



TOWN OF SURRY SCHOOL DISTRICT
SURRY - MAINE

CLAUDE L. BONSEY, PRESIDENT
FRANK L. WHITNEY, CLERK R. T. CARLISLE, JR., TREASURER
FLOYD D. BLACK GEORGE L. TORREY

October 4, 1952

Mr. Harry G. Carter
Surry, Maine

Dear Sir,

Enclosed you will find a ruling from the Commissioner of Education, with the approval of the Adjutant General's office, regarding the flag staff in question at the new elementary school. The letter is self-explanatory.

The threat to the world today is not communism but rather, men like you who have neither the education nor intelligence to properly comprehend the facts. You were not able to read the federal flag code and intelligently understand its meaning. You can not be blamed for this, because the opportunity for an education was not present when you were a boy.

An all-out effort to educate our children is the first step to assure ourselves that the future generation will be men of intelligence and wisdom, capable of reading and judging intelligently the difference between right and wrong, capable of supporting themselves and country, rather than submit to a reversal of this procedure which is so prevalent in this day and age.

Now that you have had this experience, I hope that you will join the ranks of us who have worked so hard for better education in our schools in Surry. Let us look forward, not backward. Let us build up and not tear down and so strive that when we lay down our implements on earth we may receive that welcome plaudit, "Well done, good and faithful servant."

Very truly yours,

Claude L. Bonsey

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Contributed to Maine Memory Network by Surry Historical Society

Date: October 4, 1952

Description: Letter from Claude Bonsey to Harry Carter regarding the placement of a weathervane atop the newly installed flagpole at the Surry Elementary School.

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