



COMMONWEALTH OF DOMINICA

*The Symbols
of Nationhood*

Foreword

There can be no doubt that this type of publication is most appropriate for any young nation. The established symbols of nationhood represent the very fabric upon which any sovereign country lays claim to its status in the world. How these symbols are known and revered by a nation's own citizens provide the basis for respect by other peoples and other nations of the world.

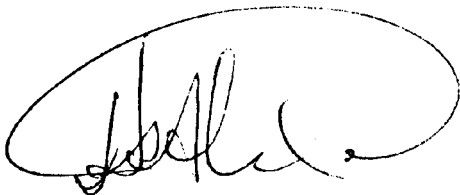
Knowledge of these symbols is not yet general or traditional. Because we are a comparatively young nation - a mere ten years amongst the decades and centuries of others - it is necessary that we make special efforts in educating our nationals on some of the key symbols of nationhood: how they originated, what they represent and how they should be attended not only on special occasions but in ordinary everyday life.

In this education, this publication will be immensely useful. It is a very comprehensive study of all the important symbols of nationhood, from the office of the President, the Mace and the National Anthem, to the Flag, the Pledge and the National Bird. What they mean, how and when their use is appropriate and the protocol to be followed, are all very well documented in this book, and done so in a very readable and very pleasing style.

No doubt, it will be used a great deal in the schools. It should be part of any curriculum that is geared at developing our civic responsibility. But more than that, the information in this book should become familiar to the average Dominican, of any age.

I urge all our countrymen to partake in the richness of civil education herein contained. It will improve knowledge in an important area of nation-building, but even more significant, develop even further pride in our country to an extreme never felt possible.

I must acknowledge with grateful thanks the contribution made by His Excellency the President, and the other Members of the Dominica National Emblems Committee for their cooperation in preparing this excellent publication. The work was undertaken in response to a request made by the Core Committee for the Year of Reunion 88, to mark the occasion.



H.A. Alexander
Minister for Community Development

Preface

Since achieving Independence, Dominica and all its people are attracting international attention and world leaders, celebrities and many dignitaries from near and far, visit us regularly.

Independence connotes added responsibility, and a disciplined society will produce men and women who respect themselves and therefore respect others, and stand up for what is right, true and noble.

We all must be prepared to play our part in the development of our Country. We must all try to build a new worthy image, a new Nation of which we can be justly proud, and of which we can boast about with heads held high. To do so we all must be disciplined and know how to act with poise and dignity on all occasions.

With these thoughts in mind, The Dominica National Emblems Committee has, at the request of the Minister for Community Development, Social Affairs and Housing, who is responsible for the subject of National Emblems, prepared this booklet for the benefit of all those interested in our National Symbols and Emblems.



Sir Clarence Seignoret
President
and
Chairman, Dominica National Emblems Committee

President's Office
Morne Bruce
3rd October, 1988.

The Symbols Of Nationhood



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INTRODUCTION

Every nation has a constant need for potent symbols which can represent in the minds of its citizens, what it stands for.

And every nation of any importance has had some image which identifies it not only for its own citizens but serves to give the whole world an essence of what the nation represents.

During the past twenty years, and increasingly during the more recent past, successive Governments have been looking closely at their public relations - "What sort of front are we presenting?" is the question asked.

This image should be something full of life, pulsating with the vigour of achievement and dynamic growth. How people think about us should be highly important to Dominicans, whatever our individual roles may be.

Every country, big or small, has an image. It is the sum total of all the bits of information about the Country reaching the public and the world at large. The Country's basic philosophy has to be projected, and a desirable image cannot be imposed upon the public by shouting about its merits. It is something to be built from the inside out taking note of those things which are necessary to any constructive effort-truthfulness, meaningfulness and credibility.

It cannot be said too often that in this field, little things count. Individuals as well as Governments are judged by their behaviour, not in great crises, but in the minor adjustments of daily life. It is the personal experience of people with Government officials at all levels, that is of paramount importance in image building.

After ten years of Independence we are faced with the task of getting our emblems into proper use so as to enhance our efforts at image building. It seems that an emblem is wasted unless it is used whenever the State meets the public.

Rules are necessary to promote an awareness of, and pride in our emblems at all times and in all situations so as to emphasize the peculiar charm, beauty and uniqueness of the Country. The effect should be like a symphony orchestra in which dozens of instruments, each with its own range, capabilities and touch qualities, combine to produce a single musical "image."

What we are building is not just for this year, but something that will last and will serve the Country powerfully as long as Dominica endures.

Developing a good image with the help and use of our National Emblems needs all the human understanding of which we are capable, and applied to every facet of it.

A starting point is to make a decision as to what kind of image we want. This may seem like a platitude, but it is surprising how few people have more than a hazy idea.

In Dominica, we have had to take thought and create our symbols, hoping that they would in time come to have the deepest significance for the people of this Country. Our visual symbols were carefully worked out not only to conform to aesthetic principles but also to reflect the living form and texture of our Island.

THE OFFICE OF PRESIDENT - SYMBOLISM OF

Section 18 of the Dominica Constitution Order 1978, establishes the office of President. He is elected by the House of Assembly and holds office for a term of five years. He may serve two terms only.

The President has such functions as are prescribed by the Constitution and such additional functions (if any) as may be prescribed by Parliament, provided that no such additional functions shall be conferred upon him without his consent signified by writing under his hand addressed to the Speaker.

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The Constitution distinguishes two classes of situations - the normal, in which the President is expressly required to act on advice, and the exceptional, in which he is expressly required or empowered to act in his own deliberate judgement.

The President has a right to be kept informed and where appropriate provides a "harmonious link between different forces in society."

Section 29 of the Constitution provides that "There shall be a Parliament of Dominica which shall consist of the President and House of Assembly".

The President is part of Parliament but does not normally sit in Parliament, following a long standing convention based on the Westminster Model of Government.

Section 58(1) reads: "The Executive Authority of Dominica is vested in the President," and subject to the provisions of the Constitution, this executive authority may be exercised by the President either directly or through officers subordinate to him.

The President who is also Head of State must at all times be regarded as a symbol of Unity, and as a focus for patriotism. He serves as an impartial and unifying symbol of Government. He should be regarded as the Heart, the Soul and the Conscience of the Nation.

An authority on Constitutional Law has commented: "Government is not merely a matter of cold reason and complicated policies and arguments. Few of us are such stern realists that we cannot be affected by emotion." It is mainly for this reason that some countries adorn their Heads of State with elaborate regalia for use on special ceremonial occasions.

It is true to say that every Sovereign State needs a "Head of State". There is need for some symbol of unity and a focus for patriotism. All countries need to provide for continuity beyond the life of successive party Governments. The State functions more intelligibly if it is personified.

Heads of State relate with other Heads of State. It goes without saying that as Head of State, the President is responsible for maintaining the dignity of the office. He and his spouse are entitled to certain privileges and courtesies. He commands the right of precedence in all circumstances, and only he can have the authority to waive this in certain circumstances, usually as a courtesy to the visiting head of another State. It is of importance to note that certain strict rules as such have evolved particularly in connection with his public activities and public appearances.

The President fulfils a busy schedule and his effectiveness must of necessity depend on his health, experience, qualifications and temperament. He is expected to perform an active role in the affairs of society. He must be easily amenable to all, and adjustable to surroundings and circumstances.

The Office of President is above the individual and it is the office which commands the first and greatest respect. Whoever inherits the President's mantle inherits the dignity that goes with it, a dignity that must be unfailingly maintained, and enhanced at every opportunity. For the exaltation of the President is quite deliberate as it is symbolic of the reputation and respectability of the Nation.

Whilst any person holds the office or is acting as President, no criminal proceedings shall be instituted or continued against him in respect of anything done or omitted to be done by him, either in his official capacity or in his private capacity, and no civil proceedings shall be instituted or continued in respect of which relief is claimed against him in respect of anything done in his private capacity.

The President should not participate in any social relaxation which might involve a lessening of the traditional respect of the office. The self-imposed restraints are strict. But this is the inevitable lot of the holder of the office which is held in such high regard.

