

Our Readers Write:

A FLAG FOR CANADA

"PEARSON'S PENNANT"

Dear Gentlemen:
Please inform Mr. Harley that there are many people right here in Milton that prefer the Canadian Red Ensign over "Pearson's Pennant" for Canada.

I think the flag decision should be put before the people of Canada. The reason Pearson won't do this is because he knows he won't have a chance.

Signed,
"A Canadian".

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NO VOTE NEEDED

Dear Sir:
May I comment on the controversial flag issue now before the Parliament of this country. "now before the Parliament" etc., because that is exactly where it is.

There seems to be quite a movement by some groups in Canada to have a popular vote on this question. Did not these same people vote in the last Federal election? If so, why did they bother to cast a vote if now they are not willing to have their elected representative speak for them? Granted, the representative at Parliament did not win unanimously, but he is there because of a majority.

It is time that Canada can show a flag that is distinctly Canadian, and whatever the design, it should be Canada's own, not to be confused with any other. Some persons seem to think that it is the first step in withdrawal from the mother country. This is far from the truth. We are going to be a country that will celebrate its centennial in 1967, surely at 100 years old we can stand on our own merits; and Canada has distinguished herself in many, many ways in this time.

One only has to look at the record of Canadian soldiers in two World Wars, the Navy and their record, also the flying skill of the Air Force, to see that these men and women accepted their responsibility and carried out their

roles and won the praise of the world. Not only in War time, but think for a moment of people like Drs. Banting and Best, for instance, known the world over.

The Legion does not speak for all veterans, and I, for one, would like to add my voice to the growing swell for a flag for Canada, to be flown nationally, with the Red Ensign being flown on state occasions alongside Canada's flag.

Grow up, people of Canada, your great country is almost 100 years old, and what a sense of pride we can show if we fly our "own" flag. This issue has been a long time resolving itself, and now that we are so close to reality, don't let us degrade ourselves by being so petty as to having a vote on an issue such as this. Let us accept the design that our representatives accept, through parliament, and fly this flag with pride, dignity, and a sense of achievement.

If, however, and this I doubt, because of the financial involvement, this issue does go before the people of Canada, will this appease those who are crying for a vote? I think not, for the simple reason, how many will get out and vote? The interest has not been overwhelming in the past in voting. Therefore, unless every single person in Canada over the age of 21 years casts a vote, how then can it be anywhere more resolved than it is now?

We must put aside our political views at this time and pull together and be thankful that we live in a country where anyone can express his or her own personal views.

Thank you, sir, for allowing me to express my views, and may I leave one parting sentence which sums up my views that I am proud to be a fifth-generation Canadian. "Our Home and Native Land." HOW MUCH OF IT HAVE YOU SEEN?

Yours truly,
Mrs. Mabel Greenfield,
417 Woodward St.,
Milton.

NOT FOR LEAFS

Dear Sir:
We want a distinctive flag of our own for Canada, but hope you can choose something better than the Maple Leaf design.

When a distinctive Canadian flag has been chosen, I hope we will only fly one flag representing Canada for all occasions.

Hugh Beaty,
R.R. 4, Milton

ANSWER FOR PERCY

Editor:
The remarks of Percy Woods concerning the flag issue (21/5/64) are indicative of the emotional ranting and raving of a select group of Canadians.

Mr. Woods would have us believe that there are two types of Canadians. They are those who fought in the wars, and through some strange logic are, therefore, forever loyal to the Union Jack and/or the Red Ensign. Then there are the French-Speaking Canadians and zombies (to use his word) who prefer a distinctive Canadian flag.

Get with it, Mr. Woods, there is nothing shocking in wanting distinctive national symbols such as a flag and anthem. The Ensign and "God Save the Queen" are neither distinctively Canadian nor national in acceptance.

A new generation has grown up since the last war, a generation that would like to grow up in a country that is rid of sectionalisms and prejudice. A unifying symbol for the nation is essential for this ideal.

