

Governor Sir Humphrey Walwyn's Memorandum to His Successor at Government House, St. John's

Melvin Baker and Peter Neary

Vice-Admiral Sir Humphrey Thomas Walwyn (1879–1957) was the vice-regal representative who resided longest at Government House, St. John's. He was sworn in as Governor of Newfoundland on 16 January 1936 and was in office until the same day and month in 1946. As Governor, he was chairman of the British-appointed Commission of Government that administered Newfoundland from 16 February 1934 to 31 March 1949. The Commission system had been forced on Newfoundland by a financial crisis brought on by the Great Depression of the 1930s. The Commission had both legislative and executive power and reported to the Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs in London. There were six commissioners, three drawn from Newfoundland and three from the United Kingdom; each had a portfolio. The first years of Walwyn's term in office saw the continuation of depression conditions but after war started in 1939, Newfoundland entered a period of unprecedented prosperity. Strategically located in the North Atlantic in a time of air and submarine warfare, Newfoundland boomed in wartime thanks to the building of American and Canadian bases in the country. In sum, Walwyn was witness to a period of transformative change that set the stage for Newfoundland's union with

Canada in 1949. By the time he left Newfoundland, planning was underway for the election of a National Convention as a first step to constitutional change.

As the end of his governorship approached, Sir Humphrey and Lady Walwyn (née Eileen Mary van Straubenzee, 1883–1973)¹ prepared the comprehensive memorandum printed below for the information of their successors; it was written in the first person and went out over his name. The document reveals much about St. John's and Newfoundland at a pivotal moment in the country's history and is included here to add to general understanding of the period. In editing the document for publication and without changing meaning, we have silently corrected obvious errors, smoothed wording, changed appendix numbers to correspond with references in the text, brought consistency to format and usage, used italics, added words in square brackets, and adjusted punctuation, etc., all in the interest of easy reading. The copy of the memorandum we used for our edition was kindly supplied to us by Humphrey Stewart Walwyn, Victoria Kennard, and Susan Stirling, grandchildren of Sir Humphrey and Lady Walwyn. A copy of the document, complete with photographs, is in the Dominions Office records at The National Archives, Kew, United Kingdom. The archival reference is DO35/1141/N401/8, and the document is available on microfilm at The Rooms Provincial Archives, St. John's. The original document had 10 appendices but only four (numbers 1, 3, 8, and 10 as referenced in the text) are included in the family copy.²

In time, Sir Gordon Macdonald (1888–1966) was named as Walwyn's successor. He had worked as a coal miner, had been an official of the Mineworkers' Federation of Great Britain, and had served as Labour Member of Parliament for Ince (Cheshire). He and Walwyn were from different strata of British society,³ and just how much of Walwyn's memo was of practical use to his actual successor, who had a challenging stay in anti-Confederation St. John's, can only be speculated upon.

DOCUMENT

GOVERNMENT HOUSE

ST. JOHN'S

NEWFOUNDLAND

1945

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1. PROLOGUE

The following memorandum has been prepared by my wife, and myself, in the hope that it will be of value to our successors. It is mainly concerned with Government House and is in no way intended as a handbook on Newfoundland.

We arrived here on January 16th, 1936, and my present term of office expires on January 16th, 1946, ten years. I landed in full dress and was immediately sworn in by the Chief Justice.

We came out with only a meagre and out-of-date description of Government House (D.O. memo relative to appointment of Governor, Newfoundland) and had no idea whatever of the expenses to be expected, or what would be helpful to bring out from England, and of the problems that would confront us.

Although January was a bad month to travel, it has the advantage it gives one of a few months of winter to get the hang of things and get

to know people in St. John's before you can get about the country in the spring.

Before coming out, I had a short talk with Malcolm MacDonald,⁴ then Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs, Sir Edward Harding (Permanent Secretary),⁵ and Sir Eric Machtig⁶ and P.A. Clutterbuck⁷ at the Dominions Office.

I saw my predecessor, the late Admiral Sir David Murray Anderson,⁸ for half an hour at the United Service Club⁹ but I had very little idea of the conditions appertaining here.

Since 1939 we have been under wartime conditions so that expenses have been exceedingly high, but I doubt if conditions will change materially in the course of the next year or two.

At the outset, I would make it clear that there is no suggestion of laying down what should be done; no doubt many things can be improved and modified, but it is rather a leap in the dark to embark on this appointment with no idea of the commitments, and for this reason I hope this dossier may be found to be of value, as it is the result of ten years' experience out here.

2. CONSTITUTIONAL

The report of the Newfoundland Royal Commission 1933¹⁰ deals very fully with the whole country, with full description and maps (you can get a copy at the Dominions Office), and although now 12 years old, it is well worth studying, although conditions have changed considerably.

The whole constitution of the country will be in the melting pot after the war in Europe.

The Secretary of State and War Cabinet have committed themselves to Parliament to allow Newfoundlanders to decide what form of Government they themselves want, should the country be then "self-supporting."¹¹

After the return of our men serving overseas, an elected convention with the help of a constitutional lawyer will probably be held to answer this question.¹²

What the answer will be nobody can safely forecast, whether for a

continuation of Commission form of Government, a modified form of that, Responsible Government, or a “half-way house” in the shape of a specially adapted form of Crown Colony Government for a period of years — of course all this being dependent on the decision of the Secretary of State and cabinet.

My position as H.M. representative and chairman of the Commission is a very difficult one. It has been maintained by the Dominions Office so that an impartial chairman may keep a balance between the 3 United Kingdom [members] and the 3 Newfoundlanders.

It is difficult making speeches, and at other times, to avoid politics, and yet to be chairman of the Commission with an equal vote, you are frequently placed in most difficult circumstances.

The position is resented by the public who want His Majesty’s representative to be entirely free, and independent of political controversy.



The Commission of Government in 1945. Left to right around the table: Albert Joseph Walsh (Home Affairs and Education), Peter Douglas Hay Dunn (Natural Resources), Sir John Charles Puddester (Public Health and Welfare), William James Carew (Secretary); standing: Governor Sir Humphrey Thomas Walwyn, Ira Wild (Finance), Harry Anderson Winter (Justice and Defence), and Sir George Ernest London (Public Utilities and Supply). Walsh, Puddester, and Winter were Newfoundland members of the Commission; Dunn, Wild, and London were British members. Photograph courtesy of Walwyn family.

It ties you down in attending Commission meetings (there must be a quorum of 4) and you can't get about the country as much as you would like to.

However, that will all be decided on in the course of the next year or so. Many missions, goodwill and otherwise, have written pages on the constitution of this country and their reports are worth reading.¹³

<u>COMMISSIONERS</u>	<u>DATE SWORN IN</u>	<u>EXPIRY OF OFFICE</u>
Sir J.C. Puddester, LL.D. (Nfld.) Public Health & Welfare (Vice Chairman)	16 Feby. 1934	16 Feby. 1946
Ira Wild, O.B.E. (U.K.) Finance	15 July 1941	15 July 1946
H.A. Winter, K.C. (Nfld.) Justice & Defence	30 Sept.1941	19 Sept. 1946
P.D.H. Dunn, O.B.E. (U.K.) Natural Resources	19 Sept. 1941	19 Sept. 1945
A.J. Walsh, K.C.(Nfld.) Home Affairs & Education	3 Oct. 1944	3 Oct. 1947
Sir George E. London (U.K.) Public Utilities & Supply	13 Oct. 1944	13 Oct. 1947

The Commission normally meets every Friday, often several days a week, in the Colonial Building; in my absence Sir John Puddester (Vice Chairman) presides.¹⁴

In my absence from the country, for which I have to obtain H.M.'s permission, the Chief Justice, Sir Edward Emerson,¹⁵ acts as

Administrator and Chairman of the Commission, during which period I forfeit my "duty allowance" and pay it to him.

In the event of my being in the country but inaccessible (say Upper Humber fishing), I can appoint a Deputy Governor with powers to sign urgent bills, etc.; this has only arisen once (*vide* "Instructions to Governor and Letters Patent").¹⁶

You must be prepared for a lot of public speaking, the worst being four colleges within ten days.¹⁷

On frequent occasions you are called on to speak, and on tours of the outports you are always busy at it.

You are constantly appealed to for articles to magazines, Christmas messages, etc.

3. FINANCIAL

I think it is no good embarking on this with the idea that it is a cheap appointment. We have not done things on a lavish scale but have entertained pretty thoroughly I think. Under war conditions, the house has been full of officers of all Allied Services, particularly the R.N.¹⁸ and R.C. Navy¹⁹ and Escort Groups, and consequently expenses have been heavy, the personnel is constantly changing.

The cost of living is recorded 160.08 (April '45) above pre-war, and wages have risen correspondingly. The fall in sterling must also be taken into account.

The currency is Canadian dollars, the pound now being \$4.37. Things would be cheaper if the country were on a sterling basis. At all these trumpery bazaars etc., the cheapest articles are "only a dollar," and the same with subscriptions; whereas in England 2/6 would be ample, a dollar is the minimum here.

Expenses I hope will tend to fall but I do not foresee much prospect of reduction in the near future due to the world shortage of food.

Naval, Military and Air forces will no doubt be withdrawn before long, which will reduce entertaining.

In a memo relative to the appointment of Governor of Newfoundland dated 1935, and sent to me by the Dominions Office on

appointment, paragraph 3 stated: "The present Governor reports that there should be no difficulty in making the salary and duty allowance cover expenditure."²⁰ This is very far from the truth today but of course depends on how you do things.

I do not think we have set a high standard of entertaining, but we felt that if we were to accept the appointment at all, we had either better do it well or leave it alone, and this is much appreciated by Newfoundlanders.

My salary is \$15,000 with Duty Allowance as Chairman of Commission \$2,500, total \$17,500. This looks a lot, but it has cost me averaging £1,200 a year private means over and above my emoluments.

If you are not Chairman of the Commission, you will forego the \$2,500.00 duty allowance.

With a reduction of wartime costs, etc., I should say you should be prepared to spend not less than £1,000 a year private means.

Servants' wages come to approximately \$360.00 a month, petty cash about \$100.00.

The Governor enjoys the same terms as regards leave as those granted to the United Kingdom Commissioners, viz., he is eligible to 60 days free pay leave in any one year inclusive of Sundays and public holidays falling within the leave period and of time occupied in voyages.

4. TAXATION

With no residence in England, certain dividends such as Dominion and foreign securities and my salary here, are tax free, but I pay super-tax on my total emoluments including salary, which brings my pension down to £43 a month as compared to £1,080 annually pre-war. You can obtain full information as regards liability to U.K. revenue during your term of office out here from The Board of Inland Revenue, Inland Revenue, Somerset House, London, W.C.2.

I was granted a special concession by the Paymaster General's Office, London, to have my retired pension paid direct to my bank account in England, and this is remitted out here.²¹

I bank at the Bank of Montreal, St. John's. Mr. Butterworth,²² the manager is most obliging and helpful in every way.

You get everything at Government House duty free which is a great concession, as duties on imports are exorbitantly high.

5. PASSAGE MONEY

An allowance of £450 is paid from United Kingdom funds in respect of the cost of the passages of the Governor and his staff to Newfoundland on appointment, and a similar return passage allowance on completion of the Governor's term of service (i.e. after 5 years) but with present rate of fares and freight, this, with cars, baggage, etc., will see you out of pocket over it.

The initial costs of 2 cars, kit, necessaries for the house will entail a fair amount of capital expenditure.

6. HOUSE

The house is a charming red stone Georgian English house, built in 1830.²³ It was very shabby when we first came, and since the war there has not been much done to it, but everyone admires it; it has been visited, and greatly appreciated, by hundreds of Americans and Canadians since they arrived in the country, and Newfoundlanders take a great pride in it.

The house is in a good state of repair except for some of the woodwork, which requires renovating (windows, etc.). The roof is a bit shaky in places, but they are taking it in hand now. New plans of the house and grounds have just been completed and are attached as Appendix 2.

Colours of the room walls are shown by the photographs,²⁴ there is no wallpaper except in the ballroom.

The Governor's flag, a Union Jack defaced²⁵ by the badge of Newfoundland, is flown at the flagstaff in the garden and is hauled down when we leave St. John's on tours, etc.

Instructions for wearing²⁶ of flag at half-mast will be found in File 1303/29, Lord Chamberlain's Office, 17th Dec., 1929.

Flags are obtained from the Royal Stores²⁷ and the weather deals very hardly with them.

