

RG:0002,c.0051; FILE # 00679;

WAL - WAM, 1919- 1933

**FILE 679**

**WAL - WAM**

*Students*

August 15th, 1922.

Miss Vivian B. Waldron,  
Moore's Mills, N. B.

Dear Madam:-

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of August 10th with reference to your entrance to McGill University to take up the study of medicine.

I am sorry to have to inform you that in the case of women students the regulations of the University require the completion of two years in Arts in any recognized university as a qualification for entrance to the Faculty of Medicine. In addition to passing the Senior Matriculation examination in New Brunswick, you will, therefore, have to spend a year at a university taking second year subjects.

Under separate cover I am sending you the Bulletin of the Faculty of Medicine, and hope to welcome you to McGill as a student in the near future.

With all good wishes, I am,

Yours faithfully,

Principal.



August 10, 1922.

Chancellor of McGill University,  
Montreal, Canada.

Dear Sir:-

I am a school teacher holding a New Brunswick Teachers license of the Superior Class. I intend studying Latin & French during the coming winter and by writing a paper in Latin, French, and Botany and passing them successfully I would be admitted into <sup>any</sup> college in the Maritime Provinces. <sup>on the 30th of Dec.</sup> But as I wish to take up the study of medicine, and as I wish McGill to be the college I attend, I should like to know if the passing successfully of the Senior Matriculation examinations in N.B. would admit one into McGill and if not what the requirements would be.

Hoping to hear from you at your

earliest convenience, I am yours respectfully

(Miss) Vivian B. Watdron,  
Moore's Mills, N. B.

July 3rd, 1922.

George A. Walkem, Esq.,  
1199 Sixth Avenue West  
Wharf, False Creek,  
Vancouver, B.C.

My dear Walkem:-

I have your letter of June 26th with reference to the constitution of the Vancouver Harbour Board.

Personally, I can never see why these Harbour Boards should be political appointments, yet such a practice apparently prevails throughout Canada. For instance, after the last election the Montreal Harbour Board resigned and an entirely new Board was appointed, all the members of which were strong supporters of the present party in power. You will also recall that my old friend, Sir David Watson was asked to resign from the Quebec Harbour Board, a proceeding of which I most strongly disapproved and am quite ready to believe that it had something to do with shortening his life.

I agree with you that it would be a good thing to have an Engineer on such a Board and, of course, if an engineer was appointed we would all like to see him a McGill man. I am afraid, though, that you being a McGill man is hardly likely to count as much as whether you are a Liberal or not. However, I am writing by this mail to Dr. King, who also is a McGill man, and I hope favourable consideration will be given to your application.

With all good wishes, I am,

Yours faithfully,

July 3rd, 1922.

Hon. Dr. J.H. King,  
Minister of Public Works,  
Ottawa.

Dear Dr. King:-

I am to-day in receipt of a letter from George A. Walkem of Vancouver asking me to support his candidature for a position on the Vancouver Harbour Board.

I do not know Walkem anything like as well as you do, Doctor. I have met him and that is about all. He graduated in Science from McGill in 1896 and I am attaching herewith a clipping from the Engineering Journal giving some information about him.

As a private citizen I can never see the reason why Harbour Commissioners must be supporters politically of the party in power. Yet I know that after the last election the Commissioners of the port of Montreal resigned and that the new Board were all strong political sympathizers of the present Government. I also know that the Government required the resignation of my old friend Sir David Watson because he was a political antagonist. I know nothing about Walkem's political affiliations and little about his professional qualifications. If he is qualified for the position I would, of course, like to see it filled by a McGill man and you, as a McGill alumnus, will understand that feeling.

I hope that some time Lady Currie and I may have the pleasure of seeing Mrs. King and yourself in Montreal. With all good wishes I am, dear Doctor,

Ever yours faithfully,

# GULF OF GEORGIA TOWING CO., LTD.

1199 SIXTH AVENUE WEST  
WHARF, FALSE CREEK  
VANCOUVER, B.C.



June 26, 1922.

