

EDITORIAL COMMENT

Unnecessary Controversy...

The issue of a new Canadian flag has accomplished one thing - it has shoved Cyprus off the front pages of the newspapers and given up a topic on which everyone can have an opinion.

If it were not fraught with the serious implication that a government could topple because of a proposed new flag, we would enjoy it much more. But because the Pearson government is a minority one, there is a real danger that the flag issue could lead to Canada's third national election in as many years.

Apparently the new flag is to the fore because it was included in the Liberals' election promises. This is little reason for introducing it now, for there has been very little noticeable pressure for action. If it is meant as a measure for unification, then the government advisors are sadly off the beam, for it has the potential of ripping Canada wide apart. For every Quebec resident who might favour the new flag (and we have no reason to believe it will be any more popular there than in the rest of Canada) there will be two who don't in other provinces.

And no matter what a new flag contains, be it Union Jacks, stars, stripes, maple leaves, beavers, wheat sheaves or trilliums, no one design will find favour with any large majority. Better to lose a little face

than to plunge Canada into another unwanted, expensive and unnecessary election.

The Prime Minister has been reported as saying a vote in the House will be free and that Liberal members may vote according to their personal feelings rather than as a Party. But he added a rider - reminding his followers that a negative vote might force the government's resignation. We imagine a Liberal MP will think a couple of times before he votes himself out of office.

We cannot speak for other provinces, nor even for our own, but listening to talk around town we would sum up a Georgetown feeling this way. There is a hard core of residents who like the red ensign, don't want it changed and will fight bitterly to retain it as national flag. There is another group who might agree to a change only if a new design appeals to them. And there is a large group who have never given the flag too much thought, accepting it as we do other facets of life.

It is within this latter group where the danger lies, for they are incensed at the foolishness of creating a national issue where none need exist. Rightly or wrongly, they believe that this is a political measure aimed at the Quebec vote, and they are beginning to resent it bitterly.

The government may find it has a tiger by the tail. If it is wise, it will retreat as fast as it did on the first Gordon budget.

Not Just A Week...

A tidier Georgetown is noticeable after council's promotion of Clean-up week. But we still have a way to go if Georgetown is to get the reputation of a neat, well-kept community.

Residents have been favoured with excellent weather this spring. The holiday week-end was particularly well suited to outdoors work and everywhere in town you could see householders busy removing the winter's trash accumulation, cutting lawns, pruning hedges and planting their gardens.

One incident marred clean-up week when youngsters invaded the tulip beds at Remembrance Park and did considerable damage. The town works department, which had planted the beds report about half of the 600 tulips torn off and many pulled up by the roots. They ask parents to stress the beauty of such plantings and to avoid a repeat performance by the youngsters.

We note many of the town's lovely

trees on the chopping block as the town removes dead and dying elm trees and a few old maples which have lived their life span. Besides the new plantings which will someday make newer subdivisions more attractive, we hope council will establish a policy of replacing trees in the older parts of town too.

Council has decided to stress to residents the importance of placing garbage for collection in proper containers. Too often loose papers and rubbish end up blowing around the neighbourhood instead of on the garbage truck. This has been particularly noticeable on Main St. the past few Fridays when heavy winds have deposited papers on the west side. It is to a merchant's advantage to have a neat Main St. and we urge care in placing refuse in containers and not piling loose papers on top to blow away.

Civic neatness is not a matter of a special week - it's just good housekeeping on a collective scale. It costs nothing except time, and pays dividends in beauty.

Newsgathering Needs Helpers.

A weekly newspaper is only as good as its readers make it.

Try as the news staff might, it cannot hear all the news without the help of every reader. We seldom miss the obvious - council and school board meetings, weddings, obituaries, and long-established organizations.