The accommodation consists of: dining room, drawing room, ballroom, Lady Walwyn's sitting room, His Excellency's study, and a billiard room, which is used at present as a writing room for the personal staff, and men visitors, and Office.

On the first floor: eight bedrooms, two dressing rooms, four bathrooms, with lavatories, and lavatory basins, maid's workroom with small bedroom adjoining.

Occupation of Rooms:

- No. 1. Lady Walwyn (bathroom adjoining)
2. Spare
3. Spare
4. Spare
5. Spare dressing room
6. Spare
7. Maid's workroom (2 sewing machines, one electric)
8. Spare
9. Dressing room (now used as Private Secretary's bedroom)
10. Now used as Private Secretary's sitting room
11. His Excellency's bathroom } adjoining
12. His Excellency's bedroom

At the west end of the house, with a back staircase, there are three servants' bedrooms, and a bathroom.

In the basement there are: two rooms for servants (one is now temporarily used as a decoding room during the war), a bathroom, servants' hall and housekeeper's room, kitchen, scullery, cellar, laundry with electrical washer, storerooms, furnace room. The pantry is at the top of the back stairs, with a lavatory next door to it, very badly situated.

The front staircase is a graceful spiral (see photos).²⁸

Drawing Room: A green room, lovely brocade curtains, and two

beautiful rugs. The chandelier (a fine English crystal glass) was chosen by Lady Walwyn in England in '39. It is faultless and has a biannual clean by her maid.

There are two groups of 5 bracket lights on the wall in addition to the candelabra.

There is quite a good grand piano.

Sun Parlour: We added a sun parlour in 1938, leading out of the drawing room to the garden. It is a great addition as it has *vita glass*²⁹ and an electric radiator. A telephone extension is fitted there.

Dining Room: A blue room with a lovely polished table that can seat 24. On the occasion of the Coronation, we rigged up special trestle tables and dined 45; we still have the tables. Massive mahogany sideboards; a lift for service leads to the kitchen underneath. There is an electric copper breakfast heater.

The table is lit by our electrified candles and central candelabra and looks very well. There are overhead lights and 10 wall bracket lights. The two government candelabra are not electrified. Voltage of St. John's is 110 a/c. There are a few cups belonging to the Newfoundland Regiment but we brought all our own silver with us. Dark blue curtains which go very well with the blue walls, and a lovely Turkey rug.

Chairs are shaky, and all want re-covering.

Ballroom: A lovely room with a gold brocade paper, large central fawn carpet. Sofas and chairs very early Victorian, upholstered in patterned blue and gold brocade (rather faded).

It is used for ceremonial occasions, meetings and dances in pre-war time. There is a gramophone that can be used for small dances, radio connected. When the three main rooms are all opened into one for big parties, it really looks beautiful.

Conservatory: Opening out of the ballroom down a flight of steps. This is a tremendous boon with the long winters and no spring. Palms and ferns do well, and we have lovely flowers all through the winter.

Billiard Room: A first-rate table which gives us a lot of fun and helps out parties; there are plenty of cues, balls, etc., and the table has recently been renovated.

His Excellency's Study: A delightful room, cream walls with a nice view of the garden, overhead lights. The red curtains are very shabby and worn out. It has a north and east aspect but is warm and bright. I purposely have no telephone fitted. A door opens into the ballroom.

Morning Room: A green room with north aspect but a comfortable warm room. There is no central lighting, so lamps are essential. One's own personal possessions make it homelike; a telephone is fitted.

Kitchen: There is a large and convenient kitchen in the basement with a coal fired range which is in good order, and a small electric cooker. It is well equipped with ample utensils and has electric mincing and chopping machines.

There is a large "frigidaire" and a good icebox. Ice can be bought from Harvey's,³⁰ who will always obligingly keep things in their cold storage for us.

There are two cool larders and a scullery.

Attic: A large attic runs along the top floor of the house, and there is ample space for packing cases and boxes, but during the war this has been cleared for A.R.P.³¹ precautions.

Ceilings: The painted ceilings in the main room are quite a feature of the house, a short history about them is attached. (Appendix 3.)

Furniture: The furniture is limited and Victorian; it is plain and good but that in the bedrooms is made up with bits from all over the house. The bedrooms are well provided with cupboards.

There are no small mirrors, and small tables, inkstands, etc., also table lamps are very scarce. We brought all these out ourselves. If you bring out English lamps, bring bulbs with you as the Canadian and American bulbs have a screw attachment and you cannot get English bulbs here at present.

There are oil lamps and candles in the event of failure of current, which happens spasmodically in winter due to snow on the wires.

There are no pictures beyond two of their Majesties, King Edward³² and Queen Alexandra³³ in the dining room and King George V³⁴ and Queen Mary³⁵ in the hall and one or two donated to Government

House. There are a lot of prints which we stowed away, "A Rough Sea," "The Stag at Bay," etc., nothing decorative or valuable.

We brought our own large family portraits and lots of pictures; these high rooms will look very bare without something of the sort.

I have a lot of big game heads we brought from India, and they help to fill the halls, and passages.

Glass, China: There is plenty of silver, cutlery, glass and china. Owing to the war, we have been unable to get replacements for five years and the china is badly chipped.

In ordinary times, these replacements are supplied through the Crown Agents.³⁶

There are only three clocks, in the hall, drawing room, and billiard room; several more are wanted — there is no barometer.

Linen: There are good linen sheets, house linen, face towels, etc., ample for use but getting "war weary." Good blankets and eiderdowns: the latter in some cases need re-covering. There are ample good pillows.

Carpets: These are quite good throughout the house, though some would be improved by dyeing as they are a bit faded. There are no rugs; we brought out our Persian rugs which have been a great asset.

Carpets on stairs, passages and landings, and in my study are of royal blue.

Covers: The covers were all brought by us and are old and shabby. There are a few cushions, but more are wanted. The billiard room has been renovated lately.

Curtains: Are generally passable (except in my room). Gold net curtains in drawing room were provided by us but are getting very shabby.

Heating: The house is heated by an "Iron Fireman";³⁷ this is very satisfactory, and you get splendid hot water, which is very soft. With a strong northeast wind, nothing can keep the house warm; ladies coming here for meetings frequently do not remove their fur coats. We find the temperature about 60°–65° very pleasant, but they love hot houses out here.

The birch junks for the fires are a joy, and there are large and excellent fireplaces in every room. When the winter is at its peak, we

sometimes have nine or ten fires going; the fuel bill is fortunately paid by the Government.

Rats occasionally make their appearance; some time ago the professional trapper killed 90, but we have hardly seen any for a long time. There are a certain amount of mice in the wainscotting.

7. SERVANTS

We came out here with an English chef, and a butler. They both left to join the forces but they had trained maids under them who have been in charge since their departure. The Newfoundland maids are quick at picking up their work and are willing and hard-working. The good days when there were plenty to be got are gone, but this may be only a temporary state of affairs.³⁸

At present the household consists of: –

A cook housekeeper³⁹

Kitchenmaid⁴⁰

Scullery maid

Two Parlour maids⁴¹ Head Second

Three Housemaids Head⁴² Second Third

Personal Maid⁴³

The head housemaid⁴⁴ has been here 17 years. She is an excellent worker but has no idea of “maiding.” It is absolutely essential to bring a good maid with you. The ideal would be to have a married couple, a cook housekeeper and butler. It is recommended that English head servants should be brought out, i.e., cook, butler, and lady’s maid.

There is a laundry attached to the house, with an electric washer. No stiff shirts or collars are washed there. These are done by a Chinaman, Fong Lee, Prescott Street, monthly bill \$8.00.⁴⁵ One laundry maid kept and one assistant for one day weekly. The atmosphere of St. John’s is just as smoky as London and things get very dirty.

A charwoman is provided to clean the office, also to wash the passages, kitchen, etc. This used to be done by prisoners but did not prove satisfactory,

A carpenter, Hynes,⁴⁶ and “mate”⁴⁷ are provided as there are many odd jobs to be done, and the outbuildings require constant repairs and painting every spring.

There is also a fireman, Farrell,⁴⁸ who sees to the furnaces and brings in coal and wood etc. He lives at the East Lodge. He is paid by the Government.

The orderly, Walsh,⁴⁹ lives at the West Gate. He takes all the messages, etc. He is also paid by the Government.

The gardener, Pelder,⁵⁰ lives in a lodge near the West Gate.

8. GARDEN

There are lovely trees in the garden, oak, chestnut, birch, mountain ash, cherry, elm, beech, copper beech, lilacs, may,⁵¹ laburnums. The lawns are good and take a lot of time with a motor mower. There are ample garden tools.

The men employed outside, such as gardeners, firemen, etc., are engaged on the understanding that they come under the orders of the Private Secretary as well as myself and my wife. Actually, my wife has entirely supervised the garden, as she is extremely interested in it.

The gardener, Pelder, is a Dutchman who has been in Newfoundland for some years. He is a good gardener; he has an assistant gardener, Genge⁵² — both are paid by the Government. Pelder lives near the West Gate and looks after our chickens.

Bulbs and seeds have been ordered from Canada since the war but before that we got them from Toogood's, Southampton. Early ordering is essential. Annual cost \$200.00 approximately. Flower vases and bulb bowls are wanted.

Government House is renowned for its flowers both in winter and summer.

The garden cannot be planted out till early June, but the flowers and grass come up almost overnight. The annuals are very easy to grow. Delphiniums in particular are most successful and grow to tremendous height, but other perennials are not so hardy. Daffodils, tulips, snowdrops, croci, primroses, and masses of lilies of the valley are wild

in the garden but come on very late; trees do not come out until the end of May.

Garden seats are put out in the summer, and there are a fair number of canvas deck chairs.

The kitchen garden of an acre with high timber walls is some way from the house. All vegetables grow well, also strawberries, raspberries, currants, gooseberries, etc. We always bottle as much fruit as possible for winter use.

There are no pears, cherries, apples or plums.

Prison labour was provided to help in the garden, but it is always a source of trouble, and it is almost impossible to keep these extensive grounds in order; extra help has recently been given by the Public Works Department, but it is not on a good footing yet.

There are a certain number of birds in the grounds, pigeon, local robins (as big as a thrush), cardinals, chickadees, sparrows, jays; we put out food for them in the winter.

Farm. The house stands in about 24 acres of good pasture, including an acre of kitchen garden. We keep a guernsey cow, which we will pass on if you want her. She gives 2½ gallons a day and is looked after by Farrell for \$10.00 a month. He also cleans the boots indifferently. There is a 2-stall stable and cow house, carpenter shop, potato store, hayloft and several glass houses in the kitchen garden.

There is a chicken house, and we have about 35 white Leghorns, and Hampshire Reds. They lay well and are looked after by Pelder. We give him \$5.00 a month. Feed bill for chickens and cow come to about \$37.00 a month. It certainly pays you to keep these as milk is scarce and expensive. Eggs 95¢ a dozen and milk 30¢ per quart.

We grow a lot of hay and sell a certain amount. The cow takes about 1½ tons of hay annually.

A small amount of oats and roots are also grown for the cow. Potatoes are grown in sufficient quantities for the house, which consumes a tremendous amount. Last year we used between 60–70 barrels; they sell now at \$5.00 a barrel.

In the fall, we usually get 12 sheep and 12 geese; they fatten up on

the grass, and are a great asset to the larder. Sheep have to come in the end of October; there is a hut for the geese by the chicken house.

You cannot keep pigs as the house is within the “city limits,” where they are not allowed to be kept.

A man and horse are hired seasonally for ploughing, harrowing and haymaking. Seeds, fertilizer, and manure have to be provided for the farm and garden; the average cost over 3 years has been \$277.00 annually.

9. PERSONAL STAFF

I brought out a Private Secretary and an A.D.C.⁵³ The Private Secretary is paid by the Newfoundland Government \$1,850 a year and I gave him £150 private allowance; it is an inadequate salary for anybody without a pension. You really want someone more in the nature of a military secretary, or comptroller, who will help you generally with functions, tours, etc., and go about with you.

The secretarial part of it is perfectly well run by the senior of the office staff who knows the whole procedure from A–Z and is most efficient and has been at Government House several years.

Captain Schwerdt, R.N.,⁵⁴ came out with me as Private Secretary in '36; he was married and lived at the Newfoundland Hotel. An A.D.C. as well as a Private Secretary is really necessary. I brought my son for the first two years we were here; the Admiralty loaned his services from the R.N. (without pay) during that period.

He should take all the entertaining lists off your wife's hands, as she has far too much to do.

We have struggled along during the war with only one, but it is far too much to keep in touch with the stream of people arriving and leaving.

