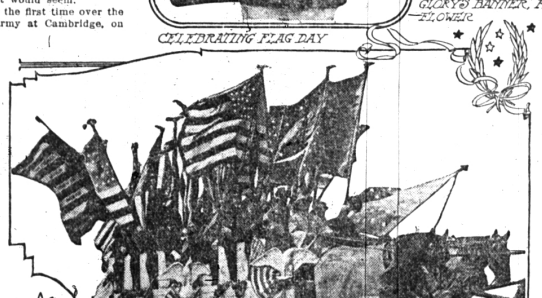
WHAT FLAG DAY REALLY MEANS

PHOTOS BY FRANK FOURNIER

GLORY'S BANNER, FREEDOM'S FRESHEST FLOWER

CELEBRATING FLAG DAY



BATTLE SCARRED FLAGS

IT IS now 138 years since the United States of America was composed of 13 states, the greater number of which had a population of little more than that of the average city of today. Those 13 states have grown and multiplied until there are now 48 states, with a population of nearly 100,000,000 of the most virile and strongest race of men on earth. It has been demonstrated many times in the past century that the struggles of the patriots of 1776 were not in vain. The words "United States of America" are an inspiration and a help to the oppressed of all lands. The Union gleams out through the world as a gigantic monument of freedom, and the lowly and persecuted of all nations have their eyes turned toward America with the hope that some day they may reach the promised land.

The American flag is the oldest flag among the nations of today. It antedates even the present emblems of the ancient empires of China and Japan. The Star-Spangled Banner has a history unlike the flag of any other people. It is older than the present flag of Great Britain, which dates from 1801; it is older than the German empire standard of 1870; older than that of France—1794—or that of Spain—1785.

The first legislative action of which there is any record concerning the design and adoption of a national flag was taken in a resolution of congress at Philadelphia on June 14, 1775, but it was not until October or November of that year that a committee of three—Benjamin Franklin, John Adams and Roger Sherman—met in the old city of Cambridge and entered upon their duties. After long deliberation, this committee adopted a design consisting of the king's colors—the crosses of St. George and St. Andrew—with 13 parallel horizontal stripes, alternate red and white. A most strange and unfortunate selection it would seem.

The flag was unfurled for the first time over the camp of the Continental army at Cambridge, on the 2nd day of January, 1776. When the ensign was first displayed at Cambridge, the British regulars assumed it was intended as an indication of submission by the 13 states to the king, whose speech had just been sent to the Americas. The comment of the British Register of 1776 on the new standard is interesting: "The rebels burned the king's speech and changed the flag from a plain banner to one bearing 13 stripes, as a symbol of the number and union of colonies."

Isabelle Worrell Ball is the woman who made the American flag her life's study. She is the daughter of a veteran of the Revolutionary war and the founder of Flag day, which is now observed all over the country. Her father was Capt. James P. Worrell, who served through the Civil war, and she numbers among her relatives many of the heroes of both wars. Many years ago Mrs. Ball became convinced that the real history of our flag was unknown. She determined to unravel the tangled skein, and give to posterity the true history and evolution of the American flag.

"It was suggested by early writers that George Washington's coat of arms was the model for our flag of today," said Mrs. Ball. "These statements are supported only by tradition and legend, as all my search has proved that Washington was not egotistical enough to present his coat of arms to the nation as a model for its flag. I have delved into history as far as it is possible to go. I have examined many manuscripts, and have separated tradition and legend from facts, and it is my belief that Washington never thought of his coat of arms as a model for the flag. In fact, there is grave doubt that Washington had anything to do with the designing of the flag at all.

