

February 17, 1964

Dr. S. D. Rendall,  
Superintendent of Secondary Education,  
Ontario Department of Education,  
44 Eglinton Avenue West,  
TORONTO 12, Ontario.

Dear Dr. Rendall:

Re: teaching of History in French  
(Grades 11 and 12)

A. E. F. O. has been informed that one of its members, Sr. Alexandre-Marie, Principal of Sacred Heart Private School of Bonfield, has been notified by her District Secondary School Inspector that he objects to "her teaching History in French, her pupils using nothing but French in their notebooks, and her intention of having them write their examinations in French", stating that such a procedure could possibly entail refusal of the Ontario Secondary School Graduation Diploma.

In this connection, may we bring the following consideration to your immediate attention.

1) Approval has been given by the Department of Education for Grades 9 and 10 French speaking students to use a special programme in History adapted to their needs and their mentality. Moreover French texts have been prepared and authorized for use at these same levels.

2) So as to provide logical continuity a sub-committee of the A. E. F. O. has recently selected History texts in French covering the prescribed courses of study for Grades 11 and 12.



3) We are aware that several schools in the Province attended by French speaking pupils have in fact for some time been using French textbooks in the teaching of History at the Grade 11 and 12 level.

Therefore we respectfully request

1) that you grant your earliest possible approval to the use of the French textbooks (including Filteau) selected by our sub-committee for the teaching of History to Grades 11 and 12 French speaking students;

2) that such students qualify for the Secondary Schools Graduation Diploma;

3) that all schools concerned be notified of your decision in the near future.

Yours truly,

Gabrielle Levasseur,  
Secretary-Treasurer.

GL/hg