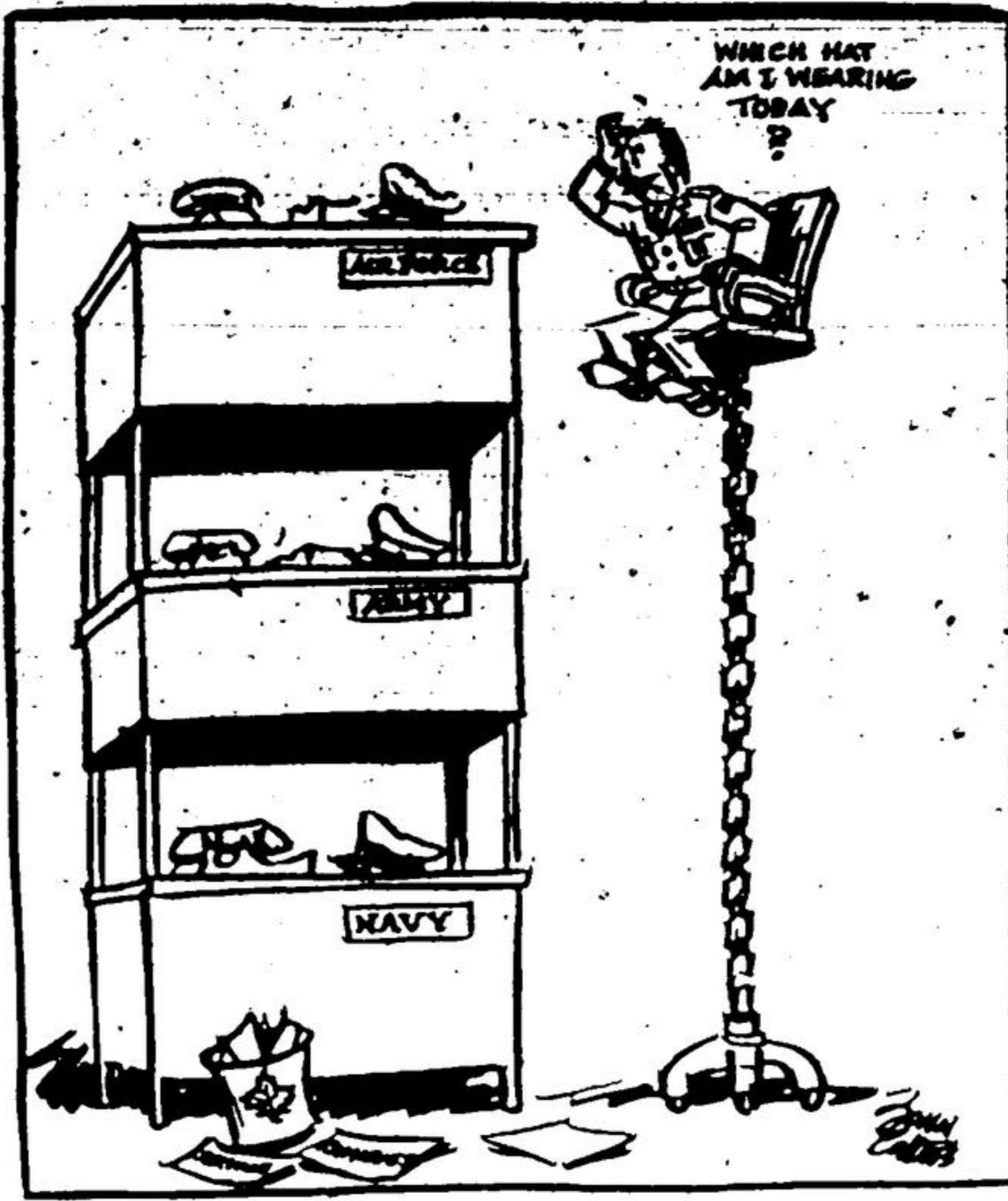
But there are dozens of items each week which would escape our attention but for a tip from a reader. We always count it a favour when someone calls it an item, whether it's a personal or a meeting account, a family bereavement or a wedding.

This time of year, for instance, we are featuring graduations from universities, nursing schools and other institutions of higher learning. We don't want to miss anyone on this important occasion, so give us a call if we haven't been in touch.

You can help us with children's birthday parties, lodge and social club meetings, items for our social column about visitors, particularly those from overseas. The Herald constantly aims to report every possible item of news, to give you the biggest reading value for your dime of any newspaper in Canada.

HARLEY TO HALTON
WEEKLY OBSERVATIONS BY DR. HARRY HARLEY, M.P. FOR HALTON

The most newsworthy item on Parliament Hill this week has been the flag issue which, of course, is not before Parliament at this time. Legislation is proceeding normally and most of the Bills are receiving what I would call normal treatment. Progress on these matters is steady at the present time, but none of them is very controversial.



THE VERY MODEL OF A MODERN MAJOR-GENERAL

himself a long history and tradition in Canadian history. The three maple leaves have been present in the shields of the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec since 1868. The Canadian coat-of-arms, authorized on 21st November, 1921, by the late King George V, contains these three red maple leaves, on a joined stem at the bottom of the shield. It is interesting that the first Canadian Forces overseas in World War II, under General McNaughton, carried a flag which contained 3 joined red maple leaves. This maple leaf may also be seen on the discharge button of World War II veterans, on the Legion button and on the Canadian pennies. The maple leaf has therefore been a symbol of Canada for many years. Three red maple leaves joined on a white background is now the national emblem of Canada, and our national colours are red and white. This issue is expected to be placed before the House of Commons in the near future. The people of Halton County at the present time appear to be divided fairly evenly on this matter judging from the correspondence and the people to whom I have talked. I would welcome further correspondence on this matter. A letter addressed to me here at the House of Commons, Ottawa, Ontario, does not require postage. At the same time it is likely that 'O Canada' will be made the national anthem of Canada.

The flag issue, of course, was a part of the Liberal party's platform, that within two years of assuming office we would bring forward a distinctive Canadian flag.

BIBLE THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK
He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life. - I John 5: 12.
God has given us a criterion for determining our spiritual condition.

