

ERINDALE COLLEGE
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
3359 MISSISSAUGA ROAD
CLARKSON, ONTARIO

October 12, 1973

Mr. Thomas Raddall,
Liverpool,
Nova Scotia.

Dear Mr. Raddall:

Let me introduce myself - as someone who has enjoyed your books and short stories about the Maritimes; and as the Director of the Programme Committee for the Canadian Historical Association, 1973-74.

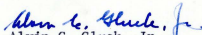
Amidst the toil and tedium of assembling a programme lie certain pleasures. One of them is the chance to establish sessions or panels concerning subjects which are of great personal interest to me. I hope to mount a panel at the C.H.A. meetings in Toronto, 5-8 June 1974, which would be composed of writers and historians. My intention is that they would deal in a free-wheeling fashion with the tentatively entitled subject: "Canadian History and Canadian Literature: Relations and Reflections". Ideally, this panel would consist of people such as you, Donald G. Creighton, Wallace Stegner, Desmond Pacey, and others. Such a session will, I am sure, draw virtually everyone who attends the C.H.A. The subject and the participants would see to that.

Would you agree to participate? When I first began considering this panel, your name came immediately to mind, for your work combines the best of both the literary and historical worlds.

I should state, too, that a gathering such as I envisage would attract not only members of the historical profession but also the general public. Both the Learned Societies (under whose auspices we historians gather) and the University of Toronto have promised maximum publicity for events such as this.

Although the general dates for the meetings are set (5-8 June), specific dates and hours can be arranged to fit the convenience of participants. Housing is no problem; the University of Toronto provides accommodations at minimal cost. I can offer you no fee, for I have no funds at my command; but perhaps I could induce the C.H.A. to cover your expenses. All I can assure you of is the promise of a very lively session and a most appreciative and numerous audience.

Most sincerely,


Alvin C. Gluek, Jr.,
Department of History.

ACG:jm

November 1, 1973

Mr. Alvin C. Gluek Jr.,
Department of History,
Erindale College,
Clarkson, Ontario.

Dear Mr. Gluek:

Thank you for your very kind letter.

I wish it were possible to accept your invitation, but I am sorry to say I am unable to attend the meetings of the Canadian Historical Association and take part in the panel you contemplate.

I am retired in all ways now, afflicted with an arthritic stoop in my back and stiffness in my joints, and with the further handicap of failing eyesight.

I forget who said "Seldom comes old age alone", but with increasing age I know the sad truth of it.

Consequently it is good to know that what I wrote in the best years of my life is still of value to people like yourself.

With my best wishes for your success,

Sincerely,