



**THE HALIFAX CHRONICLE**  
**THE HALIFAX DAILY STAR**

THE HOME NEWSPAPERS  
OF NOVA SCOTIA

MEMBERS A.B.C.

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA. May 27/42

Mr. Thomas H. Raddall,  
Liverpool, N.S.

*Ans'd May 30*

Dear Mr. Raddall:

Several days ago I received a letter from the Federated Press Limited, 1187 Bluary street, Montreal, in connection with a commission they have to prepare a suitable book, done along novel lines, to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Dominion Coal Company. They want a story between 25,000 and 30,000 words on the development of the industry and will pay somewhere between \$500 and \$1,000 for the job. They wrote me to see if I could recommend one or more men who might be interested in such an assignment. Having read some of your articles it seemed to me you were the type of writer they were looking for -- they specified a Nova Scotian, preferably a Cape Bretoner.

I am writing to let you know about this in case you have not yet heard from than and in case you should wish to get in touch with them. The letter to me was written by John Cambridge, of their sales department.

Yours very truly,  
*Cy. G. Robinson*  
Cyril G. Robinson



# THE FEDERATED PRESS LIMITED

*Printers and Lithographers*

TEL: LANCASTER 8181 •  
1187 BLEURY STREET  
MONTREAL

May 26, 1942

Mr. Thomas H. Raddall,  
Liverpool, N.S.

Dear Sir;-

*No*  
*May 30*

I am writing you on the suggestion of Mr. Cyril G. Robinson, of The Halifax Chronicle.

We are seeking a thoroughly competent writer for a possible assignment to do a history for the Dominion Coal Co. Limited, which will celebrate its 50th anniversary in 1943.

The Home Office of this company is at Sydney, and many of its mines are on Cape Breton. Before the organization of this Company, there was a long period of unprofitable mining; of long periods of unemployment; of other difficulties.

The Dominion Coal Company has become one of the world's leading producers of bituminous coal, the principal source of supply of the St. Lawrence market; one of Canada's major industrial corporations; and has supplied reasonably continuous employment, reasonably continuous production and has been a major stabilizing influence in the economy of Nova Scotia.

It costs more to mine coal in Cape Breton (principally, because, much of the coal has to be mined under the ocean), and therefore they have been forced to be very efficient managers and very efficient shippers to compete successfully with coal mined elsewhere.

There is, because of the factors briefly stated above very little business romance behind the evolution of this company. It is the kind of a story which requires a very capable writer and particularly a writer with a business "sense" who can properly present the story to be of interest to coal buyers, government officials, industrial leaders. It is the kind of a story, which under some circumstances, might be published in such a public magazine as "Fortune". As we visualize the story, it should start with the organization of the Corporation and somewhere about 30,000 words (20 to 25 chapters), trace the development of the company and its contribution to Canada.

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Mr. Thomas H. Raddall,

We are now securing data on finances, organization, presidents, and officers throughout the years, production figures and similar data which would be required in the presentation of a story. We can arrange for interviews in Cape Breton with the proper officials. We can arrange interviews in Montreal with other officials, or can secure the interviews for the writer selected.

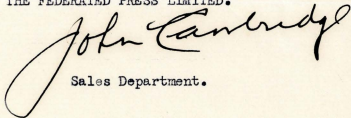
We are writing to enquire if you would be interested in tackling such an assignment, and if so, would like to know the following; - approximately what you would charge, whether you would be willing to submit a preface and first chapter, in advance of writing the complete story, and what you would want for this preliminary assignment; how long you would require and if you could start sometime in June, and finally, if you could send us one or more books or stories of a similar nature you have prepared in the last few years.

You will appreciate it is difficult in a letter to outline completely all the factors. You will also know whether this is an assignment which appeals to you, and which you feel competent to handle; it is the main first point we would like to determine. Please understand we have not as yet an "ORDER" for this job, but it has been discussed several times with the principals, and there is every indication that an order is forthcoming, depending on our success in finding a competent writer to prepare the story.

Thanking you in anticipation.

Yours very truly,

THE FEDERATED PRESS LIMITED.

A large, stylized handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John Cambridge". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name of the Sales Department.

Sales Department.

J. Cambridge:0