Harold Goodridge,⁵⁵ my present Private Secretary and A.D.C., is a Newfoundlander and an honorary Lieutenant R.C.N.V.R.,⁵⁶ and remains with us for “the duration” only; he lives in the house.

I paid for their aiguillettes,⁵⁷ evening dress, £25 for kit on appointment, paid their passages, and gave them £150 a year private allowance.

You require a large visitors' book to keep in the hall at Government House; the stationer, Dicks,⁵⁸ will bind it with refill pages. We bought ours at the Army and Navy Stores;⁵⁹ it measures 14½ x 11½.⁶⁰

You will find it difficult at first and will want local advice as to people, customs.

10. OFFICE

There are four charming, highly efficient and expert girls (Nora Rendell,⁶¹ Mary Taylor,⁶² Phyllis Rennie,⁶³ Joan Ayre⁶⁴). They know the whole procedure and keep everything running smoothly and cheerfully.

During the war there has been an enormous lot of work, but this should tend to ease up shortly. There is a tremendous lot of cypher and code work. Cyphering on Type X⁶⁵ is done in a room below because of the noise in the office.

Mary Taylor keeps all accounts, pays the household staff; she brings you cheques to sign monthly for all the bills. She keeps a petty cash account as well, amounting to about \$100.00 a month for incidental payments, and for this private work I give her \$20 a month; she also types a lot for my wife.

I send in a quarterly report of proceedings, which I always write myself, and which is in the nature of a diary of events with a view to giving the Secretary of State⁶⁶ a more personal background of events and political activities that would be inappropriate in official despatches.

The biannual recommendations for Honours has to be sent in. I have a subcommittee of the Commission to submit names to me. I try to avoid making it always Civil Servants and St. John's, but it is difficult.

All telegrams, and despatches, to and from the Dominions Office, pass through Government House office and are coded and decoded there in cypher.

You require no personal visiting cards, but your staff will require them.

The filing and recording in the office is I think exceptionally good, and the staff can always put their hands on anything required. There are two telephones fitted.

11. STATIONERY

Stationery is provided and bought through the Crown Agents; there is ample in hand for the time being. Sample paper, invitation cards, etc., are attached — the latter we pay for, and the die is at Henningham & Hollis, 4 Mount Street, London, W. (Stationers and Engravers). They cannot produce a decent die for the crown out here.

12. SUBSCRIPTIONS & CHARITIES

You will find these amount to a considerable sum, what with Church funds, Bible Society, Christmas tree funds, schools, orphanages, Newfoundland Patriotic Association, Women's Patriotic Association, Sunshine Camp, Old Ladies' Home, Scouts, Guides, Salvation Army, Regatta, Police Fund, Hospitals, Nurses' Special Need Association, Relief funds, carols, Blind Institute, Red Cross Day, Poppy Day, Forget-me-not Day, S.P.A.,⁶⁷ Flag days, Great War Veterans' Association. You are always having to put your hand in your pocket for every sort and type of fund; the last 3 years averaged \$400.00 annually, with heavier calls for major disasters, say \$250.00 annually.

13. CLIMATE

Although much maligned, it is not too bad and is milder than Canada. You get a lot of raw damp weather and fog in March to May, but it can be quite hot in July and August; there is practically no spring. Temperature does not often fall below zero⁶⁸ in St. John's, but it really is bitterly cold in winter from November to April, with biting winds that cut through everything.

We get a tremendous amount of snow, which gets monotonous; a "silver thaw" with the boughs covered with ice and tinkling like Burmese bells is a lovely sight.

A municipal snowplough clears Government House grounds and is quick about it, but the town is most unpleasant with deep banks of snow piled up each side of the streets. Some adjacent country roads are kept ploughed, but cars form deep ruts, which freeze solid and are hard to get out of; driving in winter is little fun — a windshield warmer is

essential, a heater can be fitted to a car here; conditions are terrible underfoot.

Double storm windows are put up in the house from November till April; they keep the house warm.

You want dark glasses for the snow glare.

We have been hung up for four days in the train 23rd of May, and trains are frequently held up for several days crossing the Topsails,⁶⁹ and the railway schedule is constantly interrupted. The harbour has more than once been frozen solid with cars driving over it, but not since 1939.

14. CLOTHES

I wear uniform for official functions — full dress, frock coat and sword, and monkey jacket⁷⁰ (the latter during the war) and a good many ordinary suits. A white cap cover is worn with uniform in the summer; white trousers are not wanted.

There is nothing really special required in the clothes line; the house is so well centrally heated that ordinary suits are all you want, and no heavy underwear is required. Morning coat and top hat, and short black coat and striped trousers are required for certain occasions. Uniform great coat and uniform blue burberry⁷¹ are necessary.

Evening dress and decorations are worn for dinner parties (dinner jackets only in wartime). Private Secretary and A.D.C. wear the evening uniform of a Governor's staff with pale blue facings, and G.H.⁷² buttons — a very smart kit; they bought them at my tailors (Bernard Weatherill, 55 Conduit St., London). Governor's aiguillettes are worn by the staff and can be obtained from Grieves, 80 Piccadilly, Naval £13.10. I have a set of unused Military aiguillettes, which I can pass on if required. Naval ones, new in January, will be fit for some further use as spare.

A double-breasted leather great coat with belt is really a necessity, obtainable from Army & Navy Stores (£8); also a leather cap with fur ear flaps for travelling in winter. You can get an otter fur collar put on the coat, which is very welcome in winter.

For a short time in summer, it is quite hot, and flannel suits can be worn, nothing tropical.

There are two good tailors in St. John's — Rosenberg,⁷³ and Maunder⁷⁴; they both have good cutters, and can make as well as at home, copying your own suit. The former charges \$75 a suit (English cloth), \$20 grey flannel trousers; the latter \$80 blue melton heavy overcoat, as an example of their prices. They have quite a good selection of English materials.

Shirts and underclothing are hard to get, and you can only pick up odds and ends at a high price.

A few black and white striped shirts are useful for court mourning.

For sport, fishing, etc., a zip-fronted gold jacket is useful. Rubbers and waterproof coats are easily obtainable here, also "gaites"⁷⁵ or snow boots. There is quite a good boot maker here, Parker & Monroe.⁷⁶ "Larrikins," a half knee lace-up boot with rubber feet, as worn by lumbermen, are good for shooting and walking in wet country. A "windbreaker" bought here is a fine thing for shooting in cold weather.

I have a fleece sleeveless slip fitted to button inside a grey chesterfield overcoat,⁷⁷ which is very warm and light; a sleeveless leather waistcoat with wool lining is good for keeping out our cold winds.

Woollen pullovers, dresses, scarves, gloves and socks are locally made by Nonia⁷⁸ and are of excellent quality and far cheaper than at home.

I always wear jodhpurs⁷⁹ for riding.

You can get ordinary English felt hats here at the Royal Stores; I wear a bowler hat on Sundays.

There are good dry cleaners, Cousins and Nfld. Dry Cleaners.

15. AMUSEMENTS

There are no theatres; an amateur dramatic company puts on a fairly good sort of play about three times a year. There are a few amateur concerts, mainly by the Services. There are several cinemas, all being fire hazards except the Paramount, a new large concrete building. They do not show very good films as a rule, but occasionally you get them. The armed forces bases have the best programmes, particularly Fort

Pepperrell, the American base. The cinemas keep reserved seats for us and very kindly refuse to let us pay for them.

You can always get people for Bridge and Mahjong.⁸⁰

There are too many cocktail parties, but I make a point of declining them; otherwise you have to go to all. We give them fairly often to the Services.

A certain amount of dances, mostly Services messes, but I daresay these will revive after the war.

The houses out here are frightfully hot and make you gasp for breath.

We really don't dine out with more than a dozen families, and lunch with the Commissioners, Chief Justice, etc.

I have purposely avoided describing people here as I think it's best to let you form your own conclusions. We have many friends; they are a very friendly and hospitable lot of people, and we like them immensely.

It is difficult to say about entertaining because conditions are now so different to pre-war.

We used usually to give weekly dinner parties of about 20 and lunches of about 10, several small dances and one or two large dances, and a good many "at homes," one large garden party annually.

During the war, we have been flooded out by the Services, and it has been difficult to obtain supplies. People realized and appreciated this.

A very complete list has been kept by my wife of people who have been entertained; this is really the A.D.C.'s job.

16. FISHING

For anybody who is fond of fishing you can get the best of all you want — salmon, sea trout, trout.

Salmon fishing season, June 15th to September 18th. It is too long a story to describe it all but suffice to say that we take our main holiday in June to July and have wonderful sport. You have to go to the West Coast or Humber River by our train; fishing close here is poor and overfished.

Placentia 80',⁸¹ Salmonier 50' and Trepassy 80' are good for small salmon, and you can have a good picnic, but they are very much overfished by Americans.

There is excellent sea trout at Seal Cove and Witless Bay. Murray's Pond, about 5', holds rainbow and brown trout, and there are several boats at the club — rather fun in the evening, but there are only small trout.

The ponds all about are full of trout if you care to go out a little distance by car. We have great fun at Windsor Lake, the city's water supply, where, by the courtesy of the Mayor,⁸² we go out in his motor-boat. Fishing with fly or trolling with minnow, you get 30 or 40 one-pound trout, and it makes a good picnic to take supper out there and fish late. I give the boatman and warden a dollar each.

Mr. George Pike⁸³ on Harry's River⁸⁴ caters for parties — everything all in, guides, food, etc., at \$15 a day, pretty expensive.

Guides on Harry's River are asking \$5.50 with food. You can find out all details locally when you come out here (Col. Outerbridge).⁸⁵

You will find a 12' split cane salmon rod, and 9' or 10' rod for sea trout and grilse are the most useful. Hardy's⁸⁶ are best. I have a 10' Ogden Smith,⁸⁷ split cane, that I can let you have if you want it.

With this centrally heated house, it is advisable to hang your rods down below in the cool of the cellar in the winter as split cane rods are apt to get brittle and crack.

Fishing rods can be well repaired and varnished by W. May,⁸⁸ 7 Livingstone St., St. John's.

Flies, etc., can be obtained at Frasers',⁸⁹ Montreal, but they are very expensive, and are much better from England, if you can get them. You can have a lot of fun with dry fly on a low river.

Salmon trouser waders, and brogues are advisable for a heavy river, but long hip rubbers with felt soles meet ordinary requirements (Parker & Monroe). Heavy woollen socks to wear with these are best obtained locally.

A long-handled gaff for wading in rough water is useful, and a folding landing net, but a lot of fishing is done from canoes. I also have a "tailer,"⁹⁰ which some people swear by.

Guides are expensive and demand \$7 a day on the Upper Humber, with food as well — a ramp,⁹¹ but you have to put up with it, and they are experts with a canoe. Flies are bad, and Kennedy's Mosquito

Oil is quite the best. The Caribou fly, like a very large horsefly, gives you a really nasty bite. A gauze head net with mica front is good when they are particularly bad, but they have never seriously worried us. If flies trouble you badly, take a stock of calcium tablets with you as they prevent your face swelling up and are quite harmless. An excellent little book on fishing is *The Fisherman's Vade Mecum*, G.W. Maunsell, published by Philip Allan & Co.

Had we known we should be out here so long we should certainly have bought a fishing shack on the West Coast. I had bought 5 acres but deferred building because of the cost in war.⁹²

17. SHOOTING (called hunting)

Ptarmigan, locally called partridges, are the main sport. Season opens October 1st to November 15th; they are nearly white in the winter — they are getting rapidly shot out and cost \$3.00 a brace in St. John's.

You shoot over setters and have to go for a few days 60' up the line⁹³ or down the South Coast; a few can be found near Cape Spear.

We used, with two guns, to get say 5 or 6 brace a day, but nowadays you get very few; it is terribly hard walking over the "barrens" and hills, but good fun living in "Terra Nova".⁹⁴ I usually shoot with Outerbridge, who has a good dog.

There are a certain amount of snipe and a few duck [and] some hares; hares sell at \$1.20 a brace in St. John's. There are no pigeon.

Moose and caribou can be shot up country from Buchans or Gander; it is a very interesting but hard trip. The season is from November 1st to December 15th. Caribou are beautiful eating, like venison. I have been out once or twice; the stalking is good fun, and I love seeing animals in the wild, but it is a terribly cold business.

You can borrow a sporting .303 rifle locally from Mr. Morris,⁹⁵ and can get American soft-nosed ammunition.