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The Presidency, because of what it stands for should be revered by all citizens of the State. In token of this esteem the President is always accorded the utmost personal respect wherever he goes by Members of Parliament, the Diplomatic Corps, the Public and Police Services and the general public whether on or off duty. He is deferred to when arriving at or leaving functions.

As a sign of respect, one verse of The National Anthem is either played or sung on his arrival at functions and all are expected to rise when he arrives at or leaves a function.

He represents in his proper self the rights and privileges of all citizens of the State. An affront to the President is an affront to the Nation as a whole.

THE COAT OF ARMS



First of all, there is the Coat of Arms. The Arms of a country has the same significance as the Arms of an individual family had in the history of civilized nations. Arms to the individual was the sign of the technical rank of gentility. Arms to the Nation is the mark of its existence, its honour, its pride in itself and its status in the world.

The primary object of Heraldry is to produce distinctive Arms. It does this correctly through the use of conventions, not of pictures. While symbolism is secondary, public arms today are usually designed to have meaning in themselves or by reference to other Armorial Bearing.

The Coat of Arms of Dominica has now become a familiar sight here and abroad, and a Citizen of Dominica would be regarded as very unpatriotic if unable to explain the significance of the Dominica Coat of Arms, with its motto:

"APRES BONDIE C'EST LA TER"

The following is the heraldic description of the Coat of Arms of the Commonwealth of Dominica.

Quarterly Or and Azure a cross fillet counterchanged in the first quarter on a Rocky Mount Sable a Coconut Tree fructed proper in the second a Dominica Crapaud also proper in the third on Water Barry wavy in base a Carib canoe with sail set all likewise proper in the fourth quarter on a Rocky Mount also sable a Banana Tree fructed also proper and for the crest. On a Wreath Argent and Azure a Rocky Mount Sable thereon a Lion Passant guardant Or and for the Supporters. On either side of Sisserou Parrot (*Amazona imperialis*) proper beaked and membered or together with this motto APRES BONDIE C'EST LA TER.

(explained in non-heraldic terms)

The Coat of arms of Dominica bears the inscription 'Apres Bondie C'est La Ter', (after God the Good Earth), which emphasises the importance of the soil in the island with its economy based on agriculture.

The design depicts a shield divided into four quarters of a cross, referring to the Island's name, because of its discovery on a Sunday. In first quarter on the top left, you see the black volcanic soil of Dominica supporting a coconut tree, and

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in the fourth quarter on bottom right a fully developed banana stem bearing a mature bunch of fruits is shown. Our Crapaud, the second quarter, while in the third quarter, a canoe under sail glides on the Caribbean Sea. A wreath of silver and blue bears the crest, a golden lion standing upon a black rocky mount with the Sisserou parrot (*Amazona imperialis*) as supporters.

THE NATIONAL FLAG



Another symbol which has begun to sink beneath the level of the consciousness in the mind of Dominicans is the Dominica National Flag. The meaning of our flag is easier to understand than the Coat of Arms as the design did not have to conform to the meticulously exact standards of heraldry.

Every country has a national flag which is seen as the prime expression of national identity and the supreme mark of independence. We proudly witnessed this at midnight on 2nd November, 1978, when our National Flag was hoisted, to the strains of our National Anthem, "Isle of Beauty."

At the stroke of the midnight hour chiming in our Independence, our National Flag was unfurled for the first time, ushering in the dawn of a new era. Immediately before this the Union Jack and our Associate Statehood Flag were lowered, reverently and with dignity, closing another chapter of our history.

The Dominica National Flag is the proudest emblem of our country. It is the sign by which we are known to all the world; a new star set in the heavens joining its sister stars in that constellation which gleams upon the Free Nations of the earth. It is our People's Flag; the flag appointed by Destiny to fly over our land, hopefully, into eternity. This is the Flag to which we pay homage from the 3rd November, 1978 onward.

A National Flag is expected to be held in reverence by the citizens of a country. It is therefore, our duty to ensure that our Flag be accorded the honour and respect due to it, that it is not subjected to any form of indignity or humiliation.

Sir Edward Hansley, put it this way: "It is not so much the flag itself that stirs our souls as the deeds that were done beneath it." This is generally true whether the deeds are those of war or of peace, or of a nation "rightfully struggling to be free."

The following is the heraldic description of the National Flag of the Commonwealth of Dominica:

Vert three pallets conjoined in pale and as many bars similarly conjoined in fess or argent and sable overall as a roundle gules charged with a Sisserou Parrot (*Amazona imperialis*) facing sinister perched on a wooden twig proper within an orle of ten mullets. Also vert.

Meaning of the Flag

(1) The flag of the Commonwealth of Dominica consists of a circular emblem of red bearing a Sisserou Parrot (*Amazona imperialis*) standing on a twig encircled by ten lime green stars. This is superimposed on three vertical and three horizontal stripes of yellow, black and white forming a triple coloured cross against a general back-ground of forest green.

(2) The central emblem presents the National Bird of Dominica, the Sisserou parrot, also a symbol of flight toward greater heights and fulfilment of aspiration. The Parrot also comes from the Dominica Coat of Arms, thus symbolising the official Seal of the country.

(3) The ten lime green stars - the traditional symbol of hope - represent the ten parishes of the country, each with equal status, thus the equality of our people. The red central emblem symbolises Dominica's commitment to social justice.

(4) The yellow, black and white stripes from a triple coloured cross representing the Trinity of God. The cross itself demonstrates belief in God since the Commonwealth of Dominica is founded upon the principles that acknowledge the supremacy of God.

(5) The yellow stripe represents the sunshine of our land, our main agricultural produce: Citrus and Bananas; and is also a symbol of the Carib and Arawak people, the first inhabitants of the Island.

(6) The White stripe represents the clarity of our rivers and waterfalls and the purity of aspiration of our people.

(7) The black stripe represents the rich black soil of our island on which our agriculture is based as well as our African heritage.

(8) The general background of dark green symbolises our rich verdant forest and the general lushness of the island.

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM (Isle of Beauty)

As a symbol of nationhood, the National Anthem takes its place beside the National Flag. Many Dominicans remember the pre-eminence given to "God Save the Queen", the British National Anthem. All self-respecting citizens within hearing stand in silence, with heads bared,

where appropriate, while the National Anthem is being rendered, on ceremonial and official occasions. Only a degenerate would dream of showing disrespect to his/her own Flag or National Anthem since by doing so he/she would be severing the one link that exists between himself and every other national. It is expected that every citizen will treat our National Anthem with the same respect and patriotism as is shown to theirs by other nationals throughout the civilised world.

The Dominica National Anthem, popularly referred to as "The Isle of Beauty" was retained on achieving Independence; during the period proceeding Associated Statehood with Britain, it was referred to as the National Song. The words were composed by the late Reverend W.O.M. Pond and put to music by L.M. Chrisitan; they who were both subsequently honoured.

On ceremonial occasions the National Anthem should be rendered on the arrival of the President as a sign of respect.

It is important to note that the National Anthem should never be parodied in verse or in song, neither should it be played in any tempo other than the officially recognised one. Particularly, the tune should never be played as a dance number, or for the purpose of advertisement.

In some countries, including the Caribbean, persons who contravene or fail to comply with regulations in this regard are guilty of an offence and are liable on summary conviction to a fine or imprisonment.

There should be no objections to the use of the National Anthem at the completion of any public function, or when toasts are proposed at official functions.

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THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

Isle of Beauty

Words by W. Pond, M.S.A.
Maziale

Music by L.M. Christian, M.B.E.



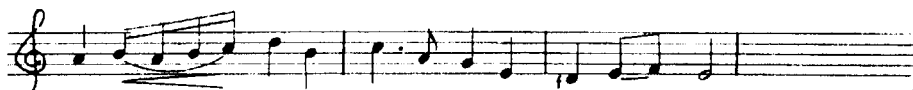
Isle of beauty Isle of splendour Isle to all so sweet and
Do mine beauty God hath blest thee With a clime benign and
Come ye forward, sons and daughters Of this Gem beyond com-



fair All must surely gaze in wonder
light Pastures green and flow'rs of beauty
pure Strive for honour sons and daughters



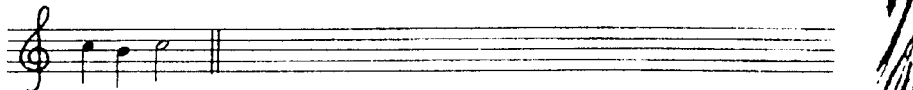
At thy gifts so rich and rare Rivers, valleys,
filling all with pure delight, And a people
Do the right, be firm be fair, Toil with hearts and



hills and mountains, All these gifts we do extol,
strong and healthy, Full of Godly reverent fear,
hands and voices We must prosper! Sound the call,



Healthy land, so like all fountains, Giving cheer that
May we ever seek to praise thee, For these gifts so
In which everyone rejoices, "All for Each and Each for All!"



warms the soul,
rich and rare,
Each for All."

