

OUR READERS WRITE:

Arms are worth waiting for.
On Monday, October 21 and Tuesday, October 22, Dorothy Stone reported to the Councils of Milton and Halton Hills that on Saturday, Oct. 19, she received a letter from the Clerk of the Court of the Lord Lyon of Scotland which says in part, "On top of our normal work we are having to cope with applications from 60 new local authorities following the re-organization of local government in Scotland. It may be some months before Lyon can take up consideration of your petition."

Symposium
Two hours later I was on a plane for Ottawa to attend the annual meeting symposium and banquet of the Heraldry Society of Canada.

I discussed our problems with many of the directors — we wait.
Question: "What do we do in the meantime?" Answer: "We use our designs as 'Provisional Arms.'" The County of Halton was "provisional" from 1853 to 1855 — almost two years. Many of us can remember hearing on the radio the ancient proclamation "The King is dead — Long live the Queen", when H.R.H. The Princess Elizabeth was proclaimed as such on the death of her father King George VI. Yet the Coronation did not take place for almost 18 months.

Situation
The present situation in Canada is this. In 1967 the State Department of Canada published a Centennial booklet entitled "The Arms, Flags, and Floral Emblems of Canada", being those accepted as "official" by our Government for 11 provinces and two territories. Yet some of these have not received the sanction of a Grant of Arms. According to a recent article by the York Herald of England, several Canadian Dioceses appear to be in the same position.

36 confirmed
While hundreds of municipalities across Canada display arms on their official letterheads, police and other vehicles, shoulder flashes, etc., the latest figures as of October 19, 1974 show that only 36 have been confirmed by a "Grant of Armorial Bearings" by the Crown through the Authorized

Authorities of either the College of Arms in England or the Court of the Lord Lyon in Scotland.

Oakville is one of these 36. Their Arms were granted in 1966, the design being based on an earlier one used by the town for many years. The records show that Toronto used arms for nearly 150 years before applying for a grant. Kingston celebrated their tricentenary in 1973 by having their previously used arms regularized. In the 1950's Victoria, the capital of British Columbia, discovered that their arms, proudly displayed for almost 100 years, had been recorded neither in England nor Scotland and were heraldically incorrect. They promptly took steps to regularize their position and the new design bears a marked similarity to the old one.

"Homemade"
In Canada there is nothing illegal in using "homemade" arms at the present time, but the Registered ones have passed the test of scrutiny by the "experts".

In Scotland the display of Arms for which there is no grant is an offence — the penalties, strictly enforced, are fines, confiscation and possible destruction of the offending material.

Tax
The situation in England is different. The British Parliament in the mid-nineteenth century imposed an annual tax for the use of arms by Act 32-33 Victoria Sect. 19 regardless of "whether such armorial hearing - crest or ensign shall be registered in the College of Arms OR NOT". It has been estimated that there are up to 50,000 arms still in use but as yet unregistered in England. The tax was repealed in 1945 because of the difficulty in collecting it.

At our meeting in Ottawa the guest speaker was Mr. John Brooke-Little, M.V.O., M.A., F.S.A., F.H.S., Richmond Herald of Arms and Registrar of the College of Arms. In spite of such an impressive array of honours, he was quite approachable and autographed my copy of *Boutell's Heraldry 1973 Edition* edited by him. This book may one day be a collector's item — most of the old editions are.

Informative
His speech was informal but packed with information. He told us that in 1972 the County System of Government in England was completely reorganized and as a result they have been dealing with 400 new petitions for Municipal Arms.

He said that they were able to regrant about 35 of the old ones without much change of design, but for the rest the six Heraldic Artists had to "come up with new ideas." The problem was further compounded by lack of staff and a scarcity of suitably skilled artists to prepare the hand-painted and illuminated scrolls.

Gone regional
It would appear that both England and Scotland have "gone regional" — just like us — and have similar problems.

It was a privilege to meet and chat with him and with the top Heraldic Artists in Canada. It has taken a week to settle down and try to digest the wealth of information given to me.

Meanwhile we just have to wait and for those who may wonder "Why bother?" may I say this.

One of our deepest instincts is to be recognized for what we are and what we have accomplished, be it the first birth notice in the paper, the gold star on the achievement the child brings home from nursery school or the Royal telegram which comes on the 100th birthday.

In 1967 many citizens of our county were proud to display on their homes the sign "Century Farm 1967" only given to the holders of Crown Grants of land on record prior to 1867 and still in the family.

Proclaim
In another hundred years perhaps the citizens of our towns and region will see the Illuminated Warrant on the wall of the Council Chamber proclaiming to ALL and SINGULAR that their forebears took steps to record their "Ensignes Armorial" in one of the greatest Rolls of Arms existing in the world today.