"A sentence from one of Washington's own letters seems to me to clinch this statement. Sir Isaac Heard, an eminent writer of the early days, wrote to Washington concerning his coat of arms, which appears upon the doorway and mantels of the old Washington manor house in England. To this inquiry Washington replied on May 2, 1792:

"'This is a subject to which I confess I have paid very little attention. The arms inclosed in your letter are the same that are used by the family here.' As will be seen, this was a letter written a decade after the close of the Revolutionary war, and nearly two decades after the adoption of the Stars and Stripes by the congress of the United States. If Washington, at that late date, had paid little attention to his coat of arms, he certainly paid less in his younger days, and especially at a time when he was surrounded by enemies, malignantly persecuted by them, and was naturally deeply engrossed in the army and the preservation of the new-born nation. I do not find in all of Washington's writings a single allusion by him of any of his contemporaries that his coat of arms was used as a model for the flag.

"The evolution of the flag was gradual and undoubtedly grew out of the desire of the people who had come to this country to get away from the tyranny of Old World monarchs. Of course, the first flag in this country was the red and yellow flag of old Spain, brought over by Columbus. The Cabots, with other discoverers of England, planted the cross of St. George up around Newfoundland. Pedro Reinal, for the Portuguese, planted the five-spotted blue flag of that then great maritime nation. Henry Hudson, coming here for the Dutch, brought the yellow, white and blue flag, under which he sailed up the Hudson river. This flag was the flag of the Dutch East India company. These may be considered the four discovery flags.

"England dominated the country, and the English colors were really the last as well as among the first to dominate the destinies of the evolving nation. The cross of St. George, with the added cross of St. Andrew, and later on with the cross of St. Patrick, was the very last flag to be supplanted by the Stars and Stripes.

"The people of America, with growing contempt for Old World flags, fabricated many of their own. Some of these were very odd, and without exception, all of them were very ugly. This was true until 1620, when the Mayflower carried the St. George's cross, but those stern old Puritans protested against the use of the cross upon the flag, believing it to be sacrilegious, and in every way they could, used other devices and designs, only to bring down upon themselves the wrath of the king's officers in the colonies. The first evidence of this was when a Mr. Endicott, mutinying against the cross, concluded to cut off one end of it. Roger Williams, for some reason, probably just to get a whack at one whom he disliked, complained of this. The king's officers took it up, and after a long discussion, decided that Mr. Endicott had been guilty of lese majeste, although that term was not known in those days. He was deposed from office and a penalty imposed that he should not hold office again for one year, thus putting an end to the flying of any flag other than that bearing the St. George cross.

"For a long time a plain red flag was carried by an organization called the Sons of Liberty. Following this was a blue flag with three crescents, another with two, and still another with one. Washington himself in 1775 suggested a white flag with a pine tree, and this is only another proof that the story of Washington's coat of arms was false. About 1776 a striped green and yellow flag was carried by one of the militia companies. In January, 1775, the first red and white-striped flag was adopted. This was known as the Cambridge flag, and consisted of 13 alternate red and white stripes, with the king's colors then consisting of St. Andrew's and St. George's crosses on a blue field.

"Later a Colonel Gadsen proposed to congress our first naval flag. This was a great big yellow flag, with a snake coiled up in the center. It hung over the head of the speaker for some years and then went out of existence. Following this came flags of red and blue stripes, and red and white stripes, each without a field, and each with snakes in them. There were pine tree flags galore. There were flags with badgers, flags with anchors; in fact, any old thing except a St. George's cross seemed acceptable to the colonists struggling for light in the darkness. In 1776 the Rhode Island colony adopted a flag of 13 white stars on a blue field. This is the very first time stars appeared in the flag.

"From the date of the Declaration of Independence and for a year or more afterward the colonies used almost everything that flies in the heavens or swims in the water or grows on land as a symbol for their flag. Finally, one bright day in June, with no father and no mother, Old Glory was born. There is not a word or record of any kind to show who designed the flag, who presented the resolution, or how it ever got into the congress of the United States. The fact is simply recorded as follows:

"'Resolved, That the flag of the 13 United States be 13 stripes, alternate red and white; that the Union be 13 stars, white in a blue field, representing a new constellation.'

"So far as the vote is recorded in congress it was unanimous, and that is how the flag was born.