Sir Arthur Currie, Principal,  
McGill University,  
Montreal, P.Q.

Dear Sir Arthur:

I have had mailed to you a copy of the April issue of the "Engineering Journal", and on page 212 you will find a short sketch of my engineering experience. From this sketch you will see that I graduated from McGill University in 1896, since which time I have been in British Columbia.

The Vancouver Harbour Board are about to be reconstituted, three new Members being appointed. Two of these Members, and, if a strong protest is not entered, the entire Board will be political appointees knowing nothing whatever of the conditions appertaining to the Vancouver Harbour, having no engineering qualifications and having no fitness for the position other than their political affiliations. The local paper, "The Sun", (formerly "The News Advertiser") realizing the danger to the Port of Vancouver of this condition of affairs, has been in communication with the Hon. J. H. King and the Hon. Ernest Lapoint, Ministers at Ottawa, urging upon them the appointment of a third man who is an engineer to nullify the political complexion of the Board. I personally knew nothing about this until it was well advanced, and I care very little how the appointment goes, not requiring the salary which would be distributed to local charities, but I am interested in the proper development of the Harbour of Vancouver and think that it is engineering job pure and simple and as such should be composed of Engineers; and having very large interests also in marine matters in the Harbour of Vancouver, and being a member of the B.C. Tow Boat Owners' Association, I would be able to do something, perhaps a great deal, towards improving or furthering the interests of the local ship and tow boat owners.

It appears to me that it is very desirable that a McGill graduate should be on this Board, and I am therefore writing you to see if you could drop a note to the Minister of Public Works and to the Hon. Ernest Lapoint pointing out the

# GULF OF GEORGIA TOWING CO., LTD.



1199 SIXTH AVENUE WEST  
WHARF, FALSE CREEK  
VANCOUVER, B.C.

-2-

desirability of having an Engineer and a McGill graduate.

I might also point out to you that a petition has been sent forward to Ottawa by the Returned Soldiers that a returned man (no name was mentioned nor was anyone suggested) be appointed a Member of this Board. As an old member of the Canadian Militia, eleven years in the Princess of Wales' Own Rifles, and having served for four years in Egypt and Palestine in the Royal Engineers, I would qualify on this score also.

I hope therefore that what I am asking is not too much and that you may be able to do something, as I know your recommendation will carry very considerable weight.

Yours very truly,

*Geo A. Walkem*

(GEO. A. WALKEM. SCI "96.")

GAW/L

223



OFFICE OF THE MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS

*Ottawa*

6th July, 1922.

Personal.

Dear Sir Arthur:

I beg to acknowledge receipt of yours of the 3rd instant, in which you state that you are in receipt of a letter from Major George A. Walkem of Vancouver, asking you to support his candidature for a position on the Vancouver Harbour Board.

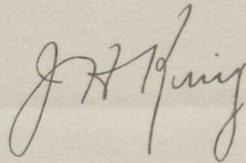
This matter is now engaging the careful attention of the Minister of Marine, of myself, and the Government. As the Minister representing British Columbia my advice has naturally been sought with respect to the new personnel in the reorganization of the Commission. The Minister of Marine and myself have received a great number of applications and recommendations from prominent men in Vancouver, as well as other parts of the Province of British Columbia, for appointment as Commissioners on the Vancouver Harbour Board, and the task of selecting the most experienced and capable <sup>men</sup> whose appointment would meet with general public approval is, as you can readily understand, no easy one. It seems unfortunate that a change should be made at all, but as you know, positions of this character are made by

the Party which happens to be in power, and these reorganizations and changes are made with a view to having a body of men whose views would be more in accord with those of the Government of the day.

Major Walkem has been recommended to me from other sources, and he undoubtedly possesses every qualification for such an appointment. If I could be guided by my personal wishes and inclinations it might be natural for my sympathies to go out to a man such as Major Walkem, who is a McGill alumnus, but other circumstances have to be taken into consideration.