1. Isle of beauty, Isle of splendour,
Isle to all so sweet and fair,
All must surely gaze in wonder,
At thy gifts so rich and rare,
Rivers, valleys, hills and mountains,
All these gifts we do extol,
Healthy lands so like all fountains,
Giving cheer that warms the soul.

2. Dominica God hath blest thee,
With a clime benign and bright,
Pastures green and flow'rs of beauty,
Filling all with pure delight,
And a people strong and healthy,
Full of Godly reverent fear,
May we ever seek to praise thee,
For these gifts so rich and rare.

3. Come ye forward, sons and daughters,
Of this Gem beyond compare,
Strive for honour sons and daughters,
Do the right be firm be fair,
Toll with hearts and hands and voices,
We must prosper! Sound the call,
In which everyone rejoices,
"All for Each and Each for All!"

THE NATIONAL FLOWER (SABINEA CARINALIS)

The flower honoured as our National Flower is a wild xerophitic plant known botanically as *Sabinea carinalis*, commonly known as Carib Wood or 'Bois Caraibe'. It was legislated as the National Flower, along with the Coat of Arms and National Flag in 1978. (The National Emblems of Dominica Act, 1978) (Act No. 18 of 1978).

As an indigenous plant, one of the reasons for which it was selected, it has survived our entire history, and hopefully, will be with us for all time. It can therefore be said to represent the continuity of our young people.

When in bloom, it displays precocious bright scarlet flowers along the entire length of its branches, and is found growing along dry coastal areas. Distribution in the wild is low, but it is an extremely hardy plant. When grown at high elevations, even in good soil, 'Bois Caraibe' will be bushy but will not flower profusely. Around April, when in full bloom, the plant presents a magnificent spectacle.

Its hardiness and scarlet flowers are reminiscent of our strong rugged and resourceful people with an ability to survive and overcome problems, and Dominica's ability to triumph despite seemingly insurmountable obstacles.



THE NATIONAL BIRD



The Sisserou parrot (*Amazona imperialis*), "The Pride of Dominica", is generally recognised as the National Bird of Dominica. The parrot figures prominently on the Coat of Arms, the National Flag, The Public Seal, The Mace of the House of Assembly and Dominica's Honours for Meritorious Service to the Country.

The Sisserou Parrot is protected and it is probably among the oldest species of Amazon parrot in the world, and is found only in Dominica.

Unfortunately, this bird is most vulnerable, particularly when young, but through evolution, it has adapted to various changes in its habitat. Even more unfortunately, it has not been able to adapt to the bad influences of man.

The following is a full description of the Sisserou Parrot.

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The National Bird The Sisserou Parrot

The Sisserou Parrot (*Amazona imperialis*) is a shy but very attractive native of the tropical forest of the Commonwealth of Dominica. Sisserou parrots have lived on the island for several hundred thousand years and can live to be very old (over 70 years), in captivity, some have outlived their captors. In the wild, however, their life span may be much shorter.

The adult is 18 to 20 inches (450-510 mm) long, 8 inches (20 mm) wide and weighs 2 pounds (0.9 kg). When the wings are spread out, the distance from tip to tip is 30 inches (0.76 mm).

The Sisserou Parrot, the larger of the two parrots of the Commonwealth of Dominica, is a heavy bodied bird. It is well proportioned, beautifully stream-lined with coloured feathers and a curved beak characteristic of all parrots.

The upper parts and back are mostly green with greenish blue on the head and the eyes are red. A dark violet band, appearing black, is visible across the hindneck; the tail and under parts are of a purplish violet hue. There is a red streak on the wing tips.

The Sisserou is seldom seen in populated areas. It is found mainly in rain forests, chiefly at high elevations.

Parrots pair off themselves for life and are extremely faithful to each other. A parrot will only seek another mate when its mate dies, and even then, if it is old, it may simply grieve to death rather than find a new mate.

The Sisserou is most vulnerable when young and it faces the greatest danger while still in chick stage. It is then exposed to further danger from three species of birds (Grive, GriGri and Malfini), snakes and the opossum.

THE PRESIDENT'S ENSIGN



Reference must also be made to the President's Ensign which incorporates the Coat of Arms on a forest green background.

Following the tradition of independent countries the President, who is also Head of State, is empowered under section 14 of the President's Emoluments and Conditions of Officer Act, 1982 (Act No. 16 of 1982) to use a personal standard.

It is important to note that unlike the National Flag, the President's Ensign should be flown continuously over a building day and night once the President is in residence. This rule also applies to the ensign used on the President's means of transport.

The Ensign being a personal standard is never flown at half-mast except in the event of the death of the President. Should an occasion demand that a flag be flown at half-mast, at the President's residence or office, the National Flag should be used.

Like the National Flag, there are certain codes of etiquette which apply. For example, on special days of national significance, the National Flag should be flown at the President's Official residence together with the President's Ensign to the left of it, and at the same height but on separate flagstaffs.

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THE NATIONAL PLEDGE

On occasions when the National Pledge is recited the following form should be used:

"Before God and all mankind, I pledge allegiance to the flag of the Commonwealth of Dominica and to the Sovereign Republic for which it stands; my love, my loyalty and skills, in the service of Dominica and my fellow citizens. I promise to work diligently and to help build a prosperous and peaceful Nation."

The pledge should be rendered while standing at attention facing the Flag. When in uniform men should not remove their headdress, but should remain silent, face the flag, and render the military salute, before and after the pledge is repeated.

THE NATIONAL PRAYER

The response is "WE GIVE THEE THANKS, O GOD".

Let us pray

Let us give thanks for all God's goodness and the wonderful heritage into which we have entered: For Dominica, our island home, the land of our birth -

RESPONSE: We give Thee thanks, O God.

For the majesty of our hills, the beauty of our valleys, and the flaming loveliness of our gardens.

RESPONSE: We give Thee thanks, O God.

For the warmth and brightness of our days and the calm and peace of our countryside -

RESPONSE: We give Thee thanks, O God.

For the rich heritage of our people coming from many races, and yet one in purpose, in achievement, and in destiny; and for the dignity of labour and the service given by every citizen of our land -

RESPONSE: We give Thee thanks, O God.

For the high privilege and responsibility and for bringing us to nationhood -

RESPONSE: We give Thee thanks, O God.

For our parents, teachers, religious, and other leaders and all those who in every walk of life are helping to prepare us for responsible citizenship; and for all those who are giving voluntary service in the public interest -

RESPONSE: We give Thee thanks, O God.

For the poets, artists, and thinkers and all who create in us the vision of a new and better society-

RESPONSE: We give Thee thanks, O God.

For the Godly heritage, the example of Jesus Christ and the sacrifice of our fathers in the faith-

RESPONSE: We give Thee thanks, O GOD.

The response is: "HEAR US WE BESEECH THEE, O GOD."

Bless, we pray Thee, our President, our Prime Minister, and other Ministers of State, our Parliament, and all who are set in authority over us and grant that under them we may be peacefully and justly governed -

RESPONSE: Hear us we beseech Thee, O God.

Grant us love and compassion for all those in need and distress, help us to remove poverty and ignorance from our land, and grant us prosperity and true wisdom, we pray -

RESPONSE: Hear us we beseech Thee, O God.

Forgive us all that is unworthy and evil in our nation's life, establish us in righteousness, and inspire us to work for universal brotherhood, we pray -

RESPONSE: Hear us we beseech Thee, O God.

Guide and bless our nation, we pray, and make us loyal and dutiful citizens through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

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HERALDRY

Heraldry is as old as the human race, and the carrying of banners has been, the habit of nations since the beginning of time.