There is nothing wrong with diverse opinion, but let's not charge proponents of distinctive national symbols with disloyalty. The time has come for Canada to stand on its own two feet with its own distinctive flag and anthem.

Frank O'Neill,
369 George St.,
Milton.

THE ENSIGN AND U.S. DOMINATION

Those who would cast off the Red Ensign misread our history. Canadians have held fast to their British connection not to remain colonial, but to preserve their independence from the "manifest destiny" of the United States.

English speaking Canada was founded by loyalists, often as not of German, Dutch and French as of English descent, who remained loyal to the Crown and rejected the republicanism and anarchy of the American Revolution. British military and naval power defended Canada in the War of 1812 and throughout the 19th century. This power also protected French speaking Canadians and they early appreciated that they fared better under the Crown than they would under the U.S. The urgent reason which impelled confederation was the U.S. military threat after the U.S. Civil War.

It is strange indeed to see those who are so anxious to destroy any trace of our British origin and tradition are yet so blind to the ominous threat of the U.S. They sit idly by while we are dominated by U.S. culture power in movies, TV, magazines, etc., and by U.S. financial power in industry and business. Nor do they worry about the presumptions of U.S. laws which seek to control us in Canada.

Rob us of our sentimental ties to the Crown, to Britain and to the Commonwealth, and what do we have left? Do English speaking Canadians have any reason to preserve a separate nation? Is it not time for French speaking Canadians to think a little of our problems? Has not Canada from the start fashioned in defiance of logic? Political scientists may give sound reasons such as the superiority of responsible parliamentary government, the resistance to the extremes of the elective process such as elected judges, federal institutions like the CBC and federal legislation like the Criminal Code. But I would ask you whether these reasons touch the heart.

Those who hold dear to our British traditions have throughout our history, more recently through two World Wars, proven their loyalty and patriotism. They are the ones on whom the government should rely to preserve our country. It is regrettable that their hearts should be sacrificed for a doubtful purpose. I fear that the only result will be but another step in the absorption of Canada by the U.S.

If an accommodation is to be made for our French speaking brethren, let it be in the shield which in effect largely duplicates the Jack in showing our British origin.

As for our New Canadians, should they expect the flag to be changed? They came here by choice. They have enjoyed our British freedoms under the law. Many have prospered and their children have equal opportunity. I say let them count their blessings and appreciate from whence their blessings come.

Peter K. McWilliams.

BEAVER AND MAPLES

Dear Sir:
Since 1959 when my idea for a Canadian Flag was shown on CHCH-TV along with ex-Premier Frost's, I have been trying to keep the ball rolling till we got a Truly Canadian Flag.

At that time, I had the background in three panels, red, white and blue, with a Beaver in the centre of the white panel with 10 maple leaves forming a laurel around the Beaver. The Beaver is for all of Canada, the background for all French-speaking peoples of Canada, and the Maple leaves were one for each Province. (Others could be added as the Territories became Provinces.)

I sent copies to Hamilton, Toronto and Ottawa. Now I would like to see this design on either a red or light blue background. I am all out for any design which is truly Canadian.

In the schools, kiddies are taught the Union Jack is our flag. Public buildings fly mainly the Red Ensign. Canada is a big, beautiful country in this ever-changing world. We should have UNITY and move along with the times, and right now is the time for a Truly Canadian Flag.

Yours truly,
Mrs. A. Hogarth,
R.R. 2,
Grand Valley, Ontario.

LAUGHING AT US

Dear Sir:
Your "flag ballot" is a good democratic idea for overall public opinion. Unfortunately, our Prime Minister (the Minority One) has other ideas. No public referendum, and as far as a Parliament free-vote, how many M.P.s are going to vote against Boss Mike and vote themselves out of a job?