There are luckily no snakes in the country.

There are a good many bears in certain districts; they are harmless unless they have cubs.

18. SAILING

There is a Sailing Club of “Snipe” 15’ boats on Manuels Lake, about 12’ out. I have never gone in for it, but they have good fun I believe. They also have a club of the same boats on Gander Lake, run by the R.A.F. Transport Command. I sailed up there in their regatta and had good fun.

There are one or two ice yachts here too.

If you cared about yachting, you could have a wonderful fishing holiday to unfished rivers.

19. RIDING

I ride a good bit in the summer and have a nice brown Canadian mare,⁹⁶ aged about 10 (Maple). I bought her here as a 5 year old (undocked⁹⁷), and she is a very nice ride — well-mannered and good-looking, 16 hands, up to 14 stones, has never had a day’s sickness.

You can’t get away from the roads much, but I know many tracks through the woods, and I like contact with a horse; nobody else rides. There is one quite decent police horse, if you want another. The traffic on the road is a menace, but I hope will decrease as the armed forces go. She plays up a bit in traffic, and on tarmac roads it is a bit tricky.

I keep her at the police barracks,⁹⁸ and they look after her well and have the use of her unless I want her — a convenient mutual arrangement. The police want to take her off my hands for what I gave for her, \$190, unless you want her. I have my own saddle and bridle and rugs, etc.

20. GOLF

There is quite a good and attractive 18-hole golf course at Bally Haly, 2’ out of town, open May till October. Golf balls are at present very hard to get. There are plenty of people who will give you a game, but I have given it up, and prefer riding, fishing and walking. There is a comfortable club house, where you can get a meal; they make you an honorary member.

There is an 18-hole golf course at Grand Falls — quite a good one.

21. TENNIS

There are two quite good hard tennis courts in front of the house, and you can have a lot of fun. Courts netted round by us, but tennis nets don't last long; they cost \$30 at the Colonial Cordage Company.⁹⁹ The court is very hard on the balls as it is like a tarmac road, and they get very worn and dirty. They are hard to get at present. Racquets can be restrung at \$15 — an indication of the cost of things out here.

There is a squash court about 3 miles out of the town¹⁰⁰ that a certain number of the fellows belong to and pay a small annual subscription, \$10.

Ping pong table in the billiard room comes in for young parties.

22. WINTER SPORTS

A lot of people go in for Curling but I don't; there is quite a good rink here. There is plenty of skating, but skiing is indifferent. At Corner Brook they have quite good ski runs.

Sleighing is a very poor performance, and frightfully cold.

Ice hockey is the popular sport and is interesting to see at first.

23. DOGS

We have two border terriers; there is no rabies in the Island. They are great company, and I walk a lot with them, and can always put up a hare. They love the snow, and are good dogs for this country.

Dr. Furneaux¹⁰¹ is a good vet, and kind with animals.

There is a good brand of Canadian dog food in stock here called PARD, and they like it. Spratt's¹⁰² obtainable as well.

Dogs' feet get very sore with the snow and ice, and you want to dress them with Friars Balsam.¹⁰³

There are many large dogs wandering about, particularly in the country, and are used for hauling sledges in the country; they are a menace to small dogs.

24. MOTORS

You really want two cars; we have a dark blue Humber Snipe saloon, 1936, with winding glass partition for town use, and we now have a

Dodge saloon as a second car. I brought a Hillman out first.

I was pressed on coming out in 1936 to bring English cars, but it is a mistake. One official, yes, but they haven't enough road clearance for our rough roads and snow and are too good for the rough country trips. Besides this, you can't get English spare parts nowadays.

For a second car a Dodge, Nash, Chrysler, or Ford costs you about \$1,700, duty free here, and is the best proposition.

I will pass on the Humber if you want it (40,500 miles) and have it thoroughly overhauled. We have had a lot put into it including oversized piston rings, new battery, speedometer, etc.; it is in excellent condition, tyres good, plenty of power, and has been well kept; it looks very smart and is easy to drive. I am offered \$2,500 for it here if you don't want it.¹⁰⁴ I think I shall take the Dodge home.

If you want a Canadian or American car get the High Commissioner, Ottawa, to get priority officially, and order early as they are very hard to get, and order 6 ply heavy duty tyres. I think a Dodge, Chrysler, Nash or Ford the best type to have out here; they are of course left-hand drive, which I don't care for, but you get used to it.¹⁰⁵

You are allowed 45 gallons of petrol a month for official purposes, fetching mails, etc., [and] there is no petrol rationing; running expenses of the two cars comes to somewhere about \$50 a month exclusive of any special repairs, which are very expensive. I have several spares for the Humber, such as cylinder head gasket, radiator hoses, valves, springs and six spare tyres, all pre-war rubber. List attached, Appendix 5. The Humber is fitted with an electric windshield heater which is very efficient, and a blue light on front of roof clears traffic for you at night and assists the police.

You pay no license nor driving license for your cars.

The local garages have good mechanics but are expensive; Terra Nova¹⁰⁶ and Marshalls¹⁰⁷ we deal mostly with, as the former is handy.

Young,¹⁰⁸ the driver (paid by Government), married, with house, fuel, light and uniform, is a good chap and drives well and carefully, courteous on the road, but is very little use at running maintenance; he will trot over to the nearest garage to have the slightest thing

done; he wants keeping up to the mark over his appearance and that of the cars.

It will be a great asset if your butler can drive a car on occasions.

The garage at the stables is on the telephone and holds two cars; it is well warmed, and there is room for two more in a shed opposite; there is a charging panel for batteries in the garage.

Your Private Secretary and A.D.C. will be well advised to have cars too or else they will always be running about in yours.

You are lucky if you can pick up a reliable second-hand car but at a price, say about \$1,500, and you can get "priority" for tyres, which are rationed. We keep spare tyres in the dark in the cold basement as they deteriorate in a centrally heated garage. Synthetic tyres do not stand up well, and that's all you can get now. You have to use antifreeze in the radiator for the greater part of the year.

I have two cast silver-plated crowns on each car, and I will leave these out here if you want them.

Chains are essential in the winter, and they will go with the Humber. I always carry a rope and shovel in both cars in the winter in case you get stuck, which you very often do.

Insurance is heavy and comes to — Humber \$131.35, Dodge \$88.10, but a third party risk is essential; they are the worst drivers in the world here.

The roads outside the city limits are really terribly hard on a car; they are ruined by Service trucks, and bump a car to pieces; there is not very much tarmac road, dust is frightful.

When the frost is coming out of the ground, April to May, waves in the roads occur, which are really dangerous to springs and back axles.

I do not advise a "fluid drive" transmission out here; I have known two or three to fail in the winter.

25. RAILWAY

A narrow-gauge railway traverses the country from St. John's to Port aux Basques, about 547 miles, which is done in about 28 hours. Across Cabot Strait to Sydney by railway steamer in about 8 hours. Branch

lines lead to Carbonear, Bonavista, Buchans, Placentia and Argonia, and Lewisporte.

Complimentary passes are issued to myself, my wife and staff, which allows them free railway travel; sleepers and dining cars are attached to the trains, and separate drawing rooms are charged extra.

Summer and winter schedules are attached in a railway timetable¹⁰⁹ showing a map of the country; no regular schedule has been printed during the war.

Rail service is much sneered at — although invariably late, it gets there.

The *Terra Nova*,¹¹⁰ a composite coach, is at the Governor's disposal and is, although built in 1882, most comfortable, and well warmed. It consists of two cabins with lavatory basins, kitchen, lavatory, dining and drawing room, which has three folding bunks, so at a pinch you can sleep 5 and the cook. Electric light, icebox, radio and good cold storage.

There is no bathroom, but you can bathe in adjacent rivers.

A cook is provided by the railway free for official trips, and he does all the catering; on private trips, you pay \$6.50 a day for him, and 10¢ a mile haulage, and on every occasion for all food consumed, which, incidentally, is very expensive.

It is great fun getting away from everything and living in the train switched off into a siding for fishing or shooting trips with a "speeder"¹¹¹ in attendance; we have had very happy times there.

You arrange your own itinerary of tours with Railway General Manager Mr. Russell,¹¹² who is most helpful and hitches you on to an express or freighter as convenient.

The scenery is lovely, with heavy timber on the West Coast, but it is a bit monotonous inland, all fir trees and ponds.

You never travel in the ordinary passenger trains.

26. SHIPPING LINES

Furness Withy before the war used to run a fortnightly service taking about 9 days from Liverpool. They are building two new fast ships,¹¹³ but when they will be on service nobody knows. At present, sailings

are spasmodic, and there is no regular schedule; we are often weeks without a ship. Shaw Steamship Lines runs a fortnightly service from St. John's to Montreal. Parcels take usually 3 months in transit, and mostly come via Halifax.

A regular service, Furness Red X,¹¹⁴ by two fast comfortable but small ships used to run weekly from here to Halifax, Boston and New York; this will probably be resumed after the war.

English mails are irregular and may take three weeks.

By the courtesy of the Dominions Office, we get our letters and *Times* sent by the Dominion's bag, often getting them only four days old. Inland postage is franked with the Governor's stamp postage free.

Airmail service takes about seven days to England.

27. AIR LINES

Trans Canada Air Lines (T.C.A.) run a regular passenger service to Canada, two planes a day each way, carrying ten to fourteen each (schedule attached).¹¹⁵ The planes are efficient but are often delayed for days by fog and weather conditions.

The military airports, Gander, Goose (Labrador), Harmon Field, Argentia, Torbay (latter used by T.C.A.) are large and up-to-date airfields. Their future use for commercial purposes will be decided on after the war.

You can always arrange a flight from the R.C.A.F.,¹¹⁶ Torbay, or the Americans, who run a regular service for service personnel. B.O.A.C.¹¹⁷ fly from Botwood to England (12 hours) from May till October and from Baltimore via the Azores in the winter.¹¹⁸

The whole question of commercial aviation is still pending discussions after the war.

28. H.M. SLOOP

In peacetime the C.-in-C., N.A. & W.I.,¹¹⁹ placed a sloop at my disposal in the summer for a fortnight each year to visit inaccessible outports and Labrador. You cannot get to these otherwise and, incidentally, visit the best salmon rivers. During the war, I have been unable to

visit the coast as I should have liked to have done. It made a pleasant change to get back to the Navy.

29. ROTARY CLUB

They have a luncheon every Thursday with guest speakers. I have spoken several times but do not often attend them.

They do a lot of good, and most of the best people in the country belong.

The City Club is an old-fashioned place that I have never been into.¹²⁰ They make you an honorary member.

The Old Colony Club,¹²¹ where people go to dance and have supper, is just outside the town and quite good; you take your own drinks.

The Benevolent Irish Society¹²² in full regalia muster in the drawing room on St. Patrick's Day and present shamrocks to my wife; speeches are made and replied to; they then fade away refreshed with rum.

30. GREAT WAR VETERANS' ASSOCIATION (G.W.V.A.)

Consists of returned servicemen from the late and present war. They are rather a thorn in the side and are very difficult and attempt to run the Government and direct its policy. Mr. Dawe¹²³, an ex-sailor, is president, and is a good fellow really.

They are prominent at Armistice Day,¹²⁴ and the Sunday nearest July 1st (the National Memorial Day¹²⁵); I lay wreaths on the city War Memorial,¹²⁶ and they are very touchy about this day in particular.

The colours of the late Newfoundland Regiment are kept in the hall at G.H. because there was so much jealousy as to which church should keep them.

They are collected with great ceremony for these and special occasions, and the Colour Guard are then regaled with rum and coffee.

31. MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

Mayor Carnell¹²⁷ is a good-hearted fellow and is a loyal friend to Government House. The Council are a poor lot and always up against the Government. I carefully avoid getting into any controversy with them.

They are always looking for trouble and feeling themselves slighted.

Bannerman Park¹²⁸ is an open space adjoining Government House, is really G.H. property, and is rented to the Council for a children's playground, and they pay me \$80.00 a year.

Bowring Park, a small natural park of about 6 acres, four miles outside the town, is looked on as our "beauty spot"; is a good place to take the dogs out and is really quite pretty. There is a river and lake with a swimming pool and public tennis courts, which they flood and skate on in winter.¹²⁹

32. CHURCHES

Bishop Abraham¹³⁰ is the head of the C. of E. and is a good sort. Archbishop Roche¹³¹ is the R.C. head and is a very able and sound man but getting rather frail. Canon Higham¹³² at the Cathedral¹³³ is a first-rate preacher. The Cathedral and St. Thomas' Church have nice services; the latter church is just outside the garden.