In 1493 Columbus sailed to our shores for the first time, and his three small ships displayed the Spanish Flag bearing two red lions on two white fields and two yellow castles on two red fields.

Ceremonial provides guidance on the display and use of the Dominica National Flag along with foreign flags.

An international etiquette of flag usage is essential both practically and because flags can suddenly arouse intense emotions. Insulting or ignoring of flags can lead to the severance of diplomatic relations between sovereign States.

The following is an internationally acceptable Code of Etiquette for use of the National Flag, National Anthem and the Coat of Arms.

THE NATIONAL FLAG Flag Etiquette

The flag represents a living country and is itself considered a living thing. No one should ever desecrate our Flag by publicly mutilating, defacing, defiling, burning or trampling upon it. It should not be used for purposes of adornment or advertising. It should not be printed or otherwise impressed on anything intended for temporary use or discard. It should not be used as any part of a costume of any description.

(a) Dimensions of the National Flag

The dimensions of the National Flag shall be in the following proportions:-

For Flags flown on land or at sea: two to one (2:1).

Whenever the flag is flown, it should occupy the position of honour and be distinctly placed. (See Pg. 22 Iilus. 1 to 6)

The flag should always be hoisted briskly and lowered slowly and ceremoniously.

(b) How to display the Flag

(i) The flag should be of regulation appearance. It should not be faded or bleached, and a torn flag should be repaired before hoisting.

(ii) The Flag-mast, when erected on land, should be placed upright and should be in a central or conspicuous place. On buildings, however, the flag-mast may either be placed in an upright position on the roof or fixed at an angle on the front of the building or from a balcony.

(iii) The Flag-mast should be painted white.

(iv) No other flag may be flown above the Dominica Flag. When several flags are flown on one halliard the Dominica Flag is placed at the peak. When the flags of two or more nations are displayed together they are to be flown from separate staffs of the same height and all the flags should be, as far as possible, of the same size. The flag of one nation should not be displayed above that of another. International usage forbids the display of the flag of one nation above that of another nation in time of peace.

(v) No other flag, colour, standard, ensign or other emblem should be displayed above or to the right of the National Flag, i.e. the observers left facing it.

(vi) When two flags are placed against a wall with crossed staffs, the Dominica flag should be at the right, that is to the observer's left facing the flags - and its staff should be in front of the staffs of the other flags. When a number of flags are grouped and displayed from staffs the Dominica Flag should be at the Centre and at the highest point of the group. (See Pg. 22 Illus. 1,3 & 4)

(vii) When flags of two nation are displayed, they should be flown from separate staffs of the same height. If only two flags are displayed, the Dominica National flag, as host flag, should be

displayed in the position of honour to the right of the other flag. If the Dominica Flag is displayed with the other National Flags, the display should be arranged alphabetically, according to the English versions of the names of the countries concerned. It would be permissible in such a case to begin and also to end the row of flags with the Dominica National Flag and to include the National Flag in the normal country-wise alphabetical order. The National Flag shall be hoisted first and lowered last. It should never be lowered while the other flags are flying or being hoisted. (See Pg. 22 Illus. 2.)

(viii) The Flag may be displayed flat above and behind the speaker in a church or in an auditorium. If on a staff, it should be at the right of the speaker as he faces the congregation or audience. Other flags should be at the speaker's left. If the flag is displayed on a staff elsewhere than on a platform or church it should be at the right of the audience or congregation as they face the speaker. It should not cover a speaker's desk or be draped in front of the platform.

When displayed from a staff in church or public auditorium, if it is displayed in the chancel or on the speaker's platform in a public auditorium, the flag should occupy the position of honour and be placed at the clergyman's or speaker's right as he faces the congregation or audience. Any other flags so displayed in the chancel or on the platform should be placed at the clergyman's or speaker's left as he faces the congregation or audience. But when the flag is displayed from a staff in a church or public auditorium elsewhere than in the chancel or on the platform it shall be placed in the position of honour at the right of the congregation or audience as they face the chancel or platform. Any other flag so displayed should be placed on the left of the congregation or audience they face the chancel or platform. (See Pg. 21 Figure E)

(ix) When used as an identifying symbol on an automobile, the National Flag should be flown on a small staff affixed to the right fender. When used in this way, the staff should be sufficiently

tall to permit the flag to clear the bonnet of the car. Alternatively, a small flag may be flown from the bonnet near the front. Soiled or windtorn flags should not be flown. Car flags may be flown only on officially designated cars.

(x) A citizen may fly the flag at any time he or she wishes provided the flag is flown from an upright staff or in the front of his building or place of business.

When To Display The Flag

1. The National Flag should be flown every day from important Public Buildings from 6.00 am to 6.00 pm weather permitting. It may be flown daily from other Government Buildings and schools when they are in session.

No days of special significance have yet been designated by Government when the National Flag may be flown freely by all citizens, however, the following days are suggested:

(a) The President's Birthday (To be designated - A common day)

(b) Remembrance Day - the second Sunday in November (flags should be flown at full mast all day);

(c) National or Independence Day - 3rd November;

(d) Any other day that may be prescribed from time to time by the Government.

Display of the National Flag is always encouraged, especially on the occasions specifically designated for such observance. However, private citizens are not required to display the flag at any time.

The National Flag should not be flown after 6.00 pm except inside a building. However, on important ceremonial occasions when a patriotic effect is desired, the flag may be displayed 24 hours a day if properly illuminated.

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The Flag In A Parade

When carried with other flag or flags the Flag of Dominica should be held on the marching right or in front of the centre of the line of flags. When the Flag is passing in a parade or in a review or during the ceremony of hoisting or lowering the Flag, all persons present should face the Flag and stand at attention. The flag should not be dipped to any person or thing except in accordance with maritime practice.

The Flag At Half Staff

(i) The National Flag is flown at half staff in mourning.

(ii) When flown at half staff the Flag should first be raised to the peak and then lowered to half-staff. The flag should again be raised to the peak before it is lowered.

(iii) By half-staff is meant lowering the flag by its own depth from the peak of the staff.

The decision on the occasion on which the flag should be flown at half-staff would rest with the Cabinet.

Prohibited Use Of The Flag

(i) The Flag should not be dipped to any person or thing, except in accordance with maritime practice.

(ii) The Flag should never be flown with the central emblem inverted except as a signal of distress.

(iii) The Flag should not be displayed on a float, motor car or other vehicle or on a boat, except from a staff or masthead.

(iv) The Flag should not have placed on it or attached to it any mark, insignia, letter, word, figure, design, picture or drawing.

(v) The Flag should never be used as a receptacle. It should not be used to cover a statue or monument.

(vi) The Flag should not be used for purposes of adornment or advertising. It should not be printed on, or reproduced on articles of clothing or furniture.

(vii) The Flag when on display should not be allowed to touch anything beneath it such as furniture, floors, trees, plants, vehicles, buildings, water or the earth.

(viii) When the Flag is in a damaged or soiled condition, it may not be cast aside or disrespectfully disposed of but shall be destroyed as a whole in private preferably by burning or any other method consistent with the dignity of the Flag.

(ix) The Flag shall not be used as a covering for a building.

(x) The Flag shall not be used as a portion of a costume or uniform of any description. It shall not be embroidered upon cushions or handkerchief or printed on napkins or boxes.

(xi) The Flag should form a distinctive feature of a ceremony of unveiling a statue or monument, but is should never be used as the covering for the statue or mounment.

(xii) If flown on a speaker's platform, the Flag shall be on the speaker's right. If otherwise displayed, the Flag shall be above and behind the speaker.

(xiii) When the Flag is carried in a procession or a parade it shall be either on the marching right, that is the Flag's own right, or if there is a line of other flags, in front of the centre of the line.

(xiv) The Flag shall not be used to cover a speaker's desk nor shall it be draped over a speaker's platform.

(xv) The Flag shall not be displayed or fastened in any manner as may damage it.

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(xvi) The Flag shall not be used as a drapery in any form whatsoever except in State/Military funerals as hereafter provided: The Flag shall not be draped over the head, top side or back of a vehicle or boat.

(xvii) Except at Foreign Embassies, Consulates and Missions - no Foreign Flag may be flown publicly, unless the Flag of Dominica is also flown.

It was President Wilson of the United States of America who made an important statement in his 1917 Flag Day message; "This Flag, which we honour and under which we serve, is the emblem of our unity, our power, our thought and purpose as a nation. It has no other character than that which accorded to it from generation to generation. The choices are ours... Though silent, it speaks to us of the past of the men and women who went before us, and of the records they write upon it," (unquote).

Our National Flag is the proudest emblem of our Country. It is the ensign by which we are known to all the world. It is the Peoples' Flag and it is the Flag to which we pay homage from Independence onwards.

It is therefore our duty as citizens of this Country to be proud of our Flag, ensuring that it is always accorded the honour, dignity and respect due to it, and hold it in reverence.

In the words of an anonymous writer "Fling out the Flag. Let us hope that this splendid banner will give us a high ideal of national conscience to a still deeper love of country, to a more reverent regard for its institutions, to a higher civilization and to peace, yea to eternal peace among nations of the earth - This Flag means that or it means nothing."

Our National Emblems or Symbols need at all times to be protected so that they remain untarnished symbols and worthy trademarks of Our Country. Government may wish to maintain control of the names and designs of our emblems which are registered as trademarks.

Consequently, everyone should know that reproduction of our Emblems is restricted. If someone wishes to place an emblem on any goods or use them in connection with any project or activity, permission must be first obtained from the Minister responsible for National Emblems.

In order to ensure this respect for, and protection of our Emblems, specific guidelines and regulations need to be followed.

THE NATIONAL EMBLEMS ACT 1978 (ACT NO. 18 OF 1978)

The National Emblems Act (Act No.18 of 1978), intended to regulate the use of our National Emblems was enacted by Parliament and assented to by the Governor at the time, on the 31st October 1978. It was gazetted the following day.

The Coat of Arms, The National Flag and The National Flower only are mentioned and Section 3 of the Act provides for copyright in their designs of the Coat of Arms and Flag.

It is therefore the responsibility of every Citizen of the Commonwealth of Dominica to ensure that our National Emblems continue to enjoy the respect they deserve.

The significance of our National Emblems must be continually communicated to the public, and our schools appear to be useful vehicles for this. It is Government's policy to display the National Flag in our Schools. This practice should be observed on school days in the precincts of all state, state-aided and other educational institutions throughout the Country, from opening to closing time.

On the first day of term the Flag should be ceremonially hoisted, and on the last day, ceremonially lowered. On these occasions the National Pledge and the National Prayer could with advantage, be recited. In this context, the expression "ceremonially" should be taken to

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mean in the presence of all students and teachers assembled, and with the singing of the National Anthem.

On all occasions when the pledge is taken, the pledge will follow the National Anthem. When taking the pledge the Assembly will stand to attention and the Principal will administer the pledge ceremonially and the Assembly will repeat it.

ATTENDANCE OF PRESIDENT AND MINISTERS AT FUNCTIONS

Protocol respecting the attendance of the President, the Prime Minister or other Ministers of Government at official functions and schools, the procedure to be followed is as follows:-

(i) Immediately as the President or the Prime Minister or their Representative leaves the official car, a fanfare (if appropriate) is played or where this is inappropriate, the gathering applauds.

(ii) The National Anthem should be rendered when the President reaches his seat before he sits down. The audience or congregation as the case may be, should rise when the President first enters, and again when he finally leaves.

(iii) At the end of the National Anthem, all must remain standing until the official for whom the National Anthem is rendered takes his seat. If prayers are being offered to begin the ceremony, the President must be informed before he takes his seat.

(iv) At the end of the ceremony or function, the President will be first to leave the building or area and all must remain standing until his departure.

(v) On occasions when the President does not attend a function and the Prime Minister does so, the same procedure above is followed.

(vi) Should a Minister of Government attend and neither the President nor the Prime Minister

is present, the National Anthem should be rendered on the arrival of the Minister.

There are no objections to playing or singing the National Anthem at the end of a function. In fact, this practice should be encouraged.

THE PUBLIC SEAL



The Public Seal incorporates the Coat of Arms of the Country, and the words "All for each" and "Each for All" from the Dominica National Anthem are also inscribed on the outer border of the Seal. However, it is not regarded as a National Emblem.

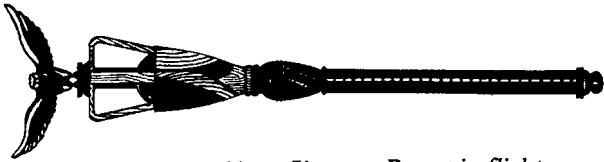
Its use is derived from a British tradition from Norman days when the King's will was signified by writs, charters, letters patent, sealed with the Royal Seal. No document without the King's seal affixed could be regarded as an authentic expression of the King's command.

The Public Seal is not a ceremonial symbol, but a real instrument of Government. Every corporation has a common seal, and a great many things can only be done with the use of the seal. Courts of Law take notice of Seals, and insist that they be affixed to certain documents.

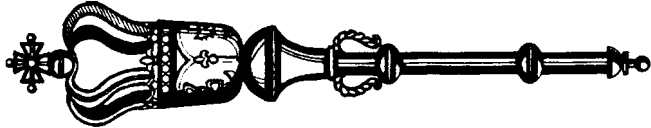
Many important Government documents bear the Public Seal, for example, enactment by Parliament, Election Writs, Proclamations, appointments of Ministers of Government and Senior Public Servants and others.

The Public Seal is always kept locked when not in use.

THE MACE OF THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY



The mace, topped by a Sisserou Parrot in flight was carved from local wood by craftsman Martin Allen for Independence in 1978



The mace given to the Dominica House of Assembly in 1771, is one of the oldest in the West Indies

Reference must be made to the Mace of the House of Assembly which also features the National Bird in full flight. It is above all a symbol of parliamentary dignity, which embraces the authority of the President, the House, the Speaker and some authorities include the Sergeant-at-Arms. But Symbol is the operative word, for the mace must adjust itself to Parliament, not Parliament to the Mace.

The use of the Mace in Dominica dated back to the eighteenth century. In the "Dominica Story" by Lennox Honychurch it is stated that in 1771 the Governor presented the House of Assembly with an ornate silver mace - the ceremonial staff representing the authority and symbol of the monarch during sessions of the House. This two hundred year old mace was used until 1978, when a replacement carved from Dominica's wood was adopted by the House of Assembly on the night of the island's independence from Britain.

This new wooden mace, an exquisite work of art, is topped by a Sisserou parrot in full flight, carved by craftsman Martin Allen.

It cannot be denied that the Mace has come to be regarded as an essential feature of parliamentary furniture, and the convention has become established that no formal proceedings in the "House" can be conducted without it.

NATIONAL HONOURS FOR MERITORIOUS SERVICE

On October 30, 1967, the Meritorious Service Honours Act, 1976 (Act No.84 of 1967), was gazetted, providing for the conferring of Honours on persons who have rendered Service to the Commonwealth of Dominica. The Act was amended by:-

(i) The Meritorious Service Honours (Amendment) Regulations 1969, (S.R.O. No. 1 of 1969);

(ii) The Meritorious Service Honours (Amendment) Act, 1975, (Act No. 10 of 1975);

and

(iii) The Meritorious Service Honours (Amendment) Act, 1983, (Act No. 31 of 1983)

It is important for every newly independent state to develop a body of customs and traditions which will become part of the historical heritage of the Country, and with which its citizens are able to indentify. For this reason we find National Flags, Coats of Arms, National Flowers, National Anthems, National Birds, National Trees and other distinctive emblems.

Related to this is the need for a National Honours system to accord recognition to those deserving citizens and others whose contributions help enrich the lives of their contemporaries and add glory to their country.

The following awards for Meritorious service to the Country may currently be conferred on persons resident in Dominica and elsewhere:-

(i) The Dominica Award of Honour;

(ii) The Sisserou Award of Honour;

(iii) The Meritorious Service Award;

(iv) The Service Medal of Honour;

(v) The Long Service Medal.