The way the government is handling the Flag issue (and is it a necessary issue?) is only splitting Canada into several groups, instead of unification. How the other Commonwealth countries must be laughing at us stumbling around after 10 years, still trying to mature as a nation!

Yours very truly,
Jack E. Taylor,
R.R. 6, Milton.

A LITTLE LATE

Dear Sir:
Gordon Sinclair summed up the whole story on the flag a week ago.

How can a country with so many nationalities qualify for a flag of England, Scotland, or France? Canada should have had a distinctive flag as far back as Confederation.

"For Pearson's Flag"

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VOTE FOR FLAG

Dear Sir:
Further to your flag ballot, I most certainly feel that it is an issue that should be decided only by public vote. If this government (which I voted for last election) tries to cram a new flag on the country they will most certainly not get my next vote.

When a boy grows up and leaves home he does not sever all ties with his mother and father. By the same token, why should Canada as an independent, self governed nation want to adopt a flag that would completely and utterly cut us off from England, who would be the first to come to our aid if we need it?

Maybe the rest of the world does not recognize the Ensign as Canada's flag; but if we had another flag would it be any more recognized? I'll bet anything that there is not five per cent of the population in the country that could draw, describe, or color the flags of six other nations on this earth. The flag of other nations means little to us, nor does the flag of Canada mean anything to the other nations; the point is, we know the Red Ensign is Canada, anything else is just nothing. If I were still in the army I would prefer to serve detention for insubordination, rather than salute some artist's idea of a flag.

Sincerely,
Bob Clarke,
309 Meadowbrook Dr.,
Milton.

P.S. If the French Canadians and immigrants do not like the Ensign they don't have to stay here. If ever there was a country of freedom, it is Canada. It was the guidance of England in our pioneer days that helped make us free and the Ensign is representative of that freedom.

TRACKS IN THE SAND

Dear Sir:
Has our Prime Minister too little to do, that he must spend his time touring the countryside and plugging his tri-leafed wonder flag?

Let's have an Ensign. Let's have a distinctive Canadian flag — but please, let's not have the Maple Leaf design Mike likes, stuffed down our throats without all true Canadians having a voice in the matter.

Pearson tells us his Maple Leaves are symbols of unity. You know what I think? I think they're footprints in the sand, left there by either the hippopotamus or the silly Oopkpic symbols.

And if Mike puts this Maple Leaf design through without a public vote, he may find the symbols were the handwriting on the wall for him and his party.