The Governor's pew is on the right centre front in each of these churches, and you pay \$30.00 to each annually for this privilege. On official occasions, you enter by the main entrance of the Cathedral and are escorted up the aisle by the clergy and church wardens.

We make a point of attending the United Church and the Presbyterian Churches as well as the R.C. Cathedral on special occasions.

We usually attend services at the Outport churches when we are on our tours.

33. EDUCATION

Except at Corner Brook, Grand Falls, Buchans, schools are on the denominational basis, and it will take many years before this backward system is overcome.¹³⁴

We frequently visit all the schools and talk to the children.

The Commissioner for Home Affairs and Education, Mr. A.J. Walsh,¹³⁵ K.C., is a Roman Catholic and is a first-rate Newfoundlander.

The Memorial College (Professor Hatcher)¹³⁶ is trying to attain the status of a university, so that we can graduate our own students.¹³⁷

It is well run, and they get a good education. The schools generally are of a rather poor grammar school type.

34. LIBRARIES

There are several good bookstores — Dick's, Baird's and Ayre's— but books are expensive, about \$3.50. They have some cheap editions at times.

The Gosling Library has quite good modern novels and you can change them as often as you like.¹³⁸ There are a certain amount of heavy books at Government House. There is a good book cabinet in my room. We get our papers and magazines through Richardson, 80 S. Moulton St.,¹³⁹ who has supplied us very regularly. We take — *Times*, *Sphere*, *Tatler*, *Punch*, *Sunday Express*, *Blackwood's*, *London Calling*.

35. PRESS

The press out here is very indifferent. The *Daily News*¹⁴⁰ and *Evening Telegram*¹⁴¹ are the leading papers and are taken in daily. Both are always against the Government and are badly edited. They are poor productions; they merely contain destructive criticism, and never give a helping hand. The *Western Star*,¹⁴² published at Corner Brook weekly, is perhaps the best paper in the Island. Several outport papers appear but have a small circulation, *Fishermen's Advocate*,¹⁴³ *Fishermen's Workers Tribune*,¹⁴⁴ also the *Newfoundland Trade Review*¹⁴⁵ and the *Newfoundland Gazette*, the official paper for Acts and announcements.

The Government publishes *The Newfoundland Bulletin*, containing topical, agricultural, and local news and this is distributed free.

A public relations officer has been appointed¹⁴⁶ to ventilate government matters in the press and try to educate the public to a certain extent, but it is very difficult to keep people informed without any House of Assembly and public debates and no members of parliament to educate their constituencies.

We are trying to encourage local municipal councils but without very much success so far (I think seven).

Any notices for the press are published under the Royal Arms in the daily papers. For the first few years we took in press cuttings

connected with our activities from the International Press Cutting Bureau, 110 Fleet Street, London. They charge you £1.1 for 100, but we dropped it after a time.

36. MEDICAL

Dr. Cluny Macpherson¹⁴⁷ was the original Government House doctor. "Touching wood," we have had little call for him, but he is capable as an old-time practitioner. A younger man is Dr. Brownrigg,¹⁴⁸ who is up-to-date and clever. There are several first-rate hospitals, clean and well run with private rooms. For anything really major, I should prefer going to Canada. There have been specialists of every type with the armed forces but presumably most of these will leave after the war. Dr. Conroy¹⁴⁹ is quite a good orthopaedic expert and is reliable. The country is very short of doctors, and many outports cannot get them at all.

There are two excellent oculists, Dr. O'Reilly¹⁵⁰ and Dr. Lynch.¹⁵¹ The former is a specialist in ear, throat, and nose diseases and is exceptionally good.

Imperial Optical Co. fit glasses efficiently and cheaply to any prescription.¹⁵² There are several excellent chemists (drugstores out here), well stocked with all proprietary medicines. I think it is a very healthy country as long as you take exercise and keep fit. There is always a bit of "tummy trouble," called "summer sickness," probably due to dust. The damp and foggy atmosphere is bad for rheumatism they say.

The most modern electro diathermy treatment¹⁵³ can be obtained at St. Clare's Hospital, and Mr. Dewling¹⁵⁴ is a capable masseur.

37. DENTIST

Dr. Hogan¹⁵⁵ is a capable dentist, courteous and clean, and can do anything in the ordinary way. With the armed forces there have been experts here in that line but no doubt they will go when the services leave. For anything really complicated Montreal is advisable.

A good hairdresser attends at G.H. when required.¹⁵⁶

38. STORES & WINES

Before the war, we used to get practically everything out from the Army and Navy Stores.

The import duties here are terribly high, and we found it the cheapest way to get our supplies, groceries, etc., as we get everything in duty free.

The shops and stores stock really all you want except in the clothes line, which are mostly bits and pieces; coming from England, you will be pleasantly surprised at what you can get, and there are no coupons and practically no rationing.

This country has I suppose felt less privation than any other country in the world; due to the armed forces, certain commodities and meat are scarce at times but there is plenty of everything.

Cheese is hard to get here, they are not "cheese minded"; you occasionally can get Canadian cheddar, quite good "mousetrap." There is a good shop in Montreal, and we send occasionally for Roquefort Blue Cheese and Oka (rather like Camembert):

Ye Olde English Cheese,
1218 Stanley St.,
(Rear Windsor Hotel, Montreal).

Fruit is awfully expensive but you can get everything at McDonald's¹⁵⁷ at a price.

Meat and Poultry. Canada Packers¹⁵⁸ and Wilsil's¹⁵⁹ are importers and have very good stocks of meat and poultry. Lawlor,¹⁶⁰ our present butcher, is quite good and obliging.

Fresh Fish. Excellent halibut, cod, flounders, herring and salmon are plentiful, the latter selling at 15¢ a lb. at times. Beautiful fresh herring from Corner Brook, 20¢ a dozen. Very good kippers and smoked salmon, locally cured.

Lobsters are plentiful from April to June and can be bought at 30¢ a pound.

Sausages. Gander Airport has a large piggery¹⁶¹ and we get pork sausages direct by post, far better than locally.

Soda Water. A soda water machine would be a saving in the long

run but we have never had one. Syphons of soda are \$5.40 a dozen and about 2 dozen a month used.

The Board of Liquor Control (B.L.C.) is the only source of liquor supply and is a monopoly of the Government. They charge 10¢ on all sales. The public are rationed to 2 bottles of spirits a week. You can generally get everything you want, except red wines due to wartime shortages (price list attached).¹⁶²

They often run out of Scotch Whisky and sometimes have only Canadian Rye, Bourbon and Canadian Seagram's Gin — not too good.

American Pabst beer in tins is excellent, and very handy for picnics and fishing trips. There are several brands of local and Canadian bottled beers, \$2.15 a dozen. There is no draft beer or stout.

Newman's port is excellent and is known as "Newfoundland Port" because it has been matured here for years and used to be brought out by the Portuguese trawlers. Newman's A is better than the brand with the map of Newfoundland on the bottle, which has recently rather gone off.

You can get an Algerian red wine from St. Pierre very cheaply (\$6.30 a case), a rather rough "vin ordinaire"; there is no Burgundy or Claret¹⁶³ available at present. Brandy from St. Pierre used to be very good pre-war. The California sauterne¹⁶⁴ we get from Pierce is quite good and does well for dinner parties; it is a fairly dry wine.

There is a large cool cellar in the basement.

S.S. Pierce of Boston is a first-rate concern we sometimes order from, rather like Fortnum and Mason¹⁶⁵; price list in Appendix 9¹⁶⁶ to give an idea of what they stock.

Tobacco. The shops stock a certain amount of English tobacco and cigarettes; nearly everybody smokes Virginians; American Brindley's smoking mixture, or Rum and Maple, are quite good but rather dry — they cost \$1.90 for an 8 oz. carton.

I attach a list (Appendix 8¹⁶⁷) showing the present prices of certain wines, spirits and tobacco, etc.; these of course are higher now than they were in pre-war days. I will have a list of all stores and wines in hand at G.H., which you can take over at cost price if you want them. There will be plenty in hand to carry on with for a start. Also a

list of articles for disposal, but of course there is not the slightest obligation to take over anything.

39. NEWFOUNDLAND HOTEL

The principal hotel is a great barrack of a place, expensive and badly run.¹⁶⁸ United Kingdom Commissioners all live there, as they prefer it to the difficulties of getting a house, servants, etc., but nobody has a good word for it. Its mismanagement is now under consideration; it always operates at a loss. When we have been invited to meals there, they have always put up a very good show.

The Glynmill Inn at Corner Brook is a charming hotel to stay at.

40. BROADCASTING

There is a local broadcasting service sponsored by the Government, rather indifferent programmes, and mainly of the “soap box” type.¹⁶⁹ They relay B.B.C. news.

You get England, America and Canada direct and usually very clearly. Aerials are connected to the drawing room, my room, my wife’s bedroom, office and A.D.C.’s room and servants’ hall.

Wireless sets are unobtainable at present, but you can pick up secondhand ones or I will leave you an excellent Philco if you want it.

Telephones. The telephone service is not too bad, and you can get communication to many places in the Island, partly by R/T;¹⁷⁰ there is no automatic system.¹⁷¹

The Americans have run a multi-core cable right across country which, after the war, will no doubt be used to augment our services and improve telephone communication.

You can always have a speech recorded and given as necessary if more convenient to you, and you can broadcast direct from Government House with notice.

41. PHOTOGRAPHY

We have a cine kodak¹⁷² and it provides a happy record of things out here. Films can be developed at Tooton’s,¹⁷³ a very good and obliging

local photographer. Holloway's¹⁷⁴ and Marshall's¹⁷⁵ are quite good portrait photographers.

The cine films¹⁷⁶ are a good way of helping out a dinner party, and we often show them in the ballroom afterwards.

The billiard table also helps our parties, with snooker and tables of bridge.

There are some wonderful films of the country, shooting and fishing, taken by an American, Lee Wulff,¹⁷⁷ which gives you a good idea of it all.

42. FURS

There is a good furrier, W.H. Ewing,¹⁷⁸ 199 Water St., St. John's, where you can obtain good furs cheaper than England or Canada. He makes up well. The attached list of prices,¹⁷⁹ subject to revision, gives an idea of their cost out here. There are several local fox and mink farms, besides the Government Demonstration Farm.¹⁸⁰ Hudson's Bay Company¹⁸¹ also have furs, but Ewings are the best selection.

43. DOCKYARD

This is a Government concern (Superintendent, Mr. Thompson,¹⁸²) and there is a commercial graving dock. The Newfoundland Dockyard have done wonderful work during the war in repairing damaged merchant ships, and refitting H.M. Ships. I do not think St. John's will ever be an important commercial port, as it is not a discharging terminal. We had at one period 46 ships in hand for repairs, but the work is now easing up considerably. At Bay Bulls, 18 miles to the south, the R.C.N. have established a small dockyard and marine slipway capable of handling a 3,000 ton ship, employing about 150 artificers.

The future of this is to be discussed with Canada after the war.

44. LONGSHOREMEN'S PROTECTIVE UNION (L.S.P.U.)

These men are a difficult problem; there are about 3,000 members and work, which fluctuates, for only about 500 men.

During the war, they have made big money, but now there is not enough work for the majority, and we are often faced with difficulties; they insist on one gang discharging the same ship from start to finish, a laborious and inefficient process.

45. LABOUR

The labour situation when our men return from overseas will be a difficult problem. Many more are wanted in the woods and for fishing, but the standard of living and wages has been so raised by base construction that labour will not revert to pre-war conditions, and we shall face many difficulties. The Newfoundlander works well for a few months, and then walks out for 6 weeks, which is resented by contractors.¹⁸³ I do not think men who have seen life overseas will return to low wages at outports.

Large numbers of people have emigrated to Canada and the United States as dairy workers, etc., but it is likely that they will be returned here when United States forces return home; this will add to our unemployment problem.

46. PAPER COMPANIES

Bowater's at Corner Brook,¹⁸⁴ and A.N.D.¹⁸⁵ at Grand Falls, with their woods operation, provide a large amount of labour and are working at capacity and will I am sure continue to do so.

Buchans, a valuable concentrate mine, provides work for about 2,000 men.¹⁸⁶

47. BELL ISLAND

A huge deposit of iron ore is worked there and employs about 1,200 men.¹⁸⁷ The ore has a high phosphorus percentage,¹⁸⁸ and is shipped and smelted mostly to Sydney, N.S. We are always having difficulties, as the mine will shut down or slow up at the will of DOSCO (Dominion Steel & Coal Corp.).¹⁸⁹ They have plenty of ore in Nova Scotia and are really not dependent on us, but people here think that this is God's own country, and that they cannot do without our ore.