Canada may one day have her own Roll of Arms and high on the list will be those 36 who took the trouble to apply and we won't be far behind. Somehow — perhaps it's worth waiting for.

—Dorothy Stone.

NO SMOKING

Dear Sir:

I have attended most of the Junior B games in Milton this season and notice that despite large NO SMOKING signs, many people completely ignore them and pollute the air to the degree that usually by the third period there is a heavy blue fog hanging over the ice surface.

Not only do these people show their inconsideration for non-smokers, it must bother the players and it is against the law in the arena!

If a fire started in this old arena it probably wouldn't take more than an hour to burn to the ground (and perhaps take a few lives with it.)

I noticed too that the timekeepers were setting a good example by smoking through most of the game!

Most arenas have adequate staff or police to see that the "no smoking" laws are enforced. Why not in Milton?

Yours truly,
Dave Hendrick,
R.R. 1, Milton.

WARNING TO PARENTS OF HALLOWE'EN HOOLIGANS

Dear Sirs:

I wish to advise the parents of those 15 hoodlums who came to my home on Hallowe'en night, tried to pull off the gate, called me names and threw stones in my yard, that I am arranging their appearance in court. I have most of their names.

Hallowe'en is not a time to insult people and destroy property, as these pests think. I am 94 years of age and live alone. I would appreciate an apology.

Mrs. Alma Carson,
Kilbride.

JOIN PROTEST

Dear Sir:

I hope all the people who signed up in support of G.U.A.R.D. when Indusmin wanted to deposit 400,000 tons of garbage in their excavation near Acton will make every effort to attend the public meeting of the Regional Works Committee in the Regional Council Chambers on Nov. 13, dealing with Halton's garbage. I hope community leaders from Eden Mills, Acton, Ashgrove, Agerton, Zimmerman, Knatchbull, and the Boyne will be there. Any of these areas could become the recipient of Oakville's or Burlington's garbage. The only way to be informed is to be there.

William A. Johnson,
Chairman, G.U.A.R.D.,
R.R. 2, Rockwood.

LET MAYOR VIEW DUMP FROM HER FRONT WINDOW

Dear Sir,

I am shocked and dismayed to learn that Milton Council is still seeking the Milton Brick Company's excavation as a garbage dump. I am disappointed that the people of Milton Heights have not taken the example of the people of Ashgrove and raised holy hell.

I have on file an example of a garbage dump in a quarry in Newcastle County, Delaware. In this instance leachate (fluids) from the garbage in a gravel pit polluted local wells and the artesian wells of a private water company two miles away. (Incidentally, this gravel pit was water tight, according to experts.) The result is the municipality is now compensating the private water company for its loss. Worse than that, experts called in decided to drill interception wells between the dump and the polluted wells. They did this and pumped the leachate into a stream, hopelessly polluting the stream. The stream flows into the Delaware River. The municipality searched the U.S. for a purification system to treat the leachate — without success. Expected cost of the clean-up — between 10 and 20 million dollars.

In 1965, the Oakville Creek that runs close to the Milton Brick Company pit, was shown to be polluted from 43 different sources. In July 1973, the Oakville Creek Water Study showed any expansion of the Town of Milton could result in: . . .

1. Increased urban run-off.
 2. Increased waste load from urban run-off.
 3. Increased sanitary waste load.
- The study shows that as the urban area expands and urban drainage increases, the waste load carried in the stream drainage system will increase, thus degrading down stream water quality to the detriment of water users, etc. etc., etc.

Page 13 of that report under recommendation reads, "Since the existing water chemistry and bacteria concentrations are not compatible with many of the identified and legitimate water uses, it is recommended that every effort be made to improve the quality of Oakville Creek."

My question: Would locating a garbage dump in the near vicinity of the creek improve it?

Could the bacteria concentrations not identified be coming from the old garbage dumps?
Mrs. MacArthur claims the area could be turned into a park. If I lived in Milton Heights and I was uninformed of the environmental hazards of landfilling I would suggest that the excavations in the area of the 10th Sideroad and the Sixth Line would be an ideal location to put garbage, then when it was eventually turned into a park, Mayor Anne MacArthur could sit and gaze at it from her front window.

William A. Johnson,
R.R. 2, Rockwood.

P.S. The fact that the OMB hearing on this site is being held on the morning of a work-day denies public participation. It means those with the most to lose will not be heard.

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SNEAK PREVIEW

SHHH!

We're having a party! November 20th

• More details next week!

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AND NOW'S THE TIME TO "LAYAWAY" FOR CHRISTMAS

10% holds your purchase until Christmas



Pretty DOLL 12⁹⁷ each PRAM
Any doll would be proud to ride in this vinyl pram in ass't'd. patterns. 21 x 11", 24" handle.

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Set of 10 mini-lites by Noma. These inside lights with icicle effect attachment are just the thing for decorating your home or tree. Great value.

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