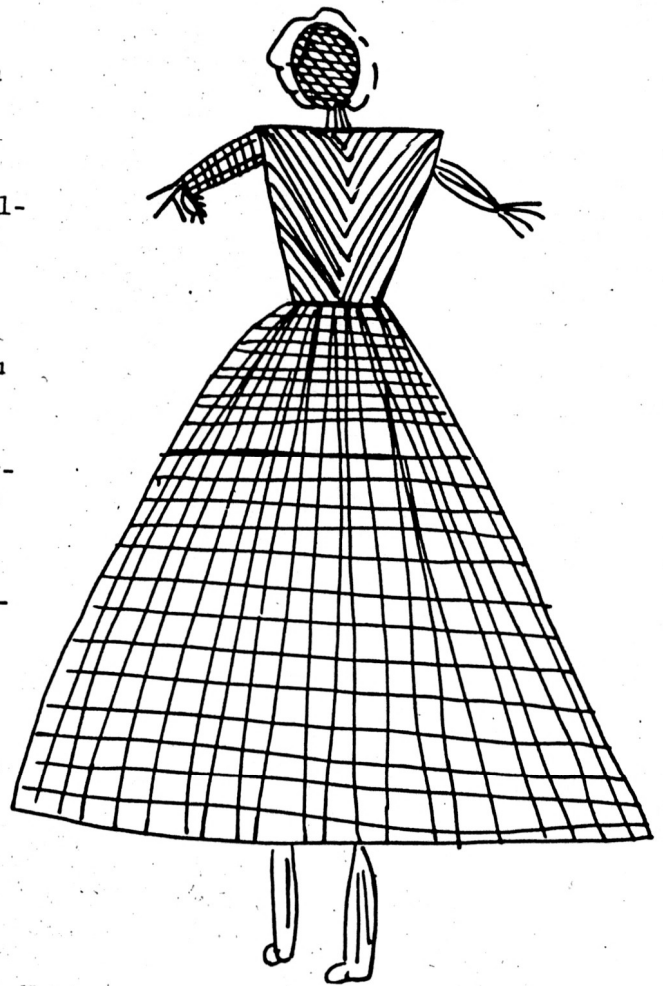


A Micmac Tale: "Magic Flight"

Pilip and his two brothers went hunting. They went different ways, shot different things. While Pilip is hunting he finds a house, a nice house in the woods, nice girls there. He spends his time with the girls in their lumbermen's place. He doesn't bring much game home with him. He always comes home later than the other fellows. One day they wonder why he is so late. At last they ask Pilip, "Where were you last night?" Pilip does not answer them. One night Pilip didn't come home at all. He stayed there in that house. The girl gave Pilip a *lapieleh'wi* box, "So you won't forget me any more," she said. She told Pilip, "Don't open the box until you are seeing hard times. If anybody chases you, say 'I'm going to be a tree, or squirrel, or bird.' That's the time to open the box." Pilip thinks, "My brothers must be worried about me. Better go home."

He left, but he went farther down the mountain, and at last he didn't know where he was going. He was lost. He came to a little log house, inside he finds a pretty girl, very striking-looking, and an old lady. "Well, my son-in-law ('ntlusuk) where did you come from?" the old lady asked. --"Quite a piece away, I am lost." --"No, you are not lost. You have come to see my daughter. You will have a good home here." The girl liked Pilip. (That's the time Pilip was mistaken. He didn't know the devil had a log house anywhere in this world.) Fine looking girl this.

In the evening the old man came--short, with wide shoulders, and awful dark. The old lady said to him, "Well, we have a son-in-law, today." Pilip slept that night with this girl. The old man said, "I have to go out hunting, I'll give you a little job. Take this basket (*biganahsi*). I want you to clean that pond before night, and harrow it, and sow it with wheat before I come." Pilip was scared. He worked hard dipping water with the basket. The girl came out to him with dinner. She told him, "Well, Pilip, you never can drain this little pond. That is what my father (*nuch*) does with every husband I get. Take your dinner." The girl went back home and brought a dipper covered with gold and a little pick. She dipped out the water. She sent the water away altogether. (Devil's daughter can do as well as her father.) She said, "Water, I want you to run off altogether." The water went away in two hours' time. The girl said, "You go get three bushels of wheat." Pilip went to the log house, and brought out the wheat. They sowed it, and they were through at four o'clock. At five o'clock, he harrowed it, the Devil would be back at half past six. They watched the grain grow up, before six o'clock the grain grew up that far (indicating two finger joints). At half past six the Devil came. He was smiling. This was the first man who could dry up that pond. "You done fine," he said.