"About this time the great seal of the United States came into existence. On July 4, 1776, Benjamin Franklin, John Adams and Thomas Jefferson were appointed a committee to prepare devices for a great seal of the nation. This committee reported on August 10 of the same year and recommended a design to consist of a rose of red and white for England, a thistle for Scotland, a heart for Ireland, a fleur-de-lis for France, an imperial eagle in black for Germany, and a Belgian lion for Holland, the idea being to commemorate the countries from which the states had been peopled. In addition, it was intended to have three escutcheons linked together by a chain, and each of these chains was to bear the initial of each of the 13 independent states. Then there was to be a Goddess of Liberty in corselet and armor, with spear and cap and a shield of the states, with a goddess of justice bearing a sword in her right hand and in her left a balance. In the corner provision was made for the eagle of Providence in a triangle, with the motto, 'E Pluribus Unum.' On the other side of this unique seal was Pharaoh in an open chariot, with a cross and sword, passing through the divided waters of the Red sea in pursuit of the Israelites. Moses was there, and the pillar of fire, with the motto, 'Rebellion to tyrants is obedience to God.' This design was not adopted.

"In March, 1779, another committee was appointed, and the report they made for a great seal was worse than the first. On June 13, 1782, however, a William Barty of Philadelphia proposed practically the present coat of arms, which was finally adopted after being modified by another committee."

The story of John Paul Jones is intimately associated with the story of our first flag. The same congress that created the first flag appointed John Paul Jones to command the Continental ship of war Ranger at the same time. When the flag was prepared and the Ranger was about to go forth on her lonely adventure the naval committee made the commander the first official present of the flag of the United States.

The achievements of the Ranger are a matter of the most stirring events of our history. All the world knows how, in 1777, Jones made such gallant use of the Ranger and kept the shores of England and Scotland in constant terror.

The first military incident connected with the new flag occurred on August 2, 1777, when Lieutenants Bird and Grant invested Fort Stamwix. The garrison was without a flag when the enemy appeared, but the patriots soon supplied one very much on the pattern just adopted by the Continental congress. Shirts were cut up to form white stripes, bits of scarlet cloth were joined for the red, and the blue ground for the stars was composed of a cloth cloak belonging to Capt. Abraham Swartout, who was then in the fort. Before sunset this curious mosaic standard, as precious to the beleaguered garrison as the most beautiful wrought flag of silk and needlework, was floating over one of the bastions. The siege was raised on August 22, but it is not known what became of the improvised flag.

In his statement to Governor Trumbull, August 21, 1777, of the occurrences at Fort Stamwix, Colonel Willett mentions as one of the results of his sally from the fort that he captured and brought off five of the enemy's colors, the whole of which, on his return to the fort, were displayed on the flagstaff under the impromptu Continental flag.

NO DANGER FROM WIRELESS

Investigation Shows That There Is No Chance of Its Igniting Rigging of Ships.

In April, 1912, at the instance of a firm of shipowners, the Marconi company carried out exhaustive experiments with the view of ascertaining whether there was any actual danger in the presence on board of ships of sparks arising out of the use of the wireless plant, says Wireless World. A quantity of naphtha was placed in a saucer and lodged as near as possible to a heavy spark, and a piece of waste saturated with naphtha was placed close to the spark electrodes, but in neither case was the vapor ignited by the spark. A similar test was applied to the small sparks which obtain at minor parts of the apparatus, but it was not until a continuous spark was allowed for a very long period that the naphtha was eventually ignited.

The tests, which were all the more important, as naphtha is one of the most inflammable cargoes carried, convinced the officials who carried them out—the superintending engineer of the shipping company and a representative of the Marconi company—that fumes of naphtha would never be sufficiently dense inside the wireless cabin to permit of ignition. Outside in the rigging this would be even more obvious.

Debt is a paradox. The faster we run in, the more we get behind.

By the Wholesale.

Silas—What an enormous appetite that man Jeekins must have.

Iiez—What's the proof?

Silas—He says he always eats at a restaurant where they serve meals a la carte.

A Date Eater.

