

[Page 45 - Danny Mike Chaisson, Belle Cote](#)ISSUE : [Issue 54](#)

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out of them in a couple of days. Which I don't believe you can do. (When you were growing up--whether or not you believe in ghosts--there were stories that they used to tell. I believe your uncles used to tell stories.) Oh, yes, yes. J. J. (Chiasson.) My father's brother. (And, do you remember what--the stories they used to tell?) No, not too much. No. (See "Old Tales of Sorcery Remembered" in Issue 30 of CAPE BRETON'S MAGAZINE.) To tell you the truth, I never heard too many things. But now and again, you'd get one who'd tell something that didn't make any sense.... My mother used to tell that something happened on this place. People that owned this place before my father bought it--I guess it was kind of a hard old lady. She lost it for debts to a creditor, to a merchant. And (she) said whoever bought this...would never have any luck. And that's certainly what we were. My father was up against it the first few years. I don't know how many horses, how many cows--animals would die for no reason at all. Probably today they'd have a different way of doing things, but anyway.... Apparently that's what the old lady had said. She had lost this place for debts. And she said whoever would have it would never have any luck. And apparently that's what my father was up against, after he bought this place, for a number of years. I don't know if that was the reason or what. There were probably a lot of other things that today would be explained in another way. (Yes, I understand what you mean. But you are someone who believes in prayer.) Oh, yes. (Do you believe in miracles?) I believe there is such a thing. They're not every day, though. I believe there's such a thing. (Has there ever been one in Belle Cote?) No, not in these parts. None that I know of. Probably there's some happening every day, that we don't notice, but.... But, you know, a lot of those things--in olden days, well, they had not too much outside communication. You know, they believed a lot of things. Stories they made up. And then some more would take advantage of that kind of stuff. An old fellow going around looking for handouts. You'd say, "Too darn lazy to work," I'd say. And if he'd ask for a loaf of bread--I remember old people would say that if you didn't give him something--a loaf of bread or something--the Evil Eye or whatever--something, you know, you could have bad luck. Some people were scared--old people were scared of those guys. There were a couple I remember that were going around. And if (they) didn't get it, gee, some thing real bad was going to happen. But then, I remember a fellow down here on the road, he was living with his mother. And she was scared to death. One of those fellows came in. And this fellow (her son) went aboard him. Called him some hard names. He said. "Now, you sign that witchcraft" --they used to call that witchcraft. "Oh," he said, "I can't, because you're not afraid of me." He said. "You're darn right I'm not scared of you. I'm not scared of you. And you'd better haul your frame out here, and I don't want to see you any more." He just told him that. Ap- ISYDCO FUELS Serving Homes and Businesses throughout Cape Breton Furnace Oil Stove Oil Diesel Fuel Gasoline Lubricants 24-Hour Emergency Service Distributor of Petrocan 3 BURNER SYDCO FUELS in. 38 Lewis Drive, Sydney River 539-6444 Ncrth Sydney/Hall ' Starcade Peoples Store Schwartz Guys & Gals Pipes & Things



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