

Answered  
Aug 31

28 August 1946  
26 South Bank Street  
Halifax N.S.

Dear Tom :-

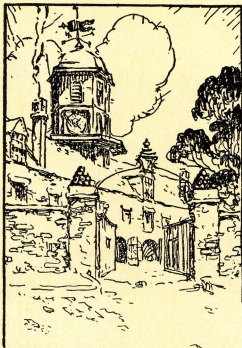
Your letter of the 17<sup>th</sup> has remained unanswered pending a reply of my note of the 15<sup>th</sup> to George Foster, written & should think about the same day he wrote you.

No letter from him yet, but I feel I shouldn't prolong my discourtesy to you - All the drawings are on "the board" in pencil and about half of them are completed in permanent ink. A couple are doubtful and if you are coming up I should welcome an opportunity to discuss them with you - Rather more research was involved than I had anticipated but in view of the factual nature of the material I felt the illustrations should have some documentary value as well. Each drawing seemed to raise several points which required further investigation to ensure accuracy of detail and in view of Archie's principles, your own interest and the critical audience to which such a book

will particularly appeal, & have endeavored to  
check various sources. According to Switzer  
most hoops were in the salvage gathered by Benj  
Kraut from the wreck of the "young Teazer", so  
the panels & had drawn had to be erased.  
Probabilities and possibilities as well as fact, beset the  
artist as much as the author.

I wrote George Foster asking whether a title  
had been selected as he has been ~~rumormongering~~  
about a book jacket. I also gave him a report  
of progress and asked when the "dead line"  
occurred as I thought of going away for a few days  
following the close of summer school - you may  
be able to answer these questions

"Rudder Churchill" hasn't been going well. I have  
had as many tries at rigging a jury rudder as  
he essayed but I think the present one will hold.  
I haven't had much luck in finding a suitable  
parish schooner and gunboats for Godfrey but  
we must may clear away and show the spars even  
if others seem to fit fairly well - but please  
let me know ~~if~~ if you are coming up anytime  
cheer bo.  
Don't know



The Ordnance Yard  
Halifax.

POST CARD

CORRESPONDENCE <sup>Enroute</sup> to Toronto



Dear Tom: On Monday  
20, Tuesday - I took your  
picture to Zwicker's,  
Granville Street for framing  
and told him \$2. That you  
would send her the plate to  
be affixed. On your behalf I  
ordered touch moulding at .80¢  
and gold edge at 50¢ per foot -  
any of the wider gold moulding  
were \$1.50 per foot - Hope  
you approve - David.

Dr. Tom Roddall  
Liverpool N.S.

Dear Tom: -

As I showed you on Wednesday, I had recently secured another copy of Roger Sudden. I have just finished reading it . When I read it first I was eager to devour it as a splendid yarn, and how I enjoyed it! Now I have had a more rare pleasure, savouring your writing and enjoying each allusion and choice of phrase from "the skin off my transom" to the "pipe dream of Louisburg". The story seemed fresh again and I fully appreciate now that I have been lost in it for two days.

After considering my probable duties for the next six weeks it seem to me that you had better have the painting which is now in the Paramount theatre. As there is a more or less constant price established by each artist for pictures of certain sizes, it would be appreciated if you didn't comment on the amount. I am quite happy about it and delighted that you will have a picture that I enjoyed painting, but it might make a future purchaser a trifle reluctant to pay.

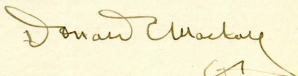
With your permission I shall probably paint that subject again as the theme is so thoroughly Nova Scotia and it is unlikely that I shall ever see that scene as ~~#####~~ completely. The oxen will be with us for some time but I'm afraid the day of the Bluenose banker is just about over.

I shall take the picture to Zwicker's with your instructions for framing and ask them to hold it until they receive the plate from you. The title is "Building a Bluenose".

When I see you again you must tell me of the "Nine tailors of Tooley Street....'we the people of England'

A gain with admiration and kindest regards

Sincerely

Donald Mackay  


msd  
 June 30/50

for \$50 July 24/50

26 SOUTH PARK ST  
HALIFAX  
NOVA SCOTIA

July 18<sup>th</sup> 1950

Dear Tom:

Your letter evidently arrived the day after I left for Toronto and Mollie passed the information to me by 'phone after I had been there for about a week. I went in to Canadian Radio Awards, a division of the Canadian Adult Education Association and they very kindly made out a bill for me - I have not yet received their cheque but it will doubtless be along soon. They have ordered the presentation plate.

