

of letters.

later he arrives at CBC's Toronto office and will spend the next twelve hours organizing Morningside. Returning to the office to do for the next day's show, he is scheduled to be on the air before 11:00 pm.

Where does the energy come from? "Buckingham Palace is deadpan. Most of the things I'm doing are my time off. So for me, there's no extra work on a play-off."

The burden will get too much. This is the first season, but before I came out to flog the show I've reviewed forty major authors — a heavy night as well as all the other things I do. McClelland has said Gzowski's show is the single medium for the promotion of the show.

In journalism began at the bottom, at the *Toronto Daily Press*, where, he notes, he worked my way down to become a copywriter. At the *Daily Press* he realized how much he loved writing. But always the perfectionist, Gzowski decided that in order to do the job he had to continue his education.

At the University of Toronto, he soon became a member of the *Varsity*, a position he cherished. He left the *Varsity* to become the *Editor* of the *Loose Time* *Herald*. He was still only 28, Maclean's hired editor. At Maclean's Gzowski filled the position they had to offer before leaving to go to *Star* and then the ill-fated magazine *1969* he joined CBC radio. For the next few years he jumped back and forth between *1969* and finally settling for Morningside in 1981. It was a top so quickly today. Journalism, he

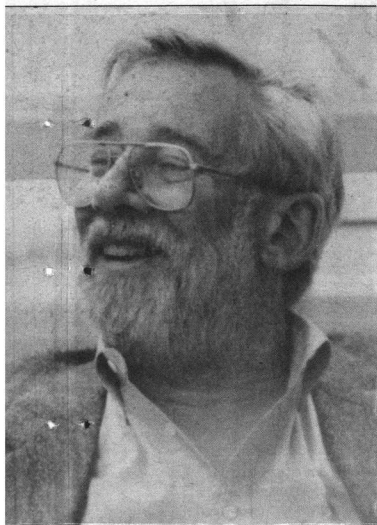
says was a very small business in the fifties: "You just got in it and did it. We were, in a sense, pioneers. We were figuring out how to do things as we learnt them. These days are over. When you get out of the University of Alberta now you have to scratch and claw to get in the door, which makes the business better. But it makes it harder to be a hot shot now. That's what I was — an objectionable young hot shot."

As a journalist, Gzowski has been exposed to every medium of communication. He finds books the best way to express his thoughts. Having his share of bestsellers during the last decade — *The Sacrament* (1980), *The Game of Our Lives* (1981), *The Unbroken Line* (1983) — he ought to know: "I like books because you have enough time to worry away at a single idea until you can make sense of it. You can't do that with radio. You just dance over the surface like a water bug."

However, he prefers radio for its intimacy, immediacy and informality. "Television I find cumbersome, manipulative and awkward. Television is about style and radio's about content. Newspapers are distant. Radio is a medium that plugs right into the person you're talking to."

Of all the people Gzowski has interviewed, none stand out as being the most memorable; although he indicates a fondness for the late Rene Levesque. "I forget the bad ones. Sometimes I forget the really satisfying ones. You're always looking to do the perfect interview, and always hoping you don't do an absolute lemon. I guess I've done a few lemons."

After six years, Morningside is still a challenge for Gzowski. "I've never done a perfect radio program. I think the day we do one perfect edition of 'Morningside', I'll just go home and say 'that's it, we've done that. Let's go do something else.' But I'll never reach that stage — I'll run out of energy."



of Gzowski.

Photo by Ken Bosman

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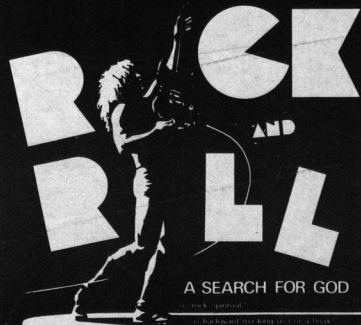
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