

RG:0002,c.0051; FILE # 00682;

WAS - WAT, 1922- 1928

**FILE 682**

**WAS - WAT**

W. FORAN,  
SECRETARY

CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION



CANADA

W

IN REPLY REFER TO FILE No. Misc. Corres.

OTTAWA, July 8, 1925.

Dear Madam:

I am directed by the Commissioners to thank you for your letter of the 7th instant, in regard to the permanent appointment of Mr. Wm. Gerald Watson. As this matter is urgent, we are asking Mr. Watson to furnish us with the name of some other gentleman from whom we may obtain the required information.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'W. Foran'.

Secretary.

Miss Margaret M. Chesley,  
McGill University,  
Montreal, P.Q.

July 7th, 1925.

W. Foran, Esq.,  
Secretary, Civil Service Commission,  
Ottawa.

Dear Sir:-

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of July 2nd addressed to Sir Arthur Currie and enclosing Form No. C. (Men) E.L. 14,513, re Mr. Wm. Gerald Watson proposed to be appointed to the position of C.E. Examiner & C.E.Clk. in the Department of Customs & Excise.

Sir Arthur is at present in England and it will be necessary to forward your letter to him. In order to save time will you please give me more definite information regarding Mr. Watson. Sir Arthur might not be able to recall him without this.

Yours faithfully,

Principal's Secretary.

W. FORAN,  
SECRETARY



IN REPLY REFER TO FILE No.....

OTTAWA, July 2, 1925.

Dear Sir (Madam):-

I beg to inform you that the name of Wm. Gerald Watson has been placed on our Eligible List for employment as Customs Excise Examiner & C. E. Clerk in the Civil Service of Canada. Having named you as one to whom application can be made for information regarding his character and habits, I am directed by the Civil Service Commissioners to request that you will oblige them by furnishing replies to the questions contained in the enclosed form of certificate.

I am to add that your answers will, if you so desire it, be regarded as confidential, and that the word "Confidential" should in that case be written on the envelope.

The favour of an early reply is respectfully requested.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "W. Foran". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "W".

Secretary.

Sir A. W. Currie,  
McGill University,  
Montreal, P.Q.

CIVIL SERVICE OF CANADA

TESTIMONIAL OF CHARACTER

Respecting Mr. Wm. Gerald Watson proposed to be appointed to the position of C. E. Examiner & C. E. Clk. in the Department of Customs & Excise

Table with 2 columns: QUESTIONS and ANSWERS. Contains 10 numbered questions regarding the candidate's character and employment history.

Signature .....

Occupation .....

Address .....

Date .....

March  
Sixteenth  
1922.

Harold F. Watson, Esq.,  
208 Coristine Building,  
Montreal, Que.

Dear Mr. Watson:-

I thank you very much for presenting us with the collection of samples representing the process of the manufacture of artificial silk.

These I have transferred to the Science Department where they will be displayed in the Chemical Museum and where they will be used in connection with lectures. Dr. Ruttan, the head of the Chemical Department, was delighted to receive them.

With all good wishes and many thanks, I am,

Yours faithfully,

Principal.

September 5th, 1924.

Advisory & Employment Department,  
Young Men's Christian Association,  
4th & Madison Sts.,  
Seattle, Washington.

Dear Sir:-

I am in receipt of your  
GM.7685 asking me to give a confidential report  
on one Mr. W. G. Watson.

I dare say I know Mr. Watson  
and might be able to give you some information  
if I could identify him more exactly. I know  
hundreds of Watsons, but just which one this is  
I am unable to say, and so cannot give you the  
information you seek.

Yours faithfully,

Principal.

**CONFIDENTIAL REFERENCE**  
**ADVISORY AND EMPLOYMENT DEPARTMENT**  
 YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION, SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

Gen. Sir A. W. Curry,  
 Montreal, Canada.

Mr. W. G. Watson

has registered with this Department and gives you as reference. Will you kindly answer each of the questions asked below and give any other information you may have in relation to him that will enable us to act intelligently and consistently in his case. Your statement will be treated in strict confidence and without prejudice to yourself. Your reply at your earliest convenience in the enclosed envelope will greatly oblige.

Yours very truly  
 J. WILLIAM CARSON,  
 Employment Secretary.

In what connection have you known him: Employer? ..... Friend? ..... Relative? ..... How long? .....

**EMPLOYMENT** If in your employ, in what position? ..... Dates from? ..... to .....

Why did he leave? .....

How did you regard his work? .....

Would you employ him again? .....

**ABILITY** What kind of work is he best fitted for? .....

What are his "strong" points? .....

Has he good business qualifications? ..... Adaptability? .....

