

*Ans'd
July 28/66*

CHARLES C. HENRY
6705 CALDWELL AVENUE
CHICAGO 46, ILLINOIS
763-1136

July 25, 1966

Mr. Thomas H. Raddall
Liverpool, Nova Scotia CANADA

Dear Mr. Raddall:

Mr. Thomas Appleby, Cmdr USNRF retd, ex-operator at Wanamakers Philadelphia, and I are trying to collect data for a talk at the Annual Meeting of the Antique Wireless Association to be held Sept. 24 and 25th at Franklin Institute, Phila. Especially, since our talk time is limited to 15 minutes, we will publish a pamphlet on the subject of the FACTS relative the Titanic-Carpathia communications, - perhaps this will deflate Dave's claims somewhat.

It would be very fine if we could have a short article by you on your part in this historical episode in radio history.

Talked with Charley Ellsworth over l.d. the other eve - he thought you may have been at Sable Island MSD at the time, He said he was at Cape Ray MCR, and that he knew you over the air. Said the coast stations up there were equipped with Maggies for detection.

Mr. Bruce Kelley, secretary of the AWA, and editor of the "Old Timer's Bulletin", the AWA publication, has publicized your excellent novel, "The Nymph and the Lamp" in the quarterly's pages. By having my bookseller advertise in the OP market I was able to find two copies for my library of several hundred old wireless/radio tomes.

Charley promises me pics of the interior and exterior of both Cape Ray and Cape Race stations for our pamphlet, and he will send a pic of himself taken years ago with the old nickle-plated phones on his head. fb.

Am going to ask Kelley to bring down their museums Marconi magnetic detector to the meeting.

Would you like to contribute a short resume of your activity in the Titanic-Carpathia communications story for our reading and publication. Perhaps a pic of yourself. We'll gladly give due credit. By the way, C.E. stated that he had heard that your book was reprinted, 5,000 copies last year in Montreal. True? Would make gud news item for the ^{OTB}. Congratulations! The chgo Public Library just ^{gave/ur} street address: 44 Park St.

We will ptoably send you a token payment so that we would be free to copy right. By the way Ellsworth has written a book on his radio experiences and has an agent in Nyk looking for a publisher.

73

Sincerely,
Chas. C. Henry

Chas. C. Henry

*Do u hv any pics of the station on Sable Island?
We can copy + return originals. C.H.*

July 28, 1966

Mr. Charles C. Henry,
6705 Caldwell Avenue,
Chicago 46, Illinois.

Dear Mr. Henry:

I'm sorry I can't help you on the Titanic story, as I belonged to a later generation of ops. By fibbing about my age (I was 15 but gave it as 18) I managed to get into the game in 1918, spent a few years in ships, with brief spells of shore duty at Partridge Island, Pictou and North Sydney. I was posted to Sable Island VCT in the spring of 1921 and stayed over a year. Often heard Cape Ray VCR, but at VCT we worked with Cape Race VCE, where my opposite watch-number was the famous Jim Myrick, then rated the best operator on the coast.

The original Sable Island station was burned down during the ~~xxxxxxx~~ "operators' mutiny" in 1920, so the gear I worked with was (then) modern stuff, including a carborundum crystal detector. For private interest and amusement we bought our own vacuum tubes and honeycomb coils and made a set to pick up voice broadcasts from KDKA and WOY. However on one of my ships, the transport "Prince George", I used the old British $1\frac{1}{2}$ KW spark ~~transmitter with the emergency set, and the receiver~~ transmitter, with a 10-inch coil emergency set, and the receiver was the old British Marconi "tuner" with magnetic detector.

I knew W.J.Gray, who was at Cape Race when they picked up the Titanic's SOS, and remember him talking about it. A few years ago he retired to his old home in the Orkney Islands, after many years on the Marconi staff at Montreal.

My novel The Nymph and The Lamp has sold over 680,000 copies in all editions, including practically every European language. Apart from that a condensed version was published by the Reader's Digest Book Club in 1950, and ran to about 450,000 copies. In 1951 it appeared on the CBS as a television play starring Robert Preston and Margaret Sullivan. It has also been used as a radio play on the Canadian national network and on the BBC in Britain. So it achieved a pretty wide range for a yarn about old time sparks!

Sincerely,

