

SIBLINGS

My siblings, Helen Campbell, Hilda Ward and Edward Stuart were respectively 17, 16 and 14 years older than I, so that my early relationship with them was hardly on a contemporary level, and it follows that to me they were just more grown-ups, and that I really did not know them as people until I had finished school, or even college. But they took no advantage of their seniority and in fact treated their little brother not only with forbearance but with kindness, and in his infancy even showed him off to their friends.



H.C.M.  
1892 -  
1976

Helen was quiet, shy, and I suspect somewhat delicate of health. She was an accomplished pianist who might have gone to the concert stage but for her nervous temperament. I well remember her practising several hours a day through a classical repertoire, which when I hear any of it today immediately evokes images of her and our house. Our mistake my family made that I have always regretted was to have Helen try to teach me the piano, instead of an outside teacher. She tried valiantly for a little while, and I think perhaps I did too, but little boys don't take readily to instructions from big sisters. Helen belonged to the Junior League,<sup>1</sup> an American-Canadian organisation of young women doing charitable work. She was a member of the Ladies' Morning Musical Club. I think she was also a Girl Guide.  
\* (For which she performed once or twice.)

<sup>1</sup> The annual Junior League Show was a musical comedy review (amateur) with good songs and pretty girls one or two of whom I annually fell in love with, from the stalls, aged say 10 or 12.

L.M.M.C. NOVEMBER 7th, 1912  
MISCELLANEOUS COMPOSERS

<i>Wagner-Liszt</i>	Spinning Song - - - Piano solo From <i>The Flying Dutchman</i>
	MISS HELEN MERRETT ~ age 20
<i>Liza Lehmann</i>	Oh! Tell me Nightingale - - Songs
<i>Robert Eden</i>	What's in the Air To-day? MISS GERALDINE TRENHOLME
<i>Leschetitsky &amp; Albert</i>	Two Larks - - - Piano solos Allemande; Gavotte MISS JENNIE STANLEY
<i>Handel</i>	Sonata - - - Violin and piano Andante, Allergo, Adagio, Allegro

DECEMBER 18TH, 1913

CHAMBER MUSIC

<i>Reynaldo Hahn</i>	Mai - - - - - Song MISS ALICE SPENCER
<i>Chopin</i>	Impromptu, F sharp major, Op. 36 Piano Solo MISS HELEN MERRETT age 21
<i>Gabriel Fauré</i>	Clair de Lune, Op. 46, No. 2 - Songs
<i>Richard Strauss</i>	Longing Hearts, Op. 29, No. 2 MME. RICHARD
<i>Brahms</i>	Trio, B major, Op. 8 Piano, Violin and 'Cello Allegro con brio Scherzo Adagio Finale—Allegro

FEBRUARY 18TH, 1915

MISCELLANEOUS COMPOSERS

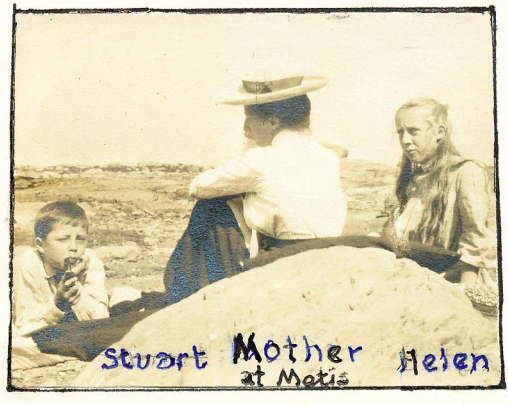
<i>Reynaldo Hahn</i>	D'une prison - - - - - Songs
<i>Augusta Holmès</i>	La montagne-noire MISS GERALDINE PATERSON
<i>Charles Dennée</i>	Forest Sounds, Op. 30, No. 5 Piano Solos
<i>MacDowell</i>	A. D. 1620, Op. 55, No. 3, from <i>Sea Pieces</i> MISS EVELYN WOODS
<i>A. Goring-Thomas</i>	My Heart is weary - - - - - Songs
<i>Chopin</i>	A Maiden's Wish MISS ETHEL M. KNOWLES
<i>Franz Liszt</i>	Polonaise, No. 2 - - - - - Piano Solo MISS MERRETT age 23
<i>Chaminade</i>	L'anneau d'argent - - - - - Songs
<i>Francis Thomé</i>	Sonnet d'amour
<i>Evelyn Cook</i>	Weep no More MRS. PIRIE
<i>Saint-Saëns</i>	Rhapsodie d'Auvergne, Op. 73 Piano Solo MISS DE SOLA
<i>Mendelssohn</i>	Trio, D minor, Op. 49 Violin, 'Cello and Piano Allegro molto agitato

from 3 PROGRAMS OF THE LADIES' MORNING MUSICAL CLUB.