Has he initiative? ..... Good judgment? ..... Executive ability? .....

Is he quick to "catch on"? ..... Persevering? ..... Thorough? .....

**CHARACTER** What is his general character? .....

Is he honest? ..... Tactful? ..... Reliable? ..... Loyal? .....

Does he smoke cigarettes? ..... Gamble? ..... Use intoxicants? .....

Is he prompt in meeting financial obligations? .....

**PERSONALITY** What is his general temperament and disposition? .....

Is he cheerful? ..... Even tempered? .....

Is he ambitious? ..... Enthusiastic? ..... Courteous? .....

Has he "good address"? ..... Is he neat in appearance? .....

**WEAK POINTS** Has he any "weak points" in regard to which we may help him? .....

**REMARKS** .....

Date ..... 192..... Signed .....

# Watt Negus Automatic Train Control Co., Limited



19 Albion St.,  
November 13th. 1926.  
*Amherst, N. S.,*

Sir Arthur Curry,  
President, McGill University,  
Montreal, Que.

Dear Sir Arthur :

During the Provincial Exhibition in Amherst, I had the pleasure of demonstrating to you our Automatic Train Control which you seemed to be interested in.

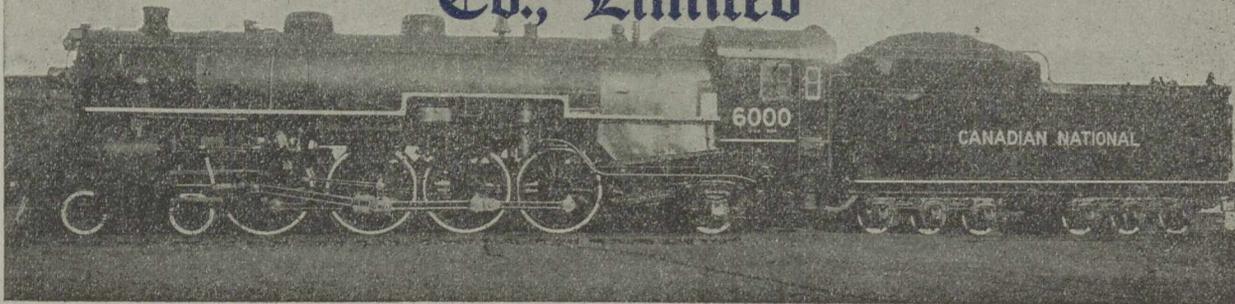
I have been working very hard on this piece of work for some time, and as you are aware the Railways of Canada do not pay very much attention to Automatic Train Control on account of the enormous expense it will put the Railways to. This being the case, we must have patience in Canada and continue as we are, demonstrating it to the public, to the officials of the Railways, and to the Railway Commission, until such time as they see fit to give us consideration.

The American Railways are compelled to install Automatic Train Control by the Interstate Commerce Commission at Washington, and it is our intention during the first of the year to take our model on the American side and exhibit it there during January, February and March. We will have this model at Chicago during the National Railway Appliances Association Exhibition held in the Coliseum the second week in March.

Sir Arthur, we need some influential people to recommend us in order that we may be able to approach and be granted an interview with Americans who are in a position to assist us.

We would like to have a letter of introduction or a letter of some kind to the Governor

# Watt Negus Automatic Train Control Co., Limited



19 Albion St.,  
*Amherst, N. S.*,  
November 13th. 1926.

Sir Arthur Curry,      -2-

of Massachusetts, stating that you had been present in Amherst at the Provincial Exhibition and had seen a demonstration of this work, also that our Company is composed of reliable people. This letter would help us immensely on the American side. We no doubt will get a letter from Hon. E. N. Rhodes, Premier of Nova Scotia; Hon. Mr. Baxter, Premier of New Brunswick; Hon. J. Layton Ralston, Minister National Defence, as these people are our friends, and familiar with what we are doing. A letter from you will be greatly appreciated.

Yours very truly,

Managing Director

of the

WATT-NEGUS AUTOMATIC TRAIN CONTROL CO. LTD.

CHW-L

November  
Seventeenth  
1926.

C. H. Watt Esq.,  
19 Albion Street,  
Amherst, N.S.

Dear Mr. Watt:

Let me acknowledge receipt of your letter  
of November 13th.

I was very much interested when in Amherst  
in the Automatic Train Control worked out by you and your partner .  
It seemed to me to be a wonderful invention, and I sincerely hope  
you will make some money out of it.

I am giving you a letter to the Governor of  
Massachusetts, whom I have not the pleasure of knowing, and I hope  
it will serve you in good stead.

With all kind wishes, I am,

Ever yours faithfully,

Principal

November  
Seventeenth  
1926.