We are shipping 250,000 tons to the United Kingdom this year, 1945–46, under pressure, but they are reluctant to accept unlimited quantities.

Housing conditions in the Island are deplorable and they will not form a local town council.

48. MILITARY ESTABLISHMENTS

I purposely omit comment on this. It is such a big subject, and in six months' time the situation will probably have completely altered. The disposal of all those buildings throughout the Island will be the source of many headaches. We have always been the best of friends with all the forces here and G.H. has really been an open house to them all.

49. SCOUTS, C.L.B.

You are patron of the Scouts, but beyond attending annual meetings and visiting their camps in the summer, I am afraid the war has prevented me from doing very much with them. Ronald Ayre¹⁹⁰ is President and there are 1,840 enrolled with 43 troops.

C.L.B.¹⁹¹ are a very popular and strong body. They are very keen, and it is a splendid movement run by Mr. J. Crawford.¹⁹²

The activities of the Governor's wife are too numerous to enumerate, but my wife will be glad to explain them to her successor if this should be of help.

50. POLICE & RANGERS

The police are a splendid body of men and give excellent service. There are about 8 mounted police. There are always two police on duty in G.H. grounds; there is a police hut with telephone and stove near the back door.

People grouse about disorders in the city, but we now have thousands of servicemen here and, on the whole, it is not too bad.

The present Chief of Police, Strange,¹⁹³ has just taken over and is a popular appointment.

Rangers are on the lines of the N.W.M.P.¹⁹⁴ and operate in the

outport areas. They work in with the game and river wardens, and are a good lot of men.¹⁹⁵

51. FIRE BRIGADE

There are three stations in St. John's under Superintendent Blackburn¹⁹⁶ with very efficient personnel but slightly obsolete equipment. We have two new fire engines arriving very shortly from America.

This wooden-built city is a menace, and fires are always occurring due to carelessness, overheated chimneys and oil fires.

A new fire alarm installation has been installed which is complicated but quick and accurate. This new alarm is so easy to operate and has no glass panel that I think there will be an increase in false alarms.

The Fire Brigade are under the Chief of Police, which is an unsatisfactory arrangement, and I hope will be entirely separated. It is now under consideration.

The Government are trying to equip the outports with fire apparatus, as at present they have next to nothing, and frequent serious fires occur.

G.H. is well equipped with fire apparatus and extinguishers, and has A.R.P. stirrup pumps,¹⁹⁷ shovels, axes, sand, etc., at various places. A hydrant is outside the front of the house.

52. NEW YEAR'S DAY

My staff call on the Chief Justice, Commissioners, Judges of the High Court, and heads of Churches.

From 4–5:30 p.m. we are “at home” at G.H. to the public, when all men of all walks in life and description file through G.H. and shake hands; we provide tea, and they all write their names in a special book.

In 1945, 650 called, and 347 were entertained to tea, a funny custom but they do the same in Canada.

On Christmas day, we have a Christmas tree in the hall with presents for the servants and children.

The Salvation Army Band parade at 10:00 in the hall and play, after which they have cocoa and sandwiches.

53. REGATTA

A regatta is held at Quidi Vidi Lake the first Wednesday in August. It is looked on as a sort of national day and thousands of people attend, special trains being run from outports. Six- and four-oared boats compete, I go there most of the day, and my wife gives away prizes about 7 p.m.

54. BOARD OF TRADE

They should really be on the lines of a Chamber of Commerce, but they are too political and want to direct Government policy; they are very touchy and like to have everything referred to them. There are some good men on it.

APPENDIX 1

Note on present constitutional arrangements in Newfoundland

Prior to 1934, Newfoundland enjoyed self-government on the Dominion model. The Legislature, which was composed of the Governor and two Houses of Parliament, was responsible to the people; the executive business of the Government was transacted by an Executive Council or "Cabinet," the members of which were appointed by the Governor, as the representative of His Majesty, from the party or group of parties commanding the confidence of the Lower House; and the Governor acted generally on the advice of Ministers.

Following on the acceptance by the Newfoundland and United Kingdom Governments of the recommendations of the Newfoundland Royal Commission, 1933, an Act was passed by the United Kingdom Parliament at the request of the Newfoundland Legislature (known as the Newfoundland Act, 1933) authorising the issue of Letters Patent suspending the existing constitution until such time as Newfoundland might become self-supporting again and providing for the substitution in the meantime of a form of Government under

which full legislative and executive authority would be vested in the Governor acting on the advice of a specially created Commission of Government over which he would preside. Letters Patent were accordingly issued on the 17th February 1934¹⁹⁸ suspending the former system of Government for the time being and providing for the administration to be conducted by a Commission of Government composed of six members, three drawn from Newfoundland and three from the United Kingdom, and presided over by the Governor.

Under this form of Government, the Commission of Government acts in both a legislative and an executive capacity and thus replaces the former Legislature and Executive Council. The proceedings of the Commission of Government are subject to the supervisory control of H.M. Government in the United Kingdom and the Governor-in-Commission is responsible to the Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs for the good government of the Island.

In the spheres both of legislation and of executive action, the Governor acts on the advice of the Commission of Government (he is empowered, however, in executive matters, to act in emergency on his own initiative). The business of the Commission of Government is decided as far as possible by unanimity and, in the event of unanimity not being possible, by a majority of the votes given. In the latter event, the Governor and each member of the Commission actually present each exercise one vote.

APPENDIX 3

Among the chief characteristics of the house are the magnificently decorated ceilings painted by a native Polish artist named Pindikowsky¹⁹⁹ who, shortly after his arrival in Newfoundland in 1880, was guilty of debasing his artistic gifts by forging a cheque for £63, was convicted before the Supreme Court and sentenced to fifteen months' imprisonment in H.M. Penitentiary in St. John's.

When the Governor of the Penitentiary discovered that he had

acquired a prisoner of unusual artistic ability, he set him to work on the decoration of the ceilings of Government House, and visitors are particularly struck by the beautiful mural painting with which the rooms are embellished. Before his term of imprisonment expired, Pindikowsky had also found time to paint the ceilings of both Houses of Parliament in the capital city of Newfoundland

APPENDIX 8

Cost of various stores (approx.)

(1) <u>Army and Navy Stores</u> (Duty free)	£	₤
1 case Scotch Whisky, Vat A	4	4
1 " Gordons Gin	3	4
1 " Votrix Vermouth	2	2
1,000 Dunhills Asorbal Turkish Cigarettes	3	11
1,000 Osmanie Turkish Cigarettes (Balkan Cigarette Co.)	2	10
2,000 " " "	4	9.6
1 lb. Smith's Glasgow smoking mixture	-	8
3 " " " " "	1	3
300 Indian stick cheroots (a light good smoke)	3	18
500 " " "	6	5
500 Petit Corona Cigars (very good)	12	-
<u>Imperial Tobacco Co., St. John's</u>	Dollars/Cents	
1,000 Virginia Players cigarettes (duty free)	3	.00
<u>City Cigar Depot</u>		
100 Jamaica Cigars (not duty free)	19	.20

(2) Board of Liquor Control, St. John's.

1 Case of Hudson Bay Whisky (this is the best)	13.	50
6 Bottles Rum	3	.00
2 Cases Sherry @ 16.90	33	.80
2 " Hudson Bay Whisky @12.35	24	.70
2 " Port — Newmans A. @12.20	24	.40
1 doz. Bottles Beer (Local & Canadian)	2	.15
St. Pierre Claret		\$12 a dozen

S.S. Pierce, Boston (Duty Free)

4 Cases Gold Coast California Sauterne (Dry)	31	.94
June .45	33	.30

Sherry Wines & Spirit Co., 678 Madison Avenue, New York
(Duty free)

1 Case Claret Chateau Gruaud Larose (Expensive, but good)	44	.00
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- (1) Present approximate prices including carriage by Furness Withy and War Risk Insurance. These vary from time to time and are high at present.
- (2) Due to fluctuating prices in wartime, B.L.C. have no regular price list at present, the prices shown above are inclusive of the 10% sales Tax.

APPENDIX 10

Price of furs

Coats:

Mink	Full length	\$2,000.00
Otter	“ “	525.00
Muskrat	“ “	425.00
Sealskin	Natural Hair Seal	225.00
Sealskin	Dyed Brown	190.00

Foxes:

Platinum	\$174.00–225.00
Silver	65.00–110.00
Cross	40.00–65.00
Red	32.00–45.00

Mink:

Tie	\$150.00 and \$25.00 — 35.00 per skin
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A memento of wartime St. John's (The Rooms Provincial Archives, St. John's, GN128.4). The Walwyns were in the Newfoundland capital when, on the evening of Saturday, 12 December 1942, a fire at the Knights of Columbus Hostel on Harvey Road claimed 99 lives. Members of Uncle Tim's Barn Dance Troupe were present when the conflagration began but all managed to escape, though Dermot Duggan was badly burned. One of the musicians who survived the inferno was the popular Newfoundland singer, Mary Frances Bennett (née Mallard, 1885–1961), who performed under the name Biddy O'Toole. Her rendition of "The Star of Logy Bay" was emblematic of the spirit of a country at the fore in the Battle of the Atlantic.

Notes

- 1 Lady Walwyn was made a Dame of the Order of the British Empire (DBE) in the New Year's Honours List for 1947 "in recognition of her outstanding leadership of the women of Newfoundland in charitable and war works during her ten years in the Island" (*Newfoundland Gazette*, 7 January 1947,1).
- 2 DO35/1141/N401/8 has the appendices printed below plus Appendix 2 (plans of Government House and grounds).
- 3 Walwyn was son of Army Colonel James Harford Walwyn; Macdonald was son of coalminer Thomas Macdonald.
- 4 Malcolm MacDonald: Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs, 1935–38 and 1938–39; United Kingdom High Commissioner to Canada, 1941–46; son of Ramsay MacDonald (1866–1937), first Labour Party Prime Minister of the United Kingdom.

- 5 Sir Edward John Harding (1889–1954): Permanent Under-Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs, 1930–39.
- 6 Eric Gustav Siegfried Machtig (1889–1973): Served in Dominions Office and Commonwealth Relations Office, 1930–48; Permanent Under-Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs, 1940–47.
- 7 (Peter) Alexander Clutterbuck (1897–1975) of the Dominions Office: Secretary to the Newfoundland Royal Commission, 1933, and thereafter the leading British government authority on Newfoundland affairs; Assistant Under-Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs, 1942–46; United Kingdom High Commissioner to Canada, 1946–52.
- 8 Anderson (1874–1936) was Governor of Newfoundland, 1933–36.
- 9 The Club was located at 116 Pall Mall, London, and was for officers of the Royal Navy and British Army.
- 10 United Kingdom Parliament, Cmd. 4480. The full text of the Report, with maps, is available on the Newfoundland and Labrador Heritage website: <https://www.heritage.nf.ca/articles/politics/pdf/amulee-report-1933.pdf>.
- 11 This commitment was made in the House of Commons in December 1943 by Under-Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs Paul Vychan Emrys-Evans (1894–1967). See http://api.parliament.uk/historic-hansard/commons/1943/dec/02/dominion-affairs#S5CV-0395PO_19431202_HOC_386.
- 12 The National Convention election was held in 35 of 38 electoral districts on 21 June 1946, with votes subsequently being held in the remote districts of St. Barbe, White Bay, and Labrador.
- 13 A British Parliamentary goodwill mission visited Newfoundland in mid-1943. The MP members of the mission were Charles Ammon (1873–1960), Labour–Camberwell; Sir Derek Gunston (1891–1985), Conservative–Thornbury; and Alan Patrick (A.P.) Herbert (1890–1971), Independent–Oxford University. For their work, see Peter Neary, *Newfoundland in the North Atlantic World, 1929–1949* (Montreal and Kingston: McGill-Queen's University Press), 216–18.
- 14 John Charles Puddester (1881–1947); Commissioner for Public Health and Welfare, 1934–47; Vice-Chairman of the Commission of Government, 1937–47.
- 15 Lewis Edward Emerson (1890–1949): Minister of Justice, 1932–34;

- Commissioner for Justice, 1937–40, and for Justice and Defence, 1940–44; Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, 1944–49.
- 16 On 13 June 1944. Commissioner for Public Health and Welfare and Vice-Chairman of the Commission of Government Sir John Puddester was named Deputy Governor during Walwyn's planned absence from St. John's, 18 June–15 July (*Newfoundland Gazette*, 20 June 1944, 2).
- 17 Bishop Feild College (a Church of England boys' school), Bishop Spencer College (a Church of England girls' school), Prince of Wales College (a Nonconformist co-educational school), and St. Bonaventure's College (a Roman Catholic boys' school). The Walwyns attended speech days, etc., at these schools and at the College of Our Lady of Mercy, a girls' school run by the Sisters of Mercy, a Roman Catholic order.
- 18 Royal Navy.
- 19 Royal Canadian Navy. The Newfoundland Escort Force, formed in 1941 in response to heavy mercantile shipping losses, and under the command of a Commodore of the Royal Navy, consisted mainly of Royal Canadian Navy destroyers and corvettes based in St. John's. These vessels escorted merchant ships convoyed from Halifax to a point off Newfoundland the 1,500 miles to Iceland, or, later, to Londonderry, Northern Ireland, for onward British escort to Britain. They would then return to St. John's with westward-bound convoys. See Joseph Schull, *Far Distant Ships: An Official Account of Canadian Naval Operations in World War Two* (Toronto: Stoddart, 1987), 64–69 (esp. 68), 75, 101.
- 20 RPA, GN1/3/A, box 182, file 646/35, Anderson to Harding, 29 Apr. 1935.
- 21 He was a retired Royal Navy Vice-Admiral.
- 22 Charles Hampden Stanley Butterworth (1890–1950), St. John's manager, Bank of Montreal.
- 23 For the history of Government House, see Jean Edwards Stacey, *Newfoundland & Labrador Government House: Life and Times* (St. John's: 2002), and Parks Canada, Directory of Federal Heritage Designations, Government House National Historic Site of Canada, St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador: https://www.pc.gc.ca/apps/dfhd/page_nhs_eng.aspx?id=241.
- 24 For these, see DO35/1141/N401/8.