For the above reasons I regret I cannot hold out any hope of Major Walkem receiving an appointment. Nevertheless I appreciate the representations which you have made on his behalf, and with kindest regards, believe me,

Very sincerely yours,



Sir Arthur W. Currie, G.C.M.G., K.C.B.,  
Principal of McGill University,  
Montreal, P.Q.

223

Geo. A. Walkem, M.E., B.Sc.  
Consulting Engineer

MEMBER OF ENGINEERING INSTITUTE  
OF CANADA  
MEMBER OF INSTITUTE OF MECHANICAL  
ENGINEERS OF ENGLAND  
MEMBER OF ASS'N OF PROFESSIONAL  
ENGINEERS OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

1155 Sixth Ave. West

Vancouver, B. C.

July 12, 1922.

Sir Arthur Currie, Principal,  
McGill University,  
MONTREAL P.Q.

Dear Sir Arthur:

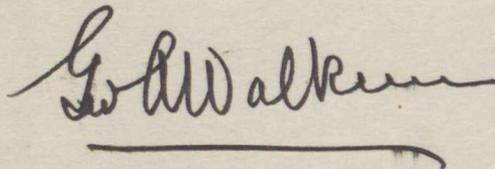
Your letter of July 3rd  
to hand.

I, with you, have not much  
hope of the appointment going to  
anyone but straight Liberals. How-  
ever, it is an appointment which I  
did not seek nor do I care how it  
goes, being willing to serve without  
remuneration in case I am appointed.

I thank you for the  
trouble you have gone to.

Yours sincerely,

GAW/L

  
A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Geo. A. Walkem". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath.

September 26th, 1929.

Grant Hall, Esq.,  
Vice-President,  
Canadian Pacific Railway,  
Montreal, Que.

Dear Mr. Grant Hall:-

I am writing to you on behalf of a graduate of this University, Dr. John J. Wall of Ottawa.

Dr. Wall graduated in 1926 and spent 1926-27 in Hospital work in Detroit, specializing in Ear, Nose and Throat. The year 1927-28 he spent with Dr. Birkett here in the Royal Victoria Hospital, and last year, 1928-29, he continued his studies in Vienna. He returned to Montreal with the intention of doing further work in the Montreal General Hospital, but has now been urged to return to Vienna. You and I might be disposed to think that it was about time he got out and practised and earned some money, and this is what he intends doing next year, but he is anxious to have this additional year abroad.

He requests me to ask the C.P.R. if there is any way in which he can work his way to the Old Country, or preferably to Hamburg, as Medical Officer or Assistant Medical Officer on any of your boats, freight or otherwise. He says that, naturally, he has very little money and anything he can save is worth while on account of the cheapness of medical instruments in Vienna compared with what he would have to pay for them here. They are admitted free and he wants to but what he can while abroad this winter. I told him I would ask you if there was anything the C.P.R. could do.

With all good wishes, I am,  
Yours faithfully,

Rotterdam Holland,  
November 3rd., 1929.

Sir Arthur Currie, G.C.M.G., K.C.B.,  
Principal and Vice-Chancellor,  
McGill University, Montreal.

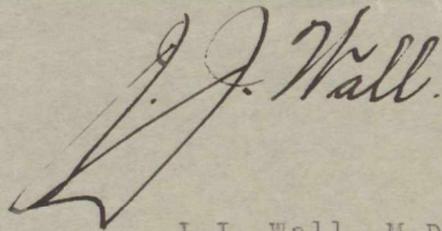
Dear Sir:

Please accept my sincerest thanks for your kind efforts on my behalf. I sincerely regret that I was unable to call and thank you personally owing to lack of time when I was in Montreal.

Thanks to the suggestion of a mutual friend, I was enabled to cross most comfortably on a boat plying between Montreal and Rotterdam. From here my plans are to attend Professor von Eiken's clinic in Berlin for a few weeks and then proceed to Vienna. I was indeed fortunate in having a personal invitation this summer from Professor Safar to work in his eye clinic which ranks as one of the best in the world.

With best wishes and thanking you again for your kind efforts,

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "J.J. Wall". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

J.J. Wall M.D.

