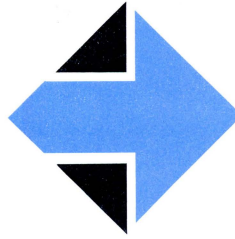


nova scotia information service



November 8th, 1968

Dr. T.H. Raddall,
Liverpool, N.S.

Dear Dr. Raddall:

At long last we are finishing up our film on the "South Shore". I don't think it will shake the world, but it will be a fair little film I think.

I am enclosing ^w₄ pages of the shot list of this film with proposed commentary at left. The arrows point to where the commentary starts in relation to film. It may seem crowded but actually the shots are quite long and timing is easy.

I would appreciate it if you would check the commentary re the historic bit. In particular the Perkins house and diary. Phyllis Blakely gave me the information re the diary which, if true, has a little human interest touch, but I hesitate to record it unless it is true.

If you have any criticism about the information I am using, factually, that is, I would appreciate your telling me. One does not write a commentary as one does a book. There is a limit to what one can say and it has to be to the point.

Thanking you in advance and with kindest regards to yourself and Mrs. Raddall,

Yours truly,

Margaret Perry
Margaret Perry.

November 11, 1968

Mrs. Margaret Perry,
N.S. Information Service,
Provincial Building,
Halifax, N.S.

Dear Mrs. Perry:

With regard to the shot list for the film "South Shore", the commentary on Perkins should be changed a bit.

Nobody knows whether or not the Perkins family kept his diary under lock and key because of the town gossip he records. Probably none of his contemporaries even knew that he kept a diary, and I doubt if any of them would have cared a hoot if he did. They were all too busy with their daily lives to worry about what anybody might read ~~them~~ about them in the future. Perkins's widow took the diary with her to Connecticut when she retired there after his death, and no one in Liverpool knew of its existence until 1897, when an American descendant of Perkins presented it to the newly incorporated town of Liverpool. It was then, when a few curious people began to read the diary, that some of the old families are said to have suffered qualms about their ancestors -- and the diary.

It is not true that I "discovered" the diary. During War One a Liverpool man made a typewritten copy of it for the Public Archives at Ottawa. When I came to live here in 1923 the local weekly paper was running extracts from the diary as "filler". But it would be true to say that I was the first to make a deep study of the diary, which I revealed in my first novel "His Majesty's Yankees".

"When merchant captains armed their ships and fought against their New England brothers to protect their trade with England." Here I would cut out the phrase "to protect their trade with England". Their main trade was with the West Indies, and their action against their fellow Americans was a natural and legal reprisal for the American attacks ~~on~~ on Nova Scotia shipping. It would be better to say: "When Nova Scotia merchants armed their ships and fought against their Yankee brethren in what was, for them, a civil war."

Sincerely,