

The Mail Bag

Says Three Flag Leaves Is Historical Tradition

Dear Mr. Editor:

Canadians continue to ask for background information on the proposed national flag. The following may be of interest to your readers.

Canada's national emblem was fixed by the proclamation of George V at the request of the Dominion Government in 1921 — three maple leaves on one stem. Our national colours along with our motto "From Sea to Sea" were proclaimed at the same time. The proposed flag therefore selects from our coat of arms those parts which are uniquely representative of Canada.

This choice of arms was the result of considerable study. Following the First World War Sir Robert Borden appointed a highly qualified Arms Committee headed by Major General W. G. Gwatkin. This Committee, working with the College of Arms, produced formal Canadian symbolism which combined aesthetic beauty with high heraldic quality.

Fifty years prior to the research studies of the Arms

Committee, Queen Victoria in 1868 issued her Royal Warrant establishing the Great Seal of Canada, which contained the familiar motif of three maple leaves on one stem. Earlier still we find the appearance of this maple leaf cluster in the pre-Confederation coinage of the Canadas, Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick. This particular emblem for Canada was advocated by Principal Dawson of McGill University in an historical article written in 1882. The first advocate of the "Sea to Sea" was Principal George Grant of Queen's University.

On reflection the proposed thing but now. It represents this nation with nothing new added flag will be found to be any and with nothing traditionally ours taken away. In the words of Arthur H. M. Lawer — "our new flag will be amongst the most distinctive of national flags." It will be recognized as Canadian wherever it is flown.

—John K. Matheson, M.P.
Leader

Says School Board Asks Too Much in Report

9 Guelph Street,
Georgetown, Ontario,
August 17, 1964.

The Editor,
The Georgetown Herald.

Dear Sir,

May we avail ourselves of your columns to comment on the report of the most recent meeting of the High School Board? (The Georgetown Herald, August 13, 1964.)

It would appear that the administration of the High School is to follow the lines of modern big business, and concentrate on elaborate forms, graphs, reports etc. without over much regard for the end product. If this is so, then it would seem that a Business Administrator would be better suited to the position of Principal, rather than an educator.

To judge from the reports brought home by the students, most of the information requested is obviously available. To bring this all together in report form, to work for an office staff, not a Principal. In addition, the time required to set up such hand-written reports would very drastically cut into the time of a Principal and Staff, already extremely busy with actual teaching and the multitude of extra-curricular activities undertaken.

We should enquire if this information is for the confidential use of the Board to improve the running of the school, or if it is to enable a Board member to answer casual questions as to the progress of a student?

Further, the suggestion that a monthly report of the teachers' progress etc. be given, would indicate that the Board doubts the ability and competence of its Staff. An attitude of "Big Brother is watching you" is hardly conducive to the atmosphere necessary in any educational establishment. Reflections on the competence of the Staff are entirely reflections on the board responsible for the hiring of such staff.

It is surprising to find mention such as this supported by long-standing members of the Board.

Under these circumstances, it would behoove us all to give a little more support to the Principal and Staff of our High School, rather than undermine their standing and confidence by subjecting them to this kind of cross-examination.

Thanking you, dear sir, for your courtesy,

We are,

Yours most sincerely,
Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Smith

Reeder Kritikal, Sez Heard Aird in Wards

14 Edith Street,
Georgetown, Ont.,
Aug. 19th, 1964

Dear Mr. Editor

My ole pa always use to tel me: son be sed son we spent a heap of time & dough sendin u to skul fr them to yu and u shud bep other peopl not so luky as us with their readin & writin when u can. NOW Mr. B I seen sun words in yur paper wich dont look as they wer m rit to Me. A weak or 2 lak in yur paper was I word wich I sint never seen bef. It was on yur editorial page & u spild it plentifully I tink. NOW I dun a lot of readin since I went to dat dere skul and I never run into that I bfor. IT Looks like its haf way btween plenty & plentifully wich I seen ince in a buk Ired. Easy way I so wen u try I do sum cross headin of animals down here on the farm u get sun awfull qur results & mebbe u dun the same wit words— u sure got a funny I beer mr B.

Last weeks paper had sum wud words in it to but sum of dem sint udt pite, the way my ma shud me. SHE sint has had no skulin but abes smart. v she says that wurd presently, which I seen 23 times on yr frunt page means by-ny or after wile, not now the way u guys us it.

Now mr bean my ma & PA sint to hebble about the idee of changing flags from the gud ole inglish one we hav & now it looks like the way the papers are doin the inglish lang widge is going down the drays to. I hop u kin hep this. yrs truly

Wile Wilson

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AMBULANCE CALLS

The Georgetown Volunteer Ambulance Service had three calls in the week starting August 9 to 15.

Sunday August 9—1:30 p.m. a normal transportation from Toronto General Hospital to Georgetown Hospital.

Wednesday August 12—3:53 p.m. an emergency run from Ballinlad to Toronto General Hospital.

Saturday August 15—8:30 p.m. an emergency run from Ballinlad to Georgetown Hospital.