Next morning, the Devil went away again on some business, he never said what he did. Near by was a big hill. Before he went he brought one old dull hoe, and a pick, and gave them to Pilip. "Well, Pilip, I want you to level down that hill, and sow buckwheat this time." --"My goodness," thought Pilip, "I cannot run away, the Devil will catch me." He started to dig, he got scared, near eleven o'clock. At noon the woman came with his dinner. She brought a gold pick and a rake. She told Pilip, "You can never level down that mountain. Wait for me, sit down one side." She struck one blow on the mountain, and said, "Level yourself, mountain, I want to sow that buckwheat before father comes." She gave Pilip a little book to read. Now they sow buckwheat, the buckwheat grows well. At five o'clock, she says, "Now we'll go down. You chop wood, and I'll make supper." Pilip took the ax, chopped wood, the girl made supper. The father came home, he could see the mountain all leveled, the buckwheat five inches high. He said, "Well done, Pilip, I didn't expect you could level that hill."

Every evening they played cards, Pilip and his wife, in their little bed-room. In the morning the Devil told Pilip, "I want you to do another job. There is a high black pole two hundred feet, I got a fellow up there. At ten o'clock, he will fall down.

I want you to put his body back, just as it was, and pick up all the parts." Pilip said, "I'll do it." Pilip went to the black pole, the man fell down. He was pretty well smashed, fingers in all directions, legs off, head away over there. The girl thought, "Pilip will never manage this." She went with the dinner earlier than before. She said, "I'll help you to put every thing back. I'll fix one arm, the right arm, you fix the left." Pilip put on the little finger wrong side out. There it stuck. He didn't tell his wife about it, they went home. She told Pilip to saw some big logs with a cross saw.

In the evening her father came home, looking very dull (after that fall). The old lady said, "What makes you look so dull?" --"Oh, I caught cold." Pilip had something on his mind. He watched him. When he saw the old man eating, he saw that his finger was turned wrong side out. Pilip left the table. The girl said, "Why don't you eat?" --He said, "I don't feel like eating." He went out and sat down on the bench where he had been sawing logs. He thinks, "That's the fellow we were fixing today." After she did the dishes, the girl went out to the fellow. She asked, "What's on your mind?" --"I am thinking that the man we fixed was your father." --"So he is." --

"Well, I think I'll go away tonight." The girl said, "I'll go, too. If you go away alone, my father will catch you." --"How?" --"He has got a pair of boots lined with gold, very fast. My mother has a pair, too." --"Well, we'll go." --"What shall we do? Our mother is watching us, she is afraid we'll run away." They went in their bed-room to play cards. The girl stole the boots, she put one pair on Pilip, one pair on herself. Now she spoke to the cards, "We're going to run away, but don't you let on when we go." The girl's name is Katherine. "If my mother says, 'Katherine, stop playing,' you cards speak to my mother, say, 'We're going to finish, this game.'"

They left. After awhile the old lady called, "Katherine, are you playing yet?" --"Yes." --"Time for you to come to bed." --"Just finish this game, mother (Kidju)." (Cards speaking now.) The old lady heard the cards still playing, "You hear me, stop playing." --"Well, we've started another game, don't mind us. Go to sleep, mother." --About one o'clock she hears the cards still. "Ain't you going to bed yet?" --"No, not yet." The old lady gets mad, she gets up, she opens the door, sees the cards jumping, nobody there. She saw their tracks, she came in screeching. She shook

Midway Motors Ltd.

Middle River

R. R. No. 3, Baddeck
Victoria Co., N. S.
BOE 1B0

295-2290

Local Dealer for
CHRYSLER Products



Aries SE 4-door Sedan is shown

MacLean Industrial Supply

COMPANY LIMITED

INDUSTRIAL - MINE AND MILL SUPPLIES

"Serving Atlantic Canada"



P.O. Box 1390,
207 Kings Rd.,
Sydney, N. S.
B1P 6K3
(902)564-5540

5559 Bilby St.,
P.O. Box 1730,
N. Postal Stn.,
Halifax, N. S.
B3K 1V4
(902)454-7413

Grandview Industrial Park,
P.O. Box 2292, Station C,
Saint John, N. B.
E2L 3V6
(506)657-1296

WE SELL SERVICE AND QUALITY PRODUCTS

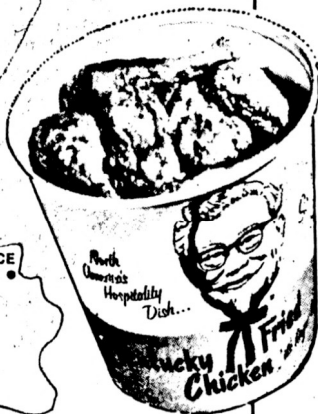
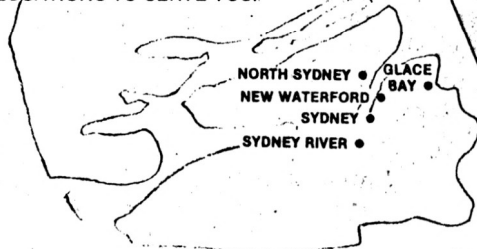
Lunchtime, dinnertime, partytime,
anytime, it's finger lickin' good.