John J. Wall, M.D.

Ottawa, Ont.



Grad. in 1926.

26-27 - Detroit in work

27-28 - Berkeley Royal Vic

28-29 - Vienna.

---

work as ship doctor

Stamboy

dept of Indian Affairs

BOSTON  
JULY 23 1923

Principal Sir Arthur W. Currie G.C.M.G., K.C.B., etc., etc.  
McGill University, Montreal.

Dear Sir Arthur Currie

I thought you might like to see the last account of a function in which you were included not very long ago, and have now been, so I enclose it taken from the Seafarer.

I am hoping to start for a 3 months' tour in Canada about the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> week of August, with transport facilities from the railways to enable me to see the country to advantage.

I have to be back from Vancouver for the opening of an International Dairy Congress in Washington on Oct. 1<sup>st</sup>, but I hope to be able to look in to see you in passing before that date.

Yours very truly  
Robert Wallace

March 13, 1933.

Mrs. Clara Waller,  
66 Bruce Avenue,  
Montreal. P. Q.

Dear Madam,

Let me acknowledge your letter of March 8th, in which you ask if I can make a suggestion which would enable you to secure a position as a social service worker.

I have reviewed your file in the office of the Graduates' Employment Bureau. I am afraid there is nothing I can suggest at the moment. Apparently they have made a good many enquiries but at present there are no openings. I shall speak to Dr. Pedley about you the next time I see him, but I am afraid that at this time, unless someone resigns or retires, there will be no vacancies.

Yours faithfully,

66 Bruce Avenue, Montreal.  
March Eight, 1933.

General Sir Arthur Currie,  
McGill University,  
Montreal.

Sir:-

I trust you will pardon the liberty I am taking in writing to you privately, but the situation in which I am placed at the present time prompts me to do so. I understand you are the chairman of the Board of Directors of the Montreal Council of Social Agencies, and can, no doubt, make a suggestion which would enable me to secure a position in my profession as a social service worker. May I present my case to you?

From 1914 to 1919, I was engaged in voluntary social service work in Montreal, while my husband, the late Sergeant Samuel Waller C.A.M.C. was on active service with the Canadian Expeditionary Forces in France. Later, I was urged to take up social service work scientifically, firstly, because of my ability to accomplish the work as case-worker, secondly, because there is a serious shortage of trained social workers fitted to undertake the responsibilities and social problems which are constantly arising in the community. I commenced my studies at McGill University, and continued my practical work under the direction of Miss Reid, who was the director of Field Work at that time. At different periods, the hospitals and social agencies sent in reports of my work to Miss Reid who complimented me on the record I had attained, and told me my work was highly efficient, both in hospital case work, and case work with the social agencies. In 1929, I was asked to take a position on the salaried staff of the Montreal General Hospital, where I remained until I returned to McGill University to complete my studies. In May 1932 I graduated.

(2)

Since graduation I have been unable to secure a position in any capacity of social work, although I have made applications both written and personal to all the Social Agencies in Federation. Some of the replies stated that McGill University always secures positions for the graduate social workers. I then interviewed Mrs Coughlin, executive Secretary of the Catholic Federation, who said she would be pleased to take me on the staff because I am a trained worker, but the Board of Directors would not engage me because I am of Protestant religion; although, she said, our agencies employ Catholic workers.

I can no longer give voluntary service, because I have had severe losses during the depression, the greatest of them is the death of my husband, who passed away after a long illness. His passing leaves me with an invalid child who is depending on me for her maintenance and medical attention, therefore, I must secure a position in order to do this.

I am aware that our Financial Federation must economize by limiting the number of social workers, and reducing their salaries, but the disappointing factor in the case to me is, that the majority of the social workers employed in our agencies are out of town people whose homes are, at the present time, situated in other Provinces, while I must beg for a position in my own city. After viewing the facts of the case, I think you will agree that I am entitled to the same consideration as other Social Service Workers.

