

HONOR TODAY STAR SPANGLED BANNER

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with their lives. And the red and white of those stripes upon their banner might well have been the symbol of the crimson footprints left upon the snows of Valley Forge by George Washington's men.

They paid their price of blood and death. They won their freedom when Old World veterans sneered that such a victory was impossible. They brought an ordered republic out of a welter of passion-torn colonies.

For a brief space the flag beneath which they had fought clung to a narrow border-line of the Atlantic States, and then it started West.

To what man is given words wherewith to tell the tale that followed? In the century and a half since then, America's story has been written beneath that banner. Strange pen and stranger ink have gone into the writing.

The American flag was born of battle—battle for liberty. And battle has been its heritage throughout years.

The blood of gallant men christened it in its babyhood. The blood of their sons and their sons' sons has been shed beneath its fold in the years that followed.

Hero blood it was, shed selflessly and in the battle for an ideal so high and shining that even now there are times when beneath the passions of mankind it becomes a bit obscured. For, in every battle where that flag waved, Liberty has been the watchword of men who fought beneath.

Glorious the heritage and the banner they have left for the children of America.

"Memories of Bunker Hill. Of Ticonderoga with Ethan Allen's crashing demand: 'Surrender in the name of the Great Jehovah and the Continental Congress!'"

The roar of cannon, the splintering of deck and bulwark when Perry at Lake Erie sent his immortal message: "We have met the enemy and they are ours!"

Lawrence, dying on the deck of the Chesapeake with his lips forming his last words: "Don't give up the ship!"

John Paul Jones on the decks of the Bonne Homme Richard, his frigate sinking beneath him at the belching salvos of the British guns on the Serapis, and, his calm answer to their call for surrender: "I have not yet begun to fight!"

Washington, standing wrapped in his cloak in that rowboat as it pushed its way through the ice-floes on the wintry Delaware, to cross an "impassable river," to fall upon the Hessians, and take Trenton in a night of smoke and flames, of steel and blood.

And part of the heritage of the Stars and Stripes, though the Lone Star then floated above it, is the Alamo with its high-piled dead and the deathless words, "Thermopylae had its messenger of defeat. The Alamo had none!"

Are these not memories to thrill generations of Americans yet unborn?

Bright with steel and red with blood is the path that banner has travelled. It waved high when it went with troops that marched with Zachary Taylor to Buena Vista and Monterey. Triumphant it stormed up the heights of Chapultepec.

It waved above many a field where brother fought brother in the war between States. And when the Lost Cause went down in the most honorable defeat known to world history, it was the Stars and Stripes that waved above a nation reunited, its sons henceforth to fight and work side by side.

The world learned that, when North and South joined ranks and the power of Spain was humbled in the dust. When Dewey at Manila Bay said calmly: "You may fire when ready, Gridley." When the

troopers romped up San Juan Hill while the bands blared: "There'll be a Hot Time in the Old Town Tonight!" When Hobson blocked the harbor and when the Oregon raced 'round the Horn. When the Spanish fleet came out of Santiago Bay and at the end of a hell of flame and steel Schley said: "There's glory enough for all!"—When Captain Phillips of the Texas showed the American spirit of fair play in his megaphoned shout: "Don't cheer, boys! The poor devils are dying!"

Those are the memories of older years. And, with the past few years, to that wreath of immortal laurel have been added leaves that bear names now known across the world.

Chateau Thierry, with the grizzled sergeant of marines and his "Come on, you sons of guns! Do you want to live forever?" St. Mihiel with its wonderful plan of American generalship and its wonderful execution by the American soldier. The Argonne, where men bored through the undergrowth in the face of whistling death and roared that they'd be "In Heaven, Hell or Hoboken by Christmas!" as they crashed through the German defense.

That's the heritage of the American flag to which all Americans pay tribute on June 14th.

It's your heritage. Men have fought for it. Men have died for it.

They are what America means. And upon them men have built the mightiest nation in the world. To that nation we again pledge allegiance.

Sail on, sail on, O ship of state! Sail on, O union, strong and great! Humanity with all its fears

With all its hope of future years Is hanging breathlessly on thy fate!

The Stars and Stripes

The small two-story house still standing at 239 Arch street, below Third, Philadelphia, has an interesting history. In it the first flag, containing thirteen stars, and thirteen stripes, was made by Mrs. John Ross. The design for the flag was from a drawing made by General Washington with pencil, and the flag this designated was adopted, by a resolution of Congress, on the 14th of June, 1777. A Committee of Congress, accompanied by General Washington, afterwards called upon Betsy Ross, and engaged her to make a flag from this design. The flag then made is now known the world over as the Star-Spangled Banner of the United States of America.

There is a striking coincidence between the design of our flag and the arms of General Washington, which consisted of three stars in the upper portion, and three bars running across the escutcheon. History informs us that several flags were used by the Yankees before the present national one was adopted. At first a stripe was added for each new State; but the flag became too large, and Congress reduced the stripes to the original thirteen, and now the stars are made to correspond in number to the States.

The American flag is one of the most beautiful that floats upon any land or sea. Its proportions are perfect when properly made—one half as broad as it is long. The first stripe at the top is red, the next white, and these colors alternate, making the last stripe red. The blue field for the stars is the width of the first seven stripes, viz., four red and three white. The colors of the American flag are in exquisite relief, and it is, altogether, a splendid national emblem.

MANY RUGS MADE BY NEAR EAST ORPHANS

The 2,000th rug has just been completed by the girls in the Near East Relief Training School here. The total knottage for rugs during 1927 was 261,000,000. Twenty-eight per cent of the rugs were sold in the United States, 53 per cent in Switzerland and 19 per cent locally.

BIG WATER PROJECT APPROVED BY STATE

Chicago Lake Water Co. Gets O. K. From Illinois Commerce Body

The Illinois commerce commission last week authorized the Greater Chicago Lake Water company to proceed with its project of supplying Lake Michigan water to cities and towns within 38 miles of Chicago's city limits. The commission also granted the company permission to issue 1,500 shares of capital stock at \$100 a share.

Thomas Dolan, originator of the lake water supply project, said it is probable that work on the system will be started this fall or early next spring. It is planned to build a large crib three miles off the shore line at Wilmette, and by tunnel connect the various cities and towns with the lake water system.

FEDERAL AID HIGHWAY PROGRAM CONTINUED

Continuation for two years more of the Federal aid highway construction program was assured on April 16, when the Senate passed the Phipps' measure authorizing \$75,000,000 expenditures for highway construction during the fiscal years of 1930 and 1931. The measure, which has been actively supported by the American Motorists' association, was favorably reported by the House Committee on Roads on April 12, and is now on the House calendar for passage. Its passage by the House is virtually assured.

GOVERNMENT REJECTS WAUKEGAN P. O. BIDS

Prices Asked for Sites in That City Too High, Claim, May Re-Advertise

Contending that the prices of land offered to the government as locations for the proposed new \$335,000 Waukegan federal building are inflated beyond all reason, the federal building commission in Washington has rejected all the bids.

Action of the commission places the Waukegan postoffice matter in a condition of uncertainty and at the least will result in a serious delay in the erection of the much needed structure.

The next step to be taken by the government will include a thorough investigation of property values in Waukegan, which it is hoped will result in the selection of a site and reaching of terms that will result in its purchase.

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