- 25 Term used in vexillology to denote the addition of a symbol to a flag.
26 Naval term for flying a flag.
- 27 Royal Stores Limited, 137–149 Water Street. The Managing Director was Campbell Leonard Macpherson (1907–73), who became aide-de-camp to Walwyn's successor, Sir Gordon Macdonald, and, in 1957, Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Newfoundland.
- 28 DO35/1141/N401/8.
- 29 Proprietary term for glass that transmits most of the ultraviolet rays of sunlight.
- 30 Harvey and Company Limited, which operated a cold storage facility.
31 Air Raid Precautions.
- 32 King Edward VII (1841–1910): reigned 22 Jan. 1901–6 May 1910.
33 Queen Alexandra (1844–1925): Danish-born consort of Edward VII.
34 George V (1865–1936): reigned 6 May 1910–20 Jan. 1936.
35 Queen Mary (1867–1953): the former Princess Mary of Teck; consort of George V.
- 36 Formed in 1861, the Crown Agents for the Colonies provided a variety of administrative services.
- 37 The Iron Fireman Manufacturing Company produced heaters with innovative time-released and temperature-controlled heating by coal, and later by oil. See https://www.portlandoregon.gov/bds/appeals/index.cfm?action=getfile&appeal_id=23764&file_id=29344.
- 38 The war had seen a heavy demand for labour and had brought many new employment opportunities for women.
- 39 Lillian Coleman (née Cramm, 1908–2002): born Heart's Content; 37 years old; earned \$50.00 per month at Government House. See 1945 Newfoundland Census, Family Search website. The details that follow about other members of the Government House staff are also taken from this source.
- 40 Ella O'Neill: born St. George's; 18 years old; earned \$17.00 per month at Government House.
- 41 There were five maids listed in the 1945 Census, of whom four were housemaids and one a parlour maid. See note following for Lily May Collins (her later married name was Lily May Tilley). The other four were: (1) Rose Ella Ivany: born Portland, Bonavista Bay, 20 years old; earned \$32.00 per month; (2) Gladys Dobbin: born Port aux Bras, 31

- years old, earned \$28.00 per month; (3) Florence Chafe: born Petty Harbour; 23 years old; earned \$22.00 per month; (4) Emma Ash (titled parlour maid): born Portland, Bonavista Bay; 17 years old; earned \$15.00 per month.
- 42 Lily May Collins (1903–63): born in Spaniard’s Bay, 40 years old; earned \$42.00 per month. In 1947 she was made a Member of the Order of the British Empire (Civil Division) “in recognition of her twenty-one years of faithful service on the staff at Government House” (*Newfoundland Gazette*, 17 June 1947, 1).
- 43 Alice Bond: born in England; 50 years old; earned \$38.00 per month. She had been with Lady Walwyn for many years and arrived in Newfoundland with the family in January 1936.
- 44 Lily May Collins.
- 45 The laundry was located at 43 Prescott Street. Fong Lee (b. 1887) lived next door at 45 Prescott Street.
- 46 Michael Hynes (b. 1883): born in St. John’s; lived at 29 Young Street; employee of the Department of Public Utilities; earned \$120.00 per month.
- 47 Charles Prowse (1865–1959): born in Fogo; 78 years old; lived at 78 Allandale Road; listed in the 1945 census as retired with no income. A ninetieth birthday tribute noted that he had retired from the carpentry trade in 1950 (*Daily News*, 1 Nov. 1957, 3).
- 48 Arthur Farrell (1914–83): born in St. John’s; 31 years old; earned \$93.00 per month. He was the father of Mary Louise Palmer (née Farrell, 1942–2011): singer, actor, Miss Newfoundland, Miss Dominion of Canada.
- 49 Vincent Stephen Walsh (1895–1976): born in St. Mary’s; 50 years old; earned \$800.00 per year.
- 50 John Pelder (1908–76): born in Holland; 37 years old; earned \$109.62 per month.
- 51 Hawthorn.
- 52 Lambert Genge (1892–1983).
- 53 Aide-de-camp.
- 54 Charles Maxwell Richard Schwerdt (1889–1968).
- 55 Harold Belfield Goodridge (1901–89): Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society; later taught Geography at Memorial University; painted

- the historical murals in the entrance lobby of the Confederation Building, St. John's.
- 56 Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve.
- 57 Metal-tipped gilded cords, worn as symbol of rank and authority.
- 58 Located at 247 Water Street, St. John's.
- 59 Of London, England.
- 60 Inches.
- 61 Norah Edith Rendell (1890–1972) of 93 Military Road. She was listed in the 1945 census as Clerk at Government House. In the 1941 New Year's Honours List she had been awarded the MBE (Member of the Order of the British Empire). See *Newfoundland Gazette*, 7 Jan. 1941, 12.
- 62 1898–1982.
- 63 1905–90).
- 64 Joan Madeline Ayre (1907–2002).
- 65 Typex or Type X was the name of a British cryptography machine.
- 66 For Dominion Affairs.
- 67 Society for the Protection of Animals.
- 68 Fahrenheit.
- 69 A notoriously windswept area, known for heavy snowdrifts, west of Millertown Junction on the mainline of the Newfoundland Railway. There are four Topsail hills: Main Topsail, Mizzen Topsail, Gaff Topsail, and Fore Topsail.
- 70 A short close-fitting jacket.
- 71 Trench coat.
- 72 Government House.
- 73 Rosenberg & Co., Limited, custom tailors, 321 Water Street.
- 74 John Maunder, tailor, died in 1926. The business, on Duckworth Street, was carried on by his son Ernest (1890–1965) under the same name.
- 75 Gaiters.
- 76 Parker & Monroe Ltd., with two branches, at 195 and 361 Water Street, and a factory on Alexander Street.
- 77 A dark knee-length overcoat with a velvet collar, named after its originator, George Stanhope, 6th Earl of Chesterfield.
- 78 Newfoundland Outport Nursing and Industrial Association. The Nonia retail outlet was located at the Newfoundland Hotel, Cavendish Square.
- 79 Trousers that are loose above the knee but tight below.

- 80 A popular board game of the period.
- 81 80 miles, etc.
- 82 Of St. John's.
- 83 Born in 1918; operator of the Log Cabin Hotel, Spruce Brook, providing access to the Upper Pools of Harry's River.
- 84 Popular salmon fishing destination, running from Spruce Brook, St. George's Lake, to St. George's Bay, about 24 miles in length, with some 50 salmon fishing pools. The Newfoundland Railway ran anywhere from 50 feet to three miles along the full length of the River. See *Atlantic Guardian* 5, no. 5 (Aug. 1948), "The Salmon Rivers of Newfoundland," advertisement by Bowater's Newfoundland Pulp and Paper Mills Ltd. "in the interests of Newfoundland's Tourist Industry."
- 85 Lieutenant-Colonel Leonard Cecil Outerbridge (1888–1986): born in Asheville, North Carolina; served in the Canadian Expeditionary Force in the Great War; leading St. John's businessman (at Harvey & Company); knighted in 1946; served as Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Newfoundland, 1949–57.
- 86 Supplier, based in Alnwick, England, of fly-fishing gear.
- 87 Another renowned English supplier of fly-fishing needs.
- 88 William May (1918–2001).
- 89 The Fraser Company, 610 St. James Street, Montreal, represented Hardy's in Canada.
- 90 A steel tube flexible for about half its length with a cable noose or snare that is slipped over the tail of the fish to bring it in.
- 91 Slang for swindle.
- 92 The property was located at Upper Robair (or Robaire) on Harry's River (*Western Star*, 7 Dec. 1945, 1; *Fishermen's Advocate*, 19 Jan. 1946, 3; *Newfoundland Government Bulletin*, Jan. 1946, 1–3). For the location of Robaire's Pool on the river see the map on page 65 of C.H. Palmer, *The Salmon River of Newfoundland: A Descriptive Account of the Various Rivers of the Island* (Boston, Mass.: Printed by Farrington Printing, Co., Inc., 1928). This volume is available at <https://collections.mun.ca/digital/collection/cns/id/107984/rec/15>.
- 93 Probably Railway line.
- 94 The business/private car of the Newfoundland Railway.

- 95 Most likely John William Morris (1872–1955): General Manager, Newfoundland Light and Power Company, 1924–42; well-known shooting instructor.
- 96 The Canadian Horse is a breed of horses.
- 97 With tail intact.
- 98 At Fort Townshend.
- 99 Located at the Ropewalk, St. John's.
- 100 Probably at Torbay airbase, Royal Canadian Air Force.
- 101 John Harvey Furneaux (1894–1963).
- 102 British producer of dog biscuits.
- 103 A well-known patent medicine.
- 104 He eventually sold the Humber Snipe to the Newfoundland Government for \$2,500.
- 105 The rule of the road changed to right-hand driving in Newfoundland on 2 January 1947.
- 106 Located behind the Newfoundland Hotel on Fort William Street.
- 107 Located in the Sudbury Building on Water Street West. For a brief account of the history of Marshall Motors, see *Daily News*, 18 Dec. 1961, 11–16.
- 108 Herman Plewis Young (1912–67): born Heart's Content; 33 years old; made \$800.00 per year.
- 109 Missing from extant copies of the document.
- 110 For a picture of the *Terra Nova*, see <https://www.railpictures.ca/upload/narrow-gauge-business-car-the-cn-business-car-terra-nova-was-used-on-newfoundlands-narrow-gauge-36-network-until-it-was-donated-to-the-canada-science-and-technology-museum-in-1970-when>.
- 111 A small railcar used in maintenance and other work.
- 112 Herbert John Russell (1890–1949): born in Musgrave Harbour; educated there and at Springdale Street Commercial School, St. John's; joined the Reid Newfoundland Company, operator of the Newfoundland Railway, in 1906; became assistant general manager in 1920 and general manager in 1923 when the railway and its associated marine services were taken over by the government. For a full biography, see Paul J. Johnson and Harry A. Cuff, *Herbert J. Russell, C.B.E.: The Man, His Work, His Words* (St. John's: Harry Cuff Publications, 2004).

