

Hon. Mr. Flynn: Would the honourable senator permit me to put a question? I am not too sure if it is correct to say that the Canadian Red Ensign is the Canadian flag at this time. I understand that the order in council said that this is the flag that should be flown over public buildings, but that is all.

Hon. Mr. Hugessen: Well, it is generally recognized for the time being as the flag that we recognize as our own. As I say, its outstanding feature is the Union Jack in the top left-hand corner. It is true that on the fly it does have, in a rather insignificant way and not very easily seen, the Canadian crest. But the important thing about it is that our present Canadian flag has its entire emphasis upon the Union Jack.

I have given a good deal of thought to what our Canadian flag ought to be. It goes without saying, I have the deepest of love and respect for the Union Jack. It symbolizes many things. Those were very well expressed by Senator Grattan O'Leary in his speech, but basically the Union Jack symbolizes something that people have forgotten about. During the weekend I happened to be reading an article in the *Encyclopaedia Britannica* about flags, and I came across some rather interesting information about the Union Jack.

The first Union Jack was designed at the time when, after the death of Queen Elizabeth, James VI of Scotland, the first Stuart king, became James I of England. At that time, for the first time, the crowns of England and Scotland were united. So James I issued instructions that a new union flag was to be designed to represent the two united countries. That was done. The new union flag was a combination of the Cross of St. George, representing England, and the Cross of St. Andrew, representing Scotland. It was officially called the Union Flag, but in common everyday language it was even then referred to as the Union Jack. The reason for that is rather interesting, too. As I said, this flag was designed by order of James I. James I had the habit of signing all his official documents and orders with his name, not in English but in French. He did not sign "James": he signed "Jacques". That was why the union flag designed on his order was called the "Union Jack".

That flag, that first Union Jack, continued with a slight interruption during the time of Cromwell, until the year 1801. Here I think I have to call upon the knowledge of Irish history of my friend Senator O'Leary (Carleton). In 1801, the independent Irish parliament—which, incidentally, was called "Grattan's Parliament", was it not?—was abolished, and the Irish parliament was combined with the English parliament and the three king-

doms were combined into one. Therefore, in 1801 it became necessary to create a new flag representing the three countries. That flag was designed to include the Cross of St. George for England, the Cross of St. Andrew for Scotland and the Cross of St. Patrick for Ireland, and that is the Union Jack as we know it today.

All honourable senators know, the union of England, Scotland and Ireland no longer exists. Ireland, or at least the greater part of Ireland, has gone out of the union. The question which comes to my mind is this, what connection has the union of England, Scotland and Ireland in 1801, a union now partially dissolved, with the Canada of 1964? That is the question which strikes me as being rather basic in this whole consideration.

The position we have at the moment is that our flag, the basic design of our Canadian flag, the Union Jack, represents, you might say, the past history of less than 50 per cent of our people. I think Senator Crerar gave the figures of the population, the racial origins of Canada, in his excellent speech yesterday afternoon. As I recall them, it was 30 per cent French origin, 44 per cent Anglo Saxon origin, which included English, Scottish, Irish and Welsh, and about 26 per cent of other diverse origins of various kinds.

Honourable senators, you have to ask yourselves this question: Facing that situation, and with the Canada of today and with its population of today, in the proportions which I have mentioned, is it right for the flag of Canada to have the Union Jack as the only really important element in its composition?

I must say that, much as I love the Union Jack, I do not think that the people of English-speaking origin should monopolize our Canadian flag.

I fully agree with Senator O'Leary (Carleton). We have a wonderful history that lives on in the Union Jack; but, after all, we are going to preserve that tradition in the second part of the resolution which will come to us when the House of Commons has dealt with it. We will still be able to fly the Union Jack, or Red Ensign, whichever is decided upon, as representative of our membership in the Commonwealth and our love and affection for everything that the British tradition represents. On the other hand, I do think that we should give the most serious consideration to having a new flag of our own for use within Canada, which every element of our population will be able to look up to with an equal sense that it belongs to them all.

That is about all I can say, honourable senators. That is the reasoning that has led me to the conclusion, quite apart from any matters of political interest—and I do not stand second to Senator Hollett or anybody