I am quite agreeable to the price but if it will make you feel any happier we will take the picture price at \$100.00 (negative frame, which I urgently required for another exhibition) then we could split the difference between that and the fifty - either \$25.00 or less

what ever is agreeable to you;  
 Certainly not more as I would still  
 like to retain the privilege of painting  
 a similar theme at some time in  
 the future -

I saw Jack Mc. Clelland very  
 briefly one day - he is very  
 enthusiastic about your new novel -  
 I am looking forward to it in  
 keen anticipation.

I am enclosing a ~~few~~ few notes  
 from "Dalhousie Review," doubtless  
 you already have them in your files  
 but I thought you might find them  
 interesting -

I hope Zwicker's do a good job  
 on your frame and that it won't  
 cost too much -

Kindest Regards.

Sincerely  
 Donald



(from Donald  
Mackay)

July 28 - 1950

26 SOUTH PARK ST.  
HALIFAX  
NOVA SCOTIA

Dear Tom :-

Thank you very much for  
your kind letter and the  
enclosed cheque - which is  
un-necessarily generous -

I have been in to see the  
picture in it's new frame and  
I think they have made a very  
good job of it and I hope  
you like it -

26 SOUTH PARK ST  
HALIFAX  
NOVA SCOTIA

By the way, I went to a  
ninety-four year old's birthday  
party yesterday and saw  
an interesting old water colour  
of her husband's grandfather,  
the light keeper of Sable Island.  
He is wearing an old 'fou' water  
and is mounted on a pony -

Out of the dunes beyond, parts  
of an old wreck are protruding



He looks just a bit  
like an underdeveloped  
picador! Sometime  
when you come up  
we may go over  
to see it - until  
then - sincerely  
Dorcas

March 1, 1963

Dear Don,

As you probably know, McClelland & Stewart allowed my "Halifax, Warden of the North" to go out of print about two years ago. This gave me the opportunity to recover the publishing rights, which I had long wished to do.

My present Canadian publishers (Doubleday Canada Ltd.) are preparing a new Canadian Cities series, to be launched about a year apart. Present plans include a new issue of my book on Halifax, revised and brought up to date, to be published in the spring of 1964. The illustrations and jacket would be the same as the original edition, and you are entitled to payment for the re-use (if there is such a word!) of your work. George E. Nelsch, who is head of Doubleday Canada, will be getting in touch with you about this.

The make-up of the book, including the excellent paper, print and binding, made the original edition a rather expensive one, so that the retail price was \$6 -- a bit too high for popular sale, even in the city's bicentennial year, with all the attendant publicity. (I overheard Mayor Ahern telling someone, "Some nut is bringing out a book on Halifax to sell at six bucks -- who does he think will buy it?")

Nevertheless the book proved to be a steady seller to the more literate public, and I think the new issue will do the same. Book costs are much higher now than in 1948, but I'm hoping to persuade Doubleday to produce an edition comparable in all ways with the first.

In bringing the book up to date, I'm only too well aware that the really romantic history of Halifax ended with War Two in 1945. Since that time there has been enormous growth and change, but the difficulty will be to write about the period 1945-64 without making it read like a catalogue of real estate developments, and of swept-away landmarks. I hope to have a chance of talking this over with you, and with others in the city, to get the various viewpoints, some time in the coming spring or summer.

With my best regards,

Donald Mackay  
Halifax, N.S.

Liverpool, N.S. July 3, 1963

Dear Donald,

I wrote you on March 1 with regard to your illustrations for my book "Halifax, Warden of The North", but I've had no reply. In case you didn't get my letter (Bill White has given me your London address) I repeat:- McClelland & Stewart allowed the book to go out of print about 2 years ago, and I was able to recover my publishing rights, which I had long wished to do. My present Canadian publishers (Doubleday Canada Ltd.) are planning a new Canadian Cities series, to include a new edition of my Halifax book, revised and brought up to date, and to be published early next year. This means that all the material must be in the hands of their printers quite soon, as the period of gestation in the publishing business is now approximately that of the human species!

You are entitled to payment for the use of your illustrations in this new edition, and I hope you will agree on the same terms as for the original edition. (I have agreed on the same terms for the new text.)

The original edition turned out to be quite an expensive one, on account of the excellent paper, format, printing and binding, so that the retail price was \$6 -- a bit too high for popular sale, even in the city's bicentennial year, with all the attendant publicity. Even so, the book sold steadily, if not spectacularly, for about twelve years, and I think the new edition will do the same.