"Do It Yourself" Advice From County To Milton

Appearing on behalf of the Milton Chamber of Commerce, Brian Best sought the support of county council in their bid to have Milton declared a port of Entry, and have a Sufferance Warehouse established. Mr. Best pointed out that the closest port of entry is Oakville, and

PCs Announce Award For Deserving Pupil

An award honouring the late Stanley Hall, MPP, who served Halton for 19 years has been established by the Halton County Progressive Conservative Association, president Gordon Beatty announced last week. The award will be made annually, beginning in 1966 to a deserving student in his final year at the Ontario School for the Deaf at Milton.

This will enable the student to either continue his academic or vocational studies beyond the regular provincial school program or to buy equipment for his trade. Mr. Beatty explained. The school was established at a Milton site a few years ago, while Mr. Hall served in the legislature, and he was credited with much assistance in the planning of the school. The first students will not graduate from OSD until 1966. Mr. Beatty also noted the annual Progressive Conservative picnic will be held September 13 in Lowville Park. A guest speaker has not yet been named.

NEWS ECHOES

From the Pages of the Herald, 1954 and 1959

- 25 YEARS AGO
Georgetown was favoured last week with a visit by distinguished visitors from Apia, Western Samoa, South Sea Island, in the persons of Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Braisby, brother of Mr. Fred Braisby of Georgetown. Mr. Braisby is Inspector of police and prisons on the Island and is visiting Canada and the World's Fair during six month's holiday leave.
10 YEARS AGO
Things are back to normal at Camp Norval following a week's quarantine imposed when a young camper was taken to Sick Children's Hospital with symptoms of polio. The youngster was fully recovered a few days after admittance.
To save what they consider valuable municipal property for public use four local men have purchased two acres of land behind the arena and the property and house at the corner of John and Guelph Sts. Involved are Mayor Jack Armstrong, Dick Licata, Art Scott, and Harold McClure. It is their intention to sell the house, part of the Buck Estate, and save the land for recreation use. They would like to see it used as a swimming pool site and parking lot for arena customers.
There is a possibility that at some future date Georgetown, Acton, Milton and Rockwood, and surrounding rural areas will be in the same telephone calling areas. Georgetown council Monday endorsed the idea of asking the Bell Telephone Co. to poll customers in the areas for their opinion. An 85 per cent favourable vote would have to be registered before the company could take action.

SUGAR AND SPICE

A Good Old Civil War

What this country needs is a good, 5-cent civil war. It might relieve some of the pus and venom that seems to be filling Canada these days, and get back to the important things of life, like making money, love and rock gardens.
Symptoms of the national ulcer are everywhere: the ferocity of the Canadian flag argument; the lurking threat of violence in Quebec; the growing defiance of police by youth gangs; the increase in homicidal tactics on our highways.
Perhaps a little blood-letting would purge our native land of this tendency to quibble and squabble about everything from the national anthem to the water level in the Great Lakes.
There's also the matter of international prestige. All the big boys - England, France and Russia, the U.S., China - have all been through an all-out civil war, and gods to greater things. In each case the country was so whittled out by the end of the war that everybody stopped bickering and complaining, and got down to the job of becoming a Great Nation.
How can we hope to gain respect of the world if we never go through a feeling time of seething hatred, unmentionable cruelties, gallant guerrillas, and all the other ingredients of a good civil war?
How is our national character to be transformed from lumpy porridge to forged steel if we never throw a Molotov cocktail, blow up a bridge, or hurl ourselves, bareheaded, against tanks?
We should be ashamed of ourselves. Mumbling and growling about the CBC and the NDP and the Red Ensign and O Canada and what's for supper, when we could be stringing up cabinet ministers, dynamiting the Sea locks, and sacking the O'Keefe Centre.
The Irish had a rebellion nearly 50 years ago. It lasted a few days but they've written countless books about it, and every Irishman over the age of 20 swears he was in it, though he'll admit he was only a bunch of a boy at the time. Why can't we have some grand traditions like that?
Think of the stories we'd have to hand down to our ancestors. "Yes, Homer, your granddaddy was there, back in '54, when the Legion, straggled about the flag, marched on Ottawa, Mayor Charles Whitton closed school for a moment at the request with a brigade of mounted, but nothing could stop them. They overran into the city, surrounded the government buildings, and fired a salvo of resolutions. One of those happened to pierce the National Debt, and the streets ran red with ink."
Or, "Yes, dear, I want you always to remember and to tell your own children that your father was one of the brave freedom fighters in the Great Rising of '54. He was leading a wave of our gallant men in a looting... uh, liberating attack on the Seagram distilleries a capitalist stronghold. He was cut down by the fascist fire-teams and seriously wounded in the, uh, lower back, when he fell heroically on the mickery of rye in his hip pocket."
Only one stipulation. If they necessary catharsis, this national lancing of our abscess, breaks out, and it's brother against brother, father against son, may I be on the same side as my wife?

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