

November / 1950.

3 Bridge Street,  
Halifax, N.S.

Your Worship:

1. At the request of Mrs. G. A. MacIntosh I am writing in confirmation of our conversation of the 16th November when you discussed certain questions regarding the Halifax Memorial Library with Mrs. MacIntosh, Mrs. Dawson, M.B.E., Mr. Blois and me.

2. It is the desire of certain interested organizations to install in the Memorial Library, and at the expense of such organizations, the following items:-

(a) Immediately to the right on entering the vestibule, two crossed flags in a glass fronted case, (the case most likely being of metal); one flag to be the Union Jack and the other that of the British Empire Service League.

(b) Similarly, on the left of the vestibule to be placed the two Standards of the Silver Cross Women of Canada.

(c) Over the top of the door of the main lobby a bronze plaque, on which would appear words similar to those given below:-

"This building is erected as a memorial to  
those who gave their lives in defence of their  
Country's *freedom*  
For their Faith <sup>1914-18</sup> For their Courage <sup>1939-45</sup>  
For their Sacrifice  
WE WILL REMEMBER THEM "

(d) Above the display window on the main storey of the building a replica of the Silver Cross; this to be placed against a suitable background.

(e) So that no one may remain ignorant of the meaning of the Silver Cross, the proposal is to place a short written or printed explanation upon the left hand wall of the vestibule at about eye level.

3. (a) It is proposed also that upon a suitable medium, to be placed in the four spaces reserved for tablets upon the walls of the main lobby, there should be carved, one on each tablet, the crests of the Royal Canadian Navy, the Canadian Army, the Royal Canadian Air Force and the Merchant Navy.

(b) To secure professional advice regarding this, a letter was written to the Architect of the building Mr. Leslie Fairn, F.R.A.I.C; this letter was marked "Personal". In it he was asked if he approved of the general idea and, if so, if the crests should be:

(i) Carved in stone and, if so, of what stone.

(ii) Carved in wood, and if so, the nature of such wood and whether or not the crests should be coloured.

(c) The letter to Mr. Leslie Fairn stated that, as the tablets would be integral parts of the building, it was thought that their costs should form part of the total expense of the whole structure.

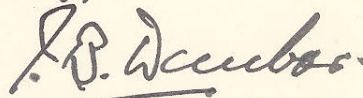


(d) Mr. Laird Fairn, (who is not an architect), replied to the effect that he was in favour of such crests being carved; that carving them in stone would be expensive and that an alternative would be to have them in bronze at a cost of about \$170.00 each, and implied that the cost of doing so should be borne by some organization other than the owners of the building.

(e) It has been rumoured that it is the intention to have, in the Library, bronze plates on which are to be the names of those, from Halifax who died whilst on active service. Information on this point would be appreciated.

4. Formal permission is asked to carry out the proposals outlined in para. 2. Your aid is asked for to obtain professional architectural opinion from Mr. Leslie Fairn regarding the ideas mentioned in para. 3, and, if the idea of the carving of the crests be approved, to ensure that the whole expense of the tablets be part of the building costs.

Yours very truly,

  
Lt. Col., M.E.I.C.

November 20, 1950.