Should you wish to see my references, Mr Glassco has them on file in his office at the Graduate Society Employment Bureau, McGill University. Trusting I have not taken up too much of your valuable time sir, I am,

Yours respectfully,

(Mrs.) *Blair Walker*

Social Service Worker.

*Get her file from Mr.  
G. P. Glassco  
AWB*

December  
Twentieth  
1919.

P. B. Walmsley Esq.,  
Port Cunnington,  
Ont.

Dear Sir:-

I have received your letter of December 17th 1919, addressed to the Principal of McGill University, and enclosing a copy of a Special to the Toronto Daily Star, dated from Montreal, December 13, and referring to a statement by Dr. Romeo LeDuc of Marieville, Que., who claims to have discovered a process of the transmutation of metals.

Dr. LeDuc forwarded to McGill University some material which he had produced, but this on examination did not prove to have the characters which were claimed for it. Dr. LeDuc's opinion " that the discovery was forwarded to England by McGill University, and that this discovery was the one credited to Sir Ernest Rutherford" is, therefore, without foundation. You will, probably, have noticed that Sir Ernest Rutherford has already in the Press disclaimed the discovery attributed to him.

I remain,

Yours very truly,

Acting Principal.

Port Cunnington,  
via Hunsville, Ont.  
17th Dec. 1919.

The Principal,

McGill University,  
Montreal, Que.

Dear Sir,

I do some <sup>or</sup> ~~writing~~ writing for various papers, in particular for the Toronto Weekly Star.

In the Toronto Daily Star of the 13th inst. appeared a despatch of which I enclose a copy.

I have written to Dr. Leduc for further particulars, and I am now writing to ask you if you would kindly give me <sup>o</sup> ~~me~~ some signed statement which I could place before the Weekly <sup>l</sup> Star for publication. It has occurred to me that the despatch <sup>l</sup> places the University in a not too favorable light, or else there may be some apparent blame attaching to Sir Ernest Rutherford; at any rate suggestions which it <sup>u</sup> ~~would~~ be in the power of the Principal to refute,

Anything with which you are good enough to furnish me ~~with~~, will be treated with the greatest care.

Hoping you may see your way to throw some furtherlight on the matter,

I am, Sir,

Yours respectfully,

Perceval B. Walmsley

(COPY).

Special to the Star.

Montreal, Dec. 13--Dr. Reneo Leduc, of Marieville, Quebec, claims to that he is the first to discover the process of transmutation of metals. He says that on November 7th, when experimenting with felspar and potash almost accidentally he discovered a new matter which is far richer than radium, and which he calls "Canadium."

The discovery he states is the most important that had been made and through it can be determined the origin and basic material of all matter. The discovery, he claims, will also explain many things hitherto unsolved in connection with meteorological work and the basic matter from which metals of all kinds are formed.

After making the discovery he communicated with McGill University, and he is of the opinion that the discovery was forwarded to England and that his discovery was the one which was accredited to Sir Ernest Rutherford. He states that he is willing to prove on any occasion that his discovery is genuine and that it was before that of any other scientific man.

That's what  
two did  
make for it  
less than 10  
The least of  
the world

Port Cunningham,  
via Huntsville, Ont.  
4 23rd Dec. 1910.

The Acting Principal,  
McGill University,  
Montreal.

Dear Sir:-

I am much obliged by your courteous reply to my  
letter of inquiry of the 17th inst.

I had not seen any allusion to the disclaimer of  
Sir Ernest Rutherford of the discovery attributed to him.

Thanking you,

Yours veru truly

Perceval B. Walrusley

41, rue des Ecoles  
Paris.

April the twenty-fourth.

Dear Sir Arthur,

I should like to tell you how delighted I was to receive your kind letter of congratulations the other day. To one, who like myself, is doubly attached to Macmillan, the good wishes of her Principal are particularly precious. I hope within a few weeks time to have the pleasure of sending you a copy of my thesis. I know my father will be very pleased when I tell him that you wrote to me; it was indeed most considerate.

With best wishes I remain, sir,

Yours respectfully,

Felix Walter.