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me." So we did. And I went out after a- while; he was still walking back and forth. And he said, "Are you the doctor?" I said, "Yes." Told him who I was. He said, "My wife is sick, and I just wanted to be here in time, before you got called somewhere else, so you'd come see her." It turned out she was a blind lady, and that was my first medical visit there. From then on, I had no lack of work at any time. The people flocked in. Now, before I left Halifax, I got this Dr. MacLeod from Whycomog to draw up a list of drugs that I absolutely had to have for any kind of medical practice, and the necessary dressings, and the things to do up a fractured arm or leg, stuff like that. And there was a little coastal motor vessel, called the Josephine K. She used to run from Halifax with freight for all the little outports. And these big boxes of medicines were loaded aboard of her. They would have been down there the day after we got to Neil's Harbour. Except that the next day a fog set in, and for two bloody weeks that fog never let up. And that was the worst fog I've ever seen in Cape Breton! So, the Josephine K. was tied up in some of these little ports around the west end of the island, and didn't show up until two weeks later. By that time I had lists of patients that long written down, and what they needed in the way of medications. Finally I got a telegram--there were no telephones there, but there were telegraph operators in every village--and I got a telegram from Dingwall saying the Josephine K. was in. So we hurried down and we loaded up the car with all these packages and came back. By that time the telegraph operator in Neil's Harbour spread the word, "The doctor got his medicines." I got back. This long line of people were at the office door waiting. So I told them they'd have to come back later, it was going to take me all the rest of the day to just put their medicines in bottles and label them. Anyway, that was that. That was the big event, then. And from then on, it was pretty standard medical practice--until the end of June. The last week of June, we got a summons from the local clergyman one afternoon to come to a meeting in the Orange Hall in Neil's Harbour that night. It had to do with trying to establish a hospital. A 12-year-old boy from Dingwall had developed CAPE ST. VJRENCE CAPE NORTH I Meat " ' Cove Bay*St. // Lawrence/ //to J.pieasant s'gar ' Bay Loaf ' "py BAY .1 W" " SMOKEY/ oped appendicitis in the winter, and the drift ice was on the coast, so they couldn't get any ship in to get him out. And they did send a plane down, and that crashed on the ice. By the time they did get him out, he was in extremis, and he died about the time they got to North Sydney. So this really shook everybody up, because this boy had a lot of relatives and friends. They decided there's no reason why they shouldn't have a hospital. And by 1942 the fishermen were making far better incomes than they had made for 15 or 20 years before, during the depression years. And they thought they were pretty well-heeled. And they'd put up the money and they'd have a hospital. Oh, I remember the meeting well enough. I just sat there dumbfounded at the gall these people had. And no fooling, they were going to have a hospital. They didn't know what it would cost to establish a cottage hospital. They didn't know how many

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