Kentucky Fried Chicken

No matter what you're doing
or how many you're with
there's nothing that tastes
so good when you're
hungry as...

Kentucky Fried Chicken

5 LOCATIONS TO SERVE YOU:



The Colonel's Taste is Best
The Chicken Chalet Ltd

- STERLING MALL
Glace Bay, N.S.
Telephone 849-6689
- SYDNEY SHOPPING CENTRE
Prince Street, Sydney, N.S.
Telephone 564-6322
- 7 BLOWERS STREET
North Sydney, N.S.
Telephone 794-3534
- CAPE BRETON SHOPPING PLAZA
Sydney River, N.S.
Telephone 564-6646
- PLUMMER AVENUE
New Waterford, N.S.
Telephone 862-2111

the old man, "Get up! Get up! our children have gone away." The Devil got up, he told her, "Get me my gold boots." She went to get them, they were gone. "Why didn't you look after these children? We have lost them now." The old lady and Devil ran out after them.

The girl told Pilip, "They are chasing us, now, they are coming, I can see them, they are going to catch us." Now Pilip thought of his little box, in which was a little bird, sitting one side, another little bird on the other side. He said, "I want my wife to be standing as a little birch tree on one side of the pond, and myself on the other side of the pond as a little pine tree." There they stood, birch tree and pine tree. The Devil thought, "Now I will catch them." The tracks went up to the birch tree and to the pine tree. The old lady said, "Where did they go?"--"I cannot see their tracks at all."--"They are not here." So they went back crying, about five miles.

The old lady turned around and could see them going again, their girl and Pilip. They went back after them. When they were five miles away, the girl said, "They are coming." Pilip opened his box again. "I want to be a big birch tree and I want my wife to be sitting up in the tree as a partridge." When the devils got there they saw only a big birch tree and a partridge. They lost the tracks. They went two miles around, searching for the tracks, but they could see nothing but the tree and the partridge. It was nearly four o'clock in the morning. They went back home again, crying.

They looked back and saw them running again towards Pilip's land. The Devil and the old lady went back after them, chasing them as hard as they could. They went faster, this was the last trip. They went at full speed. Now they were coming to Pilip's boundary line. His wife dropped down,

Pilip grabbed her and threw her over the line. The Devil could not go over that line. They went back, crying.

Pilip said, "Now we're all right, we'll walk along. We're not very far from my house." They found the house, Pilip's people were good people. The old lady saw Pilip coming, with a woman, a good looking woman. "This is my wife," he said. The old lady said, "Don't you go away any more." They were happy there, they stayed there over a year. They had a nice little boy (the Devil's daughter had never been christened). "What will be the baby's name?"--"John." "All right, call him John." The day came for the baby to be christened. "Who is going to stand for the baby?" The old man and the old woman, Pilip and the baby's mother. The priest sprinkled holy water. The baby and the baby's mother went, devil people.



This story was told to Elsie Clews Parsons by Isabel Morris Googoo and published in the Journal of American Folklore in 1925. It is an example of elements of European stories and religion that have been worked into Micmac tradition. Petroglyphs are taken from Rock Drawings of the Micmac Indians by Marion Robertson, Nova Scotia Museum, 1973.

Winter in the National Park



Why not take some time this winter to relax, and explore and enjoy some of Cape Breton's natural and cultural history, protected within **Cape Breton Highlands National Park**. The Park is open year 'round. However, during the winter months it offers:

- groomed and ungroomed ski trails, with warm-up cabins that are just great for heating a small lunch;
- free winter camping facilities at Ingonish and Cheticamp;
- tobogganing, snowshoeing, ice fishing, and skating (bring your own gear).

Guided Nature Walks are available for organized groups. These must be reserved in advance.

PHONE FOR A COPY OF THE PARK'S FREE **Winter Activities Brochure**

(902) 285-2270

MONDAY TO FRIDAY, 8:00 A.M. TO 4:30 P.M.

1885



Ashby Medical Supply

We Rent, Sell & Repair Hospital Equipment:
wheelchairs, commode chairs, walkers, beds, canes

(WALTER'S RENTALS) 4 SHERIFF AVE., SYDNEY (562-5766)

STUBBERT'S Convenience Stores

Videos * Fresh Baked Goods * Lottery Tickets
Frozen Foods * Film * Magazines * Snacks

OPEN DAILY: Florence and Bras d'Or
OPEN 24 HOURS: 172 Main Street, Sydney Mines
The Esplanade, and Cor. George & Glenwood, Sydney

"We're there to serve you wherever you need us!"

Phone (902) 794-7251 Night & Holiday
Cable BRENNANS 736-8479
Telex 019-35149 794-3178



Brennans Travel Agency

158 QUEEN STREET, NORTH SYDNEY

STEAMSHIP -- AIRLINE -- RAIL
AND HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS