Exit Tony Blount

CHAPTER XXIV

Continued

While he ate, he took stock of his position and tried to make up his mind what to do next.

In the first place, he realised that it would serve no good purpose to remain here, now that he knew the condition of affairs. There was nothing here for him. No doubt sufficient preserved food had been buried in the ruins of the storehouse to keep him alive for months, but he recognised that the task of removing the large masses of rock in order to get at it was far beyond his capabilities. Even the jam and taro patches had disappeared completely, and there was not so much as a shelter from sun and rain left. True, there was a water supply, but there was no lack of water elsewhere.

Quite apart from these primary considerations, however, he was conceiving a growing horror for the place. The hideous desolation of the mud-filled valley and the melancholy relics floating in the lagoon would have been sufficient to appal the most optimistic mind —and there had been little of optimism in his outlook before. Even had there been some strong inducement to remain here, it was doubtful whether he could have brought himself to do so now. And as it was, sheer necessity impelled him to a consideration of making his way to some other part of the island without delay, and it was only a question as to which part he should make for.

Obviously, all the low-lying valleys could be dismissed as possibilities, for the inundation must have been general. This meant that his future habitation would necessarily be confined to the upper slopes — at least for the time — and he foresaw existence of the most primitive kind. Plantain and wild taro would form his staple food till he had evolved some method of trapping birds.

No other kind of wild life existed on the island as far as he knew, and though he had seen turtles on the beaches they would not be likely to put in a further appearance now that the sand was covered with a thick layer of mud. Even fishing was beyond his scope for the moment, for lack of means to provide himself with any kind of tackle or net. And — worst of all — he could not even light a fire.

It was an unenviable outlook to say the least of it. Sorensen's schooner was not due for another two months, and in the interval he would be living like a savage — a second Alexander Selkirk, but without even such limited resources as that unfortunate mariner had possessed. The difficulties which had beset him in the last few days faded into insignificance compared with the problems which faced him now, and with the prospect of this solitary life before him he could have found it in his heart that he had never left Noumea.

He rose to his feet at last. In order to reach any other part of the island it would be necessary to traverse the length of the valley again, for the cliffs were unscaleable at any point. The sooner he started, therefore, the better. He was only too anxious to get away from this ill-omened spot now, and even the return journey through the water-logged valley deemed preferable to remaining there any longer.

There were few preparations to make. He abandoned the thought of burdening himself with the remaining tins of peaches, but with the memory of his parched condition half-an-hour ago, he resolved to take a supply of water with him in one of the empty fruit tins.

He looked about hesitatingly, wondering whether he ought not to spend another few minutes in hunting round on the chance of finding something else which might prove useful to him. He could not bring himself to begin another search, however, and he was turning away towards the spring when his eye fell upon the flagstaff.

A length of rope would be a handy thing to have, he reflected, and he walked over to it, and began to cast off the turns of the halyards from the cleat.

He was facing seawards as he did so, and in the act of taking off the last turn preparatory to unreefing the thin line from its pulley he stopped suddenly — his body stiffened into rigidity and his gaze fixed almost unbelievingly ahead of him.

For round the red cliffs of the headland to his right the headsails of a schooner were edging into view.

In another few seconds the entire vessel was in sight — and he recognized Captain Bowker's Merry Maid.

To be continued

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Island Sailors Return on HMCS Haida

Arriving in Halifax last Wednesday on board H. M. C. S. Haida were these members of the Canadian destroyer's "A" (twin four-inch) gun's crew. [illegible] sharpshooters when it came to hitting the three North Korean trains destroyed by the Haida in the war against Communist supply lines in the Far Eastern theatre. The Haida's arrival in Halifax makes her the second RCN destroyer to circumnavigate the world. Front row, left to right are: AB John Wilkinson, Montreal; AB Vincent Crane, Halifax; Lieut-Cdr. R. M. Greene, Gatineau, Que.; AB William Bull, Orillia, Ont.; and AB Donald Gowland, Toronto. Centre row: PO Howard Hicks, Toronto; AB Tim Moran, Montreal; AB Roy Collins, Montague, P. E. I.; AB John McNeil, Glace Bay, N. S.; and AB Andrew Gale, South Branch, Nfld. Back row, AB Andrei Vanzielegham, Windsor, Ont.; AB Clarence Guy, Cornerbrook, Nfld.; AB Douglas Courtney, Toronto; AB Roy Chaisson, Charlottetown, P. E. I. and AB Bernard Parent, Beloeil, Que. (NATIONAL DEFENCE PHOTO).