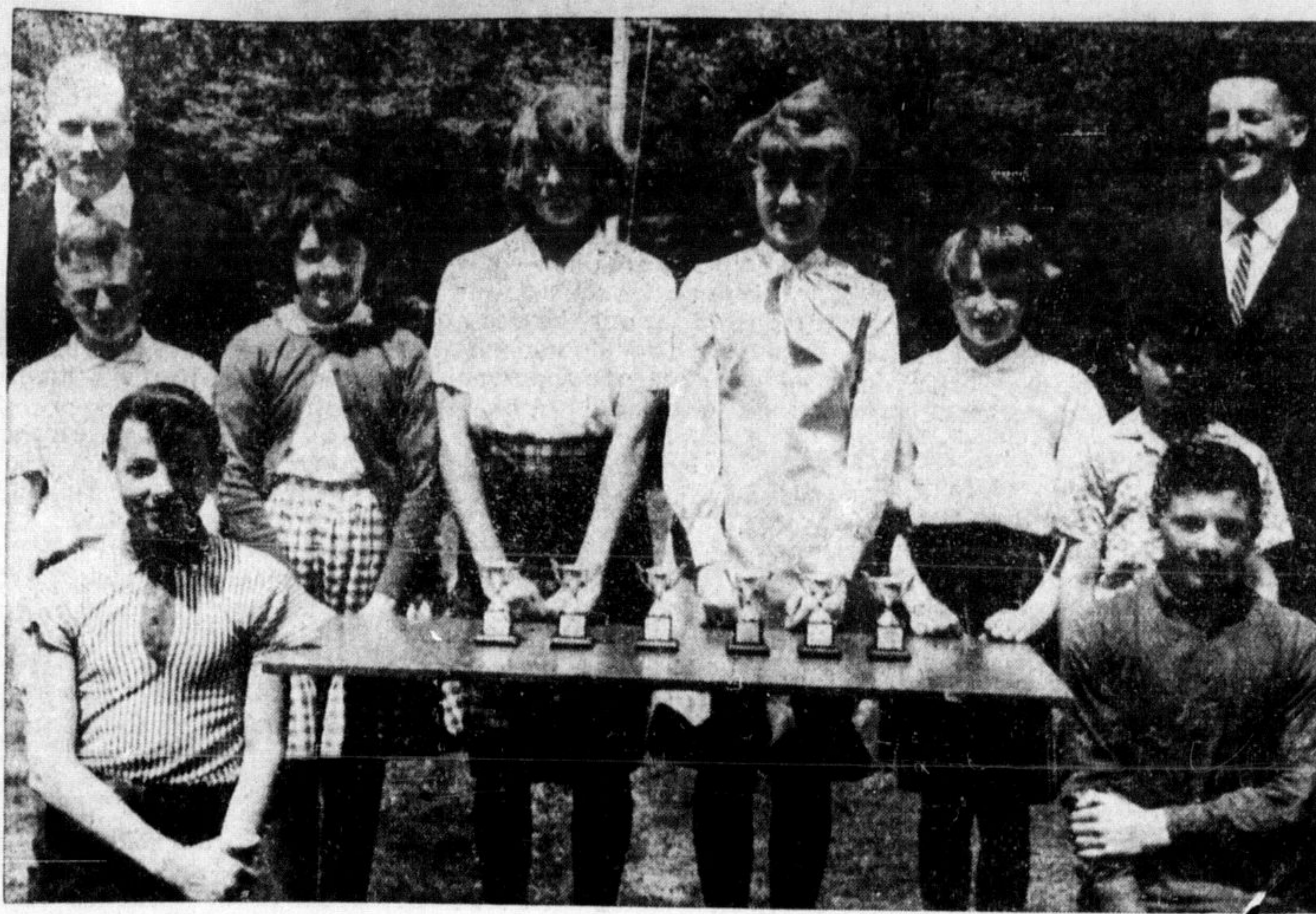
Discustedly,
Former Liberal

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OUR HISTORY

Sirs:
The Red Ensign has been our flag for about 200 years. Why change it?

We cannot alter our past history.
W. G. Riddell, D.C.



—Staff Photo

NEARLY 160 STUDENTS participated in the Fairview School field day last Thursday afternoon. Shown kneeling are Jim Dales, Intermediate boys champion and Larry Campbell, Senior boys champion. Shown standing are Fairview principal Mr. Scott, Ronald Campbell, the group 2 champion, Mary Lou Middlebrook the group 2 girls champion, Laverne Bailey the Intermediate girls champion, Anne Ramshaw the group 1 girls champion, Marvin Campbell the group 1 boys champion and track and field coach Jim Walmsley.

160 Participate

Fairview Track, Field Meet

Tuesday, May 19 was track and field day at Fairview School and approximately 160 students vied for the top awards in four categories. Larry Campbell and Valerie Anderson were the winners in the over 14 group, while Jim Dales and Laverne Bailey coped awards in the 12-13-year-old class. Ron Campbell was tops in the boys 10-11-year-old group and Mary Lou Middlebrook headed the girls in that class. In the 9 and under classification, Anne Ramshaw led the girls with two firsts and a second and Marvin Campbell won the boys' championship with two firsts and two seconds. Larry, Valerie, Jim, Laverne and Ron, all won firsts in each of the four events that they entered.

