich enough to travel leisurely about the world and in your journeyings you should enter some stately church or grand cathedral, visit some ancient seat of learning, a world-famous banking institution, or one of the many Canadian embassies abroad, it is likely that you might find in the pulpit, before the altar, in cap and gown, conducting private or public affairs, a man who calls the island "home."

Certainly if your world itinerary includes Buenos Aires, the bustling capital of the Argentine Republic, you are sure to contact, however remotely, either of the twin companies, Murchison Estibajes y Cargas, or Compania de Navegacion Juan Murchison; firms owned and operated by the sons of a native Islander.

FROM POINT PRIM

Captain John Murchison, a native of Point Prim, P.E.I., first entered the River Plate in 1866 as master of a Nelson line vessel. In following years he made many voyages to the South American port. Then he was appointed Marine superintendent for the Nelson line at the great southern shipping centre.

In 1897 Captain Murchison decided to form a stevedoring company at Buenos Aires. In the sixty years the company has been in existence, it has grown from an original six-man enterprise into the largest and oldest stevedoring company in South America, employing over 5,000 workers.

Ever since the Island exile began business, Point Prim has been a name as well known in Argentine shipping circles as in its native Canada.

It was chosen as the key name for his rapidly expanding fleet. Every lighter, barge and tug has carried the identification prefix "Prim."

Such names as Primorwell, Prim-maple, Primpinett and Primisland conjure up memories of the Canadian places after which they have been named.

In the Buenos Aires head office, hangs the Canadian Masters certificate issued to the founder in Halifax in 1866.

SPENT SUMMERS HERE

For many years prior to his death in 1939 Captain Murchison spent the summer months on the old family homestead at Point Prim. He was the only son in a family of nine, of whom the sole survivor is Mrs. John F. Whear, who resides on Upper Prince Street, Charlottetown.

All the sons were brought up and educated in Canada. They attended St. Andrew's College, Toronto, and then McGill University.

Until his death in 1933 the companies were managed by the eldest son, Benjamin and since then they have been under the joint management of William E. and John Murchison.

The second James died of wounds received during the Normandy landings in World War Two.

BIG FLEET

Today the company has a barge and 25 river craft barges. They work mainly between Buenos Aires and Asuncion, the capital of Paraguay.

The 800-mile river journey is equivalent of going from Toronto to Halifax and takes any thing from 10 days to two weeks in one direction.

Machinery is the main cargo taken to Paraguay and from Asuncion is carried cotton, yerba as general cargo.

During the former Peron dictatorship, like the majority of enterprises, the stevedoring companies suffered. They had little opportunity for modernization or expansion.

"The new government has helped the shipping people. They have stabilized working conditions and improved the discharge and loading facilities in the port," said William Murchison, in an interview with the Buenos Aires correspondent of the Financial Post, Toronto.

"They are now planning a scheme for modernizing the port of Buenos Aires and hope to speed up the turn-round time for ships."

"There is a great future in erce between the three countries of Paraguay, Bolivia and Argentina," he said.

"We are planning a two year expansion program. We will motorize the barges and acquire new ones to deal with the expanding volume of trade."

William Murchison, who still has relations in Canada and retains his citizenship, maintains close ties to Canada.

He expressed disappointment there was no Canadian shipping line trading directly between Canada and Buenos Aires.

He believes trade prospects are good, but that they had been neglected in the past.

BRISTOL

On Friday, another of Bristol's oldest residents answered the final call, in the passing of that well known retired farmer, Mr. Frank Dunphy, after being in poor health for several months.

Mr. Dunphy was a patient in the Charlottetown Hospital for over three months, and later at Beach Grove. His funeral was held on Monday from the home of Frank Keefe, (where he had made his home for some years) to St. Lawrence Church, where requiem mass was celebrated by his pastor, Father Robin.

Mr. and Mrs. Sheehan who sold their property and all their furniture recently, have moved to Montreal to reside in future. The best wishes of their friends here go with them to their new home.

Mr. Everett Laybalt has purchased the old J.B. MacDonald

NOTICE

The annual meeting of the Souris Credit Union Ltd., will be held at the Credit Union Hall on October 9th at 8 p.m.

With the opening of the new Legion Home last week, the village has three dance halls now: the Community Hall, the Parish Hall and the Legion Hall. The old village hall still stands on the old site but is used for a showroom by Mr. Leo Rossiter, M.L.A., for machinery.

We understand that another Bristol resident, Mr. Joe Lapierre, will build a new home in Morrell Village shortly. Joe has spent quite some time in Labrador while his wife and family reside here.

Mrs. Melvine Peters left last week for Hamilton and Kitchener, Ontario, to spend her vacation with her brother Francis Burns and Mrs. Burns, and with her other brother, Reginald Burns and Mrs. Burns. Mrs. Peters was Reta Burns in single life and has resided in Charlottetown for several years. Her father resides on the old home- stead here.

Mrs. Joseph Deagle spent a few days in the city with her daughter, Mrs. Campbell. Despite her advanced age, Mrs. Deagle is very smart.

Mr. and Mrs. Aeneas Gauthier have arrived here from Toronto on a visit to Mr. Gauthier's mother, Belle Gauthier, and his sisters in the city. Its quite a number of years since Aeneas left Bristol and we are pleased to see him around again, also Mrs. Gauthier.

