307, Russell Hill Road,
Toronto.
7th January, 1947.

Dear Mr. Raddall,

It was so nice of you to send me that gorgeous card at Christmas. It stands alone on the chest of drawers in my study warming my heart, in this wintry weather, to think such scenes can be.

I so much enjoyed meeting you at the Allwards'. I am afraid that when

your week was over you must have been tired out. At such times one is like a piece of bread on a duck pond - torn to bits by the greedy. And for what ? If you can write you can write and no speeches are needed to prove it.

Do you remember telling me of a house belonging to an American, near a fishing village ? It is possible that we shall want to go to Nova Scotia next Summer and I should like to have some place in mind. With all my good wishes for the coming year,

Very sincerely
Mazo de la Roche

307 RUSSELL HILL ROAD
TORONTO

10th September, 1947.

Dear Mr. Raddall,

The Napier Moores came in the other night and told me how much they had enjoyed meeting you again and making the acquaintance of your wife. They told me that you spoke of your disappointment in not being able to get that lovely cottage for Caroline and me this summer. I know we should have loved being there. Your description of the place in your letter of last June, filled me with longing for it because it was just the sort of place we wanted.

We went to The Anchorage in Grand Manan which in many ways suited us very well. But there was a great deal of fog and the food was far from good which is such a pity for a convalescent and indeed for anyone who is making a stay of nearly six weeks. Perhaps another summer we may have better luck. Next year we hope to go to England but in these days one really cannot make plans ahead. I hope that by now you are well on the way on a new book. I so much enjoyed your last one. I had hoped to do some work in the summer but there were far too many people about.

Thanking you for all the trouble you have taken over the cottage,

Very sincerely

Mazo de la Roche

Note attached to a Christmas card from Mazo de la Roche

1951

From the Desk of
DR. T. H. RADDALL

FROM A LETTER PUBLISHED IN "THE AUTHOR" - Autumn 1951.

Replying to Critics.

In my opinion the readers of novels are far more intelligent than unsuccessful writers will believe. They are expert in detecting, and merciless to, the conceited author, and the insincere author, and the author with all the tools of literature at his command who has nothing to say worth reading. Most reviewers are unsuccessful practitioners of the art of creative writing or they would not be interested in the meagre fees they get for writing about other people's books, and in part their lack of success may be due to the fact that they have completely misunderstood the character and the intelligence of the reading public. Young authors should accept the embittered fulminations of reviewers with the very greatest reserve; from the nature of their employment these people are quite unlikely to know what they are talking about.

NEVIL SHUTE.

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(Louis Jouvet)

"Whatever happens," Jouvet warned him, "accept the public's judgment and remind yourself constantly as did Moliere, it's just as difficult to combat a work which the public likes as to defend one they don't."

Dear Mr. Raddall,

Congratulations on your continued success! I don't know whether you have been the object of attack by some reviewers, but, if you have, as I have, this may interest you.

M. & G. R.

Ans'd July 5/60

3 Ava Crescent
Forest Hill Village
Toronto - 27-6-60.

Please excuse mistakes. I have very bad e esight.

Dear Mr. Radall,

My cousin, Mazo de la Roche, has asked me to send you a few lines to say how happy she is that you have won the Doubleday award. And may I add my own congratulations. It is especially pleasant when one's own country shows its appreciation of one's talent.

I regret to say that my cousin has been ill for many months now - gravely so. We have had three nurses in the house since the first of this year. Since the warmer weather has come she is picking up a bit of strength but this extreme nervous exhaustion from which she is suffering is very difficult and slow. Indeed it has been a very sad winter for us.

We have just finished reading your stories of early days in Nova Scotia and greatly enjoyed it - though we shuddered at some of the hardships endured by those fine brave people.

Vy sincerely -
Caroline Clement