Book costs now are much higher than in 1949, but I hope to persuade Doubleday to produce an edition comparable in all ways with the first.

If you are agreeable, will you write promptly to Doubleday, saying so and stating your fee for the proposed new use of your drawings. The address is:-

Mr. George Nelson,  
Doubleday Canada Ltd.,  
105 Bond Street,  
Toronto 2, Ontario.

The point is that this matter must be settled with a firm agreement right away, otherwise Doubleday will have to make other arrangements to illustrate the book.

With my best wishes,

Donald Mackay,  
108 Lexham Gardens,  
London W.8  
England

AIR MAIL

1002 Exham Gardens London W8  
3 July 1963

Dear Tom: - Regrettably, I didn't receive your letter of March 1st - it is hard to understand how it went adrift without being returned to you. I had a letter of June 3rd from Doubler day's in New York, from Wendy Weil. It had been sent air mail to Halifax where some one added a 10¢ Canadian stamp but it didn't reach me until July 2nd, because of insufficient postage it evidently got sent to Ottawa and then here by surface mail - a whole month!

Wendy Weil asked about the original drawings, glossy prints and a new colour photo of the O'Brien jacket and I replied that M<sup>c</sup>Lellan Stewart had all the material except for the original of the drawing of Government House which was given to the Hon. Alton Fraser. I said I should like a suitable honorarium for use of my illustrations - and suggested one change - the back end paper to be a present day map of Halifax.

In writing George Nelson I can't quote a price as I don't remember but I can confirm from my Income Tax returns when I get back home -

The summer has been a very pleasant - and almost a necessary interlude. The research into draughtsmen and silversmiths who worked in the Maritime hasn't been as profitable as I'd hoped - the Museums, Golden Smiths Hall and print dealers have all been most helpful - the Public Records Office is a very difficult place to work - very restricted space. means waiting for a long time to get a place at a table - each item has to be requested separately - with a 30 to 45 minute wait - frequently to find it was incorrectly indexed - and with some items that there would be four months delay as it had been withdrawn for microfilming! Quite different from P.A.N.S. or the Archives in Ottawa where every one is so helpful.

I had quite a long letter from Bill White in the same mail as yours this morning. He had hoped to come over I think. but he wasn't well earlier this summer and has decided to go salmon fishing instead -

I'll ~~off~~ send a letter off to George Nelson this evening - kindest regards - Sincerely - Donald

To open c  
Sender's name and address:

Donald Mackay  
108 Lexham Gardens  
London, W. 8.  
ENGLAND

AN AIR LETTER SHOULD NOT CONTAIN ANY  
ENCLOSURE; IF IT DOES IT WILL BE SURCHARGED  
OR SENT BY ORDINARY MAIL.

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← First fold here →



Thomas Raddall, Esq  
Liverpool  
Nova Scotia  
CANADA.

October 20, 1970

Dr. Thomas Raddall  
Liverpool, Nova Scotia

Dear Tom:

Just by chance I caught and enjoyed your interview on "Gazette" last evening and I look forward to seeing the "Profile" when it is produced.

When you spoke of a republication of "Warden of the North" and mentioned that you contemplated some revision of the text, do you also consider some additional illustrations? If so, I'd be very interested in discussing them.

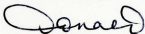
As you are aware, when Grossett and Dunlop published the second edition they gave me an honorarium for the use of my original illustrations but I have not as yet had any word of the third edition.

If you have any information, and have any thought of including new illustrations please advise me.

While I'm usually at the college, my home address is now 5883 Inglis Street, just across the way from St. Mary's University and I'd be very happy to see you if you are in the city.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely,



Donald C. Mackay  
Principal

DCM:ncb

October 24, 1970

Mr. Donald C. Mackay,  
5883 Inglis Street,  
Halifax, N.S.

Dear Donald:

With regard to your enquiry.

When Doubleday got out the 1965 edition of HALLIFAX, WARDEN OF THE NORTH they didn't trouble their heads about illustrations until the last minute, and then discovered that (as I had warned them) neither the original drawings nor the plates were in existence.

So they used a photo-copy process, and the results were terrible. It would have been much better to omit illustrations altogether.

I ended my connection with Doubleday last year, owing to this and other annoyances.

The proposed new edition of the book is to be done by McClelland & Stewart of Toronto, who published the first edition in 1948. Printing costs are so high nowadays that a new set of illustrations may be out of consideration. I expect to discuss this with Jack McClelland before long.

Sincerely,