The Honorable Alvan T. Fuller,  
Governor of the State of Massachusetts,  
Boston, Mass.

Sir:

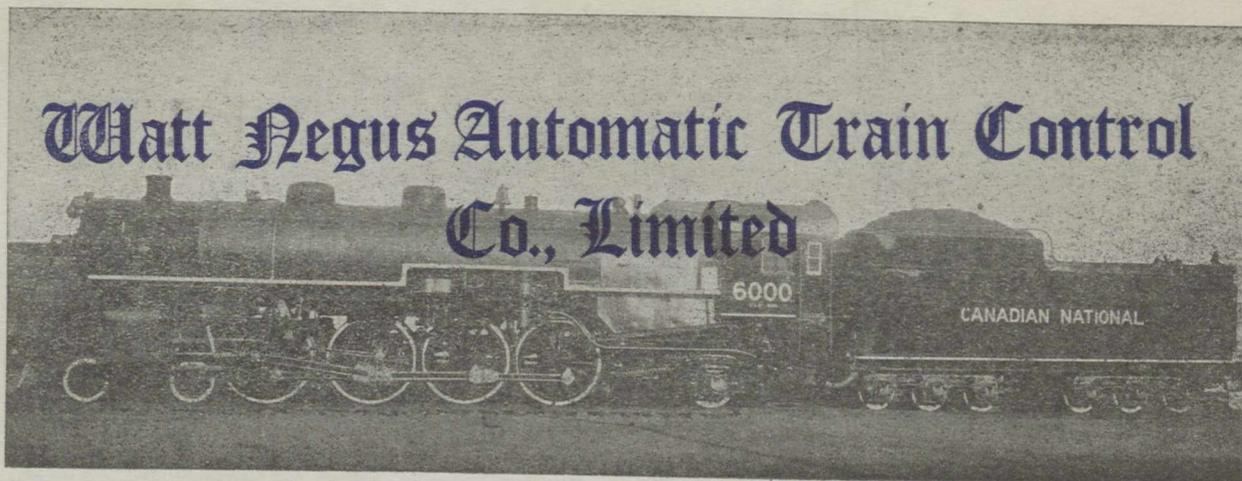
I have been requested by Mr. C.H. Watt,  
Managing Director of the Watt Negus Automatic Train Control  
Company, Limited, to give him this letter of introduction to  
you.

After spending a most delightful Summer near  
Boston I went to Amherst, N.S., in order to open there the  
Provincial Exhibition of Nova Scotia. When there I witnessed  
a demonstration of the Watt Negus Automatic Train Control and  
was very much impressed with the means it provided for the  
prevention of train accidents. I know there are other train  
controls, but to an unscientific mind like mine this one  
appealed very much. I believe it is well worth your time to  
investigate its possibilities and with diffidence I make bold  
to suggest to you that you take time to examine it.

I am, Sir,

Ever yours faithfully,

Principal



19 Albion St.,  
Nov. 29th. 1926.

*Amherst, N. I.,*

Sir Arthur W. Curry,  
President McGill University,  
Montreal, Que.

Dear Sir Arthur ;

I received your letter of November 17th., also letter of introduction to the Governor of the State of Massachusetts.

I thank you, Sir, for these, and I hope to be able to make good.

We have taken the matter of train-control up with the Chesapeake & Ohio Railway Company. They informed us they were greatly interested in our invention, and would meet us at any time.

In closing I would say, Sir Arthur, we will do our best. Again thanking you, I am.

Yours very truly,

*C. J. Watt*

CHW-L

December 1st

From Mrs Alfred Watt

TELEPHONE No. 1960 GROSVENOR.  
TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS:  
"MUECYL, AUDLEY, LONDON."

LYCEUM CLUB,  
138, PICCADILLY,  
W.I.

Dear Sir Arthur

I am writing to ask if you will kindly let me know what your views are on the subject of English girls going out to McGill for their University course. As you know Oxford and Cambridge are limiting women students and I understand that a great many clever and well prepared girls will be turned away each year. A mother of a girl who had passed London Matriculation with seven credits at fifteen consulted me the other day and I said "Why do you not send her to McGill?" She was much taken with the idea and I promised to write and find out what you thought. It seems to me a great hardship that really deserving girls should be debarred from the opportunities of a University of standing.

I am told that the provincial universities here do not offer the attractions of Oxford or Cambridge and I must confess that the ones I have seen such as Sheffield give no real collegiate life.

I think there is an increasing feeling here that it is a good thing for both men and women to have part of their education in Canada and I am delighted that this is so.