- 113 The *Newfoundland* and *Nova Scotia* were built to replace earlier ships with the same names.
- 114 Furness Red Cross. In 1928 Furness Withy had acquired the Red Cross Line.
- 115 Missing from extant copies of the document. Trans-Canada began mail and passenger service to Newfoundland on 1 May 1942 (*Daily News*, 2 May 1942, 3; *Evening Telegram*, 2 May 1942, 3).
- 116 Royal Canadian Air Force.
- 117 British Overseas Airways Corporation.
- 118 The Botwood and Azores services used flying boats.
- 119 Commander-in-Chief, North America and West Indies Station, Royal Navy.
- 120 For a photograph of the interior of the club, see *The Standard*, Montreal, 23 Nov. 1946, 7 (https://collections.mun.ca/digital/collection/cns_period/id/48071/rec/49).
- 121 Located on Portugal Cove Road; opened for business in 1941; destroyed by fire on 21 January 1943 but subsequently rebuilt.
- 122 Formed in 1806.
- 123 William Richards Dawe (1897–1986).
- 124 11 November.
- 125 It commemorated the losses suffered by the Royal Newfoundland Regiment in the opening phase of the 1916 Battle of the Somme.
- 126 The National War Memorial at King's Beach, St. John's.
- 127 Andrew Greene Carnell (1877–1951): acting mayor of St. John's, 1932–33; mayor, 1933–49.
- 128 Opened as a public park in 1891.
- 129 Bowring Park was officially opened on 15 July 1914 by H.R.H. Prince Arthur, Duke of Connaught. It was the fruit of a gift of \$50,000 by Bowring Brothers Limited to mark the centenary of that company's operations in Newfoundland.
- 130 Philip Selwyn Abraham (1897–1955) of the Church of England: Coadjutor Bishop of Newfoundland, 1937–42; Bishop of Newfoundland, 1942–55.
- 131 Edward Patrick Roche (1874–1950): Roman Catholic Archbishop of St. John's and Metropolitan of Newfoundland, 1915–50.
- 132 Ernest R.W. Higham (1881–1954).

- 133 The Church of England Cathedral of St. John the Baptist.
- 134 See Ralph Andrews, *Integration and Other Developments in Newfoundland Education, 1915–1949* (St. John's: Harry Cuff Publications, 1985); Frederick W. Rowe, *The History of Education in Newfoundland* (Toronto: Ryerson Press, 1952); Rebecca Faye Ralph, "Brother Slattery Wins an Essay Contest: An Irish Christian Brother's Influence on Education Reform in 1890s Newfoundland," *Acadiensis* 50, no. 1 (Spring 2021): 34–61.
- 135 Albert Joseph Walsh (1900–58): lawyer; Speaker of the House of Assembly, 1928–32; magistrate, 1935–39; Assistant Secretary for Justice, 1939–41; Labour Relations Officer, 1942–44; Commissioner for Home Affairs and Education, 1944–47 and for Justice and Defence, 1947–49; vice-chairman of the Commission of Government, 1947–49; Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Newfoundland, 1949; Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Newfoundland, 1949–58.
- 136 Albert George Hatcher (1886–1954): born in Moreton's Harbour, New World Island, Notre Dame Bay; mathematician; President of Memorial University College, 1933–49, and Memorial University of Newfoundland, 1949–52.
- 137 For the history of the institution, see Malcolm MacLeod, *A Bridge Built Halfway: A History of Memorial University College, 1925–1950* (Montreal and Kingston: McGill-Queen's University Press, 1990); Melvin Baker and Jean Graham, *Celebrate Memorial! A Pictorial History of Memorial University of Newfoundland* (St. John's: Memorial University of Newfoundland, 1999).
- 138 For the history of the library, see Melvin Baker and G.M. Story, "Book Collectors in Newfoundland: The Case of W.G. Gosling." in Eric L. Swanick, ed., *"The Book Disease": Atlantic Provinces Book Collectors* (Halifax, Dalhousie University, School of Library and Information Studies, 1996), 83–92.
- 139 London, England.
- 140 In operation from 1894 to 1984. In 1945, the editor and associate editor were, respectively, Hon. John Stewart Currie (1877–1956) and Albert Benjamin Perlin (1901–1978). Perlin used the pen name "Wayfarer."
- 141 Began operation in 1879 and now known as the *Telegram*. The editor in 1945 was Charles Ernest Augustine Jeffery, MBE (1881–1964).

- 142 Operating from 1900 to present, with Charlotte Burry the editor at the time.
- 143 Until 1937 the newspaper of the Fishermen's Protective Union.
- 144 Edited at the time by Michael Harrington (1916–99).
- 145 A privately owned trade publication.
- 146 The appointment, made in February 1944, was of James Whiteford McNeily (1882–1965). See *Newfoundland Gazette*, 1 Feb. 1944, 1; *Daily News*, 2 Feb. 1944, 4.
- 147 Macpherson (1879–1966) invented a gas mask during the Great War.
- 148 Garrett M. Brownrigg (1907–91).
- 149 Louis O'Neill Conroy (1902–62).
- 150 J. Bertram O'Reilly (1894–1954).
- 151 J. Gordon Lynch (1906–88).
- 152 The Company operated at 220 Duckworth Street.
- 153 Diathermy treatment was the production of heat in body tissues by high-frequency currents for therapeutic purposes. Massage was given following the application of heat. See W.J. Zeiter, MD, "Clinical Application of Short Wave Diathermy," *Cleveland Clinic Journal of Medicine* 7, no. 3 (July 1940): 184–90.
- 154 Stewart Dewling (1895–1955). Dewling was No. 20 in the Royal Newfoundland Regiment's celebrated First Five Hundred. He was a medical orderly and was awarded the Military Medal for "bravery in the field" at Beaumont Hamel on the first day of the Battle of the Somme: "On July 1st under machine gun fire south of Beaumont Hamel brought in two wounded men and worked continuously under heavy shell fire. On July 2nd brought in six wounded men under shell and machine gun fire in daylight. On July 3rd went out and looked for wounded men in daylight." (The Rooms Provincial Archives, Military Records Database.) He was wounded in action in 1917, then trained as a masseur, and ended the 1914–18 war as Acting Company Sergeant Major. He was for many years on the Executive of the Great War Veterans' Association and the Royal Canadian Legion (*Daily News*, 19 Aug. 1955, 3; 25 Aug. 1955, 7).
- 155 Michael Francis Hogan (1896–1977).
- 156 Probably Jean Peters (1911–93). As Jean Lilly, she operated Jean's Beauty Salon, 83 Military Road, from May 1945 (*Daily News*, 5 May 1945, 1; 1946 St. John's Telephone Directory).

- 157 With stores at Rawlins' Cross and Long's Hill.
- 158 Canada Packers had premises at the rear of 137 Water Street. In June 1946 the scattered St. John's offices and warehouses of the company were consolidated at Colonial and Bond Streets.
- 159 Wilsil Ltd., wholesale meats and provisions, was located at 13 Prescott Street.
- 160 Max J. Lawlor (1902–80). His meat market was located at 158 Duckworth Street.
- 161 Run by Joseph Roberts Smallwood (1900–91): Premier of the Province of Newfoundland, 1949–72.
- 162 Missing from extant copies of the document.
- 163 Red wine from the Bordeaux region of France.
- 164 A white table wine, ranging from dry to sweet.
- 165 Of London, England.
- 166 Missing from extant copies of the document.
- 167 Missing from extant copies of the document.
- 168 For the opening of the Newfoundland Hotel in 1926, see *Evening Telegram*, 6 July 1926, 7. Its operations to 1933 are detailed in RPA, GN2.5.583.7, file "Government Finances, Department of Finance, 1901–1934," #22, "The Newfoundland Hotel." For the life of the hotel in the era of the Commission of Government, see Peter Neary, ed., *White Tie and Decorations: Sir John and Lady Hope Simpson in Newfoundland, 1934–1936* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1996).
- 169 For the public broadcasting service, see Jeff A. Webb, *The Voice of Newfoundland: A Social History of the Broadcasting Corporation of Newfoundland, 1939–1949* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2008).
- 170 Radio Telephony.
- 171 For the history of telephone system in Newfoundland, see Frank Galgay, Michael McCarthy, and Jack O'Keefe, *The Voice of Generations: A History of Communications in Newfoundland* (St. John's: Robinson Blackmore Printers and Publishers, 1994).
- 172 A 16 mm. moving picture camera.
- 173 Located at 307–309 Water Street.
- 174 Located at 9 Henry Street.
- 175 Located at 119 Military Road. See *Daily News*, 26 May 1945, 1.

- 176 Presumably referring to films made with the cine Kodak, i.e., home movies.
- 177 Henry Leon Wulff (1905–91): first visited Newfoundland in 1935, when he fished for salmon in the Grand Codroy River. See his *Bush Pilot Angler: A Memoir* (Camden, ME: Down East Books, 2000); and Allan Frank Byrne, “Selling Simplicity: Lee Wulff, Stanley Truman Brooks and the Newfoundland Tourist Development Board, 1925–1946,” MA Research Report, Memorial University of Newfoundland, 2008.
- 178 William Henry Ewing (1862–1951).
- 179 His Appendix 10. Missing from extant copies of the document.
- 180 Located on Brookfield Road, west of St. John’s.
- 181 Located on Water Street.
- 182 Robert Cyril Thompson (1891–1978).
- 183 Echoing American concerns. See Neary, *Newfoundland in the North Atlantic World*, 208–09. It was easy to confuse occupational pluralism with unreliability; rural Newfoundlanders were variously occupied and were used to a seasonal rhythm of work.
- 184 For the Corner Brook enterprise, see W.J. Reader, *Bowater: A History* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1981).
- 185 Anglo-Newfoundland Development Company, Limited. See Grand Falls-Windsor Heritage Society Inc., *Grand Falls-Windsor: The Place and Its People. A Century of Progress in Newfoundland and Labrador* (Grand Falls-Windsor: Grand Falls-Windsor Heritage Society Inc., 2005), 56; Exploits Valley Senior Citizens Club, *The Forest Beckoned: Reminiscences and Historical Data of the Town of Grand Falls, Newfoundland from 1905 to 1960* (Grand Falls: The Club, 1986); <https://anglonewfoundlanddevelopmentcompany.wordpress.com/>.
- 186 Opened in 1926, the Buchans mine was operated by the Buchans Mining Company and owned by the American Smelting and Refining Company and the Anglo-Newfoundland Development Company. For the history of the enterprise, see Wendy Martin, *Once Upon a Mine: Story of Pre-Confederation Mines on the Island of Newfoundland* (Montreal: Canadian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy, 1983), 74–82.
- 187 For the history of the Bell Island mining operation, see Martin, *Once Upon a Mine*, 52–59; N.W. Sheppard, *Historic Bell Island: Dawn of First Light* (St. John’s: Flanker Press, 2011); Gail Weir, *The Miners of Wabana*:

- The Story of the Iron Ore Miners of Bell Island* (St. John's: Breakwater Books, 1989) and her website, <https://www.historic-wabana.com/>.
- 188 Such iron ore is relatively common and of low grade.
- 189 Walwyn has Dominion Iron & Steel Co., an earlier enterprise.
- 190 Ronald Ayre (1898–1967): director of Ayre & Sons Ltd.; established, in 1923, the Methodist College Boy Scout troop.
- 191 The Church Lads' Brigade: Church of England male youth organization founded in 1892. For its history in Newfoundland, see Geoff Peddle, *The Church Lads' Brigade in Newfoundland: A People's Story* (St. John's: Flanker Press, 2016).
- 192 James C. Crawford (1893–1963): Colonel of the Church Lads' Brigade and Managing Director of Browning–Harvey until his retirement in 1949. See *Daily News*, 30 Dec. 1963, 3.
- 193 Llewellyn Strange (1892–1973): Police Chief, 1945–56.
- 194 North-West Mounted Police: predecessor to the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.
- 195 Police force established by the Commission of Government in 1935. See Marilyn Tuck, "The Newfoundland Ranger Force, 1935–1950" (MA thesis, Memorial University, 1983); Harold Horwood, *A History of the Newfoundland Ranger Force* (St. John's: Breakwater Books, 1986).
- 196 Stanley Blackburn (1904–75): in St. John's on loan from the British Fire Service. For Blackburn's Newfoundland career, see Robert Corbett, *Faithful and Fearless: A History of the St. John's Fire Department* (St. John's: Flanker Press, 2013), 40–41.
- 197 Distributed as part of the civil defence wartime effort. A.R.P. in this context might also mean abrasion resistant pump.
- 198 The Letters Patent were in fact issued on 30 January 1934, with Commission of Government to come into being on a date to be proclaimed by the Governor. The Governor's Proclamation was made on 16 February 1934 (*Newfoundland Gazette*, Extraordinary, 16 Feb. 1934, 1).
- 199 The document spells the name Pendikowskey but Pindikowsky is the spelling favoured by archivist and historian Lawrence Joseph (Larry) Dohey (1959–2019) in his account of the artist's life (<http://archival-moments.ca/tag/pindikowsky/>). Pindikowsky's first name was Alexander.