East Baltic and Vicinity

..*Mrs. Rena Prosper, Boston, Mass., is visiting with her sister Mrs Marjorie Campbell, Kingsboro, and her mother Mrs. Harding Fraser of Elmira.

Dr. and Mrs. Kassner, Souris, have recently returned from a three-week holiday when they visited many places of interest, including Niagara Falls, Toronto, Ottawa, and Montreal.

Mrs. James Allan, Charlottetown, is visiting in East Baltic and Red Point.

Mrs. Maynard Fraser, Souris, visited with friends recently at North Lake.

Mrs. Ferdie Gallant and daughter Meredith, New Glasgow, recently visited in Elmira.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Robertson and Miss Betty Robertson, Kingsboro, motored to Fredericton and Hunter River on July 12.

Mrs. Augustus Mallard, North Lake, is progressing favorably in the Charlottetown Hospital. All wish her continued progress.

Master Donald Robertson, two-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Robertson celebrated his birthday on July 6 at the home of his grandparents Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Dixon, East Baltic.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Poole and family are taking up residence for the summer, at North Lake.

Mr. and Mrs. Lorne Johnson, Montague, are spending a few days at North Lake.

Mrs. John McMillan, Canavoy, attended the Kidson and McKie wedding on July 8 at the Kingsboro Baptist Church.

Mr. Lou Anderson, North Lake, has recently returned to Halifax.

Mr. and Mrs. Colin Dixon, East Baltic, motored to Augustine Cove on July 11 and brought back their daughter, Miss Joan Dixon, who spent the past two weeks at camp.

Mrs. Elsie Kennedy, Canavoy, was a visitor to Red Point on July 8 where she also visited her aunt Mrs. Harding Fraser, who is a patient in the Souris Hospital.

Mr. Heath Ching, Black Pond, was a business visitor to Charlottetown July 9.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Ching, Red Point, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Bruce, Mr. and Mrs. Aubrey McPhail, North River, left recently on a tour through the Cabot Trail and several other points of interest.

The sympathy of the many friends and acquaintances of Mr. Freeman Webster, Midgell, goes out to him in the recent sudden death of his father, Mr. Alan J. Webster of Midgell.

Dr. James McInnis, U. S. A., is at present visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Adrian McInnis, Souris.

On July 12 the annual decorative service was held in the South Lake and Kingsboro Cemetery and a large crowd attended and paid a tribute to loved ones by placing flowers on the graves. Rev. Donald McClare performed both services.

Mr. and Mrs. Roddie Kidson and family, Nova Scotia, were recent guests of Mr. and Mrs. Earle Kennedy, Kingsboro.

Mr. and Mrs. George McDonald, Kingsboro, motored to Charlottetown on July 12.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Robertson, Kingsboro, had as guests their daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Sorrey, Montague.

Messrs. Alvah Ching and Elwood Ching motored to Montague and Wood Islands on July 11.

Summer is gaining fast as the farmers in the districts have started cutting their hay and no heat yet. Maybe after the August 10 election the weather will warm up.

Mr. and Mrs. Gerard Bruce and family, Souris, attended the decorative service in Kingsboro July 12.

Mr. and Mrs. Foster Garrett, East Baltic, were July 11 visitors to Augustine Cove.

The Kingsboro district is fortunate in having their successful teacher Mrs. Floyd McLean hired for a third term as teacher in the Kingsboro School.

Mrs. Peter Massy and Mrs. Herb Jarvis, Little Harbour, were July 8 and 9 visitors to Charlottetown. Mrs. Jarvis attended the 40th annual convention in Charlottetown.

