

# LETTERS

## Reflections on Canada

I do enjoy the *FOCUS* magazine and got a kick out of the article about Canadians. It reminded me of my days at Andrews and being teased about my speech as a Canadian. I did enjoy my time I spent there and have many good memories of Andrews.

*Marvel Strutt (att.)*

The Canadian coin referred to twice in the article on page 16 is the "loonie," not the "toonie," so known because of the loon on one side.

*James Hoffer (MA '64)*

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Below are pictured both the "loonie" (left) and the "toonie" (right). Both are Canadian currencies with endearing nicknames. Our writer, apparently preferring the "toonie," chose to feature it in her description of items distinctly Canadian.



## The last word on jewelry...

The unfortunate nature of your love and marriage issue is best illustrated in the selection and caliber of the letters you chose to include in the issue of *FOCUS* which just arrived.

That a letter writer could characterize an entire generation as "cotton-headed" is amazing. But even more so that you would choose to publish such an irresponsible prejudice.

The promotion of wedding rings (along with extremely low cut gown and necklace) flies in the face of Ellen White's direct statement, "Not one penny should be spent for a circlet of gold to testify that we are married" (TM 181), as well as the clear statements and principles of modesty found in all of Scripture. Neckties that Dwight Nelson, or anyone else wears, have nothing to do with it, they are not and never have been considered jewelry.

*Jeffrey K. Wilson (BA '66, BD '68)*

## Charitable myopia

I applaud both your courage and your objectivity in printing the sour grapes letters of Larry Ward, Bill Shadel, and Thomas Zwemer in the Spring 2002 *FOCUS*. Francois Marie Arouet de Voltaire was supposed to have said (but didn't): "I

disagree with what you say, sir, but I will defend to the death your right to say it." Those three letters reveal far more shortcomings in their writers' uncharitable attitudes than problems in your fine alumni magazine. When I receive the University of Iowa's alumni magazine (where I got my PhD in 1987), I expect it to be full of boasts about their sports teams, academic prowess in the Big Ten, huge financial endowments and multi-million dollar gifts for named buildings. But when I receive *FOCUS*, I am refreshed to read creative articles about the social life, spiritual vibrancy, and academic progress in my alma mater, where students struggling to work their way through school take time for community and religious outreach activities. It could be myopia on my part, but after reading about these positive accomplishments, I don't see a wedding ring photo, an occasional grammatical glitch, or Adventist jargon as worth my worry. In fact, I enjoy the personalized touch you and your underpaid staff give to *FOCUS*!

*Brian E. Strayer (MA '74)*

Letters to Focus are welcome and should be sent to Editor, *FOCUS*, University Relations Office, Andrews University, Berrien Springs, MI, 49104-1000 or by e-mail to: <ivan@andrews.edu> with "Letter to *FOCUS* Editor" in the subject line. The editors reserve the right to edit for content, style and space. Opinions expressed in letters are not necessarily shared by the editors or university officers.