In Grateful Acknowledgement of  
 Constance Sutherland McDougall -  
 Margaret Sutherland Skelton -  
 Hilda Merrett Mathewson -  
 Helen Merrett McDermot -  
 Adrienne Hart Heward -  
 Isobelle Hart Marler -  
 and their 43 friends who  
 became our first members and  
 made possible this story of  
 The Junior League of Montreal

Known to us as  
 - Concie and  
 - Miggie  
 (The Sutherland's  
 brother, Luther,  
 owned the house  
 on Wanklyn Point  
 to our right when  
 we first moved  
 into 232 Senne-  
 ville Road)

from a History of the  
 Junior League of Montreal  
 for its 50<sup>th</sup> birthday, 1962.  
 The Montreal League was  
 10<sup>th</sup> in order of founding, the  
 original being in New York.  
 There are now some 200 or  
 more throughout the U.S.  
 and Canada. The Leagues'  
 object was to aid charity  
 and cultural organisations  
 by volunteer work and by  
 raising money for them.  
 Helen & Hilda & four others  
 were the Montreal League's  
 Founding Members in 1912.



Stuart Mother Helen  
at Matis

Helen had a couple of beaux I remember coming to tea on Ontario Avenue, but it was not until she was in her thirties and we were living in Westmount that she married Ernest MacDermot, a doctor attached to the Montreal General Hospital. They had two daughters, Audrey and Patricia, and they lived first in Northview Court, off Côte des Neiges Road, and then in the Town of Mount Royal. They both died in the Villa Mount Royal residence, she in 1976, he in 1983.

• See "FAMILY" p. 42

H.W.M.  
1893 -  
1985

Hilda was the extrovert of the two girls, good at sports and energetic. She was very like Dad: They had a lot in common and were especially fond of each other. Her tutoring of little brother was easier than Helen's musical assignment, and she taught me to ride a bicycle, paddle a canoe, play tennis and probably also golf. She even tried teaching me to dance, but would break down into giggles when I could not master the art of leading and would try nudging her in this direction or that. She was so good at golf that when in her seventies she won the senior ladies tournament at the Royal Ottawa golf Club three years in a row. She was also a Junior Leaguer and once had a number of American members attending a convention to a party at our house, when I, aged about 10, shyly refused a command appearance and instead ogled the girls through the stair bannisters. She studied painting at the art gallery with Wm. Brymner: she had talent, but was less than dedicated and nothing of her efforts has survived. She was a popular girl and had at least one serious love affair before marrying Stanton Matthewson, a soldier (at one time colonel of the Montreal Black Watch) and a stock-broker. They had no children. They lived in <sup>various</sup> apartments in Montreal and, after he returned from World War II, in a small house in Ottawa! Stanton died there in 1957 and Hilda stayed in the house for some 10 years, when, suffering from Parkinson's disease she retired into nursing homes and remains, today, \* in hospital, over 90.

• See "FAMILY" p. 44

\* She died 02.03.85, aged 91 yrs. 3 mos. See p. 28.

E.S.M.  
1895 -  
1959

Stuart went to St. John's School in Montreal, and to Lower Canada College in N.D.G. He was good at games and athletics and made several school teams. He went to McGill but left before graduating to go to England about 1916 with the Canadian Army Service Corps. I think he got to France but not into front line action. <sup>1 opposite bottom.</sup> After the war he joined the stock-broking firm of McDougall & Cowans as a Trader on the "floor". He was badly "hit" when the firm failed in the market crash of 1929, thereafter becoming a free-lance trader with his own seat on The Exchange. Apart from his 2 or 3 years overseas he lived under the parental roof until he married late in life. I think he paid Mother a nominal board and lodging, but his living at home annoyed his father (and also Hilda, whose business it was not) and resulted in some friction. Stuart and I had occasional squabbles, chiefly about how long one of us kept the other waiting for the bathroom, but by and large we got along well. It was Stuart who led me to my first job - a summer job with Ernest Barott whom I was later to join in partnership.

As something of a playboy bachelor Stuart was a popular ladies' man, and also had many men friends. As a keen golfer he was runner up one year in the Quebec provincial championships. Aged 55 or so, about 1950, he married Elizabeth Brown, widow of Harold Hingston. Libby owned a house in Richelieu Place in Montreal and another on Greenshield's Point Ste. Agathe. She died late in 1958, and Stuart then went into a deep depression from which neither his many friends nor his young brother were able to release him. In February 1959 he took his own life.\*

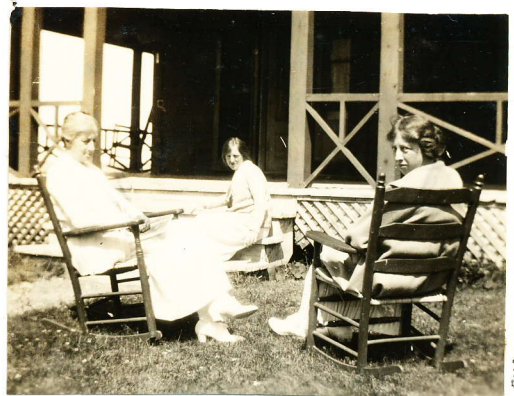
\* (He did this in a manner characteristically calculated to cause minimal mess and inconvenience: nevertheless it was a traumatic event for me whom he had tried to 'phone just before the act. When I arrived at his house the police were in charge.)