The strawberry growers predict a small yield of berries this year is mostly due to the early frost.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles McPhee and family, Little Harbour, have taken up residence at North Lake for the summer months.

Mrs. Thomas Harris, Elmira, and Mrs. Charles Jarvis, Munn's Road were delegates to the W.I. annual convention.

Mr. Ernest Roberston, U. S. A., is spending some time visiting with relatives and friends in Kingsboro and he is receiving a hearty welcome from his many old friends.

Douglas Morrow, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Morrow, Elmira, fell out of a car on the highway. He was immediately given medical aid and is back to his usual playing.

Mrs. Willard Ching was hostess to the Women's Missionary Society at her home in Basin Head.

Miss Linda Rose, North Lake, spent a pleasant week visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Bruce, North River.

Mr. Robert Machon, Montague, was a business visitor to Chepstow and Red Point. He was accompanied by Mr. Leonard Gillis of Montague.

The many friends of Mrs. Leith Dingwell of Souris are sorry to learn she is a patient in the Souris Hospital. All wish her a speedy recovery.

Mr. Forbes Young, Kingsboro, paid a visit to Howe Bay recently.

Mr. Eldon Stewart of the Royal Navy, spent a week end with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Stewart, Red Point.

Miss Betty Robertson, Charlottetown, spent a week end at her home in Munn's Road.

Rev. D. McClare, pastor of East Point Baptist Church, is attending the Boys' Camp held for two weeks at Augustine Cove.

The Misses Lila Robertson and Wanda Robertson, Kingsboro, attended the short cooking course for 4-H members in Charlottetown.

Miss Margaret Young, who spent the past two weeks at her home in Basin Head, returned to her work in Everett, Mass.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Robertson, Kingsboro, accompanied by Mr. James McCormack, North Lake, spent Sunday at Dalvey and other points of interest in P. E. I.

Messrs Alva Robertson, Kingsboro, Arthur Stewart, Red Point, E. McGregor, East Baltic are attending camp at Augustine Cove.

Mr. George Acorn, North Lake, was a recent visitor to Black Pond.

It is regrettable to learn that Mrs. Joseph McDonald, Norris Pond, is a patient in the Souris Hospital. All wish her a quick return to health.

Miss Bernice McPhee of Priest Pond will be school teacher for the coming year in the Red Point School. All wish her success in her chosen undertaking.

—U

Turkey Rejects Russian Protest Over Visit Of British-U.S. Warships

ISTANBUL (Reuters)—The Turkish government has rejected Russia's protest against visits of British and United States warships to Istanbul this summer, it was announced Friday.

Turkey replied that the naval visits conform with provisions of the Montreux Convention on control of the Black Sea straits.

The reply added that the Turkish government was astonished that the Soviet government had asked for additional information, "which might be regarded as a sort of intervention in a matter which international usage leaves to the discretion of the interested countries"

On Tuesday Moscow newspapers published a Soviet note to Turkey in which it was alleged that the proposed visits of British and American naval vessels to Istanbul were "a form of military demonstration".

U. S. naval vessels arrived at Istanbul for a courtesy visit this week and units of the British navy, under Lord Mountbatten, are due next Monday.

Article 17 of the Montreux Convention, the 1936 agreement regulating traffic through the Dardanelles and Bhosphorus, provides that "nothing in the provisions of the preceding article shall prevent a naval force of any tonnage or composition from paying a courtesy visit of limited duration to a port in the straits at the invitation of the Turkish government."

Georgetown and Vicinity

..*Mrs. (Dr.) Clayton George and daughters, Laverne and Anne, of Lucan, Ont., arrived in Georgetown recently by car and will holiday for the summer as guests of Mrs. George's parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. C. Knight.

Miss Anna Mair, R.N., of Warweig, N. B., is visiting in Georgetown as guest of her brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. George Mair.

Miss Paulette Burke returned recently from a visit to Montague, where she was a guest at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Stanford Peardon. On her return she was accompanied by Miss Fay Peardon, who was her guest for a few days.

Rev. Nathan Mair of Waweig, N. B., is visiting in Georgetown, as guest of his grandmother Mrs. Mary Yorston.