J. Walmsley was in charge of the field day. Results are as follows:

Girls' high jump: 9 and under, Anne Ramshaw, Helen Peer, Terry Heatherington; 10 and 11, Mary Lou Middlebrook, Nancy Hiscock, Anna Morris; 12 and 13, Laverne Bailey, Betsy Coers, Debby Ryder; 14 and over, Valerie Anderson, Mary Speck, Gayle Pawley.

Girls' broad jump: 9 and under, Anne Ramshaw, Virginia Holland, Christine Bogoslawski; 10 and 11, Nancy Richardson, Kathy Heatherington, Mary Lou Middlebrook; 12 and 13, Laverne

Bailey, Susan Coulson, Elvama Readman; 14 and over, Valerie Anderson, Kendra Coulson, Jill Marnden.

Girls' dashes: 9 and under, Virginia Holland, Anne Ramshaw, Judy Oates; 10 and 11, Joan Dawson, Sandra Bennett, Susan Davey; 12 and 13, Laverne Bailey, Valerie Ascah, Betsy Coers; 14 and over, Valerie Anderson, Jill Harnden, Mary Speck.

Boys' high jump: 9 and under, Marvin Campbell, Peter Bailey, Ron Bogoslawski; 10 and 11, Ron Campbell, Kevin Hamilton, Tim Stares; 12 and 13, Jim Dales, Alan Campbell, Chris Richardson; 14 and over, Larry Campbell, Bob Galashan, Ken Peer.

Boys' broad jump: 9 and under, Stephen Gunby, Marvin Campbell and Ken Dolbel (tie); 10 and 11, Ron Campbell, Tim Stares, John Vanderwal; 12 and 13, Jim Dales, Jack Wilson, Alan Campbell; 14 and over, Larry Campbell, John Cartwright, Bob Galashan.

Boys' dashes: 9 and under, Stephen Gunby, Marvin Campbell, Ron Bogoslawski and Brian Bridgman tied; 10 and 11, Ron Campbell, Tim Stares, Kevin Hamilton; 12 and 13, Jim Dales, Chris Richardson, Monte Anderson; 14 and over, Larry Camp-

bell, Dana Ascah, Carl Middlebrook.

Relays

9 and under: Marvin Campbell, Stephen Gunby, Ron Bogoslawski, Bill Lichtenberger; Tom Postuma, Paul Adair, Anne Robertson; Ada Malmstrom, Terry Heatherington, Ken Dolbel, Peter Bailey.