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Each year, on the 3rd of November or at such other times as may be deemed expedient to do so, the President may, on the advice of the Prime Minister, confer honours on persons who reside in Dominica or elsewhere, who have rendered Meritorious Service to the Country. The honour consists of a sealed Warrant signed by the President and the appropriate insignia. The award must be published in the Official Gazette.

The names of persons considered deserving of an honour under the Act must be submitted to the Secretary of the Cabinet, (who is the Secretary under the Act) not later than 30th June in any year.

THE PRESIDENT RULES OF PROTOCOL APPLYING TO -

1. GENERAL

The President, apart from his duties prescribed by the Constitution, fulfils a busy schedule, receiving High Commissioners and Ambassadors to present their letters of Credence. Also visits from representatives of local voluntary organisations, attending special services of religious denominations, offering hospitality, visiting schools, cultural activities, etc. He extends his patronage, when requested, to national charitable and voluntary organisations or to functions arranged in aid of charity.

The President, as a Constitutional Head of State should always maintain the dignity of the Post. He and his wife are entitled to certain privileges and courtesies.

He is styled His Excellency and his wife Her Excellency. He retains the right of precedence in all circumstances, although he may, as a matter of courtesy, waive this in certain cases. His personal standard (or flag) is flown by day and night on any residence where he is living and may, at his option be flown on certain other buildings when he is actually present.

Certain rules of protocol have grown up in connection with the public activities and the performance of his duties.

2. RULES OF PROTOCOL

The following are a few fundamental rules pertaining to the President and his wife, for guidance:-

(i) Invitations to the President or wife should always be sent in the form of a letter written to the President's Secretary. It is not correct to send only a printed invitation card. This of course does not apply to private invitations sent to their Excellencies by their families or close personal friends.

(ii) The President or his wife should not be invited to adjudicate in competitions, nor should Her Excellency be asked to assist in selling tickets for charity or raffles. It is embarrassing for persons who either don't desire to purchase a ticket, or perhaps cannot afford it, to have to refuse the President's wife.

(iii) The President and his wife do not accord interviews to the Press or to representatives of commercial organizations, magazines etc.

(iv) When citizens of Dominica are nearing their 100th Birthday or the Celebration of their Diamond Wedding, early notification of the fact should be sent to the President's Secretary if official recognition of the event is desired. Supporting evidence in the form of a birth, baptismal and/or marriage certificate must be made available.

(a) On Entertaining the President

(v) The President should be met at the door of a building (outside, weather permitting) by the President or Chairman of the Organization, or a senior officer.

(vi) In being presented to the President and his wife by the Aide-de-Camp, or President, Chairman etc. gentlemen precede their wives.

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This applies to both public and private functions.

(vii) If His Excellency is in a receiving line other than at his own reception, the line-up should be host, His Excellency, His Excellency's wife, host lady. The ADC will gladly assist with the announcing of names if this is required by the host.

(viii) The President always goes first down a corridor, through a door or entering an elevator or car.

The one exception is the President's ADC, who precedes him to make sure all is in readiness.

(ix) When entering a private home, the President and his wife are greeted by the host and hostess at the door. The host greets the President, presents his wife to the President, they then greet the President's wife.

(x) A speaker at dinner or other function addresses the Chairman first "Mr Chairman", "Your Excellency / Your Excellencies".

(xi) The Dominica National Anthem is played when the President reaches his place on a platform as a matter of courtesy, and just before he sits down, not as he enters the room. All should rise during his entrance.

(xii) At a dinner or reception of any size, the President is served first, his wife second.

(xiii) If there is a large head table the President and his wife, plus the host and hostess, should remain until the last. Order in entering the dining room is the ADC preceding His Excellency and the host. At a large formal dinner His Excellency should sit on the right of the Chairman of that dinner, and His Excellencies wife on the left. There are however, other appropriate sitting arrangements.

(xiv) It is preferable that any remarks by the President should be made early in the programme.

(xv) When the President, preceded by the A.D.C., leaves a dinner or other function, the

guests stand until the President and party have withdrawn.

The President preceded by the A.D.C., is escorted to his motor car by the Presiding officer, or if the latter must remain with guests, by another senior official designated for this duty.

(xvi) When the President arrives to attend a public function, he is met at the door of the building by the senior official of the organization concerned, or his deputy, should the senior official be engaged in other NECESSARY duties - for instance, receiving guests if it is a large function or awaiting His Excellency's arrival in a special room with certain distinguished guests.

While the President should have been informed of the name of the official meeting him, it is the duty of the A.D.C. to introduce the official and his wife, should she be present to the President, then to the President's wife.

On occasions when the President visits an exhibition or similar function, a senior official must always be in attendance until he leaves.

On occasions when the President or his spouse is asked to present Certificates, Diplomas, Awards, Prizes etc., arrangements must be made for a suitable person (preferably of senior rank to escort them from where they are seated to the area where the presentations are to be made, and to escort them back to their seats afterwards.

(xvii) At a dinner or luncheon the A.D.C. should sit at a table immediately in front of the President in order to be available if required.

(xviii) The National Anthem is played when the President reaches his place at the table, followed by Grace. The President may then be seated.

(xix) The President, as Head of State, sits on the right of the Chairman, regardless of the fact that there may be a "Guest Speaker" (titled or otherwise) or other distinguished guest. Where possible His Excellency's wife should be seated on the left of the Chairman, however, if there is

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a guest speaker she may be moved further to the left. She should never sit on the right of His Excellency.

(b) Attendance at Church Services

(xx) The President and his wife should arrive at the door of the church five (5) minutes before the commencement of the service. It is customary that he be greeted by either the Clergy or other suitable church official. The party proceeds to the front right-hand pew in the following order:

(i) ADC and Church official

(ii) The President and his wife

The ADC stands at attention beside the entrance to the pew. The President's wife enters first, then the President, the ADC sitting on the aisle seat.

The congregation rises when the President enters, and remains standing after the service until the party has withdrawn in the same order as when entering. The Clergy and church officials should be at the door to say goodbye.

When the President is at a service attended by any group such as the Police Service, Scouts, Guides etc., he will probably be invited to take the salute at the March Past after the service, but an invitation to be present at the service is also extended by the minister of the church.

3. WEDDINGS

(xxi) The procedure should be:-

The President and his wife attended by an ADC, are met at the church door 5 minutes before the hour of the ceremony (and just before the entrance of the bride's mother who enters last) by the Chief Usher, and are escorted to the first right-hand pew.

Procession down the aisle:

ADC

President and Usher

President's wife.

Guests should rise when the President enters the Church and of course will be standing as his party withdraw, as they follow immediately after the bridal party and before other guests.

If they attend the reception, the President and wife are received first. On arrival at the place of the reception the President and his wife are met by a member of the family or close friend and looked after during their stay. They customarily leave after the toast to the bride. The President does not propose such a toast, except under very unusual circumstances.

4. FUNERALS

(xxii) Arrangements are made with a member of the family or an official representing the group in charge, as well as the undertaker. The President occupies the front left-hand pew and is attended by an ADC.

The President should arrive five minutes before the casket in order to be met by the officiating clergy.

In Roman Catholic or Protestant Churches, the President should be seated in the front pew on the left-hand side. The immediate family would normally be placed in the front pew on the right.

If the casket is carried out at the end of the service the members of the family of the deceased should follow immediately after the casket. The President comes next.

The President will not normally go to the cemetery.

Representation of the President at Funerals

An ADC may be requested to represent the President at funerals. If he is a uniformed officer he should confirm to the following:-

(a) Service dress, with medals, aigillettes, and mourning band should be worn to the service;

(b) At the service the ADC will sit in the first row on the left, and will leave following the chief

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mourners (he assumes the President's precedence). The ADC will not follow the procession to the cemetery.

The above is the only occasion on which the President is "represented" at any function, although requests come from time to time that this be done. The President does not act as an honorary pall bearer at a funeral.

Attendance at funerals of relations or friends of great intimacy is of course a personal matter and no ADC attends the President, but proper arrangements for seating should nevertheless be made with a member of the family and the undertaker.

5. IN VEHICLES

(xxii) The President will ride in the right-hand rear seat. Next to the President, his wife and the Aide's wife on the left-rear side.

The ADC will ride in the left front seat. There are no exceptions to this rule.

The doors of the vehicle should be held open by the ADC and Orderly. The Aide's wife enters the car by the left-rear door.

The President must always get out of the right-hand side of the car.

Immediately after the President leaves the car his ensign (flag) should be furled.

When entering the car the President's companion should enter first NOT go around the car to enter on the left-hand side.

6. TIME KEEPING

The President always arranges to arrive at a function on time. The established protocol is that all persons attending a function at which the President is in attendance, are expected to arrive before and to be in their place before his arrival. Failure to do so without a reasonably good excuse, is regarded as a sign of disrespect to the Office of President and ultimately to the People of the Commonwealth of Dominica, whom he represents.

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Position and Placement of the Nation Flag

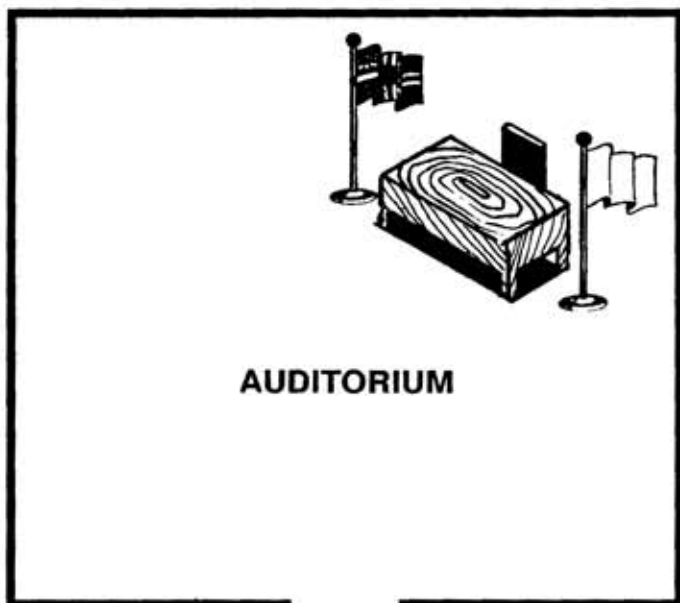


FIGURE A

Auditorium or area used by an organization, society etc., in which the National Flag is displayed during the conduct of the assemblage.

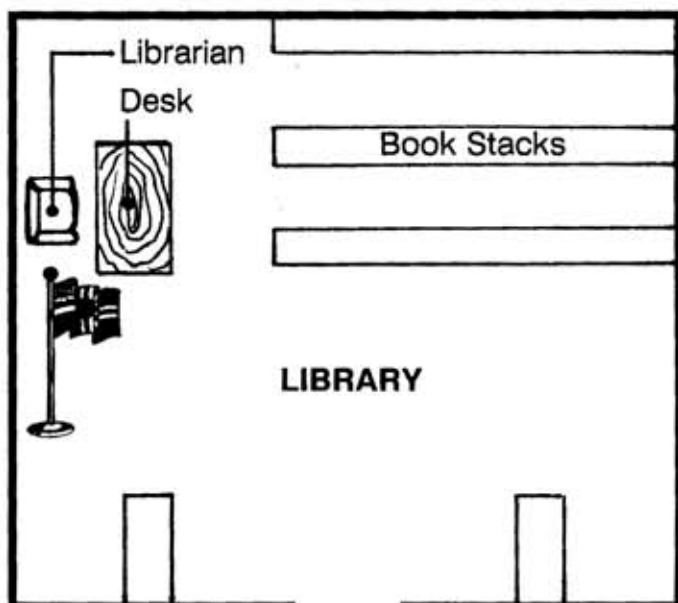


FIGURE B

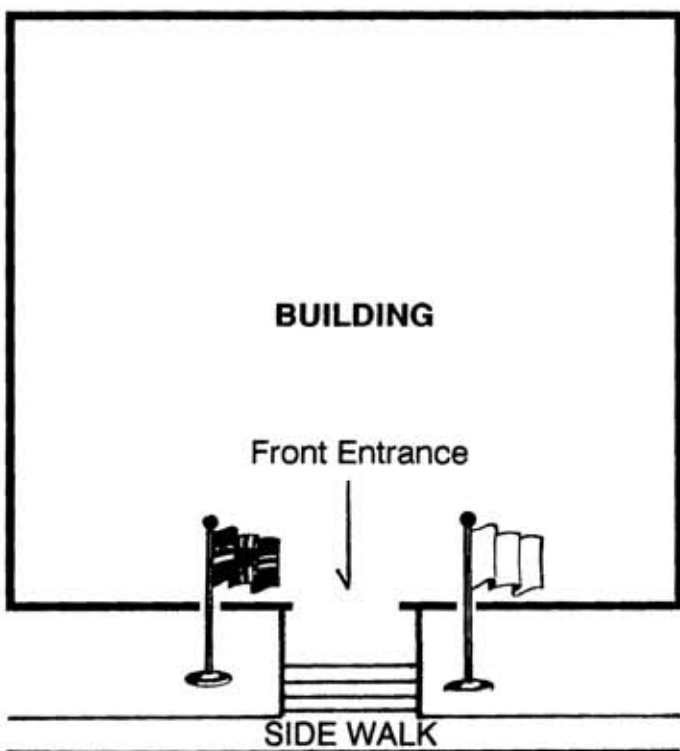


FIGURE C

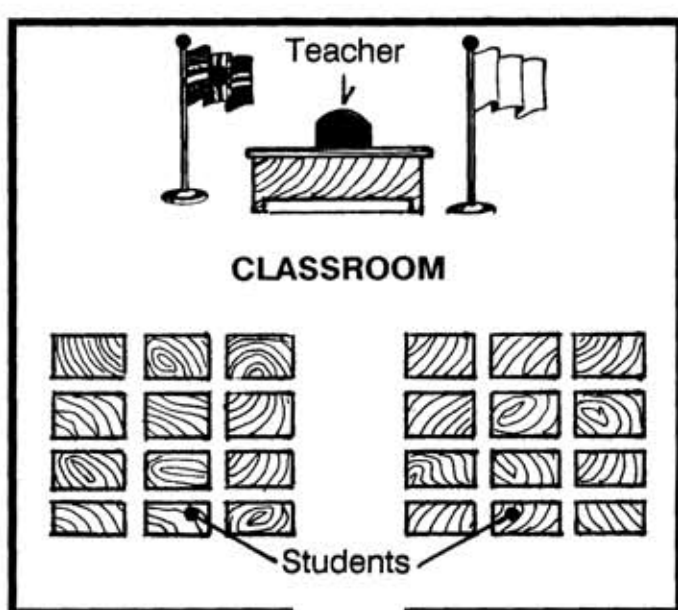


FIGURE D

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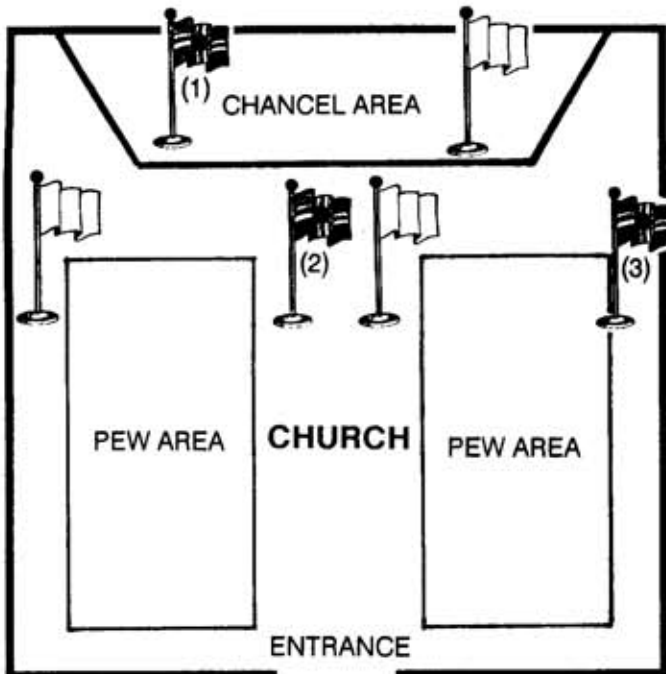


FIGURE E

(1) Flags displayed by the Minister or by the Church on behalf of a featured or visiting speaker.