Mr. Percy Douglas of Savage Harbour, accompanied by Mrs. Josey Douglas and Mrs. Taylor motored to Georgetown, where they were guests at the home of Mr. J. F. Johnson.

Miss Audrey Steeves and Miss Marion Steeves of Hillsborough, Albert County, N. B., were recent guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Allen.

Mr. and Mrs. Lindsey Moore of New Glasgow, N. S., were recent guests of Mrs. Moore's parents, Mr. and Mrs. John L. MacDonald.

Mrs. D. J. McKeeman of Dorchester, Mass., and Miss Joseda McKeeman of Roxbury, Mass., who have been guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Gotell, left recently on return to their homes in the U. S. A.

Mr. J. A. MacKinnon of Ottawa, Ont., arrived in Georgetown on July 16 and is the guest of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Lavers. His many friends are welcoming him on his annual vacation here and all are expressing their pleasure at his continuing good health.

Mr. and Mrs. John L. MacDonald returned recently from Halifax, N. S., where they visited as the guests of their son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Moore. While in Nova Scotia they visited Lunenburg and Liverpool on the South Shore, and also motored to Mulgrave where they viewed the Canso Causeway.

Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd King of Caperol, Ont., are holidaying in Georgetown where they are the guests of Mr. King's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Daniel King.

Mr. and Mrs. Emmett Batchilder and Mr. and Mrs. Evans of Halifax, N. S., were recent guests of relatives and friends in Georgetown. On their return to Halifax they were accompanied by Mrs. Wilfred McQuillan.

Friends of Mrs. Walter Soloman, who has been a patient in the Charlottetown Hospital, are pleased to hear that she has returned to her home in Georgetown.

Rev. Father James Fitzgerald left last week on return to Winnipeg, Man., after a visit in Georgetown as the guest of his father, Captain C. M. Fitzgerald.

Mr. Lemuel MacCormack, crew member of the C.G.S. Sorel, spent the past weekend at his home in Georgetown.

Miss Beulah Watts of Grand Tracadie is guest of her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Daniel King.

Mrs. Frank Lavandier and family are guests of Mrs. Lavandier's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Murphy of St. Mary's Road.

Miss Catherine Clory of Charlottetown is visiting her mother, Mrs. Alfred Clory.

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Bristol and Vicinity

..*Mr. and Mrs. Bill Roach left Saturday morning for their home in Halifax, N. S., after a one-day visit here. They also visited their son at Summerside who is stationed there with the R.C.A.F. It is 40 years since Bill Roach left Bristol to reside in Halifax and make a fine home for his wife and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred L. O'Brien, their daughter and son-in-law Mr. and Mrs. Warren McMannus, arrived July 21 for a three-day visit. Mr. McMannus was here once before while Mr. and Mrs. O'Brien left here 50-odd years ago. A few old friends remember Fred as a youth when he served his time in the old village forge with his late father. He is the last living son of the late John O'Brien.

Mr. Gordon Bonnell, who underwent a serious operation in the Charlottetown Hospital recently, arrived home again on July 19.

Mr. MacDonald, from St. Peters Bay, one of the few bricklayers around, has tackled the job of building the chimney at the Morell Rear Catholic Church. The monster chimney will be built on the outside of the furnace while another smaller one will take care of the vestry stove.

Mr. and Mrs. Lem Kane have been spending some time at their old home here. They keep it for a summer residence for themselves and members of their family for vacations and week-ends.

Mr. Joe Steele, teacher at St. Peters Harbor for the last term, has resigned from the school.

Miss Loraine Sinnott, student at Notre Dame last term, plans to enter the Charlottetown Hospital in September as a student nurse.

Friends of Doctor Lloyd S. Cox are pleased to learn he has joined the staff of the clinic at Charlottetown.

Mr. Laurence Daveau arrived from Halifax on July 18 to spend a vacation with his father Mr. Charles Daveau, and his sisters. He has been in Halifax for 15 years now.

Mrs. Gus MacDonald and daughter have returned from a pleasant trip to parts of Ontario where they visited members of the family who reside there.