It was provoking to have only a glimpse of you when we left for England but it was a real pleasure to have our last fling in Canada — of most precious memory — with Lady Currie and Marjorie. We had a most wonderful time in Canada and are looking forward to living there again when Sholto gets through. We are spending

TELEPHONE No. 1960 GROSVENOR.  
TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS:  
"MUECYL, AUDLEY, LONDON."

LYCEUM CLUB,  
138, PICCADILLY,  
W.I.

Christmas in Paris partly so that Sholto can do some work at the Sorbonne and next summer we shall spend in Germany so that he can get German. He is specializing in Political Theory in his Economics and philosophy and feels that he can learn much in Germany. It is really wonderful what chances these young people are having to day. Education is so cheap anywhere outside of England on this continent.

I suppose you will have the problem of Garner on your hands before very long but no doubt such a forthcoming young man as Marjorie tells me he is will make up his own mind !

with kind regards

yours sincerely

Eu R Watt

December 21st, 1927.

Mrs. Alfred Watt,  
Lyceum Club,  
138, Piccadilly, W.1,  
London, England.

My dear Mrs. Watt:-

Let me thank you for your letter  
of December 1st.

In it you raise a very interesting question about which I shall make further comment in future correspondence, but I wish to acknowledge your letter before I leave on the Christmas vacation. We should like to have at McGill a certain number of women students from the Old Country. In fact we have now two or three girls, besides some others from the British West Indies. The Warden of the College, Miss Hurlbatt, is an English woman and we have more than once discussed the problem of these girls from England. We think they ought to be at least 18 years of age and that they should come here with the intention of studying with some degree of seriousness.

English girls often hold themselves aloof from the Canadian students and one wonders if they make any serious personal effort to fall in with the ways of girls in Canada. I am quite sure you will know just what I mean. The person from the Old Country, whether male or female, is so likely to think that the only proper way of doing anything is the way they imagine such a thing is done in England. However, as I said, we are glad to have them and would encourage their coming. Applications should be made early because the accommodation at the Royal Victoria College

Mrs. Alfred Watt      - 2 -

is very limited.

I am sorry I did not see more of you when you were in Canada, but it so happened I was very busy when you were in Montreal. One's life seems to become more involved as the years go by and very often one's programme is laid out for weeks ahead. We see something of Robin and his wife and I think they are getting some commissions. My wife is, I know, arranging a tea early in January, when Robin will give an exhibition.

We are having delightful winter weather - plenty of snow but mild.

With all kind wishes to Sholto  
and you, I am,

Yours faithfully,

TELEPHONE No. 1960 GROSVENOR  
TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS.  
"MUECYL. AUDLEY, LONDON.

c/o The Bank of Montreal,  
Waterloo Place,  
S. W. 1.

LYCEUM CLUB,

138, PICCADILLY

February 1, 1928

W.I.

Dear Sir Arthur,

Thank you very much for your explicit letter about English girls at McGill. I have given copies of it to a number of people, who are thinking of sending girls to Canada. I suppose, however, if you are considering any measurable influx of English girls, you will let the position be known at the Secondary and Public Schools for girls here.

I am glad you are seeing something of Robin, and it is very kind of Lady Currie to go to the trouble of an exhibition for him. I have not heard directly, but I fear that they are having a rather hard struggle. Commissions come slowly, but in the meantime they have to live. I know that his work is good, but he is not what I call a good salesman.

Please thank Lady Currie very much for her very pretty Christman card. It was very appropriate and awakens many memories, and I think the design very beautifully done. With kind regards to you all

Yours very sincerely,

lu R watt

February 15th, 1928.

Mrs. M. R. Watt,  
C/o. The Bank of Montreal,  
Waterloo Place, S.W.1.,  
London, England.

My dear Mrs. Watt:-

Your letter of February 1st came in this morning and unless I acknowledge it at once I am likely to let many weeks go by.

Robin has probably told you of the exhibition held here last week. I think it was most creditable and I am sure that is the opinion held by all who were here. People were loud in their praises and, what is much more to the point, the next day brought orders to keep Robin busy for a month at least. I think that Robin is very much bucked up. I know that the very next morning Lady Gordon phoned to my wife and asked where Robin could be found, because she wanted her grandson painted. Colonel Hugh Owen, whose wife was one of the Hendries of Hamilton, also phoned saying she wanted her children drawn, and last Saturday night Colonel Gerald Hanson told me that he wanted Robin to make sketches of his three children. So I think the exhibition was well worth while. As you say, Robin is not a very good salesman, though I can well understand his diffidence and modesty.

I hope you are well. My people have been laid up for some time. Marjorie was in bed for a week, but got up for Robin's party, only to go back the next morning and she is there yet.

With all good wishes, I am,  
Yours faithfully,