Bacon—Ever see a goat eat prunes?

Egbert—I don't think so, but I saw one eating dates, today.

"Where did the goat get the dates?"

"He was eating a calendar."

SINGS PRAISE OF "BIGNESS"

Writer in Leslie's Weekly Sees Good in Everything That Has Qualification of Size.

Big! It is said that the soil that produces big crops is found where big men abound. After all bigness is something of which every one is proud. California boasts of its big trees, Oregon and Washington of their big apples, Texas of its big territory, Oklahoma of its big oil wells, Colorado of its big mines. New England of its big mills, Alabama of its big iron deposits, Pennsylvania of its big steel industry and New York of its big banks. Everywhere bigness is the boast of civilization. Nations vie with each other to command the biggest part of the world's trade. In this great struggle for commercial supremacy the United States, during the past decade, has been among the foremost because of its big men in the industrial, the railway and professional fields. The product of this bigness of men has been a big country with big wages.

Let us stop cavilling and finding fault. Let us put an end to busting and smashing, and give the widest opportunity for individual effort. Encourage bigness of the factory and the gay envelope alike. Give big brains a chance, whether in bank, counting room or workshop. Bigness pays.—Leslie's Weekly.

Man's Life Outlays.

An eccentric personage has just died in a town in the west of France at the age of seventy-seven. When he was eighteen years of age he began to keep a book of personal expenses. For 52 years he jotted down every item.

During this period he smoked 628,713 cigars. Of this number 43,692 were presented to him by friends. For the remaining 585,021 he spent the sum of £2,040.

He had bought 86 pairs of trousers, which cost him £92; 75 jackets and waistcoats for £160, and 63 pairs of shoes for £66. He used 390 shirts and 354 collars, for which he paid £53. His omnibus and tram fares came to £52. In 15 years he drank 28,875 bocks and 40,303 small glasses of liquor, and spent on them £1,104 plus £249 in tips.—Glasgow Evening News.

In Difficulty.

A newly-married young woman had a gas cooker fixed in her kitchen. The gas company sent her a card of rules, with instructions to study them well, and what she couldn't understand they would explain to her. Imagine the clerk's surprise the next morning when he read the following note:

"Dear Sir—I can understand all the rules except the one at the bottom of the card—'See other side.' It's impossible to see the other side; the man has fixed it against the wall."

Accounting for It.

"Snifkins has a screw loose."

"Maybe that is why he is always trying to make himself tight."

A good disposition is more valuable than gold, for the latter is the gift of fortune, but the former is the dower of nature.—Addison.

Russian women are now having small designs painted on their faces.

It is easier to preach by the mile than to practise by the inch.

FLED FROM ENRAGED WOMAN

Bear Proved More Than Match for Husband, but Ran When Attacked by Victim's Wife.

A. B. McCloskey, a farmer near Hyner, was attacked by a she bear in his barnyard and so seriously wounded that it is feared he may die. The bear came into the yard in search of food. McCloskey shot at the animal with a small caliber target gun and wounded it. The bear threw him to the ground and badly mangled his left arm and leg. The animal was driven off by Mrs. McCloskey, who beat it with a club. A party of farmers started in pursuit of the animal over the mountains later in the day.

The experience of McCloskey is unique in this section of the state and caused great excitement in the vicinity of Hayner, where the party of farmers quickly gathered and started out in pursuit of the bear, under the leadership of B. B. McCloskey, the Pennsylvania railroad station agent at Hyner, who is the wounded man's brother. They hunted over the mountains near McCloskey's home during the greater part of the day, but were unable to find any trace of the animal. The same bear is believed to have carried off a live calf from a neighboring farm several days ago.—Williamsport (Pa.) Dispatch to Philadelphia Record.

Ancient Calf.

Awkward mistakes occur sometimes through falling into certain mannerisms of expression. A parson had a habit of frequently saying "for years and years and years," in the course of a sermon. He was preaching on the Prodigal Son, and spoke of him sitting down in that far-off land thinking of the home that he had not seen "for years and years and years."

