

# Bangor Daily News

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## PENDULUM OF HISTORY SWINGS BACK AND FORTH

**G**uns, Guns, Guns? Hey, you have to look at the 1920s when Calvin Coolidge turned the guns (President Wilson's Dry Navy) on the Americans.

During World War I the guns were aimed at the Germans. Under Silent Cal the guns were turned on to the American veterans who lost their millwright jobs and had turned to rum running for a living. Shut the paper mill and fight for the power over who controls booze -- doctors or politicians?

It's all history! Been there, done that. But those who do not know history are doomed to repeat it.

We nationalize the saw mill, we privatize the saw mill. We nationalize liquor sales, we privatize liquor sales. The pendulum swings from 1918 to 1929 then back again. We're in the 1924-26 phase right now headed for 1929.

When you shut the mill the rum runners run high followed by the gun toters putting morality and spirituality in control. Silent Cal brought on Warren G. Harding and the era of mill shut-downs, followed by Guns, Guns, Guns! the 1920s: that's when we turned our guns on Americans.

Millinocket? Old Town? Lincoln? Bucksport? It's all Van Buren re-visited. What else is new under the sun?

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### War on drugs

"As others see us" -- Oops, we may not want to see ourselves as others see us. I was surprised by what I read in LE JOURNAL DE QUEBEC. In the op-ed piece by Richard Martineau on April 21, under the headline: "Legalisation du Pot: Les Vrai\$ rai\$on\$" (Legalization of pot: the real rea\$on\$).

I was surprised at what Martineau said of Richard Nixon -- as told by John Ehrlichman. I translate for our readers what Martineau wrote in French.

"Nixon had two kinds of enemies, the pacifists of the left and the Blacks. We know that we could not set 'outside of the law' neither the protestors against the Viet-Nam War, nor the Blacks.

"But in setting marijuana users in the image of hippies and associating blacks with heroin, we could then present each as criminal, dis-establish their communities, arrest their leaders, search their homes, interrupt their meetings and castigate each in the nightly televised news.

"Don't we realize how we could tie each report with the use of drug? You bet!

"In sum, Nixon's henchmen in the administration declared a 'War on Drugs' not for moral reasons but such was strictly for political reasons. It permitted the jailing of his adversaries."

Tough words, but can we rely on them? Right off, I can see an American's stance as "No Way!" Our first reaction is to enter into quick denial.

Now why did the writer insert dollar signs in place of each letter "S" in his headline? Well, Martineau points out, "You can't very well tax an illegal item sale! Of course not." But following prohibition liquor became a taxable item with tax stamps set around each bottle's cap on bottles sold in the State liquor stores. Aye! Render

marijuana legal and it becomes another taxable item! So \$\$\$ with every "S" in the headline.

Guy Dubay  
Madawaska

**Write to Us Box Goes Here**

*I don't know where this text box is?*

### Anything but moral

I learned history 60 years ago. I began using genealogy to light up that history 50 years ago. But the deeper I got into genealogy, the more I ran into family secrets.

One thing I did not realize when I first started on this game of history and genealogy and that is that I would be learning something new every day.

Some of the family secrets, I've learned to keep secret in order not to offend friends, relatives and whomever arWritound me. We mustn't offend the priest. We must not upset the cop and we should take the pills when the doctor says so.

Recently I learned that Pope John Paul I was pope for just one month because he failed to take prescribed medicine. True or not? Well I did not take that from the Tabloids, but I'm learning as yet.

But for me the blockbuster in Acadian history came from reading Rev. Clarence J. d'Entremont's five-volume history published in 1980 (but read by me only in 2016).

I've only got 400 of 2,000 pages under my belt but I'm practically ready to upset the apple cart among my friends in history circles. Oh boy! I've got to watch it now. I must not think I can go about upsetting the money changers'

table in the Temple. I'm told to carry my cross, but certainly I realize I can not carry that one!

Burt Veritas Acadie -- The Truth of Acadie. There you can run by the truth of 1755, but do I want to talk about the illegitimate births of 1635 or 1629 and 1621? It's not just the peasants pussy foot-ing around the woods. My My! What's that that they are saying about the Acadian governors now?

I've been writing history for the local newspaper for decades now, but it looks like if I'm going to keep on telling the truth I'm going to have to turn to the tabloids -- and I've been laughing at the tabloids 40 years now. But what is it that I'm laughing at now? I can't tell you that -- that's a family secret!

Guy Dubay  
Madawaska

### Grumpy editorial

I learned history 60 years ago. I began using genealogy to light up that history 50 years ago. But the deeper I got into genealogy, the more I ran into family secrets.

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## OTHER VOICES

### VALLEY OF THE DOLLS

**I** used to live in the world of books. Remember the Latin word for book is "Liber". The word "Liberty" comes from the Latin word for book. You see the book gives you ideas and that's liberty: A world full of ideas.

**But without having a choice in the matter, without even changing place, I have now moved into "The Valley of the Dolls". I think I should read Jacqueline Susann's book of that title to help me interpret my new world.**

None of the dolls have anything in their head. They are all surface. Their message is in their outer wear. Is that how the world is to be judged from now on, by people's outer look rather than what's in their hearts or the gift they can give from their mind?

One summer I sold books in front of the church. When people come out of church, they have already given inside. You can't expect parishioners to shell out outside after they have given inside. But the book was

**about the church in front of which I stood.**

**Now, I know perfectly well which books, Acadians will buy and which they will not buy. A few of the people who know me bought the book as a favor to me. I knew I was not going to get a "sale" from most "locals". Standing there I should well recall what is read in the good book inside the church: "A prophet is not a prophet in his own home" but I did reach a clientele: tourists. I'd flip open the book to the pictures of the church windows and tell them, "Look you can take with you the memory of what you've just seen inside". They were tourists , if they could afford to come up here they could afford the book.**

That big tourist season over, I did not really re-new my effort last summer. That much is "history" now for me, even if I believe that each book can give a measure of liberty, by expanding one's understanding of his world.

Newspaper Source (Date)

## DOONESBURY

GARRY TRUDEAU



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