(2) Flags displayed by an organization, society etc., in attendance in the Church.

(3) Flags displayed by an organization in attendance other than the organization represented by the flags indicated in (2).

Flags displayed by the organizations would be located in a manner that would place the national flag to the right of their location in the pews.

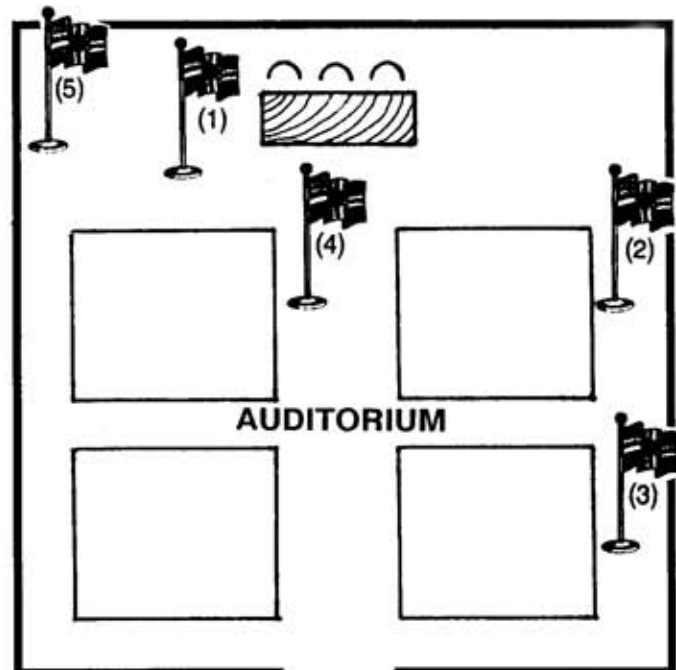


FIGURE F

(1) Displayed by or for a speaker or lecturer.

(2) Displayed by or for a representative of the audience.

(3) Displayed by or for a second representative group of audience.

(4) Displayed by or for a third representative group of the audience.

(5) Alternate location for (1) above. This placement is generally used when the position would obscure the speaker vision of the audience or vice versa.

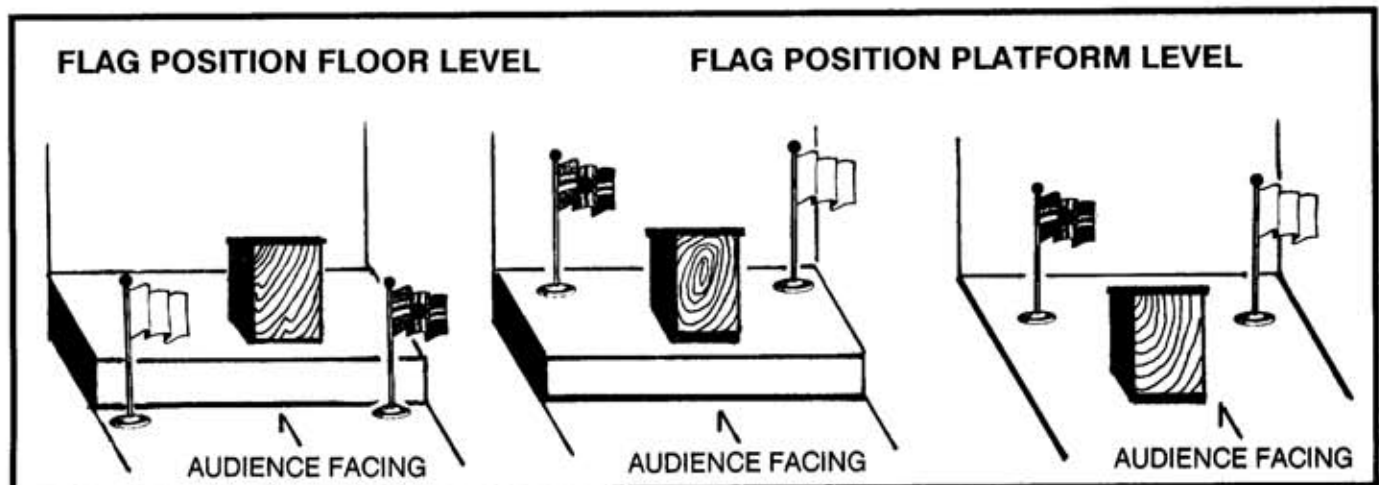


FIGURE G

The Symbols Of Nationhood

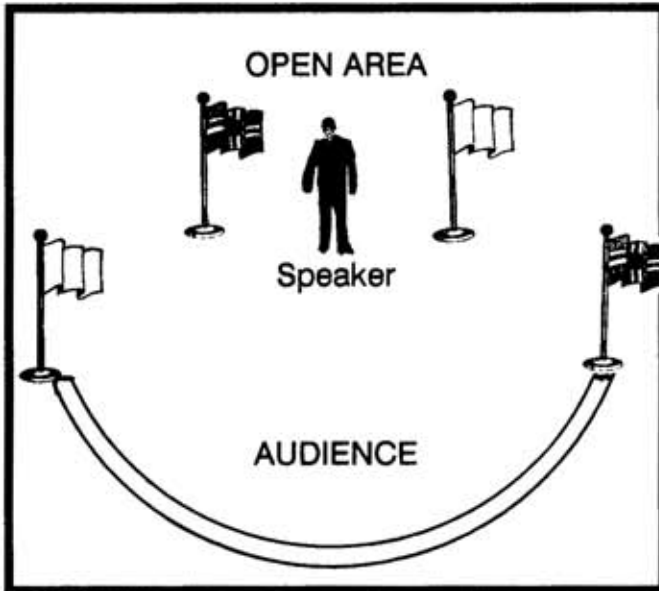


FIGURE H

(1) Flags displayed by or for the speaker standing or sitting in the open, conducted instruction, giving a lecture, etc. to an assembled group of individuals or to a representative element of a society, etc.

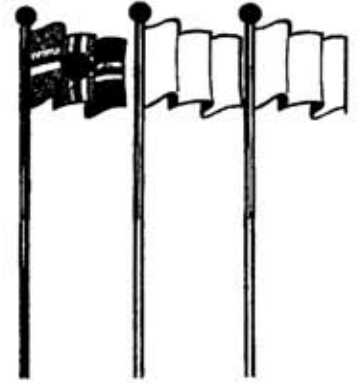
(2) Flags displayed by the assembled group or by the representative element of a society etc., while in attendance at a function.



Illus. 1

Illus. 1

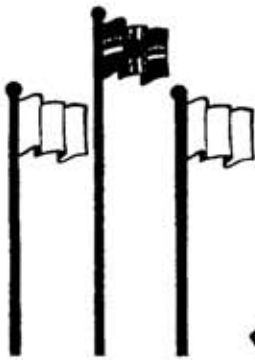
When the National Flag and any other flag are displayed from crossed staffs against a wall the National Flag should be on the right (the flag's own right) with the staff placed in front of any other staff or staff as the case may be.



Illus. 2

Illus. 2

When the flags of two or more nations are displayed together they are to be flown from separate staffs of the same height and all flags should be as far as possible of the same size. International usage forbids the display of the flag of the one nation above that of another in time of peace.



Illus. 3



Illus. 4

Illus. 3&4

When the National Flag is flown in a group with local flags, standards, ensigns, or emblems, such as those belonging to our Townships, Institutions, societies, organizations, it should be at the centre and at the highest point in the group.



Illus. 5

Illus. 5&6



Illus. 6

The National Flag in a Parade

The National Flag should not be carried flat or horizontally, but always aloft and free borne to the front and middle of the standard bearer.

The National Flag when carried in a procession with another flag or with other flags abreast should be on the marcher's right (the right being the position of honour) with the other flags to the left of it. If the procession takes the form of a line of flags the national flag should be at the front of the centre of that line.

Associated Statehood Flag



**BLUE ENSIGN with
DOMINICA COAT OF ARM in the fly**

On attaining Associated Statehood with Great Britain, the Government felt that the territory should possess its own distinctive flag. This flag (which had not been used previously) contained the Blue Ensign emblazoned with the Arms of the Colony in the fly, by kind permission of the Royal Navy.

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