This was all right, but presently he spoke of the welcome to his old home, and of the calf which his father had kept in anticipation of that happy day.

"Yes," said he, dropping into his favorite cadence for the winding up of a sentence: "Yes, the calf which he had kept for years and years and years!"

Then somebody laughed!

Pigeon's Fast Flight.

The Lanarkshire (Scotland) Homing Federation had a most successful race from Dumfries the other week, and many of the birds covered the distance to their lofts at a speed of over sixty miles an hour.

The fastest performance that has been reported in the race was that of a pigeon belonging to Messrs. Steuart Brothers of Larkhall, which accomplished the journey at the rate of fully sixty-six miles an hour. In pigeon flying these fast velocities can only be accomplished when the birds have the wind behind them, and should a pigeon have to face a moderate head wind, its speed would be only about thirty miles an hour.

Pertinent.

Tom—What was the result of the election in Mexico?

Dick—Dunno. Who was shot?—Judge.

True bravery is shown by performing without witnesses what one might be capable of doing before all the world.—Rochefoucauld.

Half the truth may cause more trouble than a whole lie.

It was her *husband* who finally brought home RUB-NO-MORE. Now she's enthusiastic about it. She had intended to buy RUB-NO-MORE WASHING POWDER. But overlooked it. Don't *you* overlook it.

RUB-NO-MORE WASHING POWDER is a sudless dirt remover for clothes. It cleans your dishes, sinks, toilets and cleans and sweetens your milk crocks. It kills germs. It does *not* need hot water.

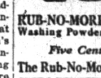
RUB-NO-MORE Washing Powder

RUB-NO-MORE Carbo Naptha Soap

Five Cents—All Grocers

The Rub-No-More Co., Ft. Wayne, Ind.

DAISY FLY KILLER



placed anywhere, attracts and kills all flies. Neat, clean, ornamental, convenient, cheap. Lasts all season. Made of metal, can't spill or tip over; will not soil or injure anything. Guaranteed effective. All dealers or sent express paid for $1.00.

HAROLD SOMERS, 150 DeKalb Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y.

The Sergeant's Resource.

Now the United States has sent a military expedition to Mexico we shall hope to hear something of Sergeant Murphy, says London Tit-Bits. During some manoeuvers in the Philippines the sergeant was in charge of a patrol. The men, when getting tired of the day's operations and eager to get back to camp and supper, came to a mountain torrent spanned by a bridge which was unluckily placarded "Destroyed." Much averse to a long detour, Sergeant Murphy did a little reconnoitering, and, finding no sign of an enemy in the neighborhood, led his men to the bridge. Half-way across they were surprised by a galloping officer.

"Hi!" he shouted. "Can't you see that this bridge is supposed to be destroyed?"

"Sure, I do, sir," answered Murphy; "but this detachment is supposed to be swimming."

Commas and the Law.

The comma in the British act of parliament which has caused a dispute between Monmouthshire miners and their employers recalls the fact that such marks of punctuation were introduced into law only half a century ago. Down to 1850 all acts of parliament consisted, in theory at all events, of one sentence. In that year a special statute was passed to allow the text of legislative enactment to be punctuated and pointed by full-stops, etc. They are so easily interpolated and altered that lawyers know their danger and avoid them in legal documents.

Quiet Desired.

Wife—Do you love me still, dear?

Hubby—When I'm trying to read the paper I do.—Boston Transcript.

The man who can look prosperous and happy when he is neither will ultimately come out on top.

"Johnny on the Spot"

When breakfast has to be prepared in a hurry—
When something appropriate is wanted quick for afternoon lunch—
When thoughts of a hot kitchen appall one—
Whenever the appetite calls for something deliciously good and nourishing—

Post Toasties

—with cream, and, say—berries or peaches!

These sweet flakes of corn—toasted crisp—satisfy summer needs. Ready to eat from the package—no bother—no work—no fussing. A food with delightful flavour.

Grocers everywhere sell Post Toasties