Stuart, Hilda & Helen, snowshoeing presumably Mount Royal, circa 1907?



Father & Hilda, Riv. Tardigou (nr. Metis)



Mother, Hilda & Helen, Metis



< Hilda, Stanton, Ernest, Helen Shawbridge? ± 1927



Stuart was a keen sportsman and some (Libby



**E. S. Merrett**

Funeral for Edward Stuart Merrett, well-known member of the Montreal Stock Exchange, will be held at 11 a.m. March 3, in Christ Church Cathedral. Mr. Merrett died suddenly at his home, 10 Richelieu Place, on Saturday. He was 63.

The elder son of the late T. E. Merrett, he was born in Napanee, Ont., and was educated at Lower Canada College, later attending McGill University.

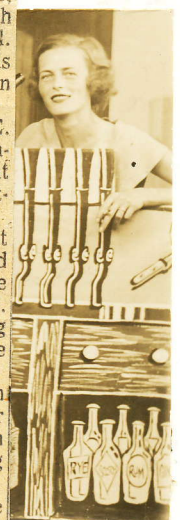
He interrupted his studies at the outbreak of the First World War to go overseas with the Canadian Army Service Corps. He also served overseas during the Second World War with the Royal Canadian Forestry Corps.

He was a prominent figure on the Montreal Stock Exchange for many years and was a keen athlete in his youth, excelling in football and field sports.

Always an ardent golfer, he was, for many years, a member of the Royal Montreal Golf Club and more recently of the Mount Bruno Golf Club. At the time of his death he was a member of the St. James's Club and the Montreal Indoor Tennis Club.

In 1947 he married Mrs. Elizabeth Leighton Hingston. She predeceased him by three months.

He is survived by his mother; two sisters, Helen (Mrs. Ernest MacDermott), and Hilda, (Mrs. Stauton Mathewson); and a brother, Campbell.



\$ wife)

Forestry Corps, Scotland)

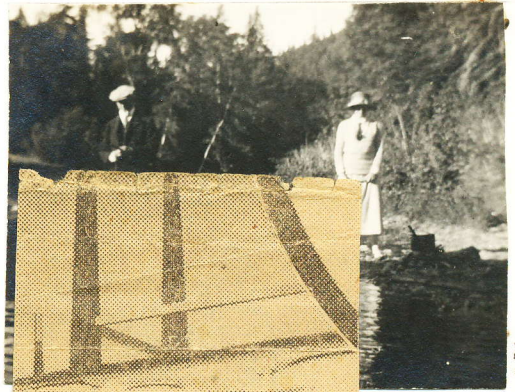
(I forgot to record that Stuart also went overseas



Stuart, Hilda & Helen, snowshoeing presumably Mount Royal, circa 1907?



< Hilda, Stanton, Ernest, Helen  
Shawbridge? ± 1927  
J.C.M.



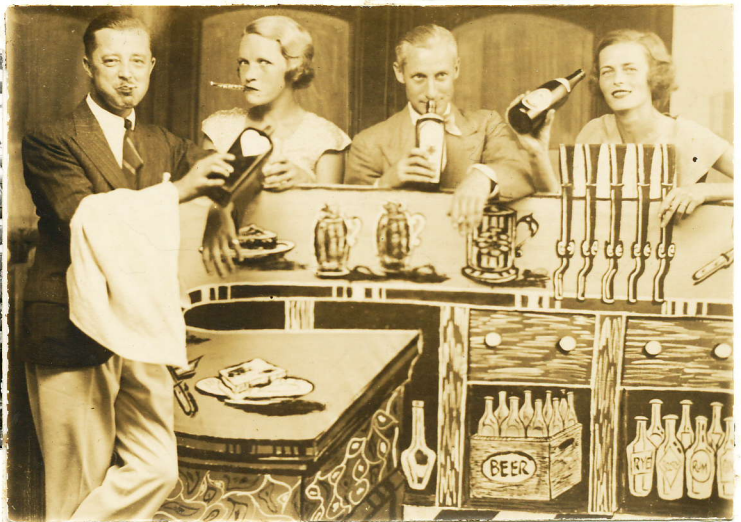
C.M.

ardigou (Metis)



C.M.

, Metis



Stuart was a keen sportsman and something of a playboy.  
(Libby Grier, Dougie McMaster & wife).

1 (I) forgot to record that Stuart also went overseas in W.W.2 with the Can. Forestry Corps, Stationed I believe in Scotland)