Mrs. Anthony Trainor was in the city last week on business. The ball game in the village on Sunday afternoon was one of the friendliest ever seen here. The Tighish team and their many followers, who came all the way here, were the finest of sports. In the first game they won and the second they lost. We salute this fine western group for the fine example they showed. It was like a family reunion and that's the way those games should be. We also lift our hat to the village team, our own team, who played a friendly game with a smile, despite the fact some of the boys were dragging themselves under the pain of injuries.

Friends here of Mr. Allan Doyle regret to learn of his in-

juries received in a car accident last week, but hope his removal to the Charlottetown Hospital, will soon have him around again with the younger class. Mr. Pius McInnis, Morell's ace catcher who was hit very hard by a fast ball during the Sunday afternoon game, carried on despite the fact he was limping around. Several foul balls also danced off the windshield of cars on the highway, causing frightened women to duck low.

STRATEGIC SPOT

First fort in the vicinity of Churchill, Man., was established by the Hudson's Bay Company in 1719.



THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY Monday, October 14th

LOW WEEK-END FARES

Going from Noon, Friday, until 2 p.m. Sunday. Return journey to commence not later than Midnight, Monday. RELAX-ENJOY YOUR TRIP

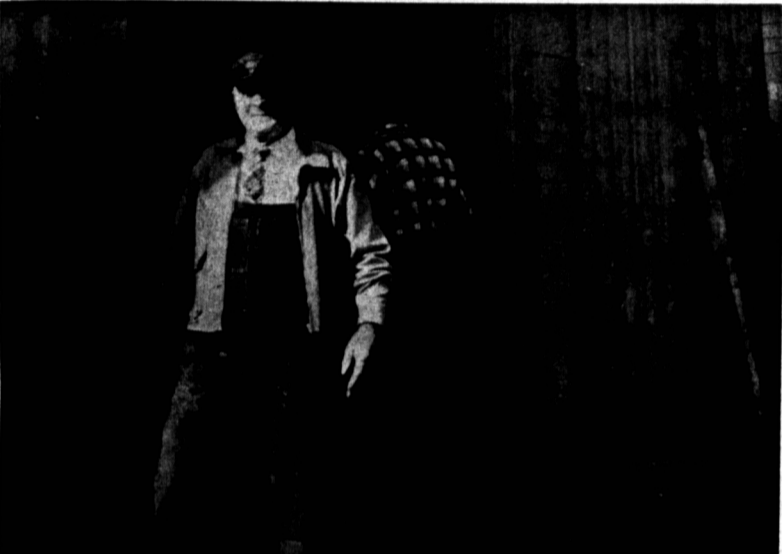


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MOVING HEAVY SAFE FROM BANK

Workers from County Construction Company Ltd. are shown moving one of the safes from the Royal Bank building, corner Queen and Richmond



LEAVING FOR NEW BANK BUILDING

Tertius H. "Tush" Harper, caretaker of the Royal Bank Building here is seen in the doorway of the old building in the old Post Office Building which the bank vacated on Saturday for temporary quarters

Royal Bank In Temporary Home Pending Rebuilding

The Charlottetown branch of the Royal Bank of Canada moved into temporary quarters in the old Post Office building here over the weekend. The arrangement with the Provincial Government, owners of the building, provides that the Bank can use it until the task of rebuilding on their old site, corner of Queen and Richmond Streets, is completed.

The moving of the bank's equipment was done by County Construction Company, Ltd. It included the transfer of some heavy equipment including a five-ton safe and a smaller one that weighs two tons.

L.D. MacKay, branch manager, told The Guardian that a number of other safes had been brought from Montreal and had been placed in the temporary quarters last week.

The work of demolition on the old Bank Building will get underway this morning. The demolition of the old building and the construction of the new one is being done by County Construction Company Ltd.

It is some forty-five years since the Royal Bank moved to the corner of Queen and Richmond. The former quarters were close by on Richmond in the building now occupied by the Meyers Studio. That is where the Royal Bank started operations here as they took over from the Merchants Bank of Canada which had been established in this City around the turn of the century.

OLD LONDON HOUSE Known in former years as London House, the building which the Bank is vacating, temporarily erected more than ninety years ago and is said to be one of the oldest brick structures in the City. An item in the Examiner dated October 16, 1888 indicates that the building had been constructed by Messrs. Davies some twenty or twenty-five years previously.

Writing at that time The Examiner said, "It has been the centre of attraction for purchasers of dry goods ever since." The paper noted at that time that "the ground floor has been divided by a partition running its entire length. Messrs. Harris and Stewart retain the larger store on the corner, which is still one of the finest in town. They have an elegant show room in the rear for millinery and mantles, and about two-thirds of the first floor for the sale of clothing, carpets, home furnishings and hats and caps. The smaller floor on the ground floor is occupied by Messrs. MacLeod and MacKenzie as a gentlemen's outfitting establishment."

The fact that the story was written in The Examiner is understandable as the Exam-

EASTERN GUARDIAN

SPECIAL for ten days only, asphalt shingles, three in one, first grade, \$10.98 per square. Anchor lock, first grade \$6.69 per square. Apply J.M. Llewellyn, Montague.

SPECIAL for ten days only, asphalt shingles, three in one, first grade, \$10.98 per square. Anchor lock, first grade \$6.69 per square. T.M. Llewellyn, Montague.

MEETING

Regular monthly meeting of Souris Branch Canadian Legion Tuesday, Oct. 8, 8 p.m. Important business. All members urged to attend.

SNOW HALTS HARVESTING

GRANDE PRAIRIE, Alta. (CP) Five to six inches of snow fell on this northwest Alberta district Thursday, halting grain harvesting which had been in full swing. The storm continued Thursday.

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