

W/O Now Famous Author

Thomas H. Raddall, author of *Pride's Fancy*, *Roger Sudden*, *His Majesty's Yankee* and other best-sellers, was a visitor to Montreal some weeks ago. This event was of especial interest to many of our employees with long service, for Mr. Raddall was formerly an employe of our Company.

At the age of fifteen, he was given his first job by Walter Gray—now Assistant General Manager, C.E. Division—as a Junior Operator. This was in 1918 and for the next couple of years he continued in that capacity. He was later transferred to the Sable Island Station, thence to Camperdown where he remained until he decided to strike out along new lines of endeavour.

During his Montreal visit, Mr. Gray paid a call on Mr. Raddall when they spent quite some time reminiscing over the old days. It was too good a bet to miss, so our AGM had the author autograph a series of his books which the former owned and which are now prized possessions.

Long interested in Eighteenth Century history, particularly that pertaining to Nova Scotia and the Maritimes, Mr. Raddall's first novel came about through the prompting of two other well-known authors—John Buchan, one of our former Governor Generals, and Kenneth Roberts.



Proulx and Gerard McGinnis were pressing in a savage attack on the harassed A-M goalie. Proulx (No. 8) has just passed to McGinnis. A quick flip of Mac's stick and the score read: Marconi 1, Ayerst 0.

There are four games entered in the League and the games take place every Friday at St. Laurent Arena. There are two games a night, first one starting at 8.00 p.m., followed by the

De la télégraphie à la renommée

Thomas H. Raddall, auteur de *Pride's Fancy*, *Roger Sudden*, *His Majesty's Yankee* et autres volumes en vogue, faisait un séjour à Montréal il y a quelques semaines. La nouvelle est susceptible d'intéresser nos vieux employés car M. Raddall a déjà travaillé pour la compagnie.

Walter J. Gray qui est actuellement gérant-général-adjoint (division du C.E.) l'engageait alors qu'il n'avait que quinze ans, à titre d'apprenti télégraphiste. On le transféra plus tard au poste de Sable Island et ensuite à Camperdown où il demeura jusqu'à ce qu'il décide de changer de métier.

Lors de son passage à Montréal, M. Gray a rendu visite à son ancien employé et tous deux en profitèrent pour se rappeler des souvenirs communs. Notre g.-g.-a. pria alors l'auteur d'autographier une série de ses ouvrages qui font maintenant l'orgueil de leur propriétaire qui les garde avec un soin jaloux.

Intéressé depuis longtemps à l'histoire du dix-huitième siècle particulièrement en ce qui concerne la Nouvelle-Ecosse et les Maritimes, M. Raddall écrivit son premier volume à la suite des encouragements et des conseils que lui prodiguèrent deux auteurs de marque, John Buchan, ancien gouverneur-général du Canada, et Kenneth Roberts.



direction du gardien de buts adverse. Proulx (no 8) vient de faire une passe à McGinnis. Par un lancer rapide ce dernier comptait le premier point de la soirée.

Chaque club doit jouer quatre parties; elles ont lieu le vendredi soir à l'Aréna St-Laurent. Deux joutes sont inscrites au programme de chaque soirée; la première commence à 8 hrs et la seconde à 9.30 hrs.

CANADIAN MARCONI COMPANY

(LIMITED LIABILITY)

February 5, 1947.

W. J. GRAY

ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER

MARCONI BUILDING,
ST. SACRAMENT ST.

MONTREAL

Thos. H. Raddall, Esq.,
Author,
LIVERPOOL - N.S.

Dear Mr. Raddall:

I chanced to mention my recent meeting with you to our Mr. O'Brien, Editor of our house organ, the 'Marconi News', and the moment that he became aware of your former connection with us, he felt that some reference to the case should be made in our publication. The little article on Page 4 is the result.

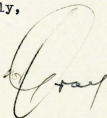
I hope that you will not feel that we have taken liberties and that you will accept the three copies of 'Marconi News' which I enclose.

I have no doubt that several old-timers will read this little article with keen interest.

Our get-together at Morgan's was altogether too brief, and so, I shall hope that when next you come to Montreal you will not fail to get in touch with me in order that we might continue our talks.

With warmest regards,

Sincerely,



Att.

*Amid
Feb. 8/47*

*Answered
I sent him a copy
of "Lambert" Feb. 17/47*

CANADIAN MARCONI COMPANY

(LIMITED LIABILITY)

W. J. GRAY
ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER

February 15, 1947.

MARCONI BUILDING,
ST. SACRAMENT ST.
MONTREAL

Thomas H. Raddall, Esq.,
LIVERPOOL - N.S.

Dear Mr. Raddall:

I have your note dated February 8th.

You recall for me many names which I must confess I had forgotten, and you mention two, that is, Paddy Smee and "Shorty" Broughm, whom I do not remember at all.

I list hereunder the movements of those of whom I have present-day knowledge:

Davie Ross - O.I.C. Point Edward

Billy Hickmott - O.I.C. Midland

Georgie Raine - Second Operator Kingston

Fred Hughes - Attached to Inspection Section,
Department of Transport.

Mike Walsh - Second Operator, North Sydney

Harvey Taylor - Deceased (drowned accidentally whilst
bathing near Clarke City -
July 1935)

Harry Inder - O.I.C. Grindstone - about to be transferred
to North Sydney in same
capacity.

Wilson - Last heard of with United Fruit Company of U.S.

Batho - Vice President of a supply company in Halifax.

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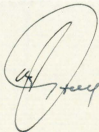
Walt Darling - connected with a gramophone company in Montreal.

Walt Hunter, M.B.E. - Attached to the "Canadian Challenger"

I am so sorry that I have been unable to secure for you one of the old-time keys, but I have succeeded in getting hold of a pair of Baldwin Telephones and these are going forward to you with my compliments, under separate cover.

Mrs. Gray joins me in Kindest Regards,

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Mrs. Gray", enclosed within a large, loopy circular flourish.

CANADIAN MARCONI COMPANY

(LIMITED LIABILITY)

W. J. GRAY

ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER

February 25, 1947.

MARCONI BUILDING,
ST. SACRAMENT ST.

MONTREAL

T.H. Raddall, Esq.,
Author,
LIVERPOOL - N.S.

Dear Mr. Raddall:

Please accept my most hearty thanks for the copy of "Tambour" and other stories which, you may be sure, I shall treasure. I had already read "Tambour" when it appeared in magazine form and, needless to say, it had an especial appeal to me. So vividly did you portray the station that I could almost hear once again the familiar sounds of the old engine-room with the engine running - and the familiar smells. I re-read it again last night and for an hour or so I was transported back to 1906 at Sable Island.

In perusing your accompanying note where you speak of the bursting of the water pipes, I have made a marginal note: "He was lucky to have water pipes - there were none in my time." Life was undoubtedly hard in those days and yet, with the passing of the years, one seems only to remember the more pleasing incidents, and there were many.

I have asked my colleagues to keep their eye open for one of the old-type keys, and so if one turns up I shall be glad to send it on.

Again many, many thanks, and with Warmest Regards,

Sincerely,