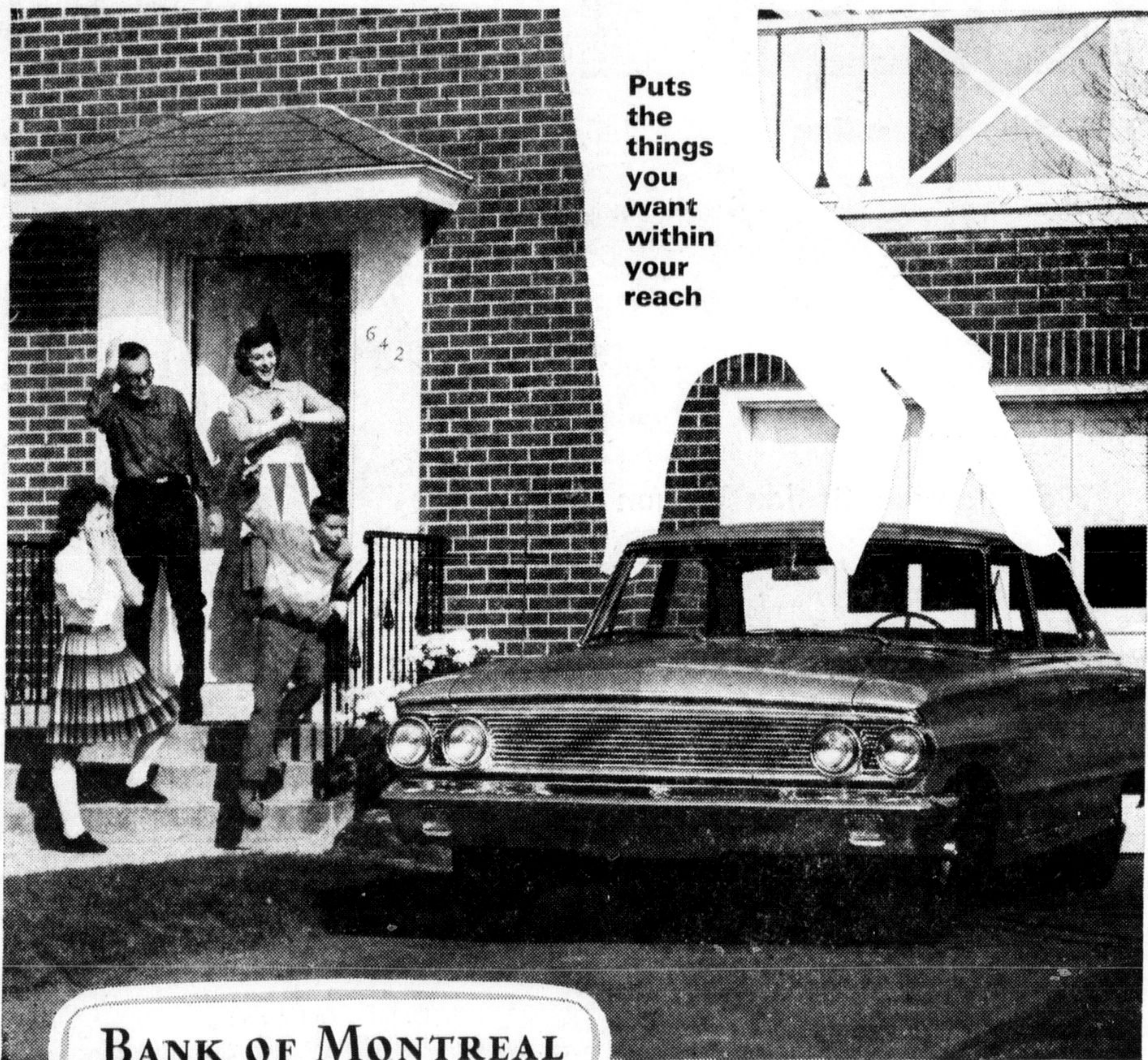
10 and 11 girls: Joan Dawson, Sandra Bennett, Susan Davey, Rosemary Colling; Mary Lou Middlebrook, Anna Morris, Brenda Bunkowsky, Debby Adair; Carol Anderson, Cindy Heatherington, Kathy Heatherington, Nancy Hiscock.

10 and 11 boys: Kevin Hamilton, Ron Campbell, Sherwood Coulson, John Vanderwal; Tim Stares, Ian Holloway, Chris Richardson, Robert Cause; Jim Hyslop, Barry Vivian, Ricky Halliday, Gary Coers.

12 and 13 girls: Debra Coverdale, Cheryl Millar, Laverne Bailey, Betsy Coers; Cindy Everett, Karen Campbell, Lee Fisher, Valerie Ascah; Melanie Holland, Dawn Pawley, Lynda Dawson, Susan Coulson.

12 and 13 boys: Doug McMillan, Jim Dales, Chris Richardson, Lorne Gunby; Jim Lynch, Bob MacMillan, Alan Ruttan, Len Coulson; Don Powell, Craig Davies, Tom Bailey, David Brown.

14 and over: Larry Campbell, Debby Bunkowsky, Valerie Anderson, Carl Middlebrook; Dana Ascah, Doug Swallow, Gayle Pawley, Jill Harnden; Lee Fisher, John Cartwright, Bob Galashan, Fernando Gause.