Mr. W. A. O'Brien had a pleasant surprise Thursday afternoon when Mr. Wm. E. Elliott, of Randolph, Mass., called on him. Mr. Elliott had read some of Mr. O'Brien's letters in the press three years ago and decided when he visited the Island this summer to look him up.

Mr. and Mrs. James Eldershaw, Nufrage, were visitors Saturday. Mr. Eldershaw's mother resides here.

Mrs. Flossie Hooper has arrived home from Boston, after spending the winter and spring there with relatives and friends.

Friends of Mrs. Sarah McEwen are pleased to see her around again after undergoing treatment in the P. E. Island Hospital.

Tonight
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All Times Standard

MONDAY, JULY 27—7:15 P.M.
J. J. MUSTARD.

TUESDAY, JULY 28—12 NOON
HON. EUGENE CULLEN,
Minister of Industry and Resources

WEDNESDAY, JULY 29—7:15 P.M.
MRS. D. J. RILEY

FRIDAY, JULY 31—12 NOON
CECIL A. MILLER.

Liberal Political Meetings

MONDAY, JULY 27—AFTON HALL

WEDNESDAY, JULY 29—KINGSTON HALL

FRIDAY, JULY 31—STELLA MARIS HALL
NORTH RUSTICO.

Meetings will begin at 8:30. They will be attended by the candidates, Cecil A. Miller and Neil A. Matheson and by other prominent Liberals.

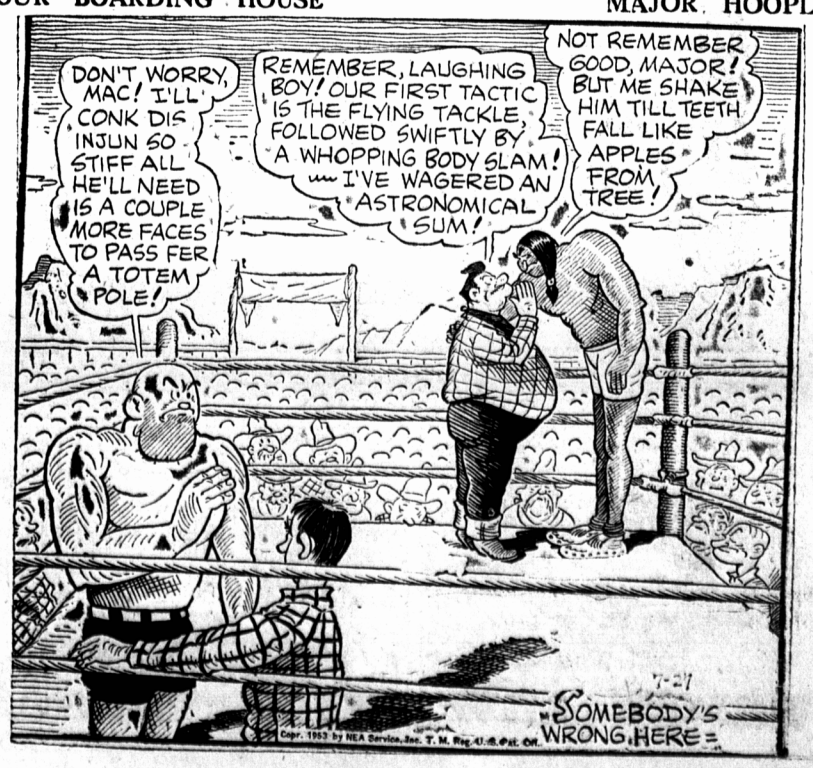
Donald M. Fleming, M.P. (Eglinton)

will address a Joint Political Meeting on behalf of the Conservative Candidate, John A. MacDonald at MURRAY RIVER, Tuesday, July 28th, at 8:30 p.m.

JOINT POLITICAL MEETINGS

The following list of joint meetings will be held at 8:30 in the following places:

ST. PETERS—Wednesday, July 29th.
SOURIS—Thursday, July 30th.
MURRAY RIVER, Tuesday, July 28th.

THOMAS J. KICKHAM,
JOHN A. MacDONALD.

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