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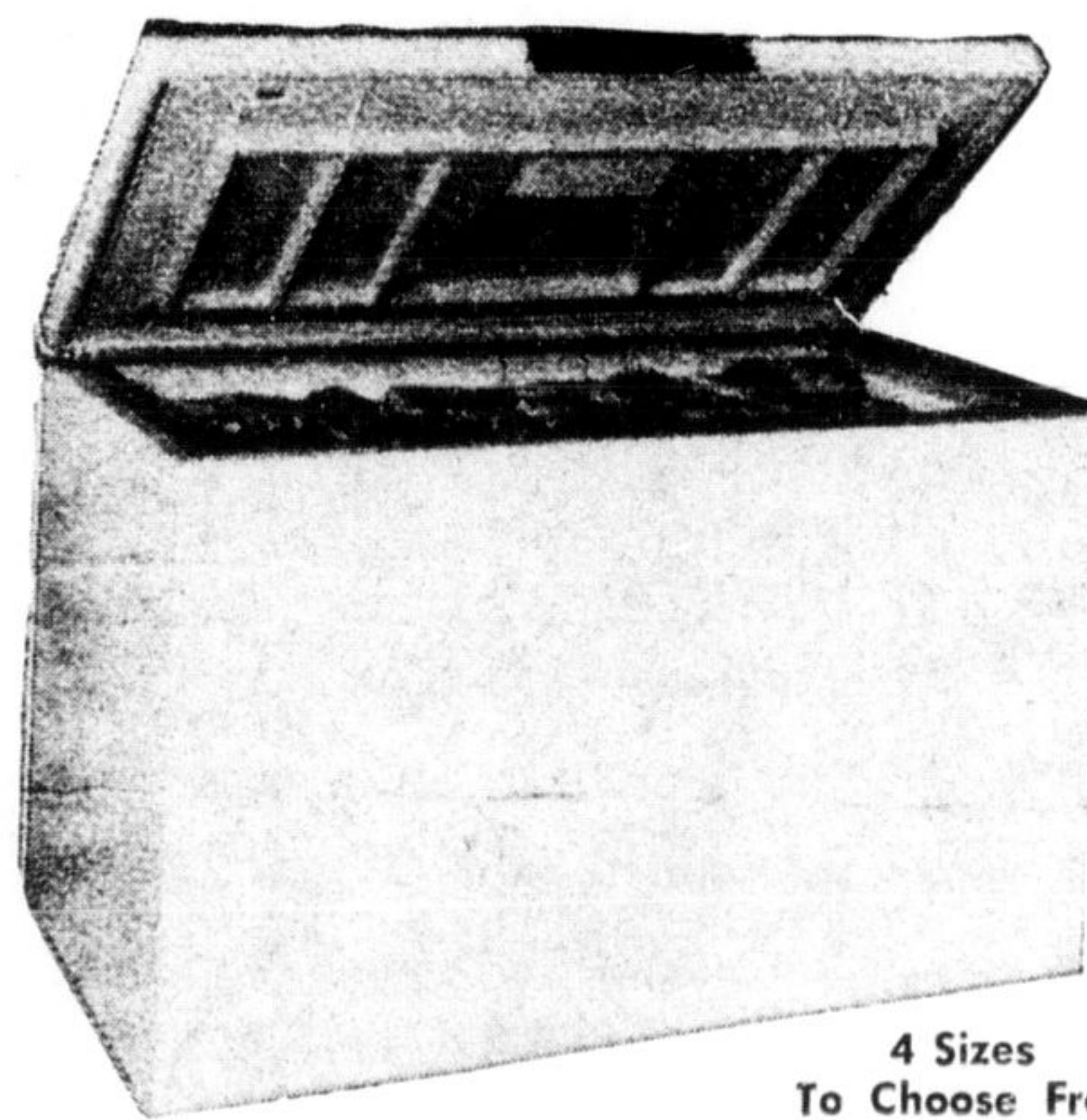
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